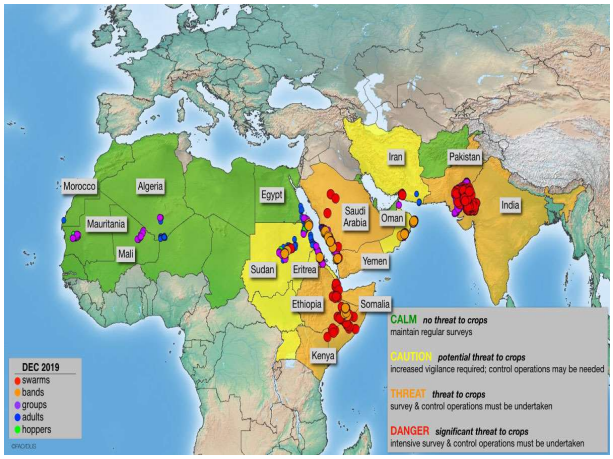
Desert Locust Evolution

- 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)**

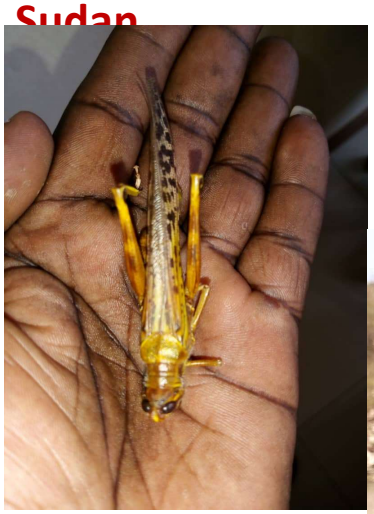
- Thus far damaged about **237 000 ha of land in the Greater Horn of Africa**

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 Ioboni.

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 Equatotria.**
- **1 km^2 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 Cholrpyrifos 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