



SOUTH SUDAN: Update #0019

28 February-04 March 2014

BACKGROUND

Close to 900,000 people have been displaced (76% internally) as a result of deadly clashes that broke out in Juba on 15 December between rival factions of the SPLA, and evolved into a full-scale war affecting people in seven out of South Sudan's ten states.

UNHCR is participating in the IDP response effort through the inter-agency collaborative Cluster Approach under the leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator.

On 11 February, the UN Under-Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs, Ms. Valerie Amos, declared a Level 3 Humanitarian System-Wide Emergency Response for South Sudan .

UNHCR continues to support over 234,000 refugees inside South Sudan.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

- In South Sudan violence escalated ahead of the rainy season, despite the January ceasefire agreement between President Salva Kiir's government and SPLM/A-in-Opposition rebels led by former Vice President Riek Machar. Talks have faltered as both sides instead seek military gains. The SPLM/A-in-Oppositions advance towards lucrative oil fields in the north threatens an already fiscally fragile government. As security deteriorates, further involvement on the part of South Sudan's neighbours in particular Uganda and Sudan is increasingly likely. Humanitarian concerns are becoming ever more acute, with hundreds of thousands displaced and the UN issuing a famine warning. There have also been increasing reports of atrocities against civilians. *[International Crisis Group, CrisisWatch 127, 1 Mar 2014]*
- FAO is warning that disruptions in livelihood and food production could lead to famine conditions in several conflict affected areas.
- A high level mission comprising UNMISS, UNICEF, WHO and NRC representatives traveled to Bor, Jonglei State on 27 February. They visited mass graves and the former market, and met with IDP representatives in the UNMISS PoC Area. The key demand from IDPs community leaders was for relocation to another country.

SECURITY

- Medical charity MSF reported on the gruesome aftermath of recent armed attacks and clashes in Malakal (**Upper Nile State**), with patients murdered inside the town's Teaching Hospital. In another disturbing violation of medical structures, an MSF team returned to Leer (**Unity State**), and discovered the hospital

Alari Refugee Settlement in Pochalla county, Jonglei State hosts some 3,000 Ethiopian refugees (815 families). Access to these refugees is usually difficult due to their remote location and general insecurity. BELOW Taking advantage of recent relative calm, UNHCR distributed relief items to the refugees . LEFT Elderly and disabled members of the host community also received NFI. [Photos: UNHCR/N.Asaka]



thoroughly looted, burned and vandalized. Vast parts of the town appear to have been razed to the ground. [<http://www.msf.org/article/medical-care-under-fire-south-sudan>, 26 Feb 2014]

- Fighting has affected other areas including **Warrap state** where reported inter-tribal cattle raiding saw 8 killed and 11 wounded in Turalei, Twic county on 1 March. In **Abyei** clashes between Dinka and Misseryia are continuing, including reported use of heavy weapons. During clashes in Makir on 1 March, 15 were reported injured and 1 killed. The market in Abyei town is reported empty.

REFUGEE OPERATIONS

Operational Updates

Unity State

- In Pariang County, movement of state and non-state armed actors continues, particularly along the Jamjang-Pariang-Yida-Jau corridor, alongside sporadic indiscriminate shooting, causing panic among the refugees and posing challenges for maintaining the civilian character of asylum. South Sudan security organs in Yida undertook to conduct patrols around the camp and arrest individuals who are involved.
- On 26 February one male refugee was shot dead at 10h00 in Yida camp. Two suspects are in police custody. The death created tension between two tribes; the deceased's relatives are seeking revenge as a solution. Authorities and police are mediating.
- Yida still has the highest concentration (30%) of refugees in South Sudan. New arrivals in Unity continue to enter through Yida at a modest rate, with only 122 during week ending 2 March. 1,389 new arrivals were registered in the month

SUDANESE REFUGEES IN UNITY AND UPPER NILE

		CAMP/SETTLEMENT	02 MAR
UNITY STATE	Pariang County	Ajuong Thok	8,810
		Yida	70,621
		Sub-total	79,431
UPPER NILE STATE	Maban County	Doro	47,989
		Gendrassa	17,507
		Kaya	19,161
		Yusuf Batil	39,554
		Lelo	956
		Sub-total	125,157
		TOTAL	204,588

Source: UNHCR Regional Web Portal (02 Mar 2014) [<http://data.unhcr.org/SouthSudan/regional.php>]

of February compared to 1,158 in January. The were mainly from Umdoreen, Heban, Alboram and Angolo.

- In February, 734 new-borns were registered in Yida (338 girls), and 23 in Ajuong Thok (13 girls).
- 187 individuals were inactivated in February. 18 were reported by their family members to have returned to Nuba mountains. 169 were inactivated after failing to show up for three consecutive General Food Distributions in December, January and February. The in Yida is that practice if a ration card is up for renewal or replacement all the family members present themselves at the Registration Centre for physical verification. Family members reported to have returned to Nuba Mountains are automatically inactivated until they present themselves to the Centre for reactivation.

REFUGEES IN SOUTH SUDAN (BY NATIONALITY) AND LOCATION

LOCATION	Central Equatoria	Jonglei	Unity	Upper Nile	Western Equatoria	TOTAL
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN						
• Central African Republic	-	-	-	-	1,634	1,634
• Democratic Republic of Congo	7,480	-	-	-	6,584	14,064
• Ethiopia	2,505	3,066	-	481	-	6,052
• Sudan	7,591	-	79,431	125,157	375	212,554
TOTAL	17,576	3,066	79,461	125,638	8,539	234,304

Source: UNHCR Regional Web Portal (02 Mar 2014) [<http://data.unhcr.org/SouthSudan/regional.php>]

- Voluntary movement from Yida to Adjuong Thok continues with over 400 relocating in the past week, as compared to 200 the week before. 950 refugees were relocated in January (314 females), and 1,080 in February (373 females). 110 unaccompanied minors have been relocated since the beginning of the year (21 females). Education constitutes the main pull factor.
- In order to prevent/reduce maternal deaths related to pregnancy complications, UNHCR is working closely with CARE to provide a temporary theatre in Pariang County pending rehabilitation of the Primary Health Care Centre which was damaged and looted in conflict. The temporary facility will provide surgical capacity and emergency obstetric and new-born care. With UNHCR support, various materials (drugs/equipment including the anaesthetic machine) were delivered to Pariang on 25 February; they are being installed. With referral hospitals in Malakal and Bentiu damaged, patients have for the past weeks had to be flown to Juba.

Upper Nile State

- UNHCR and the Commission for Refugees Affairs (CRA) completed the first phase of an airlift of refugees from the UNMISS Malakal Protection of Civilians (PoC) Area to Juba for onward voluntary repatriation. The movement was not completed owing to security constraints and is hoped to be completed this week.

IDP RESPONSE

Population movements

Refugee outflows to neighbouring countries

- Over 400 persons were observed leaving Juba Topping PoC Area reportedly for Torit/Nadapal and onward to Kenya. Ongoing border monitoring in Eastern Equatoria indicates borders to Kenya and Uganda remain open.

Regional Updates

Jonglei State

- UNHCR resumed presence in Bor, which is under the control of pro-government forces. The office and residential premises had been occupied alternately by pro- and anti-government forces since December. Staff are operating from the humanitarian hub in UNMISS.

INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT STATISTICS	
State	
Abyei Administrative Area	2,600
Central Equatoria	101,100
Eastern Equatoria	65,800
Jonglei	128,500
Lakes	76,400
Northern Bahr-el-Ghazal	1,200
Unity	183,100
Upper Nile	122,800
Warrap	13,100
Western Bahr-el-Ghazal	700
Western Equatoria	0
TOTAL	695,300

Source: OCHA Humanitarian Snapshot (28 Feb 2014).

- In the last week of February, fighting in Gandiang and Duke pushed populations to Panyagoor (in Twic East north of Bor County). Some were seen in boats heading to Minkaman in Awerial County, Lakes State OCHA colleagues in Minkaman confirmed the arrival of 140 boats over the last two days. (Minkaman is the area with the highest concentration of IDPs in South Sudan, although Government and NGO statistics vary widely, between 70,000 to 140,000 individuals.
- The protection team led a joint WFP/JMA/ UNHCR/RRC verification mission to Jaruong village 15 km south-east of Bor on the road to Minkaman (Lakes State). The village has IDPs

DISPLACED SEEKING PROTECTION IN UNMISS "PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS" (POC) SITES

STATE	LOCATION	POPULATION
Central Equatoria	Juba (Topping)	27,580
	Juba (UN House)	15,744
Jonglei	Bor	4,891
Lakes	Rumbek	101
Upper Nile	Malakal	21,568
	Melut	1,249
Unity	Pariang	59
	Bentiu	4,523
TOTAL		75,715

Source: UNMISS Update, 3 March 2014

from Anyidi 3km north of Bor who arrived there six weeks ago. 829 IDPs were registered. Major concerns include lack of education activities, inability to return Anyidi village, and armed civilians. Villagers confirmed that most residents (children and wives) fled to Minkaman as the situation in Bor degenerated .

Bor PoC Area

- Humanitarian actors are advocating for tightened surveillance in response to threats to security and protection of civilians. Challenges include difficulties to control movement of IDPs and goods in and out the POC Area. POC is reportedly the only active market in the town, attracting persons from all walks of life, including SPLA soldiers.
- UNMISS issued a ground rules letter calling for IDPs to contribute to their own security. It establishes safeguards and lists prohibited commodities as well as sanctions that await those who commit serious crimes including being handed to SSNPS. Sale of illegal brew, cannabis and Shisha, as well as stolen items such as fridges, motorbikes and generators are reportedly ongoing.
- Protection Cluster actors completed a “community police” training for IDPs in the Bor POC Area as part of a series of activities to improve the protection environment inside bases in a community-based, participatory manner.

Unity State

- 11,482 IDPs (4,316 households) in Pariang county have received NFIs, and the distribution continues. The package comprises plastic sheets, buckets, sleeping mats, soap, kitchen sets, blankets, mosquito net, sanitary cloth for women and girls of reproductive age.

Protection Cluster

- The Protection Cluster issued an advocacy statement in support of the 21 Feb 2014 UNMISS Human Rights report on human rights abuses committed by the parties to the conflict commencing on 15 December.
- The Protection Cluster and UNHCR also continue discussions with UNMISS and others (IOM/OCHA) on both **solutions** for IDPs and **decongestion** of UN Bases. Protection actors emphasize the need for expansion of the UN House POC Area to assist in decongestion of UNMISS Topping. In these

regards, it is reported that after some delays, Government has signed an agreement allowing formal expansion of the UN House POC Area which will allow for scaled up expansion which will aid decongestion and improve conditions in advance of the rainy season.

- Protection Cluster GBV actors have put in place social workers and case management officers to support psychosocial service provision for I IDP settlement in Juba town (outside of POC Areas), and also completed Referral Pathways for both UN House and Topping POC Areas.
- Child protection actors have completed guidelines and position paper on Care and Protection of Children in Emergencies for South Sudan, endorsed by 12 organisations, and also completed SOPs for working with unaccompanied and separated children.
- In Malakal, UNHCR, together with UNMISS and other UN/NGO partners, conducted an assessment in town following the fighting of the previous week. Security conditions permitting, UNMISS escorts provided protection to civilians in town who wished to relocate to Malakal POC Area.

FUNDING

- The **Government of Switzerland** announced a contribution of CHF 11.69 million against UNHCR’s Global Appeal (2014-2015) for various operations worldwide, including CHF 750,000 (USD 842,696) for South Sudan.

2014 EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS

DONOR	USD
CERF	754,320
Canada	895,255
Japan	6,800,000
Switzerland	842,696

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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FOR REFUGEE INFORMATION ON THE SOUTH SUDAN SITUATION, VISIT
<http://data.unhcr.org/SouthSudan/regional.php>

