

South Sudan Update



1st February 2012

Southern Kordofan Refugees in Unity State, South Sudan

There are currently 26, 440 refugees present in South Sudan's Unity State. Ongoing fighting is reported in Southern Kordofan, Republic of Sudan, and the security situation on the border between Unity and Southern Kordofan States remains a concern; the humanitarian community continues to encourage and assist movement of refugees to locations at a safer distance from the border. On the 25th January, 36 male and 51 female secondary school students, as well as 6 caretakers and 28 others, were relocated from Yida to Pariang. On the 28th January, a further 13 households, 57 individuals, were relocated from Yida to Pariang. In addition to these organised movements, there are also spontaneous arrivals daily at Pariang. On the 28th January, 76 individuals relocated from Pariang to Nyeel. As of the 30 January 2012, there were 534 refugees individuals residing in the Pariang transit camp, including relocated secondary school students, and 564 refugees in Nyeel.

On the 28th January, a meeting between the Pariang Commissioner, UNHCR, Yida refugee leaders, RRC and partner NGOs took place to discuss relocation from Yida to Pariang and Nyeel. A tripartite Memorandum of Understanding between refugee representatives, Government and UNHCR is being finalized. This includes provisions relating to refugees freedom of movement; the creation of a relocation committee to organise movement; and other matters.

Partners continued to coordinate activities to support refugees who have relocated away from the Yida site. Save the Children is providing education for secondary students in the local primary school building in Pariang. They are making arrangements with WFP and the Ministry of Education to begin school feeding programmes. The CARE mobile health clinic is travelling between Pariang PHCC and Pariang refugee transit site, which is located 5km outside Pariang, three times a week in order to assist those unable to make the journey.

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Blue Nile Refugees in Upper Nile State, South Sudan

Despite last week's bombing in El Foj area at the border, the security situation in Bunj town and its surroundings is calm. Relocation of refugees away from El Foj has been completed during the week. On the 27th January, 323 households, 1304 individuals, were transported away from El Foj, bringing the total of individuals transported since the start of the organised movement on the 6th January to 15, 083.

At the Jammam site, a registration is underway, with 29, 522 individuals registered to date. In order to respond to the possibility of Jammam 1 site reaching maximum capacity, a second Jammam site has been identified and is being assessed for water availability and the presence of unexploded ordnance. Sufficient water supply in the area remains a concern and discussions between WASH partners and the Maban County Commissioner are ongoing to identify additional sources.

At the Doro settlement, there are currently 34,000 refugees (28, 689 registered). Arrangements have been made for the creation of a camp management group, which will include representatives from the refugee community, the local Maban community, UNHCR and partners. Land for a second Doro site has been identified and assessments of water availability will take place in the coming week. In addition, UNMACC has been requested to complete an assessment for mines and UXOs.

Limited food sources in Maban area are a concern both in terms of support for refugees and preserving peaceful co-existence with the host community. There are also limited local resources relating to water, grazing land and timber access.