

Desert Locust Update - South Sudan

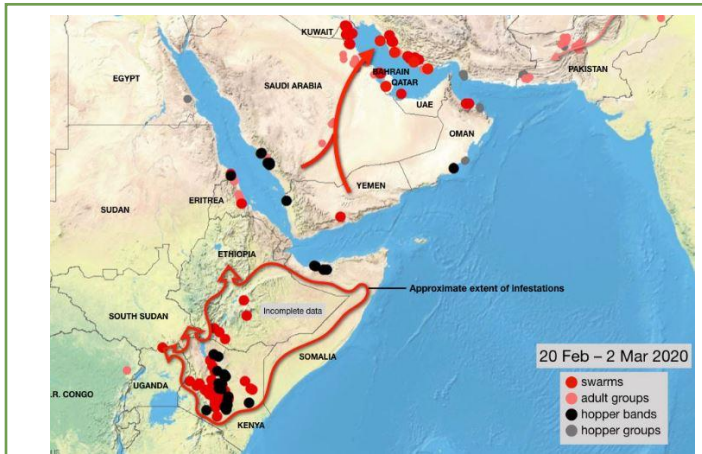
03 March 2020

Situation update

- Scattered swarmlets of locusts were seen in **Torit, Magwi and Ikwoto counties**, in Eastern Equatoria, coming from Northern Uganda.
- Specific areas invaded include: Lobone, Lamariti, Ketire, and Obbo
- The damages are minimal - mainly vegetable farms, range land and fruit trees - while the level of threat for South Sudan is high, especially when the next generation of Desert Locusts will mature.
- The biggest swarm has so far been spotted on February 27 in **Lobone village**, Obbo payam, but it moved

FAO in Response

- FAO has organized a surge team to specifically handle the outbreak.
- On March 3, FAO started the second three-day training on surveillance, control and management of locusts in Kapoeta for 35 staff from FAO, the government, and implementing partners who received equipment and inputs.
- FAO delivered equipment and pesticides (*Malathion*) to Magwi and Torit for desert locust control operations.
- FAO is working alongside the government to build a network of field monitors, and availed four motorbikes to facilitate movement.
- FAO has released two free multi-lingual tools **eLocust3m** (bit.ly/39ed11j) and **DLwatch** (tiny.cc/DLwatch) to improve Desert Locust survey and control reporting, share GPS locations of infestations, exchange chat, data, photos, and other relevant information.
- FAO developed a six-month contingency plan for control, management and reduction of locusts' movements. As part of the plan, Desert Locust Control Operations for Eastern Africa (DLCO-EA), is carrying out aerial control operations in Kenya or Ethiopia.
- The government has granted clearance until August 2020 for over flight, landing and exit of one aircraft operated by DLCO-EA for aerial spraying.



Desert Locust Toll-free Number: 515

Funding appeal

- The South Sudan component of the FAO locust rapid response and anticipatory action has been revised to USD 10 million.
- FAO funds raised to date are USD 3.55 million through internal funds, USAID, the European Union, Germany and the Bill and Melina Gates Foundation.