

### HIGHLIGHTS (19 Mar 2020)

- 30 suspected COVID-19 cases are in isolation in Sudan, 21 have tested negative for COVID-19
- Federal Ministry of Health develops \$44 million countrywide COVID-19 preparedness and response plan
- Government of Sudan establishes two isolation centres for COVID-19 patients
- Economic crisis continues to impact the availability of medicines
- Desert locust swarms invade southern parts of the Red Sea coast through Sudanese-Eritrean border



### KEY FIGURES

**9.3M** People in need (2020)

**6.1M** People targeted (2020)

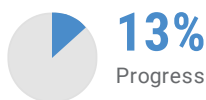
**1.1M** Refugees

**1.87M** IDPs

### FUNDING (2020)

**\$1.3B** Required

**\$179.8M** Received



FTS: <https://fts.unocha.org/appeals/870/summary>

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### FEATURE (19 Mar 2020)

#### As of 18 March, one COVID-19 death has been confirmed in Sudan

According to the latest update from the Federal Ministry of Health (FMoH) as of 18 March, only one COVID-19 death has been confirmed in Sudan, while 30 suspected cases are currently in isolation. All suspected cases were tested, of which 21 tested negative and the rest are pending results. In addition, 44 people are under quarantine due to contact tracing.

The Government of Sudan announced the temporary opening of airports and border crossings to allow Sudanese citizens stranded abroad to return home. Khartoum airport will open from 8 pm 19 March to 8 pm 21 March. Upon arrival to the country all citizens will have their temperature taken and those with a fever will be quarantined and will receive required medical assistance. The rest of the people will be asked to self-quarantine for one month and to keep in contact with health authorities regularly and immediately report any symptoms. UN agencies and partners continue distributing information as well as education and communication (IEC) materials on COVID-19 prevention.

UNICEF has mobilized US\$370,000 for Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) supplies for use in points of entries to Sudan as well as in ambulances. UNICEF has delivered one round of supplies and is preparing to deliver additional quantities. An additional \$200,000 has been mobilized for communications to prevent the spread of the outbreak. Culturally appropriate messages will be disseminated in print and digital forms. In addition, the Sudan Humanitarian Fund (SHF) has allocated \$500,000 to support COVID-19 preparedness in Sudan.

UNFPA is working with the temporary quarantine teams to ensure that women and girls of reproductive age that are admitted will receive dignity kits and that visibly pregnant women will receive clean delivery kits. UNFPA will also support the FMOH to ensure standby midwives/OBGY are available to care for pregnant women. The isolation center in south Khartoum has been designated for the treatment of pregnant women and Reproductive Health kits will be delivered on 18 March.

UNDP is currently working in close collaboration with WHO and FMOH to identify priority activities from the National COVID-19 Response Plan to be funded by the Global Fund (GF) and GAVI. A detailed work plan and budget will be submitted to GF and GAVI for approval. Provisionally, US\$2.5 million has been earmarked as efficiency saving from GF grants and GAVI. UNDP will also support other ministries and the National Higher Committee for COVID-19 response to develop plans and implement activities and will work with ministries to mitigate the economic impact of COVID-19 at both micro and macro levels. It will also support the National Medical Supplies Fund on global procurement of medicines and health products needed.

### Sudan countrywide COVID-19 preparedness and response plan

FMOH—with support from the World Health Organization (WHO)—developed a countrywide preparedness and response plan with a cost of US\$44 million for COVID-19 (coronavirus). In turn, the [Humanitarian Country Team \(HCT\) has finalized a country preparedness and response plan \(CPRP\)](#) for COVID-19 in support the Government's plan. The plan will be updated as required. All efforts will be made to sustain humanitarian operations while at the same time controlling the spread of COVID-19.

The Government plan covers issues such as isolation centres, management of arrivals at points of entry, patient care, infection prevention and control, supplies, risks communication, surveillance and capacity-building. The UN regularly shares all information, guidelines, recommendations, protocols and risk communication materials with the FMOH. Since February, the UN has supported the FMOH with setting up an intensive care unit (ICU) unit in Khartoum; provided medicines and medical supplies; procured and disseminated infection prevention and control (IPC) materials, as well as education and communication (IEC) material. WHO trained 65 staff deployed at points of entry (PoE) and 10 rapid response teams (RRT) in Khartoum on COVID-19 response; performed joint assessments of PoE in Khartoum and Red Sea states; and distributed 156 test kits.

### Measures taken by the Government of Sudan to address COVID-19

- Two isolation centres have been created to treat COVID-19 patients. In addition, military hospitals in Khartoum and in the states are to act as centres for shelter and treatment.
- All schools, universities, religious institutes, universities, colleges and higher institutes have been closed for one month, starting from 14 March. Basic certification exams in all states to be postponed until further notice.



wash your hands frequently  
using soap and water or an  
alcohol-based rub

*One way to prevent COVID-19 infection is to wash your hands regularly with soap and water for 20 seconds (UNICEF)*

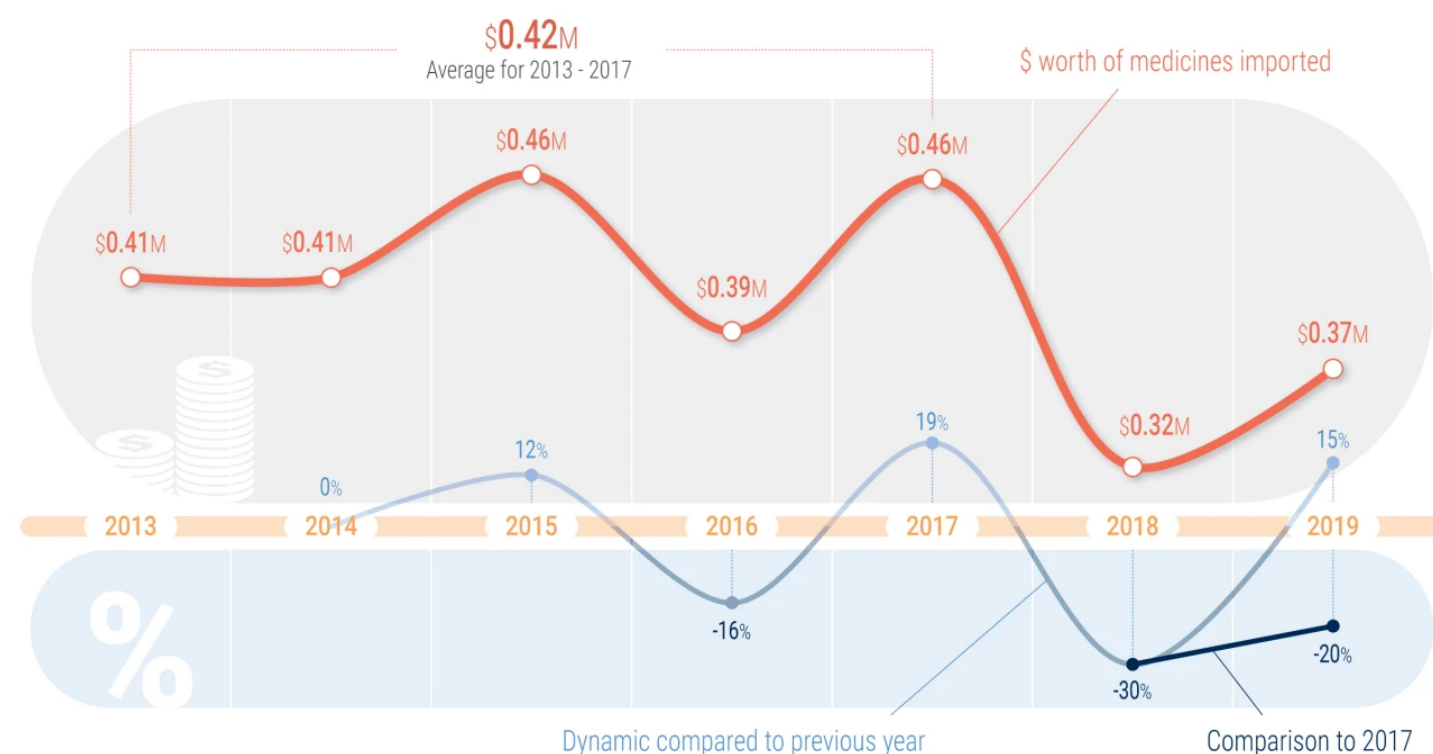
- All festivals, camps and sports events to be cancelled and public gatherings such as weddings are banned.
- Government and private institutions should take measures to reduce congestion in the workplace. On 16 March the Minister of Culture and Information issued a circular giving all staff (except those deemed essential) leave from work until 29 March. On the same day, the Government's Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) announced a two-week leave for the Joint Procedures Centre (JPC) staff from until 31 March.
- Additional health measures and controls to be taken in prisons and correction centres.
- Tightening control over public markets and controlling the prices of food as well as medical and non-medical supplies.

WHO rated Sudan as "at-risk" for COVID-19 spread based on risk profile and capacity of the country to respond to a potential outbreak. Sudan's health system is marked by decades of limited investment, underfunding, and lack of qualified staff, infrastructure, equipment, medicines and supplies. The surveillance system doesn't cover the entire country and is structurally weak with long delays between alert and confirmation of an outbreak. The primary objective of the international response to the coronavirus outbreak remains stopping the human-to-human transmission of the virus and caring for those affected. WHO is calling all partners to use this unique window of opportunity to act immediately to assist all countries to rapidly detect, diagnose, and prevent the further spread of the virus.

For more information of COVID-19 go to the WHO website for daily updates in [English](#) & [Arabic](#).

## VISUAL (19 Mar 2020)

### Economic crisis continues to impact the availability of medicines



The economic crisis continues to impact Sudan's import of medicines and medical supplies. While the imports of medicine in 2019 improved slightly compared to 2018, the levels were 20 per cent below of 2017, according to the latest update from the Central Bank of Sudan (CBoS). This results in lower availability of medicines in both government and private sectors

compared to previous years, report the Federal Ministry of Health and the World Health Organization (WHO).

The [Foreign Trade Statistical Digest, 4th quarter of 2019](#) by CBoS indicates that Sudan imported US\$367 million worth of medicine in 2019. While this is an increase of about \$47 million (15 per cent) compared to 2018, it is \$91 million (20 per cent) lower compared to 2017.

A survey on the availability and affordability of essential medicine in Sudan, carried out by the FMOH and WHO in July 2019, indicated that the availability of medicine was only 43 per cent of requirements in the National Medical Supply Fund (NMSF), 48.7 per cent in the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) and 59 per cent in the private sector.

East Darfur, White Nile, Khartoum and Blue Nile were the states with highest availability of medicines, while West Darfur, Red Sea, South Kordofan and Northern states had less availability of medicines, according to the FMOH-WHO survey.

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## **FEATURE** (19 Mar 2020)

### **Desert locust swarms invade southern parts of the Red Sea coast through Sudanese-Eritrean border**

Two immature desert locust swarms invaded the southern parts of the Red Sea coast through the Sudanese-Eritrean border, according to the latest update from Sudan's Plant Protection Directorate (PPD). According to the PPD desert locust situation in the Horn of Africa report, more swarms are expected to invade the southern Red Sea coast in Sudan.

Survey operations continue at the winter breeding areas where, mature or immature adults of low density were detected in several locations along the Red Sea coast. Meanwhile, some irrigated agricultural scheme locations in summer breeding areas near Dongola in the Northern State were surveyed, with no locust identified. The total surveyed area was 9,000 hectares and high wind speed delayed the control operations.

The ecological conditions remain favorable for desert locust breeding at the southern part of the Red Sea coast, especially in Toker Delta, with the prevalence of green vegetation reported. As a result, PPD highlights the urgent need for close monitoring at the southern parts of the Red Sea coast.

The most recent [desert locust update](#) from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) reports that there are late instar hopper band, fledglings and immature adult groups and swarm on the southern coast of the Red Sea near the Eritrea border. There are also scattered adults in Tokar Delta, the northeast and in the Nile Valley.

For response in Sudan, [FAO has requested US\\$9 million](#) to support control measures, safeguard livelihoods and promote early recovery. This is in addition to the appeal calling for \$138 million for rapid response and anticipatory action in the Greater Horn of Africa.

FAO has so far mobilized \$1.55 million, including \$1 million from the Sudan Humanitarian Fund (SHF). The United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID) announced they will provide an additional \$2 million to the SHF, which will be used for the desert locust response.

Earlier, this month the World Food Programme (WFP) donated four 4x4 vehicles to the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources to be used for desert locust surveillance and control operations. These vehicles will be used by PPD after they are registered and paperwork on licensing is finalised by the Sudanese authorities.

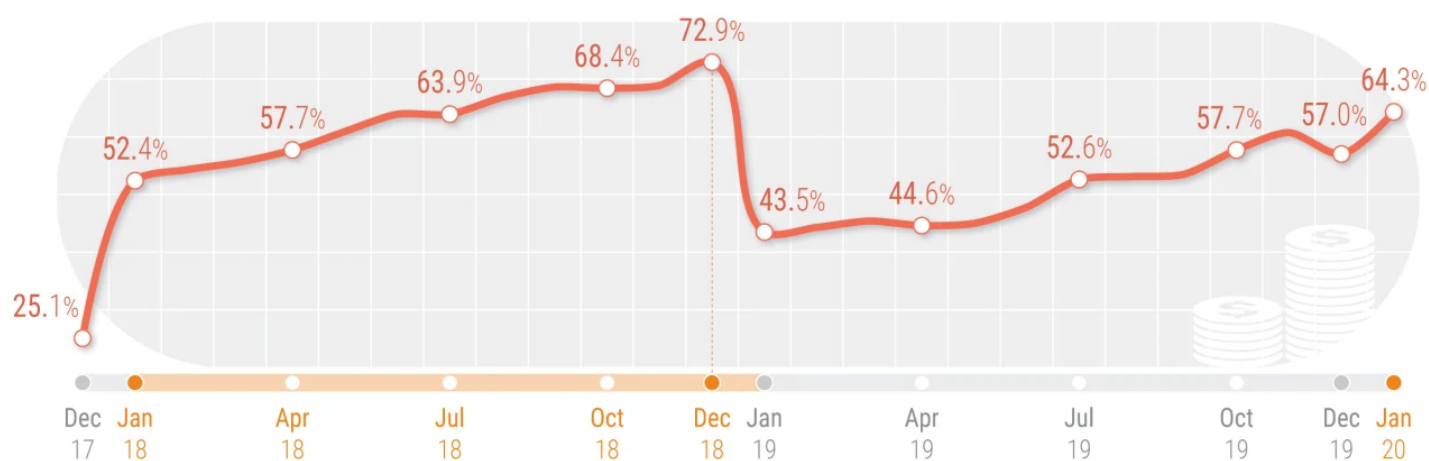
According to FAO, the desert locust (*Schistocerca gregaria*) is the most destructive migratory pest in the world. In response to environmental stimuli, dense and highly mobile Desert Locust swarms can form. They are ravenous eaters who consume their own weight every day, targeting food crops and forage. A single square kilometer of swarm can contain up to 80 million

adults, with the capacity to consume the same amount of food in one day as 35,000 people. Large swarms pose a major threat to food security and rural livelihoods. For more information on deserts in East Africa please see

<http://www.fao.org/locusts/en/>

### VISUAL (12 Mar 2020)

#### Inflation continues to increase raising concerns about food security



The annual inflation rate continues to increase in Sudan and reached 64.3 per cent level in January 2020, according to the [latest update from the Central Bank of Sudan \(CBoS\)](#). The rate increased from 57% in December 2019 and is the second highest since December 2018 when it reached 73 per cent.

High and increasing inflation is contributing to soaring costs of agricultural production, according to the newly released 2019 FAO Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission (CFSAM) to Sudan. The prices of locally produced sorghum and millet in most markets have been characterized by an upsurge during the last 12 months, due to the high costs of production and transportation, depreciation of the local currency and increasing inflation that started at the end of 2017. In December 2019, prices of sorghum and millet were from 65 to 130 per cent higher than their levels of one year before, the CFSAM report said.

The inflation rate started to increase in Sudan from January 2018 when it more than doubled to 52 per cent from 25 per cent in December 2017. Throughout 2018 the rate was above 50 per cent and hit 73 per cent in December 2018. While it dropped sharply to 43.5 per cent in January 2019, by July 2019 it reached above 50 per cent level and continued to increase.

Increasing inflation rate is a major concern for millions of people who are food insecure and need food and livelihoods assistance. According to the August 2019 report by the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), an estimated 17.7 million people (42 per cent of the total assessed population) are experiencing moderate/borderline and acute food insecurity. This includes 11.8 million people experiencing Stressed levels (IPC Phase 2) and 5.8 million people (14% of the total population) experiencing Crisis or worse levels of food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 and above) and are in need urgent action. This figure of 5.8 million acute food insecure people is the highest on record since the introduction of the IPC analysis in Sudan. Around 1 million individuals are facing Emergency levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 4) and around 4.8 million individuals are in Crisis (IPC Phase 3)).



As a result of the economic crisis, the number of households classified as food insecure (a proxy indicator for poverty) increased by 63 per cent, from 3.8 million in 2017 to 6.2 million in 2019 (IPC and HNO). This was driven in part by the four-fold increase in the cost of a local food basket (LFB). The impact has been severe on both urban and rural populations, though the latter have been more acutely affected, with 53 per cent of rural households not able to afford a single LFB compared to 38 per cent of urban households, according to the Comprehensive Food Security & Vulnerability Assessment (CFSVA) 2019. In addition, in both urban and rural locations, around half of all households have had to resort to some form of livelihood coping strategy, with similar proportions relying on stress coping strategies (12-13 per cent) but significantly higher proportion of rural household resorting to more severe emergency coping strategies (21 per cent compared to 14 per cent in urban areas), CFSVA report said. These coping mechanisms include skipping or reducing meals, cutting expenses on education, including removing children from school, and health as well as selling available assets or borrowing from extended support networks.

It is expected that subsidy reforms will result in commodity price increases. These price increases will have the most severe impact on those who are already the most vulnerable, including the rural poor. Without additional support, more households will have limited access to basic services and resort to coping strategies, leading to further asset depletion and potentially impacting longer term human capital development.

In 2020, about 9.3 million people in Sudan will need humanitarian assistance and protection. This represents almost one in every four people in Sudan. The UN and partner organizations aim to assist 6.1 million of the most vulnerable people in Sudan through the [Humanitarian Response Plan \(HRP\) 2020](#) requiring US\$1.35 billion from donors.

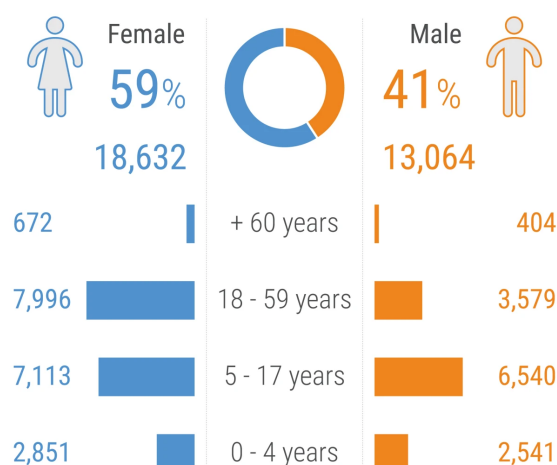
## TRENDS (12 Mar 2020)

### IOM Publishes 2019 Registration Data for Returnees and Displaced People

In 2019, [IOM's Displaced Tracking Matrix \(DTM\)](#) registered 186,813 people across five states of Darfur and South Kordofan. Of the people registered, 155,117 (83 per cent) were returnees and 31,696 (17 per cent) were internally displaced persons (IDPs). Of the returnee caseload, 128,429 (83%) were returnees from internal displacement and 26,688 (17%) were returnees from abroad.

Over the past two years, the number of returns in Darfur has exceeded the number of newly displaced people. All of the 128,429 registered IDP returns were in the Darfur region while in the same time period there were 20,800 newly registered IDPs in Darfur. In 2018, IOM registered over 223,000 returns and 53,700 new IDPs. The findings of the [2019 Crop and Food Security Mission \(CFSAM\)](#) attributed the substantial increase in area cultivated in Darfur in 2019 to return of previously displaced people to their villages for the planting season.

DTM Sudan's registration activities have been ongoing since 2004. Currently, DTM provides rapid emergency registrations and data verifications upon request from partners in order to meet immediate information needs for beneficiary selection, targeting and programming on IDPs, returnees and flood-affected individuals. Flow monitoring registration activities are also currently implemented in Abyei to capture the arrival of South Sudanese into Sudan as well as Khartoum International Airport (KRT) and the port of Sawakin on returns of Sudanese nationals from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA).



*Demographic breakdown of internally displaced people in Sudan (2019)*

## EMERGENCY RESPONSE (12 Mar 2020)

### Update on Humanitarian Response in West Darfur

On 3-5 March 2020, Sudan's Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) and humanitarian partners visited El Geneina, West Darfur to follow up on concerns outlined by the community related to security, access to basic services and justice for those affected by violence.

The mission team met with the HAC commissioner, Governor, UN agencies, INGOs and leaders from Arab and Massalit communities. Despite improvements to the security situation in the camps, IDPs remain concerned that the improvements will not be sustained. Improvements have been made to services in the camps, with the Humanitarian Aid Commission and humanitarian partners providing shelter support. Alleged perpetrators of the violence which displaced people starting at the end of December 2019 have been detained, however, none of the looted property has been returned or replaced.

Community leaders agreed to allow partners to conduct damage assessments to the shelters in Krinding 1, Krinding 2, and Sultan House camps, and to a needs assessment of area where humanitarian needs have not yet been identified. A team composed of OCHA, UNHCR, CRS, UN-HABITAT, IOM and national NGOS is currently completing the assessment.

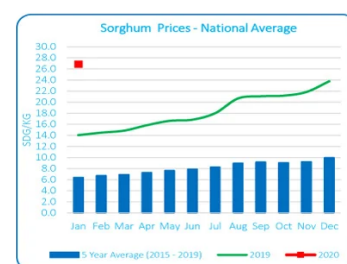


*Population movements in El Geneina, West Darfur*

## TRENDS (27 Feb 2020)

### Increasing food prices are at record highs - FAO

Prices of locally grown sorghum and millet continued to increase in December 2019 and January 2020 despite the recently concluded 2019 harvest, according to the most recent issue of the [Food Prices Monitoring and Analysis \(FPMA\) Bulletin](#) by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). Prices of imported wheat also rose further in January and at faster rates, surging by 20 per cent. In general, prices of cereals reached record highs, up to twice the already high levels of one year earlier. This was mainly triggered by a poor 2019 cereal output and a weak currency, coupled with fuel shortages and high prices of agricultural inputs inflating production and transportation costs, according to FPMA.



According to the preliminary findings of the Government-led 2019 Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission, the 2019 coarse grains (sorghum and millet) production is estimated at about 5.2 million tonnes, 36 per cent below the bumper 2018 output and 18 percent below the average of the previous five years. The main driver of the production shortfall was a combination of prolonged dry spells in July followed by heavy late season rains, which triggered widespread floods. Severe pest infestations further affected yields.

FEWS Net [reported earlier this year](#) that according to available field information, yields for key cereals, such as sorghum and millet, are lower than usual this season due to flooding, an extended rainy season, and pest infestations. In addition, field reports suggest increases in area planted in cash crops have led to decreases in area planted for cereal crops, which is likely to drive further declines in cereal production compared to previous years.

Meanwhile, the World Food Programme (WFP) reported in its Market Monitor for January 2020 that high prices are likely to stay and continue at its high level as the current season harvest is not favorable (see sorghum prices chart below). The national average retail price of sorghum was SDG26.87/kg, which is increased by 15 per cent compared to the previous month.

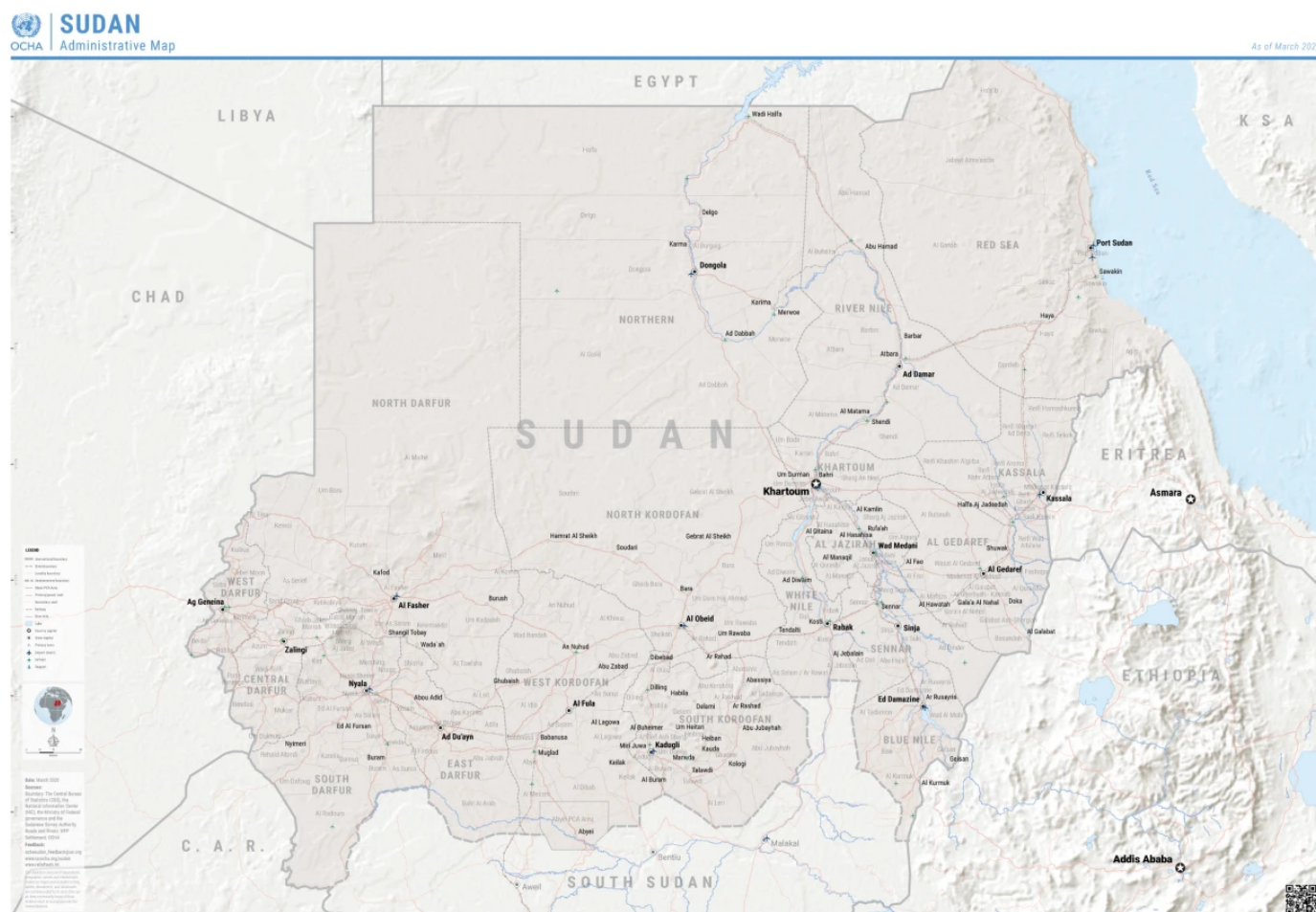
The national average retail price of goat was SDG3,874/head, which is increased by 7 per cent compared to the previous month. The national average retail price of groundnut was SDG1,361/sack, which increased by 9 per cent compared to the previous month. The national average cost of local food basket was SDG38.1, which slightly increased by 13 per cent compared to the previous month.

According to the 2020 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), 6.2 million people across Sudan will need food and livelihoods assistance. HRP partners aim to provide food and livelihood assistance to 4.7 million most vulnerable people. As of 26 February, the 2020 HRP is only 8 per cent funded, with \$1.24 billion requirement unmet.

For more information on the funding status of the 2020 Sudan HRP, please click [here](#)

## VISUAL (5 Mar 2020)

### Sudan map now available with all 189 localities





The Geographic Information System (GIS) team at the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS), the National Information Centre, the Ministry of Federal Governance, the Sudanese Survey Authority (the Governmental body mandated in authorizing the geographic boundaries) UNICEF and OCHA collaborated to update the administrative boundaries for the map of Sudan. The new map reflects the agreed boundaries for all 18 states and 189 localities in the country. The finalized state boundaries and localities have been uploaded onto the Government of Sudan's [Geospatial Data Centre](#) website. This common operational data is a critical element for shared planning and decision-making among humanitarian, development and government partners.

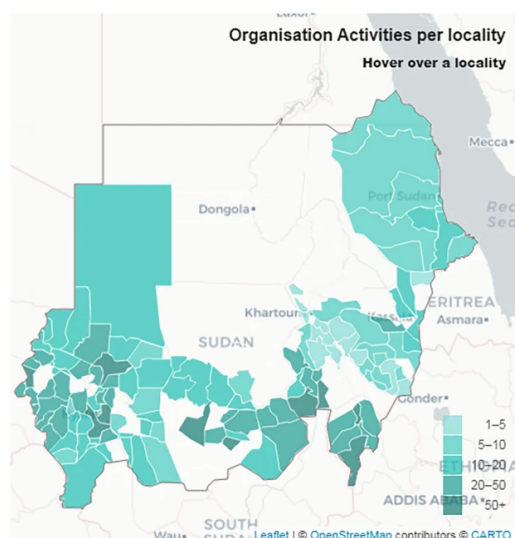
Click to [download the map](#)

## INTERACTIVE (6 Feb 2020)

### Sudan: Interactive Who does What and Where (3Ws)

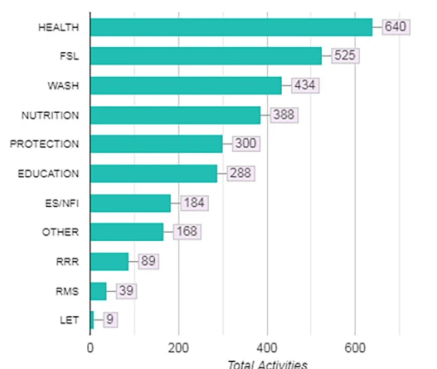
The Who does What Where (3W) is designed to show where humanitarian organizations are working and what they are doing in order to identify gaps and plan for future humanitarian response. This interactive dataset includes a list of humanitarian organizations by state and sector currently registered in Sudan.

Have updates? Contact [OCHAsudan@un.org](mailto:OCHAsudan@un.org).



**182** Organizations  
**3064** Activities  
**158** Locations

#### Sector Activity



View this interactive graphic: <https://data.humdata.org/dataset/sudan-operational-presence>

*OCHA coordinates the global emergency response to save lives and protect people in humanitarian crises. We advocate for effective and principled humanitarian action by all, for all.*

<https://www.unocha.org/sudan>

<https://reliefweb.int/country/sdn>

<https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/sudan>

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