

*This report is produced by OCHA in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 18-31 July 2011. The next sitrep will be issued in or around 8 August 2011.*

### **I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES**

- Fighting between the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) and the Sudan Peoples Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-North) continued in parts of South Kordofan in the absence of a ceasefire agreement.
- Access restrictions continue to remain the most important challenge to providing humanitarian assistance.
- Landmines and unexploded ordnance (UXO) claim 45 casualties in June-July in South Kordofan, highlighting need for demining and removal of UXO on roads and in towns.

### **II. Situation Overview**

The security situation in South Kordofan State remains tense and volatile.

Out of eight UN agencies previously based in Kadugli, six continue to have a presence; however, their operational capacity is limited. There remain only three international UN agency staff in South Kordofan (from a total number of 29 international staff based in the State prior to the conflict); the rest are operating with national staff. Getting additional international staff in the State is hindered by recently introduced procedures for movement of staff by requiring a travel permit from the Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC). Combined with a volatile security situation and the presence of land mines and unexploded ordinances in many parts of the State, current staff levels do not allow for agencies being fully operational.

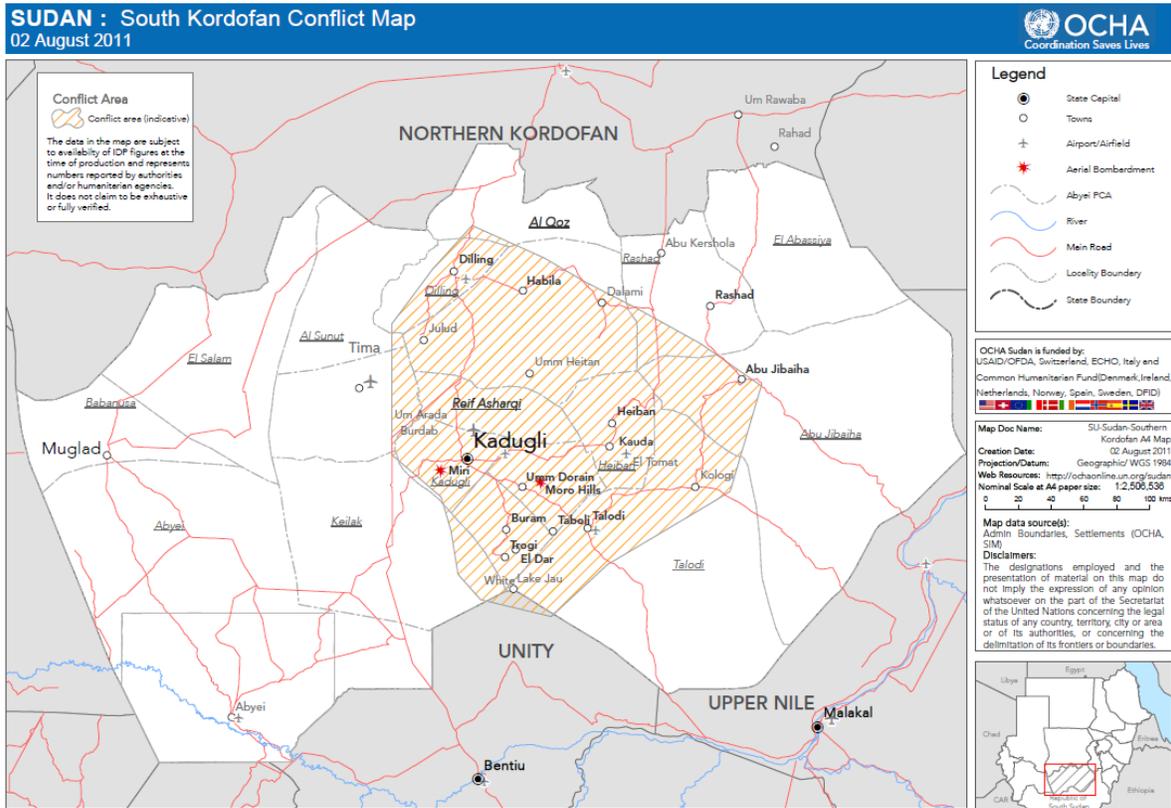
International NGOs, already present prior to the outbreak of hostilities, continue to function, although with limited supplies and through national staff.

In the absence of a ceasefire agreement, fighting continued particularly in and around areas controlled by the Sudan People's Liberation Movement – North (SPLM-N). On 26 July, the Moro Hills – west of Kauda – were reportedly bombed. A day earlier, air bombardment was reported in the direction of Miri village near Kadugli town. NGOs also reported air strikes in other areas controlled by SPLM-N between 17 and 20 July.

The need for mine clearance and removal of unexploded ordnance (UXO) remains critical. UNMAO reported 45 landmine/Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) casualties in June-July in South Kordofan, with 20 casualties reported from Talodi locality alone. A number of key roads to areas affected by the conflict are reportedly mined, severely limiting commercial traffic.

A government assessment inside Kadugli town indicates that either landmines or UXO contaminate more than one third of the town - including three schools - and HAC announced that demining activities by SAF in and around Kadugli town are under way.

Access restrictions on humanitarian operations remain the principle challenge to providing humanitarian assistance to communities affected by the conflict. Efforts to expand the humanitarian space continue on all levels. Two positive developments were reported recently: Save the Children Sweden was allowed to re-open its office in Dilling, and Pancare's support to six clinics was reactivated. The operations are expected to be carried out by national staff. Meanwhile, UN agencies continue to deliver assistance, mainly through their national partners – the Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS), national NGOs NIDAA and Mubadiroon, and line ministries.



### III. Humanitarian Response

The number of displaced and affected people due to the hostilities in South Kordofan State is still unclear due to ongoing access constraints hampering the humanitarian efforts. However, humanitarian partners estimate that up to 200,000 people could be displaced (taking into consideration population figures of the 2010 census and areas affected by the conflict), with an even bigger number of people affected by the continuing conflict.

In South Kordofan, on 26 July, the HAC provided OCHA with a list of 15 locations affected by the conflict and as priority locations for humanitarian assistance (El Buram, Um Sirdiba, Um Dorain, Kurgi, Ambel, Sarfe Al Jaouse, Kauda, Heiban, Kajama, Trogi, Angolo, El Dar, Al Reika, Taboli and Farendalla). Some assistance (mainly food) was provided in some of the locations earlier (for example, to 9,405 people in Heiban, to 8,000 in Kauda, and to 17,861 in Um Dorain). Other places mentioned still have to be assessed.

As concerns displacement outside the state, the Protection Sector reported on 27 July that SRCS verified the arrival of 37,000 IDPs from South Kordofan in Khartoum; and UNHCR reports that during the last weeks, 618 IDPs arrived in Blue Nile State from South Kordofan of which some 400 crossed into Ethiopia.

#### FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOOD

As of 26 July, WFP and partners have assisted some 123,000 conflict-affected people in South Kordofan with over 1,260 MT of emergency food rations. WFP reported that it had reached all reported IDPs affected in the State with food assistance at least once.

On 25 July, WFP and its partners reached over 1,900 people with 33 MT of food rations in three locations of Hajar Elmak, El Koz North and Kulba in the outskirts of Kadugli town. The food rations were distributed by the SRCS.

Pre-positioned food stocks are quickly diminishing in areas not controlled by the government. This has forced humanitarian actors there to administer half rations only. With the reported remaining stocks (80 – 100 MT), approximately 15 – 20,000 beneficiaries only can receive a 10-day ration.

Due to the conflict, the distribution of agricultural inputs was delayed. This in combination with displacement of people and insufficient rains has caused a disruption of the normal planting cycle.

FAO has signed agreements with four implementing partners - SRCS, NIDAA, Mubadiroon and the State Ministry of Agriculture (SMoA) - for the distribution of 129.6 MT of crop seeds and 521 kg of vegetable seeds for 25,875 beneficiaries (IDPs and host communities) in eight localities (Lagawa, Elrief Elshargi, Habila, Dilling, El Goz, Abbasia, Rashad and Abu Jibaiha). All the inputs have been distributed to the targeted beneficiaries except the lot going to Lagawa.

### **NON-FOOD ITEMS AND EMERGENCY SHELTER**

According to UNHCR, 218 IDPs from South Kordofan have arrived in Blue Nile State. Local authorities have given permission to UNHCR, WFP, GOAL, and HAC to assist them with food and NFIs. The assistance included plastic sheeting, mosquito nets, sleeping mats, blankets, jerry cans and food rations.

### **WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)**

The WASH sector is supporting the most vulnerable communities in Kadugli town with access to safe water and improved sanitation facilities. A plan has been worked out by the State government to construct and rehabilitate around 5,000 latrines in Kadugli town, which will benefit approximately 30,000 people. In addition, UNICEF and WFP distributed 21 cartons of soap (45 each) and other WASH supplies in vulnerable areas of Kadugli town and surrounding areas.

### **HEALTH**

While no major disease outbreaks were reported during the period in question, the insufficient replenishment of basic drugs is reported to have resulted in a shortage of supplies in 16 out of 18 primary healthcare clinics (PHC) in the Kadugli area.

WHO reported that the current surveillance of mortality and morbidity in South Kordofan needs to be strengthened to ensure effective infectious disease control. By 31 July, 62 health facilities in the State were submitting reports regularly. During last week, some 2,030 consultations were conducted in these facilities, including 876 children less than 5 years old. Malaria represented the highest number of consultations with 1,195 cases representing 62 per cent of all reported cases, followed by acute respiratory infections, with 625 cases or 26 per cent of all the cases.

Between 23 and 29 July, WHO provided three basic health kits to the State Ministry of Health (SMoH) to be distributed amongst health facilities supported by WHO and UNICEF.

To assess the capacity and performance of health facilities in South Kordofan, the Health Sector initiated a joint monitoring of facilities, starting 31 July. The team includes members from WHO, UNICEF, SMoH, and NGOs operating in the area. It should last one month and findings should help to facilitate improved health services for conflict-affected populations.

### **NUTRITION**

In response to reported malnutrition among children during assessment/verification conducted by WFP in three locations of Hajar Elmak, El Koz North and Kulba in the outskirts of Kadugli town corn soya blend (CSB) (fortified blended food) was distributed to children in 136 affected households in Hajar Elmak and El Koz North. In addition, UNICEF distributed 60 cartons of emergency food for children (BP5) to Abu Jibaiha locality through SC-Sweden to support the children of 200 displaced families.

### **PROTECTION**

Following a vulnerability assessment, conducted by UNICEF, WFP, IOM, HAC, MoSD and SRCS between 20 -21 July among returnees to Kadugli town, 286 vulnerable families (1,716 individuals) were assisted with tarpaulins, sleeping mats and blankets. Most of these households were single female-headed with a considerable number of children.

With the support of UNICEF, SRCS, and SC-S are working to identify, register and trace separated, unaccompanied, and missing children. So far, 38 separated children (4 in Khartoum, 5 in Mandi, 8 in Kauda, and 18 in Heiban) and 3 unaccompanied children (Rashad) have been registered, as well as 3 missing children reported (Rashad). Efforts to reunite separated children with family members are ongoing.

UNICEF has provided SRCS with recreation, art and education kits, prevention of family separation ID bracelets for the implementation of activities in 15 Child Friendly Spaces in South Kordofan State. The supplies are meant for about 5,000 children.

### **EDUCATION**

UNICEF has supported the distribution of 140 classroom kits and 380 pupil kits in Kadugli, Talodi, Rashad, Al Goz, Habila, Dilling and Elrief Eshargi. Approximately, 60,000 pupils will benefit from these supplies.

#### IV. Coordination

Coordination meetings that include UN agencies and NGOs that have a presence in South Kordofan State are being held in Khartoum twice a week.

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