

HIGHLIGHTS

- Fighting in the Jebel Marra area had displaced over 12,000 people by 24 January.
- Returnees to East Darfur's Labado village need water, nutrition and education assistance.
- El Nino may affect up to 4.2 million Sudanese in 2016, according to WHO.
- In West Kordofan, aid organisations have improved the water supply at the Kharasana refugee site.
- About 14,000 IDPs from South Kordofan in Um Ruwaba are struggling to cope and make ends meet.

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) 246,600*
* includes verified, unverified and returnees

GAM burden 2 million

South Sudanese refugee arrivals in Sudan - since 15 Dec 2013 (UNHCR) 194,888

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.



People getting water from an open well in Fanga Suk, Jebel Marra (UNAMID, 2015)

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Thousands flee the Jebel Marra area amid fighting

Civilians continue to flee their homes in the Jebel Marra area—escaping hostilities between Government forces and armed movements—and are taking refuge in North and Central Darfur states, according to aid organisations and the African Union – United Nations Mission in Darfur (UNAMID). Over 12,000 people were estimated to have been displaced by 24 January since the conflict began on 15 January.

In Central Darfur, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and partners have prepared a contingency plan to provide assistance for up to 70,000 people, should the needs arise. Current relief stocks can cover up to 80 per cent of food, 98 per cent of nutrition, and 97 per cent of water and sanitation needs of the contingency plan. However, there are no emergency shelter and household supplies available. Aid organisations will need to replenish stocks to cover these possible needs.

Thousands of IDPs from Jebel Marra take refuge in North Darfur

In North Darfur's Sortony area, Kebkabiya locality, UNAMID reported that 8,400 displaced people—of whom 60 per cent are children, 30 per cent are women and 10 per cent are men—have taken refuge near the UNAMID team site. The displaced people reportedly came from Tui, Korambe, Samra, Burgukiry, Bersi, Sura, Fatah, Birgel, Kaguro and Niortolo villages. They are staying out in the open and are in need of shelter, food, water and sanitation, and health assistance. As there are no humanitarian actors in the area, UNAMID is providing the displaced people with about 6,000 liters of water per day and

The Jebel Marra area map



Over 12,000 people are estimated to have been displaced from the Jebel Marra area and seeking refuge in North and Central Darfur

medical assistance. There is a water point located about 5km from the team site that the displaced people can use. The Wali (Governor) of North Darfur has stated that he is committed to assisting and facilitating aid for the newly displaced people in the state. However, before any assistance is provided the Government's Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC), the World Food Programme (WFP) and the national NGO Kebkabiya Smallholder Charitable Society (KSCS) will verify the numbers, after which aid agencies can send relief supplies from El Fasher.

In addition, about 500 people (104 families) have arrived in Kebkabiya town from Berdy village, according to HAC and KSCS. The displaced people are reportedly being accommodated by relatives and the host community in Kebkabiya town.

In Tawila locality, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) has carried out an initial headcount of 3,200 people who arrived in the locality and are in need of food, emergency shelter and household supplies. About 3,000 of them took refuge in Rwanda internally displaced persons (IDP) camp and 200 in Argo IDP camp. The displaced people reportedly came from the villages of Kaguro, Borgo, Kosa, Basa, Buri, Hillat Fata and Dadi in West Jebel Marra locality and the Jebel Si area. IOM will start registering these displaced people shortly. Aid organisations have started providing nutrition assistance for the newly displaced children and health services for those displaced who need it. Further assessments of the needs of the newly arrived people will be carried out by aid organisations working in the camps. The displaced people said that more people would arrive in the coming days; the locality commissioner said he would allocate land for the displaced people close to their current location.

People displaced from Jebel Marra arrive in Nertiti town, Central Darfur

Aid organisations in Nertiti town have received reports that conflict-affected people have started to arrive in the town from the villages of Boldon, Kaninga and Kutrum in Sudan Liberation Army – Abdul Wahid (SLA-AW) controlled areas.

The number and needs of these displaced people have not been assessed, but aid organisations expect they will need food as well as emergency household supplies. According to the displaced people, there are many people trapped in the Jebel Marra area and are unable to flee due to continuing hostilities. Some of these people have reportedly fled into the mountains and are taking refuge in caves. As soon as the hostilities subside, more people are expected to arrive in Nertiti town.

OCHA has sent in a request to HAC to carry out an inter-agency need assessment amongst newly displaced people in Nertiti town. The UN Children's Agency (UNICEF) plans to pre-position a three months' supply of nutrition, education as well as water and sanitation items in Nertiti and Guldo towns to meet the needs of new IDPs.

Returnees in Labado, East Darfur need aid

UNICEF, the State Ministry of Health (SMoH) and Government's Water and Sanitation Department (WES) visited Labado in East Darfur State on 17-21 January to monitor the health, nutrition, water and sanitation situation in the returnee village. According to the mission findings, the returnees are still using the UNAMID water yards, which are located about 5km from the village. People also get water



Children in class in Labado village (UNAMID, file photo 2013)

Returnees in Labado village need water, nutrition and education assistance

An estimated 13,700 people returned to Labado village between September and November 2015

from two private water yards but they have to pay five Sudanese pounds (about \$0.82) per barrel. If the two boreholes in the village—previously tested by UNAMID and found to be of good quality and quantity—are provided with generators, they can help in filling the gap in water needs for the village.

The Outpatient Therapeutic Feeding Programme (OTP) in Labado village, which was run by the international NGO Tearfund, has been closed since mid-December 2015 when the organisation was instructed to suspend operations. On 13 January, Tearfund was notified by the Sudanese authorities that it needs to exit the country. SMOH staff in Labado have agreed to restart the OTP centre and UNICEF and the SMOH have sent 30 cartons of Plumpy'nut and assorted medicine for centre which was reopened on 20 January. The Therapeutic Supplementary Feeding Programme (TSFP) in the area is not working and the SMOH and WFP are making arrangements to restart it.

For education, the mission identified the need for school supplies and maintenance of the two primary schools in the area. UNICEF and the State Ministry of Education (SMoE) are identifying what school supplies are needed. An estimated 13,700 people returned to Labado village between September and November 2015. They had fled the village and taken refuge near the UNAMID team site 2.5km away in April 2013 following fighting between government forces and an armed movement in the area.

El Niño could affect 4.2 million Sudanese in 2016, according to WHO

On 22 January, the World Health Organization (WHO) issued its [El Niño and Health: Global Overview report](#). The El Niño phenomenon affects rainfall patterns and temperatures in many parts of the globe, most intensely in the tropics with significant impacts on human health. El Niño 2015-2016 is currently affecting the health of millions of vulnerable people in the Horn of Africa, southern and eastern Africa, South Pacific, Central America and South Asia. Adverse climate conditions are expected to peak in January 2016 but the health consequences will likely worsen as the full effects of El Niño are felt throughout 2016, according to the WHO.

In Sudan, due to the drier-than-normal conditions in the southern part of the country, deterioration of the already unstable food security situation is expected and could affect up to 4.2 million people in 2016, the WHO report said. Due to low rains, a significant fall in food availability and rise in food insecurity and malnutrition is expected for vulnerable populations, especially among small-scale farmers and pastoralists, who comprise the bulk of Sudan's rural poor, the report alerted. An increase in acutely malnourished children is reported with subsequent increased risk of infectious diseases amongst those affected.

Sudan is particularly vulnerable to disease outbreaks and is currently undergoing prolonged measles and dengue outbreaks, and changes in the pattern of vectors caused by El Niño could further lead to an increase in vector-borne diseases such as malaria and viral haemorrhagic fevers (VHFs) endemic in Sudan. It is likely that decreased water quantity and quality will lead to an increased incidence of water-borne diseases such as cholera and other diarrhoeal diseases. If not mitigated the impact of El Niño is likely to lead to population displacement, disruption of health service delivery and lack of access to health care, according to WHO. Investing in mitigation measures with a focus on community-based initiative is one of WHO's current priorities.

FEWS NET report indicates food aid needs will be higher through July 2016

The most recent Food Assistance Outlook Brief for the period of January-July 2016 by the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) states that needs will be higher than usual for households affected by persistent conflict in South Kordofan, Blue Nile, and Darfur. Needs will also be unusually high for very poor households in areas where the rainy season was very dry, particularly in parts of North and South Kordofan, eastern Sudan, and North Darfur, according to FEWS NET. Delayed and inconsistent rains in some parts of Sudan during the rainy season and subsequent poorer harvests in some areas have led to abnormal price increases for main food commodities in affected areas.

If not mitigated the impact of El Niño is likely to lead to population displacement and disruption of health services

Almost 14,000 IDPs in Um Ruwaba, North Kordofan amongst worst hit

The most vulnerable people, including IDPs, are the worst affected by food price hikes.

One of these groups consists of 13,914 IDPs (2,344 men, 3,734 women, 3,323 boys, and 4,513 girls) in North Kordofan's Um Ruwaba locality who arrived there between 2013 and 2015 following the conflict in Abu Kershola, as well as the recent conflict in Abasiya in South Kordofan, according to the national NGO Al Salam Organisation for Rehabilitation and Development (AORD). A total of about 50,000 people



IDPs from South Kordofan in Um Ruwaba, North Kordofan (AORD 2015)

were displaced to Um Ruwaba locality in North Kordofan seeking shelter, food and protection, AORD said. While some of them later returned and others possibly integrated into local communities, these 13,914 IDPs remained in Um Ruwaba.

Some IDPs say that prices for some grains in the market have almost doubled compared to the same period last year and they are struggling to meet their needs. They do not have an extended support network, lack livestock and other assets, and are not able to find regular jobs, secure income or livelihoods.

AORD said that the IDPs lack access to basic services, water, health, education and face chronic food insecurity and poverty. Moreover, their protracted displacement has led to the breakdown of traditional social support structures and long-established protective mechanisms, with gender-specific protection needs being high. While these IDPs received limited assistance from international aid organisations in 2014, they have not received any assistance in 2015, according to AORD.

Aid organisations provide water assistance to people in Kharasana, West Kordofan

Aid organisations are responding to the water needs of people in West Kordofan's Kharasana refugee site. These needs were identified during an inter-agency assessment that took place in late November 2015. In response to the continued water needs, the national NGO ASSIST is trucking in 6,400 litres of water per day as per their agreement with UNICEF to provide water until June 2016. ASSIST has also provided two water bladders with a capacity of 20,000 and 10,000 litres each to replace two bladders stolen in December 2015. These two bladders plus another one with a capacity of 10,000 litres are now providing storage capacity of 40,000 litres per day, which is adequate for the population at the refugee camp. Aid organisations plan to drill and equip a water yard in the camp to provide a sustainable solution to the water problem. According to UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), there are an estimated 8,300 refugees at the Kharasana site.

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