

**414,052,136 USD**

Requested for the operation

Gap  
74.35%

Funded  
25.65%



## SOUTH SUDAN

### UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE 17/2015

30 April – 6 May 2015

## HIGHLIGHTS

- **Fighting in Unity State:** The number of new arrivals in the Bentiu Protection of Civilians (POC) site decreased in the reporting period due to fighting. An estimated 44 households who made it to the POC were mainly from Rubkona and Mayom counties. They said they had fled because of clashes. Three IDPs in the POC were wounded by apparently stray bullets during fighting between Government and opposition forces.
- **Decongestion of refugee camp:** As part of ongoing decongestion efforts in Doro camp, Upper Nile State, 96 households from Baldugu community and 22 households from the Mayak community were relocated to the new extension on 30 April and 1 May. The exercise was facilitated by UNHCR, DRC and Africa Action Help International.
- **New refugees keep coming:** 10,973 new refugee arrivals have been registered in Yida, Unity State, since 23 December 2014. In the same period 12,155 refugees (87 per cent new arrivals) have been relocated from Yida to Ajuong Thok refugee camp.
- **US team in Maban:** A team from the US Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration was in Maban, Upper Nile State, from 28 to 29 April. They met local authorities, refugee representatives and agencies, and visited health centres, solar water systems, a communal radio station, schools and projects in Gendrassa and Doro camps.

### Current population of concern

IDPs since 15 Dec  
2013



1,555,059

Of them, 119,725 IDPs reside in UNMISS Protection of Civilians sites

Refugees in South  
Sudan



259,232

## OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

- South Sudan has ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- In his latest report to the United Nations Security Council, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said the warring parties are recruiting children to fight, and restricting the work of UN peacekeepers, and that unless peace talks succeed sanctions may be imposed.
- Local authorities in the eastern South Sudanese border town of Akobo have declared that Ethiopian currency may be used in local markets instead of the South Sudanese pound.
- WFP voucher system beneficiaries in Mingkaman, Lakes State, say inflation is reducing what they can buy with the vouchers (7 businessmen were arrested for failing to keep their prices in line with those decreed by the State authorities). Traders in Northern Bahr al Ghazal State have also reportedly been arrested for illegally hiking prices.
- Humanitarian activities remain suspended in Akoka and Fashoda counties, where 3 WFP staff members and their vehicles disappeared while transporting food supplies in Upper Nile on 1 April.
- 25 wounded Government soldiers were reportedly brought to Pariang (Panrieng) hospital on 27 April after fighting near the village of Panakwach in Unity State.
- A soldier who approached the Malakal POC in Upper Nile State and opened fire was disarmed and beaten to death by internally displaced people on 2 May, according to UNMISS.

## REFUGEE RESPONSE



### Protection

#### Achievements and Impact

##### Central Equatoria State

- Between 20 April and 4 May, 36 individuals approached the UNHCR office reception in Juba and received counselling. 10 were registered as asylum-seekers. 5 have received appointments for asylum-seeker registration. 5 individuals were informed about positive Refugee Status Determination decisions and issued refugee ID cards. 16 individuals received general protection counselling and were referred to urban refugee response partners, where applicable.
- In the same period, UNHCR Juba conducted 3 Refugee Status Determination interviews. 2 Convention Travel Documents were issued to refugees registered in South Sudan, travelling for training in other countries. Additionally, one positive resettlement was received from Denmark, and UNHCR has been following up with IOM on departure arrangements for three other resettlement cases who were previously accepted by Sweden (2 cases) and Norway (1 case).

##### Unity State

- Between 29 April and 5 May, 383 newly arrived refugees were registered in Yida and 530 transferred to Ajuong Thok (AT).
- Over the past four months the number of registered new arrivals in Yida was: 3,035 in January, 3,054 in February, 2,266 in March and 1,968 in April.
- As part of the ongoing process of providing identity documents in AT, 132 individuals from among the newly relocated refugees aged over 15 have been issued proof of registration ID slips.
- AT: 68 vulnerable persons with specific needs identified through Community Information Centres received NFI assistance.
- The Women's Protection and Empowerment team in Yida conducted 2 psychosocial group activities in the form of henna sessions. 53 women and girls attended. Topics discussed included female genital mutilation and rape effects in the community, referral protocols and services available for SGBV survivors.
- 30 individual cases were attended to by the UNHCR Litigation Desk in AT. 21 are related to plot reallocation.

- Three days of training were held for 22 police in AT focusing on SGBV basic concepts, referral pathways, guiding principles, and South Sudan laws relating to SGBV.
- AT: 120 most vulnerable children identified through community structures were provided with sandals.

#### **Upper Nile State**

- On 30 April UNHCR conducted the second in a series of weekly training sessions for refugee camp-based police. 6 police officers, 2 Commission for Refugee Affairs (CRA) staff and 2 Danish Refugee Council (DRC) outreach workers from the refugee community participated, with training focusing on international protection, human rights and selected South Sudan national laws.
- UNHCR conducted monitoring in Maban County prison: Among the 42 inmates, 16 are refugees. The immediate needs are food, soap, water containers and perimeter fencing for the facility.
- A misunderstanding between Doro host and refugee communities on access to Doro market by refugee traders and the collection of taxes was successfully resolved thanks to UNHCR, CRA and Khor-al Ahmar *payam* administration. It was agreed that refugee traders will be allocated plots in Doro market.
- UNHCR received reports of 3 SGBV cases from the refugee community - 2 were domestic violence and 1 forced marriage.

#### **Identified needs and remaining gaps**

#### **Western Equatoria State**

- Yambio CRA requested UNHCR to relocate 710 individuals from Nabiapai (near the border with the Democratic Republic of Congo, DRC) to Makpandu refugee settlement who claimed to have arrived in South Sudan as a result of LRA activities in DRC. In response, on 30 April, a joint verification exercise was undertaken by UNHCR, World Vision International and CRA to Nabiapai, Gangura *payam*, Yambio County, to verify the CRA list. 302 individuals came forward for registration and relocation to Makpandu: 200 were from the CRA list, while 102 were not.
- UNHCR registered 64 new arrivals in Makpandu refugee settlement this past week.

#### **Unity State**

- During the reporting period, Jamjang *payam* administration issued bylaws aimed at regulating market prices, and imposed restrictions on firewood and wild fruits collection as well as the movement of refugees out of Ajuong Thok. UNHCR, in partnership with the Commission for Refugee Affairs, has been liaising with the *payam* administration to clarify the situation and find an amicable solution without compromising the refugees' rights.



## **Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance**

### **Achievements and Impact**

#### **Upper Nile State**

- UNHCR together with the Humanitarian Development Consortium (HDC), DRC and ACTED launched women's meetings aimed at promoting peaceful coexistence between refugee and host communities in Gendrassa on 28 April, and Doro on 29 April. 80 host community women as well as 45 refugee women from Doro and 35 from Gendrassa, participated in the meetings.



## **Food Security and Nutrition**

### **Achievements and Impact**

#### **Upper Nile State**

- Maban County: A session on key health messages was delivered to 144 caregivers in Gendrassa and 205 caregivers in Kaya.

- In Doro, the largest refugee camp in Maban County, the second distribution of items for the targeted supplementary feeding programme has started: 886 children under 5 received 15 days ration of Plumpy'sup (1,223 tons). 301 mothers were trained by their infant and young child feeding counsellors on hygiene issues and exclusive breastfeeding.

### Identified needs and remaining gaps

#### Upper Nile State

- In Doro, severe acute malnutrition increased sharply on the previous week, with patient numbers in the stabilization centre increasing from 6 to 15, while the number of outpatients receiving therapeutic treatment increased from 218 to 226 (almost double the number at the start of 2015). UNHCR and partners are continuing therapeutic as well as supplementary feeding programmes. UNHCR and UNICEF are currently working to airlift Plumpy'nut to Maban to be used for severe malnutrition cases.
- Delays in the provision of food/nutrition items, the lack of nutrition products for both under 5 and pregnant and lactating women, and the inappropriate practices of certain communities are of concern.

#### Unity State

- The shortage of food and withdrawal of grinding vouchers have exposed the refugee community to serious risks such as prostitution, adultery, theft, and health hazards. UNHCR has taken steps to develop livelihood activities in AT but recommends strong support for WFP to ensure food security in the camps.



## Health

### Achievements and Impact

#### Upper Nile State

- Integrated polio/measles vaccinations have been completed in Gendrassa, Yusuf Batil and Kaya camps. 19,376 and 39,415 children were vaccinated against polio and measles respectively in the three camps (8,773 and 19,284 children in Yusuf Batil; 4,656 and 9,359 in Gendrassa; and 5,947 and 10,772 in Kaya), all with excellent coverage of more than 95 per cent.

#### Central Equatoria State

- UNHCR has donated various medicines and medical supplies to Juba Teaching Hospital, to El Sabbah Children's Hospital in Juba, and to Yei Civil Hospital in Yei.

#### Western Equatoria State

- 425 patients (178 in Makpandu primary health care centre and 247 in Napera primary health care unit, including host community members) received medical treatment.
- Health and hygiene promotion messages reached 481 individuals in Makpandu, and 2,075 in Napere refugee settlement.

### Identified needs and remaining gaps

#### Unity State

- The number of consultations per clinician per day in Ajuong Thok has gone up to 105 (UNHCR standard is up to 50), due in part to increasing refugee numbers, the use of medical facilities by host communities, shortage of staff, and improvements in the health-seeking behaviour of refugees.

#### Upper Nile State

- There were 1,085 cases of acute watery diarrhoea in Maban County's four refugee camps (up 26 per cent on the previous week), and especially in Gendrassa. Preventive measures and surveillance are ongoing.



## Shelter and NFIs

### Achievements and Impact

#### Unity State

- Ajuong Thok: Construction of 30 transitional shelters for vulnerable refugees has been completed and 118 emergency shelter kits were distributed to new arrivals.

#### Upper Nile State

- Of the 1,200 transitional shelters planned in Doro, 570 units are completed (48 per cent); 30 are currently being built.

#### Western Equatoria State

- During the reporting period 6 *tukuls* were constructed for refugees with specific needs in Makpandu refugee settlement. In Napere settlement in Ezo, 10 *tukuls* are under construction.



## Water and Sanitation

### Achievements and Impact

#### Unity State

- Ajuong Thok: A new water point was connected at Block 29 to reduce walking distances to fetch water, and long queues at existing water points.
- 42 (35 family and 7 emergency) latrines were constructed.
- 2,537 jerry cans were cleaned and disinfected.
- 1,173 households were reached with hygiene messages on healthy environment living.
- Yida: 53 family latrines were constructed and 21 latrines decommissioned.
- 2,001 refugees participated in hygiene and sanitation awareness raising sessions.
- 42,720 jerry cans were cleaned this week.

#### Upper Nile State

- The International Organization for Migration (IOM) completed its WASH operations in Doro camp on 30 April, handing over to ACTED. The transition process between the two agencies was facilitated by UNHCR.

#### Western Equatoria State

- One borehole in Block 2 was repaired by the water committee in Makpandu refugee settlement.



## Logistics/Supply

### Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR has dispatched one truck with core relief items to Yambio, and one to Yei.
- Four UNHCR trucks and 2 buses which had been held up in Bentiu for almost a month have arrived in Jamjang, Unity State, en route for Malakal and Maban in Upper Nile State.

## IDP RESPONSE



### Protection

#### Protection Cluster

##### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Protection partners in Koch and Leer, Unity State, were evacuated on 5 May due to the deterioration of the security situation. Their evacuation will increase gaps in protection monitoring, SGBV response, and conflict mediation and resolution activities. The Protection Cluster will prepare a briefing note on serious protection of civilians concerns arising from reports that armed elements are engaging in widespread human rights violations.
- The situation in the Malakal POC site, Upper Nile State, remained concerning, with Protection Cluster partners working both in Malakal and Juba to organize surge capacity and engage in contingency planning.

##### Achievements and Impact

#### Unity State

- Bentiu POC: 911 newly arrived IDPs received temporary cards (after screening and fingerprinting) enabling them to get food and other basic assistance until biometric registration is conducted in the near future.

#### Upper Nile State

- Maban County: UNHCR has biometrically registered 12,970 IDPs and 5,493 host community individuals. 933 persons with special needs (640 IDPs and 293 host community members) were identified during the exercise. The sites covered are Orji, Dollo, Gismalla, Offra, Banketa, Kilo Ashara, Bir Talthal and Dangaji.
- Melut County: 361 newly arrived IDPs have settled in Dinthoma I and 121 individuals in Dinthoma II. UNHCR is conducting a verification exercise in order to issue IDPs with tokens until IOM arrives.
- Melut County: 31 IDP households from Jamam who are residing at a school in Paloich were on 29 April requested to vacate the school by the authorities. The Government's Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC) persuaded the authorities to allow IDPs to remain in the school until plans for their movement to Hai Soma IDP settlement are finalized.

##### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

#### Unity State

- UNHCR is working with partners to tackle the problem of IDPs arriving in Bentiu POC with children who are not their own, in a bid to claim more food rations.

#### Lakes State

- Mingkaman: There have been no NFI/Shelter Cluster meetings since March 2015 as the Humanitarian Development Consortium (HDC) is the only Cluster member. An earlier report by the Norwegian Refugee Council indicated that 2,929 shelters are in need of repair.

## Camp Coordination and Camp Management

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

#### Unity State

- Bentiu POC: The planned verification and subsequent relocation of IDPs to a new site has again been postponed. The tentative date for relocation is now 15 May while verification (requiring wristbands which have still not arrived) is set for 12 May. UNMISS has promised to deploy more troops to patrol the perimeter of the new site.

## Shelter and NFIs

### Achievements and Impact

#### Central Equatoria State

- UNHCR distributed NFIs including mosquito nets to 161 individuals in Lologo IDP camp in Juba.

#### Unity State

- On 30 April a fire destroyed 24 shelters in Bentiu sub-POC 6 and partially affected six other shelters; no casualties were reported. Families are being assisted with reconstruction materials. UNHCR is assessing if extremely vulnerable families are affected and will provide additional support as required.

#### Upper Nile State

- Melut County: DRC concluded NFI distributions to IDPs in Delal Ajak (1,887 individuals) on 28 April, as part of the UNHCR supported response to recent displacements in Manyo County.

#### Warrap State

- UNHCR on 30 April distributed plastic sheets, mosquito nets and mats to 106 returnee households in Kuajok, in the presence of the Kuajok mayor.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to US\$ 107,503,198 as of 6 May 2015.

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with earmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

### Funding received (in USD)

USA	90,300,000
Japan	9,600,000
European Union	2,651,113
Canada	1,573,564
CHF - SSD	1,488,963
Luxembourg	625,782
Switzerland	520,291
UN Prog. On HIV/AIDS	490,000
France	250,000
Holy See	3,362