

## The Sudan Consortium

*African and International Civil Society Action for Sudan*

### Human Rights Update: September 2014

*Rainy season sees lull in attacks, but populations remain fearful*

The Sudan Consortium works with a trusted group of local Sudanese partners who have been working on the ground in Southern Kordofan since the current conflict began in late 2011. All the attacks referred to in this report were launched against areas where there was no military presence and which were clearly identifiable as civilian in character. **We believe that this information provides strong circumstantial evidence that civilians are being directly and deliberately targeted by the Sudanese armed forces in Southern Kordofan.**

The month of September was relatively calm in Southern Kordofan as the third year anniversary of outbreak of violence in Blue Nile passed. This calm, however, is widely seen as temporary and the continuation of attacks on civilians, statements by the government of Sudan that they are planning to continue offensives in the area and reports of troops massing in Blue Nile are all contributing to a continuing climate of fear.<sup>1</sup> The Sudanese Armed Forces and the allied Rapid Support Forces (RSF) remain deployed close to populated areas and many are wary of tending to, and harvesting, their crops for fear of renewed government action.

On 8 September 2014, three rocket shells were fired from the Altamor area at the village of Allabou Fatah in Um Dorein. There were no casualties as a result of the attack, but the shelling did damage farms in the area. On September 29, 2014, there were two bombing incidents in Delami County in Southern Kordofan. The attacks in the villages of Mardis and Umethan did not cause any casualties, but they did damage to farming activity.

In addition, a number of looting incidents were reported. Sources reported on 11 September 2014 a militia group called *Sirria* took 100 cows from Taguli village in Um Dorein County. A few days later, on 14 September 2014 two cows were taken from the South Alhadra area, both in Um Dorein County. Incidents of looting appear to be on the rise and may be linked to the government of Sudan's increasing use of militia forces.

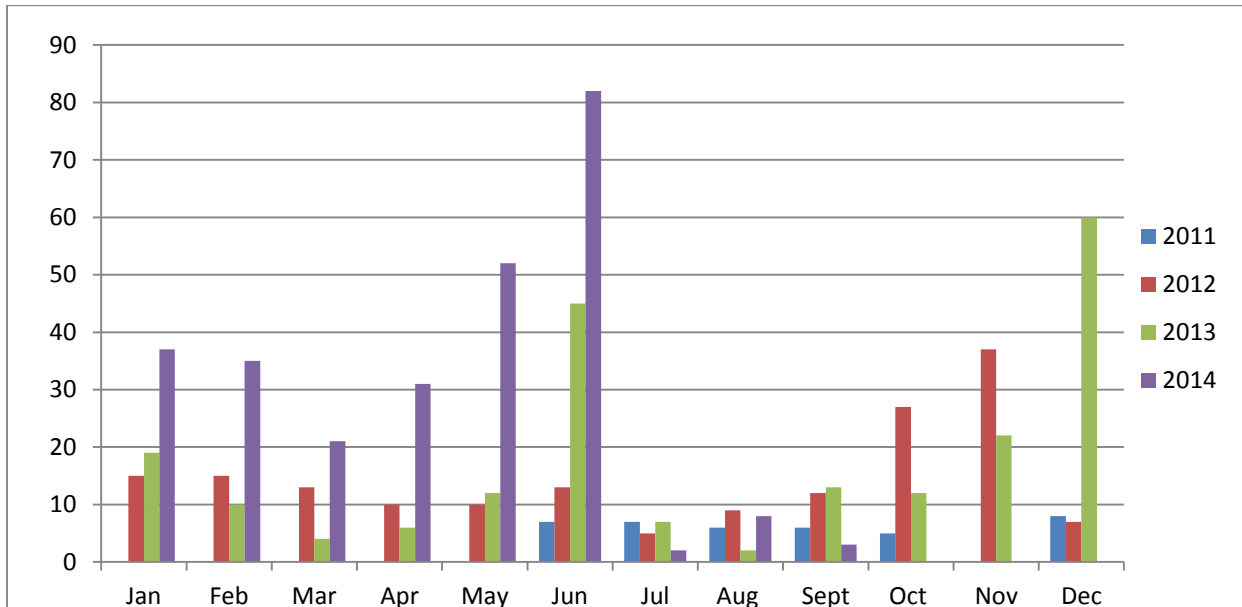
An additional problem is that of unexploded ordinance (UXO) posing a danger to civilians. There were reportedly nine UXOs and two anti-personnel landmines found in Um Dorein County in September.

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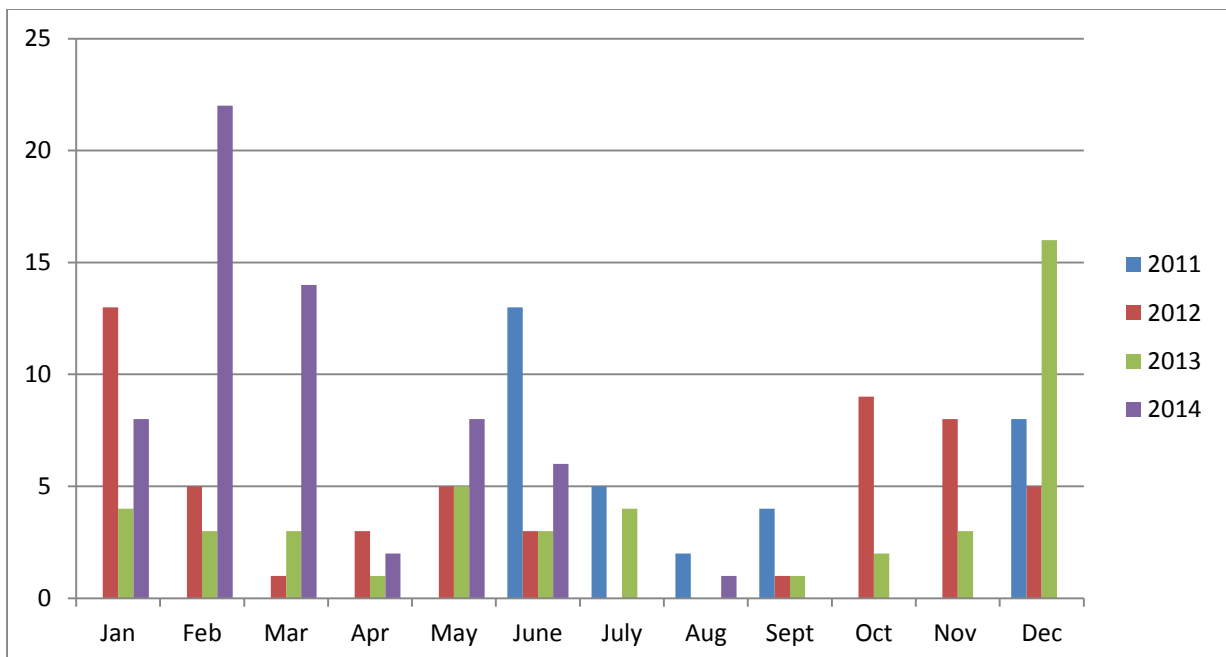
<sup>1</sup> "Sudanese Army Vows to Crush Rebellion in South Kordofan," Sudan Tribune, 11 October 2014.

Partners reported that there are no trained and equipped teams available in the area to facilitate the removal of the materiel, as a result of which it continues to pose a risk to the civilian community.

**Number of bombing and shelling attacks on civilians and civilian objects in Southern Kordofan  
June 2011 - September 2014**



**Civilians killed by bombing and shelling attacks in Southern Kordofan: June 2011 - September 2014**



**Civilians injured by bombing and shelling attacks in Southern Kordofan:  
June 2011 – September 2014**

