



WHO Representative to Sudan during his visit to the camp.

10 October 2020 - In an effort to respond to the heavy rains and floods that have provoked considerable damage in Khartoum, WHO supported the State Ministry of Health in Khartoum to set up a clinic in Shigelab Jebel Awlia, one of the most affected areas in Khartoum where many of its residents have lost their homes and have seen their health deteriorate due to the difficult living conditions.

As a result, many people have become internally displaced and are living in camps, mainly Alkhour Camp which has been established in response to these floods. Alkhour camp hosts an estimated 1300 people including 55 children under the age of five and 31 pregnant women.

This year, heavy rains caused the worst floods in Sudan in decades. More than 860 000 people have been critically affected and more than 120 persons have died, with Khartoum being one of the most affected states in the country.

With heavy rains, come heavy health consequences as the rains and floods increase the likelihood of outbreaks of vector-borne diseases such as malaria, dengue and chikungunya fever. Internally displaced people also suffer from lack of access to clean water which can increase the likelihood of exposure to diseases such as diarrhoea, cholera, dysentery, and typhoid.

“After visiting the area of Shigilab and assessing the situation, and identifying the number of internally displaced and affected people, we have decided to opt for a more sustainable and long term solution and have decided to establish a fixed clinic within the area that is easily accessible to our target population. We have also mobilized local people from the community to work with us as a way to make contact with the local population. Having a fixed clinic for a period of one month will also help us identify existing diseases and outbreaks and better assess the health situation in the area,” said Suhaila from the Emergency and Humanitarian Assistance Directorate at the State Ministry of Health in Khartoum.

