

9-15 April 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

- High-level delegation visits Unity State:** The UNHCR Representative, accompanied by Ambassador Pedro Commissario, UNHCR Executive Committee Chairman; Jaime Valente Chissano, Minister Plenipotentiary at the Permanent Mission of Mozambique in Geneva; Johan Cels, Head of UNHCR's Governance and Partnership Section; the Commissioner for Refugee Affairs and his deputy, as well as local government officials from Pariang (Panrieng) County, paid a one-day visit to Ajuong Thok refugee camp. An ICT centre and clinic were officially inaugurated.
- Asylum seekers get certificates:** UNHCR and the Government are in the process of issuing asylum certificates to 510 Ethiopians, Eritreans and Somalis living in the UNMISS compound in Juba. So far 493 have received certificates.
- Rise in new arrivals:** New refugee arrivals in Yida, Unity State, from Sudan rose to 723 in the 9-15 April period (360 the previous week); 772 refugees from Yida were transferred to Ajuong Thok camp (436 the previous week).

414,052,136 USD

Requested for the operation



Current population of concern

IDPs since 15 December  1,527,043

Of them, 117,604 IDPs reside in UNMISS Protection of Civilians sites

Refugees in South Sudan  259,232

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

- President Salva Kiir sacked Interior Minister Aleu Ayieny Aleu and Northern Bahr el Ghazal's caretaker governor Kuel Aguer Kuel, as political turmoil continues.
- Four civilians were killed and 7 others injured in an aerial bombardment of Nyinbuoli market in Aweil West County, Northern Bahr el Ghazal State, on 8 April. The acting governor, Salva Chol Ayat, accused Sudanese armed forces of the attack. (*UN Radio Miraya*)
- A group calling itself the Revolutionary Movement for National Salvation has warned civilians not to travel in military vehicles along the Yei-Maridi road (Central Equatoria State) and other major roads leading to Juba.
- Among the new arrivals in Bentiu POC, men and boys indicated that forced recruitment had prompted their flight.
- This week the South Sudanese pound dropped to 8.5 to the US dollar on the black market compared to 6.0 in February, while the official rate remained 3.16.

REFUGEE RESPONSE



Protection

Achievements and Impact

Unity State

- Since 23 December 2014, 10,974 refugees have been relocated from Yida to Ajuong Thok, 85 per cent of them new arrivals.
- As part of an ongoing process to issue identity documentation for the protection of persons of concern, 210 individual proof of registration ID slips were issued to refugees over 15 who were relocated to AT during the week.
- Seven unaccompanied minors (UAM) and 13 separated children were relocated to AT. Of the 6 unaccompanied and separated children (1F/5M), three UAM girls were reunited with their families. Best interest assessments were conducted for seven children (1F, 6M) and one boy was placed in foster care.
- The country representative of UNHCR partner the Lutheran World Federation opened a new Child Friendly Space in AT during his mission there this week.

Central Equatoria State

- UNHCR donated assorted medical drugs to Yei Civil Hospital, which serves both refugees and local communities.

Western Equatoria State:

- The Child Transit Center (CTC) at the Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare, which is supported by UNHCR implementing partner World Vision International, currently supports 17 children (9 girls from the Democratic Republic of Congo and 4 boys and 4 girls from South Sudan).

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

Unity State

- The Jamjang-Malakal road via Tonga has been closed by the Government due to alleged insecurity near Tonga (half way between the two places). Four trucks heading for the UNHCR operation in Maban County (Upper Nile State) currently in Pariang County (Unity State) are still parked up in the Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA) compound in Jamjang, pending a change in this situation.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Upper Nile State

- A secondary food distribution site has been opened on a pilot basis in Doro camp. If operationalized this will reduce the distances refugees have to walk to access general food distributions.



Health/Nutrition

Achievements and Impact

Unity State

- 1,389 mothers and caregivers were reached with infant and young child feeding messages in Yida camp.
- 80 children among the new arrivals were screened for malnutrition in Ajuong Thok. None had severe acute malnutrition while 4 had moderate acute malnutrition (MAM, 5 per cent). This is a decrease from the 11 per cent MAM prevalence among screened new arrivals recorded in the past week.



Education

Achievements and Impact

Upper Nile State

- A mobile library is being started in Doro Camp by UNHCR implementing partner Save the Children. The library will be run by the Schools' Reading Clubs.



Water and Sanitation

Achievements and Impact

Western Equatoria State:

- 81 household latrines are under construction in Makpandu refugee settlement. Monitoring and technical support is being offered to these households to complete their latrines.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

Unity State

- In Ajuong Thok, vandalism of WASH facilities is on the rise. For example, pipes have been cut to divert water to individual homes. Follow-up on how to reduce vandalism is being explored with community leaders and other stakeholders.



Logistics/Supply

Achievements and Impact

Upper Nile and Unity States

- Since 29 January, 151 trucks were dispatched with NFIs, staff accommodation, construction materials, among others, from Juba to Unity and Upper Nile States; so far just over half have reached their destinations. The others are en route from Wau.
- The loading and dispatch of more trucks is continuing, taking advantage of the current status of the roads prior to the heavy rains.
- 12 trucks carrying 450,435 litres of fuel have been dispatched to Jamjang (Unity State), of which 112,551 have arrived.

IDP RESPONSE



Protection

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR is funding SGBV interventions directly or through implementing partners in the POC sites in Juba and Melut (Upper Nile State) in support of the SGBV Sub Cluster's strategy. Upper Nile in particular has limited SGBV partners on the ground and UNHCR's contributions are critical.

Unity State

- Bentiu POC has grown to 74,657 as of 10 April after the arrival of over 20,000 people in early 2015, and the recent biometric registration exercise. In the reporting period 864 individuals were screened as new arrivals. Since the introduction of fingerprint checks, five "recycles" have been identified. This indicates that double registration and system abuse is becoming more difficult.
- Bentiu POC Protection Cluster sent a letter to the UNMISS State Coordinator regarding weak/porous perimeter fencing around the site, allowing easy access by armed elements. Measures are being taken to reinforce the fences.
- According to UNPOL/UNDSS, the crime rate in the POC has increased in the reporting period. Six incidents of assault and grievous bodily harm were reported. Victims are being treated at the Médecins Sans Frontières clinic while the suspected culprits are in custody in UNMISS "holding facilities".
- A measles vaccination campaign by health partners is ongoing throughout the POC. The Health Cluster has been tasked to urgently address the issue of private drug stores in the POC selling expired drugs.
- Pariang County: 685 caregivers (164 in Werthen, 213 in Aliiny, 188 in Yida and 120 in Jamjang) were reached with infant and young child feeding messages. Finnish NGO CMI conducted mine risk education awareness in Biu and Jamjang *payams*, reaching 451 host community members and 20 IDPs. AHA carried out SGBV awareness sessions in the CARE Hospital, reaching 60 participants, including 34 IDPs.

Upper Nile State

- The Protection Cluster and its partners are monitoring the situation in Upper Nile after fighting which erupted on 1 April south of Kodok in Akoka County. As of 10 April, 4,466 new arrivals had been registered in the Malakal POC site, bringing the total number of IDPs in the POC to over 26,000.
- Biometric registration for IDPs and host communities in Maban County started on 13 April.
- A seven-day general food distribution for IDPs was carried out in Doro, Dollo, Dangagi, Ofra and Kongo villages, Maban County.

Lakes State

- Of the 71,367 IDPs in Mingkaman, 378 have been identified as having special protection needs.
- Mingkaman: Throughout the week, UNHCR has been working with Humanitarian Development Consortium (HDC) to improve the services provided by the Special Police Unit desk at the police station built by the Humanitarian Development Consortium (HDC) with UNHCR funds.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

POC sites

- The absence of national law enforcement agencies within the POC sites compounds the SGBV problem as UNPOL has no authority to arrest or prosecute SGBV perpetrators. Perpetrators can only be detained temporarily in the so-called "holding facilities" (where available) and are normally released back into the IDP community (with no possibility of expulsion from POC sites), compromising the safety of SGBV survivors living in the community. The option for SGBV survivors to seek legal remedies outside of the POC sites is not available.

Upper Nile State

- South Sudanese have continued to leave Melut County, crossing the White Nile in canoes, and settling mainly in Noon, Fashoda County.

- A population count in Hai Soma, a displacement site in Melut, revealed that nearly 2,400 people had fled to Noon, and the remaining 230 IDPs were planning to follow. There are no humanitarian services in the area and IDPs are staying under the trees. UN agencies, including UNHCR, have not been able to cross the river due to insecurity.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Achievements and Impact

Unity State

- Bentiu POC: Modalities for verifying POC residents prior to relocation to new sites have been drafted and will be finalized during the next Registration Working Group Meeting. UNHCR has committed to providing about 100,000 wristbands for the verification exercise.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

Upper Nile State

- UNHCR and the Danish Refugee Council followed up on reports that unknown people were vandalizing shelters left behind by IDPs who left Hai Soma camp. The matter was discussed with the IDP leadership in Melut County so that they can keep an eye on the shelters as the owners could return.

Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

Unity State

Bentiu POC: 134 vulnerable families were referred by UNHCR to shelter/NFI partners for assistance. In the reporting period, UNHCR Bentiu field office received a rub hall from Juba which will be used for pre-positioning NFIs.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to US\$ 28,703,076 as of 15 April 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.

