

# SOUTH SUDAN

## UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE 11/2016

1 – 15 June 2016

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **UNHCR saddened by the tragic death of two refugee children** – Two Sudanese refugee children, aged 6 and 7, accidentally died in Upper Nile's Doro camp after falling in a water-filled trench surrounding UNMISS base. UNHCR met with their parents to offer condolences.
- **Verification shows decrease in population of Yida refugee settlement** – UNHCR completed the verification of Yida refugees, confirming the presence of 61,590 individuals, down from 70,876 as of 31 May 2016. More than 8,800 individuals did not show up for verification and were put on hold in UNHCR registration database.
- **UNHCR makes progress towards legal aid services for refugees** – In Juba, UNHCR and partner Humanitarian Development Consortium (HDC) began working on the establishment of a legal aid network tasked to provide pro-bono legal services to refugees in Juba, including representation in court. As a first step, eight lawyers who will be part of this network received a training on UNHCR's role and mandate, international refugee law, national legislative frameworks for the protection of refugees and guidelines on detention monitoring.

**275,668,213 USD**

Funding requested for comprehensive needs in 2016

**121,556,542 USD**

Funding requested for prioritized needs in 2016

#### Current population of concern

IDPs since 15 December 2013  1,690,000

Of them, 158,727 IDPs reside in UNMISS Protection of Civilians sites

Refugees in South Sudan  272,293

## OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

- On 14 June, two refugee children accidentally died in Upper Nile's Doro camp after falling in a water-filled trench, which the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) has been digging over the past months to protect the entrance to their base. UNHCR met with the parents who lost their children to offer condolences and with the representatives of the community to dispel potential tensions.
- On 12 June, rival South Sudanese forces clashed in Kansuk payam of Keji Keji County, Central Equatoria, leaving at least 21 soldiers dead and dozen others wounded on both sides. According to media reports, Sudan's People Liberation Army-In Opposition (SPLA-IO) forces acted in self-defence. South Sudan's Council of Ministers has recently recognized the presence of SPLA-IO soldiers in Greater Equatoria and Greater Bahr el Ghazal. However, the South Sudanese presidency has not yet directed state governments and army commanders to establish cantonment sites for opposition forces in the country.
- UN Under-Secretary-General Hervé Ladsous, Head of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), visited South Sudan from 10 June until 13 June to assess the situation following the formation of the Transitional Government of National Unity (TGoNU). "The coming into operation of the TGoNU equates the opening of a new page in South Sudan. It was very important to listen to our South Sudanese interlocutors with one very important message, it is that the responsibilities are theirs, but that the UN are here to help," said Ladsous during a press briefing.
- On 5 June, South Sudan resumed talks with Sudan on a number of controversial issues, still outstanding from its 2011 secession. This includes the status of the Khartoum-occupied border district of Abyei, which was supposed to hold a plebiscite on its future, and the payments Juba should make for the use of an oil export pipeline through Sudan. The two countries agreed, inter alia, to activate a common border buffer zone and re-deploy joint military forces along the Safe Demilitarized Border Zone (SDBZ), as provided for in the September 2012 Cooperation Agreements. They have also agreed to not provide any kind of support to hostile groups operating with an ambition to destabilize their respective government, including provision of safe haven and training camps, political and military assistance.
- In concluding his visit to South Sudan, International Monetary Fund (IMF) mission team leader, Jan Mikkelsen, said that the country is experiencing an economic crisis with a sharp decline in national income and high inflation, close to 300 percent. Moreover, the value of the South Sudanese pound has dropped by close to 90 percent since the exchange rate liberalization in December 2015. Mikkelsen pointed out that the deficit in 2016/17 could top US\$1.1 billion (25 percent of Gross Domestic Product), if the government continues to finance it through borrowing from the central bank or accumulation of arrears. IMF recommended that the government raise non-oil revenue and cut expenditures, particularly in the payroll, current operations, travel, and investment. These measures could reduce the fiscal gap to about US\$300 million.
- The United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) submitted its fifth report on South Sudan since the country's independence. The report highlights the shift from an emergency humanitarian aid posture that attempts to address the most urgent and immediate needs to a long-term development posture. While much of that long-term development vision has yet to be translated into action, the focus of the international community is to support the implementation of the Peace Agreement as a prerequisite to achieve long-term sustainable peace and development.

## REFUGEE RESPONSE



### Protection

#### Achievements and Impact

##### Unity

- In Yida settlement, UNHCR registered and assisted 460 new arrivals from Sudan's South Kordofan State in the first two weeks of June, bringing the number of new arrivals since 1 January 2016 to 8,115. Nearly 90

percent of new arrivals were women and children from Boram, Heban and Umdoreen Counties in Sudan, with unaccompanied minors and separated children representing 10 percent of the new arrivals. They reported hunger, aerial bombing and ground attacks as the main reasons for fleeing to South Sudan. During the reporting period, UNHCR relocated 1,421 refugees to Ajuong Thok, including 497 new arrivals and 1,421 refugees who had previously registered in Yida, bringing the total number of Sudanese relocated to Ajuong Thok since 1 January 2016 to 10,777.

- UNHCR completed the verification of Yida refugees, confirming the presence of 61,590 individuals, down from 70,876 as of 31 May 2016. More than 8,800 individuals did not show up for verification and were put on hold in UNHCR registration database.
- In Ajuong Thok camp, UNHCR began verification of the refugee population, which stood at 41,336 at the end of May 2016. So far, 5,840 individuals were confirmed as residents in the camp, while 847 others were put on hold in UNHCR registration database due to non-attendance. In parallel, UNHCR and South Sudan's Commission for Refugee Affairs (CRA) began distribution of ID cards, with 2,342 having been issued so far.

### Upper Nile

- In Kaya camp, UNHCR partner Danish Refugee Council (DRC) in collaboration with the South Sudan Police Services (SSPS) facilitated a training on customary and traditional judiciary for 26 leaders from the refugee and host community as well as traditional court members. The training included a session about South Sudan's Code of Criminal Procedure Act, 2008.
- In Maban, UNHCR partners DRC, Save the Children and Lutheran World Federation (LWF) organized a two-day workshop for the County Prison Wardens on refugee protection, human rights, refugee rights, child protection and Sexual Gender Based Violence (SGBV) prevention and response.
- In Gendrassa camp, UNHCR partner LWF distributed non-food items to 410 unaccompanied minors and separated children, including second-hand clothes, shoes, blankets and sleeping mats.

### Central Equatoria

- In Juba, UNHCR and partner Humanitarian Development Consortium (HDC) began working on the establishment of a legal aid network tasked to provide pro-bono legal services to refugees in Juba, including representation in court. As a first step, eight lawyers who will be part of this network received a training on UNHCR's role and mandate, international refugee law, national legislative frameworks for the protection of refugees and guidelines on detention monitoring.

## Education

### Achievements and Impact

#### Unity

- In Ajuong Thok camp, UNHCR partner LWF together with Emmanuel Christian Centre Teachers Training Institute is rolling out a nine-month teacher certification course for 73 primary school and Adult Learning Programme (ALP) teachers.
- In Ajuong Thok camp, UNHCR partner LWF helped the community form a Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) in order to improve the management of newly opened Bankee Primary School, which has already enrolled more than 1,500 students. As of mid-June, 7,537 children were enrolled in four primary schools.

#### Upper Nile

- In Yusuf Batil camp, UNHCR partner DRC rehabilitated two classrooms in Mandersol Primary School, which had been damaged by windstorm.

#### Western Equatoria

- In Makpandu camp, UNHCR partner World Vision International (WVI) began distribution of 720 school uniforms for primary and secondary school children.



## Achievements and Impact

### Unity

- In Ajuong Thok camp, UNHCR and partners carried out a measles vaccination campaign, reaching some 7,000 children under 5 years.
- In Ajuong Thok camp, UNHCR partner Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA) launched a programme, funded by UNICEF, on Integrated Community Case Management (ICCM) of malaria, diarrhea, and pneumonia with the aim to reduce morbidity and mortality, especially among children under five years.

### Upper Nile

- In Kaya camp, UNHCR partner Mentor Initiative completed the third round of fly control campaign, reaching 1,622 households, in addition to door-to-door dissemination of messages on malaria prevention and hygiene promotion.



## Water and Sanitation

## Achievements and Impact

### Unity

- In Yida settlement and Ajuong Thok camp, the average water coverage stood respectively at 15.4 litres per person per day (l/p/d) and 13.8 l/p/d – below UNHCR standards of 20 l/p/d. This is due to the ongoing arrival of Sudanese refugees from South Kordofan, which has put a strain on existing services. In order to enhance the standards in the provision of sanitation and hygiene services, UNHCR partner Samaritan's Pursue built 31 latrines (21 family latrines and 10 communal latrines) in Ajuong Thok during the reporting period, bringing the total number of latrines to 4,216 (3,659 family toilets and 557 communal toilets). The refugee-to-latrine ratio in Ajuong Thok is 1:10, above UNHCR standards of a maximum 20 latrines per person.

### Upper Nile

- In Maban, water supply decreased from an average of 23 l/p/d to 19 l/p/d as a result of ongoing rains, but is expected to rise again during the dry season. The refugee-to-latrine ratio was 1:13 during the reporting period.
- In Maban, UNHCR and partners drilled three boreholes to serve some 9,000 refugees and host communities in Yusuf Batil camp, Leka village and Benchul village.

### Western Equatoria

- In Makpandu camp, UNHCR completed the drilling of three additional boreholes, bringing the total number of boreholes in the camp to 11. The aim is to increase the supply of water from 16.7 l/p/d to at least 20 l/p/d, as per UNHCR standards.



## Food Security and Nutrition

## Achievements and Impact

### Unity

- In Ajuong Thok camp, UNHCR and partners screened 104 new arrival children for malnutrition, including through Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) test and Weight for Height Zeta-scores (WHZ) test. As a result, 5.8 percent were diagnosed with moderate acute malnutrition and none with severe acute malnutrition. The malnutrition trends are reportedly lower than the average levels registered over the past three months (11 percent).

## Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

### Achievements and Impact

#### Central Equatoria

- In Gorom camp, UNHCR and partner ACROSS planted more than 4,400 seedlings for live fencing, with the participation of the refugee community.

#### Western Equatoria

- In Makpandu camp, UNHCR and CRA identified 119 beneficiaries for allocation of agricultural land. So far, 13 farmers received each a 100-square meter plot.

## IDP RESPONSE

### Protection

#### OPERATIONS

##### Unity

- In Bentiu, UNHCR conducted a workshop on protection of IDPs and refugees for 36 community leaders, women, youth, and religious leaders. Particular emphasis was put on the IDP Guiding Principles, the Kampala Convention on Internal Displacement and Chapter 3 of the Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (ARCSS), with focuses on humanitarian assistance and reconstruction.
- In Bentiu, UNHCR partner DRC conducted a training on protection of IDPs for 40 community volunteers, as part of the efforts to establish a community-based protection network in the Protection of Civilian (POC) site.

##### Central Equatoria

- In Juba, UNHCR started a collaboration with local NGO Centre for Legal Aid and Governance, (CLAG), in an efforts to improve provision of legal aid to IDPs living in the Juba POC site.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to USD 47,945,591 as of 15 June 2016. 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)

|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| United States of America          | 28,900,000 |
| CERF                              | 5,989,321  |
| ECHO                              | 4,530,011  |
| Japan                             | 3,500,000  |
| Canada                            | 1,872,659  |
| Educate A Child Programme - EAA   | 1,726,396  |
| Germany                           | 1,132,503  |
| Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation | 119,498    |
| Vodafone Foundation               | 80,541     |
| UN Prog. On HIV/AIDS              | 80,250     |
| Spain                             | 13,115     |