

## Key Points

- The influx of Sudanese refugees into South Sudan continues, with more than 202,000 refugees from Blue Nile and South Kordofan now in camps in South Sudan and Ethiopia, according to UNHCR.
- In South Kordofan, WFP continues to distribute food in Talodi, Gadir and El Leri localities, with food distributions expected to commence in Abu Jubaiha, Rashad and Abassiya localities in the coming week.
- In Abyei, the total number of returnees to areas north of the Bahr el Arab/Kiir River is now almost 9,000 people - up from 7,000 people reported last week, according to UNISFA.
- More than 400,000 people of South Sudanese origin have returned from Sudan to South Sudan since October 2010.
- According to humanitarian organisations, road transport of humanitarian assistance in parts of Darfur has been hampered by insecurity, leaving air transport as the safest option for delivering humanitarian assistance.

## 1. South Kordofan and Blue Nile

### Security situation and displacement

Fighting between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and Sudan People's Liberation Movement - North (SPLM-N) forces continued in parts of South Kordofan and Blue Nile states during the reporting period. According to reports received by the UN, on 10 June fighting between SAF and SPLM-N was reported around Ullu area in El Tadamon locality, 217 km southwest of the Blue Nile provincial capital Ed Damazine. Aerial bombardment was reported in the area between Ullu and Baldogo, southwest of Ed Damazine, with Malkan, Abu Tombak, Umm Dilwa and Mahbas Asalah villages reportedly affected. Armed clashes were also reported on 11 June in the area of Shali, 90 km southeast of Ed Damazine, on the Kurmuk - Ed Damazine road. No reports of civilian casualties or displacement were received.

In South Kordofan, reports received by the UN indicate that fighting between SAF and SPLM-N broke out on 12 June about 35 km southwest of Dilling town near Al Funda village. The fighting continued through 16 June, with no reports of civilian displacement or casualties received.

The Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) and Jasmara, a national NGO, reported the arrival of 810 newly displaced people over the last few days in Rashad, South Kordofan. According to SRCS, these people were displaced from Subut village in Rashad locality by insecurity and fear of continued fighting between SAF and SPLM-N. Most of the newly displaced people have sheltered with relatives, friends or host communities. As of 31 May, an estimated 300,000 people have been displaced or severely affected by the ongoing fighting in South Kordofan since fighting broke out in June 2011.

### Humanitarian response

On 10 June, the UN World Food Programme (WFP) began a two-month food distribution for 16,506 people in some Government-held areas of South Kordofan. The distribution followed a recent WFP and Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) verification assessment in the six eastern localities of Al Abassiya, Abu Jubaiha, Gadir, Talodi, Rashad and El Leri. The assessment identified some 109,000 people in need of food assistance. This week, a WFP team completed food distribution training of SRCS staff in Talodi, Gadir and El Leri localities. Training of SRCS staff in Abu Jubaiha, Rashad and Al Abassiya will start next week. Transportation of food from El Obeid, North Kordofan to the six localities in South Kordofan is ongoing. The table below shows the status of the food dispatched from El Obeid to the six localities as of 17 June:

Locality	Number of people to be targeted	Planned Total (MT)	Dispatched food (MT)	Food dispatched (%)
Talodi	16,506	1,318.13	672.19	51%
El Leri	18,675	835.35	306.63	37%
Gadir	13,109	1,002.62	101.81	10.15%
Al Abbassiya	16,338	823.1	237.05	29%
Abu Jebaiha	34,860	401.24	121.13	30%
Rashad	9,070	512.65	512.81	100%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>108,558</b>			

Source: WFP

WFP reports that food distributions have started in three localities - Talodi, Gadir, and El Leri. Food distribution in Abu Jubaiha, Rashad and Abbassiya, will begin after SRCS staff on the ground have received the necessary training. The targeted beneficiaries will receive two months of food rations for June and July, while food rations for the next three months will be pre-positioned in Talodi (two rub halls of 400 MT capacity each) and Abu Jubaiha (one rub hall of 400 MT capacity).

On 14 June, UNHCR reported that non-food relief supplies are expected to be distributed to the 108,558 people identified in the WFP/HAC verification assessment. Talodi, Gadir and El Leri are considered priority locations for this distribution. UNHCR also reported that a discussion is ongoing between UNHCR and HAC at Kadugli level regarding the modalities of distribution of non-food relief supplies to the affected people in the eastern part of South Kordofan. In addition, SRCS reported that, since the conflict started in June 2011, they have distributed non-food items (NFIs) to a total of 7,861 families (estimated 47,000 people) affected by the conflict in Kadugli, Talodi, El Leri, Abu Jubaiha, Kalogi, and Keilak.

Last week, the South Kordofan Government approved a five-day UN Children's Fund (UNICEF)-led mission to the eastern parts of South Kordofan, including Al Abasiya, Abu Karshola (in Rashad locality), Rashad, Abu Jubaiha. The team comprised one international and several national staff from UNICEF, as well as government representatives from the Water and Environmental Sanitation Department (WES), the Ministry of Social Welfare, and the Nutrition Department of the State Ministry of Health (SMoH), the State Ministry of Education (SMoE) and HAC. On 11 June, the mission was stopped by security forces at a checkpoint in El Obeid, North Kordofan, and UNICEF's international staff member was prevented from undertaking the mission, reportedly due to an invalid travel permit for passing through North Kordofan. The entire team and a truck, carrying nutritional supplies (BP5 high-energy biscuits and Plumpy nuts), were instructed by the authorities in El Obeid on 14 June to return to Kadugli. UNICEF reported that nutritional supplies are running low in the localities that were supposed to be visited.

The international NGO Save the Children Sweden (SC-S) continued its community-based management of malnutrition program (CMAM) in 15 nutrition centres throughout South Kordofan. Between 9 February and 6 June 2012, the SCS-trained community outreach volunteers have screened 32,618 children under the age of five and appropriately referred them for treatment. During 31 May and 6 June, a total of 915 children under the age of five were screened, among whom 53 children were found to severely malnourished and 80 children were moderately malnourished. SCS distributed 18 Cartons of (RUTF) Plumpy nut for the severely malnourished children at the respective nutrition centres.

UNICEF sent educational supplies to schools in four localities, including Al Abbassiya, Al Qoz, Al Sunut and Muglad. The distribution of these school materials will take place during the enrolment campaign, which will start in early July. The campaign is expected to enrol 18,000 children in schools and 9,000 youths and adolescents in the Accelerated Learning Programme (ALP) centres.

In Dilling town, SC-S in collaboration with WES have rehabilitated 23 broken hand pumps. To date, a total of 68 broken hand pumps have been rehabilitated.

In Blue Nile, on 17 June the HAC Commissioner in Ed Damazine confirmed that they received a letter from the Blue Nile Governor requesting an assessment of projects carried out by international NGOs. HAC reported that it had not identified a date for the assessment. Following a similar exercise in eastern Sudan, seven international NGOs were ordered by HAC to terminate their projects and close their offices by the end of June.

As of 17 June, some 320 national staff of UN agencies and international NGOs and six UN international staff from the World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF, the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) remain in South Kordofan. In Blue Nile, there are more than 200 national staff of UN agencies and international NGOs. Due to access restrictions, there are no international staff in Blue Nile.

### **Sudanese refugees in South Sudan and Ethiopia**

UNHCR reports that the influx of Sudanese refugees into South Sudan continues. As of 17 May, there are about 169,400 Sudanese refugees from Blue Nile and South Kordofan in camps located in the Upper Nile and Unity states of South Sudan.

In Ethiopia, the number of Sudanese refugees, mainly from Blue Nile, remains at some 33,000 people. Overall, more than 202,000 refugees from Blue Nile and South Kordofan have sought shelter in camps in South Sudan and Ethiopia since June 2011.

Meanwhile, IOM has begun relocation of Sudanese refugees from the Ad-Damazin Transit Centre - located on Ethiopia's western border with Sudan - to a new camp in Ethiopia's north-western region of Benishangul Gumuz. The decision was made after the transit centre reached its capacity of 14,000 people.

### **Removal of fuel subsidies**

Local media reported on 16 June that Sudan's ruling National Congress Party (NCP) endorsed a number of austerity measures, including the removal of fuel subsidies, to deal with a growing budget deficit. There are concerns that the increase in fuel prices will result in food price hikes, with people relying on humanitarian assistance likely to be hard hit. It is believed that the possible food price increases would exacerbate the food insecurity of people in SPLM-N areas in South Kordofan and Blue Nile. According to a May 2012 update from the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), an estimated 4.7 million people in Sudan are categorised as stressed (IPC Phase 2), in crisis (IPC Phase 3), or in an emergency (IPC Phase 4) levels of food insecurity. FEWS NET reports that food insecurity is of greatest concern in SPLM-N areas in South Kordofan, where about 200,000 to 250,000 people are now categorised as in crisis or emergency levels of food insecurity.

## **2. Abyei**

### **Returns to areas north of the Bahr el Arab/Kiir River**

According to reports received by the UN, on 10 June some 200 displaced people arrived in Abyei town from Agok. On 13 June, another 420 displaced people returned to Abyei town with the support from the UN Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA). According to UNISFA, by 17 June almost 9,000 people moved to parts of Abyei area north of the Bahr el Arab/Kiir River. The number of displaced people who have "returned" to Abyei town has reached 1,072 people, following the arrival of another 252 people on 17 June, according to UNISFA. However, it is unclear whether these people have permanently returned or are visiting their homes to assess the situation.

A dedicated IOM staff member responsible for tracking and monitoring the return process will be deployed shortly. This will help to establish the pattern of movements of the displaced, and identify accurate figures of returnees.

UNHCR reports that a protection team interviewed a group of returnees in Abyei town. Displaced families, who came from Agok, mentioned that the majority of people displaced from Abyei town and surrounding villages are hesitant to return permanently due to a lack of basic services, shelter and security. People displaced from Abyei reported that they are keen to receive updated information regarding the status of mine clearance in potential areas of return.

The UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) reports that all areas in Abyei can now be accessed by humanitarian organisations, including areas that were previously known/suspected to have landmines or Unexploded Ordnances (UXOs), namely Todach, Noong and Tajalei. However, UNMAS emphasised that only main roads should be used. UNMAS and its contractor Mechem, in collaboration with the UN Department for Safety and Security (UNDSS), will finalise a route map highlighting the classification of the roads in the Abyei area.

### Humanitarian response

Humanitarian organizations based in South Sudan continue to provide relief assistance to the displaced people in the Agok area of Abyei, as well as to those in Warrap State and other areas of South Sudan.

A team comprised of UNICEF, Save the Children and WES Abyei visited 11 water sites in Abyei town during the week and assessed 13 facilities. Only two hand pumps were found working. In addition, all school latrines assessed in Abyei town lack roofs and doors. With support from UNICEF, WES Abyei transported tools and materials needed for repairing hand pumps and other water facilities in Abyei town and nearby villages. The rehabilitation work will start on 18 June.

In line with an agreed planning figure of 10 000 households, IOM Juba has started moving 10,000 non-food relief kits to Agok to ensure that sufficient stocks are available. Each kit consists of two blankets, two sleeping mats, one mosquito net, one kitchen set, two plastic sheets, one bundle of rope, two collapsible jerry cans and ten bars of soap. The supplies will be transferred to Caritas for storage and released to partners for distribution.

With UNICEF support, the international NGO Mercy Corps transported material required for the construction of temporary learning spaces (TLS) for displaced people in Agok. The work construction of at least 14 TLS's in Agok and nearby villages is expected to start next week. With support of UNICEF, the Abyei Education Office erected a total of 14 tents in five schools, delivering learning space for approximately 1,260 students, and distributed all school materials (school in a box, recreation kits and blackboards) to six schools.

## 3. Returns to South Sudan

The Government of South Sudan continued moving people who had been stranded at the Kosti way-station by road. On 13 June, a truck and bus convoy left for Renk in South Sudan with some 280 people. Approximately 500 people reportedly remain at the Kosti way-station, according to IOM. The Government of South Sudan will continue to support the movement of people from the way-station until the facility has been vacated. Meanwhile, an inter-agency needs assessment of the open areas in Khartoum, where people of South Sudanese origin are sheltering, is planned to take place between 21 and 26 June. The assessment will include representatives from the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Nutrition, Food, NFI/ES, Health, Protection and Returns sectors.

More than 400,000 people of South Sudanese origin have returned from Sudan to South Sudan since late October 2010 when the organised returns to South Sudan began, according to IOM.

## 4. Darfur

### Security situation

According to reports received by the UN, there has been a number of security incidents involving armed movements and Government forces in North and South Darfur over the last couple of weeks. On 16 June, the UN received reports of fighting between SAF and Sudanese Revolutionary Front (SRF), an alliance of armed opposition movements, on the road from El Fasher to Nyala, about 17 km south-west of Shangil Tobaya in North Darfur. SAF reportedly launched an attack against SRF elements that had reportedly been blocking the commercial movement of goods for more than two weeks. On 17 June, SRF forces reportedly looted a local market in Kabir village, North Darfur (about 20 km east of El Fasher). No reports of civilian casualties or displacements were received.

In South Darfur, reports received by the UN indicate that on 15 June, an armed group allegedly affiliated with the Sudan Liberation Army – Minni Minawi (SLA-MM) attacked Abu-Ajora town in Alsalam locality, located 65 km southwest of Nyala, South Darfur. The group seized five vehicles from the American Refugee Council (ARC) compound. The attackers later reportedly looted supplies from the local market and two civilians were reportedly killed. No civilian displacement was reported.

Due to the security incidents, the Government has restricted the movement of commercial trucks in the areas of Abu Jabra and eastwards to Adila in South Darfur. The roads linking Nyala to El-Fasher, and Nyala to Ed Daein, are reportedly blocked by SLA/MM. HAC has advised that humanitarian supplies (drugs, food, fuel, cash) be airlifted to these locations to minimize the risk of attacks. International NGOs operating in South Darfur have reported difficulties in sending medical, nutritional and other supplies by road to field locations in East Darfur, the Kass area, Gereida, Zalengei, Garsilla towns and some IDPs camps in Nyala, due to the movement restrictions. Air transport is the only remaining option for areas with aircraft and/or helicopter landing sites, although fuel scarcity has limited some of these flights.

HAC reports that there is a general fuel shortage in South Darfur due to insecurity along major roads. The authorities note that fuel convoys are expected to arrive within a couple of days. Humanitarian organisations will be assigned petroleum stations in Nyala to minimise the interruption to humanitarian operations. OCHA is working closely with HAC and Government security actors to facilitate the processing of travel permits, and is also liaising with UNAMID to ensure the availability of armed escorts, as well as trucks and aircrafts. The authorities have permitted the international NGO Merlin to airlift 700kg of medical and nutritional supplies and for UNAMID to airlift 8MT of drugs, nutrition supplies and dry batteries to Gereida and Ed Deain early next week.

#### **Release of the three former staff of Sudan Aid**

The three South Sudanese former staff of the national NGO Sudan Aid arrested in Nyala on 23 April were released during the week. The three South Sudanese former staff members were arrested by police on charges of working in Sudan without work permits. Sudan Aid is working to ensure that these people are able to safely return to South Sudan.

#### **IMC to run health services in Dorti and Ardamata camps**

On 11 June, the international NGO International Medical Corps (IMC) took over two clinics in Dorti and Ardamata camps in West Darfur. The two clinics are among the 26 primary health care centres handed over to SMoH following the departure of the international NGO Medair at the end of 2011. The NGO has secured funding for six months to provide basic drugs, water and sanitation facilities for the clinic. The two camps host some 35,000 displaced people (26,000 displaced people in Ardamata and another 9,000 people in Dorti).

#### **FAO in West Darfur Adopting “No More for Free Principle”**

The UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in West Darfur has circulated a letter to Food Security and Livelihoods Sector (FSL) partners on the adoption of a new strategy for distribution of agricultural inputs, called the “no more for free principle”. The aim of this strategy is to find durable solutions for displaced people, contribute to reducing dependency in line with the guiding principles of the Sudan Humanitarian Work Plan 2012. FAO will no longer distribute any inputs for free. Each beneficiary has to commit that out of the seeds they will be receiving this year, they will have to produce their own seeds and the seeds for one additional family next year. This will be monitored at harvest time. FAO in West Darfur is targeting about 90,000 people during the 2012 rainy season. The targeted caseload for 2012 is 25 percent less than those reached in 2011. The beneficiaries will receive a total of 69 MT of millet, 45 MT of groundnuts, 36 MT of sorghum and 2,000 farming tools. The distribution is primarily targeting farmers in the areas of Beida, Habilla, Forbaranga, Kulbus and Seleia.

#### **Diarrhoea in Abu Shouk IDP camp**

After 330 cases of diarrhoea were reported in Abu Shouk camp in North Darfur, WHO confirmed that these cases are classified as “other diarrhoea” and are not symptomatic of cholera or any other disease. The SMoH, with support from WHO, will launch a hygiene and sanitation campaign in the camp.