

414,052,136 USD

Requested for the operation

## SOUTH SUDAN

### UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE 31/2015

6-12 August 2015

## HIGHLIGHTS

- **Assistance for vulnerable IDPs in Maridi NFIs:** UNHCR has nearly completed distribution of non-food items to an estimated 25,000 internally displaced South Sudanese in Western Equatoria's Maridi and Ibba counties, in coordination with state and local authorities as well as partners Action Africa Help International and World Vision International. The aid operation targeted about 5,000 vulnerable families in nine displacement sites.
- **Over 16,000 IDPs arrive in Malakal POC site:** UNHCR, in partnership with the Humanitarian Development Consortium (HDC), supported registration of new IDP arrivals from Wau Shilluk, Makal Shukuk, Detang, Fashoda, Kodok, and Panyikang, Upper Nile State. Since 1 August, there have been over 16,000 new arrivals in Malakal POC, most of them women and children. All new arrivals are staying in the open air with no shelter. Children appear very weak due to lack of food. UNHCR, in partnership with HDC, continues to monitor new IDP arrivals, identify persons with special needs and support the sick with transportation to the clinic.
- **IDPs in Melut in dire condition:** A joint UNHCR/WFP mission was conducted from Maban to Melut on 6 August 2015 to assess the food situation of IDPs in Melut. IDPs in Melut POC and Dinthoma I and II sites with a population of 26,000 persons are in dire need of food assistance. A small quantity of food is available in the Melut warehouse and WFP/partners need to distribute it as soon as possible. The presence of even skeleton humanitarian staff on the ground remains a challenge.
- **Reduced rations:** The August General Food Distribution (GFD), reduced by 30 per cent, started in Doro and Gendrassa refugee camps in Upper Nile State on 5 August. A 3-day GFD begins in Ajuong Thok on 15 August, and a 6-day GFD starts on the same day in Yida, Unity State. UNHCR is making efforts to ensure the most vulnerable receive adequate supplies.
- **New IDPs in Pariang County:** 221 IDP families, and 46 people claiming to be from Sudan, arrived in Jamjang from nearby Allel and Pamir (Unity State) on 10 August. UNHCR provided them with 100 blankets and 100 mats; an assessment is pending.

#### Current population of concern

IDPs since 15 Dec  
2013



1,600,000

Of them, 166,142 IDPs reside in UNMISS Protection of Civilians sites

Refugees in South  
Sudan



265,296



## OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

- The Ugandan army has reportedly occupied contested land near the South Sudan-Uganda border, displacing 300 farmers from the Pogee area of Pajok *payam*, Magwi County, Eastern Equatoria State.
- Jonglei State: Pibor, Boma, Akobo and Pochalla, where a conflict between Pochalla North and South remains unresolved, are inaccessible to humanitarian agencies because of insecurity. On 6 August, the chief of Jale *payam*, Bor County, and his wife, were shot dead by unknown gunmen.
- Insecurity in Unity State's Pariang County on 8-9 August interrupted roadworks on the Yida-Pariang road, the upgrading of existing roads in Ajuong Thok refugee camp, and construction of the new road to Pamir camp. Heavy rain delayed work for an additional two days.
- Insecurity along the Juba-Yei road is negatively affecting operations as transport of goods, and medical referrals to Juba, have become a challenge. Road movements to Juba via Uganda are time-consuming and costly. WFP did not deliver a food top-up for refugees to Lasu settlement in July citing insecurity along the road.
- The operational environment at Lasu refugee settlement has improved after striking refugee teachers agreed to return to work.

## REFUGEE RESPONSE

### Protection

#### Achievements and Impact

##### Unity State

- 111 new arrivals were registered in Yida. 14,090 new arrivals have been registered since 23 December 2014. 71 new births were registered (23 in Ajuong Thok and 48 in Yida).
- 98 refugees were relocated from Yida to Ajuong Thok on 11 August, bringing the camp population to 30,651.
- 4 campaigns were conducted in 4 blocks within Yida settlement on the need for sexual assault survivors to access medical care within 72 hours. It was attended by 2,030 people (1,040 women, 460 men, 230 girls, 300 boys).

##### Upper Nile State

- 83 child protection cases, including physical disability, malnutrition and medical conditions, have been identified during biometric verification in Kaya camp. The cases are being referred to specialized agencies for action.

#### Identified needs and remaining gaps

##### Central Equatoria State

- 358 individuals (new arrivals from DRC) are pending registration due to temporary absence of CRA from the Lasu Settlement.
- The Commission for Refugee Affairs (CRA) pledged to bring 15 policemen from Juba and deploy them in Lasu settlement, but they have not yet arrived.

### Camp Coordination and Camp Management

#### Achievements and Impact

##### Unity State

- The Pariang-Yida road is 41% complete.
- Upgrading of existing Ajuong Thok roads is 40% complete.
- New Ajuong Thok and Pamir camp roads are 31% complete.
- Construction of the Ajuong Thok camp office using prefabricated structures is 60% complete.

## Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

### Achievements and Impact

#### Central Equatoria State

- Lasu *payam* administration agreed to mobilize the host community to participate in opening an access road to refugee farmland in Kukuyi. The administration also agreed to allow community-based extension workers to provide services to refugee and host community farmers after distribution of agricultural inputs.
- Interviews for UNHCR-funded vocational training courses in Yei Vocational Training College were held during the week. 19 candidates have been selected so far (including 8 from host communities)

#### Upper Nile State

- On 5 August, 25 male refugees received certificates for completion of a shoe-making training run by the Danish Refugee Council (DRC). An event was organized where shoes were exhibited and sold.
- Graduates from the Vocational Training Centre run by LWF in Batil have produced 1,000 uniforms to be distributed to pupils who were not issued uniforms earlier this year or who recently enrolled.

## Education

### Achievements and Impact

#### Central Equatoria State

- Refugee teachers in Lasu settlement returned to work on 3 August and there is progress on pupils' attendance: 50 per cent of pupils attended classes in the two primary schools (1,063 against 828 last week).

#### Upper Nile State

- The Lutheran World Federation (LWF), in partnership with UNHCR, has assembled and distributed 1,050 desks to 9 schools in Gendrassa, Batil and Kaya camps, including 150 for the Batil Secondary School. The pupil-desk ratio as of 6 August is 1:9 across the four camps, with Doro the best at 1:5 and Gendrassa the worst at 1:19, against the UNHCR standard of 1:3. Overall there are 3,027 desks for 27,074 pupils.
- 46 primary and 27 Accelerated Learning Programme (ALP) striking teachers in Batil have signed volunteer agreements and resumed work in Batil camp.
- 12 secondary school teachers (7 from Doro Refugee Community Initiative School and 5 from the host community) have signed volunteer agreements to support the combined host/refugee Bunj Secondary School.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

#### Upper Nile State

- Teachers in Gendrassa camp and a few in Batil remained on strike over incentives. UNHCR and education partner LWF continued engaging refugee leaders and teachers in these two camps for the resumption of normal activities. Education services continued normally in Doro and Kaya camps and partially in Batil camp.

## Food Security and Nutrition

### Achievements and Impact

#### Unity State

- A Blanket Supplementary Feeding programme (BSFP) was conducted in Yida and Ajuong Thok. The BSFP targeted children aged 6 to 23 months and pregnant and lactating women (PLW). In Yida, 4,381 children and 5,185 PLW were reached, while in Ajuong Thok, 1,602 children and 766 PLW were reached.

- MUAC screening of PLW in Yida showed that 63 (1.2%) could be classified as having severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and 480 (9.3%) as having moderately acute malnutrition (MAM).
- In collaboration with CARE, a demonstration backyard garden has been set up in Block 48 in Ajuong Thok. The idea is to impart knowledge to refugees on vegetable production and have the refugees grow vegetables on the individual plots. The target group for the demonstration garden is mother support groups.

### Identified needs and remaining gaps

#### Central Equatoria State

- There have been no food distributions in Lasu refugee settlement in July and so far in August. Vulnerable groups and new arrivals who have not yet produced their own food are suffering the most.

#### Upper Nile State

- The reduced GFD started in Doro and Gendrassa camps on 5 August 2015. Salt did not arrive in time for distribution, hence was not part of the food basket.
- July monthly MUAC screening results were released as follows: Doro Camp: MUAC malnutrition for children 6-59 months stood at 15.3% and 0.2% severe malnutrition; MUAC malnutrition for pregnant and lactating women (PLWs) was 28.7% with 0.03 % severe malnutrition
- Batil Camp: MUAC malnutrition for children 6-59 months was 4.5% with 0.53% severe malnutrition; MUAC malnutrition for PLWs was 29.7% with 6 % severe malnutrition.
- Gendrassa Camp: MUAC malnutrition for children 6-59 months was 11.6% with 1.3% severe malnutrition; MUAC malnutrition for PLWs was 22.9% with 1.7% severe malnutrition
- Kaya Camp: MUAC malnutrition for children 6-59 months was 6.0% with 0.6% severe malnutrition; MUAC malnutrition for PLWs was 24.9% with 4.0% severe malnutrition
- In July, under 5 malnutrition levels have decreased in all camps apart from Doro, where it has increased. Kaya and Gendrassa are below 10%.
- PLW malnutrition levels are still high. While a decrease was noticed in Doro, PLW malnutrition rates in other camps showed an increase, especially Batil which has the highest rates. More investigations are to be done to understand the causes of the changes noticed in some of the camps.
- Refugee communities received crop and vegetable seeds in June 2015, but harvests which could enable refugees to complement their food baskets will only be in October.



## Health

### Achievements and Impact

#### Western Bahr el Ghazal State

- 16 refugee fistula survivors and their 14 care-givers have been transferred to Wau Teaching Hospital by UNHCR; 9 operations have been performed and all patients are doing well.

### Identified needs and remaining gaps

#### Unity State

- There is a shortage of medicines and limited lab testing facilities in the two Unity sites. A 2.7 ton consignment of medicines arrived by air in Yida on 11 August.



## Shelter and NFIs

### Achievements and Impact

#### Central Equatoria

- NFIs (plastic sheets, blankets, mosquito nets, sleeping mats, soaps, jerry cans and buckets) were distributed to 23 out of 35 Nuban urban refugee households in Yei registered in July 2015.

#### **Upper Nile State**

- Out of 1,140 transitional shelters planned in Doro, DRC completed 750 units (66%).
- Out of 768 transitional shelters planned in Gendrassa in 2015, ACTED completed 626 units (81%).



## **Water and Sanitation**

### **Achievements and Impact**

#### **Western Equatoria State**

- Rehabilitation and chlorination of 4 boreholes was completed in Napere refugee settlement.
- WASH messages reached 1,148 individuals (310 men, 382 women, 43 boys, 413 girls) in Napere and Makpandu settlements.

### **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

#### **Upper Nile State**

- One borehole collapsed in Batil camp and will not be recoverable. A new borehole needs to be drilled to secure the water system in the camp, but nothing can be done at present as there are no drilling rigs in Maban County. Gaps in terms of availability of boreholes in host communities have also been identified.



## **Logistics**

- 9 trucks carrying construction materials for school construction, expansion of the Ajuong Thok public health care centre (PHCC), and the expansion of Pariang hospital, are stuck in various places - 5 in Unity State, 3 in Warrap State and one had mechanical problems and has been towed back to Juba. UNHCR and AAH-I are looking at airlifting some or all of the above material.
- 2,771 kg of assorted drugs for Ajuong Thok PHCC were airlifted to Yida on 11 August.
- A vehicle and office equipment including 2 computers have been given to CRA in Jamjang.

## **IDP RESPONSE**



## **Protection**

### **Achievements and Impact**

#### **Jonglei State**

- Profiling and monitoring of returnees (former refugees and IDPs) at Bor dock continued, with 464 individuals recorded. 54 vulnerable individuals were identified and will benefit from NFI distribution. 4,921 individuals have been profiled since June.
- UNHCR implementing partner Nonviolent Peaceforce provided a security escort for four individuals who left Bor POC for Juba.
- UNHCR distributed soap and sleeping mats to 154 individuals in Malek leprosy centre, and provided transport to Bor County Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC) to deliver one month of food rations to the centre.

#### **Lakes State**

- On 4 August the International Organization for Migration (IOM) verified and registered 275 IDPs in Mingkaman following advocacy by UNHCR. UNHCR monitored the registration process as well as the replacement of lost cards and/or changes to the heads of 96 households.
- On 7-8 August UNHCR, in collaboration with the Department of Police and Pact South Sudan, conducted a 2-day training for 38 community policing/watch volunteers.

#### **Unity State**

- IOM-led biometric registration in Bentiu POC has been continuing: 2,782 newly arrived IDPs received temporary ration cards. Hunger and insecurity in Leer, Koch and Mayendit are driving the displacements.
- Bentiu POC: 275 vulnerable households were recommended for shelter prioritization to DRC and IOM in the new Sector Two which is currently being levelled.

#### **Upper Nile State**

- Maban County: UNHCR and partners carried out protection monitoring in Hoffra IDP site on 4 August following tensions over planned disruption of the next GFD by host community youth - something that has been addressed by the leaders of both communities.

### **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

#### **Unity State**

- According to protection interviews, there are an increasing number of SGBV cases in Bentiu POC due to ambushes at toilet facilities by youth gangs at night. Community leaders have raised the matter and urged UNPOL and the Protection Cluster to install solar lights and increase patrols. The Unity State WASH cluster has been requested by the community leadership to urgently designate male and female showers and toilets to reduce rape incidents. The WASH Cluster agreed to put up the signs next week.
- With an increasing number of IDPs in the POC, Protection issues and concerns are steadily increasing. UNHCR is developing improved Protection monitoring tools.

#### **Upper Nile State**

- Maban: A list of new IDP arrivals was received from RRC with 177 households/715 individuals in Balchul, Dollo, Ortiji and Hoffra IDP sites. UNHCR and partners will carry out biometric verification and registration of the new arrivals on 10 August.



## **Camp Coordination and Camp Management**

### **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- Slow progress with fencing of the Bentiu POC has aggravated insecurity in the camp. UNMISS says it lacks funds to complete the fencing.



## **Shelter and NFIs**

### **Achievements and Impact**

#### **Central Equatoria State**

- UNHCR distributed dignity kits (buckets, jerry cans, sanitary pads, soaps and underwear) to 390 female IDPs of reproductive age in Mahad, Juba, on 29 July.

#### **Jonglei State**

- INTERSOS assessed shelter conditions in Bor POC and found that 61 per cent of shelters are damaged and need plastic sheets. It is finalizing its report and will share later.
- UNHCR distributed NFIs to 152 IDPs in Tibek and Wuncholjok on the outskirts of Bor town.

**Lakes State**

- On 7 August UNHCR and HDC assessed the repair and maintenance of shelters in Site 3. So far, 30 shelters for vulnerable individuals have been repaired, though UNHCR noted that further work on some of the shelters is needed.

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to US\$ 111,324,020 as of 12 August 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)**