

## HIGHLIGHTS

- 7,100 IDPs in South Kordofan's Abu Kershola locality need humanitarian assistance.
- Over 21,000 people vaccinated against measles in Abyei, following an outbreak declared by the Ministry of Health in September.
- According to an inter-agency mission, 3,650 IDPs have returned to Himeida village from IDP camps in West Darfur and refugee camps in Chad, since April 2016
- 60 per cent of the South Sudanese refugees who have arrived in Sudan in 2016 have taken refuge in East Darfur.



Displaced people on the move in South Kordofan (archive)

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## 7,100 IDPs in Abu Kershola locality, South Kordofan, reportedly need humanitarian assistance

An inter-agency mission carried out a needs assessment of thousands of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Abu Kershola locality (South Kordofan) who fled their homes in 2014 and have been displaced several times since then. The mission took place following reports by the Government's Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) that 7,100 IDPs are in need of humanitarian assistance in this locality.

The mission – that took place from 16 to 21 October – visited 12 villages and Abu Kershola town and identified 4,400 IDPs in need of humanitarian assistance. The mission participants were unable to reach the remaining IDPs due to limited time and because the IDPs are dispersed in small gatherings throughout the locality, but they are presumed to be in need of humanitarian assistance due to the number of times they have been displaced in recent years.

The mission visited Hijeer, Umbaraka, Hilat Abbas and Elbobaya villages and a group of families in Abu Kershola town. Representatives of HAC, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), IOM, the UN Children's Agency (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO) participated in the mission. The international NGOs (INGOs) Mercy Corps Scotland (MCS) and Save the Children – Switzerland (SCS) were also represented. The main needs of the IDPs are food and emergency household supplies, as well as access to health, water, sanitation and education services.

The 2016 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) states that an estimated 184,000 displaced people in South Kordofan State are in need of humanitarian assistance.

### Preparations are underway to assist people in need

Aid organisations are preparing to meet the needs of the 7,100 IDPs (1,106 families). Recommendations from the mission include carrying out general food distributions in the villages assessed; carrying out a mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) screening in all the IDP areas and opening nutrition centres in Hijeer village; and sending medication and micronutrient supplies to nutrition centres in Umbaraka, Kaling and Abu Kershola. As most of the IDPs reportedly lost all their belongings when they fled their homes the mission recommended distributing household kits—including blankets, plastic sheeting, sleeping mats, kitchen sets and jerry cans—to the IDPs prior to winter.

About 10 per cent of the IDPs have been provided with health insurance from the Ministry of Social Welfare (MoSW). There is a limited supply of medicine available in the Abu Kershola and Umbaraka health centres. It was recommended that the State Ministry of Health (SMoH) and WHO send medical equipment and medicine to the health clinics in these areas as well as sending a mobile clinic to vaccinate people in Umbaraka and Hijeer villages. Existing water sources will be rehabilitated, better sanitation practices will be taught at schools and new sanitation structures will be built in areas of high IDP

## FIGURES 2016 HRP

Displaced people in Sudan (as of Dec 2015)	Up to 3.2 million
Displaced people in Darfur (as of Dec 2015)	Up to 2.6 million
GAM caseload	2.1 million
South Sudanese refugee arrivals in Sudan - since 15 Dec 2013 (registered by UNHCR) - as of 30 September 2016	254,757
Refugees of other nationalities (registered by UNHCR) - as of 30 Sept 2016	139,580

## FUNDING

**425 million** US\$  
received in 2016

**45%**  
Reported funding

concentration. In addition, educational supplies will be sent to schools in these areas and school-feeding programmes will be initiated to encourage more school children to enrol in school. For protection concerns, the MoSW will create a gender-based violence (GBV) working group in the state with the aim of raising awareness on the protection of women and children. Staff of the MoSW in Abu Kershola will be trained on providing psychosocial support, while HAC and MoSW staff will be trained on peace-building practices and IDP guiding principles.

## Measles vaccination campaign reaches 21,500 children in Abyei Administrative Area

*Many of the measles cases were among children under 1 year and would not have been covered by the previous vaccination campaign carried out in early 2016*

Following a measles outbreak, which was declared in the Abyei Administrative Area in September by the Ministry of Health (MoH) and WHO, a mass measles vaccination campaign was led by IOM from 10 to 17 October.

To stem the spread of the outbreak, an IOM rapid response team was deployed to Abyei on 5 October and trained vaccination teams to ensure wide coverage in Abyei. The vaccination campaign was supported by staff from the MoH, WHO, the INGOs Goal and Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) and UNICEF.

According to IOM, many of the cases were among children under the age of one. These children would not have been covered by the previous mass measles campaign carried out in early 2016.

IOM reported that access to several areas was disrupted due to heavy rain and poor roads for several days during the campaign. Escorts from the UN Interim Security Force for Abyei enabled vaccinators to safely reach populations in remote and hard-to-reach areas.

According to IOM in South Sudan, measles is one of the leading causes of death among young children in the area, where access to health care is limited, affecting thousands of children.



An IOM nurse administers a measles vaccine in Abyei (2016, IOM)

## Food Security and Livelihood Assessment in Himeida return village, West Darfur

*Estimated 3,650 displaced people returned to Himeida village, Habila locality in West Darfur*

Since April 2016, an estimated 3,650 displaced people (730 families) returned to Himeida village in West Darfur's Habila locality from IDP camps in the state and from refugee camps in Chad, according to findings of a recent food security and livelihood assessment. The assessment took place from 10 to 12 October, and was led by FAO, WFP and the State Ministry of Agriculture (SMoA). The assessment aimed to determine the approximate number of returnees and identify their needs and to assess their food security, nutrition and livelihood situation. Representatives of HAC, SMoA, the Forestry National Corporation (FNC), FAO, WFP, the INGO CRS and the NNGOs Almanra Charity

*Due to lack of seeds and tools, fewer than half of the IDPs managed to cultivate small plots of land*

Organization, Peace Fruit Organization, Youth of West Darfur Organization, and Sebros participated in the assessment.

The returnees mainly depend on collecting firewood and making charcoal as a means of living. Due to lack of seeds and tools, fewer than half of the IDP families (about 300) managed to cultivate small areas of land. According to the returnees, they have land for rainy season cultivation and about 130 families possess land along the banks of the *wadi* (seasonal riverbed) for winter and summer crop production.



A returnee family in their makeshift shelter in West Darfur (2013, UNHCR)

The mission recommended providing immediate emergency food assistance to the whole returnee population (3,650 people) to mitigate extreme food insecurity and meet food needs in the current lean period; providing conditional food assistance to vulnerable families; and the distribution of one-month emergency food rations for children from 6-59 months. Support for income generating activities and provision of start-up kits was also recommended as well as the distribution of seeds, tools and irrigation kits, small ruminants and poultry and donkey carts as well as the establishment of veterinary services. A dam will be constructed to provide water for crops and animals and existing wells will be rehabilitated.

## Humanitarian response for South Sudanese refugees in East Darfur continues

Since January, nearly 55,000 South Sudanese refugees have arrived in East Darfur, fleeing conflict and food insecurity. This represents 60 per cent of the total 90,516 refugees who have arrived from South Sudan since January this year. The refugees are scattered across the state, with many seeking livelihood opportunities in rural areas.

The humanitarian response continues. A new refugee camp in Kario has been established, with over 3,700 refugees recently relocated from the Khor Omer camp. Chlorinated water is being trucked to sites at 50,000 litres per day and no overcrowding is noticeable at water points. About 100 household latrines are under construction, in addition to 275 which have already been constructed, and a cleaning campaign was carried out. The INGO United Methodist Committee on Relief has provided 2,191 shelters, and the remaining needs will be covered by UNHCR. UNICEF and partners are working to support displaced children with a focus on unaccompanied and separated children, and 700 refugee children have already been provided with psychosocial support. A health clinic is now operational with some 50 consultations being provided per day to refugees and the host community.

### Relocation of refugees to Al Nimir

Support for South Sudanese refugees from Raja currently residing in El Ferdous has been approved via a US\$ 2.6 million allocation from the Sudan Humanitarian Fund. This funding will support the urgent needs of an estimated 10,000 refugees who will be settled to a new site in Al Nimir. Planned activities include site development, construction of a reception centre in El Ferdous town for new arrivals, and critical lifesaving assistance (i.e.

*90,500 South  
Sudanese refugees  
have arrived from  
South Sudan in 2016*

emergency shelter, health services, nutrition interventions, child protection, general protection, water and sanitation activities).

UNHCR and partners are working on the site plan which will be assessed in consultation with partners and the government. In the interim, UNHCR started trucking water to refugees in El Ferdous, through the government's Water and Environment Sanitation Department. UNICEF installed two water bladders, and also plans to establish temporary child-friendly spaces and to initiate the registration of unaccompanied children.



South Sudanese refugees in Khor Omer, East Darfur (2016, OCHA)