

**418,882,292 USD**

Funding requested for comprehensive needs in 2015

**116,275,632 USD**

Contributions received in 2015

**302,606,661 USD**

Funding gap in 2015

## SOUTH SUDAN

### UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE 3/2016

1 to 15 February 2016

## HIGHLIGHTS

- **Sudanese new arrivals increase in Unity State** - In Yida, UNHCR registered 609 new arrivals from Sudan's South Kordofan during the reporting period. Another 60 were registered in Ajuong Thok. More than 80 percent are women and some 10 percent are children. They reported hunger as the main reason for fleeing to South Sudan. Since the beginning of the year, UNHCR cumulatively registered 1,787 Sudanese new arrivals in Unity. In the first two weeks of February, 428 refugees were relocated from Yida to Ajuong Thok, bringing the total number since the beginning of the year to 1,276.
- **Assessment in Unity State's Thonyor finds IDPs in great need of assistance** - On 5-8 February, UNHCR carried out a protection assessment in opposition-controlled Thonyor, southern Unity State. Following resumption of humanitarian operations in December 2015, thousand of civilians have returned to Thonyor. The needs of the population are enormous, with shelter, food and non-food items being a priority.
- **Sudanese refugees relocate to Lasu refugee camp** - UNHCR and its partners the Commission for Refugees Affairs (CRA) and ACROSS completed the relocation of 502 Sudanese refugees from Yei town to Lasu refugee camp. Upon arrival, refugees received food and non-food items and plots of land to enable them settle in the camp.

#### Current population of concern

IDPs since 15  
December 2013



1,690,000

Of them, 199,187 IDPs reside in UNMISS Protection of Civilians sites

Refugees in South  
Sudan



265,923

## OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

- On 11 February, through presidential decree number 60, South Sudanese President Salva Kiir appointed opposition leader Riek Machar as First Vice President of the country in accordance with the power sharing provisions in the Agreement on the Resolution of Conflict in South Sudan (ARCSS). Kiir removed James Wani Igga from the position of Vice President and reappointed him to the position of Second Vice President, ranking below Machar. The president gave a 7-day ultimatum for Machar to return to Juba and form a unity government with him. However, Machar said he would return only when the security arrangements are in place, including demilitarization of the capital and transfer of 2,910 opposition forces to Juba. Machar called on the international community to transport his forces, with the United Kingdom offering to undertake such a task. At this state, it is not clear how long it will take for the opposition forces to deploy in Juba and whether President Kiir will put on hold his plan to rush the formation of the government.
- Fighting continued between Sudan's People Liberation Army (SPLA) and opposition forces in Greater Mundri counties of Western Equatoria State. According to media reports, SPLA launched an offensive in late January and on 14 February entered Medewu base, the headquarters of the opposition's commander on the ground in Mundri West County, forcing the opposition forces to tactically withdraw from the area. On the same day, the government reportedly deployed more forces from Maridi and Yambio.
- On 5 February, following the adoption of the NGO Bill by the National Legislative Assembly, the humanitarian community through OCHA issued a statement calling on the Government of the Republic of South Sudan to ensure that the Bill is submitted to a process of public consultation following the formation of the Transitional Government of National Unity (TGoNU). Member countries of the European Union (EU) have also expressed deep concerns about the negative impact of the bill on NGOs.
- On 8 February, the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Technical Working Group released its December's Update. According to the report, an estimated 2.8 million people or 23 percent of the population will face acute food and nutrition insecurity (IPC Phases 3, 4 and 5) between January and March 2016. The bulk of this acutely food insecure population (57 percent) is located in the Greater Upper Nile states of Unity, Jonglei and Upper Nile. Unity State remains the most affected because of continued fighting that has displaced large populations and disrupted their livelihoods. Some 40,000 people are likely to be facing Catastrophe in Mayendit, Koch and Guit counties between January and March and are in need of urgent food and other humanitarian assistance.
- On 8 February, SPLA chief General Paul Malong Awan warned of possible unrest in the country, should he and those serving the cabinet and army be removed from posts as part of the formation of the TGoNU. The army chief left Juba on 5 February with more than five serving army generals from his home area Aweil, in Northern Bahr al Ghazal.

## REFUGEE RESPONSE



### Protection

#### Achievements and Impact

##### Unity State

- In Yida, UNHCR registered 609 new arrivals from Sudan's South Kordofan during the reporting period, representing an 11 percent increase compared to the previous two weeks. Approximately 82 percent are women and children, with unaccompanied and separated children constituting 11 percent of the new arrivals. The vast majority came from Heban, Umdoreen and Boram Counties and reported hunger as the main reason for fleeing to South Sudan. Another 60 Sudanese new arrivals were registered in Ajuong Thok camp and came from Abu-Jubaya County in South Kordofan. Since the beginning of the year, UNHCR cumulatively registered 1,787 Sudanese new arrivals in Yida (1,727) and Ajuong Thok (60). During the reporting period, 428 refugees were relocated from Yida to Ajuong Thok, bringing the total number of relocated refugees since the beginning of the year to 1,276. Among them were 175 newly arrived unaccompanied and separated children. UNHCR placed 47 of them in foster care and seven others were reunified with their parents.

- UNHCR partner Lutheran World Federation (LWF) provided dignity kits to 1,494 school girls in accelerated learning programme, primary, and secondary schools.
- In Ajuong Thok, UNHCR and partners established an additional child friendly space, bringing the total number to 10. During the reporting period, the average attendance was 2,372 children (1,324 boys and 1,049 girls).

#### **Central Equatoria State**

- UNHCR and its partners the Commission for Refugees Affairs (CRA) and ACROSS completed the relocation of 502 Sudanese refugees from Yei town to Lasu refugee camp. Upon arrival, refugees received food and non-food items and plots of land to enable them settle in the camp.
- In Juba, UNHCR in collaboration with CRA issued asylum-seeker certificates to 163 Burundian nationals.

#### **Western Equatoria State**

- In Makpandu camp, UNHCR partner World Vision International (WVI) conducted a three-day training for 16 participants on peace education curriculum, including refugees and host community members from Bangasu, Burezigbo and Abakaya areas.
- In Makpandu camp, UNHCR partner WVI reported five cases of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) against refugees, including two cases of physical assault and three cases of physical violence. All SGBV survivors were provided with psychosocial support.

## Education

### **Achievements and Impact**

#### **Unity State**

- UNHCR received national certificates from the Ministry of Education for 105 students who completed senior level 3 at Soba secondary schools Distribution of certificates is underway.

#### **Upper Nile State**

- In Maban camps, UNHCR partners Save the Children (SCI) and LWF commenced the enrollment of pupils for academic year 2016.
- In Maban, 226 primary eight candidates of Bunj Secondary School wrote final examination from 8 to 12 February 2016.

#### **Central Equatoria State**

- In Lasu refugee camp, the 2016 academic year began in the two primary and secondary schools. The total number of pupils and students registered for the two primary schools is 1,647 (794 girls and 853 boys) while 73 students (17 girls and 56 boys) have so far been registered in the secondary school.
- In Gorom refugee camp, the registration for the academic year 2016 commenced, with 420 pupils (262 boys and 158 girls) enrolled so far in primary school and another 356 children (150 boys and 206 girls) in kindergarten. In addition, 98 adult learners (81 women and 18 men) were enrolled into adult literacy programmes.

#### **Western Equatoria State**

- In Makpandu camp, primary, secondary and adult schools opened for the 2016 academic year, with 542 students registered so far.

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

#### **Unity State**

- In Ajuong Thok, primary school classrooms are over congested, with more than 2,000 children so far registered in each primary school. UNHCR is working with its partner Danish Refugee Council (DRC) to construct temporary classrooms with local materials.



## Food Security and Nutrition

### Achievements and Impact

#### Unity State

- In Yida, UNHCR observed a decrease in the number of children enrolled for moderate malnutrition programmes - down to 396 children in week five from 491 in week four and 554 in week one. This reduction could be due to decrease of malaria cases and also to the fact that a number of families in Yida have access to land where they grow vegetable to supplement the General Food Distribution (GFD).

#### Upper Nile State

- In Maban, World Food Programme (WFP) carried out February's GFD in Kaya, Doro, Yusuf Batil and Gendrassa camps, reaching more than 130,000 refugees. The 70 percent reduction of monthly food rations included cereals, pulses and cooking oil.

#### Central Equatoria State

- In Lasu refugee camp, January's GFD was concluded on 2 February, reaching 9,870 refugees. The 70 percent reduction of monthly food rations included sorghum, yellow peas, vegetable oil and salt.
- In Gorom refugee camp, UNHCR partner ACROSS carried out February's GFD, reaching 1, 651 refugees.



## Health

### Achievements and Impact

#### Unity State

- In Pariang, UNHCR partner Action Africa Help International (AAHI) completed an additional block for Pariang County Hospital.

#### Upper Nile State

- In Maban camps, no new cases of Hepatitis E were reported in the first two weeks of February, after the initial two cases reported in January. The overall health profile of refugees and immediate host communities remain stable.

#### Central Equatoria State

- In Yei, UNHCR handed over assorted medical supplies to Morobo County Hospital to enhance delivery of services to both refugees and host communities.



## Water and Sanitation

### Achievements and Impact

#### Unity State

- In Ajuong Thok camp, the average water coverage stands at 14.6 litre per person per day (l/p/d), which is below UNHCR standards of 20 l/p/d. This is not of concern as monitoring revealed that all water bladders are full and all taps are functional. The average latrine-to-refugee ratio is 8:1, which is within UNHCR standards of a maximum of 20 persons per latrine. During the reporting period, 49 family latrines were constructed across the camp, bringing the total number of latrines to 3,872 (493 communal latrines and 3,379 family latrines).
- In Yida, the average water coverage stands at 16.8 l/p/d, which is below UNHCR standards of 20 l/p/d. This is not of concern as monitoring revealed that all water bladders are full and all taps are functional. The average latrine-to-refugee ratio is 9:1, which is within UNHCR standards. During the reporting period, 61 latrines were constructed (39 communal latrines and 22 family latrines), bringing the total number of latrines to 7,230 (438 communal latrines and 6,792 family latrines).

**Upper Nile State**

- In Maban camps, the average water coverage increased cumulatively from 21 to 22,5 l/p/d compared to January 2016. This is above the minimum standards of 20 l/p/d. The average latrine-to-refugee ratio is 13:1, which is within UNHCR standards.
- In Kaya camp, UNHCR completed the Installation of two water storage tanks, with a total capacity of 140,000 liters. To date, 11 tanks have been installed.

**Shelter and NFIs****Achievements and Impact****Upper Nile State**

- In Doro camp, UNHCR partner DRC distributed sanitary kits to 134 women of reproductive age.

**Camp Coordination and Camp Management****Achievements and Impact****Unity State**

- UNHCR partner UNOPS completed 92 percent of the 14 km of internal roads in Pamir. UNHCR prepositioned materials for the construction of Pamir reception centre.

**IDP RESPONSE****Protection****COORDINATION****Achievements and Impact**

- On 1-5 and 8-10 February, the Protection Cluster (PC) team visited Bentiu, Unity State. The first mission aimed to provide training on basic protection analysis, roll out the Solutions Working Group and advocate with the protection actors for their deployment outside the Protection of Civilians site as well as the resumption of the use of the Hotspot Matrix to track incidents and inform troop deployment. The second mission aimed to participate in discussions led by the UNMISS Protection of Civilians Unit regarding a Protection of Civilians Response Plan for Leer, where UNMISS has recently established a Temporary Operating Base (TOB). Given the possibility that IDPs may seek shelter in the TOB if fighting resumes, the PC is working with UNMISS to identify potential scenarios and protection response options for affected communities.
- On 10-12 February, the PC visited Bor, Jonglei State, to provide coordination support and discuss solutions with a concurrent mission from the UNMISS Relief, Reintegration and Protection (RRP) Section in Juba. A Solutions Working Group was established to help ensure that options are available for IDPs who wish to leave the POC site.
- On 12 February, the PC prepared a contingency plan for the worst-case scenario as part of inter-agency efforts to address the deteriorating economic and humanitarian situation in South Sudan. The plan includes a risk analysis, identifies minimum preparedness actions and gaps, and assesses in-country response capacity and constraints.

## Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The congestion of the Upper Nile's Malakal POC site remains a concern. Discussions continue on the construction of a new Sector 5 outside the UNMISS berm and advocacy is ongoing with UNMISS to provide security in and around the future site.

## OPERATIONS

### Unity State

- On 5-8 February, UNHCR carried out a protection assessment in opposition-controlled Thonyor, southern Unity State, including through observation, focus group discussions with the IDPs and the returnee community, and meeting with local authorities and partners. In December 2015, thousands of civilians began returning to Thonyor, as humanitarian organizations resumed operations in the area. Aid workers were forced to pull out of Leer in May 2015, when violent fighting broke out between government soldiers and opposition forces, leaving hundreds of civilians dead and a wide swath of destruction. As a result, tens of thousands fled from Leer and found safety in the surrounding areas, including Thonyor, whose initial population consisted of approximately 4,000 people. In June 2015, Thonyor came also under attack, forcing thousands of civilians to flee once again and to seek refuge in the nearby swamps and islands. During the attacks, many homes were burnt to the ground, cattle raided and numbers of women and young girls sexually assaulted and abducted. For more than seven months, the displaced population survived on wild fruits and roots. In December, improved security allowed humanitarian organisations to re-establish their presence in Leer and Thonyor – an incentive for many IDPs to come out of the islands and go back to town. The market in Thonyor significantly grew from few stalls in December 2015 to more than 100 in February 2015. While the displaced are trying to restart their lives, their needs remain enormous, including food, shelter and non-food items such as agricultural tools and fishing nets. UNHCR is looking into re-establishing its presence in the Leer environs.

### Central Equatoria State

- A rapid assessment by South Sudan's Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RCC) at Yei IDP site established that the population has increased from 700 to 1,016 individuals.

### Western Bahr al Ghazal State

- As part of the efforts to find durable solutions for IDPs, UNHCR began conducting a household assessment of the displaced population of Wau POC, currently hosting 234 individuals. The assessment is to gather information about preferred areas of relocation.



## Camp Coordination and Camp Management

### Achievements and Impact

#### Upper Nile State

- In Bunj town, UNHCR partner Humane Development Consortium (HDC) completed the rehabilitation and repair of two boreholes at Bunj clinic and Hai Neem residential area.



## Shelter and NFIs

### Achievements and Impact

#### Upper Nile State

- In Maban, UNHCR partner HDC completed the construction of 100 shelters for IDP and host communities. To date, a total of 1,000 out of 1,050 shelters planned for 2015 project have been completed while the remaining 50 shelters are in progress.

## Jonglei State

- In Bor, UNHCR distributed NFIs to 105 IDPs who arrived from Unity state's Mayendit transiting to Uganda, including kitchen sets, jerry cans, drinking water, soap, cups and mosquito nets. IDPs cited lack of education and dire economic issues as a primary reason of fleeing from South Sudan.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to USD 116,275,632 as of 31 December 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)

