

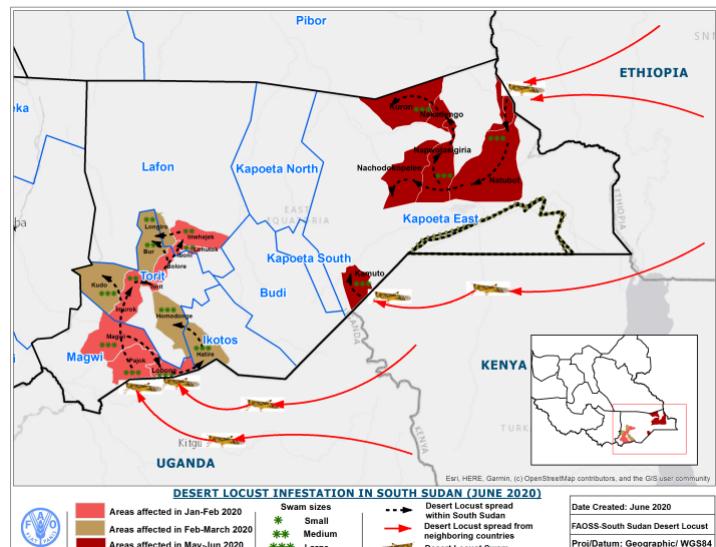


South Sudan Desert Locust Control Operations

DESERT LOCUST UPDATE
SOUTH SUDAN
Issue n. 9 - 2 July 2020

Situation update

- In the recent weeks, **South Sudan** has not experienced a new wave of Desert Locust invasions from neighboring countries. This could partly be attributed to the **ongoing control** operations in Uganda, Kenya, and Ethiopia.
- Although control operations continue, some of the swarms in northwest Kenya are expected to **transit through South Sudan** during July to reach the summer breeding areas of Sudan.
- The current swarm infestations in northwest Kenya are about 150 km south of the Nada Pal border.
- Desert Locust last invaded South Sudan in the first half of May in the Greenbelt region (Magwi), Hill and Mountain (Ikotos, Lafon, and Budi and Torit), and semi-arid region (Kapoeta South, Kapoeta East).



Desert Locust can be **gregarious** or **solitarious**. The former is more destructive to crops and vegetation.



Vehicle-mounted ultra-low volume (ULV) sprayers

[Watch the video](#)

Response

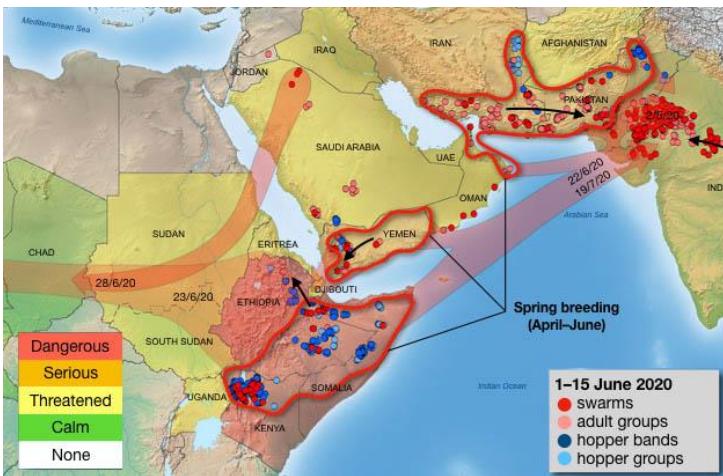
Through the project "**Desert Locust Control Operations**", FAO and the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security are mapping locust presence and design strategic mitigation measures to minimize the destructive impact. Chemical control is considered the most effective control mechanism.

Control operations

Ground

- On 21 May 2020, FAO handed over to the government 2 cars, 100 handheld ultra-low volume sprayers, 50 motorized sprayers, 6 vehicle-mounted ULV sprayers, protective gears and 16 000 liters of pesticides.
- A team of 15 experts is currently training personnel and sensitizing local leaders and communities on the use of chemicals for control operations in Torit, Magwi, Kapoeta, Ikotos and Lafon.

Map (Click to enlarge)



Impact assessment

- The assessment revealed a varying degree of field incidence and damage:
- Ikotos*: no noticeable damage, possibly the swarm did not settle in the crop fields.
- Magwi*: highest incidence of Desert Locust with over 60 percent of crop fields invaded. The **greatest impact on food security could be in Magwi County** compared to other assessed counties.
- Torit*: About 12 percent of the fields visited were recorded to be invaded by locust. Out of the eleven payams visited, only four recorded damage to crops.

Awareness creation

- FAO is sensitizing the population through radio in English, Arabic, Dinka, Otuho and Acholi. [English audio available [here](#)]
- FAO created a set of posters for community-based messaging during Desert Locust control operations that will be disseminated to the affected areas.

Funding appeal

Desert Locust rapid response and anticipatory action stands at **US\$ 10.3 million**.

So far, **US\$ 8 million** have been raised thanks to USAID, the European Union, France, Germany, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Russian Federation.

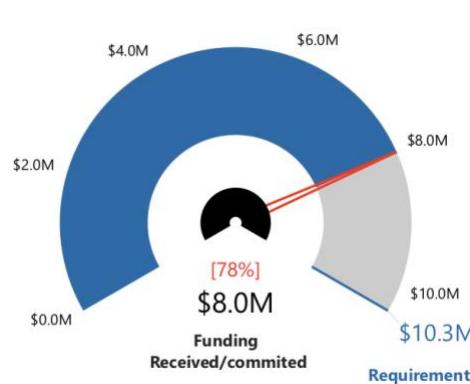
Aerial

- FAO has secured 5000 liters of AVGAS for aircraft use. The Government has guaranteed clearance for DLCO-EA aircraft until to operate August 2020. The aircraft is now operating in Moroto, Uganda.

Surveillance and monitoring

- 45 smart phones installed with the eLocust3m app for information collection. Recently all the mobile phones have been updated for effective data collection in field locations.
- FAO handed over 10 motorbikes to the government to be used for monitoring in Eastern Equatoria.

Posters (Click to download)



DESERT
LOCUST
TOLL-FREE
NUMBER
515



USAID
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