

Desert Locust Update

Humanitarian
Coordination Forum

Ministry of Humanitarian
Affairs Disaster Management
Juba, South Sudan
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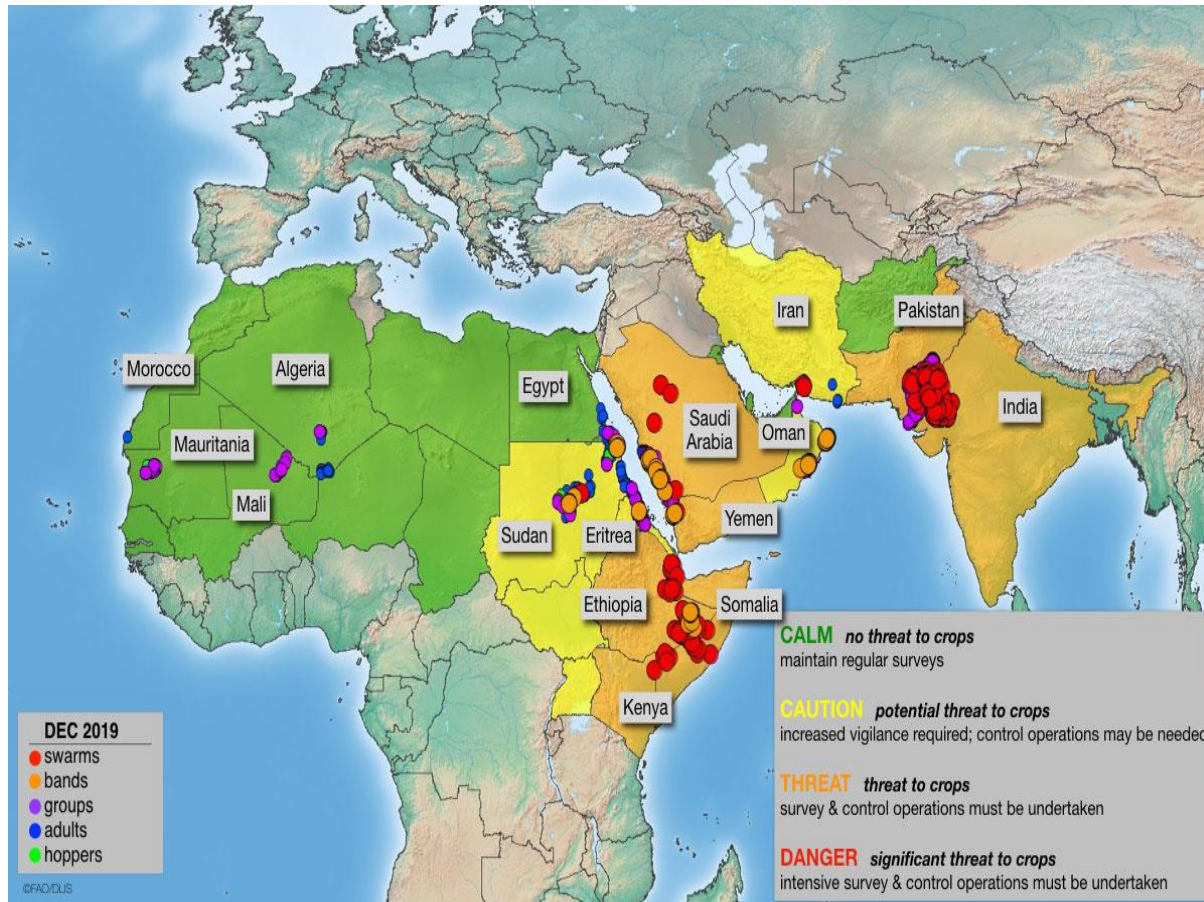
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Desert Locust Evolution

- 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 Equatoria from northern **Uganda** and is currently moving towards Torit west.

Some Observations from the field



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 **Kapoeta East and Ilemi Triangle (Kokuro - Lokomarinyang - Kibish villages) during the coming week**
- There can be a least 40 – 80 Million locust in each km squares of swarm
- Half Million locusts can eat about one ton of Food enough to feed 2500 people
- **1 km² swarm** eats the same food as 35,000 people in one day
- 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/ Recommendations

- 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
- Develop brochure and leaflets with best available control options
- In collaboration with MoAFS, sensitize regulatory authorities in bringing control tools

- Monitoring and reporting:

- Establish Desert Locust survey and control team
- Introduction reporting format
- Regular monitoring and early warning
- Maintain regular contacts with local and national field officers .
- Produce and circulate monthly desert locust bulletin
- Carry out ground survey and control operation

FAO's Actions/ Recommendations (cont'd)

- Capacity Building

- About 15 experts (forecasters) from MoAFS trained (ToT)
- Trained forecasters to provide training in Upper Nile and Eastern Equatoria – likely areas to be affected first
- Ensure lessons learnt from neighboring countries – institutional response
- Development and dissemination of desert locust management guidelines and options (short, medium and long term)
- Training of plant protection officers and community youth in (Magwi and Torit and Kapoeta) from 24 – 29 February 2020
- Advice and train MoAFS When, Where to do Survey

FAO's Actions/ Recommendations (cont'd)

- **Coordination**

- The Government formed a high level committee in which FAO is a member
- FAO to involve the FSL cluster at Juba and State level – with clear role of partners to report the incident (pest popn, weather, crop/pasture status, etc.)
- Form coordination, EW and impact assessment team
- 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 will tap on some of the available emergency resources (TCP)
- Contingency proposal and implementation plan prepared
- Monitor the contingency planning and implementation

Desert Locust Control Operation

- The control against hoppers will be carried by ground
 - Dispatch Available:
 - 1000 knapsack hand Sprayers and 500 LT of Malathion and 57% EC to Magwi and Torit
 - Kapoeta East to be ready with the assumption that the swarm which cross to South Sudan are mature and have laid eggs, is **easy to control when they are at the hoppers stage**

On going/ Immediate actions required

- Procurement of motorized and ULV Sprayers
- Procurement of insecticides (malathion 95% ULV)
- Procurement of ULV sprayers
- Procurement of at least 2 Mounted Toyota Land Cruisers for ground spraying

Thank You