

414,052,136 USD

Funding requested for comprehensive needs (27 per cent funded so far)

143,921,611 USD

Funding requested for top priority activities (80 per cent funded so far)

SOUTH SUDAN

UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE 35/2015

15-30 September 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

- UNHCR began the relocation of 2,143 vulnerable Sudanese refugees from Central Equatoria's Yei town to the nearby Lasu settlement. Among them were many single mothers who approached UNHCR earlier this year seeking assistance, as they could no longer cope with the cost of living in Yei, including paying for their rent, covering the costs of their children's basic education or health care. Upon arrival in the settlement, refugees have received food, a kit of items for domestic use as well as tools and a plot of land on which to build their houses. Lactating mothers were accommodated in a special transit facility to help keep their babies as healthy as possible.
- UNHCR and partner ACROSS distributed second-hand clothing to 2,500 Ethiopian refugees at the Gorom refugee settlement, some 24 kilometres south of Juba. Whilst addressing a major gap, the donation will also allow refugees to use their few resources to meet other pressing needs. Families received 5 to 10 pieces of used clothing, including garments for men, women and children. As part of the distribution, UNHCR provided the entire camp population with a 4-month stock of laundry soap.
- UNHCR and partners carried out a participatory assessment among IDPs outside the Protection of Civilians (POC) site in Juba to better understand their most urgent needs, their current coping mechanisms and their intentions towards possible solutions. Through the deployment of six multi-functional teams and focus group discussions in Mahad IDP collective site, Don Bosco compound and Jengeli, UNHCR interviewed nearly 350 IDPs of different age groups and gender. According to preliminary findings, the following issues are of major concern to IDPs: a) insufficient security and restriction of movement in Juba due to lack of documentation but also as a self-imposed precaution; b) limited and inadequate access to services (WASH, shelter, health and education); c) lack of livelihood opportunities; and d) food insecurity. Women reported to be particularly concerned about their poor inclusion in mechanisms for IDP community representation.
- UNHCR conducted a protection assessment of IDPs living in Bentiu town, where the registered IDP population stands at 9,048 individuals. Among them, UNHCR identified and assisted with non-food items 886 vulnerable individuals.

Current population of concern

IDPs since 15
December 2013



1,640,000

Of them, 194,575 IDPs reside in UNMISS Protection of Civilians sites

Refugees in South
Sudan



265,235

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

- On 29 September, South Sudan's Vice-President James Wani Igga and Pagan Amum, representative of the Former Detainees Group (FDG) attended the high-level meeting on South Sudan organized on the sidelines of 70th session of the General Assembly in New York. President Salva Kiir was not present in New York but he joined the meeting via teleconferencing. All leaders issued statements committing to fully implement the peace agreement signed in August this year.
- The security situation in Upper Nile State continues to be fluid. The local authorities and UN agencies are monitoring closely the situation and assisting the humanitarian community in the area with a speedy flow of information.
- On 28 September, South Sudan's Minister of Justice Paulino Wanawilla Unango presented a number of bills to parliament to be debated and passed, including the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol and the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa.
- Criminality and insecurity in Juba continues to be on the rise, including in the form of attacks on NGO compounds and UN staff.

REFUGEE RESPONSE



Protection

Achievements and Impact

Unity State

- In Yida, UNHCR registered 70 new arrivals (mainly single men) from Sudan's South Kordofan in the last two weeks of September, bringing the total number of arrivals since 23 December 2014 to 14,545. To date, 15,904 refugees have been relocated to Ajuong Thok in the last 10 months, including new arrivals and long-time residents of Yida.

Upper Nile State

- UNHCR completed biometric verification of refugees in Kaya (21,914 individuals) and Gendrassa (17,730 individuals) camps, while the exercise is still ongoing in Doro camp where 11,265 refugees out of 51,657 have been verified so far. Upon verification in Doro, UNHCR identified and referred to relevant partners 359 persons with specific needs, including 13 cases of Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV) and 120 child protection cases. Litigation desk attended to 135 cases of different descriptions, including family reunification and home births.

Central Equatoria State

- UNHCR in collaboration with the Commission for Refugee Affairs (CRA) and partner ACROSS began the relocation of 2,143 Sudanese refugees from Yei town to Lasu refugee settlement. Among them were many single mothers who approached UNHCR earlier this year to seek assistance, as they could no longer cope with the cost of living in Yei. To date, 1,133 individuals (404 families) have been relocated to Lasu. The remaining 1,010 refugees will be transferred in the coming weeks.
- UNHCR and partner ACROSS began the distribution of second-hand clothes to some 2,500 Ethiopian refugees at the Gorom refugee settlement, including garments for men, women and children.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Achievements and Impact

Unity State

- The expansion of Ajuong Thok is ongoing: upgrading of existing Ajuong Thok camp roads is 87 per cent complete; rehabilitation of the Yida-Pariang road is 75 per cent complete; and construction of Pamir refugee camp roads and the MONBATT ring road are 14 per cent complete.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

Achievements and Impact

Central Equatoria State

- In Lasu refugee settlement, UNHCR distributed farming implements and vegetable seeds for 1,864 refugee families. Some 200 families from the host community families of Tokori have also received agricultural tools and seeds (groundnuts, sesame and maize).

Western Equatoria State

- In Makpandu refugee settlement, UNHCR completed the distribution of FAO-donated agricultural tools, crop and vegetable kits for 1,512 refugee and host community families, including maize, groundnuts, sesame seeds and hand hoes. Another 131 refugee and host community families received tools and agricultural tools in Naandi payam, west of Makpandu. The aim of these distributions is to help refugees and host communities improve their agricultural production.

Education

Achievements and Impact

Unity State

- In Ajuong Thok, 49 students graduated from the first 3-month course in ICT skills. UNHCR and partner Lutheran World Federation (LWF) held a graduation ceremony at Soba secondary school on 25 September to recognize the achievement. Meanwhile, another 74 students began the second ICT course, hosted in the expanded ICT Centre, which now has 37 computers.

Upper Nile State

- UNHCR partner Save the Children International carried out a 4-day Quality Learning Environment (QLE) training for its education staff in Maban to improve the quality and standards of education.

Food Security and Nutrition

Achievements and Impact

Unity State

- In Ajuong Thok, UNHCR partner Samaritan's Pursue distributed monthly food rations to 29,201 refugees of the planned 31,127 (93 per cent) while in Yida settlement 66,844 refugees attended September's General Food Distribution (GFD).

Upper Nile State

- In Maban camps, UNHCR partners Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and ACTED distributed pulses and cooking oil for some 134,000 refugees. These items were initially missing from September's GFD.

Central Equatoria State

- In Lasu refugee settlement, UNHCR partner ACROSS distributed monthly food rations to 9,500 refugees, including 1,133 Sudanese refugees who have been recently relocated from Yei town.

Identified needs and remaining gaps

- In most refugee camps and settlements across South Sudan, the population continued to express major concerns over the lack of some food commodities from the already-reduced monthly food basket – which has been cut by 30 per cent as from August 2015. UNHCR continues consultations with the communities to dispel tensions and is

following up with the UN World Food Programme (WFP) regarding the challenges to timely preposition food items in the field ahead of general food distributions.

Central Equatoria State

- In Lasu refugee settlement, oil was not enough to meet the needs of the entire camp population during September's GFD.

Western Equatoria State

- In Ezo settlement, refugees received only pulses as part of September's GFD. In the rural locations of Naandi, Andari, Tambura and Source Yubu refugees have not received food for the last three months.

Unity State

- In Yida, the results of the latest Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) survey show that of the 8,649 under-5 screened children 76 (0.9 per cent) had severe MUAC malnutrition and 764 (8.8 per cent) had moderate MUAC malnutrition. The latter represents an increase compared to August, when the rate of moderate malnutrition was 4.5 per cent. A number of factors may explain such an increase, including higher incidence of malaria and insufficient food. An in-depth analysis of trends is underway to ascertain the possible causes and design appropriate actions.



Health

Achievements and Impact

Upper Nile State

- UNHCR partner International Medical Corps (IMC) began the construction of a Primary Health Care Centre (PHCC) in Gendrassa camp and undertook preparatory work to build PHCCs in Kaya and Doro camps.

Identified needs and remaining gaps

Unity State

- In Yida, Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) reported that the number of malaria cases has tripled from around 200 per week in week 36 to over 700 per week in week 38. UNHCR and partners are working to ensure adequate supply of anti-malaria drugs as well as malaria treatment drugs.



Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

Unity State

- In Ajuong Thok camp, UNHCR partner LWF distributed sanitary kits to 565 adolescent girls in Makuria, Napata and Jamjang primary schools.
- In Ajuong Thok, UNHCR distributed clothes, sandals and underwear to 380 vulnerable children.

Upper Nile State

- In Doro camp, UNHCR partner DRC completed 1,289 shelters of the planned 2,130, while in Gendrassa camp UNHCR partner ACTED constructed 724 shelters of the planned 768.

Central Equatoria State

- In Lasu refugee settlement, UNHCR distributed non-food items to 1,133 refugees who were relocated from Yei town, in addition to allocating them with a plot of land on which to build their shelters.



Water and Sanitation

Achievements and Impact

Unity State

- In Ajuong Thok, UNHCR partner International Rescue Committee (IRC) constructed 80 family and 6 communal latrines, bringing the total number of family latrines to 2,945 and communal latrines to 487. As a result, there is approximately 1 latrine every 10 people in Ajuong Thok, which meets the UNHCR standard of a maximum of 20 persons per drop hole.

Upper Nile State

- In Doro camp, UNHCR achieved a 2-liter increment of water quantity over the overall average of 20 liters per person per day for Maban camps. In Kaya, Gendrassa and Yusuf Batil camp the supply of water stands at 20 liters per person per day.
- UNHCR completed the rehabilitation of two boreholes serving the host communities of Bunj and Gismalla and continues working on the rehabilitation of a water supply serving the host community in Kongo Makur.



Logistics

- UNHCR airlifted 19.5 tons of assorted materials from Juba to Jamjang, including 13 tons of construction materials for Pariang Hospital and 6.5 tons of drugs for Ajuong Thok Public Health Care Centre.

IDP RESPONSE



Protection

COORDINATION

Achievements and Impact

- Activities for the 2016 Humanitarian Planning Cycle have begun, with the gathering of information on all protection assessments conducted by the Protection Cluster's partners since November 2014. Protection assessments and prioritization exercises, including through consultations with affected persons, were conducted in key locations across the country to inform the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) workshop, which was held in Juba on 25 September.
- On 25 September, the Protection Cluster released Protection Situation Update on Southern and Central Unity, covering the period between April and September 2015. The briefing note presents the major protection issues identified in the past months, including targeted attacks on civilians, systematic forcible displacement, and the destruction of civilian infrastructure and livelihoods. The update is available at: <http://reliefweb.int/report/south-sudan/protection-situation-update-southern-and-central-unity-april-september-2015>
- On 24 September, the Protection Cluster finalised the Draft Protection Risk Analysis tool to mainstream protection in the WASH, Health, FSL and NFI/Shelter clusters in South Sudan. Following final review by cluster members and experts, the tool will be rolled out for a field trial in October.
- On 9 September, WFP and the Protection Cluster concluded an agreement on the scope and modalities of engagement between WFP and protection agencies in the context of Integrated Rapid Response Mechanism (IRRM) emergency response. The initiative is part of the Protection Cluster's ongoing efforts to mainstream protection in the humanitarian response. It will also further strengthen the Cluster's collaboration with WFP and UNICEF, which conduct IRRM missions.

OPERATIONS

Achievements and Impact

Unity State

- 1,095 IDPs arrived at the Bentiu POC between 12 and 18 September - a 39 per cent decrease on the previous week. Sixty per cent of new arrivals are women. Sixty-seven per cent of new arrivals cited food as the primary reason for displacement. According to UNMISS, there are 117,942 IDPs in Bentiu POC.
- In Bentiu town, the total registered IDP population is 9,048 (3,098 families). Among them, UNHCR assessed and identified 886 vulnerable individuals, who were then provided with non-food items.
- In coordination with the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission, UNHCR carried out a mapping of 500 IDP families. Preliminary results show that some IDPs live outside the town but only access assistance in Bentiu.

Central Equatoria State

- UNHCR and partners carried out a participatory assessment among IDPs outside the Protection of Civilians (POC) site in Juba to better understand their most urgent needs, their current coping mechanisms and their intentions towards possible solutions. Through the deployment of six multi-functional teams and focus group discussions in Mahad IDP collective site, Don Bosco compound and Jengeli, UNHCR interviewed nearly 350 IDPs of different age groups and gender. According to preliminary findings, the following issues are of major concern to IDPs: a) insufficient security and restriction of movement in Juba due to lack of documentation but also as a self-imposed precaution; b) limited and inadequate access to services (WASH, shelter, health and education); c) lack of livelihood opportunities; and d) food insecurity. Women reported to be particularly concerned about their poor inclusion in mechanisms for IDP community representation.
- UNHCR and other humanitarian agencies undertook a joint field visit to Lainya County to carry out a needs assessment of IDPs who have recently fled from Mengele due to clashes between government and armed elements. According to estimates, more than 12,000 people have been displaced. The results will be shared in the coming weeks.



Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

Jonglei State

- In Bor, UNHCR distributed plastic sheets and blankets to 1,128 IDPs (491 families) who have been affected by the recent floods.

Lakes State

- In Rumbek, UNHCR distributed NFIs to 205 families who were victims of a recent storm, including cooking sets, plastic sheets and mosquito nets.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to USD 113,375,166 as of 15 September 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)

USA	90,300,000
Japan	10,016,945
ECHO	3,769,682
Canada	1,573,564
United Kingdom	1,538,462
CHF - SSD	1,488,963
CERF	1,451,678
Republic of Korea	800,000
Luxembourg	625,782
Switzerland	520,291
UN Prog. On HIV/AIDS	490,000