

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Fighting has forced civilians to flee their homes in 44 villages in North Darfur's Tawila locality.
- Memorandum of Understanding between the Governments of Sudan and South Sudan on the movement of humanitarian aid to South Sudan extended for another six-months.
- WFP and IOM plan biometric registration for new IDPs in Korma, El Sireaf and Mellit towns in North Darfur.
- According to FEWS NET, it is estimated that the 2014/15 national production will be 50 per cent above the five-year average.

## FIGURES

Displaced people in Sudan	3.1 million
IDPs in Darfur (to date)	2.4 million
GAM burden	2 million
Refugees in Sudan (excluding S. Sudanese) (UNHCR)	168,000
South Sudanese refugees in Sudan - since 15 Dec 2013 (UNHCR)	115,451

## FUNDING

**986 million**  
requested in 2014 (US\$)

**54 %**  
reported funding



Women and children in the Jebel Marra area (UNAMID, file photo)

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## New Displacement in Darfur's Jebel Marra area

Fighting between government forces and armed movements in and around the Jebel Marra area has reportedly led to civilian displacement in North and Central Darfur. Due to ongoing fighting and lack of access to these areas, humanitarian organisations have been unable to verify the number of displaced people reported. The humanitarian community is making continued efforts to verify the number of people displaced, as the actual number of people affected may differ from reports received.

### North Darfur: 45 villages affected by fighting in Tawila locality

In North Darfur's Tawila locality, fighting between government forces and armed movements took place between 4-5 January 2015. Community leaders informed humanitarian organisations on the ground that 15 villages were burned to the ground and another 30 villages have been abandoned as people fled their homes. According to community leaders, some 37,000 people could have been displaced as a result of these clashes.

### Central Darfur: 21 villages burned to the ground in Northern Jebel Marra

In Central Darfur, the Government's Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) reported that fighting took place in the eastern parts of Northern Jebel Marra locality from 1-4 January 2015. According to HAC, 21 villages in the Fanga Admin Unit of Northern Jebel Marra locality were attacked and burned by armed groups. The people from these villages reportedly fled to Wara and Niscam villages in the locality. According to community leaders, up to 50,000 people could have been displaced as a result of these clashes.

### Central Darfur: over 1,700 people displaced due to conflict in Northern Jebel Marra locality

According to HAC in Central Darfur, between 20-26 December 2014 over 1,700 people fled their homes following clashes between government forces and armed movements in Eastern and Central Jebel Marra localities. Access to the Jebel Marra area has been restricted due to these ongoing military operations.

These people, mostly women and children, fled from the 10 villages of Sello, Mayounga, Dar Elaman, Grolongrow, Marra, Mohamed Deen, Fartouk, Borongo, Roga and Hilatt Fadul in Northern and Central Jebel



Women and children in the Jebel Marra area (UNAMID, file photo)

Marra localities. According to HAC, the displaced people took refuge in villages in the Jebel Marra mountains around Rokero town and are in need of food, water, health services and emergency household supplies. Around 100 people have reportedly arrived in Nertiti town, according to HAC. Humanitarian organisations do not have a presence in these areas and are currently unable to assess the needs of these displaced people. HAC reports that the situation is tense and unsafe for humanitarian organisations to conduct missions to the area due to ongoing fighting.

## HAC: expected influx of displaced people from areas controlled by the SPLM-N in South Kordofan

*Over 300 people displaced from SPLM-N controlled areas of South Kordofan*

According to HAC in South Kordofan, a large yet unknown number of displaced people are expected to arrive in Kadugli, El Abassiya, Rashad, Talodi and Gadier localities from areas controlled by the SPLM-N due to ongoing fighting. HAC reports that to date about 250 displaced people arrived in Rashad town and 60 displaced people have arrived in Al Abbasiya town. The displaced people are taking shelter with relatives in the towns, according to HAC.

## Extension of the MoU to provide humanitarian aid to South Sudan through Sudan

On 5 January HAC announced a six-month extension of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the movement of humanitarian cargo through Sudan to South Sudan, which was signed in June 2014. The two governments and the World Food Programme (WFP) then signed an operational plan to implement the MoU, highlighting respective roles and responsibilities of the parties involved. The operational plan outlines the transportation of aid by road, river and air to Upper Nile, Unity and Jonglei states in South Sudan.

### **Barge arrives in South Sudan carrying food through Sudan**

On 29 December, a WFP contracted barge traveling from White Nile State's Kosti town offloaded some 450 tonnes of food in Renk and Wadakona towns in South Sudan's Upper Nile State. This shipment will provide food for an estimated 28,000 people for one month.

River transport of humanitarian goods across the border between Sudan and South Sudan stopped when the border closed following South Sudan's independence in 2011. The resumption of river transport followed recognition by all parties of the importance of transporting humanitarian assistance to conflict-affected civilians in South Sudan. In the cross-border operation, WFP is using trucks and river barges to initially deliver 4,650



The first WFP convoy crossing into South Sudan from Sudan, carrying 700 metric tons of food, November 2014 (WFP)

tonnes of food to conflict affected South Sudanese as well as refugees living in camps in Upper Nile State's Maban County.

The operation began in November when a convoy of 18 trucks delivered 700 tonnes of food to Renk and Melut towns. Now that the corridor is open, WFP hopes to use it to transport an additional 21,000 tonnes of food contributed by the United States, recently offloaded in Port Sudan.

WFP aims to maximise its use of surface transport during the dry season, as river transportation of food from Sudan to South Sudan is 6-7 times more economical than freighting food by air.

## North Darfur: delivery of humanitarian assistance continues

During the reporting week, humanitarian organisations continued delivering humanitarian assistance to people in need in North Darfur.

UNHCR and its partners distributed emergency household items to an estimated 2,400 people with specific needs (PSNs) in North Darfur State. This includes an estimated 1,100 PSNs in Kebkabiya town and 1,300 PSNs in three internally displaced persons (IDP) camp in Tawila locality.

In Korma, the national NGO Zulfa Organization completed the construction of 528 out of 700 emergency latrines. The Government's Water, Environment and Sanitation (WES) department completed the drilling of five boreholes around the IDP settlement in Korma. Water quality results are pending. The farthest borehole is located approximately 800 metres from the settlement. WES will also be drilling two hand pumps in Mellit locality.

### Winter support to benefit an estimated 47,500 people in North Darfur

*Winter support for an estimated 47,500 people in North Darfur*

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and implementing partners provided some 2,000 families (benefitting an estimated 10,000 people) in Dar Al Salam locality with agricultural inputs and hand tools as part of winter support activities. A further 4,000 families (an estimated 20,000 people) in Korma, 2,500 families (an estimated 12,500 people) in Saraf Omra, El Sireaf and Kebkabiya localities as well as 1,000 families (an estimated 5,000 people) in Mellit locality will also be provided with seasonal support.



Displaced family near the UNAMID team site in Korma, North Darfur (UNAMID)

### Biometric registration planned for IDPs in Korma, El Sireaf and Mellit towns

In Korma, El Sireaf and Mellit towns, WFP and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) are registering displaced people in these areas who arrived in 2014 and caseloads pending from 2013. This exercise is conducted through the biometric registration. According to IOM, biometric registration provides more accurate demographic data that emergency service providers can use to more efficiently plan interventions.



## FEWS NET: above-average harvests continue to improve household food security in Sudan

*CFSAM estimates that the 2014/15 national production will be 50 per cent above the five-year average, according to FEWS NET*

According to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) December 2014 Food Security Outlook Update, harvests continue to improve food availability countrywide. Preliminary findings of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and World Food Programme (WFP) joint Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission (CFSAM) estimate that 2014/15 national production will be 50 per cent above the five-year average, according to FEWS NET.

In North Darfur, harvests are above-average due to good rains and increased cultivation in some areas despite a 20 to 30 per cent reduction in the average area planted in western El Fasher, Kutum, and El Serif localities as a result of conflict and displacement, according to the report. FEWS NET believes that overall cereal production is likely to be 120 per cent above the five-year average due to favourable weather conditions.

In South Darfur, harvests are expected to be better than last year, but below the five-year average, particularly in eastern and central parts of the state where drier than normal conditions in July and early August delayed planting activities. Although 2014/15 harvests are expected to be three times greater than last year, production in South Darfur is likely to remain 10 to 15 per cent below the five-year average.

In West Darfur State, FEWS NET reports that better security conditions, reduced food aid rations and high staple food prices this year have encouraged displaced people to cultivate. Nearly 40 per cent of displaced people cultivated small plots near camps. Consequently, millet and sorghum production is expected to be triple that of last year and more than double the five-year average. However, recent resource based-conflict between nomadic cattle herders and sedentary farmers in Kerenik locality, one of West Darfur's main production areas, has caused crop destruction that is expected to impact production totals, according to the report.

In Sennar State, CFSAM findings estimate that 2014/15 cereal production will be seven times greater than last year and more than double of the five-year average. In Sennar, 85 per cent of planted sorghum and millet are harvestable this year, compared 30 per cent last year, according to FEWS NET.

FEWS NET also reports that improvements in food security of displaced populations in South Kordofan, Blue Nile, Darfur, and West Kordofan have been limited by conflict that continues to constrain access to cultivation, income generating activities, and markets. Stressed (IPC Phase 2) and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) acute food insecurity will persist among displaced households in areas worst-affected by conflict.



This year's Sorghum crop in Blue Nile State (Food Security Technical Secretariat)

### Projected outlook through March 2015, FEWS NET

Food security will continue to improve across most of Sudan through to March 2015. Despite good harvests, displaced households in areas of South Kordofan, Blue Nile, Darfur and West Kordofan state where conflict persists are not benefiting from improved food security conditions as much as other poor households. As a result, despite declining food prices, displaced households remain unable to meet minimum food requirements and many are reliant on host community households for food. Crisis (Phase 3) levels of food insecurity is expected to persist in SPLM-N controlled areas of South Kordofan and large portions of the displaced population in Darfur will remain in Stressed (Phase 2) levels of acute food insecurity through the first quarter of 2015, according to FEWS NET.

*Food security will continue to improve across most of Sudan through March 2015, FEWS NET*