HIGHLIGHTS
• About 1,000 newly displaced people from Mulli village move to Abu Zar IDP camp near El Geneina after protests and violence.
• An estimated 73,000 people need water, sanitation and health assistance in Um Dafug and Rahad el Berdi areas of South Darfur as identified by an inter-agency mission.
• Humanitarian aid corridor via Sudan to South Sudan is extended for six months.
• The Sudanese Commission of Refugees (COR) will start refugee status determination in Khartoum, with UNHCR being an observer.

FIGURES 2015 HRP
Displaced people in Sudan (as of Dec 2014) 3.1 million
Displaced people in Darfur (as of Dec 2014) 2.5 million (in 2015) 233,000
GAM burden 2 million
South Sudanese refugee arrivals in Sudan - since 15 Dec 2013 (UNHCR) 184,668
Refugees of other nationalities (UNHCR) 173,441

FUNDING
1.04 billion requested in 2015 (US$)
57%* reported funding

*2015 HRP has been extended as the 2016 HRP is being finalised.

About 1,000 people flee from violence in W. Darfur village to state capital, sparking violent protests

On 10 January, an estimated 1,000 people who fled Mulli village, 8km south of the West Darfur State capital El Geneina, staged a protest in front of the Wali's (Governor) office. The displaced people arrived in El Geneina following tension with pastoralists after a member of the pastoralist tribe was found dead near the village. The demonstration in the state capital subsequently turned violent and government security forces dispersed the protesters, with at least 12 people killed in the riots, according to media and other reports citing the Commissioner of El Geneina locality. On 11 January, the UN received reports that these newly displaced people from Mulli had left the Wali office premises and moved to Abu Zar internally displaced persons (IDP) camp in El Geneina town. The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and humanitarian partners are in the process of verifying this information amid the tense security situation in the area.

There are also reports of additional civilians on the move between Mulli and El Geneina, whilst the plight of those who remain in Mulli remains of particular concern. There have been reports that members from both tribes - the Beni Halba and Massalit - are mobilising for another confrontation. Humanitarian agencies will conduct a needs assessment and potential response to meet the needs of newly displaced people as soon as the security situation on the ground allows.

Meanwhile, the Government of Sudan will set up a committee to probe the incident.

West Darfur State has seen relative safety and less security incidents compared to other Darfur states over the past few years. However, there have been some sporadic instances of tension and localised violence between farmers and pastoralists especially during the harvest and seasonal migration periods.

In 2015, the Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project (ACLED) recorded 1,197 security events (instances of armed conflict, killings, riots, recruitment activities by
partiers to the conflict, protests and violence against civilians, and non-violent events) in Sudan. With 809 individual events recorded, the Darfur region accounted for 68 per cent of all events in Sudan. In West Darfur State, 95 security events (about 12 per cent of the total for Darfur) were recorded by ACLED.

**Assessment mission identifies 73,000 people in need of health and WASH aid in South Darfur**

Preliminary findings of an inter-agency assessment mission completed on 10 January to South Darfur’s Rahad el Berdi and Um Dafug areas have identified that an estimated 73,000 people are in need of water and sanitation as well as health assistance. These numbers are unconfirmed and will be verified by the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The people identified are IDPs that have been arriving from Central Darfur since 2013 due to various reasons, Sudanese refugees who returned from and refugees from the Central African Republic (CAR) who came in 2014, and vulnerable people from the host community. More details will be available once the mission report is finalised, after which aid organisations will develop a response plan to meet the needs identified.

**About 1,000 IDPs return to Bindisi camp, Central Darfur**

Aid organisations in Bindisi town, Central Darfur estimate that 1,000 people who had fled Bindisi IDP camp and had taken refuge inside the local government complex in the town late December, have returned to the camp. This has occurred following interventions from the Wali’s office and a reconciliation committee, which facilitated an agreement between the displaced people and the nomads. The Government’s Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) and the international NGOs Triangle Génération Humanitaire (TGH) and Catholic Relief Services (CRS) assessed the needs of these people and identified them as emergency shelter and household supplies, food, water, and sanitation services.

These displaced people fled the camp following conflict with nomad tribesmen over allegations that one of the displaced people had injured a nomad tribesman. The nomads requested a compensation of 70,000 Sudanese pounds (about US$11,500) which the displaced community refused to pay claiming they had nothing to do with the incident. In response, the nomads reportedly started shooting at the displaced people and looted their shelters and belongings.

**Agreement on humanitarian corridor to South Sudan through Sudan extended for six months**

On 10 January, Sudan, South Sudan and the World Food Programme (WFP) signed an extension of the agreement on the transit of humanitarian aid via Sudan to South Sudan for another six months until 30 June 2016. In July 2014, Juba and Khartoum signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to allow the transport of aid across borders and by river transport to feed thousands of affected civilians in South Sudan.

A considerable part of South Sudanese civilians in need of assistance are located in Upper Nile, Jonglei and Unity states bordering on Sudan, with the delivery of aid supplies via Sudan easier logistically. Since July 2014, WFP has delivered 27,000 metric tons (MT) of food assistance for an estimated 300,000 people in northern states of South Sudan (Maban, Melut, Renk and Wadakona) through Sudan by road, river and air transport. People in these areas mainly depend on food assistance delivered via this corridor.
UNHCR welcomes the start of asylum application procedures to assist urban refugees in Khartoum

On 10 January, the refugee status determination (RSD) procedures were launched in Khartoum, according to the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR). These procedures will help urban asylum-seekers who qualify for an official refugee status and should have access to specific rights, according to UNHCR. This comes as a result of the recently enacted 2014 Asylum Act of Sudan, which underlined the right to seek asylum, including the possibility for recognised refugees to reside in urban areas in Sudan.

The Government of Sudan’s adoption of the 2014 Asylum Act, the 2014 Trafficking Act, as well as the ratification of the Palermo Protocol on Human Trafficking represent landmark developments for the legal framework for refugees and asylum-seekers in Sudan. The Asylum Act includes a number of provisions that promote the rights of refugees and asylum-seekers in the country, including the right to basic education and health services.

According to UNHCR, of the estimated 379,000 refugees and asylum-seekers in Sudan, between 70,000 and 75,000 are believed to be currently residing in Khartoum. Access to RSD procedures is an essential foundation of legal protection and is expected to prevent (to some extent) onward movement that places refugees at greater risk from people smugglers and traffickers by improving their situation and providing access to essential services in cities as well as their first countries of asylum. The Sudanese Commission of Refugees (COR)—with UNHCR acting as an observer—will carry out the exercise in Khartoum.

Most recent dengue fever cases indicate the outbreak may be stabilising

The cumulative number of suspected dengue fever cases reported throughout Sudan over the past four months since the beginning of the outbreak on 29 August 2015 to 8 January stands at 573 cases, including 104 deaths. This indicates a case fatality rate (CFR) of 19 per cent, which is a significant drop from the 54 per cent CFR at the beginning of the outbreak.

Darfur is the most affected region, accounting for 92 per cent of all reported suspected dengue fever cases and 95 per cent of deaths.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), dengue is a mosquito-borne viral infection causing in most of the cases a flu-like illness, and sometimes can cause severe haemorrhagic symptoms with potentially lethal outcome, called severe dengue.