



UNHCR South Sudan

Situation Report

Developments

- South Sudan SRSO, Hilde Johnson, visited Malakal today, where she held meetings with Government authorities and humanitarian agencies, and visited POC/IDPs and UNMISS Level II hospital. UNHCR participated in the meetings/visits.
- UNHCR has consolidated lists of staff required to return to duty in-country, along with those who would be available for redeployment elsewhere, in addition to profiles of staff required to support IDP response efforts. A UNHAS plane was chartered to fly 12 staff to Yida on 9 January.
- Criminality in Juba is worrying. National UN and INGO staff are particularly vulnerable to intrusions in their residences by unknown armed individuals.

Current staff presence

State	Location	National	International	Total
	Abyei	6	1	7
Central Equatoria	Juba	65	29	94
	Yei	12	-	12
Eastern Equatoria	Nimule	2	-	2
	Torit	5	-	5
Jonglei	Bor	-	-	-
Lakes	Rumbek	4	-	4
Unity	Pariang	2	-	2
	Jamjang	-	-	-
	Yida	1	-	1
Upper Nile	Bunj	19	5	24
	Malakal	8	-	8
Warrap	Kuajok	4	-	4
Western Bahr-el-Ghazal	Wau	6	-	6
Western Equatoria	Yambio	12	1	13
TOTAL		128	47	175

Refugee operations

• Unity State:

UNHCR staff returning to Unity State will resume critical activities, including coordination of humanitarian interventions for refugees in Yida and Ajuong Thok. The priority is to prepare the groundwork for the next food distribution, due on 15 January in both locations, including biometric verification of refugees. Other staff are currently operating from Juba awaiting clearance to return to the Field.

• Upper Nile State

UNHCR organized a meeting with refugee and host community leaders from Yusuf Batil, Gendrassa and Kaya camp to discuss peaceful coexistence. Key messages passed on by UNHCR and humanitarian agencies included the importance of neutrality and the imperative for refugees to stay out of the ongoing political and armed conflict. The leaders were informed that UNHCR operates independent of political, military, ethnic or religious agendas.

Criminality in and around camps is a concern and possible source of tension, particularly livestock theft. Refugees have organized community watch groups and are committed to working closely with the police. Refugees have also organized themselves to protect assets of NGOs that left the camps. They thanked agencies who remained behind for the support and services provided during these difficult times. Refugees have taken an active



role in WASH monitoring and reporting to UNHCR, and been involved in distributions

Refugee and host community leaders agreed on the necessity to join efforts to address criminality through legal processes (police and justice), rather than through unilateral means such as taking revenge.

- **Central Equatoria State (Juba)**

UNHCR met with leaders of the urban refugee population. They expressed concerns about the security situation and wanted to explore options for safe/secure areas in Juba and/or relocation out of the country.

Focus group discussions were held with representatives of urban refugees taking refuge in UNMISS UN House Protection of Civilians (PoC) area, including men, women and children. They felt that there was a lack of information sharing with “minority” populations in the bases. UNHCR and protection partners will discuss with Camp Management inclusion of non-majority groups in community representation structures.

IDP response

UNHCR is participating in the IDP response via the inter-agency collaborative approach under the leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator.

- **NFI airlift operation**

UNHCR received the third of ten airlifts bringing relief items for 50,000 IDPs to support the response effort. The priority non-food items are available for immediate dispatch to needy population. They will be distributed under the auspices of the NFI/ Emergency Shelter cluster.

- **Central Equatoria State (Juba)**

Decongestion of and relocation from the overcrowded UNMISS PoC Area Tamping to UN House may begin in three days. At least five community leaders undertook a “go-and-see” visit to the UN House PoC Area and agreed to discuss

Emergency non-food items

NON-FOOD ITEMS	ORDERED	RECEIVED	DISTRIBUTED	
			This day	Total
Plastic rolls	200	200	-	-
Plastic sheets	20,000	6,246	-	-
Blankets	12,500	11,740	-	-
Kitchen sets	12,500	3,898	-	-
Communal tents	30	-	-	-
Rubbhalls	10	-	-	-

voluntary relocation with their members. “New arrivals” will be re-directed to the UN House PoC Area (with force protection and protection actor presence). There are concerns about limited space for expansion UN House PoC Area.

Camp Management, Protection and UNMISS are discussing protection sensitive controlling of entrance/exit to/from PoC areas, given strains on UNMISS capacity. UNHCR gave Camp Management and Protection actors materials to build shades in both UNMISS PoC Area waiting areas.

Protection actors agreed to harmonize community outreach networks that different partners created *ad hoc* in the first weeks of the crisis. They agreed that IRC would take over general protection activities (as distinct from Child Protection and SGBV) at UN House PoC area.

At UNMISS Tamping PoC Area. Protection Cluster partners established a Women Leaders Group that will focus on community protection and issues related to women’s needs.

- **Central Equatoria State (Yei County)**

A rapid assessment is under way to establish general needs of civilians who fled their homes after gunfire erupted in the military barracks in Yei on 4 January. 225 people sought refuge near the UNHCR compound and at Yei police station. UNHCR provided a bus to relocate them to the old UNMISS compound; those numbers are reportedly growing.

UNHCR is the only UN agency present in Yei. The County is home to some 9,300 refugees who reside in Lasu camp with fewer numbers in Yei town and Morobo County. UNHCR received unconfirmed reports that following the above incidents, some Congolese refugees fled to Aba, Doruma and Duru in DRC from South Sudan.

- **Eastern Equatoria State**

RRC has informed UN agencies and NGOs that large numbers of IDPs took refuge in Torit town, Lafon, Kapoeta town, Nimule and Kapoeta East Counties. IDPs in Lafon are reportedly mainly

women and children who escaped fighting in Bor, Magala and Moggiri. The State Governor announced on state radio the creation of two temporary IDP camps in Nimule and Kapoeta East at Kenya South Sudan boarder and appealed for assistance from humanitarian actors.

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