

Over 900,000 people have been displaced (76% internally) since deadly clashes broke out in Juba on 15 December between rival factions of the SPLA, with displacement affecting nine of South Sudan's ten states.

The UN Under-Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs declared a Level 3 Humanitarian System-Wide Emergency Response for South Sudan on 11 February.

UNHCR continues to support over 235,000 refugees inside South Sudan.

UNHCR and Plan International distributed blankets, sleeping mats, sanitary materials, jerry cans and cooking sets to 32 IDP households in Cueibet county, Lakes state. They targeted the most vulnerable, such as single-headed families, elderly persons, and persons with disabilities
[Photos: UNHCR/M.D.Nyang]

DEVELOPMENTS

- WFP began airdrops of food into Maban County on 14 March.
- UNHCR and other humanitarian partners face delays in delivering relief items to refugee hosting areas in Unity and Upper Nile states.
- Escalating tensions between refugees and host communities in Maban County are attributed to dwindling resources affecting all populations during the hunger gap.
- Countrywide, demands for plastic sheeting are increasing as seasonal rains intensify.
- The government of France announced a contribution to UNHCR of \$20m including \$287,278 for the South Sudan situation.

REFUGEE OPERATIONS

Upper Nile State

- During a visit to Maban County, the Deputy Commissioner for Refugee Affairs informed refugees of Government plans to deploy additional security personnel in the face of intensifying hostilities between refugees and host communities. He was accompanied by the newly appointed Assistant Commissioner of Refugee Affairs for Upper Nile State on a mission to support mediation efforts following last week's clashes.



Refugee and host community relations

- The Maban County Commissioner, CRA and UNHCR continue to engage with villagers and refugees amid concerns that poor relations could deteriorate rapidly. The situation is extremely tense. Hostilities are attributed to dwindling resources during the hunger gap—a dry season phenomenon when people are unable to grow food. Some local politicians insist that refugees be moved from Yusuf Batil and Gendrassa. Three refugees and one person from host community were killed during the reporting period.
- Meanwhile, some refugees are reluctant to return to their habitual places of residence in Yusuf Batil camp and continue to occupy schools. Sheiks have been requested to continue encouraging their constituents to vacate the schools so that learning can resume.

Relocation from Gendrassa to Kaya

- In April 450 refugees from Jumjum in Blue Nile state will relocate to Kaya from Gendrassa camp in order to join over 4,000 fellow community members. This follows a meeting with UNHCR and camp management NGO *ACTED* during which the Jumjum refugees agreed unanimously to the relocation.

Delivery of relief items

- Factors hindering pre-positioning and delivery of food and other relief supplies have been communicated to refugee leaders across the Maban camps and IDPs in Beneshawa.
- Airdrops of cereals and other food items began on 14 March with a consignment of 30MT of sorghum. Food airlifts to Paloich resumed on 12

March and the first truck carrying 20 MT of food from Palouch arrived in Maban on 13 March.

- Reduced food rations remain a major concern, given the increased likelihood of poor nutrition weakening refugees' immunity to disease. Nutrition partners are closely monitoring the status of refugees at facility and community level.
- Underscoring the critical nature of the situation, Kaya camp's food ration ended on 13 March. Food for Kaya camp will almost entirely be pre-positioned by airdrop (except oil). Distribution will start when sufficient quantities (170 MT) are available on the ground. The total food required for the four camps is approximately 1,100 MT.

Health

- The general health status of refugees remains stable and Hepatitis E appears well under control. To limit transmission and mitigate the impact of diseases associated with the rainy season, health and WASH partners are strengthening health, hygiene and sanitation promotion at community level, through door-to-door visits and distribution of hygiene supplies.
- MedAir clinic in the southern reaches of Yusuf Batil camp was looted and destroyed during last week's clash between the refugees and host communities in the area. The clinic remains closed, while provision of health services continues in other all other facilities.

Briefs

- Water access indicators are within acceptable range in all camps. The de-commissioning and replacement of full latrines continues where beneficiaries dig household pits and WASH actors provide superstructure material. In Kaya camp, the pilot project to improve latrine structures by

REFUGEES IN SOUTH SUDAN (BY NATIONALITY) AND LOCATION

LOCATION	Central Equatoria	Jonglei	Unity	Upper Nile	Western Equatoria	TOTAL
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN						
• Central African Republic	-	-	-	-	1,634	1,634
• Democratic Republic of Congo	7,480	-	-	-	6,584	14,064
• Ethiopia	2,505	3,066	-	481	-	6,052
• Sudan	7,591	-	79,903	125,416	375	213,285
TOTAL	17,576	3,066	79,903	125,897	8,593	235,035

Source: UNHCR Regional Web Portal (17 Mar 2014) [<http://data.unhcr.org/SouthSudan/regional.php>]

replacing plastic with durable and environmentally friendly dome slabs continues.

- Distribution of sanitary napkins is ongoing for females from the ages 10 to 50 in Kaya camp. A similar exercise in Yusuf Batil was disrupted by the recent clashes, and will resume in after the exercise is concluded in Kaya.
- Registration of pupils for the new academic year continues across all four camps in Maban County.
- A teacher training needs assessment survey which aims to capture information on staff training needs and how these can be designed to accommodate different categories and capacities began in Doro this week.
- The process of allocating land for refugees to cultivate in Kaya and Yusuf Batil refugee camps is on-going.
- Pre-positioning of local materials for construction of shelter for the most vulnerable families in Yusuf Batil and Gendrassa has begun.
- The grading and general maintenance of the road between Bunj and Kaya) has begun in preparation for the rainy season.

Unity state

Protection

- 150 refugees were registered in Yida, including 57 new-borns. 12 new-borns were registered in Ajuong Thok. 209 refugees were transferred from Yida to Ajuong Thok in three convoys.
- UNHCR continues to created awareness about fire hazards in Yida through community outreach structures such as women's association, Boma/ community chiefs, and child protection network. To illustrate the risks, an inferno which started in a restaurant destroyed property in Yida market.

SUDANESE REFUGEES IN UNITY AND UPPER NILE

		CAMP	09 MAR
UNITY STATE	Parang County	Ajuong Thok	9,374
		Yida	70,529
		Sub-total	79,903
UPPER NILE STATE	Maban County	Doro	48,049
		Gendrassa	17,543
		Kaya	19,215
		Yusuf Batil	39,653
		Lelo	956
		Sub-total	125,416
		TOTAL	205,319

Source: UNHCR Regional Web Portal (17 Mar 2014)
[\[http://data.unhcr.org/SouthSudan/regional.php\]](http://data.unhcr.org/SouthSudan/regional.php)

While there were no fatalities, 31 households (22 belonging to refugees) lost homes and shops.

- UNHCR visited the three detention centers operated by Refugee Police (Community Watch), and established that they receive cases involving incidents at water points, children, domestic violence, shooting in the community and adultery. Cases involving serious assault, adultery and theft are handled by the mixed court while cases of domestic violence are handled by the sheikhs and Maks. Challenges that Refugee Police face include the presence of armed elements in the camp which is linked to random shooting at the night. On refugee protection, they reported forced marriages to young women. They asked for support in the form of stationery, furniture, torches for night patrols and plastic sheets to cover their office.



Biometric registration aided quick verification of 95 refugees (22 households) whose belongings were destroyed when huge blaze razed large sections of Yida market and adjacent houses.
 [Photo: IRC/ Allesandro Abate]

- In Ajuong Thok, door-to-door community outreach sessions continue, with 904 households covered in 20 blocks. Messages are also disseminated during relocation from Yida . A reduction in reporting of cases is attributed to clients' failure to access justice, and threats by perpetrators who are usually released after being apprehended by the police, in the absence of a functional formal court system. There are reports of initiation ceremonies for female circumcision (no confirmed cases have been reported).

Assistance

- March general food distribution commenced in Yida and Ajuong Thok. 310,129 MT of food was transferred from warehouses in Jamjang to Yida.
- Nutrition trends monitoring shows that the acute malnutrition situation in both Yida and Ajuong Thok is fairly stable.
- 48,700 litres of drinking water were trucked from the water point to the transit centre in Yida and to primary and secondary schools in Ajuong Thok.

IDP RESPONSE

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

Population movements

Refugee outflows to neighbouring countries

- About 600 individuals remain in the IDP site of Beneshawa, Maban County, Upper Nile state. Most of the original 5,531 IPDS registered in February are reported to have left for Longichuk county and other communities in search of food, or crossed the border into Ethiopia.
- During the first week of March 7,817 new arrivals entered Ethiopia through Pagak entry point, having travelled from as far away as Malakal. They cited insecurity and lack of food as reasons for their flight.
- The rate of arrival from Bor to Awerial has reduced significantly. Awerial is among the largest IDP concentrations with a reported population of over 70,000. [CCCM support]

Crosscutting themes

- The Protection Cluster had initial discussions with UNMISS on plans for addressing "criminality" in

SOUTH SUDANESE REFUGEES IN NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	10 MARCH
Ethiopia	69,456
Kenya	26,218
Sudan	44,111
Uganda	82,242
TOTAL	222,027

Source: UNHCR Country Offices (13 March 2014)

INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT STATISTICS

State	
Abyei Adminstrative Area	2,600
Central Equatoria	101,100
Eastern Equatoria	65,800
Jonglei	145,700
Lakes	76,400
Northern Bahr-el-Ghazal	1,200
Unity	186,000
Upper Nile	122,800
Warrap	13,100
Western Bahr-el-Ghazal	700
Western Equatoria	0
TOTAL	705,800

Source: OCHA Humanitarian Snapshot (13 Mar 2014)

DISPLACED SEEKING PROTECTION IN UNMISS "PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS" (POC) SITES

STATE	LOCATION	POPULATION
Central Equatoria	Juba (Tompson)	27,580
	Juba (UN House)	15,744
Jonglei	Bor	4,891
Lakes	Rumbek	91
Upper Nile	Malakal	21,568
	Melut	1,249
Unity	Pariang	70
	Bentiu	5,462
TOTAL		76,655

Source: UNMISS Update, 10 March 2014



Rainstorms in Juba wreaked havoc in the UNMISS base in Topping where IDPs have taken refuge. Makeshift shelters were flooded or destroyed and the ground covered in filthy water.
[Photo: UNMISS/I.Billy]

PoC Areas. The Cluster provided specific comments on possible mechanisms, although underscored that this was an UNMISS activity, while humanitarians will continue their community leadership capacity building and conflict mitigation activities in PoC Areas.

- CCCM Cluster initiated discussions on contingency planning for the rainy season.
- It is evident that the demand for plastic sheeting and other shelter items continue to increase as seasonal rains intensify. In Malakal, UNHCR has committed to releasing 500 of 834 plastic sheets that are urgently needed after the NFI/ Shelter cluster ran out of stock.

Regional updates

Central Equatoria state (Juba)

- Heavy rains have led to increasing challenges in PoC Areas in Juba. Large sections of the UNMISS Topping PoC site—with an estimated 20,000-21,000 IDP residents based on recent food and NFI distribution—are now under water. 150 latrines collapsed while a large number of the remaining latrines are full. The IDP residents are becoming hostile and demanding solutions. [CCCM support]
- Relocation of IDPs from Topping to PoC3, the new site at UN House, cannot take place quickly enough. PoC3 is still weeks away from completion due to funding and procurement issues. Relocation to other PoC areas in UN House continues on a smaller scale. [CCCM support]

- Despite rapidly deteriorating conditions at Topping, many of its residents are reportedly reluctant to move to UN House due to its out-of-town location. ACTED, the agency responsible for site management of both Topping and UN House POC sites, plans to conduct a go-and-see visit for IDP leaders, and sensitize IDPs with the support of Internews radio programmes to disseminate an accurate picture of conditions at UN House. [CCCM support]

Jonglei state

- Planning for site expansion of Bor PoC area is underway.

Lakes state

- In Cuibet County, UNHCR and Plan International distributed NFI distribution IDPs with specific needs identified by Protection colleagues, underscoring UNHCR efforts to also reach small concentrations of IDP outside of PoC Areas in UNMISS bases. [UNHCR Rumbek]

Unity state

- In Bentiu, the formation of a new committee of community leaders in Bentiu PoC1, that includes female representation, has helped to significantly reduce the communication gap between IDP residents and humanitarian actors. In PoC2, relations between IDPs and the camp management have improved significantly following a joint meeting between the community leaders, camp management, and the UNMISS Bentiu State Coordinator. [CCCM support]

- In Mayom, WFP and NGO GAA are planning registration followed by a food distribution. UNHCR, IOM and relevant NGO partners will discuss modalities to ensure consistency of method and collected data. [CCCM support]

Upper Nile state

Maban County

- An inter-agency mission to Beneshawa concluded that severe food shortages have contributed significantly to a sharp decrease in numbers of registered IDPs. Of the 5,531 individuals registered in February only an estimated 600 persons remain. They informed the mission that without food they too will be forced to move either to Longichuk County and other areas where their chances of survival will be improved including across the border to Ethiopia. The mission was conducted by IOM, UNHCR, WFP, RRC, CAFOD, Save The Children and JRS.
- IDPs were bartering clothing and mosquito nets for a 4kg can of cereal from the host community. The host community raised concerns that the IDPs would be driven to steal from granaries, which would inevitably lead to conflict. The mission informed the communities about the food situation in Maban that is prompted by insecurity of road and river supply routes. The mission recommended urgent distribution of nutritional supplies such as high energy biscuits, plumpy nut/sup and CSB for children under five years of age and pregnant/lactating women.

Malakal

- Agencies agreed to conduct a new registration of IDPs residing in the UNMISS PoC area. The exercise can be expected to begin before food distribution. This registration exercise will be followed more comprehensively with biometric registration which is being planned at Juba level. UNHCR informed the meeting of the in-house bio-metrics capacity that could support the exercise.
- Targeted NFI distribution began in the Malakal UNMISS PoC Area. 824 IDP households received plastic sheets, blankets, mosquito nets and jerry cans. Meanwhile, UNHCR Protection Monitors together with World Vision, IOM and MedAir are conducting pre-distribution assessment to identify households in desperate need of NFI.

Melut

- Discussions on NFI distributions in Melut County are continuing. The road from Maban to Melut is currently considered unsafe by UNDSS.

Warrap state / Eastern Equatoria state

- CCCM Cluster co-leads UNHCR and IOM undertook a joint mission with national and local authorities to Turalei, Warrap state, to assess voluntariness of IDPs who are reportedly interested in returning (or relocating) to Eastern Equatoria where they have family ties. A majority of the 400 (mostly women) who were verified, confirmed their interest. [CCCM support]

FUNDING

2014 EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SOUTH SUDAN SITUATION

	Situation (Regional)	Ethiopia	Kenya	South Sudan	Sudan	Uganda	TOTAL
Canada	895,255						895,255
CERF			1,782,533	754,320		2,033,625	4,570,478
Denmark	1,000,000						1,000,000
France	287,278						287,278
Japan			2,116,973	6,800,000		130,512	9,047,485
Switzerland				275,634			275,634
TOTAL	2,182,533		3,899,506	7,829,954		2,164,167	16,076,130

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Teresa Ongaro | Senior External Relations Officer | UNHCR Juba | South Sudan | ongaro@unhcr.org

FOR INFORMATION ON THE SOUTH SUDAN SITUATION, PLEASE VISIT

unhcr.org OR <http://data.unhcr.org/SouthSudan>