



# UNHCR South Sudan *Situation Report*

## Developments

- Heavy fighting that took place in Bentiu, capital of Unity State, delayed the reconnaissance mission by the South Sudan Humanitarian Coordinator and the UNHCR Representative to Yida and Ajuong Thok, to lay the groundwork for future UNMISS troop deployment and return of UNHCR and NGO staff to continue protection and assistance activities benefiting Sudanese from the Nuba Mountains.
- With Bor (Jonglei State) changing hands frequently between pro- and anti-government forces, it is difficult to predict how soon humanitarian operations will resume. There is extensive displacement in Jonglei including reports of arrivals from Upper Nile State. All UNHCR staff and families were evacuated to safety. One staff member who was on mission before the crisis is safe, though stranded in Ayod. The UNHCR compound in Bor was reportedly extensively vandalized and used for residence mainly by anti-government forces.
- In Upper Nile, UNHCR received unconfirmed reports of fighting in Sudan's Blue Nile State between SAF and SPLA-N in the area of Malkan, about 100km north of Bunj.

## Refugee operations

### • Unity State:

UNHCR staff who returned to Yida on 9 January report that the general security situation in the refugee settlement and its environs is calm, though unpredictable. There is a large presence of armed elements at the airstrip. According to refugees and local residents, movement between Pariang and Yida is safe.

UNHCR health partner in Ajuong Thok, AHA, reports an increase in numbers of South Sudanese nationals patients seeking treatment at the health clinic. During the past week, of the 123 patients who visited the clinic for consultation and treatment services, 83 were refugees; the rest were from IDP and host communities.

The clinic has registered patients from far away payams who appear to have settled in nearby Jamjang and other payams along the Diir River as the conflict spread in their home areas (*see also IDP response*).

### • Upper Nile State

UNHCR organized a meeting to discuss peaceful coexistence with refugee and host community leaders from Doro camp. Refugees were sensitized to the importance of wise use of the recently distributed 45 day food ration. Refugees were counseled specifically against selling food in consideration of the closure of the road to Maban and difficulties this may generate for the repositioning stocks for the next food distribution.

## Internal displacement

UNHCR is participating in the IDP response via the inter-agency collaborative approach under the leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator.

- **Airlift operations:** The fourth flight carrying blankets, plastic sheets and rubbhall is scheduled to land in Juba from Nairobi on 10 January.
- **Central Equatoria (Juba):** The Protection cluster:
  - conducted assessments of informal IDP areas in the middle of Juba Town and in a peri-urban area. The visits again raised the issue of ensuring that any assistance is provided in a manner that does not inspire people to remain in unsafe locations.



- provided input and guidance to NFI/Shelter Cluster and a REACH deployee looking into an eventual needs based response in areas most heavily impacted by conflict in Juba. Detailed information on these areas was provided based upon Protection Cluster assessments.
- The main issue highlighted was concern over the possibility of secondary/opportunistic occupation of houses from which persons fled and the need to avoid anchoring this secondary movement.
- Protection Cluster actors have been working closely with CCCM and UNMISS on protection sensitive relocation (for decongestion purposes) and entry/exit control at PoC Areas in UNMISS bases in Juba.
- **Central Equatoria (Yei County):** The number of displaced persons is growing (344 individuals; 50% under 11 years of age). UNHCR released 40 plastic sheets for UNPOL to erect temporary communal shelters. Rapid assessment by agencies indicates fears of ethnic targeting as well as urgent needs for security protection, food, water, medical supplies, toilets, cooking fuel, soap, dignity kits. UNHCR and ACROSS are working to rehabilitate existing septic pits to arrest deteriorating sanitary conditions at the IDP location.
- **Eastern Equatoria State:** 20,781 IDPs who entered Magwi County during the past three weeks are camping in Narus and Nimule Payams. The County Commissioner convened an emergency meeting on 7 January (UNHCR and UNMISS were the only international actors present, together with national NGOs and CBOs), and led an assessment of the needs of IDPs in Nimule. The majority are from Bor, with others from Duk, Twic East, Pibor and Pochalla Counties. Urgent NFI and Emergency Shelter needs for this population include kitchen sets, plastic sheets, mosquito nets, blankets, soap and sleeping mats.
- **Lakes State:** Local authorities in Yirol East report increasing numbers of IDPs coming from Jonglei

### Emergency non-food items stockpile

NON-FOOD ITEMS	ORDERED	RECEIVED		DISTRIBUTED	
		This day	Total	This day	Total
Plastic rolls	200	-	200	-	-
Plastic sheets	20,000	-	6,246	-	-
Blankets	12,500	-	11,740	-	-
Kitchen sets	12,500	-	3,898	-	-
Family tents	30	-	-	-	-
Rubbhalls	10	-	-	-	-

### Current staff presence

State	Location	National	International	Total
	Abyei	6	1	7
Central Equatoria	Juba	55	40	95
	Yei	12	-	12
Eastern Equatoria	Nimule	1	-	1
	Torit	5	-	5
Jonglei	Bor	-	-	-
Lakes	Rumbek	4	-	4
Unity	Pariang	2	-	2
	Jamjang	-	-	-
	Yida	13	-	13
Upper Nile	Bunj	17	5	22
	Malakal	8	-	8
Warrap	Kuajok	6	-	6
Western Bahr-el-Ghazal	Wau	6	-	6
Western Equatoria	Yambio	12	1	13
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>147</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>194</b>

and Malakal. Over 200 households arrived in Yirol in recent days, and authorities expect many more. UNHCR Rumbek has contributed 300 sleeping mats and 300 jerry cans for the Yirol East and West IDP response.

- **Unity State:** UNHCR's health partner in Ajuong Thok, AHA, reports close to 50,000 IDPs have settled in different payams and bomas along the Diir River between 5-10 kms from Ajuong thok refugee camp. They originate from Biu, Nyeel and other parts of Pariang County and have, according to RRC officials, settled in Jamjang: 22,000; Gumriak: 8,000; Wuaknhom: 6,000; Ajach: 6,000; Nongiak: 4,000.

- **Upper Nile State:** UNHCR, WFP, IOM and Oxfam attended a meeting convened by Maban local authorities regarding 600 civilians reportedly displaced from Gul Guk to Nurishin in Jamam Payam some 80km from Bunj (capital of Maban). An inter-agency assessment mission is scheduled to take place on 10 January.

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