

JEBEL MARRA CRISIS

Fact Sheet

Issue 8 | 1 October 2016

Makeshift shelters of IDPs from Jebel Marra in Sortony, North Darfur (OCHA, Aug 2016)

KEY FACTS

- Between **160,000** and **195,000** civilians have reportedly been displaced from the Jebel Marra area in Darfur since mid-January as a result of hostilities between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Abdul Wahid faction of the Sudan Liberation Army (SLA/AA). This includes over **80,000** people who have been registered, verified or assisted.
- Central Darfur hosts the majority of the reported internally displaced persons (IDPs) from Jebel Marra, while North Darfur has the highest number of registered or assisted new IDPs.
- Humanitarian actors continue to assess needs and provide assistance and basic services across all sectors to thousands of IDPs, returnees and other communities affected by the Jebel Marra hostilities in parts of Central, North and South Darfur (see p.3).
- Humanitarian actors have been unable to assess and respond fully to the needs of an estimated **50,000 - 85,000** people in different parts of Jebel Marra who have been reportedly displaced as a result of hostilities. The UN is extremely concerned about the plight of these civilians. Humanitarian partners continue to engage with government actors to advocate for access to assess needs and assist people in areas that have been inaccessible for at least four years, including inner Jebel Marra.
- A joint UN and Government scoping mission took place to Golo, Central Darfur in early August (see p.4).
- The Government has reported that **53,000** people have returned to parts of Central Darfur; these returns are unverified.
- Due to unforeseen humanitarian needs triggered by the crisis, the UN and partners have diverted significant funding and resources from existing projects to respond to new needs (see p.3).

Displacement from Jebel Marra - as of 31 August 2016

State	Location	Reported no. of IDPs	Source	IDPs registered, verified or assisted*	
NORTH DARFUR	Sortony	21,536	WFP	21,536 (WFP beneficiary number)	
	Reported subtotal	25,283	WFP	25,283 (WFP beneficiary number)	
	52,912	Shangil Tobaya	3,184	WFP	3,184 WFP e-GFD**
		Kebkabiya town	2,909	WFP	2,909 WFP e-GFD
CENTRAL DARFUR	Hassahisa IDP camp	3,311	IA team / HAC	3,211 by IA team	
	Reported subtotal	1,812	IA team	1,812 by IA team	
	80,608 - 115,608***	Guldo	24,545	HAC	
		Thur	12,075	HAC	
		Golo	60	HAC	
		Nertiti town & camps	21,415	HAC	
		Fanga Suk	4,200	Various sources	
		Rokoro	1,000	Various sources	
		Daya village	2,190	Sheikhs	
		Boori and Wadi Boori	10,000 - 45,000	Various sources	
SOUTH DARFUR	Kass	13,258	WFP / HAC	10,348 (WFP door-to-door verification)	
	Reported subtotal	835	SRCS		
	26,190	Otash IDP camp	5,938	WFP / IOM	4,727 (WFP door-to-door verification) 1,211 (verified by IOM)
		Mershing	4,574	IOM	4,574 registered by IOM
		Menawashi	372	IOM	372 registered by IOM
		Malam town	1,213	IA team	1,213 registered by IOM
Total IDPs reported		at least 159,710		Total IDPs registered, verified or assisted 80,380	

*the number of IDPs registered, verified or assisted represents a subset of the total reported number of IDPs

**e-GFD – emergency General Food Distributions

*** according to various sources, there are unconfirmed reports of an estimated 50,000 - 85,000 people displaced in parts of Jebel Marra, however, confirmation of reported displacements in the area remains impossible due to lack of humanitarian access.

Between
160,000 and **195,000**
people have been reportedly displaced
from Jebel Marra since January

HUMANITARIAN ACCESS
to parts of Jebel Marra is still being
denied or delayed

Of the total number of people reportedly
displaced from Jebel Marra, over
80,000
people have been registered, verified
and/or assisted

KEY MESSAGES

1. Civilians - especially women and children - continue to bear the brunt of conflict in Darfur. The United Nations calls upon all parties to ensure that civilians and civilian objects are **protected in accordance with International Law**.
2. The United Nations calls for **immediate, safe and unfettered access** to all people in need, wherever they may be located, so that affected people can receive the required humanitarian assistance. In particular, the United Nations urges all parties to the conflict to allow the United Nations and its humanitarian partners to reach displaced people in Central, North and South Darfur.
3. Emergency supplies have been delivered to many of the newly displaced people but **significant support will continue to be needed** until they are able to return home.
4. There is a need for **ensuring safety and security in return areas and that people are able to return voluntarily**. Support from the government and development and humanitarian actors is required throughout the return process.

BACKGROUND AND CURRENT SITUATION

The mountainous Jebel Marra area overlaps parts of North, Central and South Darfur states. Increased fighting between SAF and SLA/AW since mid-January has caused significant displacement. Aid distribution is ongoing, however, not everyone in need of humanitarian assistance has been reached.

In **North Darfur**, the humanitarian response continues for 52,912 IDPs in four locations (Sortony, Tawilla, Kebkabiya town and Shadad camp in Shangil Tobaya). IOM's registration/verification of displaced people in Sortony and Tawilla, North Darfur, has been suspended since February, despite ongoing advocacy efforts. Humanitarian organisations are able to access and provide assistance in all four locations hosting IDPs from Jebel Marra, but some access restrictions remain. The start of regular United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) flights to Sortony has significantly improved logistics for aid operations on the ground. A roadblock prevents the movement of IDPs and commercial vehicles between Sortony and Kebkabiya.

The situation in **Central Darfur** remains unstable. The number of Jebel Marra IDPs reported in Central Darfur is estimated at between 80,500 and 115,500. Of these, 5,023 IDPs have been registered and are receiving assistance in two camps in Zalingei. The remainder of the IDPs are reported by HAC and other sources as being displaced in various locations. Access to most IDP locations in Central Darfur remains limited, with a limited number of partners able to visit selected locations only. The government authorities state that activities are underway on facilitating returns from North and South Darfur to Central Darfur and within Central Darfur as part of the Government Plan for the Normalisation of Humanitarian Situation in the Jebel Marra. According to HAC, an estimated 53,060 people have returned from the main areas of displacement, including Guldo, inner Jebel Marra, Nertiti, Nyala, Tawilla, Thur, Sortony and Zalingei, to parts of Central Darfur. However, it has not been possible to verify whether people have indeed returned, or to assess the conditions of their return. According to HAC, the Government is facilitating returns in Central Darfur by providing support including water, sanitation and hygiene, essential non-food items and health assistance through state ministries, authorities and the Sudanese Red Crescent Society. However, assessments, the provision of assistance and post-distribution monitoring activities by impartial humanitarian actors have not been allowed across most of the Central Darfur part of Jebel Marra. A scoping mission took place to Golo in early August (see page 4 for details).

In **South Darfur**, 26,190 people remain internally displaced, of whom 22,445 have been registered and/or assisted by humanitarian organisations. In Kass IDP camp, 12,180 people from Jebel Marra have been registered by IOM, and in Otash IDP camp 6,756 IDPs were registered by IOM. However, a door-to-door verification exercise conducted by WFP in Kass and Otash indicated that the number of Jebel Marra IDPs is 10,348 and 4,727 respectively; the WFP figures for these locations are considered the latest figures. Following verification of new arrivals in Otash by IOM, a further 1,211 people were verified, bringing the total verified IDPs in Otash to 5,938. IOM verification figures of new arrivals in Kass will be available soon. Humanitarian partners have access to some areas of new displacement; however, locations in Eastern Jebel Marra, such as Deribat, remain completely inaccessible. Eight requests by humanitarians to visit Deribat have been rejected since January, one granted, and one inter-agency mission requests submitted in June is still pending; this request will be re-submitted. The security situation in the area is reportedly still volatile.

After the Jebel Marra crisis erupted, leading to widespread displacement and significant humanitarian needs, the UN and partners had to divert funding and resources from existing projects to be able to respond to those needs during the initial stage. In addition to the resources diverted by organisations, in April, about \$10 million was provided for the Jebel Marra response in Sortony, Tawilla and Kebkabiya through CERF. In addition, SHF has allocated more than \$2.7 million for response in Nertiti and Rokoro. However, partners are finding it difficult to respond with existing resources, especially in South Darfur, and more sustained funding is key to ensuring appropriate response.

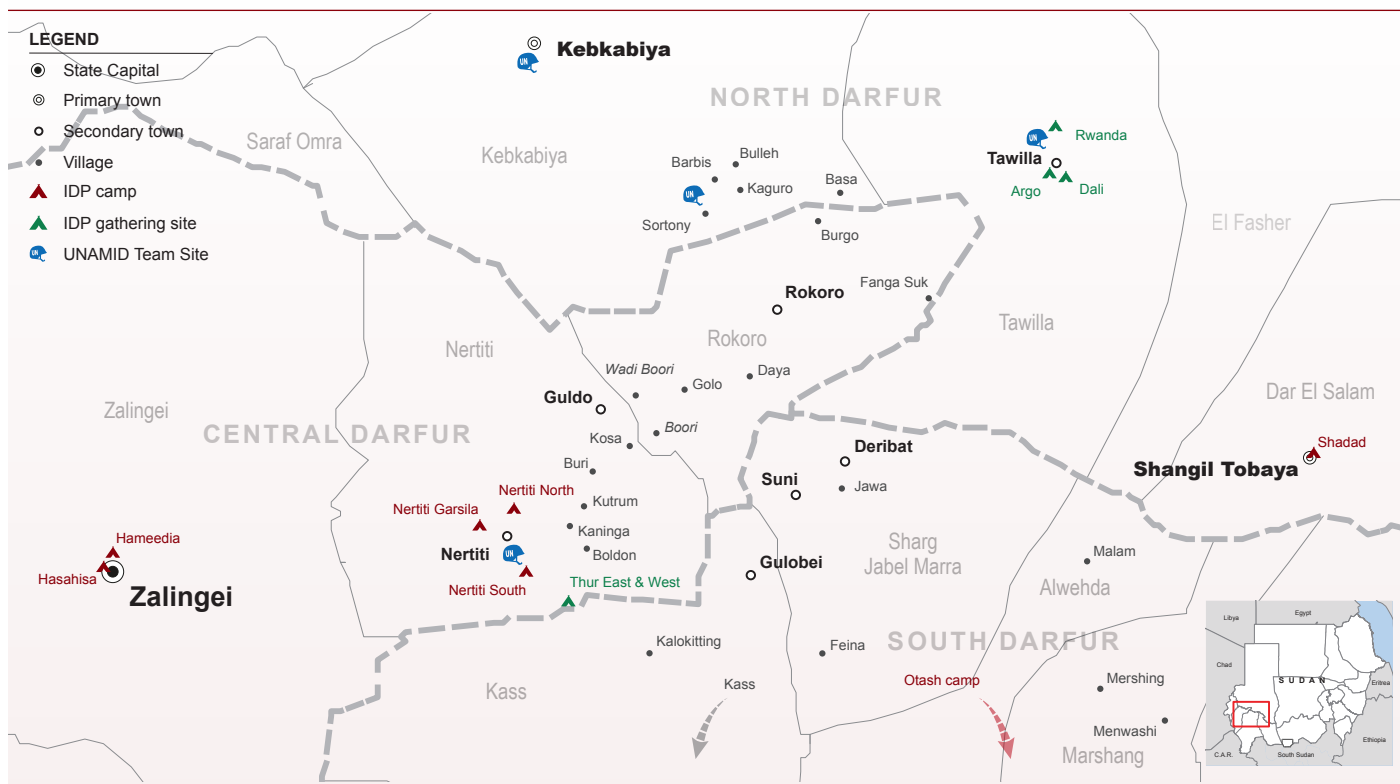
THE RESPONSE *(See p. 1 for figures related to registration and verification)*

This table represents an aggregation of assistance provided in North, Central and South Darfur, as of 31 August 2016.

Sector	Target Response, as per 2015 ERF	Actual Response by the international humanitarian community, to date
FSL	300g food/person/day for one month.	<p>ND: As of 31 August 2016, the food requirement of 67,522 people have been met, including 42,802 people in Tawilla (new arrivals in 2016 and 2015), 21,536 in Sortony and 3,184 in Shangil Tobaya.</p> <p>CD: In August 2016, WFP assisted 54,150 individuals in Rokoro with emergency food. And few months earlier, WFP assisted 21,108 individuals in Nertiti, 12,075 in Thur, 5,000 in Guldo and 10,117 in Fanga Suk.</p> <p>SD: WFP assisted 10,348 individuals in Kass and 4,727 in Otash camp. WFP has also met food needs of 881 individuals in El Malam, 3,775 in Mershing and 339 in Manawashei).</p>
ES/NFIs	1 kit (jerry can, cooking set, plastic sheet, sleeping mats, blankets) per HH (5 people).	<p>ND: ES/ NFI needs 100% covered (52,912 people received ES/NFI assistance)</p> <p>CD: significant gaps remain. NFIs were distributed by SRCS in Rokero (2,000 NFIs), Golo (3,000 NFIs), Nertiti (3,000 plastic sheets/3,000 jerry cans) and Fanga Suk (5,000 NFIs), but it is difficult to estimate to what extent needs are covered as there is no clear information about the number of people in need, and post-distribution verification was not carried out.</p> <p>SD: The needs of 87 percent of 6322 HHs requiring ES/NFI assistance are covered. No ES/NFI assistance has been provided to Deribat (835 HH).</p>
WASH	Water: 15 l/p/d (litres per person per day). Sanitation: 1 latrine for 50 people.	<p>ND: The water needs of 100% of the 52,912 people are covered (at least 15 l /person/day). Host community also benefiting from water-trucking program. Latrine needs 100% met: one latrine / 213 people across all locations.</p> <p>CD: 49% of the populations are covered by water supplies of some 116,258 people needed some 56,438 were assisted. 83 percent water needs in Thur are covered. 92 per cent latrines gap in Guldo of some 1,230 requiring latrines some 100 being constructed. No information is available for Golo and Rokiro</p> <p>SD: Water needs of 36% of people in need in Otash are covered (15 l/p/d), in Kass IDPs have access to existing camp water supply. In Menawashi IDPs use existing water supplies. No info on WASH in El Malam, in Mershing no WASH response due to lack of funding. No response in Deribat due to lack of access.</p>
HEA	1 health unit per 10,000 people; 1 health center per 50,000 people; 1BEmNOC per 125,000 people; publishing weekly morbidity and mortality bulletin.	<p>ND: 100% of people in need have been supported by essential drugs and medical facilities, the essential PHC delivery services are provided to 96% of the populations (approximately 49,136 people were assisted of 51,376 in need). All 38 emergency cases requiring referral were referred and received assistance. Basic emergency obstetric and newborn care has covered 87% of 30,300 people in need. In Sortony total of 133 new cases of hepatitis E were reported during August 2016 in total 411 cases reported since the beginning of the outbreak in mid-May 2016. Health and WASH sector partners continued efforts to control the diseases. WHO and SMOh implemented water quality surveillance, vector surveillance and vector control targeted 22,000 IDPs. Surveillance, case detection and management are ongoing in the three functioning clinics.</p> <p>CD: 64% of the population assisted with the essential primary health care services while 36% remains unassisted.</p> <p>SD: 77% of people have been supported by essential drugs and medical facilities of some 25,095 people are in need for essential drugs medical facilities some 19,356 have been assisted. No info is available for Deribat.</p>
NUT	>90% coverage of the expected caseload in a month; >90% IDPs have access to treatment.	<p>ND: 100% of children in need covered by BP5 distribution. 4,981 children affected by SAM as of August were covered by OTP CMAM programmes. 16,007 children U5 & PLW in need received RUSF (Plumpy Sup) in all locations.</p> <p>CD: Nutrition support being provided in Hassahisa & Hameediya inc. treatment of SAM, IYCF training & provision of vitamin A. 2,702 children in Rokoro & West Jebel Marra affected by SAM were treated. 7,110 children in need in all areas except Rokoro & Golo received eBSFP rations. No further info for Rokoro/Golo (no access in Golo). In Golo, CRS plans nutrition activities pending access.</p> <p>SD: 100% of children in need in Kass & Otash covered by BP5 distribution & e-BSFP. 1,625 children affected by SAM were treated in Kass & Mershing. 100% of children in need in Mershing & El Malam received e-BSFP, to start in Menawashi soon. No BP5 assistance in Mershing/El Malam/Menawashi due to lack of stock. No info for Deribat (no access).</p>
PRO	Timely response to people identified with special needs; monitoring the safety of newly displaced persons; GBV survivors reached and referred to service providers; Personal hygiene kits & clean delivery Fkits provided.	<p>ND: 88% of 1,782 UASCs reunified with their families. 46% of 9,914 people requiring PHKs have been assisted (no info for Shangil Tobaya). Community-based child protection networks operating in all locations. Psychosocial support provided to 100% of 8,461 people in need in all areas except Kebkabiya (no info). CFSs operating in Sortony, Tawilla & Kebkabiya (no info for Shangil Tobaya). Women's centres operating in Tawilla & Sortony, two referral pathways & two community-based women's committees supported. 12 GBV survivors received access to multisector care.</p> <p>CD: Of 1,024 PSNs identified & registered, 325 referred to relevant services (32%). Support to 1,024 PSNs by NGO Assist pending in Nertiti, Thur Guldo. Support to 4 community-based committees (Guldo, Nertiti). 10 UASCs reunited in Nertiti (other locations no info). Construction of 2 CFSs in Nertiti ongoing; 4 CFSs operational in Fanga Suk, 2 in Rokoro (other locations no info). Access constraints affecting provision of services in Guldo, Thur, Rokoro & Golo.</p> <p>SD: Community Emergency Kits supporting 46% of 3,299 people in Otash and Kass and 5 CFSs constructed in Kass & Otash (no info other locations). 16 of 33 UASCs reunited in Kass & Otash. 3 women's centres & 4 community-based protection groups in Kass & Otash. No funding for protection support to PSNs/GBV survivors in areas hosting new IDPs from Jebel Marra. No info for Mershing, El Malam or Menawashi. No info for Deribat (no access).</p>
EDU	Teacher training on pedagogy, child-centred techniques, child protection & GBV. Provision of essential teaching, learning & recreational supplies. Maintain newly constructed temporary learning spaces (TLS) & school latrines.	<p>ND: 20 of planned 30 TLS constructed with 5 school latrines, meaning 2,653 IDP girls & 2,358 boys have access to education in Sortony. Remaining 10 classrooms will be completed by end Sept. Education supplies distributed in Sortony (14 teacher kits, 20 school in a box kits, 32 seating mats, 9 recreation kits, 74 student kits 1-4/5-8 & 20 blackboards).</p> <p>CD: 620 children in Hassahisa & Hameediya received learning materials. No info for Nertiti, Rokoro, Thur or Golo (no access to Golo). Rehabilitation of 3 old classrooms in Guldo completed. 40 recreational kits, 50 school-in-a-box kits & other educational materials supplied for 3,850 children in Fanga Suk.</p> <p>SD: 7 TLS operational in Otash, 35% of 1,436 children (50% girls) received school supplies in Otash (seating, plastic sheets, student & recreational kits). No information for other locations.</p>

All needs are identified as per the 2015 Emergency Response Framework and correspond to the second stage of the ERF (1 month).

No information or response for Boori, Wadi Boori or Daya village, Central Darfur or Deribat, South Darfur as yet, due to lack of access in those locations.



HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

At the field level, large parts of the Jebel Marra massif, particularly inner Jebel Marra, have been inaccessible to humanitarians for at least four years. Being unable to assess and meet the needs of people in this area is a matter of grave humanitarian concern, as it is not possible to accurately assess the number of people affected and/or displaced in inaccessible areas. IDP sites in North Darfur and in most of South Darfur are comparatively accessible to humanitarians, but the level and quality of access in Central Darfur remains a concern.

Once access is gained and personnel, equipment and relief items arrive, the humanitarian operating environment in **North Darfur** is for the most part conducive to emergency response but some challenges remain. IOM's registration/verification of displaced people in Sortony and Tawilla, North Darfur, has been suspended since February, despite ongoing advocacy efforts. Intermittent tension and conflict between IDPs and pastoralists in Sortony in June and early July resulted in a number of casualties on both sides and affected the delivery of services for IDPs for a short time. The Kebkabiya-Sortony roadblock is still in place, preventing the free movement of IDPs and commercial vehicles. UNAMID, in cooperation with local community leaders, has been heavily involved in efforts aimed at diffusing tension and promoting reconciliation between the communities.

In **Central Darfur**, access to IDP sites has been extremely limited, with humanitarian actors being largely excluded from efforts to verify displacement and some partners able to visit only some locations. Since the start of the crisis, inter-agency (IA) teams have been able to access and register only 5,000 Jebel Marra IDPs in Hassahisa and Hameediya camps in Zalingei, capital of Central Darfur, and new IDPs (yet to be verified) continued to arrive in these camps through August. WFP and SRCS distributed a one-month food ration to 55,000 IDPs, returnees and host communities in Rokoro in mid-August. Emergency food distribution to new IDPs in Golo, Guldo and Rokoro has been put on hold due to lack of access and administrative regulations imposed by authorities.

Humanitarian partners continue significant engagement with government actors to advocate for access to assess needs and assist people in areas. Although an IA monitoring mission to Thur took place in late July, access remains limited and advocacy efforts are ongoing with authorities to undertake joint needs assessments in areas where people are believed to be displaced, including Nertiti, Thur, Guldo, Golo, Daya, Boori and Wadi Boori. Specific focus has been placed on advocating for a needs assessment mission to Golo, where humanitarian access has not been possible since 2011, in order to advocate for humanitarian assistance in the area and other parts of the state. Following considerable advocacy, a joint UN Country Team and African Union Mission in Darfur scoping mission accompanied by the Government took place in early August, allowing for a few hours on the ground. The mission concluded that access to basic services in and around Golo is extremely limited, and the needs of affected communities should be further assessed.

In **South Darfur**, access for humanitarian actors is limited to the main population centres. Access to Deribat and areas outside Kass, which reportedly host people newly displaced from the Jebel Marra area, remains restricted. It is believed that newly displaced persons may be seeking refuge beyond Kass town.

Many organisations in Central, North and South Darfur report that they were not able to complete all planned missions due to **access constraints**. Inter-state and intra-state travel permits, complications in obtaining visas and residency permits for international staff and customs issues were reported as the primary constraints preventing operations from taking place.

The United Nations continues to advocate for improved and sustained access to assess and respond to the needs of people affected by the Jebel Marra crisis.