HIGHLIGHTS (12 Mar 2020)

- Annual inflation rate continues to increase in Sudan, raising concerns for millions of people who are food insecure

- Humanitarian partners met with leaders of the Arab and Massalit communities in West Darfur

- IOM registered 186,813 individuals in Sudan in 2019 as part of the Displacement Tracking Matrix

- FAO requests US$9 million for desert locust response in Sudan

KEY FIGURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>People in need (2020)</th>
<th>People targeted (2020)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.3M</td>
<td>6.1M</td>
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<tr>
<th>Refugees</th>
<th>IDPs</th>
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<td>1.1M</td>
<td>1.87M</td>
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FUNDING (2020)

- Required: $1.3B
- Received: $110.1M
- Progress: 8%

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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).

**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.

FEATURE (5 Mar 2020)

For the first time Sudan endorses national standard operating procedures on GBV prevention and response in Sudan

On 17 February the Government of Sudan launched the national standard operating procedures (SoPs) on gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response. Building on international principles, these SoPs have been developed in Arabic through a collaborative process led by the Ministry of Labour and Social Development (MoLSD)-Combating of Violence Against Women (CVAW) Directorate, engaging UN agencies, as well as government, non-government, and community-based organizations in the process. The national GBV SOPs clearly establish the procedures, roles, and responsibilities of each actor involved in GBV response including mutually agreed referral pathways and mechanisms for obtaining survivor consent. These will be used together with existing national and international guidelines for the prevention of and response to GBV.

The launch was presided by the Minister of Labour and Social Development, Ms. Lena El Sheikh, who stressed that women's rights are a priority for Sudan and that women played a pioneering role in building society. She also noted that that GBV is one of the greatest challenges in society and in endorsing these SoPs a move has been made to achieve justice and women’s rights. The Minister stressed that applying these SoPs to address GBV is the responsibility at all legal, health and social levels.

TRENDS (5 Mar 2020)

The national production of sorghum and millet in 2019/20 is less than last year – Sudan Ministry of Agriculture

According to the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources (MoANR) food supply assessment for Sudan (CFSAM), the national total production of sorghum and millet in 2019/20 is estimated at 5.1 million tonnes, 36 per cent below the previous year’s record output and 18 per cent less than the past five-year average. This could have serious effect on the food security in the count where an estimated 5.8 million people (14 per cent of the total population) are experiencing Crisis or worse levels of food insecurity, according to the latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Sudan: Acute Food Insecurity Situation for June - August 2019 report. This figure is the highest on record since the introduction of the IPC analysis in Sudan. Around 1 million people are facing Emergency levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 4) and around
4.8 million people are in Crisis (IPC Phase 3), while nearly 11.8 million are estimated to be in Stress Phase (IPC Phase 2), the report states. Overall, 162 localities from 17 states have been classified out of the 18 Sudan States.

The CFSAM assessment was carried out by MoANR—with assistance from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and other partners—between 24 November and 14 December 2019 to determine crop production and food supply situation throughout all 18 states in the country.

The decline in production can be attributed to farmers shifting crop production to more remunerative cash crops, such as sesame and groundnuts, compounded by lower yields resulting from unfavourable weather conditions and pest infestation. Constraints on the availability of, and accessibility to, agricultural inputs were reported as a result of high and increasing inflation, which also led to soaring costs of production. Despite the Government’s efforts to meet the needs of the agricultural sector, fuel shortages and delays in fuel deliveries were reported in several parts of the country. A mid-season assessment, carried out by the MoARN, showed that the amount of fuel supplied in 2019 for land preparation, planting and weeding was 36 per cent of the total requirements, while it was 52 per cent in 2018. Farmers were forced to purchase fuel from the parallel market, paying three to four times the official price. This resulted in an overall increase in production costs.

The incidence of pests, diseases and weeds in the 2019 summer cropping season were significantly higher than in the previous years and affected production. Abnormal weather events weakened crops, while the overall more humid environment—due to the long rainy season—favoured the proliferation of weeds and pests at the final stages of crop growth, during grain development and filling. Rat infestations were reported at significant levels in Kassala, Blue Nile, West Kordofan, South Kordofan, White Nile and Darfur states. The early onset of summer rains in May improved soil moisture and vegetation growth, stimulating rodent reproduction. During the prolonged dry spell of July, enlarged populations caused serious damage to crops during planting. In addition, despite continuous monitoring and control measures put in place by the Sudan’s Plant Protection Division, numerous attacks by birds were reported in important crop production areas.

**FORECAST**  (5 Mar 2020)

**FAO requests US$9 million for desert locust response in Sudan**

Desert locust breeding continues along the Red Sea in Sudan and poses a serious threat to crop and livestock production in an area that is already highly food insecure.

For response in Sudan, [FAO has requested US$9 million](https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/sudan/) 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

[Desert locust map (FAO)](https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/sudan/)
additional $2 million to the SHF, which will be used for the desert locust response.

Intensive surveillance of locust breeding areas as well as effective ground and aerial control operations are urgently needed in order to detect and reduce locust populations, prevent more swarms from forming and avoid the spread of the pest to crop and pasture areas. Unless sustained control operations are carried out, significant agricultural losses are likely. This would exacerbate already high levels of food insecurity (5.8 million people are facing IPC Phase 3 and above [June–August 2019]), particularly in rural areas.

The Government of Sudan has been leading the response, with surveillance conducted on 1 million hectares and ground and aerial control operations treating about 300,000 hectares with pesticides. Currently, the government needs more vehicles (for spraying), pesticides, field equipment and funds for operational expenses.

According to the February issue of the Desert Locust Bulletin by Sudan's Plant Protection Directorate (PPD), the ecological conditions remain favourable for the increase in the number of desert locust and formation of additional hopper bands and hopper groups. Due to the desert locust situation in neighbouring countries, more swarms are likely to invade the green areas at the winter breeding areas in Sudan. Further, as a result of the dry conditions at the northern part of the Red Sea coast swarms might migrate to summer breeding areas in Northern and River Nile states.

For more information on the Desert Locust and Desert locust crisis in East Africa click here

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](https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/sudan/).

**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*

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**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 OCHA@un.org.

View this interactive graphic: [https://data.humdata.org/dataset/sudan-operational-presence](https://data.humdata.org/dataset/sudan-operational-presence)