

## HIGHLIGHTS

- UN Security Council calls upon the Government of Sudan and SPLM-N to urgently resolve differences to implement the polio vaccination campaign in South Kordofan and Blue Nile states.
- MSF reports that some 2,500 refugees from South Kordofan had arrived in Fashoda and Malakal counties in South Sudan's Upper Nile State.
- Four UNAMID peacekeepers were killed last week. Thirteen peacekeepers have been killed in Darfur in 2013.
- Thousands of flood-affected people and returnees in South and West Kordofan require humanitarian assistance, according to aid agencies.

## FIGURES

IDPs registered in Darfur camps (excluding IDPs outside camps)	1.4 million
Refugees in Sudan (UNHCR)	159,000
Sudanese refugees in Chad (UNHCR)	346,000
Sudanese refugees in South Sudan & Ethiopia (UNHCR)	229,000

## FUNDING

**984 million**  
requested (US\$)

**464 million**  
reported funding (US\$)

**47.1%**  
reported funding



Refugees from South Kordofan in South Sudan (MSF)

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## Security Council calls on Government & SPLM-N to resolve differences over polio vaccinations

On 10 October, the United Nations Security Council was briefed on the situation in Sudan and South Sudan by the UN's head of peacekeeping, Hervé Ladsous. Some members of the Security Council expressed alarm and grave concern at the outbreak of polio in the Horn of Africa and the imminent threat of polio spreading northward to Sudan through South Kordofan. In September, the Government of South Sudan confirmed the appearance of three cases of polio. On 26 September, two girls aged two and eight in Northern Bahr el Ghazal State, bordering Sudan, and a two-year-old girl in Eastern Equatoria State, were confirmed as having the wild polio virus.

The UN Security Council called on the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N) to urgently resolve their differences over the technical plans necessary to implement a polio vaccination campaign in SPLM-N held areas of Blue Nile and South Kordofan. The vaccination campaign, as proposed by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO), was planned to begin on 5 November, in concert with the National Immunisation Day, and would take approximately two weeks.

The UN Security Council reiterated their support for the UN's work in this regard and encouraged the Secretary-General to engage with both sides to ensure full vaccination in the coming weeks.

### Over, 2,600 people flee SPLM-N areas in South Kordofan

On 11 October, the international NGO Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) reported that some 2,500 Sudanese refugees from South Kordofan arrived in the towns of Kodok and Lelo, in South Sudan's Upper Nile State and need humanitarian assistance. According to MSF, many of the new arrivals are women and children who have walked for five to 10 days, fleeing from their homes in the Warni and Kau-Nyaro areas in the southeast of South Kordofan. Some of new refugees told MSF that they had left their homes due to the on-going conflict between the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) and SPLM-N forces and a growing lack of food following two consecutive poor harvest seasons.

The USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) reports that the highest level of acute food insecurity – Phase 4 (emergency) of the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) – is projected amongst internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the SPLM-N-controlled areas of South Kordofan. Meanwhile, poor households in these areas are projected to be in IPC Phase 3 (crisis).

According to the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), since 2011 some 197,000 Sudanese refugees from South Kordofan and Blue Nile states have sought shelter in camps in Unity and Upper Nile states in South Sudan. Since 2011, an estimated 32,000 refugees, mainly from Blue Nile, have fled to the Assosa region of Ethiopia.

Meanwhile, the South Kordofan Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) reports that 125 individuals, mainly women and children, have arrived in the Dalami locality of South Kordofan from the SPLM-N controlled Tongoli area, having reportedly fled on-going fighting between SAF and SPLM-N forces. HAC reports that these new arrivals need basic health care services, food assistance, and emergency shelter. In terms of emergency response, on 9 October the international NGO Concern Worldwide dispatched non-food relief supplies (NFIs) kits to Dalami locality for the 125 people. The World Food Program (WFP) will verify these newly displaced people this month.

## Four UNAMID peacekeepers killed in one week

*Four UNAMID peacekeepers were killed last week, bringing the total number of peacekeepers killed in 2013 to 13*

On 11 October, a UNAMID Military Observer from the Republic of Zambia died in El Fasher, North Darfur, after being stabbed during car-jacking. The incident occurred in the afternoon whilst the officer was parking the vehicle at his private residence. The victim was transferred to a UNAMID medical facility where he died of wounds.

On 13 October 2013, the African Union-United Nations Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) reported that an unidentified armed group ambushed a UNAMID Formed Police Unit that was escorting a water convoy from El Geneina town to the UNAMID regional headquarters in West Darfur. Three Senegalese peacekeepers were killed and one injured. The assailants stole one vehicle, which was later recovered 7 km from the scene. In 2013, 13 UNAMID peacekeepers have been killed in Darfur.



A UNAMID vehicle that was ambushed (UNAMID)

## Assistance required in West and South Kordofan

### **HAC: 3,000 flood-affected people in Lagawa locality, W. Kordofan need aid**

The South Kordofan HAC reports that some 3,000 flood-affected people in the Dabat Ebeed and Milleis areas of West Kordofan need relief aid. At the end of August, heavy rains and strong winds in West Kordofan flooded the Salingu valley and cut off 3,000 people from basic services. According to HAC, the stranded people urgently require food assistance, health care and non-food relief supplies. As of 9 September, according to the HAC Federal (Chair of the National Flood Task Force) there were 8,620 families affected by floods in West Kordofan, with 174 houses destroyed and 306 houses partially damaged.

A request for NFIs submitted by HAC to the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) in Khartoum in September is still under consideration. WFP has not been able to support the 3,000 flood-affected people, as the verification team has been unable to access the location due to poor roads. HAC is yet to provide the list of affected people to WFP. The South Kordofan State Ministry of Health (SMOH) says it is planning to visit those affected in the near future.

### **Plight of returnees in Abu Kershola, South Kordofan**

On 7 October, HAC in South Kordofan reported that major gaps exist in the provision of basic services for people who have returned to the Abu Kershola area, having fled fighting between the SAF and the Sudanese Revolutionary Front (SRF) in mid April 2013.

According to HAC, some 900 children returning from El Rahad in North Kordofan lack of access to education. HAC also report that there is a shortage of medicines, a lack of

*South Kordofan HAC reports that some 3,000 flood-affected people in Lagawa locality in West Kordofan need relief aid*

*There are some 10,600 returnees in Abu Kershola, according to HAC South Kordofan*

health care services and food shortages. Moreover, returnees are limited in their movement throughout the Abu Kershola area due to fear of unexploded ordnance (UXO).

Some 10,600 people have returned to Abu Kershola, according to HAC. It is reported that there is continuous movement of returnees and displaced people between Abu Kershola and El Rahad in search of humanitarian assistance, suggesting that registration and verification may be required to ensure that humanitarian assistance is delivered to the correct caseload. HAC and WFP are planning a second verification round to reconcile the IDP and returnee lists. SMOH also reports that it plans to undertake a health assessment of the areas in the coming weeks.



People from Abu Kershola who sought shelter in El Rahad (SRCS)

### **Meningitis vaccination campaign reaches over 1.1 million people**

The South Kordofan SMOH's Expanded Program on Immunisation has reportedly completed its meningitis vaccination campaign in all accessible areas of South and West Kordofan. According to the SMOH, some 1,177,582 people (representing 95 per cent of the targeted population) received a meningitis vaccination during this campaign. The campaign was supported by the members of the health sector, including UNICEF, WHO, the international NGOs Save the Children-Sweden (SC-S) and Concern Worldwide, and the national NGO Mubadiroon.

## **NGO reports almost 3,000 returns in Blue Nile**

According to aid agencies on the ground, more refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) continued to return to their areas of origin in Geissan and Kurmuk localities in Blue Nile State. An NGO working on protection and tracking of IDPs movement in Blue Nile State reported that an estimated 100 refugees returned to Geissan locality from the areas of Sharklooy, Ahagar and Taiba in Ethiopia. The returnees are temporarily staying in schools in Geissan town and are yet to receive humanitarian aid. The same NGO reported that the Youth Registration Committee in Kurmuk registered an estimated 2,750 displaced people (550 families) who have returned to their areas of origins in Badug, and Katalo in Kurmuk locality from Dabluk Katalo Wasat and Kurmuk town due to improved security conditions.

At the same time, the NGO reported that some 80 newly displaced people from Mediam and Wigo in Bau locality arrived in Hia Raih Balak in Damazine locality, citing insecurity as their reason for fleeing.

### **Some 2,000 newly displaced people need assistance in Kurmuk locality**

On 7-8 October, an inter-agency mission visited Bulang, Gambard and Diglok locations in Kurmuk locality, Blue Nile. According to the mission's preliminary findings, an estimated 2,055 displaced people (411 families) reportedly fled Kalato and Shatayo villages because of fighting in late September. These displaced people need shelter (as the public school building where they are currently staying will reopen after the Eid holiday), food and non-food relief supplies as well as basic health services.

*Some 2,000 people who fled Kalato and Shatayo villages in late September need humanitarian aid*

## UNICEF nutrition assistance for Jebel Marra

UNICEF has started to pilot some initiatives to provide humanitarian assistance in the Jebel Marra area in Darfur. Working through the SMOH, UNICEF has pre-positioned nutrition supplies in Nertiti to open seven out-patient nutrition centers in Golo, Killin, Katti, Korifal, Daya, Guldo and Solo in the Jebel Marra area. The operation cost for running the said facilities was provided to SMOH to cover the months of October, November, and December 2013. High death rates in Nertiti hospital were found to be connected with the late arrival of these children from the area of Eastern Jebel Marra. UNICEF has supported the SMOH to provide treatment in these areas.

Golo hospital, Killin and Guldo clinics stopped services since January 2013 when their facilities were looted during the fighting between SAF and Sudan Liberation Army/Abdul Wahid (SLA/AW) in the area. Katti and Korifal were closed in 2009 when MSF-Switzerland pulled out from Western Jebel Marra. Daya clinic has been non-functional since 2006 when the international NGO GOAL stopped activities in the area as a result of insecurity. These areas remained inaccessible to humanitarian organisations for almost two years. Apart from Guldo and Golo, the areas of Daya, Killin, Katti, and Korifal are located in SLA/AW-controlled areas.

## Work permits for 30,000 refugees in Kassala

*UNHCR reports that 30,000 work permits will be granted to refugees in Kassala in eastern Sudan*

UNHCR reported in early October that some 30,000 work permits would be granted to refugees in Kassala in eastern Sudan under an agreement with UNHCR to improve the livelihoods of refugees and reduce their dependence on external assistance. Last week's agreement between UNHCR and Sudan's Commission for Refugees (COR), Kassala State, and the Kassala Ministry of Finance is an unprecedented step for refugees in Sudan. Work permits are essential for refugees to legally work and have the same labour rights as Sudanese citizens.



Refugees in eastern Sudan (UNHCR)

Although Sudan's Asylum Act allows a refugee to work in any job except those related to security and national defence, work permits were difficult to obtain. In 2012, only 180 refugees were issued with the required documentation.

According to UNHCR, there are about 159,000 refugees in Sudan, mainly in the east of the country.