

Locust swarms in South Sudan further threaten food supply as COVID-19 fears mount



Juba, March 26 (RHC)-- In South Sudan, massive swarms of locusts are devastating food crops across the country, further endangering a population that already faces the highest rate of food insecurity in the world.

The desert locusts have swarmed across East Africa in numbers not seen since the early 2000s, with some climate scientists warning that worsening heat waves and tropical cyclones are making the swarms worse.

A South Sudanese farmer, Lotok Joseph Okuera, told reporters: "We are worried a lot, because this year if the government or NGOs fail to help us to destroy this thing, we will really be in big problem of hunger."

Aid groups say increased hunger will only worsen problems for more than 200,000 people living in cramped United Nations camps who are now at risk of COVID-19 infection.



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