Desert Locust Evolution

- Started in the Winter of 2018 from Middle East after the Red Sea Cyclone
  - The swarm hits Asia in 2019 and moved to neighboring countries of Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, Somalia and Eritrea, Uganda, Tanzania and South Sudan (17 Feb, 2020)

- Thus far damaged about 237,000 ha of land in the Greater Horn of Africa
Desert Locust Evolution (cont’d)

On 17 February, a mature swarm entered Magwi county of Central Equatorial from northern Uganda and is currently moving towards Torit west. 23 February one medium swarm crossed the border of Uganda to Loboni.

Some Observations from the field in South Sudan
Threats and Risks

- At high population locust swarms can travel between 5 – 150 km or more on a day depending on the weather condition
- There is high risk of reaching to extreme southeast of South Sudan in Magwi, Ikotos and surrounding areas in Eastern Equatoria.
- 1 km² swarm (40 – 80 M Locust) eats the same food as 35,000 people in one day
- Impact on pasture and crops, fruits thereby affecting food security and livelihood of the communities
- The eggs which are laid in Kenya and Uganda will start hatching at end week of February 2020. If this hoppers are not properly controlled, there is a high risk of locust swarm invasion in South Sudan in April, 2020.

FAO’s Actions

- Coordination
  - FAO regional response team coordinating activities in Somalia, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and South Sudan.
  - The Government formed a high level committee in which FAO is a member
  - FSL cluster at Juba and State level involved – with clear role of partners to report the incident (pest, weather, crop/pasture status, etc.)
  - Liaise on regular basis with other countries, FAO HQ, DLCO –EA and other relevant organization on locust situation

- Resource Mobilization
  - FAO HQ (FAO/DLIS) committed resource
  - DLCO, based in Ethiopia, committed to provide support
  - FAO SS utilizing small internal resources available
  - Contingency proposal and implementation plan prepared
**FAO’s Actions**

- **Awareness creation**
  - Minister of Agriculture and FS and the Cabinet and donors are informed
  - Community awareness – radio messages to be circulated during this week in the high risk areas
  - Brochure and leaflets with best available control options
  - In collaboration with MoAFS, sensitize regulatory authorities in bringing control tools

- **Monitoring, Surveillance and reporting:**
  - Established Desert Locust survey and control team
  - Regular monitoring, surveillance and early warning
  - Maintain regular contacts with local and national field officers.
  - Produce and circulate regular desert locust bulletin
  - Carry out ground survey and control operation

---

**FAO’s Actions**

- **Capacity Building**
  - About 15 experts (forecasters) from MoAFS trained (ToT)
  - Trained forecasters to provide training in Eastern Equatoria—likely areas to be affected first
  - Incorporating lessons learnt from neighboring countries
  - Development and dissemination of desert locust management guidelines and options (short, medium and long term)
  - Training of plant protection officers and community youth, Development partners in (Magwi and Torit and Kapoeta) from 24 – 29 February 2020
Desert Locust Situation in South Sudan

• The Locust in country is mature as per the update
• Most likely laying eggs no need for immediate control but surveillance and monitoring laying fields
• Procurement of Pesticides and spray equipment
  I. 5000 liter of Cholorpyrifos 240g ULV expected by 14 March 2020
  II. 500 liter of Malathion 57% EC available in FAO warehouse
  III. 1000 Sprayers available in FAO warehouse
  IV. WFP support with two Toyota land curser for locust operation

Thank You