

## Update on Emergency Response Operations in South Sudan

Week Ending 6 January 2013

### Highlights

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- **Disarmament campaign details clarified**
- **Increase in number of students arriving in Yida**
- **Unaccompanied Minors reunited**

### Upper Nile State

#### Disarmament Campaign Details Clarified

Despite some delays in implementing the disarmament campaign envisioned for the camps in Maban County, consultations with government authorities resulted in critical understandings ensuring that military personnel will not enter the camps. Their role, rather, will be to support the collection points to be established outside the camp areas. Police inside the camps will address the issue within the camps themselves. UNMISS and UNPOL have likewise enhanced their supporting activities.

#### Security Situation in Maban County Generally Calm

The general security situation in Maban County remains calm and stable. No significant security incidents in the County were signaled during the reporting period. UN and INGO agencies continue to have good relations with host and refugee communities and with government, police, and military authorities.

The likelihood of armed cross-border ground or air attacks is very low. However, SPLA in Jamam reported SAF airstrikes in Blue Nile State on 27 December in the vicinity of Tampona (approximately 15 km east of the border) and in the Malkan vicinity (approximately 40 km northeast of the border).

Anti-government armed militia group activity in the county also remains very low. Nevertheless, the Jamam Payam Administrator requested SPLA and SSNPS presence in the vicinity of the bore hole in Banteko to “protect against suspected militia group activity”. UNHCR is in the process of determining if this is a specific, identified threat or simply a general concern.

Overall, the visible presence of arms in the camps has diminished significantly during the past two weeks.

A joint UNMISS / UNHCR Security Risk Assessment of Al Foj (South Sudan) was conducted on 30 December. No significant security threats were identified but the proximity to the international border remains a general concern.

#### Batil Level II Registration Completed

Level II registration was completed on 31 December, with 605 individuals in 139 households registered during the period. The lower registration figures over the last several days are attributed to the shifting focus from entire communities to family additions and to those who did not show up when the entire community had been invited to register. As of December 31 the total population of Batil camp is 36,751 individuals with 9,161 households. Two Protection Officers conducted a total of 134 litigations during the registration campaign. While most cases involved general credibility concerns, a few cases resulted in formal rejections on the basis of combatant status.

## Unity State

### Bombings in Sudan Increase Number of Students Arriving in Yida

Forty-seven students and three teachers who escaped air bombings arrived in Yida from Kauda during the reporting period. With the support of NP, 30 students were reunited with their relatives and families in the camp, with the other 17 who don't have families or relatives to be supported by the Boma Shiek. Shelter materials and other NFIs were provided. The total number of new arrivals during the reporting period was 917 individuals, a decreased compared with the previous week, when 978 individuals arrived. The majority of the new arrivals, 61.8 per cent, are minors, most of them women.

The primary reasons given by refugees for leaving their areas are insecurity and the lack of food and other basic services. Single men interviewed indicated they came to Yida to build shelters for their families, while others were seeking food assistance. Many of them worried that they have left their elderly parents behind. Several women observed that they are left alone in Southern Kordofan with their children and are unable to support their families. Families with the children have also noted limited educational opportunities in Southern Kordofan.

Refugees said they experienced increased aerial bombings and the obligation to pay local chiefs with food or money in order to receive travel permits that allow them to cross the border. They said vehicles are also being targeted, forcing people to seek protection under trees. Most reported scarcity of food and water during the flight. Refugees also reported that targets include cattle shades and caves. In addition to the lack of basic services, shelter is also becoming a problem as most homes were destroyed in the bombings. Most health facilities are abandoned due to the absence of medical practitioners who have also fled the conflict areas.

### Twenty-four Women Reunited With Their Families

Twenty-four women UAMs/SC were reunited with their families after home assessments, and Best Interest Assessments were conducted. They were supported with NFIs comprising sleeping mats, blankets, mosquito nets, jerry cans and kitchen sets. In a related development, 18 male UAMs/SCs and adolescent males requested to be reunited with their families in the Yida Camp. Of these, six were reunited. The remaining twelve will be assisted in the first week of January 2013. The majority of the parents were pleased to have their children return home. A number of them, however, complained about the challenges they face in raising the children and therefore prefer them to be in boarding schools. Regular counseling and family visits will be provided by Community Services in order to address these concerns and improve the relationship between parents/guardians and their adolescent wards.

## Statistics

**Upper Nile State: 111,904**

**Unity State: 58,598**

<b>Yusuf Batil</b>	36,751	Nyeel	827
<b>Doro</b>	44,715	Pariang	763
<b>Jamam</b>	15,680	Yida	57,038
<b>Gendrassa</b>	14,758		

### Partners:

ACROSS; ACTED; CARE; Danish Refugee Council (DRC); Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO); GOAL; GIZ; IBIS; International Rescue Committee (IRC); International Organization for Migration (IOM); INTERSOS; MEDAIR; MSF-Belgium; MSF-France; Non-Violence Peace Force (NVPF); Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC); OXFAM; Relief International; Samaritan's Purse; Save the Children Fund; UNICEF; World Food Programme (WFP); World Health Organization (WHO); World Relief; World Vision International.