

HIGHLIGHTS

- AWD cases decline in Central Darfur as aid organizations respond to the situation.
- Some parts of the country will face increasing food insecurity through September 2018 – FEWS NET.
- Government authorities granted permission for the extension of refugee camps in White Nile and East Darfur states.
- At least 105.7 sq km of land and 37,898 km of roads have been cleared in Sudan of various types of landmines and unexploded ordnances – UNMAS.

FIGURES 2018

people in need in Sudan (2018 HNO) 5.5 million

people in need in Darfur (2018 HNO) 3.1 million

GAM caseload (2018 HNO) 2.3 million

South Sudanese refugees – total
Pre-2013 771,376
Post-2013 352,462
418,914

(UNHCR 28 Feb 2018)

Other refugees and asylum seekers UNHCR (31 Jan 2018) 153,620

FUNDING

US\$ 1.01 billion \$ requested in 2018

15.6 million US\$ received in 2018

1.6% funded (FTS, as of 18 March 2018)



Children being shown the steps of hand washing with soap (UNICEF, 2016)

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Number of AWD cases in Central Darfur down after joint and coordinated response

Quick action on the part of Government and the United Nations was instrumental in curbing in February a new outbreak of Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD) in Central Darfur (Jebel Marra area). The outbreak entailed 300 new cases, reported after a ten-week period of zero cases in Central Darfur, and a three-week period of zero cases nationwide.

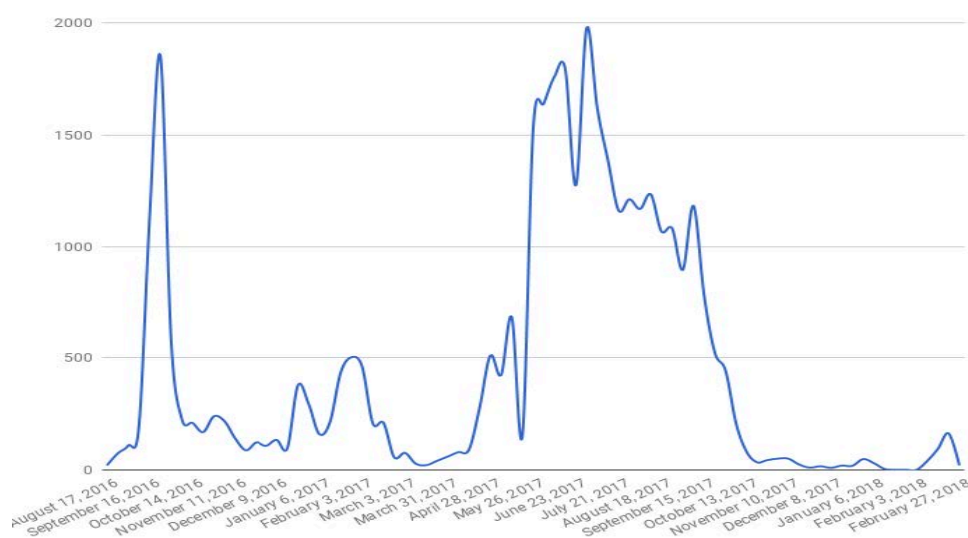
Sudan's Federal Ministry of Health (FMoH) and State Ministries of Health (SMoH), the World Health Organization (WHO), the UN Children's Agency (UNICEF), and health sector partners responded to the outbreak with an aggressive response strategy that included the establishment of isolation centres, examination centres in schools, bolstering water quality control and filtering, rapid response training in nine Central Darfur localities, and close monitoring of the situation on the ground. So far, WHO deployed an emergency team to Central Darfur from West Darfur. This team includes a public health officer and a logistics officer, as well as two team members in Zalingei providing full support to Nertiti locality. The focus and priority of the team is to respond to AWD cases and control the outbreak.

Preparations and planning for the upcoming rainy season are also underway. At the same time, preparedness activities in areas where there have been no reports of AWD are continuing, including daily reporting, replenishment of medicines and supplies, ensuring quality of safe drinking water, making sure there is an adequate number of trained staff as well as an operational plan for response, and raising public awareness on

AWD cases in Sudan (Aug 2016 - Feb 2018)

Source: WHO & FMoH

the prevention and best practices to mitigate AWD.



To scale up the response, the Central Darfur SMOH has estimated it will need 3 million SDG (about US\$102,500) and requested WHO and UNICEF support. WHO has committed 2.9 million SDG (about \$99,000).

Poor rainfall and high food prices predict food insecurity through September

Prices for key staple foods have increased on average by 35 per cent between December and January

People in parts of Kassala and North Darfur, which were affected by poor rains in 2017, and IDPs in some parts of Jebel Marra—where aid organizations are unable to access—will face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) levels of food security through September, said the latest **FEWS NET Food Security Outlook report**. Between June and September, food security levels are expected to reach emergency levels (IPC Phase 4) among IDPs living in areas controlled by the Sudan People's Liberation Movement – North (SPLM-N) in South Kordofan, says FEWS NET.

Overall, most parts of the country will likely remain in Minimal (IPC Phase 1) or Stressed (IPC Phase 2) levels of food security between February and September 2018, following above-average 2017/18 harvests.

The joint Annual Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission (CFSAM) released in February 2018 estimates Sudan's national 2017/18 cereal production at approximately 5.2 million metric tons (MT). This is approximately 10 per cent higher than the recent five-year average, and nearly 40 per cent lower than above-average 2016/17 harvest. However, very poor seasonal rains in northern Kassala, northern Gedaref, and parts of North Darfur, and North Kordofan states have led to poor local crop production and regeneration of pastoral lands.

South Sudanese refugee camp extensions in White Nile and East Darfur

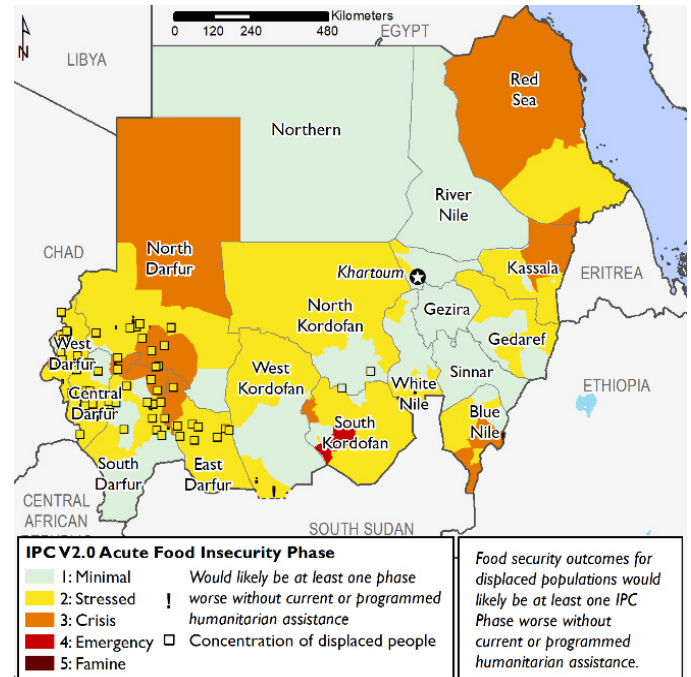
Government authorities granted permission for the extension of refugee camps in White Nile and East Darfur states

Government authorities granted permission for the extension of refugee camps in White Nile and East Darfur states. The extension of Al Kashafa camp in White Nile State can accommodate an additional 500 families (approximately 2,500 people). The camp is currently home to over 13,000 refugees, the majority of whom are from the Shilluk ethnic group in South Sudan.

The extension of Kario camp in East Darfur State is located about 1.8km from the camp and can accommodate up to 3,000 additional families (approximately 15,000 people). Water drainage is a key concern for UNHCR, COR and health and WASH partners, following flooding issues at Kario camp during the 2017 rainy season. For the extension, partners have worked to ensure that the new site has sufficient water drainage capacity. The new extension will require a piped water supply, currently in the planning stage.

Projected food security outcomes (June to Sept 2018)

Source: FEWS NET



Showcasing results, Italy gives way to US chairmanship of Mine Action Sudan

At least 105.7 sq km of land and 37,898 km of roads have been cleared in Sudan of various types of landmines and unexploded ordinances - UNMAS

At least 105.7 sq km of dangerous areas and 37,898 km of roads have been cleared in Sudan of various types of landmines and unexploded ordinances (UXOs), providing unhindered passage and the freedom to cultivate land and graze livestock to hundreds of thousands of people living in fear of mine accidents. The presence of landmines also deters the return of IDPs or refugees to their home areas and can prevent children from going to school due to the risks. The delivery of humanitarian assistance and people's access to basic services (water and sanitation, health and education) in contaminated areas is also affected as aid organizations are unable to safely reach people in need.

In a meeting with the donor community and the United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator, the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) together with Sudan's National Mine Action Center (NMAC) said that 20 per cent of known contaminations remain to be handled, most in South Kordofan and Blue Nile states. Since 2015, when UNMAS was invited to return Sudan after a four-year respite, the country has declared Red Sea and Gedaref states free of landmines.

The meeting served to launch Sudan's pledge for an extension to their time-bound commitment to clear the country of landmines and UXOs for good, previously set for the end of 2018. This commitment was made under the terms of Article 5 of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention – 'Ottawa Treaty.' The meeting also celebrated the hand-over of the Sudan mine action chairmanship from Italy to the United States, with both countries leading in the global fight to permanently ban landmines and explosives remnants of war (ERW).

Albeit improved, nine out of 18 Sudanese states are affected by landmines and ERWs, according to UNMAS. Being laid since before the 1956 end to Sudan's war for independence, led by the NMAC, with support from UNMAS, 10,275 anti-personnel mines, 3,237 anti-tank mines, and 83,774 UXOs were found and destroyed, clearing the way for agricultural activities and the free movement of people and goods.

Kassala State is next on the list of states to be declared free of known landmines, said UNMAS. The ERW situation is most uncertain in Darfur, which is considered free of traditional anti-personnel mines, but is known to host thousands of UXOs. No less important is the issue of the destruction of weapons currently being collected by Sudan's security forces in a bid to disarm non-state actors.

Ngok Dinka and Misseriya in Abyei sign community peace agreement

Long standing tensions, between the Ngok Dinka and Misseriya communities, have largely been over access to grazing land and water resources in the area

To resolve a conflict involving access to pasture and water, representatives from the Ngok Dinka and Misseriya communities signed on 5 March a community peace agreement in the Abyei Administrative Area. The signing took place during a three-day migration conference, held in the Abyei Area – the third of its kind – under the auspices of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).



The signing of the community peace agreement (IOM, March 2018)

Conflict between the Ngok Dinka and Misseriya groups has in the past led to civilian displacements, lack of social service and consequent humanitarian needs in the area. The signing of this peace agreement paves the way for community reintegration and sustainable peace. Community leaders say that security incidents between the two community groups have declined each year since a first migration meeting in 2016, organised by Concordis, an international NGO. A key driver for success of the conferences is the commitment of the Joint Community Peace Committee (JCPC), comprised of both Ngok Dinka and Misseriya community leaders, mandated to address conflict issues.

“These conferences have helped us a lot. We [the Ngok Dinka and Misseriya] can interact without fear,” said Afaf Arop, a Ngok Dinka community leader. She said the lack of basic services such as health facilities and schools in the Abyei Area contributes to the tension that could result in another humanitarian crisis in the area.

On a separate but related note, with opening of Amiet Common Market, economic conditions for both communities have reportedly improved since 2016, with more stable security conditions in Abyei, and the consequent trade resumption between Sudan and South Sudan.

The community peace agreement specifically calls for JCPC strengthening, in its role in conflict mitigation in the community. To support the JCPC, the agreement outlines ways of engagement between the two communities, including a mechanism for conflict resolution, and for using natural resources during the migration season between October and May. The document also calls for the increased participation of women in peace negotiations and conflict resolution.

Aid organizations estimate that 170,000 people require humanitarian assistance in the Abyei Area. Needs are mainly due to the presence of armed elements in the area, presence of Explosive Remnants of War (ERW), continued inter-communal conflict, population movements and the absence of public institutions and government services. An adverse economic situation in Sudan and South Sudan further affected the area. Humanitarian partners in Abyei are working on increasing the resilience of affected agro-pastoralist and nomadic communities through tailored approaches based on people's specific needs and vulnerabilities.

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