



SOUTH SUDAN

March 2016

HIGHLIGHTS

10,000

Refugee children participated in child friendly spaces activities

9,000

Vulnerable IDPs received non-food items from UNHCR and partners

7,767

Additional refugees registered across South Sudan since 1 January 2016

1,116

Refugees and refugee response stakeholders received training by UNHCR

Unity and Upper Nile: UNHCR in consultation with WFP and UNICEF began implementation of preventive and mitigating measures to tackle malnutrition, chronic malnutrition and anemia among camp refugees, including blanket and targeted supplementary feeding programmes, and therapeutic feeding. A recent nutrition survey indicates higher rate of malnutrition in all refugee camps in Unity and Upper Nile as compared to 2014.

Central Equatoria: In Gorom camp, UNHCR partner ACROSS conducted a training for 210 farmers on harvest and post-harvest handling, plants management and disease identification to help the community become more food secure and self-reliant. In Lasu settlement, 2,620 families were registered for distribution of agricultural inputs.

Unity: In Ajuong Thok camp, UNHCR partner Action Africa Help International began constructing a new primary school to help decrease classroom congestion, bringing the total number of primary schools in the camp to four.

Population of concern

A total of **1.69 million** IDPs

A total of **270,767** refugees

Funding

USD 275,668,213

Requested for comprehensive needs in 2016

Refugees by country of origin

Country	Total
Sudan	248,504
DRC	16,017
Ethiopia	4,357
Central African Republic	1,889
Total	270,767

USD 121,186,542

Needed for top priority activities in 2016

UNHCR Presence

Staff: 374

280 national staff
94 international staff

Offices:

9 offices located in:
Juba, Jamjang, Bunj, Bentiu, Bor, Kwajok, Malakal, Rumbek, Yambio, Yei, Yida.
2 field units located in: Mingkaman and Nimule

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR works closely with the Government of South Sudan to deliver assistance and protection services to refugees and IDPs.
- In the **refugee response**, the main government counterparts are the Ministry of Interior and Wildlife Conservation, and the Commission for Refugee Affairs (CRA). **Implementing partners** in 2016 are the following: Action Africa Help International (AAHI), Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA), ACROSS, ACTED, CARE International, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Humane Development Consortium (HDC), International Medical Corps (IMC), International Rescue Committee (IRC), Lutheran World Federation (LWF), Relief International (IR), Samaritan's Pursue (SP), Save the Children, UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief), UNOPS, UNV and World Vision International (WVI).
- In the **IDP response**, the main government counterpart is the Relief and Rehabilitation Committee (RRC). **Implementing partners** in 2016 are: ADRA, African Humanitarian Action (AHA), Danish Refugee Council, Handicap International, Health Link, Humane Development Consortium, INTERSOS, International Rescue Committee, Nile Hope, TOCH, UNV, Women Aid Vision and Women Development Group. Within the IDP response cluster system, UNHCR in South Sudan is Lead of the Protection Cluster (with NRC co-leading), Co-Lead of the CCCM Cluster along with IOM and ACTED, and undertakes enhanced participation in the IOM-led Shelter/NFI Cluster.
- On **prevention of statelessness**, UNHCR's main counterpart is the Directorate of Nationality, Passports and Immigration (DNPI).
- UNHCR maintains an **operational partnership** with CAFOD, Caritas, CMMB, FARM South Sudan, Food Agriculture Organization (FAO), ICRC, Jesuit Refugee Service (JSR), Médecins Sans Frontières (France, Belgium), Medair, Mentor, OXFAM, SIM, UNAIDS, UNOCHA, UN-Habitat, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNMAS, UNMISS, World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO), Women for Women International and World Renew International.

MAIN ACTIVITIES – REFUGEE PROGRAMME

Protection

Unity

- In March 2016, UNHCR registered and assisted 755 new arrivals from Sudan's South Kordofan State in Yida, bringing the number of new arrivals since 1 January 2016 to 2,860. Eighty percent of them 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 as one of the main reasons for fleeing to South Sudan. In March, UNHCR relocated 879 refugees from Yida to Ajuong Thok, including 791 new arrivals and 88 refugees who had previously registered in Yida, bringing the total number of Sudanese relocated to Ajuong Thok since 1 January 2016 to 2,952. Ajuong Thok camp is home to 34,667 refugees, while Yida hosts 70,917 people.
- In Ajuong Thok camp, UNHCR partner LWF placed 29 unaccompanied minors and separate children in foster care and helped reunite 10 separated children with their parents.
- In Ajuong Thok camp, UNHCR partner IRC identified 21 vulnerable women and girls and provided them with underwear, clothes and shoes. So far, 185 women and girls have been supported since January 2016.
- In Ajuong Thok camp, the child help desk, run by UNHCR partner LWF, provided counseling and assistance to 71 children, including clothes and shoes, enrolment in child friendly spaces (CFS), referral for medical attention and shelter support.
- In Ajuong Thok camp, UNHCR partner IRC organized a three-day training on human rights, refugee rights and South Sudanese laws for 12 members of Ajuong Thok's Conflict Resolution Committee.

Upper Nile

- In Maban, UNHCR registered and assisted 198 new arrivals from Sudan's Blue Nile State, bringing the total number of arrivals since 1 January 2016 to 338. Those who have arrived are mostly from Baw in the Ingessana Mountains, a new front of fighting in previous months, and from Kurmuk. The low numbers are likely due to the fact that most of those able to flee are already in South Sudan, with 132,883 Blue Nile refugees in Maban's four refugee camps.
- In Maban camps, UNHCR and partners conducted 12 awareness-raising sessions for 635 refugee and host community members about the importance of girls' education, domestic violence and forced marriage.
- In Maban camps, UNHCR and partner Save the Children carried out a training for 20 police officers on child rights and legal instruments for child protection as well as on the role of the police in protecting children and preventing and responding to Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV).
- In Maban camps, 39 CFS continued to engage children in traditional plays, games, art and skills building. Since January 2016, more than 10,000 children have joined CFS activities, including 38 children with disabilities.

Western Equatoria

- In Makpandu camp, UNHCR identified and assisted 13 SGBV survivors with psychosocial support, medical and legal counseling.
- In Makpandu camp, UNHCR partner WVI conducted a workshop for 40 representatives of the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) on child rights and the role and responsibility of communities in protecting children from violence.

Education

Unity

- In Ajuong Thok camp, UNHCR partner AAHI began constructing a new primary school to help decrease classroom congestion. This will bring the total number of primary schools in the camp to four. Furthermore, UNHCR partner LWF constructed a temporary classroom to replace a tented one that had been destroyed by windstorm. There are currently 59 primary school classrooms in the camp, including 28 permanent and 31 temporary. Some 6,522 children are attending primary school in the camp and the average classroom-to-pupil ratio stands at 1:110.

Upper Nile

- In Yusuf Batil camp, UNHCR and partners LWF and DRC carried an assessment of primary school facilities and found that 72 classrooms are currently hosting 8,822 children – which gives an average classroom-to-pupil ratio of 1:115. They agreed to build 18 additional classrooms to reduce congestion. In Maban's four refugee camps, a total of 27,145 children attend primary school and the average classroom-to-pupil ratio stands at 1:115.

Health

Upper Nile

- In Gendrassa and Kaya camps, UNHCR partner IMC kicked off a pilot study of newborn health in humanitarian settings. The objective is to collect data and information necessary to improve health service delivery for women and their newborns, train health workforce and design a mechanism for effective use of newborn health information. This study will also look into the feasibility of deploying an inter-agency field guide on newborn health in emergencies at a global level. Among the study participants are Save the Children, UNICEF, South Sudan's Ministry of Health, and Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, in addition to IMC.

Food Security and Nutrition

- UNHCR in consultation with WFP and UNICEF began implementation of preventive and mitigating measures to tackle malnutrition, chronic malnutrition and anemia in refugee camps in Unity and Upper Nile, including blanket and targeted supplementary feeding programmes, and therapeutic feeding. A nutrition survey, conducted in the last quarter of 2015, indicates higher rate of malnutrition in all surveyed refugee camps as compared to 2014, although the prevalence of malnutrition remains within normal limits in Unity's Ajuong Thok camp and Yida settlement. Such an increase is mainly attributed to the 30 percent reduction of food rations as from August 2015, frequent breaks in the food pipeline, incomplete food baskets, upsurge of malaria and diarrhea. The survey also found that anemia is high among children under 5 years and women of reproductive age. Chronic malnutrition (stunting) was also found to be high among children under 5 years. High prevalence of anemia and stunting are due to micronutrient deficiencies and malaria among others.
- UNHCR partners in coordination with WFP carried out March's General Food Distribution in 10 refugee camps across South Sudan, reaching some 270,000 refugees. Food distribution included cereals, pulses, and cooking oil, with portions reduced by 30 percent as from August 2015. In Gorom camp, pulses and vegetable oil were not enough to cover the entire camp population of 1,932 people.

Water and Sanitation

Unity

- In Ajuong Thok camp, UNHCR partner SP completed the installation of a five cubic metre water bladder tank to increase water supply among refugees, which decreased from 18.6 litre per person per day (l/p/d) in the first week of March to 16.8 l/p/d in the last week of the month- slightly below UNHCR standards of 20 l/p/d. This is due to the ongoing arrival of Sudanese refugees, resulting in a higher demand for water. Since January 2016, there are 3,488 additional refugees in the camp.
- In Yida, the average water coverage stood at 19.7 l/p/d.

- In Ajuong Thok camp, UNHCR partner AHA in collaboration with UNICEF trained 54 community health promoters on integrated community case management to help them improve treatment of malaria, diarrhea and pneumonia among children.

Upper Nile

- In Maban camps, the average water coverage stood at 23 l/p/d. The average latrine-to-refugee ratio is 13:1, which is within UNHCR standards of a maximum of 20 persons per latrine.
- In Maban camps, UNHCR continued to upgrade existing motorized boreholes into boreholes with solar-powered water pumping system. So far, 26 of 35 motorized boreholes have been enhanced, in addition to three solarized booster stations in Kaya camp.

Shelter and NFIs

Western Equatoria

- In Makpandu camp, UNHCR and partner WVI began distribution of second-hand clothes for some 3,500 refugees.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Unity

- At Pamir, UNHCR and partners continued to work on the establishment of a new camp. UNOPS completed 14 km of internal roads, while UNHCR successfully drilled four boreholes. The construction of a primary school, reception centre for new arrivals and primary health care centre is ongoing.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

Unity

- In Ajuong Thok, UNHCR and partners trained 145 women on crocheting, bread making, and embroidery.

Upper Nile

- In Maban County, the Commission for Refugee Affairs and local Payam Administration inaugurated a new road -funded by UNHCR- connecting the host community villages of Kongo Mamur and Kongo Farajala to Yusuf Batil camp. The road is expected to improve host community's access to health care, education and the camp market, in so improving refugee-host interactions.

Central Equatoria

- In Gorom camp, UNHCR partner ACROSS conducted a training for 210 farmers (170 from the refugee community and 40 others from the host community) on harvest and post-harvest handling, plants management and disease identification. The goal is to help the community become more food secure and self-reliant. In preparation for the coming planting season, refugee and host community farmers have begun clearing their land prior to receiving seeds and agricultural tools by FAO through UNHCR.
- In Lasu settlement, UNHCR and partner UMCOR registered 2,620 families (1,834 refugee families and 786 host community families) for distribution of FAO-donated agricultural inputs such as field crops seeds, vegetable seeds and tools.

Western Equatoria

- In Makpandu camp, UNHCR partner WVI donated six brick press machines to refugees.

MAIN ACTIVITIES – IDP PROGRAMME

Protection

COORDINATION

- Protection partners continued to respond to the situation in the Malakal Protection of Civilians (POC) site following the violence of 17 and 18 February 2016. From 2 to 11 March, the national Protection Cluster was on mission in Malakal to help protection partners prepare the Malakal Protection Response Plan (March-May 2016).
- From 21-23 March, the Protection Cluster (PC) visited Bentiu to support an Inter-Cluster Working Group mission aiming to explore how the humanitarian response can be expanded in Unity. The PC participated in inter-cluster field visits to Ding Ding, Rubkona

Town, Bentiu Town and Kuach. Together with Bentiu protection partners, the PC provided inputs to the “Beyond Bentiu Response Plan,” which is being developed for Nhialdu, Nimni and Kuach catchment areas.

OPERATIONS

Unity

- In the Bentiu POC site, UNHCR identified 586 extremely vulnerable families as part of its ongoing protection monitoring, including unaccompanied children with critical medical condition, elderly, persons with disabilities and single parents with small children. Some 24 survivors of SGBV incidents, committed outside the POC, were also identified and referred to MSF and IRC for medical attention and psychosocial support. The current population of the Bentiu POC site stands at 116,538.
- UNHCR and protection partners continued to provide support to vulnerable IDPs outside the Bentiu POC site, including in Rubkona, Guit and Mankien. Since January, 7,352 individuals (2,258 families) received non-food items (NFIs).
- In Kuoch County’s Buaw Payam, some 100 km south of Bentiu, UNHCR and protection partners identified 1,070 vulnerable IDP families in need of assistance. Partners are planning to distribute relief items in April.

Shelter and NFIs

Unity

- In the Bentiu POC site, UNHCR distributed NFIs to 1,523 vulnerable IDPs.

Upper Nile

- In Malakal, UNHCR partner HDC distributed NFIs to 180 people with special needs.
- In Baliet, UNHCR distributed non-food items to 50 vulnerable IDP families.

Jonglei

- In Bor, UNHCR distributed NFIs to 360 vulnerable IDPs and returnees from Pagook village.

Lakes

- In Rumbek, UNHCR partner Plan International distributed NFIs to 522 vulnerable IDPs from Cueibet County.
- In Marik, UNHCR NFIs to 180 vulnerable IDP families (903 individuals).

Central Equatoria

- In Yei town, UNHCR distributed NFIs to 1,196 vulnerable IDPs (281 families) from Mundri, Maridi and Yambio.

Western Equatoria

- In Yambio town, UNHCR and other agencies distributed NFIs to 4,870 vulnerable IDPs displaced as a result of January 2016 violence, with UNHCR contributing plastic sheets, kitchen sets, and laundry soap.

UNHCR’S MAIN DONORS IN 2016

BILL & MELINDA
GATES foundation



Contacts:

Rocco Nuri, Public Information/Communications Officer | Email: nuri@unhcr.org | Tel: +211 927 725 535 | Twitter: @roconuri
Richard Ruati, Assistant External Relations Officer | Email: ruati@unhcr.org | Tel: +21 927 725 515