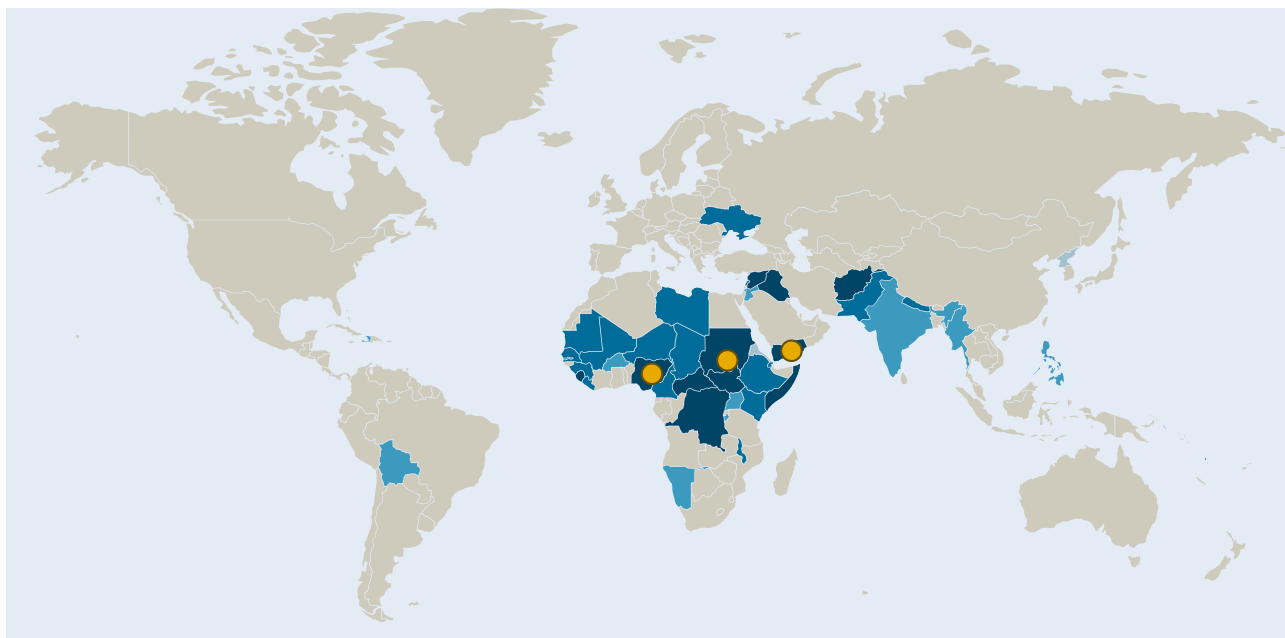




GLOBAL EMERGENCY OVERVIEW

June 2015



Snapshot 3–9 June 2015

Yemen: 20 million people, close to 80% of the population, are estimated to need humanitarian aid. 500,000 people were displaced in May, bringing the total displaced since 26 March to more than 1 million. The escalation in the conflict has meant two million more people are food insecure, and six million more lack access to healthcare, and 9.4 million lack access to safe water.

Nigeria: The situation in the northeast is destabilising further. Boko Haram attacks killed more than 66 people over 4–7 June. Populations in parts of Yobe, Borno, and Adamawa states are expected to face Emergency food insecurity between July and September.

Sudan: In South Kordofan, 26,000 people were displaced by violence in May. Increased violence in South Sudan has brought 13,000 new refugees to White Nile and South Kordofan since the end of May. In Darfur, some 100,000 people are thought to have been displaced since the beginning of the year, but they cannot be reached and numbers cannot be confirmed.

Updated: 09/06/2015. Next update 16/06/2015.

Severe humanitarian crisis

Afghanistan	Somalia
CAR	South Sudan
DRC	● Sudan
Iraq	Syria
● Nigeria	● Yemen
Sierra Leone	

Humanitarian crisis

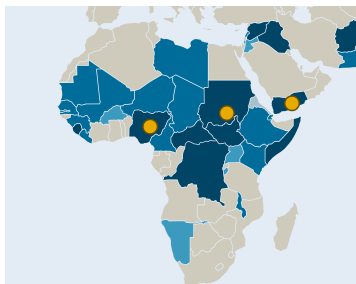
Cameroon	Libya
Chad	Malawi
Colombia	Mali
Djibouti	Mauritania
Ethiopia	Nepal
Gambia	Niger
Guinea	oPt
Kenya	Pakistan
Lebanon	Senegal
Liberia	Ukraine

Situation of concern

Bolivia	Kiribati
Burkina Faso	Myanmar
Burundi	Namibia
Haiti	Philippines
India	Uganda
Jordan	Vanuatu

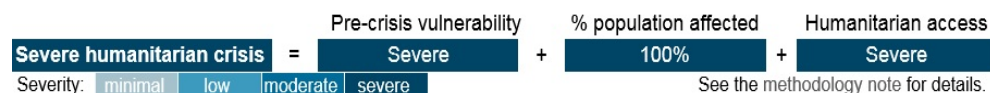
Watch list

DPRK	Eritrea
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AFRICA

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC **CONFLICT, FOOD INSECURITY, INSECURITY**



For more information on CAR, visit the [ACAPS country analysis page](#).

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

No new significant developments this week, 08/06/2015. Last update: 02/06/2015.

KEY CONCERNS

- More than 5,000 people have died in violence since December 2013 (Government, 16/09/2014, BBC, 07/01/2015).
- 2.7 million of 4.6 million people needed immediate assistance, half of them children (OCHA, 31/03/2015).
- 1.5 million people are in Crisis and Emergency phases of food insecurity (USAID, 13/03/2015).
- 27% of the health facilities in the country are damaged and 40% are unable to offer health services (WHO, 31/01/2015).
- 436,119 IDPs, including 43,592 in Bangui (UNHCR, 05/05/2015).
- 461,400 CAR refugees in neighbouring countries, 219,720 of whom have arrived since December 2013 (UNHCR 06/03/2015; 17/04/2015).
- 94,545 returnees in Nana-Gribizi, Ouham, Kemo and Ouham Pende.

OVERVIEW

Health, protection, food, and WASH are top priority needs, as continued violence, looting, and displacement cause further deterioration of an already dire humanitarian situation across the country. Violence between Muslim communities, perceived to have links with the ex-Seleka, and Christian communities, aligned with the anti-balaka militias, has resulted in displacement, targeted killings along communal lines, and human rights abuses.

Political Context

Between 4 and 11 May, the Bangui Peace Forum took place. Moderated by President of Congo Denis Sassou Nguesso, 585 participants agreed on a 'Republican Pact for Peace', which sets the calendar for elections and revision of the constitution; a consensual disarmament model; the establishment of a criminal court; and an agenda of humanitarian and development priorities (Reuters, 22/04/2015; BBC, 03/05/2015; Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, 12/05/2015).

Conflict began in late 2012, when Muslim Seleka fighters advanced from the north, taking control of territory on their way to the capital Bangui, where they held power until December 2013. Seleka committed numerous abuses during their advance and rule, and self-defence militias composed of mainly non-Muslims, 'anti-balaka', began to carry out revenge attacks in late 2013. Most ex-Seleka members withdrew to the north at the end of 2013, but fighting persisted between ex-Seleka and anti-balaka, Muslim and Christian communities, and pastoralists and farmers.

African Union forces, MISCA, backed by France, were deployed in December 2013, authorised by the UN. The African Union had already deployed troops to CAR prior to Seleka's assumption of power, but was overwhelmed by the severity and scope of the conflict. In mid-September 2014, the UN peacekeeping force took over operations under the name MINUSCA.

A transitional government was formed in August 2014. It was rejected by the ex-Seleka, which had proclaimed a de facto, independent, secular state in northeastern CAR in July (IRIN 23/09/2014; Government, 24/07/2014). On 8 April, the ex-Seleka and anti-Balaka agreed to a ceasefire. This was rejected by the transitional Government, just as it rejected an earlier ceasefire agreement (USAID, 10/04/2015).

Security Context

More than 5,000 people have been killed since December 2013 (BBC, 07/01/2015). More than 1,820 security incidents have been recorded since January 2015 (OCHA, 12/05/2015).

Fighting is concentrated around six central and western prefectures: Mambere Kadei, Nana-Grebizi, Nana-Mambere, Ouaka, Ouham, Ouham-Pende, and Sangha-Mbaere (OCHA, 18/03/2015).

Priority areas for civilian protection are Ngaoundaye (Ouham-Pende), Markounda (border area) and Batangafo (Ouham), Bambari and Kouango (Ouaka), Boda (Lobaye), Gamboula,

(Mambere-Kadei) and Mbres (Nana-Grebizi) (UNHCR, 15/05/2015).

Stakeholders

Ex-Seleka: Seleka was an alliance of factions created in 2012 and dissolved by President Djotodia in late 2013. However, many fighters remained active, and were dubbed 'ex-Seleka'. With the exception of 17,114 confined to three military camps in Bangui, most moved out of the capital and controlled much of central and northern CAR by January 2014 (IRIN, 17/09/2014). Bambari, Ouaka reportedly became the ex-Seleka headquarters in May 2014. An estimated 12,000 fighters make up the armed ex-Seleka, including Muslims from the northeast, and Sudanese and Chadians (IRIN, 12/01/2015; international media, 30/09/2014).

Anti-balaka: The anti-balaka were formed in order to counter the Seleka; there are around 75,000 militants, though the numbers are contested, and their main leaders and political programme remain unknown (IRIN, 12/01/2015). After the coup and Djotodia's resignation, many members of the former government army, the FACA, joined the anti-balaka. It is suspected that up to ten anti-balaka factions function in the vicinity of Bangui (IRIN, 12/02/2014).

LRA: Mbomou and Haut-Mbomou prefectures remain most affected by the Lord's Resistance Army, which increased attacks as the political crisis left a power vacuum (OCHA, 10/11/2014). In 2015, LRA attacks increased after LRA militant Dominic Ongwen surrendered to US forces in January (BBC, 07/01/2015).

UN peacekeeping mission (MINUSCA): MINUSCA officially took over operations on 14 September 2014, under a one-year mandate. In March 2015, the number of peacekeepers was increased by 1,000, to better protect infrastructure and senior officials in Bangui, bringing the total to 13,000 uniformed personnel (Reuters, 26/03/2015). On 28 April, the UN Security Council extended MINUSCA's mandate by one year (UN, 28/04/2015).

French forces: On 19 May, the operation was formally handed over to MINUSCA (French Ministry of Defence, 22/05/2015). As of 21 May, 1,700 of 2,000 French troops were left in CAR (UN, 21/05/2015).

EU advisory mission: The EU launched the EU Military Advisory mission (EUMAM RCA) on 19 January, with the objective of reforming the security sector (Government, 16/03/2015).

US military assistance: The US is providing logistical support, special forces, and advisers to African troops operating against the LRA in eastern and southeastern CAR.

Recent Incidents

Nana Grebizi: 300–400 people attacked a MINUSCA camp in Kaga Bandoro in early April, because UN peacekeepers failed to stop raids by Fulani pastoralists (UNHCR, 10/04/2015; Reuters, 10/04/2015). MINUSCA has set up a temporary base in Mbres, as clashes between ex-Seleka and anti-balaka along the Kaga Bandoro–Mbres route persist. Mbres is currently under ex-Seleka control (UNHCR, 17/04/2015).

Ouaka: A MINUSCA vehicle was attacked on the route from Bambari to Bangui, after alleged Muslims were arrested. Cars were battered and approximately 17 homes were burned (local media, 11/04/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

As of late April 2015, 2.7 million of 4.6 million people need immediate assistance, half of them children (OCHA, 29/04/2015). Delivery of aid is expected to decline because funding remains low (OCHA, 02/04/2015).

Access

Crime hinders the supply of humanitarian assistance outside Bangui. MINUSCA forces are organising patrols in Damara (Ombella-Mpoko), aiming to curtail crime in the region, including violent attacks, threats against aid workers, and roadblocks (OCHA, 28/05/2015). A rapid assessment on the Niango–Kaga Nze route, in Bamingui-Bangoran province, found that exactions, theft, and abuse were current in the region (Premiere Urgence – Aide Medicale International, 06/05/2015).

Trapped Communities

As of 15 May, more than 36,000 people are trapped and at risk of violence and abuse in seven enclaves countrywide: in Bangui's PK5 (24,000), Boda (9,000), Bouar (1,600), Carnot (522), Berberati (456), Yaloke (372) and Dekoa (105). Most belong to religious and ethnic minorities and have limited access to basic services (OCHA, 28/05/2015).

Security Constraints

Bangui: In PK5, shopkeepers have complained about extortion by ex-Seleka who 'secure' the neighbourhood against anti-balaka (AFP, 28/05/2015). Security incidents in PK5 have resulted in teachers fleeing their posts (OCHA, 04/03/2015).

Security Incidents Affecting Aid Workers

232 acts of violence have been recorded against humanitarian organisations since January 2015 (OCHA, 12/05/2015). They include thefts of humanitarian assets and facilities as well as threats to staff (USAID, 27/04/2015). UN, NGO, and private vehicles are becoming regular targets on main roads (IOM, 02/02/2015). On 22 May, two armed men attempted to rob an international NGO vehicle on the Yaloke–Boali road (OCHA, 28/05/2015).

18 humanitarian workers were killed and six wounded in 142 incidents in 2014 (OCHA, 04/12/2014; USAID, 19/12/2014).

Ouham: Solidarités International, DRC, and Intersos temporarily suspended activities in April due to looting and robbery in Kabo (07/04/2015). On 9 April, two cars from the Central African Red Cross were stolen (local media, 11/04/2015).

Ouaka: On 10 April, a MINUSCA convoy carrying food was attacked on the route from Bambari to Bangui (local media, 11/04/2015).

Disasters

Ouham: On 23 April, a severe storm hit Moyenne Sido, affecting 3,500 people (IOM, 27/04/2015).

Mambere-Kadei: Storms in Berberati since 24 April have affected 1,110 people and destroyed 200 houses (Red Cross Movement, 14/05/2015).

Displacement

IDPs

As of 29 April, there are 426,240 IDPs in CAR (OCHA, 12/05/2015; 15/05/2015; 27/05/2015). Some 177,000 are living in 108 sites countrywide (including Bimbo and Bangui), 225,000 people with host families, and 35,700 people in the forest (OCHA, 07/01/2015; 04/02/2015; 29/04/2015; UNHCR, 03/04/2015; 21/04/2015).

Bangui: Relative improvements in the security conditions of some neighbourhoods outside Bangui have reduced IDP numbers in Bangui to 36,930 in 34 sites (UNHCR, 05/05/2015). Some suggest this drop may be due to the poor condition of IDP sites (OCHA, 04/03/2015; IOM, 02/03/2015; UNHCR, 03/04/2015).

As of 11 May, IOM has deregistered 3,440 people at Mpoko IDP site (IOM, 15/05/2015). The transitional government is closing the site (OCHA, 28/05/2015). The 18,000 remaining are afraid to return home (Reuters, 25/03/2015; USAID, 10/04/2015; OCHA, 14/04/2015; 29/04/2015). A survey of all households previously found that 42% plan to resettle in new areas and 55% want to return to their place of origin (OCHA, 18/02/2015; USAID, 27/03/2015). AVICOM is an alternative site, but does not have adequate services and only 350 people surveyed agreed to move there (USAID, 13/03/2015; OCHA, 02/04/2015). Priority needs include shelter and NFIs, WASH, and health (IOM, 05/01/2015).

Nana Grebizi: On 15 May, ten people were found dead and many wounded in villages on the Dekoa route near Kaga Bandoro. 1,900 IDPs and 2,500 residents fled to the Evêché IDP site in Kaga Bandoro (OCHA, 28/05/2015).

Ouham: 3,600 IDPs are in Kabo and Moyenne Sido IDP sites; 5,200 are staying with host-families (IOM, 13/04/2015). 1,100 people fled to Markounda on 8 April, following the killing of two men in Manda village (UNHCR, 17/04/2015).

Ouaka: Ouaka hosted 57,000 IDPs at 12 March (OCHA, 18/03/2015). In Bambari, there are 9,870 IDPs in Sangaris IDP site; 2,614 IDPs in MINUSCA site; 8,790 at Notre Dame de la Victoire; 9,400 in the Muslim neighbourhood Hadji and Bornu; and 7,900 at Aerodome (UNICEF, 31/03/2015).

Refugees in CAR

8,100 refugees and asylum seekers from DRC, Chad, and Sudan are living in camps in Bangui, Bambari, and Zemio (UNHCR, 26/03/2015; 17/04/2015; OCHA; 29/04/2015).

CAR Refugees in Neighbouring Countries

As of April, there are 461,400 CAR refugees in neighbouring countries, 219,730 of whom

have arrived since December 2013 (UNHCR 06/03/2015; 17/04/2015). 247,250 are registered in Cameroon, 94,020 in Chad, 94,130 in DRC, and 26,000 in Congo (UNHCR, 17/04/2015).

The Chad–CAR border was officially closed in May 2014, but refugees continue to arrive at a number of border points (UNHCR, 07/2014).

Returnees

There are approximately 131,000 returnees in CAR, mainly in Ouham Pende, Ouham, Kemo and Nana Grebizi (OCHA, 28/05/2015). Returns peaked in January in Ouham Pende, with 1,914 people preparing for the farming season (OCHA, 18/03/2015; 28/05/2015).

Bangui: Since the launch of the return process at Mpoko airport site, 1,173 of the 4,319 households have been registered in the 5th district of Bangui (OCHA, 28/05/2015).

Mbomou: 2,980 returnees in Debissaka village, Rafai subprefecture, still fear Ugandan militant attacks. Needs include NFIs, safe water, and access to school (ACTED, 22/04/2015). A rapid assessment of Ndambissoua, Ouago, and Zabe villages in Bakouma sub-prefecture determined that 660 returnees need humanitarian assistance, especially WASH, as none of the villages have access to improved sources of water (ACTED, 11/05/2015).

Ouham: Approximately 4,200 IDPs have returned home from Kabo for lack of farming space. An estimated 7,000 people have returned to Kouki village, Nana Bakassa subprefecture (1,400 of the original 1,800 households). They are in need of NFIs, food, and health assistance. Child mortality is high (ACF, 22/04/2015). An assessment of Markounda town in April found that more than 3,300 returnees lacked access to health services and safe drinking water (USAID, 27/04/2015).

Food Security

The lean season has begun and a food security crisis is expected to last until September 2015, in particular for IDPs and some host communities. 1,268,000 people are under Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) food insecurity (Food Security and Nutrition Working Group, 20/05/2015; FEWSNET, 30/05/2015).

About 19% of people in rural areas are in Crisis and 12% in Emergency (OCHA, 28/05/2015).. The most insecure are households headed by women, displaced people or returnees, and those without financial resources. Most IDPs were categorised as in Crisis in March (OCHA, 04/02/2015; 04/03/2015; FEWSNET, 20/04/2015). Households in the north and northwest and need assistance (FEWSNET, 01/04/2015).

Agriculture and Markets

Food access is restrained by reduced food production, lack of livelihoods, and high food prices (OCHA, 18/12/2014; FAO, 26/01/2015). Food stocks in rural areas are 40–50% below average due to recurring raids. Fish supply has fallen by 40% and cattle-breeding by 77% compared to pre-crisis levels, and insecurity and poor road conditions have disrupted market linkages and led to significant increases in food prices: prices from March to

August 2014 increased 30–70% (FAO, 26/01/2015; OCHA, 18/12/2014). Food crop production in 2014 was 58% below average, as a result of insecurity, looting, and the killing of livestock (OCHA, 04/03/2015).

Health and Nutrition

As of December 2014, two million people need access to health services (OCHA, 19/11/2014; 22/12/2014). 55% of health facilities are functioning (WHO, 27/04/2015). Only 25% of those offering services have functioning sources of energy, and 21% have access to water (WHO, 31/12/2014). Shortages of drugs and qualified staff have been severe in Dekoa, Mala and Ndjoukou (Kemo) (OCHA, 29/04/2015).

There is a lack of access to health services in IDP sites and in the subprefectures of Mbres, Batangafo, and Kouango due to increased insecurity (WHO, 31/10/2014; OCHA, 29/04/2015). More than 15,000 IDPs from Ngakobo in Ouaka prefecture do not have access to healthcare services (OCHA, 14/04/2015). Deficiency in antiretroviral treatment is reported in Ouaka due to lack of access (OCHA, 28/05/2015). Due to funding shortages, an NGO has reduced its activities by 60% in Paoua and Markounda subprefectures, Ouham, where almost 150,000 had received free malaria treatment (OCHA, 13/05/2015).

Malaria remains the primary cause of mortality (WHO, 30/04/2015). HIV prevalence increased from 12% to 14% between 2014 and 2015.

Nutrition

Based on a national survey, the country has 6.5% severe acute malnutrition (SAM) (UNICEF, 08/01/2015). In 2015, 32,348 children will suffer from SAM and 78,355 from MAM (OCHA, 28/05/2015). From January to end March 2015, 6,500 children were admitted for treatment for SAM (UNICEF, 30/04/2015).

In 2014, 28,000 children were severely malnourished and 75,500 moderately malnourished (OCHA, 04/12/2014; 18/12/2014).

WASH

2.3 million people do not have access to improved safe water or improved sanitation (OCHA, 23/09/2014; 22/12/2014). 1.4 million people are targeted for WASH assistance in 2015 but lack of funding is a constraint on WASH infrastructure support (OCHA, 29/04/2015; 28/05/2015).

In Bambari, Sangaris IDP site has 6.8L of water/person/day; MINUSCA has 10L/person/day; Notre Dame de la Victoire 4.0L/person/day; and Muslim neighbourhoods have 2.2L/person/day (UNICEF, 31/03/2015).

In Lihotom, Ouaka prefecture, only 11% of the households surveyed have access to safe water; the only borehole in the village has not worked in seven years (ACTED, 19/03/2015).

Education

An assessment of schools noted that as of end April 2015, 78–88% are open (UNICEF,

30/04/2015). The situation varies across the country, with 25% functioning in Nana-Grebizi, 50% functioning in Ouaka, 63% in Sangha-Mbaere; 67% functioning in Vakaga and 71% in Ouham. Classes, however, are not regular due to insecurity and absence of teachers. Student enrolment has improved by 31% since 2013-2014 but is still 6% below pre-crisis levels (2011-2012) (UNICEF, 30/04/2015). Only 6,000–10,000 children were enrolled in school 2012–2014 (IRIN, 12/01/2015). Over 1.4 million children are in need of education (OCHA, 22/12/2014).

In Bangui's PK5 district, teachers have been leaving due to insecurity, resulting in 60,000 school-aged children in need of safe learning spaces (USAID, 13/03/2015).

Only 10% of school-aged returnees in Debissaka village, Mbomou prefecture, are attending school due to security threats and attacks (ACTED, 22/04/2015).

Protection

Crimes against humanity and war crimes have been, and continued to be, reported. Ex-Seleka are listed for child recruitment, killing, rape and other forms of sexual violence, and attacks on schools and/or hospitals. Anti-balaka are listed for child recruitment, and killing and maiming (Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict, 04/11/2014).

On 8 January, the UN Commission of Inquiry into human rights concluded that violence towards Muslims by anti-balaka in 2014 constitutes ethnic cleansing (Government, 20/01/2015).

15 months after being captured in Ombella-Mpoko, 11 Fulani, including the local head of anti-Balaka are still missing and no investigation has started (UN, 05/06/2015).

Refugees are at risk of statelessness because access to birth certificate is limited (OCHA, 28/05/2015).

SGBV

The areas at most risks of sexual violence, early and forced marriage, and with insufficient GBV response are: Bambari, Ouaka; Mbres and Kaga-Bandoro, Nana-Grebizi; Kabo and some villages in Nana Mambere (OCHA, 28/05/2015). 150 rape cases were reported in March and April in Bangui, Begoua (Bangui), Bimbo (Ombella-Mpoko), Yaloke (Ombella-Mpoko), Kaga Bandoro (Nana Grebizi), and Bambari, (Ouaka) with many more not reported (WHO, 30/04/2015).

Child Protection

432 children were killed or maimed by violence in 2014 (OCHA, 04/12/2014). The number of children recruited into armed groups has risen to 8,000–10,000, from 2,500 at the beginning of the crisis (The Guardian, 18/12/2014; OCHA, 02/04/2015). Eight major militia groups have agreed to free child soldiers and children used as cooks, messengers, or for sexual purposes (Reuters, 5/05/2015). More than 350 children were freed from armed groups on 14 May (AFP, 14/05/2015). France is in the process of investigating allegations of child abuse by its peacekeeping forces that occurred between December 2013 and June 2014 (Reuters, 29/04/2015).

Updated: 08/06/2015

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO **CONFLICT, FOOD INSECURITY, EPIDEMIC, DISPLACEMENT**



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

6–9 June: Hundreds of households have fled violence in Walikale territory, North Kivu, and are staying with host families. Walikale has been cut off for several weeks (Radio Okapi).

3 June: 21,000 IDPs in Komanda, Orientale, are in need of shelter (OCHA).

2 June: Five people were killed in an attack on Goma airport by suspected ADF (AFP).

KEY CONCERNS

- Internal conflict in the eastern provinces of Orientale, North Kivu, South Kivu, and Katanga.
- 7 million people need humanitarian assistance (OCHA, 30/04/2015).
- 2.8 million IDPs (OCHA, 30/04/2015).
- Over 2 million children under five are suffering from acute malnutrition (Radio Okapi, 04/11/2014).
- 7.3 million school-aged children are not attending school (Radio Okapi, 10/03/2015).

OVERVIEW

Needs are highest in the conflict-affected regions of North Kivu, South Kivu, Katanga, and Orientale, where there is large-scale, repeated displacement. IDPs, host populations, and those unable to flee are all vulnerable, as insecurity poses multiple protection risks and prevents access to basic services. Needs vary according to geographic area and conflict dynamics.

Political violence and inter-communal strife have persisted for decades, influenced by longstanding tensions with DRC's eastern neighbours. Operations by DRC armed forces and UN peacekeepers and infighting between armed groups disrupt security and stability.

Political Context

National Political Context

Attempts to prolong the President's term beyond the two-term limit in September and then January were met with violent protests (AFP, 27/09/2014). Although Parliament voted against the legislation to prolong the presidential term beyond 2016, there are doubts regarding the scheduling of elections (AFP, 25/01/2015). Parliamentary elections are due to take place in July 2015. In March and April, activists promoting political participation were arrested (Reuters, 16/04/2015).

Security Context

At least 40 armed groups are operating in the east of the country (ECHO, 22/10/2014). They range from local militias set up initially as self-defence groups (among them many Mayi-Mayi groups), to secessionist groups, and forces first set up by fighters from Uganda (LRA and ADF/NALU), Rwanda (FDLR) and Burundi (FNL). The UN has a peacekeeping mission (MONUSCO), and an EU mission providing assistance to security sector reform (EUSEC) was extended until 30 June 2015 (EU, 25/09/2014). The UN and the Government are discussing withdrawal of the UN mission (Radio Okapi, 06/04/2015).

Front of Patriotic Resistance (FRPI) is an armed group established in November 2002 in Ituri from the Ngiti ethnic group (TRAC). Attacks increased in Irumu territory, Orientale, in 2015, after a failed disarmament programme at the end of 2014 (OCHA, 19/04/2015). Around 300 FRPI militants disarmed to the FARDC on 17 May in Bunia, Orientale (Radio Okapi, 19/05/2015).

Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) are mainly Hutu Rwandans who were allegedly linked to the genocide. An estimated 1,400 fighters are active, primarily in the Kivu region (Reuters, 22/03/2015).

Mayi-Mayi: At least 20 Mayi-Mayi groups, formed by local leaders along ethnic lines, are active in North Kivu, South Kivu, and Katanga. The number of fighters can range from 100 to 1,000 (AFP 2013).

Allied Democratic Forces/National Army for the Liberation of Uganda (ADF/NALU) is a Muslim militant group founded in the 1990s. MONUSCO and the FARDC launched an operation in North Kivu to neutralise the group in January 2015 (Radio Okapi, 07/01/2015). ADF activity decreased in January, but by early February attacks against villages in Beni territory had increased (AFP, 04/02/2015; 20/03/2015).

Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), founded by Joseph Kony in Uganda in 1987, has spread to South Sudan and subsequently to DRC and CAR (IRIN).

National Liberation Forces (FNL) are Burundian militants based in South Kivu (AFP 2013).

The armed forces of the DRC (FARDC) comprise 120,000–130,000 fighters (Defence Web, 2013). Seven army and police officers were banned from receiving MONUSCO support in March 2015 because they pose a risk of committing human rights violations

(Reuters, 11/03/2015).

The UN Stabilization Mission in DRC (MONUSCO) is made up of almost 18,000 troops, as well as military observers and police units (OCHA, 19/04/2015). The initial mission, MONUC, was established after the signing of the 1999 peace agreement between DRC and five regional states. In March 2014 its mandate was expanded, with the creation of an Intervention Brigade, charged with neutralising armed groups (RFI, 20/10/2014). MONUSCO's mandate was extended for another year in March 2015, although its force was cut by 2,000 troops (Reuters, 26/03/2015; AFP, 26/03/2015).

Conflict Developments

North Kivu

2.29 million people in North Kivu are affected by armed conflict (OCHA, 02/06/2015).

An FARDC offensive on the FDLR began in February (AFP, 23/02/2015, 24/02/2015; 26/02/2015). Reports suggest that most FDLR are fleeing into the forest rather than risking combat (Reuters, 08/04/2015). However, there has been significant fighting, with more than 300 people killed in Beni territory since October 2014 (international media, 09/05/2015).

Beni territory: Activities are back to normal in Beni, after they had slowed in protest against the killing of civilians (Radio Okapi, 03/06/2015). In May, around 80 people were killed, and people left a dozen villages, asked by authorities to move towards FARDC positions and the towns of Oicha and Beni city (multiple sources). In April, 33 people were killed (AFP, 24/04/2015; OCHA, 23/04/2015).

Lubero: A clash broke out on 25 May in a transit camp for ex-FDLR combatants in Kanyabayonga. Four people were injured (Radio Okapi, 25/05/2015). The security situation in Banmate, Itala, Bunzoa, Ikobo villages, which lie between Lubero and Walikale territories, is tense due to FDLR attacks (Radio Okapi, 18/05/2015). FDLR have been reported in the communities of Rusamambo, Bukumbirwa, Kasiki, Luhanga and Buleusa, where they accuse youth of collaborating with Mayi-Mayi militants (local media, 07/05/2015).

Masisi: Five people were killed in an attack on Goma airport in the night of 1–2 June, by suspected ADF (international media, 03/06/2015). 30 people have been arrested (international media, 08/06/2015).

Rutshuru: Tribal tensions between Hutus and Nande have halted social and economic activities in Nyamilima. Several families sought refuge in the church (local media, 04/05/2015).

Walikale: Four civilians were killed in clashes between two Mayi Mayi factions on 2 June in Nsindo. Thousands have reportedly fled their homes (Radio Okapi, 04/06/2015).

South Kivu

In Lulingu, Shabunda territory, clashes have been ongoing since mid-May between FARDC and Mayi-Mayi Raiya Mutomboki. Economic activity has ceased, and schools

and other basic infrastructure are not functioning. An unknown number of people have left the town, and flights to the region have been suspended (OCHA, 27/05/2015).

Orientale

FRPI, LRA, and Mayi-Mayi Simba are all active in Orientale.

FRPI has increased attacks on the civilian population in Irumu territory (Radio Okapi, 09/04/2015). 200,000 people are vulnerable to attack (OCHA, 21/04/2015). **On 3 June, FRPI clashed with FARDC in Aveba, Irumu territory. The following day FARDC had taken control of the town and calm was restored (Radio Okapi, 05/06/2015).**

Katanga

Since early 2015, Katanga's triangle of death (Pweto, Manono and Moba territories) has experienced a decrease in Mayi Mayi attacks (Radio Okapi, 17/03/2015), but Luba (Bantus) and Pygmies (Batwa) have frequently clashed in Kalemie, Manono, and Nyunzu territories (OCHA, 08/04/2015). **In Nyunzu territory, conflict between Luba and pygmies has killed 200 people since January 2015, led to the rape of 60 women and 113 burned villages (Radio Okapi, 03/06/2015).** Luba burned several shelters in an IDP camp in May. Women and children are now hosted in a warehouse and require assistance (ECHO, 05/05/2015; OCHA, 06/05/2015).

Four people were killed in clashes between Luba and pygmies in Kitutwa, Manono territory (Radio Okapi, 03/06/2015). On 1 May, pygmy militants burned 28 Luba homes in Kazala locality, Manono territory. Following the attack, clashes between pygmies and Luba killed eight and injured 30 (local media, 07/05/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

7 million people need humanitarian assistance (OCHA, 30/04/2015).

Access

The mountainous and volcanic terrain, and lack of tarred roads, limit access across DRC, and access worsens during the rainy season. Insecurity is a major constraint in the east.

North Kivu: Humanitarian groups are considering suspending their activities in Rutshuru and Beni territories due to increasing insecurity; other organisations have already suspended activities along the Oicha–Eringeti route north of Beni (Radio Okapi, 23/05/2015). Some 275,000 IDPs are hard to access in North Kivu due to insecurity, including 44,000 IDPs in sites in Rutshuru territory (OCHA, 30/04/2015). **Walikale territory has been cut off for several weeks. Commercial flights are not serving the area and roads are inaccessible due to insecurity (Radio Okapi, 09/06/2015).**

South Kivu: Traffic has been suspended on the Bukavu–Goma road since 7 June, after a bridge over the Kitalima River collapsed. Vehicles are stranded on both sides. The bridge facilitates commerce between North and South Kivu. Armed groups are

stealing goods from stranded trucks (Radio Okapi, 09/06/2015).

Katanga: 82% of the roads in Katanga are almost impassable (OCHA, 30/04/2015). ACTED suspended its activity in Pweto after 14 April due to threats (OCHA, 29/04/2015). In Malemba-Nkulu territory, humanitarian assistance is restricted due to poor roads, especially during the rainy season (OCHA, 30/04/2015).

Orientale: Humanitarian organisations have slowed their activities in the south of Irumu territory (Bunia, Gety, Aveba and Bukiring) due to insecurity (OCHA, 03/06/2015).

Security Incidents Affecting Aid Workers

From January to end March, 37 incidents against humanitarian actors were recorded (OCHA, 30/04/2015). There were 35 incidents against humanitarians in North Kivu alone over 14–30 April (OCHA, 30/04/2015). Humanitarian agencies are reporting an increase in kidnapping, robbery and extortion cases in Rutshuru and Walikale territories, North Kivu (USAID, 15/04/2015).

Displacement

IDPs

At end April, there were 2.8 million IDPs in DRC, including 121,000 displaced between January and March 2015 (OCHA, 30/04/2015). 80% of IDPs are hosted by families and communities who are already facing chronic food insecurity and limited access to services and livelihood opportunities (FAO, 20/11/2014).

North Kivu

North Kivu hosts 898,000 IDPs as of 25 April (OCHA, 02/06/2015). 78% live with host families and 22% in IDP sites, most of which are near Goma. 57 sites in North Kivu remain open, hosting more than 200,000 people. Near Goma, four sites remain open, hosting more than 16,000 IDPs (ECHO, 29/05/2015). Authorities are moving to close the sites for security reasons (OCHA, 28/02/2015; AFP, 03/12/2014).

Beni: 24,000 people were displaced in early May in the north, in addition to 91,000 still displaced since October–February (OCHA, 02/06/2015). More than 15,000 people have been displaced to Beni from Mavivi and other villages in the region following ADF attacks (OCHA, 20/05/2015). An estimated 45,000 people remain displaced since operations against ADF/NALU began (UNICEF, 31/03/2015).

Walikale: Hundreds of households have fled abuse by armed groups and are seeking refuge in Walikale centre, Kibua, Mpofi, Pinga and at the border with Lubero territory. They are staying with host families, and lack food, clothes and access to healthcare (Radio Okapi, 06/06/2015).

South Kivu

At 31 March, 661,400 IDPs were in South Kivu (OCHA, 30/04/2015).

Orientale

As of end March, there were 550,490 IDPs in Orientale province (OCHA, 19/02/2015; 30/04/2015). Around 389,230 people are displaced in Ituri district (OCHA, 22/05/2015). **80,000 people are still displaced due to FRPI activities (UNICEF, 31/03/2015).**

Some 6,000 IDPs arrived in Bwanasura and Nsalia, Irumu territory, between end of April and 17 May due to ADF attacks (OCHA, 27/05/2015). From 8–12 May 4,000 people were displaced to Sorodo and Gety Etat localities following FARDC offensives on armed groups, including the FRPI (OCHA, 22/05/2015). **Most of the population of Aveba, Irumu territory, who had fled FARDC–FRPI clashes in late May, had returned on 7 June (Radio Okapi, 07/06/2015).**

More than 3,400 IDPs have been displaced in Bili, Bongo territory, since 12 April after clashes between FARDC and LRA. They have not yet received assistance and are living in critical conditions (OCHA, 27/05/2015). 1,200 families (approximately 6,480 IDPs) living in Komanda, Ituri territory, say necessary humanitarian assistance has not been provided (Radio Okapi, 23/04/2015).

Katanga

Katanga hosts 460,600 IDPs, including 24,400 displaced in the first quarter of 2015 (OCHA, 19/02/2015; 15/04/2015; 21/04/2015). 73% are living with host families and 27% in IDP sites (OCHA, 21/04/2015).

Approximately 15,000 IDPs, primarily women and children, are living in poor conditions in Nyunzu territory, displaced by intercommunal violence in Manono and Kabalo territories (Radio Okapi, 20/04/2015). 10,000 were displaced from Kabumbulo toward Kibumba, Malemba and Mwanza Seya in mid-March, fleeing Mayi-Mayi attacks (OCHA, 29/04/2015).

Maniema

Maniema hosts 181,520 IDPs as of 30 March (OCHA, 21/04/2015). 23,442 IDPs are in camps in Kabambare territory in May. The host population of these areas is 9,442 (OCHA, 26/05/2015).

Refugees in DRC

DRC hosts more than 225,020 refugees (UNHCR, 28/02/2015; USAID, 15/04/2015; OCHA, 30/04/2015). DRC provincial authorities insist that assistance should only be delivered within camps, making it difficult to support refugees in host communities.

From CAR: As of 31 May there were 99,265 CAR refugees in DRC, with 5,132 new arrivals in May (UNHCR, 31/05/2015). The transfer of refugees to a new camp for 19,000 in Bili, Bosobolo territory started in March and is expected to last 14 weeks (Radio Okapi, 14/03/2015). As of 15 May, 4,158 CAR refugees were registered in Bili camp (UNHCR, 15/05/2015).

From Rwanda: DRC is hosting 117,300 Rwandan refugees (UNHCR, 28/02/2015; 30/10/2014; UN 30/12/2014).

From Burundi: As of 4 June, some 10,000 Burundian refugees have arrived in Fizi and Uvira territories, South Kivu. 8,310 are living with host families. **800 others have been relocated from reception and transit centres to Lusenda refugee camp in north Fizi. FDLR presence in the hosting areas are a concern** (UNHCR, 18/05/2015; 05/06/2015; OCHA, 27/05/2015). Prior to the recent influx, there were 9,000 Burundian refugees in DRC (OCHA, 27/05/2015).

From Angola: There are 560 Angolan refugees registered in DRC, and 28,000 are undergoing voluntary repatriation (UNHCR, 28/02/2015). From January–April 2015, 2,970 Angolan refugees had been repatriated (Government, 30/04/2015).

Returnees

North Kivu: In March, there were 445,610 returnees to North Kivu (OCHA, 06/02/2015; 14/04/2015; 30/04/2015). Some 13,000 people returned to Rutshuru territory between March and April, though this has slowed in May (OCHA, 30/04/2015).

Katanga: As of 31 March, there are a total of 322,293 returnees in Katanga, including 84,500 who returned in the first quarter of 2015 (OCHA, 30/04/2015; 21/04/2015). More than 5,300 returnees who arrived in Kasenga Ngayie locality, Moba territory, in February 2015 need multisectoral assistance (OCHA, 08/04/2015). Another 5,800 returnees in Kamena, south of Moba territory, who had fled Mayi-Mayi Kata Katanga violence, arrived in September 2014 and are in need of health, nutrition, food and protection assistance (OCHA, 22/04/2015).

Maniema: As of 30 March, there were 181,520 returnees, including 1,200 since January 2015 (OCHA, 30/04/2015).

Orientale: As of 31 March, there were 333,610 returnees (OCHA, 30/04/2015).

South Kivu: At 31 March, there were 209,600 returnees from the past 18 months (OCHA, 23/04/2015). 325 DRC refugees previously in Burundi returned to Uvira territory (OCHA, 23/04/2015).

Between 1 January and 30 May, 8,128 DRC citizens were deported from Angola (Soyo and Cabinda provinces) (international media, 08/06/2015).

DRC Refugees in Neighbouring Countries

There are around 442,440 DRC refugees in neighbouring countries, mainly in Uganda (178,220), Rwanda (73,560), Burundi (53,860), Tanzania (55,870), Congo (23,450), Kenya (15,630), South Sudan (14,630), and CAR (5,340) (UNHCR, 31/03/2015; 17/02/2015; 01/01/2015; 31/12/2014). **Since January, more than 4,500 people have fled to Uganda from eastern DRC (ACT Alliance, 05/06/2015).**

Food Security

6.6 million people are facing IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) or 4 (Emergency) food insecurity as a result of armed group activity, inter-communal violence, and displacement (OCHA, 30/04/2015; Integrated Food Security Phase Classification, 28/01/2015; USAID,

15/04/2015). The following areas are facing Emergency food insecurity (IPC Phase 4): Ituri (Orientale), Boende (Equateur), Punia (Maniema), Shabunda (South Kivu), Manono, Mitwaba and Pweto (Katanga) (Food Security and Nutrition Working Group, 22/05/2015).

Orientale: Insecurity in Geti area, Irumu territory, is affecting food security, which was Emergency (IPC Phase 4) in December 2014; 260,000 IDPs, returnees and local communities are affected (OCHA, 19/04/2015).

North Kivu: Farmers are having difficulties accessing their fields because of movement restrictions imposed by the FARDC and the FDLR, who tend to ask for payment for passage (OCHA, 19/04/2015). An assessment of Mugunga 3 Camp showed that food insecurity increased from 48.7% in January to 60.4% in February. Households are adopting negative coping strategies (WFP, 28/04/2015).

South Kivu: The food security situation in South Kivu, where Burundian refugees are arriving, is worrying – especially given the presence of armed groups (WFP, 22/05/2015).

Maniema: More than 21,000 households (151,200 individuals) face food insecurity following a fungus in crops in Kibombo territory. The region's production of cassava, rice and banana has decreased by 62%, 73%, and 91%, respectively. According to a December 2014 survey, Kibombo territory was in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food insecurity (OCHA, 26/05/2015).

Agriculture and Markets

More than 3,000 hectares of rice crops have been damaged due to Whitefly infestation in Kibombo territory, Maniema (OCHA, 21/04/2015).

Health and Nutrition

23,000 people in Masisi territory, North Kivu, do not have access to health services (OCHA, 11/02/2015). More than 17,500 IDPs and host-families in north Beni, North Kivu need health assistance (OCHA, 14/04/2015). The health centre in Beni, North Kivu, has had a shortage of medicine since 23 February due to the rise in the number of IDPs (OCHA, 11/03/2015).

29 cases of meningitis and one death were reported in Orientale over 4–10 May (OCHA, 27/05/2015). **The same period saw 26,332 cases of malaria and 55 deaths (OCHA, 03/06/2015).**

Measles

In Katanga, a measles epidemic has been confirmed in Malemba-Nkulu territory, with an average of 400 weekly cases, including ten deaths (OCHA, 30/04/2015). 4,426 cases of measles were reported from January to 26 April 2015, including 78 deaths. In the four weeks to 6 May, 30 children under five have died of measles (OCHA, 06/05/2015).

Cholera

5,290 cases of cholera, including 56 deaths, were recorded from January to mid-April 2015

(UNICEF, 18/05/2015). Most affected provinces are Katanga and South Kivu. North Kivu and Orientale are also affected (multiple sources). In 2014, there were 22,200 cases of cholera and 372 deaths (WHO, 31/12/2014; UNICEF, 24/12/2014).

In North Kivu, an increase in cholera cases (more than 30) has been reported in Nkassa and Kailenge, Pinga region, Walikale territory (OCHA, 02/06/2015).

WASH

Inke and Mole refugee camps, Equateur, provide an average of 10.5L of water per person per day, significantly below standards (UNHCR, 15/05/2015).

An estimated 4.3 million people require WASH assistance in North Kivu, including 5,000 IDPs in Bwalanda, Kashilira and Kikuiku sites in Rutshuru territory, where there is a lack of WASH actors (OCHA, 20/05/2015; 14/04/2015).

Only 40% of the population of Maniema province have access to potable water (OCHA, 02/04/2015).

Shelter

1,500 CAR refugees are in need of shelter in Inke camp due to a lack of plastic sheeting. No shelters have been built in four weeks (UNHCR, 15/05/2015).

21,000 IDPs from North Kivu are in need of shelter in Komanda, Orientale (OCHA, 03/06/2015).

Education

7.3 million children aged 5–17 – 28% of the school-aged population – are not attending school (Radio Okapi, 10/03/2015).

One million children are in need of education in North Kivu (OCHA, 02/06/2015).

In Katanga, 6,000 school-aged children are out of school in Kalemie, Manono, and Nyunzu territories due to clashes between Batwa and Luba, fires, and heavy rains in their localities (OCHA, 08/04/2015). More than 85% of the 2,000 school-aged children in Kasanga Nyemba, Kalemie territory, are not attending school (OCHA, 22/04/2015). A school was burned in Garenganze, Manono territory, following clashes between Luba and pygmies. 4,600 students are affected (Radio Okapi, 17/05/2015). More than 30 schools in Kaumulu, Malemba Nkulu territory, have been closed since March 2015 due to clashes between the Mayi-Mayi and the FARDC (Radio Okapi, 20/05/2015).

Some 3,000 students in Aveba, Ituri district in Orientale, risk not being able to take their final exams in June due to insecurity (OCHA, 03/06/2015).

Protection

Military, militias, and other armed groups are accused of abuses against civilians, including arbitrary arrests, extortion, looting, child conscription, sexual violence, and executions.

In Orientale, 12,300 protection incidents against civilians were reported in 2014, compared to 4,800 in 2013 (OCHA, 04/02/2015). In Haut-Uele district, 485 incidents were reported in the first three weeks of May 2015 (OCHA, 27/05/2015). **In May, 935 protection incidents were registered in Ituri district, compared to 1,983 in April (OCHA, 03/06/2015).** An NGO report determined that 40% of Orientale's surface contains mines (Radio Okapi, 04/04/2015).

Kidnapping

Around 30 people were kidnapped by the FDLR in Rutshuru territory, North Kivu on 15 April (Radio Okapi, 16/04/2015).

SGBV

Sexual violence has been a common element of warfare by the armed groups and soldiers in eastern DRC since the breakout of war in the early 1990s. 127 women reported being sexually abused after an attack by dozens of armed men in Kikamba town, South Kivu on 1 May (MSF, 15/05/2015).

Orientale: 90% of the 2,900 SGBV cases reported in Orientale in 2014 occurred in Ituri territory, the others in Uele territory (OCHA, 08/04/2015; 19/04/2015). In Haut-Uele district, 110 SGBV incidents were reported in the first three weeks of May, and 138 in April (OCHA, 27/05/2015). On 10 May, 26 women were raped by FRPI in Apihinji and Mbulumbulu localities (OCHA, 22/05/2015).

Katanga: There were more than 600 cases of SGBV reported From January–March in Katanga. 50% came from Nyunzu territory (OCHA, 22/04/2015).

1,680 SGBV cases were reported in 2014 in Katanga and 840 in Kasai-Occidental (OCHA, 05/02/2015; Radio Okapi, 11/02/2015). 2,012 were reported in Orientale province, and 1,123 in Bas-Congo (OCHA, 10/12/2014, 03/12/2014; Radio Okapi, 27/11/2014).

Updated: 09/06/2015

NIGERIA CONFLICT, FOOD INSECURITY, EPIDEMIC, DISPLACEMENT



For more information, visit the [ACAPS country analysis page](#).

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

4–7 June: 33 people were killed and dozens injured in four suspected BH attacks in and around Maiduguri, Borno state (AFP).

4–5 June: Two suspected BH attacks in Yola, Adamawa state, killed at least 33 people and injured 68 (AFP).

4 June: Lack of access to food has been reported in 12 of 42 displacement sites, with Taraba state most affected (WFP/FAO).

1 June: Urgent health support is needed in newly opened Dalori IDP camp in Maiduguri (UNICEF).

KEY CONCERNS

- Around 5,825 deaths from Boko Haram-related violence in 2015 as of early May. 7,711 deaths from Boko Haram-related violence were reported in 2014 (ACLED, 07/05/2015; 11/01/2015).

- 4.6 million people in need of humanitarian aid, including 1.5 million IDPs (OCHA, 05/06/2015; IOM, 29/04/2015).

- 3 million in the northeast expected to be in need of food support until at least October (FEWSNET, 03/2015).

- 1.5 million in need of nutrition assistance, including 461,000 children under five suffering from SAM (OCHA, 05/06/2015).

- 2.2 million people are in need of WASH assistance; 1 million in need of shelter and NFIs; 2.2 million in need of protection; and 3.5 million people in need of healthcare (OCHA, 06/2015).

OVERVIEW

Violence has internally displaced more than 1.5 million people, restricted movement, disrupted food supply, seriously hindered access to basic services, and limited agricultural activities. People affected by violence in Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe, and neighbouring Bauchi, Taraba, and Gombe states are in urgent need of protection, shelter, food, and access to health services and education.

Political Context

Muhammadu Buhari was sworn in as President on 29 May, succeeding Goodluck Jonathan, whose party had led the country since 1999. Buhari is a former president and military ruler from northern Nigeria (**local media, 29/05/2015**; AFP, 02/04/2015). 66 violent incidents were reported at polling stations during the April state governorship and parliamentary elections, mostly in Rivers and other southern states; (BBC, 13/04/2015).

Security Context

Boko Haram's insurgency gained momentum in 2014, with 7,711 related deaths, over half

of those reported since May 2011 (ACLED, 11/01/2014). 5,825 fatalities were reported in nearly 240 violent events involving Boko Haram between January and May 2015 (ACLED, 07/05/2015). Since the end of 2014, the conflict with Boko Haram has taken on a more regional dimension, with attacks in Cameroon, Chad, and Niger, and a strengthened multinational force. In Nigeria, with the engagement of regional forces, the Nigerian Government regained territory in early 2015, **but the situation has destabilised further as insurgent attacks are again rising in the northeast (UNHCR, 22/05/2015)**. As of 26 May, 27 suicide attacks had been recorded in 2015, compared to 26 attacks in all of 2014 (UNICEF, 26/05/2015).

Inter-communal Violence

Inter-communal clashes fuelled by ethnic and religious tensions, as well as competition between farmers and pastoralists, flare regularly in the Middle Belt area (Benue, Kaduna, Plateau, Nassarawa, and Taraba states) (IDMC, 12/2014).

On 26 May, suspected Fulani herdsman killed at least 23 people in three villages in the Logo local government area in Benue state (AFP, 26/05/2015). On 19 April, at least 23 villagers died in inter-communal clashes between the Ologba and Egba communities in Benue state, reportedly over fishing rights (AFP, 19/04/2015). In March, 118 people were killed attacks by suspected Fulani herdsman, which also caused injuries and displacement (AFP, 17/03/2015; ECHO, 17/03/2015). In 2014, around 1,700 people died in inter-communal violence (ACLED, 2014; ICG, 01/10/2014).

Stakeholders

Boko Haram (BH)

Boko Haram ("Western education is forbidden") has been leading an insurgency to create an Islamic state in the predominantly Muslim regions of northeastern Nigeria. The Nigerian authorities have been fighting BH since 2009. Precise BH troop numbers are not known, but estimated at around 15,000 (Amnesty, 13/04/2015). In March, BH pledged allegiance to Islamic State (AFP, 07/03/2015).

Nigerian Troops

Reports of low morale and defections persist among Nigerian forces. Failures to act on intelligence and abuse during the campaign against BH are also a problem, impacting relations with the civilian population (ACLED, 31/03/2015). In the past, Nigerian soldiers at times reportedly refused to deploy, or fled from operations (AFP, 22/08/2014).

Regional Forces

The Multinational Joint Task Force (MJTF) has reached **8,700 military and civilian personnel**, including contingents from Chad, Cameroon, Niger, and Nigeria (**AFP, 04/06/2015**). About 2,500 Chadian troops withdrew from Nigeria mid-March, with indications they would be redeployed for fresh offensives elsewhere (AFP, 29/03/2015). The scope and remit of the regional force is unclear; failure to maintain control over liberated towns, such as Gamboru and Marte in Borno state in March and April, have also suggested co-ordination problems (AFP, 25/04/2015; 20/03/2015).

Conflict Developments

The renewed military offensives of early 2015 and territorial gains by regional forces (36 towns recaptured in Borno) have prompted BH to revert to guerrilla tactics of village raids, abductions, bombings and suicide attacks, with civilians increasingly targeted (AFP, 23/03/2015; US Institute of Peace, 09/01/2015). BH have carried out mass killings and destruction before leaving villages they have raided, such as in Bama in mid-March (AFP, 17/03/2015).

On 22 April, the military announced operations in Sambisa forest, thought to be BH's last stronghold (Reuters, 22/04/2015). At the end of May, these operations were continuing, **while BH militants are thought to have been regrouping in Marte (UNHCR, 22/05/2015; AFP, 23/05/2015).**

Recent Incidents

Borno state: A suspected BH suicide bombing in Maiduguri killed two and injured four on 7 June, while an explosion near a military checkpoint in Konduga district injured two (AFP, 07/06/2015). An explosion near a military unit in Maiduguri left 18 dead and dozens injured on 4 June (AFP, 04/06/2015). 13 people were killed and 24 injured in a suicide attack on a cattle market in Maiduguri on 2 June (AFP, 02/06/2015). On 30 May, 26 people were killed and 28 injured in a suicide bombing inside a mosque in Maiduguri (AFP, 30/05/2015). On 29 May, seven people were killed by two bombs in the Tashan Alade area (AFP, 29/05/2015). On 24 May, BH attacked Gubio town killing 37 people and setting fire to more than 400 buildings. Military forces later reportedly pushed BH out of the town (AFP, 26/05/2015; 24/05/2015). At least 64 people were killed in BH raids near Maiduguri on 13–14 May (AFP, 15/05/2015; 14/05/2015).

Adamawa state: A suspected BH attack on a market in Yola killed at least 31 and injured another 38 on 5 June (AFP, 05/06/2015). An explosion in Yola killed two and injured 30 on 4 June (AFP, 04/06/2015). On 22 May, BH attacked a village in Madagali district, killing at least ten people (AFP, 25/05/2015). On 19 May, eight people were killed and 14 injured in a suspected BH suicide bombing in Garkida village (AFP, 19/05/2015). The same day, BH attacked a village in Madagali district, killing three people and abducting seven women (AFP, 19/05/2015). BH had reportedly been pushed out of the state in March (AFP, 19/05/2015).

Yobe state: On 30 May, BH attacked Galda and Fik towns, and set fire to several buildings; communication infrastructures were also damaged in the attack. There are no accounts of casualties (AFP, 30/05/2015). Seven people were killed and 31 injured in a suicide attack in Damaturu on 16 May (AFP, 16/05/2015). On 8 May, a suspected BH attack on a school in Potiskum wounded 12 students (AFP, 08/05/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Some 9.7 million people are staying in 34 areas worst affected by the insurgency, including IDPs. The entire population of northeast Nigeria – 24.5 million people – is indirectly

affected; 4.6 million are in need of humanitarian aid (OCHA, 05/06/2015; 30/04/2015). The situation is compounded by limited international presence in the area.

Access

Humanitarian assessments are severely challenged as security concerns are preventing access to some areas near Sambisa forest (OCHA, 30/04/2015).

In Borno state, most routes to affected areas are inaccessible, affecting food and basic services' delivery from Yobe state in particular (ECHO, 13/01/2015). **Many domestic flights have been cancelled and fuel stations are running out of petrol (BBC, 25/05/2015).**

Movement in BH-controlled areas is reportedly restricted, and the use of vehicles is forbidden, most likely to prevent residents from leaving (IFRC, 23/01/2015). Media access has also often been prohibited, with BH having destroyed communication and media infrastructure (Reporters without Borders, 05/02/2015). **Infrastructure damage reaches 80% in some areas controlled by BH (IRIN, 05/06/2015).**

Health (0%), shelter and NFIs (0%), nutrition (10%), protection (14%), and WASH (13%) sectors remain poorly funded, severely constraining relief efforts (OCHA, 30/04/2015).

Displacement

More than 1.4 million Nigerians have been displaced by conflict, including more than 1.2 million internally and 203,000 abroad. 56% of IDPs are children.

IDPs

There are nearly 1.5 million IDPs in six northeastern states, largely due to the insurgency, compared to 1.2 million in February. 64.5% of IDPs were displaced in 2014. The highest number is in Borno (939,290), followed by Adamawa (222,882), and Yobe (139,591). 57% are children, 28% of whom are under five; 90% live with host families, while the others live in 42 sites (IOM, 29/04/2015).

63% of IDPs in Borno state are in Maiduguri. In April, some 2,000 IDPs fled to Maiduguri from Gwoza and Bama, where all social services have been destroyed (OCHA, 30/04/2015; IOM, 29/04/2015).

114,360 IDPs are residing in 16 sites in Borno state, including ten located in Maiduguri (12% of IDPs in the state). 21,950 are living in 15 displacement sites in Adamawa state, mainly in Yola south and Girei (10%), while 6,300 are living in 10 sites in Taraba state (10%) (IOM, 29/04/2015).

Displacement sites are expected to be closed down in the coming months, and IDPs relocated (IDMC, 16/04/2015).

Returnees

Over 6–15 May, around 12,300 Nigerians arrived from islands on the Niger side of Lake Chad, as they were ordered to leave before planned military operations against BH (OCHA,

15/05/2015).

IDPs in northeastern Nigeria are increasingly returning home despite persistent insecurity and critical lack of access to basic services (OCHA, 28/04/2015). 800 IDPs were relocated from Pompomari site in Damaturu to Adamawa, Borno, Gombe, and Yobe states. Returnees in Adamawa state are in urgent need of shelter, food, health, and education, as villages have been severely damaged by the insurgency. Concerns remain over mines, IEDs and unexploded ordnance in locations where IDPs are planning to return (OCHA, 30/04/2015).

Refugees

As of May, there are 2,190 refugees and asylum seekers in Nigeria (UNHCR, 27/05/2015).

Nigerian Refugees in Neighbouring Countries

Around 167,790 Nigerians have fled to neighbouring countries, mainly Niger, Cameroon, and Chad (UNHCR, 22/05/2015).

Food Security

4.6 million people are estimated food insecure (OCHA, 05/06/2015). Dry spells have been affecting southern Nigeria since April and are expected to continue, which further increases food security concerns (FEWSNET, 24/04/2015).

More than three million people are expected to be in need of food assistance in the northeast in the coming months (FEWSNET, 11/05/2015). **Between July and September, areas in southern Yobe, central and northern Borno, and northern Adamawa, as well as the IDP settlement area in Maiduguri are expected to face Emergency (IPC Phase 4) food insecurity (FEWSNET, 31/05/2015). Markets remain significantly disrupted in the Lake Chad region, due to insecurity (FEWSNET, 31/05/2015).**

Lack of access to IDPs for food distribution, mostly in urban areas, is a concern (FEWSNET, 20/05/2015). **Lack of access to food has been reported in 12 out of 42 displacement sites, with Taraba state most affected (WFP/FAO, 04/06/2015).**

Minimal (IPC Phase 1) acute food insecurity is expected for most households outside the northeast through at least September (FEWSNET, 11/05/2015).

Agriculture and Livelihoods

Food prices are atypically high in Maiduguri, as food stocks within the host community are depleting rapidly. At least 350,000 farming households in Michika, Madagali, Hong, and Gombi in Adamawa state are in urgent need of agricultural support (OCHA, 30/04/2015).

Boko Haram enforces rigid movement restrictions and some limitations on trade, negatively impacting people's ability to obtain food and gain a livelihood (Amnesty, 13/04/2015).

Health and Nutrition

3.5 million people need health support (OCHA, 05/06/2015). Emergency supplies need to be pre-positioned in IDP camps and host communities, especially in Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe states, as displacement continues (OCHA, 04/03/2015). Mortality rates are increasing and vaccination programmes severely hit, with polio vaccination campaigns limited to Maiduguri.

Urgent health support is needed in the newly opened Dalori camp in Maiduguri (UNICEF, 01/06/2015). IDPs emerging from captivity, including from Gwoza and Bama, require urgent psychological support (OCHA, 30/04/2015). Most IDPs in host communities have limited access to health services, including due to lack of information on services and transportation costs (OCHA, 02/10/2014). 3,000 health facilities in the northeast are closed or have been partially destroyed (OCHA, 08/10/2014).

Cholera

As of 19 April, 1,831 cholera cases have been reported in 2015, with 78 deaths (UNICEF, 18/05/2015). There has been a resurgence of cases in Kano and Kaduna states, and there is a risk the outbreak could spread further (UNICEF, 10/02/2015). 35,996 cholera cases, including 753 deaths, were reported in 2014.

Meningitis

As of 22 February, 479 cases of meningitis, with 38 fatalities (7.9% case fatality rate) were reported in four areas in Kebbi and Sokoto states (WHO, 22/02/2015).

Nutrition

1.5 million children and pregnant and lactating women are suffering from GAM, including 461,000 children suffering from SAM (OCHA, 05/06/2015; 04/03/2015). Around 100,000 children in camps are thought to be suffering from SAM (OCHA, 30/04/2015).

In the northeast, 12% of children suffer from GAM (UNICEF, 13/01/2015). 8.7% of children in Maiduguri and Jere, in Borno state, suffer from SAM, and 27.8% from MAM. The nutritional situation of the displaced and host communities is rapidly deteriorating (ECHO, 14/03/2015).

Polio

The number of children missing out on polio vaccination because of insecurity increased from 778,000 in November 2014 to more than 1.1 million in January 2015 (UNICEF, 13/04/2015). In 2014, 36 polio cases were reported (GPEI, 15/04/2015).

WASH

2.2 million people are in need of WASH assistance (OCHA, 05/06/2015).

WASH conditions in IDP host communities are critical, with reports of inadequate latrines and lack of access to safe water (IDMC, 16/04/2015). In the northeast, only 46% of the population have access to improved sources of drinking water and 21% to latrines

(UNICEF, 13/01/2015).

Shelter and NFIs

1 million people are in need of shelter and NFIs (OCHA, 05/06/2015). IDP sites are often overcrowded (IRIN, 05/06/2015). In 14 IDP sites, up to a quarter of IDPs are living outdoors. Shelter repair is a priority need in 36 IDP sites, while blankets are reported as the most needed NFI (IOM, 29/04/2015).

Education

10.5 million children are out of school in Nigeria, including 60% in the northeastern part of the country (UNICEF, 04/2015).

Low numbers of qualified teachers, scarcity of teaching materials, and fear of sending children to school are main concerns for IDP children's access to education (UNICEF, 01/06/2015). As of April, schools in 19 of the 27 local governments areas in Borno state were closed, having been closed in March 2014 (UNICEF, 06/04/2015).

BH has repeatedly targeted schools and other educational institutions. More than 300 schools have been severely damaged or destroyed, and at least 196 teachers and 314 school children were killed between January 2012 and December 2014 (UNICEF, 13/04/2015).

Protection

2.2 million people are in need of protection assistance; women are at particular risk of sexual violence and trafficking in displacement sites; unaccompanied minors are also among the most vulnerable (OCHA, 05/06/2015; IDMC, 16/04/2015; UNICEF, 13/04/2015). **IDP camps are also facing a significant threat from militant infiltration; some cases of BH militants disguised as IDPs have been reported from Maiduguri (UNHCR, 29/05/2015).**

As parents fear sending girls to school due to insecurity, advocacy groups have raised concerns over increased rates of child marriage (Thomson Reuters Foundation, 20/05/2015).

Islamic scholars and clerics are often among the first targets during BH raids on towns and villages, as they are considered unbelievers (Amnesty, 13/04/2015). Indiscriminate killings by the group have also been reported once villages are recaptured (Amnesty, 13/04/2015).

Abduction, Torture, and Forced Recruitment

Kidnappings of groups of women and girls by BH continue. More than 2,000 women and girls have reportedly been abducted by the group since January (AFP, 30/04/2015; BBC, 14/04/2015). Around 1,000 women and children rescued from BH over 28 April–4 May have been taken to Yola camp for rehabilitation; a further 20 were rescued on 23 May (local media, 05/05/2015; AFP, 23/05/2015; 03/05/2015).

Women and girls have been trafficked, raped, abducted and forcibly married in areas

controlled by BH (OCHA, 30/04/2015). Young men are also being forcibly recruited and executed (Amnesty, 13/04/2015). **The increasing use of children and women for suicide bombings is of great concern, and the trend is likely to continue (UNHCR, 29/05/2015).**

Cases of extrajudicial killings, arbitrary arrests, detention, and torture have been documented among Nigerian forces in the course of security operations against BH (Amnesty International, 03/06/2015).

Updated: 08/06/2015

SIERRA LEONE FOOD INSECURITY, EPIDEMIC



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

31 May: In the week to 31 May, 12 new Ebola cases were confirmed: eight in Port Loko, three in Freetown, and one in Kambia (WHO, 03/06/2015).

KEY CONCERNS

- As of 6 June, Sierra Leone has reported 12,884 cumulative Ebola cases, including 3,913 deaths (WHO, 08/06/2015).
- The cumulative number of reported Ebola cases across the region has reached 27,219, including 11,154 deaths (WHO, 08/06/2015). The numbers of registered cases and deaths are largely inaccurate.
- The number of people food secure are projected to increase to 1.1 million in Phase 3 and 1.69 million in Phase 2 by the June–August lean season (Cadre Harmonisé, 01/03/2015).
- The national public health system is overstretched and struggling to deliver non-EVD care (UNICEF, 05/12/2014; ACAPS, 26/02/2015).

For more information on the Ebola crisis in West Africa, visit the ACAPS Ebola Needs Analysis Project page.

Political Context

Unrest and Resistance to Ebola Response

There are concerns that the State of Emergency measures are being used by the ruling party against its opposition. Police have been accused of using excessive force, protests have been banned, journalists have been arrested for criticising the response, and political

figures have been arrested (local media, 26/04/2015; Amnesty International, 04/05/2015).

Resistance to the Ebola response is still being reported in chiefdoms of Kambia and the Urban Western Area, including people not seeking treatment (UN, 08/05/2015). The town of Barmoi and the surrounding chiefdom has seen an influx of soldiers and the closure of markets, reportedly in response to resistance to containment measures (Doctors of the World, 03/05/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Access

All response activities are restricted by poor terrain and a lack of transport (Doctors of the World, 04/05/2015).

Food Security

The number of people food insecure is projected to increase to 1.1 million in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and 1.69 million in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) in the June–August lean season (Cadre Harmonisé, 01/03/2015). Those facing Crisis food insecurity include poor households in the areas where disruptions to agricultural production and market activities have been most severe, including Kailahun, Kenema, Kono, Tonkolili, Bombali and Port Loko districts (FEWSNET, 01/06/2015).

Less access to food, due to low household incomes and purchasing power, and decreased farming output are among the main effects of the Ebola crisis. In most areas, food stocks depleted one to two months earlier than normal (BRAC, 21/05/2015; FEWSNET, 01/06/2015).

95% of respondents reported in a survey that the food security situation is worse than before the EVD crisis. EVD survivors, quarantined households, people with chronic illness and people from poor and very poor households are most affected. Unmet food needs are higher in areas with high EVD exposure (78%) than low EVD exposure (54%) (ACAPS, 04/2015).

In April, national average coping levels fell by 2% compared to March. Kambia and Port Loko reported the highest levels of negative coping strategies. Rural households use more and more severe coping strategies than urban households (WFP, 28/05/2015). The majority of households reports a decrease in frequency of meals, particularly among Ebola-affected, rural and larger households; and smaller meals (BRAC, 21/05/2015).

Agriculture and Markets

National average prices of rice and palm oil stabilised in April, but increased in several districts, including Port Loko and Kambia, which were still affected by Ebola (WFP, 28/05/2015). In a FEWSNET survey, 46% of respondents reported that the most important market in their area was closed or operating at reduced levels in early May. This is not a significant decrease from the level in December 2014 (46/53%). 28% of traders reported in a survey that agricultural activities continue to take place at below-average levels (FEWSNET, 01/06/2015).

Livelihoods

Lack of jobs continues to be reported as the main cause of food insecurity among poor households. Household income has somewhat increased due to land preparation activities in February and March. Wage rates increased in most districts, but job losses and reduced purchasing power are still experienced in areas with Ebola-related trade restrictions (WFP, 28/05/2015). Typical livelihood activities remain below average. 53% of traders surveyed said there had been fewer agricultural labour opportunities than in a normal year, particularly in Bombali, Kono and Rural Western Area (FEWSNET, 01/06/2015).

An assessment in five districts indicated decreased household incomes and more unemployment were among the main effects of the Ebola outbreak, in households with and without members being infected. More than 80% of respondents reported a decreased income compared to before the outbreak (BRAC, 21/05/2015).

Health and Nutrition

Health infrastructure is very fragile and unresponsive. An estimated 3.5 million people are at risk due to unmet health needs (ACAPS, 04/2015). A survey by UNICEF and MoHS shows that the majority of health facilities are open, and though usage has increased in all except the heavily affected districts, it remains lower than before the Ebola outbreak (UNMEER, 13/04/2015). Only 50% of the population is seeking healthcare, compared to 80% before the crisis (ACAPS, 04/2015).

Reported consequences of the crisis include increased mortality, self-medication, increased morbidity, and under-resourced health facilities. There is a correlation between EVD exposure and the severity of the health situation (ACAPS, 04/2015).

The highly affected areas of Western Area, Port Loko and Bombali have seen a 28% decrease in health service attendance as of April 2015, compared to October–January 2013 (UNICEF, 07/04/2015). Most districts showed an initial drop in primary healthcare visits at the onset of the Ebola outbreak in June, and a further decline as the epidemic reached its peak in November–December. Kenema, Port Loko, and Kailahun districts recorded the greatest decrease in use. Services related to malaria and diarrhoea are most affected (ACAPS, 25/03/2015).

In Moyamba, analysis of burial data indicates that as many deaths were recorded in four months as in previous one-year periods. 40% of deaths are children under five. In the same district, only 12% of primary health units have facilities to diagnose and treat TB. HIV cases are believed to be almost completely undiagnosed in the area. A substantial increase in both HIV and TB is very likely, in Moyamba at least (Doctors of the World, 03/05/2015).

Ebola

As of 6 June, 12,884 cumulative Ebola cases have been reported in Sierra Leone, including 3,913 deaths (WHO, 08/06/2015).

In the week to 31 May, 12 confirmed Ebola cases were reported, compared to three the previous week. Eight cases came from Kaffu Bullom chiefdom in Port Loko

district. Only one of them was not a registered contact. One case was confirmed post mortem in Kambia. Three cases were confirmed in Freetown. As of 3 June, no epidemiological link to a previous case had been established for any of the cases from Freetown (WHO, 03/06/2015).

Nine of 14 districts have been declared Ebola-free, having gone 42 days without reporting any new cases (WHO, 27/05/2015).

304 health workers have been infected. 221 have died of Ebola; approximately one in ten of the country's health workers. On 14 May, the first health worker infection in five weeks was confirmed (WHO, 13/05/2015; 20/05/2015).

Containment measures: Porous borders between Sierra Leone and Guinea are posing a challenge to surveillance (UNMEER, 15/04/2015). Officials from both countries have agreed to share information on population movement and established screening protocols at border points between areas of active EVD transmission (UNMEER, 07/04/2015; 15/04/2015).

In August, legislation was passed imposing a jail term of up to two years for anyone concealing an Ebola-infected patient, and of up to six months for anyone entering or leaving Ebola-affected areas without medical authorisation (AFP, 22/08/2014; international media, 30/08/2014).

Regional Outbreak

The cumulative number of reported Ebola cases across the region has reached 27,219, including 11,154 deaths (WHO, 08/06/2015).

Maternal Health

Delivery of maternal health services has improved: the percentage of women giving birth in a clinic increased to 64% in April, compared to 28% in November. The percentage of women who received at least one prenatal visit increased from 56% to 71% in the same period (World Bank, 16/04/2015). Fear, misinformation, mistrust of health workers and facilities, and desertion of already understaffed health facilities are among the main reasons preventing women from accessing maternal and reproductive health services (UN WOMEN, 27/03/2015; UNFPA, 30/03/2015; Government, UNFPA, DFID and Irish Aid, 25/05/2015).

Malaria

Since the Ebola outbreak the impact of malaria has almost certainly increased due to reduced and or delayed access to treatment. In December 2014, the number of suspected malaria cases had decreased by half compared to December 2013, and only 20% of those cases were receiving treatment (ACAPS, 25/03/2015). Paediatric malaria admissions decreased by 80% in Moyamba; this is likely to have led to greater under-five mortality (Doctors of the World, 03/05/2015).

Mental Health

There is a high need for grief counselling as a Knowledge, Attitude and Practice survey found that at least 50% of respondents knew someone who had died from Ebola (UNMEER, 15/02/2015). According to an assessment, reduced access to community support systems and normal coping strategies means that trauma due to the Ebola crisis is putting people at risk of mental health problems (International Medical Corps, 09/01/2015).

Nutrition

It is predicted that, compared to observed trends from 1992 to 2012, the number of people who are undernourished during 2014–2016 could increase by 1.30–1.39%. This increase has been linked to the Ebola outbreak (UNDG, 11/03/2015). A UNICEF assessment in 60 of 150 chiefdoms identified 273 (1.27%) children with SAM (UNICEF, 25/03/2015).

WASH

According to a UNICEF survey, about 14% of primary health units have no access to water. This is most widely experienced in Tonkolili, Pujehun, and Kambia districts, where 35%, 27% and 26% of primary health units lack water access, respectively (UNICEF, 04/2015). Furthermore, 54% of all schools do not have access to water year-round (UNICEF, 11/03/2015).

Concerns have been raised about waste from Ebola facilities being dumped in waste collection sites. This poses a risk for health, especially to waste pickers (PI, 20/03/2015). About a third of the population live without latrines (UNMEER, 20/11/2014).

Education

Respondents in all districts have said the educational situation has worsened since the outbreak because of school closures (ACAPS, 02/04/2015). Schools reopened on 14 April, nine months after they were closed (UNMEER, 15/04/2015). 46% of households who reported not sending a child to school have cited inability to afford school as the main reason (BRAC, 21/05/2015).

Protection

Discrimination and stigmatisation of Ebola survivors is still widely reported (UNMEER, 29/03/2015). 47% of people surveyed indicated that stigma and discrimination exist in their communities: social and family exclusion were the main issues. Fear of Ebola was cited as the main reason for discrimination and stigma (ACAPS, 02/04/2015).

Sexual and Gender-based Violence

According to the Government, gender-based violence and sexual assault dramatically increased over 2014 (international media, 09/01/2015; IRIN 04/02/2015). Stigmatisation and discrimination have resulted in abuse and mistreatment of especially women. Many female survivors reported being afraid of experiencing gender-based violence as a result of Ebola (Ministry of Social Welfare, Oxfam, UN Women, 27/02/2015).

Many sexual assault and domestic violence clinics have been closed during the epidemic,

and there is a lack of doctors. Consequently, there is almost no treatment and counselling available, or expertise to provide evidence for trial (IRIN, 04/02/2015).

Child Protection

More than 2,000 cases of sexual abuse against children were recorded in 2014 – a record high. Many more cases have likely gone unreported (Ebola Deeply, 14/03/2015).

Due to limited household resources, children are predisposed and sometimes forced to engage in income-generating activities. Long-term consequences include possible school drop-outs. There are reports of girls turning to sex work for income. Orphans are considered particularly vulnerable (The Guardian, 28/04/2015). Visibly pregnant girls will not be allowed to return to school, according to an announcement by the Ministry of Education (Ebola Deeply, 14/03/2015; Voice of America, 13/04/2015).

According to UNICEF, as of 29 April, 8,619 children have lost one or both parents to Ebola and 742 are unaccompanied or separated from their caregiver (UNICEF, 29/04/2015). Other sources reported as many as 12,023 registered orphans, with Port Loko the most affected district (Street Child, 02/2015).

Updated: 08/06/2015

SOMALIA CONFLICT, FOOD INSECURITY



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

8 June: Puntland has begun the relocation of refugees from Yemen from Bosaso to Gardo (local media).

May: Nearly one million people are in Crisis and Emergency food insecurity after deterioration of the situation since January (UNICEF, 30/04/2015).

KEY CONCERNS

- Widespread violence and insecurity, particularly in south-central Somalia.
- Insecurity and bureaucratic impediments continue to hinder humanitarian access.
- 1.1 million IDPs, mainly in the south-central region, with high concentrations in Mogadishu (UNHCR, 12/2014).
- 2.75 million people need safe water (OCHA, 02/06/2015).
- 3 million are estimated to need emergency health services (OCHA, 02/06/2015).

- Nearly one million people are at Crisis and Emergency levels of food insecurity (UNICEF, 30/04/2015).
- Some 203,000 children under five are estimated to be acutely malnourished, mainly in south-central Somalia, including 38,200 severely (OCHA, 02/06/2015; 19/02/2015).
- 1.7 million children are out of school (OCHA, 12/03/2015).
- More than one million Somali refugees live in neighbouring countries, mostly Kenya, Ethiopia, and Yemen (UNHCR, 12/2014).

OVERVIEW

Protracted conflict, consecutive years of drought, natural hazards, and disruption of basic infrastructure have led to large-scale displacement in Somalia and across the region. Almost half the population of Somalia, around 3.2 million people, is vulnerable to external shocks and lacking access to basic goods and services, with an estimated 1.5 million people living in seven regions affected by the Somalia–African Union military offensive: Bakool, Gedo, Lower Shabelle, Hiraan, Bay, Banadir, and Lower Juba.

Political Context

Somalia suffers from a chronic fragility of state institutions as a result of two decades of civil war. Infighting between presidents and prime ministers is a recurrent problem. Vision 2016, the Federal Government's policy covering constitutional revision, the establishment of regional administrations, and transition to multiparty democracy, is opposed by key figures in the state (UNSC, 25/09/2014; ICG, 01/11/2014).

Security Context

About 1.5 million people live in areas that could be directly affected by the Somali–African Union offensive on Al Shabaab (OCHA, 19/09/2014). Al Shabaab itself continues attacks on civilians, humanitarian personnel, and government officials. Armed actors conducted more than 340 violent incidents targeting civilians and humanitarian personnel between 1 March and 20 April (USAID, 19/05/2015).

On 29 May, fighting between Liyu police (an Ethiopian paramilitary unit operating in Ethiopia's Somali region) and Somali clan militia escalated in Galgaduud region. At least 35 people were killed, mostly civilians, and many others were wounded (AFP, 31/05/2015).

On 15 May, Al Shabaab attacked and took control of the towns of Mubakar and Awdeegle in Lower Shabelle, reportedly killing between six and 15 Somali soldiers. Several militants also died (international media, 15/05/2015; 17/05/2015). On 13 May, Al Shabaab seized a boat carrying at least ten foreign nationals near the town of El Dheer in Galgaduud region. All passengers were detained (international media, 13/05/2015).

Mogadishu: Al Shabaab attacks in Mogadishu mainly target political figures. 76 people

were killed in the first three months of 2015 (local media, 19/01/2015; 16/02/2015; AFP, 22/01/2015; 16/02/2015; 28/03/2015; 18/04/2015; 21/04/2015; PI, 22/01/2015; BBC, 09/02/2015; 28/03/2015; 14/04/2015; Reuters 11/03/2015). On 23 May, militants killed a Somali member of parliament in Mogadishu and wounded another. A senior government official was killed in a separate attack (international media, 23/05/2015). On 6 May, a government official was shot dead and an AU troop convoy was bombed outside the capital (Reuters, 06/05/2015).

Al Shabaab

Al Shabaab is a militant Islamist group and off-shoot of the Islamic Courts Union. It took over most of southern Somalia in 2006, seeking to establish an Islamic state. Numbering 7,000–9,000 militants, Al Shabaab typically targets Somali government officials, AMISOM forces, and perceived government allies. Attacks in urban centres and along transport axes are common. Al Shabaab was forced out of Mogadishu in 2011 and Kismayo in 2012, and lost Barawe, Lower Shabelle, in October 2014.

Al Shabaab has also carried out a number of attacks in Kenya. The largest was on 2 April, when Al Shabaab attacked Garissa University: 147 people were killed and 79 injured (BBC, HRC, 02/04/2015).

SNAF-AMISOM Offensive

In November 2013, the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) force was increased to 22,000 from 17,600. Its mandate has been extended until 30 November 2015 (UNSC, 25/09/2014). The Somali National Armed Forces (SNAF) and AMISOM launched a military offensive against Al Shabaab-held areas in March 2014 (OCHA, 05/2014). The second phase of the offensive began in late August. Bakool, Gedo, Lower Shabelle, Hiraan, Bay, Banadir, and Lower Juba regions are all affected. Offensives are planned in regions such as Jilib, Buale and Sakow in Middle Juba, Bardhere in Gedo, Dinsor in Bay, and Sablaale in Lower Shabelle (FSNAU, 03/2015).

Over 2,200 conflict incidents with humanitarian impact were reported in the first nine months of 2014, including military operations, active hostilities, and other forms of violence against civilians (OCHA, 17/10/2014).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Access

Restricted humanitarian access continues to affect aid delivery to affected populations in south-central Somalia (OCHA, 02/06/2015). Between March and 20 April, 343 violent incidents impacting humanitarian operations and protection of civilians were recorded across the country (OCHA, 24/04/2015). Insecurity on the main roads makes needs assessment, delivery of humanitarian supplies, and response difficult (OCHA, 21/11/2014). Even in areas where there has been no active conflict, illegal checkpoints, banditry, and demands for bribes are common (OCHA, 17/10/2014).

Al Shabaab has cut off road access to towns controlled by AMISOM, including Rabhure and Wajid in Bakool (FEWSNET, 16/04/2015). Bullo Burde in Hiraan is only accessible by

helicopter; Belet Weyne–Mogadishu and Mogadishu–Baidoa–Dolow are most affected. The Puntland–Somaliland border is closed (OCHA, 24/04/2015; Logistics Cluster, 29/04/2015; OCHA, 12/05/2015).

The indefinite closure of Bosaso Airport, Puntland, for renovation, has severely constrained humanitarian operations (PI, 08/01/2015).

Security Incidents Involving Aid Workers

Over 40 security incidents involving aid workers took place in the first four months of 2015: eight people were killed, 14 injured, seven abducted and 20 arrested or detained (OCHA, 24/04/2015). A 400-strong UN military unit was deployed in Mogadishu with a mandate to protect aid workers in May 2014 (UN).

Disasters

Floods

Floods damaged about 6,600 hectares of crops and displaced around 16,500 people in south-central Somalia in April–May: 8,250 people in Jowhar–Mahaday, 3,900 in Sablaale, 2,700 in Galkayo, 1,530 in Wanla Weyne and 120 in Buur Hakaba (OCHA, 12/05/2015). **River levels continued to fall in upstream areas along the Juba and Shabelle river basins. The risk of flooding is minimal along the lower Shabelle. No flood risk is foreseen along the Juba (FAO, 02/06/2015).**

Displacement

IDPs

An estimated 1.1 million Somalis were IDPs by February 2015, 893,000 in the south-central region, 129,000 in Puntland, and 84,000 in Somaliland. 369,000 IDPs live in makeshift camps in Mogadishu (UNHCR, 06/05/2015). Figures showed little to no change over 2014, when some 80,000 were displaced due to the SNAF-AMISOM (OCHA, 04/12/2014).

Returnees

The Tripartite Agreement between the Kenyan and Somali Governments and UNHCR, signed in November 2013, establishes a legal framework for those Somali refugees wishing to return home (UNHCR 15/08/2014). Luuq, Baidoa, and Kismayo have been designated to receive returnees. 3,000 refugees have registered to return, compared to the original target of 10,000 (UNHCR, 08/12/2014). As of 21 April, 2,060 returnees had arrived; 1,497 in Kismayo, 513 in Baidoa, and 39 in Luuq (UNHCR, 22/03/2015; local media, 21/04/2015). Somali refugees in Kenya cite insecurity and lack of earning opportunities as their main uncertainties regarding a return to Somalia (UNHCR, East African, 02/08/2014; UNHCR, 11/08/2014).

Refugees and Returnees from Yemen

The number of new arrivals from Yemen has increased significantly. **Since late March,**

12,444 arrivals have been registered in Somalia. Over 21–27 May, 3,665 people arrived: 1,382 in Berbera, Somaliland, and 3,032 in Bosaso, Puntland. Camps are overcrowded and there is not enough capacity to meet needs. Current reception capacity in Bosaso is for 500 individuals; authorities are trying to identify a second location for reception in Puntland. **On 8 June, authorities started relocating arrivals from Bosaso to Gardo, a city further south.** Reception capacity in Berbera is for 200 individuals, and a school has been identified to provide additional temporary shelter. Somaliland authorities have stated that they will no longer accept arrivals in Berbera, as they are unable to provide the necessary assistance, until the situation improves. Some 7,000 people are registered to travel to Bosaso and additional groups to Berbera (IOM, 08/06/2015; 28/05/2015; local media, 24/05/2015; 13/05/2015; 08/06/2015; UNHCR, 14/05/2015). More than 80% of arrivals are Somali returnees (IOM, 21/05/2015).

Somali Refugees in Neighbouring Countries

972,020 Somalis are refugees in neighbouring countries: at least 423,244 in Kenya, 246,152 in Ethiopia, and 244,204 in Yemen, with the remainder in Uganda, Djibouti, Eritrea, and Tanzania. 3,107 new Somali refugees were registered in 2015 (UNHCR, 06/05/2015).

Food Security

The food security situation has deteriorated since January, with nearly one million people in Crisis and Emergency (IPC Phase 3 and 4) food insecurity as of May; an increase from earlier projections of 730,000 people (UNICEF, 30/04/2015). An additional 2.3 million people are classified as Stressed (IPC Phase 2) and highly vulnerable to shocks (OCHA, 02/06/2015; 10/03/2015).

People in IDP sites are facing Crisis and Emergency food insecurity. In parts of Hiraan and Bakool that are affected by roadblocks and conflict, most households will likely face Emergency food insecurity through September 2015 (Food Security and Nutrition Working Group, 22/05/2015; USAID, 19/05/2015).

Among non-IDPs, 12% of food insecure live in rural areas, and 12% are urban poor: poor households are in Crisis and a significant number of the poorest are in Emergency (FSNAU, 05/03/2015; FEWSNET, 16/04/2015). With a fourth consecutive below-average harvest in agropastoral areas, both agropastoral and urban households are expected to remain in Crisis unless trade resumes and humanitarian access increases (FEWSNET, 16/04/2015).

In south-central pastoral areas, *gu* rains improved pasture and water availability, leading to improvements in milk and food availability until September (Food Security and Nutrition Working Group, 22/05/2015; FEWSNET, 28/05/2015). The northwest agropastoral zone will likely see a below-average *gu* maize and cash crop harvest in July. Households will have to reduce food consumption between July and the next *karan* harvest in October (FEWSNET, 28/05/2015).

Agriculture and Markets

Flooding in the high productivity riverine areas of Jowhar district, Middle Shabelle, and Sablaale district, Lower Shabelle, is likely to lead to a long delayed and below-average

harvest. This could result in an increase in local cereal prices and a reduction in labour demand, and deteriorate food security until August (FEWSNET, 28/05/2015).

Livelihoods

Following the Al Shabaab attacks on Garissa University in Kenya, the Central Bank of Kenya revoked the licences of 13 money remittance providers based in Nairobi in an effort to curb the financing of terrorism. **An estimated 40% of Somalia's population rely on remittances to meet basic needs**, including water, healthcare, and education (AFP, 08/04/2015; Adeso, 10/04/2015; **UNICEF, 30/04/2015**). In early February, a number of banks in the US, UK, and Australia also broke ties with money transfer operators in Somalia (Inter Press, 06/02/2015). USD 1.3 billion in annual remittances, representing 25–45% of Somalia's GDP, will stop entering the country (OXFAM, 19/02/2015).

Health and Nutrition

Around 3 million people are in need of emergency health services, particularly in Bay, Bakool, Galgaduud, Middle Juba and parts of Gedo, where people have no access to health care (OCHA, 02/06/2015; 12/03/2015). As of November, 1.5 million people in south-central Somalia no longer have access to primary health services, and 300,000 children under five no longer have access to primary health services and free immunisation (UNICEF, 31/10/2014).

The number of acute watery diarrhoea and suspected cholera cases increased rapidly in late April in the Kenya–Somalia border town of Dhobley in Lower Juba. As of 17 May, 129 people have been admitted to hospital and five have died (IOM, 19/05/2015). Between January and March, central regions reported 691 measles cases, 1,094 malaria cases, and 692 cases of acute watery diarrhoea (WHO, 17/05/2015).

Nutrition

1.3 million people are in need of nutritional support (OCHA, 12/03/2015; 02/06/2015). Current GAM levels are 12% and SAM 1.9%, a decrease from previous levels (which were 14.9% and 2.6%, respectively) (FAO, 05/03/2015). Surveys conducted in October–December 2014 indicated that 203,000 children under five are acutely malnourished. 38,200 of these are severely acutely malnourished, a slight decrease from previous surveys (OCHA, 19/02/2014). **26% of nutrition actors have had to stop their activities this year due to limited funding, which could lead to an increase in levels of malnutrition (OCHA, 02/06/2015).**

The situation is very critical (over 15% GAM and increasing) among Riverine livelihoods in Gedo and Shabelle regions, in urban districts Belet Weyne and Bullo Burde in Hiraan region, as well as in urban Burao in Togdheer region and in Banadir region, which have shown a deteriorating trend in the first quarter of 2015 (FSNAU, 29/04/2015, UNICEF, 28/05/2015). In Bullo Burde, GAM is 33% and SAM 19%, according to an April nutrition assessment (USAID, 19/05/2015). Health facilities in central zones of Hawd, Addun and Coastal Deeh show sustained prevalence of critical malnutrition levels. East Golis, Sool and Kakaar in the northeast show a deterioration. An unexpected increase in malnutrition (over 15% GAM) was reported from health facilities in urban areas of Burao district in

Somaliland (UNICEF, 28/05/2015).

Further deterioration is expected in hotspots for acute malnutrition in Bay Agropastoral livelihood zone, in Gedo region, Belet Weyne district in Hiraan, and Hawd and Coastal Deeh livelihood zones (Food Security and Nutrition Working Group, 22/05/2015; UNICEF, 28/05/2015).

Shelter

937,000 people are estimated in need of shelter, due to displacement after flooding in south-central Somalia and evictions of displaced communities in Banadir, Kismayo, and other urban areas (OCHA, 02/06/2015).

IDPs in Mogadishu are living in makeshift shelters. The most pressing needs are in Aladala, Aslubta, Beelo and Maslac in Dayniile district, and Ikashi in Hodan (OCHA, 03/06/2015).

WASH

2.75 million people need safe water, particularly those in displacement sites and in areas affected by flooding, and acute watery diarrhoea or cholera (OCHA, 27/03/2015; 02/06/2015).

Protection

1.11 million people are considered in need of protection, mainly due to physical insecurity during the SNAF-AMISOM offensive, inter-clan fighting and recent conflict in Galgaduud and Bakool; SGBV, including cases of sexual violence during inter-clan conflict; child protection violations; killing of civilians (including children); separation of children; and forced/secondary eviction. The areas most affected are Middle and Lower Shabelle and Lower Juba (UNHCR Protection Cluster, 10/2014; OCHA, 02/06/2015).

Forced Evictions

2015 has seen a surge in forced evictions of IDPs, which remain a critical concern, particularly in urban areas. In the first three months of 2015, 40,000 people were reportedly evicted from Mogadishu (OCHA, 02/06/2015; NRC, 18/05/2015). The majority fled to settlements in the outskirts of the city. An assessment found more than half in need of access to shelter, 80% in need of access to safe water and latrines, 70% lacked access to food, and 60% are in need of health services in the new locations (Food Security Cluster, 23/03/2015). Human Rights Watch reported that authorities beat some of those evicted, destroyed their shelter, and left them without food, water, or assistance (HRW, 20/04/2015). Forced evictions have also been reported in Kismayo, Bosaso, and Luuq (UNHCR, 28/02/2015; ECHO, 25/03/2015; NRC, 18/05/2015).

SGBV

In September 2014, a Human Rights Watch report stated that AU forces have been raping and sexually exploiting women and girls in their bases in Mogadishu, sometimes using

humanitarian assistance to coerce them into sexual activities (HRW, 08/09/2014).

Children

In Tayeeglow, Lower Shabelle, an estimated 115 children have been abducted by Al Shabaab, 80 of whom are still held (OCHA, 21/11/2014). 4,314 cases of child exploitation and abuse were reported January–November 2014 (OCHA, 30/11/2014).

More than 1,000 grave child rights violations were recorded January–April 2015. Grave violations include recruitment or use of children, killing, maiming, rape or other sexual violence (UNICEF). **Boys are more affected than girls. 291 cases of child recruitment into armed groups were reported and 75 cases of sexual violence against children, compared to 370 and 30, respectively, reported during the same period in 2014 (OCHA, 03/06/2015).**

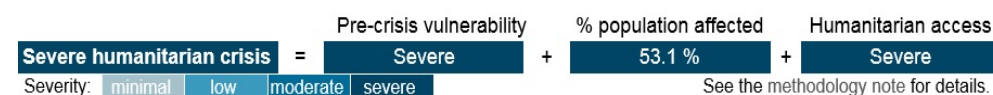
3,800 children have been identified as separated or unaccompanied since January 2015, compared to 708 in the same period in 2014. More than half are yet to be reunited or placed in interim care. Most children are from south-central Somalia.

Education

1.7 million children are out of school, 78% of are in south-central Somalia. Children of displaced families remain the most vulnerable and neglected in access to education. (OCHA, 12/03/2015; 02/06/2015).

Updated: 09/06/2015

SOUTH SUDAN **CONFLICT, FLOODS, FOOD INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT**



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

5 June: 13,000 people have fled Upper Nile and Unity states following intensified fighting (UNHCR).

29 May: The Government has expelled the UN Resident Coordinator, with no reason given (Guardian, 01/06/2015).

April–May: 650,000 people in Unity and Upper Nile states have lost access to humanitarian assistance following two months of heavy fighting (UNHCR, 05/06/2015).

KEY CONCERNS

- Frequent fighting between government and opposition forces continues in Unity, Jonglei, and Upper Nile states.
- 6.4 million people in need of humanitarian assistance in 2015; 4.1 million people to be assisted by the end of 2015 (OCHA, 08/01/2015).
- 3 million in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and a further 800,000 are in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) levels of food insecurity in April 2015. This is expected to rise to 3.6 million and 1 million, respectively, from May to July (IPC, 27/05/2015).
- 1.55 million IDPs since December 2013 (UNHCR, 08/05/2015). Almost 117,000 are in UNMISS bases (UNMISS, 13/04/2014).
- 260,000 refugees in South Sudan (mainly from Sudan, DRC, Ethiopia, and CAR).
- 525,000 South Sudanese refugees since December 2013 (UNHCR 04/2015).

OVERVIEW

Jonglei, Upper Nile, and Unity are priority states, and the priority sectors are food security and livelihoods, health, NFIs and shelter, nutrition, and WASH. Insecurity is hampering the delivery of assistance. The UN reports widespread violation of human rights and targeted violence against civilians.

Violence has spread across eastern South Sudan since December 2013. Fighting is most intense in the oil-rich northeastern states. Strife has progressively adopted the characteristics of an inter-communal conflict between the Dinka tribe allied to South Sudan President Kiir and government forces, and the Nuer, loosely allied with former South Sudan Vice President Riek Machar.

Political Context

Sudan–South Sudan

Relations between Sudan and South Sudan have been poor since South Sudan gained independence in 2011. The violence in South Sudan since December 2013 has exacerbated tensions, with additional concerns in Khartoum regarding an influx of refugees and arms, as well as disruption of oil flow. Sudan has accused South Sudan of using Sudanese militia groups to fight insurgents. South Sudan has made similar accusations.

National Context

Since violence broke out in December 2013, President Kiir's government forces (SPLA), who are predominantly Dinka and backed by Ugandan troops, are pitted against a loose alliance of military defectors loyal to former Vice President Riek Machar (SPLM-in-Opposition, or SPLM-IO), along with ethnic Nuer militia forces. Despite a significant reduction in intensity from January 2014, violence persists.

Peace talks, mediated by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), an East

African regional bloc, collapsed on 5 March, as two parties failed to meet a deadline for an agreement on power sharing and security issues in the final round of peace talks held in Addis Ababa (international media, 6/03/2015). IGAD said it plans to resume talks between the two parties in April (local media, 11/03/2015). Just before the deadline, on 3 March, the UN Security Council adopted a resolution setting out criteria for targeted sanctions on individuals or entities threatening security and stability in South Sudan (UN, 03/03/2015).

On 24 March, the South Sudanese parliament voted to extend President Kiir's term by three years, thereby cancelling elections scheduled for June 2015 (AFP, 24/03/2015). It has been announced that the Government and opposition forces will meet for peace negotiations on 8 June (local media, 28/05/2015).

On 29 May, the Government expelled the UN resident coordinator. No reason was given for the decision (The Guardian, 01/06/2015).

Economic Crisis

Following a 60% drop in oil production and widespread inflation, the central bank of South Sudan is allegedly printing money to meet a budget shortfall. The UN has warned of hyperinflation in the coming months (AP, 22/03/2015). The South Sudanese currency depreciated by approximately 26 percent from December 2014 to March 2015. Although the official Bank of South Sudan exchange rate remains pegged at 3.1 South Sudanese Pounds (SSP) to 1 U.S. Dollar (USD), the informal exchange rate reached 8.5 SSP for 1 USD in mid-April (FEWSNET, 18/04/2015).

New Insurgent Groups

According to reports, part of the South Sudan Democratic Movement (SSDM) Cobra faction, based in Pibor, Jonglei, has splintered from SSDM and allied with SPLM-in-Opposition. However, a senior member of the Greater Pibor Area Administration denied these reports (local media, 15/02/2015).

South Sudan Resistance Movement/Army

Brigadier General Lul Ruai Koang, former military spokesperson for the SPLM-in-Opposition, left SPLM-IO and announced the formation of the South Sudan Resistance Movement/Army, consisting of members from the Lou-Nuer ethnic group. He declared a unilateral ceasefire with the government forces. According to local media, all three commissioners of counties in Greater Akobo, a Lou-Nuer territory, have dismissed his claims of a new movement (local media, 08/03/2015).

REMNASA

On 29 January, the South Sudanese Government acknowledged the formation of a new armed opposition movement, the Revolutionary Movement for National Salvation (REMNASA), in Western Equatoria state. REMNASA is estimated to have 100–200 soldiers (local media, 29/01/2015).

Security Context

Most violence is occurring in the oil-rich northeastern states of Unity, Upper Nile, and Jonglei. Clashes have intensified since January, with a significant escalation since March. **As of early June, two months of fighting in Unity and Upper Nile have led to significant displacement and access challenges (UNHCR, 02/06/2015).**

At least 50,000 may have died since December 2013, although access restrictions make numbers hard to verify (International Crisis Group, 15/11/2014).

International Military Presence

The UN Security Council voted in December 2013 to increase the number of peacekeepers in the country from 10,000 to 12,500. As of 28 February 2015, there were 11,669 uniformed personnel. The current mandate is up to 30 May 2015.

Border Tensions with Sudan

On 8 April, the South Sudanese government accused Sudan of carrying out air raids against villages near the border in Western Bahr el Ghazal and Northern Bahr el Ghazal states. Four civilians were killed and nine injured, according to local media reports (local media, 9/04/2015; 10/04/2015).

Clashes between the Government and SPLM-in-Opposition

Unity

There are unconfirmed reports of armed men illegally entering Bentiu PoC (UNHCR, 29/05/2015). The heavy fighting around Leer, which began in April, has begun to subside (ICRC, 25/05/2015). Renewed heavy fighting between government and opposition forces has been reported in Bentiu and Rubkona since the end of the rainy season in late October (AFP, 10/11/2014; Reuters, 04/01/2014; OCHA, 12/02/2015). Widespread violence, including burning, looting, and rape, are being reported in Rubkona, Mayom, Guit, Koch, and Mayendit counties as of mid-May (International media, 15/05/2015). On 15 April, government officials temporarily transferred the capital of Unity state from Bentiu to Mankien, Mayom county, due to insecurity (UNMISS, 15/04/2015). In mid-March, fighting was reported north of the Bentiu PoC site (OCHA, 19/03/2015).

Upper Nile

On 26 May, South Sudanese government forces claim to have retaken Malakal (Al Jazeera, 26/05/2015). Heavy fighting between government and opposition forces started in Malakal on 22 April. Separate skirmishes were reported on 23 April in Gelachel, a town between Malakal and Nasir (local media, 22/04/2015; 23/04/2015). On 19 May, two mortar bombs landed in Melut PoC, killing eight. There have been widespread reports of (UNHCR, 29/05/2015).

In March, heavy fighting, including heavy shelling, between government and opposition forces was reported in Duk Duk, Renk county, and Manyo county (OCHA, 06/03/2015; local media, 09/03/2015).

Inter-communal Violence

Inter-clan animosity stems from competition over water resources and grazing land. Deaths from inter-communal fighting have increased since the second Sudanese civil war (1983–2005), as have attacks, abductions, and population displacement.

Lakes

Inter-communal violence has been reported in counties across Lakes state since September 2014. In March, more than 100 people were reportedly killed and 36 wounded, as more than 1,400 cattle were looted from six cattle camps in Rumbek Centre and Rumbek East counties (OCHA, 19/03/2015).

Warrap

At least 18 people were killed in clashes between clans of Gogrial East county and Gogrial West county over 14–29 May (local media, 29/05/2015).

Unity

On 29 March, a grenade exploded in Bentiu PoC site, injuring ten civilians. According to NGOs operating at the PoC site, the incident occurred during clashes between two groups of civilians.

Upper Nile

On 20 May, in Melut PoC, following a dispute at a water point, a grenade went off, injuring five (UNHCR, 22/05/2015). In early April, fighting was reported between armed youth from Dinka and Shilluk communities in Akoka county, Upper Nile state (local media, 2/04/2015). According to unconfirmed reports, 23 people were killed (OCHA, 13/04/2015).

Juba

One person was killed and around 60 injured in inter-communal clashes within the PoC site. Local media reports 3,500 IDPs left the PoC (local media, 13/05/2015; 11/05/2015).

Western Equatoria

On 23 May, armed violence was reported in Mundri town. An unconfirmed number of people, believed to be in the thousands, are displaced and without shelter (OCHA, 29/05/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Access

6.4 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance in 2015 (OCHA, 08/01/2015). The delivery of aid is restricted by heavy fighting, logistical constraints, and administrative impediments.

Heavy fighting in Unity and Upper Nile has blocked humanitarian access to an estimated 650,000 people (UNHCR, 02/06/2015). Humanitarian staff who were

evacuated in late May have not been able to return (UNHCR, 05/06/2015). 128 UNHAS staff and 40 staff from four other organisations were relocated (MSF, 18/05/2015; ICRC, 18/05/2015, WFP, 27/05/2015; UN, 22/05/2015).

At the end of May, ICRC and MSF returned to their sites in Leer, which had been looted (ICRC, 27/05/2015). Four national aid workers have been reported missing in Koch county (Nonviolent Peaceforce, 27/05/2015).

Administrative Constraints

On 13 May, Parliament passed an 'NGO Bill', which requires that organisations sign a 'country agreement'. Similar agreements have been used before to control organisations in Sudan. The bill would also ban the formation of forums for international NGOs (which could hinder coordination), and allow the Government the right to impose unspecified fees (IRIN, 13/05/2015).

Security Constraints

Incidents against humanitarian personnel and assets reported in January and February 2015 included assault, burglary, harassment, arrest, and detention. Most cases were reported in Juba (Central Equatoria), Bentiu (Unity), and in Upper Nile state (OCHA, 18/03/2015). On 17 February, a British aid worker was shot in Juba (international media, 18/02/2014). In February, eight access incidents related to insecurity were reported in Lakes state (OCHA, 18/03/2015). A WFP staff member and one UNMISS contractor are still being held after their abduction in Malakal in October 2014 (UNMISS, 17/10/2014; WFP, 17/10/2014). Two WFP staff members and a WFP-contracted driver have been missing from Upper Nile state since 1 April (WFP, 10/04/2015).

Displacement

As of 31 December 2014, over 1.55 million South Sudanese had been displaced internally and over 551,636 South Sudanese refugees had moved across borders since December 2013 (UNHCR, 13/04/2015; 21/05/2015). Fluid displacement patterns and limited access to rural areas make numbers difficult to verify (UNHCR 11/07/2014).

IDPs

There are approximately 1,555,059 IDPs in South Sudan: 595,500 in Jonglei, 437,600 in Unity, 74,100 in Central Equatoria, 244,900 in Upper Nile, and 125,400 in Lakes (**UNHCR, 28/05/2015**; OCHA, 15/05/2015). An estimated 802,120 IDPs are under 18 (UNICEF, 26/03/2015). Displacement patterns remain fluid, driven by violence, floods, and the search for emergency assistance (IOM, 03/09/2014).

Since the beginning of May, fighting south of Bentiu, Unity state, has displaced up to 100,000 more people (UNHCR, 08/05/2015; 21/05/2015; **02/06/2015**). It is believed that, as of 26 May, 28,000 people displaced by recent fighting in Unity state have returned home (local media, 26/05/2015).

Fighting in Upper Nile state reportedly displaced some 25,000 IDPs in Melut. They fled towards Paloich (Paloch). The status of these IDPs remains unknown (UNHCR,

29/05/2015).

Between 120,000 and 145,400 IDPs are sheltering in six Protection of Civilians (PoC) sites on UNMISS bases including between 62,000 and 76,000 in Bentiu, 34,000 in Juba UN House, 26,000 in Malakal, and 2,600 in Bor (UNMISS 21/05/2015; WFP, 27/05/2015, IOM, 27/05/2015). Bentiu PoC site received approximately 12,200 new IDPs between the 29 April and 22 May (IOM, 24/05/2015). By 30 April, 8,955 new IDPs had arrived in the Malakal PoC site (UNMISS, 23/04/2015).

The South Sudanese Government has rejected a UN plan to relocate 100,000 IDPs to places of their choice, which included areas under SPLM-IO control (local media, 10/05/2015).

Refugees in South Sudan

259,232 refugees are in South Sudan: 235,000 are from Sudan, 15,500 from DRC, 4,900 from Ethiopia, and 2,040 from CAR. Over 134,000 refugees are based in Upper Nile and around 96,500 in Unity (UNHCR, 07/05/2015; 19/04/2015; 30/04/2015). Most of the Sudanese refugees in Upper Nile state reside in four refugee camps in Maban county (OCHA, 03/04/2014).

Since 23 December 2014, 12,284 new refugees have arrived in Yida (UNCHR, 05/06/2015). Arrival rates have increased sharply in 2015 (OCHA, 21/02/2015). Refugees cited aerial bombardments, ground attacks and lack of livelihood and education opportunities as reasons for leaving (UNHCR, 30/01/2015).

The South Sudanese Government wants to close Yida camp in June 2015 and relocate refugees to other camps. The South Sudan Government and UNHCR have agreed to expand Ajuong Thok refugee camp to accommodate up to 40,000 people. 520 were transferred from Yida in early May (UNCHR, 06/05/2015).

Returnees

As of 28 August 2014, 186,000 people had returned since the beginning of the crisis: 70,000 in Jonglei, 109,000 in Unity, and 5,000 in Northern Bahr el Ghazal (OCHA, 28/08/2014).

Earlier reports indicated a total of 1.9 million returnees from Sudan since 2007.

South Sudan Refugees in Other Countries

559,468 South Sudanese have sought refuge in neighbouring countries since the onset of the conflict, 15 December 2013 (UNHCR, 29/05/2015). **Since the beginning of 2015, 60,000 South Sudanese have fled the country (UNHCR, 02/06/2015).**

Sudan: As of 28 May, 149,436 South Sudanese nationals have arrived in Sudan since December 2013 (UNHCR, 28/05/2015). There have been unverified reports of large movements of people towards West Kordofan state, at the border with Sudan (UNHCR, 18/05/2015). **Over 13,000 refugees have arrived in White Nile and South Kordofan states in Sudan in the last two weeks; 7,000 of them arrived in the first four days of**

June (UNHCR, 05/06/2015). Ethiopia and Uganda have also reported sharp increases in arrivals during May. UNHCR is preparing for the refugee population to further grow due to continued insecurity and a deteriorating humanitarian situation (UNHCR, 02/06/2015).

As of late March, the Sudanese Government has refused to recognise South Sudanese nationals as refugees and instead considers them to be Sudanese citizens (UNHCR, 03/04/2014). UNHCR declared this constitutes an obstacle to accessing humanitarian assistance.

Ethiopia: 208,691 South Sudanese refugees (UNHCR, 28/05/2015).

Uganda: 155,417 refugees (UNHCR, 28/05/2015).

Kenya: 45,924 refugees (UNHCR, 28/05/2015).

Food Security

3 million were in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and a further 800,000 are in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) food insecurity in April 2015. This is expected to have reached 3.6 million and 1 million, respectively, from May to July (IPC, 27/05/2015). The worst affected areas include southern and central Unity state, western Jonglei, and southern Upper Nile state. Fangak, Canal/Pigi, Ulang, Luakpiny/Nasir, and Longochuk counties were ranked as in Emergency levels of food insecurity as of April 2015 (FEWSNET, 20/04/2015; WFP, 15/04/2015; IPC, 27/05/2015).

Deepening food insecurity is the result of insecurity affecting last year's planting season. This has caused abnormal migration of livestock, limited market functionality, and depletion of household stocks (UNHCR, 05/06/2015). Conflict has also severely raised the price of staple foods. For example, in Juba, prices of both locally produced and imported cereals, vegetable oil and sugar increased by 24–69% in the first quarter of 2015, making them 90–100% higher than the normal seasonal levels. 80% of household income goes on food (IPC, 27/05/2015).

The food security situation has worsened in Warrap and Lakes states, as they experienced above-normal flooding in 2014, which affected crop harvests, livestock migration, and disease patterns. In Lakes state, increased inter-clan fighting and cattle raiding has affected the stability of livelihoods (IPC, 02/2015).

Conflict has affected trade flows and market infrastructure, and weakened financial systems (WFP, 02/2015). The country depends on food imports, and a de facto devaluation of the national currency between 2011 and 2013, the reduction in oil exports, and the increase in imports, all have a negative impact on households' purchasing power. The fighting forced WFP to stop food distribution to 155,000 food insecure people (UNHCR, 29/05/2015). **Logistical constraints make timely delivery of food by WFP to Upper Nile a challenge (UNHCR, 05/06/2015).**

Health and Nutrition

5.8 million people need health assistance. Waterborne diseases in flooded areas, as well

as kala azar (visceral leishmaniasis) in Jonglei, are the most pressing health concerns (WHO, 10/2014). Malaria, acute respiratory infections, acute watery diarrhoea, and acute bloody diarrhoea are the main causes of illness among the IDPs (WHO, 15/02/2015).

Due to fighting in Unity, a hospital in Koch has been destroyed. It provided healthcare to around 35,000 people (international media, 12/05/2015).

Measles

A measles outbreak has been confirmed in Bentiu PoC, with 130 cases of measles reported as of 9 April (OCHA, 13/04/2015)

Nutrition

As of 4 February, at least 229,000 children are estimated severely malnourished (UNICEF, 04/02/2015). Malnutrition screening of 22,917 children in January and February in the three conflict-affected states found GAM levels above the emergency threshold of 15% in Upper Nile (17.2%), Unity (18.9%) and Jonglei (26%) (UNICEF, 26/03/2015). In the traditionally high burdened states in non-conflict affected areas, the GAM rates were highest in Warrap (17.2%) and Northern Bahr el Ghazal (14.6%) (WFP, 12/2014).

In the town of Leer, at least 1,400 children were reported malnourished, and are no longer receiving treatment (MSF, 09/05/2015; Medair, 13/05/2015). In Bentiu PoC site, screening of 9,288 children under five revealed a SAM rate of 1.8%. In Jonglei state, 10,865 children under five were screened: 4.8% were severely malnourished. In Upper Nile 4,899 children under 5 were screened, and 0.6% were identified as SAM (UNICEF, 21/05/2015).

The screening of over 600,000 children across the country in 2014 found an SAM rate of 6.7% and an MAM rate of 12.6% (UNICEF, 19/08/2014). Twice as many needed treatment for SAM in 2014 than in 2013 (UNICEF 15/07/2014).

Visceral Leishmaniasis

1,316 cases of visceral leishmaniasis, including 39 deaths (case fatality rate 3.18%), have been reported in Lankien, Ulang, Walgak, and Chuil (Jonglei) since the beginning of 2015. Of these, 837 were new cases, 188 were relapses, and 18 did not complete treatment (WHO, 15/02/2015; 29/03/2015).

7,204 cases and 199 deaths were recorded in 2014, compared to 2,992 cases and 88 deaths for all 2013 (WHO, 08/01/2015). Most cases were reported in Jonglei (OCHA, 30/10/2014). Kala azar is a chronic and potentially fatal parasitic disease transmitted by the bite of infected sandflies.

WASH

Over 80% of the reported latrines in Ajuong Thok (Unity state) lack roofs or doors, and are not gender-separated. Only one of the seven sites, Dabat Bosin, has adequate water supply to reach SPHERE emergency standards of 15L per person per day (UNHCR, 29/05/2015).

Water coverage in the IDP sites of Melut PoC, Bentiu PoC, and Malakal PoC was only 12.4

, 8.3, and 10 L/person/day, respectively (IOM, 27/05/2015).

There have been 1,085 cases of acute watery diarrhoea in Maban county's four refugee camps (UNHCR, 08/05/2015). Malakal PoC, Bentiu PoC, and Melut have 56, 207 and 55 latrines per person IOM, 14/05/2015).

Education

1.7 million children and adolescents are in need of emergency education, including 400,000 who have dropped out of school (UNICEF, 16/01/2015).

Children are not attending school in 70% of IDP sites (CCCM, 17/04/2014). The inability to pay teachers' wages has limited education activities in displacement areas (OCHA, 26/10/2014). 83 schools are occupied by armed groups or IDPs (OCHA, 27/03/2014). Many schools remain closed in Jonglei, Unity, and Upper Nile. Rising insecurity has disrupted education in remote villages in Lakes state: Yirol West, Cueibet, Rumbek North, Rumbek East and Rumbek Central counties are most affected. The state ministry of education has relocated 19 primary schools from remote areas into Rumbek town for safety reasons (local media, 20/03/2015).

Protection

Children

A UN Security Council report stated that all parties to the conflict since December 2013 were responsible for grave violations against children in 2014, including killing and maiming, recruitment and use, abduction, and rape and other forms of sexual violence (UN, 30/12/2014).

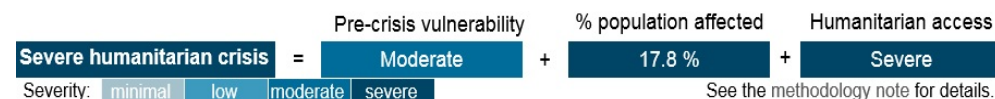
13,000 children have reportedly been recruited by armed groups since the beginning of 2014 (R2P Monitor, 15/05/2015). On 21 February, an unidentified armed group abducted at least 89 boys, some as young as 13, from their homes in the town of Wau Shilluk, near Malakal (Upper Nile). According to UNICEF, the number may be in the hundreds and the children have been recruited as child soldiers. The Shilluk militia, allied with SPLA, is believed to be responsible (UNICEF, 28/02/2015). Since January, UNICEF has released 1,757 children who had been recruited as child soldiers by the Cobra faction (UNICEF, 24/04/2015).

SGBV

According to the UN Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict, rape has been used as a weapon of war between government and opposition forces (international media, 23/10/2014). In May, 12 rape cases have been reported in a series of attacks in southern Unity state (UNICEF, 20/05/2015). Early and forced marriage, rape, and domestic violence have been reported in Maban refugee camps (Batil, Doro, Gendrassa and Kaya) (OCHA, 16/10/2014). In Melut (Upper Nile), firewood collection remains a major safety concern for women and girls, with reports of GBV (OCHA, 26/10/2014). Sexual violence and forced marriage are increasing in Cuibeit county, Lakes state, and Magwi and Torit counties, Eastern Equatoria state, as a result of inter-communal violence (OCHA, 09/02/2015).

Updated: 08/06/2015

SUDAN CONFLICT, FOOD INSECURITY, EPIDEMIC, DISPLACEMENT



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

5 June: 13,000 South Sudanese nationals arrived in White Nile and South Kordofan, fleeing intensified violence in Upper Nile and Unity states (UNHCR).

31 May: An influx of refugees in White Nile has led to deteriorating living conditions in camps (OCHA).

KEY CONCERNS

- 6.6 million people (20% of the population) need humanitarian assistance (OCHA 17/11/2014): 4.4 million in Darfur and 980,000 in South Kordofan and Blue Nile states (OCHA, 11/2014).

- 1.4 million people face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) food insecurity. Darfur, South Kordofan, Blue Nile and West Kordofan are worst affected (FSNWG, 26/05/2015).

- 1.2 million children under five acutely malnourished, an estimated 550,000 are severely acutely malnourished (OCHA, 23/04/2015).

- 3.1 million IDPs. Two million in Darfur prior to 2014, 431,000 displaced in 2014, and 43,000 newly displaced in 2015 (OCHA, 03/2015, 02/2015).

- Humanitarian access remains a significant problem due to insecurity, mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW), logistical constraints, and restrictions placed by the authorities.

OVERVIEW

Several regions of Sudan are facing large-scale internal displacement due to violence, widespread food insecurity, malnutrition, lack of access to basic services, and recurrent natural disasters. Humanitarian access to conflict zones is severely restricted.

Numerous, protracted insurgencies are being waged by several armed groups across

Darfur, South Kordofan, and Blue Nile. Darfur has been the scene of inter-communal clashes and conflict between the government and armed opposition for over a decade, and fighting intensified in March 2014. Violence in Blue Nile and South Kordofan grew significantly after South Sudan won independence in 2011. Tensions also continue to run high between Sudan and South Sudan.

Political Context

Profound divisions within Sudanese society have persisted since independence in 1956, and the Government's exploitation of intercommunal differences has aggravated the situation.

Parliamentary and presidential elections were held 13–15 April, and according to unofficial estimates President Omar al Bashir achieved a landslide victory. Voter turnout was reportedly extremely low (AP, 13/04/2015; international media, 19/04/2015). The Sudan Revolutionary Front and the National Umma Party, and other opposition groups boycotted in the elections (Al Jazeera, 27/04/2015).

Sudan–South Sudan

Tensions between Khartoum and Juba, persistent since South Sudan's independence in 2011, increased when violence erupted in South Sudan in December 2013. The disruption of oil flow is a key concern for both countries. In November 2014, South Sudanese officials accused the Sudanese Government of bombing Raga county, Western Bahr el Ghazal state, and Maban county, Upper Nile state, where more than 220,000 Sudanese refugees are living (AFP, 14/11/2014).

The Sudanese Government has accused Juba of using Sudanese militia groups, and the South Sudanese army (SPLA) has accused Khartoum of supporting the Sudan People's Liberation Movement -in-Opposition. Both the opposition and Khartoum have denied the accusations.

Sudan Revolutionary Front

The Sudan Revolutionary Front (SRF), formed in 2011, is seeking a comprehensive peace process covering the whole country. The Government is only willing to discuss the conflict in Darfur.

The SRF is made up of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N), mainly active in Blue Nile and South Kordofan states, as well as Darfur's three largest opposition groups: the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM); the Sudan Liberation Movement led by Abdel Wahid Al Nur (SLM-AW); and the Sudan Liberation Movement led by Minni Arkou Minnawi (SLM-MM).

In March 2015, the Sudanese government and a number of Darfur opposition-group commanders led by Mohamedain Ismail Basher, formerly the SLM-MM operations commander, signed a peace agreement in N'Djamena, Chad.

Blue Nile and South Kordofan States

While the SPLM governs the independent South Sudan, the SPLM-North continues an

insurgency in Sudan's Blue Nile and South Kordofan states, which have routinely opposed government rule. Talks between Khartoum and the SPLM-N have repeatedly failed, and negotiations last collapsed in April 2014, reportedly over the SPLM-N's demand for a comprehensive peace process.

Security Context

Extensive military operations aimed to end armed opposition in Darfur, South Kordofan, and Blue Nile began at the end of 2013. Tribal fighting also intensified in Darfur and Kordofan regions in 2013 and 2014, leading to thousands of deaths and injuries and forcing over 300,000 people to flee their homes. Large-scale violence by pro-government militia against the IDP population in Darfur continues in 2015.

UN Peacekeeping Mission

Relations between the Government of Sudan and the UN peacekeeping mission deteriorated following the Government's refusal to allow a UNAMID investigation of mass rape in Tabit, North Darfur at the end of 2014 (AFP, 30/11/2014). A working group of UN, AU and Sudanese officials reached an agreement on the terms of reference for UNAMID's exit strategy in February and held a four-day meeting 16–19 April (local media, 8/03/2015; 20/04/2015).

Darfur

Security in Darfur has reportedly deteriorated significantly since late December 2013, with numerous airstrikes by the Sudanese Air Force (SAF). Attacks by pro-government militia on IDPs and villagers, their shelters, and commercial convoys, are frequent.

On 18 and 19 May, an unknown number of villagers were injured and at least one killed during attacks by the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) in Tawila locality, North Darfur (local media, 19/05/2015; All Africa, 21/05/2015). In early January, 15 villages were burned and another 30 abandoned during fighting between government forces and armed groups in Tawila and Um Baru localities, North Darfur (OCHA, 08/01/2015; local media, 06/01/2015).

On 1 April, Sudanese warplanes dropped ten bombs in an airstrike on Rowata, Central Darfur, killing 14 civilians and injuring 18 (local media, 7/04/2015).

Inter-communal violence: Following weeks of tension, fighting erupted between the Southern Reizeigat and Maaliya tribes in East Darfur on 10 and 11 May near Abu Karinka, East Darfur State. Approximately 100 tribesmen were killed and around 168,000 individuals are believed affected. Over 665 houses were destroyed. Fighting has now stopped. Around 24,000 people who were displaced are believed to be returning home but remain in need of assistance (local media, 17/05/2015; international media, 11/05/2015; OCHA, 24/05/2015).

In 2014, there were serious clashes between Misseriya and Salamat in Central Darfur, between Misseriya clans in West Darfur, and between Maaliya and Rizeigat in East Darfur (local media, 20/08/2014).

Kordofan and Blue Nile

Information on Blue Nile and South Kordofan states is difficult to obtain as government authorities severely restrict access to the fighting zone.

On 10 April, government forces began a 'scorched earth' campaign, burning villages and causing displacement in SPLM-N held areas (local media, 28/05/2015). On 21 May, government forces attacked and burned Medeim El Jebel village, in Blue Nile. Some 2,000 families (14,000 people) are believed to be living in the open without shelter (local media, 21/05/2015).

Fighting between SPLM-N and government troops intensified in March, with SPLM-N claiming they captured the garrison town of Habila on 28 March. According to the South Kordofan and Blue Nile Coordination Unit (SKBNCU), aerial bombardment and shelling increased significantly from the last week of March (SKBNCU, 03/2015). On 4 April, SPLM-N claimed that they had captured a truck in South Kordofan, which was carrying ballot boxes for nationwide elections to be held on 13 April (AFP, 05/04/2015). On 25 April, the SPLM-N claimed that they attacked the Sudan Air Force (SAF) from Kululu hills, south of Kadugli town (local media, 27/04/2015).

According to a Human Rights Watch report, the Government of Sudan dropped cluster bombs on civilian areas of South Kordofan's Nuba Mountains between February and March 2015. The Sudanese Government has denied possession of any stockpiles of cluster bombs, which are prohibited by the 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions (Human Rights Watch, 16/04/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

6.6 million people (20% of the population) are in need of humanitarian assistance; more than half are in Darfur and South Kordofan and Blue Nile states (OCHA 17/11/2014).

In October, 4.4 million people in Darfur, more than half of the region's population, needed humanitarian assistance (OCHA). This includes 2.4 million IDPs, 1.9 million non-displaced severely affected by violence, and 136,000 returnees or refugees from neighbouring countries.

In South Kordofan and Blue Nile states, 749,000 need assistance in government-controlled areas and 378,000 are estimated displaced by conflict in SPLM-N territory. Limited access to non-government areas makes verification impossible.

Access

Humanitarian access for international relief organisations is a major problem. Humanitarian operations are heavily hampered by insecurity, the presence of mines and ERW, logistical constraints, and government restrictions.

As of May it is estimated that 92,000 IDPs are without access to humanitarian assistance due to fighting in North Darfur (UNHCR, 30/04/2015, local media, 29/05/2015).

Administrative and Logistical Constraints

Access to areas of active conflict in Darfur remains largely denied (OCHA,

03/06/2015). Following the violence in Abu Karinka in May, authorities denied UNAMID and humanitarian agencies access to the area (IRIN, 02/06/2015). The Humanitarian Aid Commission has been accused of impeding the distribution of food, water, and shelter materials to IDPs in South Darfur (local media, 09/05/2015).

August 2013 regulations ban foreign humanitarian groups and UN agencies from working for human rights, and the Government has banned humanitarian access to areas controlled by opposition groups.

East Jebel Marra has been virtually inaccessible since 2010.

There has been no humanitarian access from Sudan to opposition-held areas in South Kordofan since October 2013.

Security Incidents Involving Aid Workers

An increase in carjacking incidents targeting aid organisations has been reported, with at least three recorded in mid-May (OCHA, 24/05/2015). Three national aid workers have been killed in Blue Nile state and two attacks on aid organisations have been reported between January and February 2015 (ECHO, 10/02/2015; MSF, 22/01/2015). 25 aid workers were abducted in Darfur in 2014, the highest number of abduction cases recorded since 2004 (OCHA, 22/01/2015).

Disasters

In early June, heavy rainfall in Central Darfur destroyed several houses and caused food stock loss, in particular affecting IDPs (local media, 03/06/2015).

At the end of May, strong winds and heavy rains affected five villages near Abyei town, leaving 210 households (1,470 individuals) in need of assistance (OCHA, 24/05/2015).

Displacement

IDPs

As of May 2015, there are 3.1 million IDPs in Sudan, **2.55 million** of whom are in Darfur (**OCHA, 03/06/2015**; UNHCR, 30/04/2015). 457,000 people were displaced in Darfur January–December 2014, more than in any year since 2004: 141,000 reportedly returned (OCHA, 31/12/2014).

2.4 million IDPs reside in 46 camps and 68 settlements in Darfur (82,530 orphans, 34,099 widows, and 52,352 sick and elderly), according to a survey conducted by the Darfur Regional Authority (DRA) from December 2013 to April 2014. OCHA reported in June that government policy to prevent the creation of new camps is an obstacle to the verification and registration of IDPs. **The displaced in Darfur report insecurity as a major concern. Other concerns include lack of access to basic services such as water, food, shelter, and medicines (IRIN, 02/06/2015).**

67,000 people were displaced by fighting between Berti and Zayadia tribes in Mellit, North Darfur over late February and early March (OCHA, 03/05/2015).

Over 121,000 people have been displaced in North and Central Darfur, including Jebel Marra, since early January. 41,304 have been verified in North Darfur (OCHA, 31/03/2015).

Jebel Marra: Up to 100,000 people may have been displaced since the beginning of 2015, however lack of access means humanitarian agencies have been unable to confirm the number or reach the displaced (OCHA, 03/06/2015).

North Darfur: 5,340 unverified IDPs arrived from East Darfur fleeing fighting erupted between the Southern Reizeigat and Maaliya tribes which occurred on the 10 and 11 May. 4,700 are sheltered in schools. 50 cases of SAM were recorded among children (OCHA, 24/05/2015). In February, OCHA verified another 41,304 newly displaced (OCHA, 22/02/2015).

South Darfur: Two fires have broken out in two months in El Doma Camp, South Darfur. The most recent, on 29 May, destroyed 18 shelters (local media, 29/05/2015).

Central Darfur: 74,000 verified IDPs as of the beginning of January 2015 (OCHA 31/12/2014). In the week ending 10 May, 344 people came to Zalingei camp, Central Darfur, after their homes were burned down by militia groups (OCHA, 10/05/2015). In March and April 2015, an estimated 16,300 IDPs arrived in Guldo town from central Jebel Marra locality, fleeing fighting between government and militia, as well as lack of humanitarian assistance (OCHA, 08/04/2015).

East Darfur: 35,000 IDPs as of end November 2014 (OCHA, 31/12/2014).

West Darfur: 6,000 IDPs arrived from East Darfur fleeing fighting erupted between the Southern Reizeigat and Maaliya tribes which occurred on the 10 and 11 May. (OCHA, 24/05/2015).

Blue Nile and South Kordofan: In South Kordofan and Blue Nile states, 378,000 people are estimated displaced in SPLM-N territory (OCHA, 03/02/2015). With no presence in the SPLM-N territory, the UN is unable to verify these figures (OCHA, 19/05/2014). **Since 10 May, increased violence has displaced an estimated 26,000 people in South Kordofan (HART, 05/06/2015).**

West Kordofan: More than 52,000 people were reported displaced in September (OCHA, 21/09/2014).

Abyei: According to an inter-agency mission, nearly 800 IDPs were confirmed to have fled Marialahak village to Rummamier village, following attacks by armed Misseriya (OCHA, 12/04/2015).

Refugees in Sudan

There are 304,879 refugees in Sudan (UNHCR, 30/04/2015). **As of 5 June, 157,088 are South Sudanese nationals who have arrived in Sudan since 15 December 2013 (UNHCR, 05/06/2015). Over 13,000 South Sudanese refugees have arrived in White Nile and South Kordofan states since the end of May, fleeing intensified conflict in**

Upper Nile and Unity states; 7,000 arrived during the first four days of June (UNHCR, 05/06/2015).

Approximately **88,749** South Sudanese refugees live in White Nile, 33,200 in Khartoum, 11,566 in South Kordofan, 17,633 in West Kordofan, 3,661 in Blue Nile and 164 East Darfur (UNHCR, 03/06/2015; 20/05/2015). 66% (85,240) are children (UNICEF, 02/2015). 91% of households are female-headed (UNHCR, 29/01/2015).

6,800 displaced South Sudanese are living in the disputed area of Abyei (OCHA, 17/12/2014).

Sudanese Refugees in Other Countries

As of January 2015, OCHA reported 367,000 Sudanese refugees in Chad, 233,000 in South Sudan, 35,000 in Ethiopia, and 1,880 in Central African Republic (UNHCR, 23/02/2015; OCHA, 03/02/2015).

12,384 refugees from South Kordofan have fled to South Sudan (Yida, in Unity state) since December 2014 (UNHCR, 31/05/2015).

Food Security

Food security is expected to deteriorate when the lean season begins in June (FEWSNET, 31/05/2015). The number of food insecure will increase to 4 million and peak at 4.2 million in August/September (FEWSNET, 01/02/2014; OCHA, 03/05/2015).

In areas of South Kordofan, Blue Nile, and Darfur, newly displaced households and IDPs without access to humanitarian assistance will face Crisis by June (FEWSNET, 31/05/2015). An estimated 20–25% of poor households in the northern parts of North Darfur and North Kordofan states are expected to face Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food insecurity by June (FEWSNET, 31/05/2015).

Health and Nutrition

The UN estimated in mid-December 2013 that 165,000 children in SPLM-N-controlled parts of South Kordofan and Blue Nile do not have access to basic health services.

There are indications that the health situation in Darfur is deteriorating; many have no access to healthcare.

Measles

A measles outbreak began in late 2014. 167 confirmed measles cases were reported in the week ending 3 May, compared with 101 cases during the previous week. At 3 May, 4,127 suspected measles cases, 2,336 confirmed cases, and 35 deaths have been reported in 2015. West Darfur is worst affected (653 confirmed cases, nine deaths). Kassala has had 397 confirmed cases and five deaths, while in Red Sea state, there have been 352 cases and five deaths (WHO, 03/05/2015).

Meningitis

The children's emergency hospital in Omdurman, Khartoum, received 53 cases of meningitis in the last two weeks of May (local media, 29/05/2015).

Nutrition

1.2 million children under five were estimated to be acutely malnourished as of April 2015. This revision of the planning figures resulted in a drop from 2 million estimated at the end of September 2014 (OCHA, 23/04/2015). An estimated 550,000 were severely malnourished in 2014 (UN, 05/05/2015).

WASH

Limited water supply and sanitation facilities are reported in most refugee sites in White Nile state. The situation has further deteriorated with the recent new influx of refugees from South Sudan (OCHA, 31/05/2015). In Al Alagaya and El Redis II, the population has very limited access to water (UNHCR, 05/06/2015). In Um Sangor camp, 572 people share one latrine (OCHA, 31/05/2015).

20 water pumps have stopped working in El Salam camp, South Darfur in the past five months, affecting 80,000 people (Radio Dabanga, 04/05/2015). Kassab IDP camp in Kutum has been suffering from a severe shortage of drinking water since the beginning of May. Reports suggest that 11 out of the 20 water pumps at the camp are non-operational (local media, 25/05/2015).

Parts of the capital Khartoum are not receiving water due to poor infrastructure, leading to protests (local media, 28/05/2015).

Education

3 million children aged 5–13 are out of school in Sudan. 1.9 million of these are primary school aged children (UNICEF, 14/04/2015).

Protection

Kidnapping

On 4 June, 14 Eritrean asylum seekers were kidnapped as they were transported to Shegarab refugee camp in eastern Sudan (AFP, 04/06/2015).

Mines and ERW

250 locations covering an estimated 32km² are contaminated by mines and ERW, with the greatest concentrations in Kassala, Gedaref, Red Sea, Blue Nile, South Kordofan, and Darfur (UNMAS). South Kordofan is the most heavily mined area of Sudan, according to the Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor.

Sexual and Gender-based Violence

Rape of IDPs by pro-government militia was frequently reported by the local media in North, South, and Central Darfur and Jebel Marra in 2014. On 18 and 19 May at least three

cases of rape were reported during attacks by the RSF in Tawila, North Darfur (local media, 19/05/2015). Reports in early November suggested that more than 200 women and girls had been raped by Sudanese soldiers in Tabit area in North Darfur. Sudanese troops denied UNAMID access to assess the situation (Reuters, 17/11/2014).

Legal Status

As of March 2014, the Sudanese Government refuses to recognise South Sudanese nationals as refugees and instead considers them to be Sudanese citizens (UNHCR, 03/04/2014). All foreigners in Sudan had to register with the immigration administration by 1 April. UNHCR has declared this constitutes an obstacle to humanitarian assistance.

Updated: 08/06/2014

CAMEROON FOOD INSECURITY, EPIDEMIC, DISPLACEMENT



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

28 May: Approximately 151,000 IDPs and refugees are in Far North region (UNICEF, 28/05/2015).

KEY CONCERNS

- 2.1 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance (OCHA, 17/12/2014).
- 311,000 refugees have arrived from CAR and Nigeria (OCHA, 31/03/2015).
- An estimated 1.08 million people are food insecure in 2015 (OCHA, 10/03/2015).

OVERVIEW

Conflict in both Nigeria and CAR continues to displace vulnerable refugees to Cameroon, and the spillover from the Boko Haram conflict in Nigeria in particular threatens security in Cameroon. Some 2.1 million people, 10% of the population, are in need of humanitarian assistance, primarily in the Far North, North, Adamawa, and East regions.

Security Context

Boko Haram Attacks

The armed Islamist group Boko Haram (BH), based in Nigeria, has intensified attacks in Cameroon since end December (ECHO, 06/01/2015). Throughout December, BH militants crossed into the Far North region from Lake Chad, attacking towns and villages, military vehicles, kidnapping individuals, and attempting to control army bases (AFP, 06/04/2015; Reuters, 18/12/2014; VoA, 13/12/2014; BBC, 29/12/2014; AFP, 29/01/2015). Cross-border raids continued into January in Kolofata. An increase in attacks to obtain supplies like food and livestock was recorded in the north in March–April. While attacks are still concentrated in the Far North region, they have spread southward. (AFP, 06/04/2015).

The United States is supplying equipment and logistics training to the Cameroonian military to aid its efforts to counter BH campaign (VoA, 12/12/2014, Reuters, 17/02/2015). Both Cameroon and Chad pledged to support Cameroon in fighting BH, and have launched air and ground offensives (Daily Mail, 14/01/2015; New York Times, 05/02/2015).

Recent Incidents

There have been at least 18 BH attacks in northern Cameroon since January 2015 (AFP, 12/05/2015). On 16 April, Boko Haram attacked the villages of Bia and Blaberi in Kolofata district, Far North region, killing 19 people and later that night attacked Amchide, an army position (Reuters, 17/04/2015; AFP, 17/04/2015). Armed militants from CAR killed three people and kidnapped seven in Mbeng village on 24 April. Two more people were kidnapped on 25 April (Reuters, 25/04/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

2.1 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance (OCHA, 17/12/2014).

Access

The limited number of humanitarian actors involved in the response in the Far North has made comprehensive humanitarian intervention almost impossible.

Logistical Constraints

The delivery of aid is complicated by the low presence of humanitarian actors in Cameroon (OCHA, 17/12/2014).

Bad road conditions delay the provision of assistance.

Security Constraints

The deterioration of the security situation has made access to the Far North extremely difficult. Although the Cameroonian army retook the border towns, the area remains insecure with the presence of armed groups (OCHA, 10/04/2015). UN agencies have only been undertaking priority activities such as assisting refugees

and some host communities, according to WFP (IRIN, 15/08/2014). Organisations like UNHCR do not have access to certain localities where refugees are present, due to heightened insecurity (UNHCR, 25/01/2015).

Disasters – Heavy rains

The fishing and tourism industry is threatened by heavy rains and surging tides in southern Cameroon. In 2014, tourism dropped by 60% (Reuters, 30/03/2015).

Displacement

At April 2015, there were 417,000 displaced people in Cameroon, including 311,000 refugees from CAR and Nigeria. As of 28 May, there are approximately 151,000 IDPs and refugees in Far North region displaced due to BH attacks (OCHA, 10/04/2015; UNICEF, 23/04/2015; UNHCR, 29/03/2015). As attacks increase, people are moving toward central Cameroon (OCHA, 06/01/2015).

IDPs

As of 28 May, there were 81,700 IDPs in the Far North region (OCHA, 28/05/2015).

Refugees from the Central African Republic

As of 15 May, 247,250 CAR refugees are in Cameroon: 140,820 have arrived since December 2013 (OCHA, 24/03/2015; UNHCR, 21/04/2015; 03/04/2015; 15/05/2015). Many refugees have crossed without being registered. A reduced flow of refugees indicates an improved situation in CAR, but many people are reluctant to go home because they are concerned about food security and livelihoods (VoA, 16/03/2015).

Refugees from Nigeria

74,000 Nigerians are estimated to have fled to northern Cameroon since May 2013 (UNHCR, 20/04/2015; OCHA, 28/05/2015).

37,171 Nigerian refugees have been registered in Minawao camp, in the Far North. There have been 5,150 new arrivals at the camp since 1 April, and 26,000 new Nigerian refugees in total since 30 December 2014 (UNICEF, 28/05/2015; UNHCR, 23/05/2015). 87% of refugees in the camp have access to adequate shelter (UNHCR, 23/05/2015). The camp's original maximum capacity was 15,000, and the population was only 6,000 in August 2014. The needs among refugees are largely WASH, shelter, health and education (UNHCR, 15/04/2015).

Residents from Marwa village in northern Cameroon reported that around 60,000 victims of BH attacks from Borno and Adamawa, Nigeria, are taking refuge in the area (local media, 06/04/2015).

People living outside the camp do not receive humanitarian assistance and lack of

identification is a concern (UNHCR, 25/03/2015).

In most locations, the number of refugees and third-country nationals exceeds the local population. Host communities and refugees are competing over already inadequate resources and living conditions have become very difficult for host communities (FAO, 11/12/2014).

Returnees

In mid-May, 36,000 IDPs had returned home in the Far North (IOM/UNHCR, 15/05/2015, OCHA, 28/05/2015)

Food Security

As of March, 1.08 million people are food insecure, mostly in the Far North, North, Adamawa and East regions, with 244,000 in severe food insecurity (OCHA, 10/03/2015; Reuters; 29/05/2015). 54% of households in the Far North and North regions face shortages. An estimated 34.4% of refugee households from CAR are food insecure (FAO, 11/12/2014). There are 108,000 people facing acute food and livelihood crisis in areas affected by BH violence (WFP, 07/05/2015).

70% of farmers in the Far North have deserted their farms and missed out on planting (AFP, 28/01/2015).

Dryness in the Sahel belt and the strain of hosting so many refugees are also affecting food security (ECHO, 06/01/2015). During the lean season (June–August), 7.4 million are projected to be in Crisis and Emergency food insecurity across the Sahel and West Africa, and 26.6 million to be Stressed (Cadre Harmonisé, 04/2015). In 2014, food insecurity rose dramatically to 24.7 million food insecure people, compared to 2013, when 11.3 million people had inadequate food (OCHA, 03/02/2015).

Health and Nutrition

As of September 2014, 6.8 million people are in need of health services (IOM, 09/2014).

Cameroon's Far North, North, Adamawa, and East regions suffer chronic shortages of health workers. 46% of health centres do not have access to electricity and 70% do not have piped water (Inter Press Service, 19/08/2014).

Acute respiratory infections and malaria are the leading causes of death in refugee camps (UNHCR, 01/03/2015).

Among the approximately 30,000 refugees and 40,000 IDPs scattered around Kousséri, the capital of Logone-et-Chari department, Far North region, malaria has been identified as the main health issue (MSF, 29/05/2015).

CAR refugees mostly suffer from malnutrition, malaria, and respiratory infections, according to an ECHO needs assessment. A number of measles cases have been reported among child refugees.

Nutrition

There were 40% more cases of severe malnutrition in January 2015 compared to the start of 2014 (OCHA, 30/01/2015). There are 39,000 cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) among children under five the Far North region (UNICEF, 23/04/2015) and 132,000 cases of moderate acute malnutrition (OCHA, 30/01/2015; UNICEF, 08/2014). There have been 6,320 cases of SAM in districts hosting IDPs since January (UNICEF, 15/05/2015). The prevalence of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in the Far North is 2.0%, while the global acute malnutrition (GAM) prevalence is 9% (UNHCR, 29/03/2015).

WASH

Regions hosting CAR refugees have particularly poor access to drinking water (East: 54% and Adamawa: 70%) and basic sanitation (East: 22% and Adamawa: 64%) (UNICEF, 05/08/2014). In Minawao, refugees have 10L of water/person/day (UNHCR, 23/05/2015). The water supply in Gado and Mbile camps, at 15 litres and 17 litres, respectively, is also below standard (UNHCR, 26/03/2015). In East and Adamawa regions, only two out of seven refugee sites have the standard daily 20L of water per person (UNHCR, 17/04/2015).

Education

Almost 30,000 children internally displaced by BH are deprived of education (AFP, 12/05/2015).

During the 2014-2015 academic year, 120 schools had to close in the Far North region and 33,163 children were either left out of school or were forced to seek education in other communities (UNICEF, 28/02/2015; UNHCR, 29/03/2015). Students have been moving toward the country's interior and the government has been assisting in moving populations to more secure areas after BH destroyed or occupied schools (VoA, 25/11/2014).

School attendance in camps remains low, 44% for primary and 66.9% for secondary school, despite education advocacy with parents (UNHCR, 01/03/2015).

In Minawao camp, there are only three primary schools with 21 classrooms to accommodate more than 6,600 primary school-aged children (IRIN, 12/05/2015). The majority of people residing in Minawao camp have no formal education or profession (UNHCR, 21/03/2015).

Protection

Witnesses report that hundreds of young people are joining Boko Haram in the Far North region due to lack of access to education and employment. 6,000 troops have been sent to protect the region and prevent further recruitment of young men (IRIN, 05/03/2015). 27 cases of sexual violence have been reported in Minawao camp (UNHCR, 15/04/2015).

The Cameroonian Government is refuting allegations by a regional human rights organisation that it is treating suspected BH fighters inhumanely. The allegations emerged following the death of 25 prisoners in December (Reuters, 13/03/2015).

Updated: 02/06/2015

CHAD FOOD INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

28 May: There are an estimated 43,000 displaced people (IDPs, refugees and returnees) in Chad due to the violence fuelled by the Boko Haram insurgency (UNICEF, 28/05/2015).

KEY CONCERNS

- 5.5 million affected by humanitarian crisis, including 2.2 million children (UNICEF, 10/11/2014).
- At least 515,000 refugees in Chad, including 94,000 from CAR (OCHA, 10/02/2015; UNHCR, 03/04/2015).
- 2.4 million Chadians are food insecure (OCHA, 10/02/2015).

Security Context

Regional Military Involvement

In January, the Chadian Government pledged to support the fight against Boko Haram (Daily Mail, 14/01/2015). Between 31 January and 2 February, Chadian forces aided Nigerian security forces to reclaim several towns in Borno state (AP, 03/02/2015; VoA, 01/02/2015). On 8 February, Nigeria, Niger, Cameroon, Chad and Benin agreed to send a joint force of 8,700 troops to fight Boko Haram (10/02/2015). On 8 March, Chad and Niger launched a joint army operation against Boko Haram militants in Nigeria (Reuters, 08/03/2015). On 12 March, Chadian troops fighting BH withdrew to Cameroon and

redeployed further south (Reuters, 12/03/2015). On 31 March, Chad and Nigerian soldiers drove BH militants from a border town, Malam Fatori, which has been a stronghold of the group (31/03/2015).

President Idriss Deby met with former Nigerian president Goodluck and his successor Muhamadu Buhari on 11 May to discuss improved troop coordination in the fight against Boko Haram (AFP, 12/05/2015).

In May, the Chadian government began military actions against Boko Haram in the Lake Chad area, potentially resulting in a higher number of IDPs. **As of 29 May, 33 Boko Haram fighters and three Chadian troops have died during the military operation (UNHCR, 11/05/2015).**

Chad withdrew its troops from the African Union Peacekeeping Force in CAR in April 2014, after accusations of violence against civilians. Chad denies the charges.

International Presence in Chad

In August, France deployed a 3,000-strong counterterrorism operation across the Sahel region based in Chad. Operation Barkhane is active in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger (local media, 01/08/2014).

Boko Haram Attacks

There are an estimated 43,000 displaced people (IDPs, refugees and returnees) in Chad due to the violence fuelled by the Boko Haram insurgency (UNICEF, 28/05/2015). Boko Haram launched its first cross border attack in Chad in February, killing at least ten and burning Ngouboua, by Lake Chad, where some 7,000 Nigerians had taken refuge (Aljazeera, 14/02/2015). From 28 February to 1 March, Boko Haram attacked Kaiga village, Lake Chad region, targeting Chadian soldiers (ECHO, 03/03/2015). In the Lake Chad region, attacks on Djargagoroum village on 15 March and on Maidogo 2 April killed a total of eight people (Reuters, 12/03/2015; AFP, 06/04/2015). On 3 and 7 April, Boko Haram attacked Ngouboua and the Lake Region, respectively (UNHCR, 07/04/2015).

Security measures have been heightened in Tchoukoutalia following BH attacks on 7, 9, and 13 April (UNHCR, 14/04/2015). Along the border with Nigeria, Chadian security forces are screening road users and their property. Navigation on the Chari River and its tributary, the Logone, which flow along the border of Chad and Cameroon, have been halted (AFP, 30/04/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

5.5 million people are affected by humanitarian crisis, including 2.2 million children; 3.2 million need humanitarian assistance (UNICEF, 10/11/2014; OCHA, 28/01/2015). Three million will need humanitarian assistance throughout 2015 (UNHCR, 28/02/2015).

Access

Chad's President Idriss Déby announced in May 2014 that the southern border with CAR would be closed to all except Chadian citizens until the CAR crisis is resolved. Concerns

over reports of refusal of refugee entry have been raised. The Government deployed additional security forces to the border, after expressing concern that armed fighters might be infiltrating refugee populations in the area.

Two main roads in Chad, which run through Cameroon and Nigeria and are vital to Chad's economy, remain insecure and mostly blocked due to violence (AFP, 02/03/2015).

Displacement

IDPs

Nearly 85,500 IDPs are living in protracted displacement in the east, facing difficulties accessing shelter, land, and income-generating activities (IDMC, 02/2015; OCHA, 19/11/2013). The arrival of CAR refugees since December 2013 is further increasing competition for scarce resources (IDMC, 24/10/2014).

Some 1,300 IDPs are in the south of Ndjama (UNHCR, 21/03/2015). There are an estimated 14,500 IDPs in the Lake Region (OCHA, 21/02/2015; UNICEF, 20/03/2015; 08/04/2015).

At IDP camps Bagasola and Bol, there were 3,398 and 1,494 IDPs respectively, based on recent profiling (UNHCR, 14/04/2015; 30/04/2015).

Refugees

As of 14 April, Chad hosted 515,000 refugees from Sudan, CAR, Nigeria, and DRC (OCHA, 10/02/2015). Of those, 367,200 are Sudanese (OCHA, 31/01/2015), 94,000 are from CAR (UNHCR, 03/04/2015), 18,100 are Nigerian (UNHCR, 28/02/2015; IOM, 23/02/2015), and 36,500 from DRC.

Most refugees are in Wadi Fira (157,500), Ouaddai (114,350), Sila (84,650), and Logone Oriental (47,500), while 22,750 are in Dosseye camp and 26,420 in Belom camp, Moyen Chari; 5,570 in Dar es Salam camp, and around 18,100 in Lake region (UNHCR, 14/04/2015; 25/03/2015; 21/03/2015; 28/01/2015;; OCHA, 20/03/2015; 08/02/2015; WFP, 06/03/2015; UNICEF, 08/04/2015).

CAR Refugees

There are 94,020 refugees from CAR in Chad, including 17,080 who have arrived since December 2013 (UNHCR, 21/04/2015; 01/05/2015). Of these, 84,030 live in sites in Amboko, Belom, Dosseye, Doholo, Gondje and Moyo (UNHCR, 01/05/2015; 15/05/2015). 6,690 live in host communities. (UNHCR, 03/04/2015). In Dembo refugee site, there are 2,298 with needs for shelter and WASH (UNHCR, 03/04/2015).

Nigerian and Niger Refugees

The Chadian Prime Minister has appealed for international aid for Nigerian refugees (Reuters, 08/01/2015). **As of 28 March, 19,700 Nigerian refugees had entered Chad since 3 January (OCHA, 28/05/2015). As of 29 May, Nigerian refugees are continuing to arrive (WFP, 29/05/2015).** Relocating refugees from Lake Chad islands to the Dar es

Salam site remains a priority (UNICEF, 08/04/2015; UNHCR, 30/04/2015). On 5 May, 5,470 Niger and Nigerian refugees were registered in Dar es Salam. At 11 May, about 2,000 Nigerian refugees who had been stranded on Lake Chad islands arrived in Chad (UNHCR, 11/05/2015).

Resources are limited for both refugees and host communities, especially food, shelter, and essential household items (OCHA, 12/01/2015). At end March, at least 68,000 people in host communities in five prefectures had been affected by the influx of refugees (OCHA, 19/01/2015; UNICEF, 08/04/2015).

Returnees

There are approximately 257,000 returnees in Chad, including 130,000 from CAR, **and 16,400 from Nigeria (OCHA, 28/05/2015; UNHCR, 21/03/2015).** Some 64,220 Chadian returnees are living in seven sites in N'Djamena and the south of the country (IOM, 27/04/2015). There are 8,500 Chadian returnees from Nigeria in Lake region, including 2,010 who have been registered (IOM, 21/04/2015; OCHA, 21/02/2015).

On 2-3 May, an international organization helped 179 stranded migrants in Cameroon relocate home. They are currently in Djako transit site (IOM, 05/05/2015).

Returnees from CAR

There are 130,000 returnees from CAR (UNHCR, 21/03/2015). As of 11 May 1,910 are in Djako site; 11,446 in Danamadja Site; 6,449 in Kobiteye; 8,418 in Logone Oriental villages; 8,513 in Mandoul villages; 16,879 in Sido; and 16,074 in Maingama (**IOM, 11/05/2015; OCHA, 28/03/2015).** Some 30,000 returnees have returned to their homes in Chad (IOM, 05/05/2015).

The Government has increased the maximum stay in transit centres from ten days to one year to allow the restoration of family links and better prepare relocation (OCHA, 30/09/2014).

Host communities

Over 25,000 people who entered Chad since the CAR crisis are living in small villages and remote communities throughout the south, including 22 villages in Mandoul and Logone Oriental hosting around 15,000 returnees (OCHA, 30/09/2014). Pressure on resources is high and conditions are poor, with urgent need for shelter, food, health, WASH and livelihood support (UNHCR, 30/11/2014).

Food Security

2.4 million people in Chad are food insecure (OCHA, 10/02/2015). The number of severely food insecure people have increased from 339,000 to 428,000 in six months (UNICEF, 15/05/2015). Those in moderate and crisis food insecurity are mainly in central Chad (WFP, 31/12/2015). In areas affected by Boko Haram 45,000 people face an acute food and livelihood crisis (WFP, 07/05/2015).

The lean season has been early in Bahr el Gazel, Kanem, and the Lake Region. Livestock

prices are below normal, milk availability will fall and the food security situation, currently in IPC Phase 2 (Stressed) will progress to Phase 3 (Crisis). There is no aid programme planned for this period (FEWSNET, 04/2015). **Poor households du Lac, Kanem, Bahr El Ghazal and Hadjer Lamis are struggling to meet their minimum needs due to a low 2014 harvest, low pasture and high grain prices. These areas will be in Crisis level (IPC 2) food insecurity until the next harvest in October (FEWSNET, 29/05/2015).** People in the Lake Chad region may face higher food insecurity if they do not receive humanitarian assistance (FEWSNET, 29/05/2015).

Due to the closure of the border and the population influx, the price of food in some communities has increased by 50%. The border closure also forced markets for cattle and farming products to shut down (OCHA, 21/02/2015; UNICEF, 15/05/2015).

Cereal harvest is improving food reserves for poor households and thus food security. Conflicts in neighbouring countries limit food exports (Government, 20/11/2014).

Refugees and returnees are putting pressure on household demand, consumption, and spending in Logone Oriental, Moyen Chari, Mandoul, and Salamat (WFP, 07/2014).

Regional Outlook: Sahel

During the lean season (June–August), 7.4 million are projected to be in Crisis and Emergency food insecurity across the Sahel and West Africa, and 26.6 million to be Stressed (Cadre Harmonisé, 04/2015). In 2014, food insecurity rose dramatically, affecting 24.7 million people, compared to 11.3 million people in 2013 (OCHA, 03/02/2015).

Health and Nutrition

2.5 million people are in need of healthcare (OCHA, 31/08/2014). Due to the influx of refugees, there is an urgent need to strengthen healthcare activities in host communities and to recruit more qualified medical personnel (UNHCR, 06/03/2015).

Malaria is the leading cause of infant mortality, affecting more than 660,000 people in 2014 and expected to surpass one million in 2015 (UNHCR, 28/02/2015).

Only 34% of children under-one have been vaccinated in returnee sites in eastern Chad (UNICEF, 10/11/2014).

21 children in Darfuri refugee camps in eastern Chad died of an unidentified disease during the last week of March 2015 (local media, 30/03/2015).

The HIV/AIDS prevalence in the Lake Region is 10.10% compared to the national prevalence of 2.7% (UNHCR, 14/04/2015).

Nutrition

97,000 children suffer from SAM while 257,000 suffer from MAM, a slight fall from the numbers reported in October 2014 (OCHA, 10/02/2015). In September, Kanem, Bahr El Ghazal, Gera, and Wadi Fira all reported GAM above the emergency threshold of 15% (OCHA, 19/09/2014).

340,000 children are expected to suffer from SAM in 2015 (UNHCR, 28/02/2015).

WASH

1.3 million people are in need of WASH assistance: 55% of the population has access to safe water, compared to 46% in 2012 (UNHCR, 03/03/2015; OCHA, 31/12/2014). Additionally only 4% of households and 50% of health centres have access to standard sanitation facilities (OCHA, 31/12/2014).

Education

An assessment on child refugees from Nigeria showed that 72% of the 296 school-aged children identified had never been to school (OCHA, 21/02/2015; 20/03/2015).

The number of students in Dar es Salam camp has decreased from 848 to 269, due to insufficient food rations, heat, and distance (UNHCR, 14/04/2015).

Protection

Child Protection

Family reunification is a major protection challenge (OCHA, 25/10/2014). Over 600 unaccompanied minors and separated children and 44 children associated with armed groups were reported among the CAR returnee population between December 2013 and August 2014, according to UNICEF (OCHA, 31/08/2014). Only 59% of identified unaccompanied and separated children had been reunited with their families as of mid-November (UNICEF, 10/11/2014).

A survey found that two out of three girls are married before the age of 18 in Chad (UN, 24/03/2015).

Legal Status

Second and third-generation Chadians from CAR have been recognised as de facto nationals by the Government, and UNHCR is working with authorities to formalise recognition and avoid statelessness. The Government will provide birth certificates to every child born in a transit site (UNHCR, 07/2014).

Updated: 02/06/2015

DJIBOUTI DROUGHT, FOOD INSECURITY



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

30 May: Food security is expected to worsen in the southeast and in Obock due to lack of rain (FEWSNET).

28 May: 14,410 new arrivals from Yemen have been reported since conflict broke out in March (IOM).

KEY CONCERNS

- An estimated 300,000 people need humanitarian assistance, including more than 24,000 refugees (ECHO, 01/08/2014; OCHA, 30/11/2014).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Access

A lack of access due to insecurity, on top of reductions in assistance, has placed Obock in a particularly precarious situation (FEWSNET, 25/08/2014).

Displacement

Migrants

IOM estimates that over 100,000 migrants, the majority from Ethiopia and Somalia, transit the country every year. Children account for 32% of the migrant population (UNICEF, 15/01/2015). Migrants arrive in dire conditions and vulnerable to a number of protection issues. A large number need medical assistance, which strains health facilities in Dikhil, Tadjourah, and Obock (IOM, 21/11/2014). Migrants/refugees continue to report lack of access to food and water during their transit through Obock (UNHCR, 12/2014).

Refugees in Djibouti

Refugees from Yemen

14,410 new arrivals from Yemen were reported between the end of March and 28 May: 40% are transiting third-country nationals, 48% Yemenis, and 12% Djiboutians (IOM, 28/05/2015). 1,000 of the new arrivals are staying at Obock camp (AFP, 14/05/2015).

The UN expects to receive more than 15,000 refugees in the next six months (AFP, 14/05/2015). Humanitarian organisations fear that the influx of people from Yemen may worsen an already difficult humanitarian situation in Obock (ECHO, 20/04/2015).

Non-Yemeni refugees

Prior to the recent influx of refugees from Yemen, Djibouti was hosting more than 23,700 refugees, the majority of Somali origin (ECHO, 17/04/2015). 70% are women and children who depend entirely on humanitarian assistance and protection services (UNICEF, 15/01/2015). There are also 4,220 asylum seekers, 3,275 of whom are from Ethiopia. The refugees are living in two camps: Holl Holl and Ali Addeh, where there is a reported lack of shelter, sanitation facilities and essential non-food items (ECHO, 15/04/2015).

Food Security

Following two seasons of very limited rainfall, food security is expected to worsen for poor households in the southeast and in Obock (FEWSNET, 30/05/2015). An estimated 162,000 people are expected to be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3), between June and September 2015 (Food Security and Nutrition Working Group, 20/05/2015).

Food prices are expected to rise in most markets during June and July, as a result of heightened demand during Ramadan (FEWSNET, 30/05/2015). The purchasing capacities of poor households will likely be more severely impaired than usual during the lean season, due to limited labour opportunities and the poor rainfall over the last months (FEWSNET, 30/05/2015).

14.5% of households in the country are food insecure and 32% are vulnerable to food insecurity. As of January, 14,200 people were in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food insecurity, while 56,000 were Stressed (IPC Phase 2) (WFP, 13/01/2015).

Health and Nutrition

In 2014, OCHA reported that 300,000 people are in need of health services. Rates of communicable diseases are high, including diarrhoeal disease. A lack of medicine is reported at health facilities (WHO, 27/04/2015).

Nutrition

According to OCHA, 277,000 people are in need of nutritional aid, compared to 195,400 in 2013. The SAM rate is 6.1% (Food Security and Nutrition Working Group, 20/05/2015). In Obock region, GAM has been estimated at 29.9% and severe acute malnutrition at 12.1% (UNICEF, 17/04/2015).

WASH

In Obock region, only 40% of the population have access to safe water and only 25% have access to adequate sanitation facilities (UNICEF, 17/04/2015).

Education

As of January 2015, 41.6% of girls and 33.3% of boys aged 6–10 are out of school (UNICEF, 15/01/2015).

Updated: 03/06/2015

ETHIOPIA FLOODS, FOOD INSECURITY



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

May: More than 6,100 South Sudanese refugees arrived in May, compared to 4,800 in April and less than 1,000 in the preceding months. Many new arrivals are suffering from malaria, diarrhoea and skin diseases. An estimated 7,000 people are still waiting transfer to camps at entry points (UNHCR, 29/05/2015; MSF, 01/06/2015).

KEY CONCERNS

- 2.9 million will require food assistance in 2015. The most affected regions are Oromia, Somali, Amhara, Tigray, and Afar (OCHA, 09/03/2015).
- 1.2 million people are in need of improved access to safe water and water sources (UNICEF, 31/10/2014).
- Ethiopia hosts some 689,100 refugees; mainly Somalis, South Sudanese, Eritreans, and Sudanese (UNHCR, 30/04/2015).
- A majority of refugee camps have reached full capacity. Main concerns include overcrowding, malnutrition, flooding and critical shortfalls in humanitarian aid.
- 264,500 SAM cases require assistance in 2015; 446,800 pregnant and breastfeeding women need nutrition interventions (OCHA, 15/03/2015; 20/04/2015).

Political Context

Ethiopia is considered comparatively stable, but deep clan tensions and intra-communal violence persist. Two decades of deadly conflict in the southeastern region of Ogaden have had a severe impact on the Ethiopian Somali population, especially after years of a relatively successful government counter-insurgency campaign. The Government has yet to address the root causes of the violence. However, weak political opposition, and the Government's determination to accelerate economic growth all make continued stability likely.

General elections were held on 24 May. According to the African Union Election Observation mission, they were peaceful and credible (Government, 26/05/2015). Results announced indicate that so far the ruling party Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) and its allies have won all of 442 seats declared. Results for the remaining 105 seats are yet to be announced. The opposition claims their supporters were harassed and intimidated (Al Jazeera, 27/05/2015).

Security Context

Participation in Regional Military Operations

Ethiopia has historically been a key player in peacekeeping and counter-terrorism operations in East Africa. Peace talks on the South Sudan conflict, under the mediation of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, are taking place in Addis Ababa.

In January 2014, the Government pledged that Ethiopian troops, currently part of the

African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) would remain in Somalia until durable peace and security is achieved. The Somali militant group Al Shabaab has repeatedly threatened Ethiopia since Ethiopian troops arrived in Somalia.

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Access

South Sudanese refugees are arriving only through Pagak and Akobo, as reception centres in Matar and Pamdong have been closed (IOM, 07/01/2015).

General food distributions are ongoing at a very slow pace and were not completed in some areas, due to congestion at Djibouti port and a shortage of trucks (UNHCR, 29/05/2015).

Displacement

IDPs

As of 11 February, Ethiopia had 495,680 IDPs, who mostly live in Somali region (IOM through OCHA, 11/02/2015; USAID, 2014). About 60% are in protracted displacement (OCHA, 2014).

Refugees in Ethiopia

As of 30 April, Ethiopia hosts some 689,100 refugees; mainly Somalis, South Sudanese, Eritreans, and Sudanese (UNHCR, 30/04/2015). South Sudanese account for the biggest refugee population (UNHCR, 30/04/2015). Environmental degradation in camps, the fragile ecosystem, and scarce resources have led to tensions between host communities and refugees in some locations (UNHCR, 20/01/2015).

South Sudan refugees: As of 29 May, 205,565 South Sudanese refugees have entered Gambella region since December 2013. 14,180 of them have arrived since 15 December 2014. 67% are children. 71% of the adult population are women (29/05/2015). New arrivals are mainly from Jonglei state, fleeing generalised violence and forced recruitment (UNHCR, 22/05/2015). 58,000 South Sudanese refugees were in Ethiopia before December 2013 (UNHCR, 15/05/2015).

In May, more than 6,100 new arrivals were registered, compared to 4,800 in April and less than 1,000 per month in the preceding months. An estimated 7,000 people are waiting to be registered at Pagak and Akobo entry points. An additional site close to Pugnido camp is being developed to accommodate new arrivals (UNHCR, 02/06/2015). 31,461 refugees are living within host communities (UNHCR, 29/05/2015).

More than 47,000 South Sudanese refugees have been relocated from Leitchuor and Nip Nip camps to Jewi camp since mid-May. The camp is close to reaching its full capacity of 50,000 people. With the average rate of relocation at 3,500 people per day, the camp does not have enough latrines or water, and family tents cannot be set up quickly enough. Nip Nip camp officially closed on 9 May (MSF, 01/06/2015; UNHCR,

29/05/2015, OCHA, 01/06/2015). Leitchuor and Nip Nip camps were so damaged by flooding in 2014 they are not suitable for the settlement of refugees. They were hosting 48,755 and 1,110 refugees, respectively (UNHCR, 08/05/2015). Relocation to Pugnido camp is ongoing. Pugnido now hosts 62,154 refugees (UNHCR, 12/05/2015).

Eritrea: As of April, Ethiopia hosts 135,665 Eritrean refugees, including 33,000 arrivals in 2014 (ECHO, 17/04/2015; UNHCR, 30/04/2015). There was a spike in daily arrivals in the last quarter of 2014: about 8,588 refugees arrived in October and November (OCHA, 24/11/2014). New refugees are transferred to Hitsat camp, which hosts about 27,560 people (OCHA, 24/11/2014).

Somalia: As of April, there are 246,600 Somali refugees in Ethiopia, including 1,755 who have arrived since January 2015 (UNHCR, 06/05/2015). Most are located in Dolo Ado camps (UNHCR, 28/02/2015).

Sudan: As of April, there are 36,478 Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia (UNHCR, 30/04/2015).

Ethiopian Refugees in Neighbouring Countries

As of 1 January there were 3,275 Ethiopian refugees and asylum seekers in Djibouti (UNHCR, 31/01/2015).

As of 1 March there were 30,630 Ethiopian refugees and asylum seekers in Kenya (UNHCR, 14/04/2015).

Returnees

More than 3,000 vulnerable Ethiopians have returned from Yemen, including people who were injured in the conflict, and people who are in need of transport and shelter (IOM, 26/05/2015). 159 Ethiopian refugees in Djibouti have returned to Ethiopia (IOM, 07/04/2015).

Food Security

Households in northeast Ethiopia are facing Crisis and Emergency (IPC Phases 3 and 4) food insecurity (Food Security and Nutrition Working Group, 22/05/2015).

Belg rains started late in most areas, and there have been several dry spells. As a result, less land has been prepared than normal, varying from 24–57% of the average planting area, and some crops have already wilted. The belg harvest will likely be delayed to July or August, instead of June, and will be far below average. The extended lean season and poor production is leading to Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food security in belg dominant areas of SNNP region and northeastern Amhara in June, and will deteriorate to Crisis (IPC Phase 3) in July–September.

In Sitti and Fafan zones in Somali region, two consecutive seasons of below-average rain and well-below average rain since March have led to very low pasture, browse and water availability, resulting in poor livestock body conditions and low productivity. Household incomes have not increased as they normally would after the start of the rains (FEWSNET, 31/05/2015).

Rangeland and livestock conditions will remain fragile in pastoral areas, likely deteriorating food security in pastoral areas of Oromia, Amhara, Afar, Tigray and SNNPR (Food Security and Nutrition Working Group, 22/05/2015).

Health and Nutrition

An outbreak of acute jaundice syndrome was reported in relatively crowded sections of Pugnido refugee camp. 29 cases have been reported (UNHCR, 30/04/2015).

The majority of new South Sudanese arrivals in Gambella region are suffering from malaria, diarrhoea and skin diseases (MSF, 01/06/2015).

Measles

A nationwide measles outbreak is ongoing. As of 15 May, 13,512 suspected measles cases have been reported, 11,675 of which have been confirmed. The number of cases reported in the first three months of 2015 amount to 88% of all cases in 2014. 165 outbreak sites have been reported. 23 outbreak sites remain active; 15 are in Oromia region. The most affected age groups are under-fives and 5–15 years (OCHA, 25/05/2015).

Nutrition

Malnutrition rates at the start of 2015 decreased in comparison to previous months, except in *woredas* that received poor *kiremt* rains, in North Gonder and Washmira zones of Amhara region (OCHA, 16/02/2015). An estimated 264,500 SAM cases will require assistance in 2015 (OCHA, 20/04/2015). 446,800 pregnant and breastfeeding women need nutrition interventions (OCHA, 15/03/2015).

An increasing number of moderate acute malnutrition cases were reported in Arero, Bule Hora, Melka Soda and Miyo *woredas* in Oromia, and more complicated SAM cases reported in Abaya and Gelana *woredas* in Oromia (OCHA, 20/04/2015).

Spikes of malnutrition were reported in April in Arsi, West Arsi, the lowlands of Bale, East and West Hararge zones of Oromia and parts of SNNP, especially Sidama and Wolayita (OCHA, 04/05/2015). Further spikes in malnutrition are expected during the April–June lean season (OCHA, 30/04/2015).

Refugee camps: In Gambella, the nutrition situation has improved somewhat, though the situation remains critical, with 20.9% GAM and 4.8% SAM in 2015, compared to 29.3% and 8.9%, respectively, in 2014. Tierkidi has 28.3% GAM and 8.6% SAM, Kule 21.3% and 5.2%, and Pugnido 24.2% and 4.8%. In Okugo camp, the nutritional situation is classified as serious, with 10.1% GAM and 0.8% SAM (UNHCR, 30/04/2015).

In Dolo Ado camps, malnutrition rates are also serious, according to a March assessment, at 13.7% GAM and 2.1% SAM in Bokolmayo; 19.5% and 3.1% in Melkadida; 15.1% and 2.2% in Kobe; 19.9% and 2.9% in Hilaweyn; and 20.5% and 2.7% in Buramino (Food Security and Nutrition Working Group, 22/05/2015).

WASH

Seasonal short rains have been uneven, erratic and delayed throughout the country. Increasing water shortages reported in Somali, SNNP, Oromia, Amhara, Afar and Dire Dawa regions are affecting 950,000 people. Water trucking is ongoing, but critical gaps remain, particularly in Afar and Oromia regions. In Afar, people depend on water trucking in Berhale, Kori, Elidar, Dubti and Gewane *woredas*. Acute water shortages are reported in Erepti and Bidu *woredas* (OCHA, 25/05/2015). Additional water shortages are anticipated in Tigray (UNICEF, 21/04/2015; OCHA, 18/05/2015).

SNNPR: *belg* rains were more than two months late. 332,000 people in 22 *woredas* are facing acute water shortages. Children have dropped out of school to support water collection. Water trucking is ongoing, but is insufficient in some areas (OCHA, 18/05/2015).

Somali region: Many areas are experiencing third consecutive failed rains, as *gu* rains were poor. 24 non-functioning boreholes have been identified in Fafan and Site zones. A least 73,000 people in Sitti are affected by drought. Families are leaving to search for water and 10,000 children have dropped out of school: 36% of schools in the area have closed (OCHA, 18/05/2015).

Amhara region: Groundwater sources have been depleted due to poor *belg* rains. In affected areas, people are travelling 10–20km in search of water. Households are moving with their cattle in search of pasture and water (OCHA, 18/05/2015). In April, 13,000 people in Minjar Shenkora and East Belessa *woredas* were reported in immediate need of water trucking support (OCHA, 13/04/2015).

Gambella: Water supply is below the UNHCR standard of 20L per person per day in most camps: **22L in Okugo, 18L in Tierkidi, 16L in Kule, 16L in Pugnido (UNHCR, 29/05/2015)**. Sanitation has improved, and latrine to user ratios in the camps are lower than the UNHCR standard of 1:50: **1:27 in Tierkidi, 1:14 in Kule, 1:32 in Pugnido and 1:8 in Okugo (UNHCR, 29/05/2015)**. Water quality and quantity meet minimum standard in Gambella and Dolo Ado camps. But in Gambella, inadequate sanitation services and poor hygiene practices continue to negatively affect the nutrition status of refugees (UNHCR, 30/04/2015).

Education

Strong winds have damaged schools in Lare *woreda*, Gambella region, affecting education for nearly 3,000 children (OCHA, 25/05/2015).

Protection

Child protection

19,138 unaccompanied and separated South Sudanese children have been identified in Gambella (UNHCR, 29/05/2015).

Vulnerable Groups and Minorities

The Kwegu, a small tribe in Ethiopia's Lower Omo Valley, are in need of humanitarian assistance due to the destruction of their land to make way for the Gibe III dam and

associated large-scale irrigation. Reports indicate no consultation took place with the indigenous peoples in Lower Omo Valley about projects on their land, and some tribes were forcibly settled by the Government in a process called "villagisation" (Survival International, 10/03/2015).

Updated: 03/06/2015

GAMBIA FOOD INSECURITY



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

No new significant developments this week, 03/06/2015. Last update: 14/05/2015.

KEY CONCERNS

- Over March- May, 412,000 people were in IPC Phase 2 (Stressed) food insecurity, and 101,000 were in IPC Phases 3-5 (Crisis – Famine) food insecurity. Numbers are projected to increase over June-August 2015 (FAO/WFP, 31/03/2015).
- 10,000 children suffer from severe acute malnutrition (OCHA, 10/02/2015; 13/02/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Displacement

Refugees in the Gambia

As of September 2014, around 9,500 refugees, mostly Senegalese from the Casamance region, live in the Gambia (OCHA, 31/08/2014). Smaller numbers of refugees come from Liberia, Sierra Leone, Côte d'Ivoire, and Togo.

Food Security

Over March–May, 412,000 people were in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food insecurity, and 101,000 were in Crisis–Famine (IPC Phases 3–5). Numbers are projected to rise to 406,000 and 126,000, respectively, over June–August 2015 (FAO, WFP, 31/03/2015).

Aggregate cereal production in 2014 dropped by 75% compared to 2013, to about 57,000 metric tons, due to irregular rains causing poor growing conditions. Production of groundnut, the main cash crop, is estimated to have declined by more than 80%. Access to food will be further constrained by high cereal prices and depreciation of the national currency, which has increased domestic prices of imported food commodities (FAO, 05/11/2014). The Ebola epidemic in neighbouring countries is further aggravating food insecurity, as the crisis has led to a 60% decline in tourism, a significant source of income

(Reuters, 12/02/2015).

Sahel Food Crisis: Regional Overview

During the lean season (June–August), 7.4 million are projected to be in Crisis and Emergency food insecurity across the Sahel and West Africa, and 26.6 million to be Stressed (Cadre Harmonisé, 04/2015). In 2014, food insecurity rose dramatically to 24.7 million food insecure people, compared to 2013, when 11.3 million people had inadequate food (OCHA, 03/02/2015).

Agricultural Outlook

Over June–August 2015, below-average precipitation is very likely over Gambia (African Regional Climate Centre, 30/04/2015).

Health

Nutrition

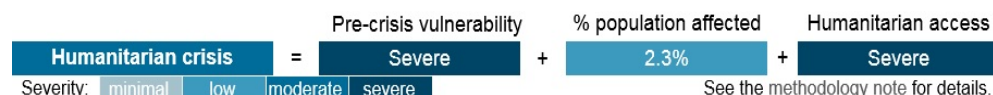
10,220 children are severely malnourished as of February 2015, an increase compared to 8,000 severely malnourished in mid-2014 (OCHA, 02/2015; 09/2014).

Protection

Dozens of friends and family members of people suspected of involvement in an attempted coup that took place in December 2014 remain in detention without charge (Human Rights Watch, 27/05/2015).

Reviewed: 03/06/2015

GUINEA FOOD INSECURITY, EPIDEMIC



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

31 May: In the week to 31 May, 13 new Ebola cases were confirmed in Forecariah, Dubreka, Boka and Fria prefectures (WHO, 03/06/2015).

May: Community resistance to the Ebola response continues to be a challenge. Several violent incidents were reported from prefectures in the west, particularly in the last week of May (several sources).

KEY CONCERNS

- The cumulative number of reported Ebola cases across the region has reached 27,145, including 11,147 deaths. As of 31 May, 3,652 cumulative Ebola cases, including 2,429 deaths, have been reported in Guinea (WHO, 28/05/2015). The numbers of registered cases and deaths are largely inaccurate.

- Between February and March 2015, 1.35 million (15%) of Guinea's population were in Phase 2 food insecurity, and 275,000 in Phase 3 (5%). These figures are expected to reach 1.5 million in Phase 2 (20%) and 395,000 in Phase 3 (5%) in the lean season between June and August 2015 (Cadre Harmonisé, 01/03/2015).

- Resistance to the Ebola response continues to be reported.

For more information on the Ebola crisis in West Africa, visit the ACAPS Ebola Needs Analysis Project page.

Political Context

Presidential elections are due in 2015, but in 2014 President Condé suggested delaying them because of the Ebola crisis (International Crisis Group, 01/11/2014). The opposition held protest rallies in January, demanding electoral commission reform (International Crisis Group, 01/02/2015). On 24 February, the Government replaced the minister charged with organising this year's presidential election with an army general on 24 February, saying the move was necessary to strengthen the fight against Ebola (Reuters, 01/03/2015). In April, the opposition again staged protests, demanding the revision of the electoral calendar. Local elections, which could galvanise support for the opposition, have been scheduled for March 2016, after planned presidential elections (local media, 10/05/2015).

The Ebola response has increased tensions between President Condé's ethnic group, the Malinke, who make up about 35% of the population, and the Fulani ethnic group, about 40% of the population, who mainly support the opposition (local media, 18/10/2014).

Security Context

Unrest

Political protests began in mid-April, after announcements that local elections would be delayed until March 2016. Violent clashes between protesters and security forces occurred on 13 and 20 April, and on 4 May. Several people were reportedly shot by security forces, and at least 29 were arrested. Other towns with opposition strongholds remained quiet, but a rally was staged in Nzerekore city (Daily Mail, 04/05/2015). On 7 May, security forces clashed with protesters in Conakry (international media, 07/05/2015). Following these weeks of clashes, the President announced wanting to open talks with opposition leaders (international media, 26/05/2015).

Resistance to Ebola Response

The Prime Minister has announced measures against resistance to the Ebola response, including prosecution of those who hide patients from medical teams or those who hold

medical teams hostage (international media, 12/01/2015). Security forces are enforcing penalties, including imprisonment, for disobeying burial policies, as unsafe burials have led to a recent spike in Ebola cases. Six people have been arrested after attempting to smuggle a corpse out of Forecariah. They will be isolated in prison for 21 days (BBC, 25/05/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Access

Poor road infrastructure means many communities outside the capital are extremely difficult to reach (OCHA, 16/09/2014). **The onset of the rainy season is making field operations more difficult. Community resistance in western prefectures also continues to challenge response activities (UN, 03/06/2015).**

Resistance to the Ebola response

Though there are indications of improved access in certain communities, resistance to the Ebola response continues to be the main challenge of the response in western prefectures (IFRC, 14/05/2015; USAID, 16/04/2015). A Knowledge, Attitudes and Practice study concluded that 75% of resistance stems from lack of information or misinformation, with some people doubting the sincerity of EVD-related messages, in part due to its resemblance to other diseases in Guinea. The interventions which most frequently trigger resistance are safe burials, disinfection of public places (schools), and contact tracing activities (USAID, 25/02/2015).

In the last week of May, several incidents of violent resistance to the Ebola response were reported. In Boke prefecture, people threw stones at an imam involved in the response, and public buildings were damaged in Kamsar town after aid workers tried to identify a contact of a previous Ebola case. Two Red Cross vehicles and an employee's home were attacked, and fire was set to a warehouse containing equipment for the response. In Dubreka prefecture, an ambulance was set on fire, and a burial team was impeded. In Fria prefecture, Ebola response teams were attacked. Some 60 people have been arrested in response to the resistance (international media, 01/06/2015; USAID, 03/06/2015; UNMEER, 01/06/2015; Government, 29/05/2015).

In Dubreka prefecture mid-May, people refused access to Ebola surveillance and contact tracing teams, a Red Cross team was beaten in Konfe town, and another team was threatened in Kawonso (UNMEER, 19/05/2015).

Food Security

Between February and March 2015, 275,000 people (5% of the population) were in Crisis (Phase 3), food insecurity. These figures are expected to climb to 395,000 in Crisis and 1.5 million in Stressed (Phase 2) in the June–August lean season (Cadre Harmonisé, 01/03/2015).

Almost 90% of the Ebola-driven food insecure live in rural areas (FEWSNET, 31/12/2014).

Those who have not been able to harvest their crops, due to rupture of activities and containment measures related to the Ebola outbreak, had already entered the lean season in February (PI, 18/02/2015).

Agriculture and Markets

All agricultural sectors have been hit by the crisis. In the Forest region, Ebola-related fears have reduced the availability of agricultural labour, resulting in reduced yields. Prices of local/imported rice and palm oil remain above average, but generally stable (WFP, 25/03/2015). Off-season harvesting and large private grain stocks are reducing local price increases (FEWSNET, 01/05/2015).

Daily and weekly markets are open, but functioning at reduced levels in April 2015 compared to April 2014. This is due to Ebola-related fear, low household purchasing power, limited cross-border flows and a reduced demand for export (FEWSNET, 01/05/2015).

Livelihoods

Typical livelihood activities, including vegetable and cassava harvests and agricultural and mining, have resumed and are providing rural households with income. Income from other sources, such as petty trade, handicrafts and casual labour remain limited due to reduced market activity (FEWSNET, 01/05/2015).

Health and Nutrition

National attendance at health facilities fell sharply from August 2013 to August 2014. Primary medical consultations dropped by 58%, hospitalisations by 54%, and vaccinations by 30% (UNDP, 19/12/2014).

There has been an almost 50% reduction in the number of children vaccinated due to Ebola (UNICEF, 17/12/2014).

Ebola

As of 31 May, 3,652 cumulative Ebola cases, including 2,429 deaths, have been reported in Guinea (WHO, 03/06/2015). The utility of case numbers has been questioned; statistics are reported to be highly unreliable due to a lack of a comprehensive contact tracing, timely case investigation, and rapid Ebola testing (UNICEF, 06/09/2014).

In the week to 24 May, 13 new Ebola cases were confirmed from Forecariah (seven), Dubreka (four), Boke (one) and Fria (one), compared to nine cases reported the previous week. Except for the case in Fria, all cases were either registered contacts or had an epidemiological link to a previous case. The one reported in Fria is from an unknown source of infection, suspected to come from neighbouring Telimele prefecture. Community resistance in both prefectures is hampering case investigation (WHO, 03/06/2015). Multiple chains of transmission over a wide geographical area and cases from unknown sources of infection make Forecariah the greatest challenge. 18 of the 25 affected prefectures have not reported any Ebola cases in more than six weeks (WHO, 27/05/2015).

Containment measures: The need for improved contact tracing persists (UNMEER, 18/05/2015). There are still concerns about the number of cases arising from unknown contacts and the Ebola-related deaths that continue to be confirmed in the community post mortem, particularly in Forecariah (IFRC, 20/04/2015; WHO, 27/05/2015).

A contact of a previous Ebola case has returned to Guinea-Bissau, where he has not yet been located. A response team was deployed to increase awareness of Ebola and assess border crossing points between Guinea and Guinea-Bissau (WHO, 03/06/2015).

The recent spike in Ebola cases has led to the launch of a second awareness-raising and case finding campaign in Forecariah, from 16 May–5 June (UNMEER, 18/05/2015).

In March, the President announced a 45-day 'health emergency' in Forecariah, Coyah, Conakry, Kindia, Boffa, and Dubreka. Health facilities where Ebola cases have been reported recently are closed, all burials should be carried out by the Red Cross or security forces, and stay-at-home periods are implemented in these prefectures to enhance case-finding and community awareness (Al Jazeera, 28/03/2015; BBC, 29/03/2015; international media, 29/03/2015; UNMEER, 01/04/2015).

On 25 February, Liberia reopened its border with Guinea (UNMEER, 26/02/2015). Guinea opened its border with Liberia at Ganta in the week of 13 April. Yekepa border post is open, as is the checkpoint in Kondadou Lofa prefecture. Infection prevention and control protocols are in place (UNMEER, 15/04/2015).

Healthcare provision: As of 31 May, 187 health workers have been infected, 94 of whom have died (UNICEF, 03/06/2015).

Regional Outbreak

27,145 cumulative Ebola cases have been reported across the region, including 11,147 deaths (WHO, 03/06/2015).

HIV

About 130,000 people have HIV, and 28,000 received antiretroviral therapy (ART) in 2014. From April to December 2014, the proportion of defaulters among patients receiving ART increased from 0% to 42% because of the pressure on the health system due to the Ebola outbreak (The Lancet, 11/04/2015).

Malaria

About five million people are affected by malaria each year; the disease kills at least ten people every week (international media, 14/11/2014). The reduced usage and capacity of health services caused by the Ebola crisis likely contributed substantially to malaria-related morbidity and mortality. Complete interruption of malaria care could have resulted in a 45% increase of untreated malaria cases in Guinea in 2014 and several thousands of malaria-attributable deaths in the region (The Lancet, 23/04/2015). Malaria mortality had been reduced by 50% over the previous decade.

Maternal Health

Fear and misinformation about the impact of Ebola on health services have made women reluctant to access maternal and reproductive health services, as well as prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission (UN WOMEN, 27/03/2015). A 10–25% decline in antenatal consultations has been reported, as well as a 7–20% drop in births attended by the health service (UNDP, 19/12/2014).

Measles

The number of suspected measles cases continues to increase. As of 20 May, 1,866 suspected measles cases were reported in 2015, including seven deaths (case fatality rate 1.4%). Recent peaks have been observed in Lola, Macenta, and Nzerekore prefectures. 80% of confirmed cases are among children under five, and 14% of confirmed cases have been vaccinated (WHO, 20/05/2015).

Meningitis

191 cumulative meningitis cases have been reported, including 16 deaths (case fatality rate 8.4%). The most recent cases are from Kankan and Kerouane prefectures (WHO, 20/05/2015).

Nutrition

Relative to trends between 1992 and 2012, the prevalence of undernourishment during 2014–2016 could increase by 0.49%, to 1.72% (UNDG, 11/03/2015).

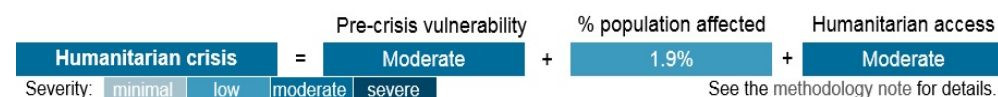
Protection

As of 17 May, 5,713 children have been identified as having lost one or both parents to Ebola (UNICEF, 20/05/2015). All 773 children who lost both parents have been placed with extended family (UNICEF, 06/02/2015).

Health workers and survivors are stigmatised (MSF, 26/01/2015). There are reports of recovered patients not being accepted into their communities, despite awareness-raising in the community (USAID, 18/03/2015).

Updated: 04/06/2015

KENYA FOOD INSECURITY, INSECURITY



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

2 June: Floods and landslides since 30 May have displaced some 750 families in Mombasa and Kwale counties, and killed four individuals. The displaced are staying in makeshift tents (local media, 02/06/2015; ECHO, 01/06/2015).

1 June: Al Shabaab militants entered the town of Wankara, Mandera county, leading to hundreds of villagers fleeing the town (local media, 01/06/2015; BBC, 02/06/2015).

KEY CONCERNS

- Violence in the capital Nairobi, as well as northeastern and coastal areas; two-thirds of attacks attributed to the Somali Islamist Al Shabaab movement.
- Inter-communal tensions are running high: Inter-communal violence in Kenya caused 310 deaths, 214 injuries and displaced 220,200 in 2014. Mandera, Marsabit, Turkana, Baringo, and Moyale counties are the most affected (OCHA, UNHCR, 12/2014).
- More than 586,224 refugees, including at least 420,000 Somalis and 90,000 South Sudanese (UNHCR 01/04/2015).
- 1.6 million people are acutely food insecure (05/2015, Food Security and Nutrition Working Group).

Political Context

Kenya is considered relatively stable in the Horn of Africa and held peaceful presidential elections in March 2013. However, the country remains ethnically polarised and affected by two decades of conflict in neighbouring Somalia. The implementation of a devolution process, land reform, and national reconciliation all challenge stability in a country where institutions are perceived to be weak.

On 16 December, the Government de-registered 510 NGOs, accusing them of using their charitable status as a front for raising funds for terrorism. Many of the NGOs appear to be aid agencies, Christian organisations, orphanages, or organisations working in development and health (The Guardian, 16/12/2014).

Security Context

The frequency and scale of militant attacks in Kenya have increased dramatically since 2011, when Kenyan troops began operating in Somalia, as has the nature of the violence. Al Shabaab has built a cross-border presence and clandestine support network among the Muslim population in the northeast, in Nairobi, and on the coast. Non-Muslims continue to be targeted.

The increasing radicalisation of the ethnic Somali Muslim population is allegedly fuelled by systematic ethnic profiling and discrimination. Muslims make up 11% of Kenya's 40 million population. In addition, deadly inter-communal violence remains common in a number of areas, particularly in Turkana and Baringo.

Al Shabaab-related Violence

More than 30 suspected Al Shabaab entered the town of Wankara, Mandera county,

on 1 June. There are no reports of violence, but hundreds of villagers have fled the town and four schools have closed. The Elwak-Takaba road is reportedly closed (local media, 01/06/2015; BBC, 02/06/2015).

On 21 May, Al Shabaab militants attacked Yumbis village, Garissa county. Though the armed group claimed to have full control over the village, government officials stated all militants had left and reported no casualties (Reuters, 22/05/2015). On 26 May, militants attacked police patrols in the same area north of Garissa, wounding at least five officers. On 1 April, ten armed men, thought to belong to Al Shabaab, stormed the premises of an NGO working in Dadaab refugee camp in Hagadera, Garissa county, killing one person and injuring three (local media, 01/04/2015).

Al Shabaab activity and military response in Kenya has escalated over several months. Since April 2013, more than 400 people have been killed by Al Shabaab in Kenya (Reuters, 26/05/2015; The Guardian, 26/05/2015).

Inter-communal Violence

Growth in the population of both people and livestock has led to more frequent cattle raiding and violence, fed by the availability of small arms. The areas most affected by inter-communal violence are the northern Rift Valley and northeastern regions. As of the end of November 2014, inter-communal violence in Kenya had caused 310 deaths, 214 injuries and displaced 220,200 (OCHA, 31/11/2014).

On 26 May, five people were killed and at least ten were injured in clashes over water in Attan, Isiolo county, between pastoral Turkana and Samburu communities. Education has been disrupted in several schools following frequent fighting (local media, 27/05/2015).

Conflicts in Baringo and Turkana

In December 2014 tens of thousands of people were displaced by cattle raids in Baringo. The Government has since stepped up efforts to evict Pokot herders from North and South Baringo in order to ensure security in the area (local media, 19/03/2015). Most herds have been stolen, severely impacting livelihoods (local media, 23/03/2015).

At least 46 people were killed and many injured in Nadome village on the Turkana–East Pokot border during a raid by Turkana on 4 May. Armed Pokots had earlier stolen more than 100 goats from a village in Baringo North (local media, 04/05/2015). Some 75 people were killed in four days of raids and revenge attacks between tribes in Turkana and East Pokot, and in Marsabit, Sambutu, and Baringo in early May (international media, 06/05/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Access

40 MSF staff have been relocated from Dadaab to Nairobi, following a series of incidents. Two of four health posts have closed and some medical services, including antenatal care, have been suspended (MSF, 27/05/2015).

Disasters

Floods

Heavy rainfall has caused floods and landslides in southeast Kenya since 30 May. As of 1 June, Mombasa, Kwale, Kilifi and Taita Taveta counties are affected. Four people have died and some 750 families (around 3,000 individuals) have been displaced in Mombasa and Kwale because their houses are damaged or destroyed. They are living in makeshift camps and some began returning home on 2 June (ECHO, 01/06/2015; local media, 02/06/2015).

Displacement

IDPs

On 11 February, Kenya had 309,200 IDPs (OCHA, 11/02/2014).

Late April, more than 300 families (1,200 people) were displaced to higher ground by floods in Kisumu and Homa Bay counties. Flooding destroyed houses and hundreds of acres of crops. Displaced are from Kabogo village, Nyando, in Kisumu and the worst-affected areas of East Kagan, West and East Kochia in Homa Bay (local media, 27/04/2015).

In early May, more than 2,300 families (some 9,500 individuals) became homeless after they were evicted and their houses destroyed in the Mau Forest, Rift Valley. They reside in three camps: Kipchoge, Olapa, and Arorwet in Narok South subcounty. Pneumonia, diarrhoea and other waterborne diseases have been reported in the camps (local media, 21/05/2015).

Refugees

As of 1 April, Kenya is hosting more than 586,224 refugees and asylum seekers. 223,970 are in Dadaab, 127,476 in Alinjugur, 181,821 in Kakuma and 52,957 in Nairobi (UNHCR, 1/04/2015).

From Somalia: As of May, 423,244 Somali refugees are in Kenya (UNHCR, 22/05/2015). 13,162 arrived in 2014, indicating a considerable drop in arrivals (UNHCR, 01/04/2015; 06/05/2015). 1,362 refugees have been registered since January 2015 (UNHCR, 06/05/2015). Most are in the northeastern Dadaab refugee camp complex (UNHCR, 15/03/2015). Security in Dadaab and along the border with Somalia is volatile, with frequent incidents being reported and implications for the safety of humanitarian workers (ECHO, 17/04/2015).

The Tripartite Agreement between the Kenyan and Somali Governments and UNHCR, signed in November 2013, establishes the legal framework for those Somali refugees wishing to return home (IOM, UNHCR, 09/12/2014). As of 21 April, 2,060 returnees had arrived in Somalia (UNHCR, 21/04/2015). Due to heavy rains, repatriation was suspended, but is being resumed in the week of 25 May. Up to 200 people will be returned per convoy (local media, 25/05/2015).

From South Sudan: As of 28 May, 45,924 South Sudanese refugees had crossed into

Kenya through Nadapal border since mid-December 2013, and are living in Kakuma camp (UNHCR, 28/05/2015). 64% of these are children (UNICEF, 05/02/2015). The total population of South Sudanese refugees in Kenya is over 90,000 as of May 2015 (UNHCR, 21/05/2015).

There is a critical need for land. Kakuma camp has far exceeded its capacity of 125,000, hosting 183,839 refugees as of 24 May, 50% of the population is South Sudanese (UNHCR, 19/03/2015; 28/05/2015). The overpopulation and burden on services is causing friction among refugee communities, and security forces are finding it more difficult to manage situations (UNHCR, 14/11/2014). **New arrivals average less than 100 people per week (UNHCR, 28/05/2015).** The number of new refugees arriving has decreased in May compared to April due to heavy rains in Kapoeta (IOM, 06/05/2015).

From Ethiopia: As of 24 March, There are 30,478 Ethiopian refugees and asylum seekers in Kenya (UNHCR, 24/03/2015).

From DRC: As of 24 March, There are 17,303 DRC refugees and asylum seekers in Kenya (UNHCR, 24/03/2015).

From Sudan: As of 24 March, there are 9,631 refugees and asylum seekers in Sudan (UNHCR, 24/03/2015).

From Eritrea: As of May, 1,563 Eritrean refugees reside in Kenya (UNHCR, 12/05/2015).

Kenyan Refugees in Neighbouring Countries

1,350 Kenyans have been living in Kiryandogo, Uganda, for seven years. Ugandan and Kenyan authorities have reached an agreement to return all refugees in 90 days. So far, 950 had registered and were returned on 5 May (local media, 01/05/2015).

Food Security

As of May 2015, food security is categorized as Minimal in western Kenya, but Stressed (IPC Phase 2) in most pastoral areas. Conflict-affected areas in the northeast are facing Crisis and Emergency (IPC Phase 3 and 4) levels. At least 1.6 million people are acutely food insecure, due to constrained food access, high food prices and below-average rains (Food Security and Nutrition Working Group, 22/05/2015; UNICEF, 05/02/2015).

Nationwide, 54–58% of households are moderately and severely food insecure as of May 2015. Northwestern and northeastern zones are most affected: more than 75% of households are food insecure. In eastern pastoral livelihood zones, severe food insecurity reaches 64% (WFP, 27/05/2015). Areas most affected by food insecurity include Wajir, Garissa, Isiolo, Mandera, and Marsabit counties, and agropastoral areas in Kajiado, Laikipia, and Kitui counties. A longer than usual lean period is expected from May to July (Food Security and Nutrition Working Group, 22/05/2015).

Food security has improved in most pastoral areas, after receiving near-average rains in March–May. Most pastoral areas are expected to remain in Stressed food security through September 2015. Isolated parts of Isiolo, Garissa and Wajir will remain at the Crisis level. Hotter than normal conditions in the preceding months

caused severe deterioration to rangeland resources and livestock conditions. These have not yet recovered despite the onset of rains.

In southeastern and coastal marginal agricultural areas, some harvesting in June and agricultural labour opportunities will allow households to maintain current levels of food access, and to remain in Stressed food security through September (FEWSNET, 31/05/2015).

Current food stocks are sufficient to cover the needs of 43,000 South Sudanese refugees until July, but there will be a significant pipeline break if no contributions are received soon (WFP, 15/05/2015).

Agriculture and Markets

The long rains (March–May) have been average to above-average in medium- and high-potential agricultural areas, likely resulting in an average to above-average October–December harvest (FEWSNET, 31/05/2015).

Livelihoods

On 7 April, the Central Bank of Kenya closed 13 remittance firms, in an effort to curb the financing of terrorism. This has affected Somali refugees in Kenya, as families are unable to receive funds from abroad. 30 remittances outlets work in Dadaab, all of which have suspended their businesses for fear of police harassment (IRIN, UN, 10/04/2015).

A high proportion of eastern and northeastern pastoral households continue to use emergency coping strategies, with long-term negative impacts (WFP, 27/05/2015).

Many food kiosks have closed in Ahero, Kisumu county, in response to an increase in cholera cases, in order to reduce the spread of the disease (local media, 14/05/2015).

Health and Nutrition

The rainy season has brought an increase in cases of watery diarrhoea and malaria (UNHCR, 14/05/2015).

A malaria outbreak is ongoing in Kakamega county, where 12 children under five died in one week, and 100 more have been admitted to hospital. A shortage of blood stocks in health facilities is reportedly complicating efforts to fight the outbreak. Cases of severe malaria have increased since the onset of the rains in April (local media, 26/05/2015; 28/05/2015; **29/05/2015**).

Eleven of 26 health facilities in Mandera have closed because staff have left the county (UNICEF, 05/02/2015).

Cholera

Since late December 2014, a cholera outbreak has affected eleven counties. It is still ongoing in eight: Nairobi, Nakuru, Mombasa, Muranga, Baringo, Kiambu, Emby and Kirinyaga. **As of late May, 3,234 cases had been reported, including 72 deaths.** In

Migori, Homa Bay, and Bomet, the outbreak is under control. Nearly 320 cases including six deaths were reported in the week to 19 May, compared to 226 the week before. **MSF has warned that the outbreak may worsen and last much longer due to high population mobility and the congested living conditions in the most affected parts of Nairobi, where cholera has spread to almost all sub-counties and informal settlements** (Government, 05/05/2015; local media, 30/04/2015; 14/05/2015; 19/05/2015; 21/05/2015; **MSF, 02/06/2015**).

Acute watery diarrhoea and suspected cholera cases have increased rapidly in the Kenyan-Somali border town Dholeb, where 129 people had been admitted to the hospital and five people had died as of 17 May (IOM, 19/05/2015).

Nutrition

Global acute malnutrition (GAM) rates in February 2015 were highest in Wajir West (22.6%), Wajir East and South (17.4%), northern Garissa (15.2%) and Isiolo (13.2%). Since the peak in February there has been a continued reduction in the number of admissions to therapeutic feeding programmes (WFP, 27/05/2015).

SAM rates among South Sudanese refugees arriving in Kakuma camp in February were 11.1%, a decrease from 15.4% in October 2014. GAM was at 20.5%, a decrease from 29.3% in October 2014 (UNHCR, 23/10/2014, 28/02/2015).

WASH

Water supply in Kakuma 4 camp has stabilised. **As of 29 May, residents have access to an average of 19L per person per day.** The latrine to user ratio is 1:14, conforming to the UNHCR minimal standard (UNHCR, 22/05/2015; **29/05/2015**).

Education

Access to education has been disrupted for 9,000 schoolchildren in Mandera (UNICEF, 05/02/2015). Teachers are still not reporting to their work stations due to insecurity in the region. Most affected are secondary schools, but primary schools along the Kenya–Somalia border have also remained without teachers (local media, 21/05/2015).

More than 1,000 teachers have refused to go back to Baringo, Mandera, Garissa and Wajir since January due to insecurity. More than 95 public schools have remained closed nationwide. In Baringo, West Pokot and Turkana counties cattle raids and violence have led to the closure of several schools (local media, 26/05/2015).

Protection

Following Al Shabaab attacks in Mandera in late November, a new security bill was introduced limiting the rights of people who are arrested and accused, adding harsh criminal penalties, and restricting freedoms of expression and assembly. On 23 February, Kenya's High Court discarded key aspects of the law, including those which curb media freedom and introduce a refugee cap (BBC, 23/02/2015). In January, Human Rights Watch issued a report that highlighted the government's efforts to tackle insecurity have been marred by serious human rights violations, including extrajudicial killings, arbitrary

detentions and torture by security forces (HRW, 29/01/2015).

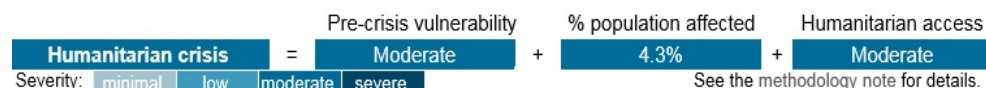
There are reports of Somali refugees being mistreated by security forces, as they try to confront Al Shabaab (BBC, 01/06/2015).

Child Protection

Trafficking of separated South Sudanese children is a growing phenomenon in Kenya. Traffickers find the children on their way to or inside refugee camps and take them to southern Africa, often Malawi, where they use or sell them as slaves (Jesuit Refugee Service, 14/01/2015).

Updated: 03/06/2015

LIBERIA FOOD INSECURITY, EPIDEMIC



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

No significant developments this week, 02/06/2015. Last update: 12/05/2015.

KEY CONCERNS

- The last confirmed Ebola patient died on 27 March (WHO, 15/04/2015). As of 9 May, Liberia was declared Ebola-free. 10,666 Ebola cases have been reported in Liberia, including 4,806 deaths (WHO, 09/05/2015). The utility of case numbers has been questioned; statistics are reported to be highly unreliable (CDC, 09/2014; international media, 20/11/2014).

- 1.23 million people are facing Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food insecurity, and 190,000 are in Crisis (Phase 3). Crisis food insecurity is projected to increase to 720,000 people (15% of the population) in the lean season (June–August), particularly in Nimba, Lofa, Bong, Margibi, and Montserrado counties (Cadre Harmonisé 03/2015).

- There is insufficient capacity to meet non-Ebola medical needs, leading to an increase in non-Ebola related morbidity and mortality.

For more information on the Ebola crisis in West Africa, visit the ACAPS Ebola Needs Analysis Project page.

International Presence

The Security Council has extended the mandate of the UN Mission in Liberia until 30

September 2015, in light of the consequences of the Ebola outbreak for national reform (UNSC, 15/12/2014).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Access

Liberia's rainy season began in late May (FEWSNET, 31/05/2015). It will be difficult to reach hospitals and clinics, electricity will not be available for long periods, and water and sanitation infrastructure will be disrupted (Plan, 07/04/2015).

Refugees in Liberia

Liberia is hosting 39,843 refugees, asylum seekers and others of concern, including 37,907 refugees from Côte d'Ivoire. Voluntary repatriation of Ivorian refugees was suspended by the Government of Côte d'Ivoire at the beginning of the Ebola epidemic, but on 12 March UNHCR, Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire agreed to resume repatriation (UNMEER, 15/03/2015; UNHCR, international media, 23/04/2015). There has been no update as of the 3 June whether or not the repatriation process has begun.

Food Security

As of March, 1.23 million people are facing Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food insecurity, and 190,000 Crisis (Phase 3). Rates of negative coping strategies remain highest in Lofa, Bomi, Gbarpolu, and Grand Cape Mount counties (WFP, 31/03/2015).

The end of the harvest has improved the situation in rural areas since March, but food insecurity has increased in urban areas. Rice production is estimated to have dropped by 5% in 2014 due to Ebola, outbreak wage rates fell by a seasonal 3%, and purchasing power also fell by 3% (World Bank, 15/04/2015; WFP, 30/04/2015). Nonetheless, WFP reports that urban households tend to use fewer coping strategies than rural ones (WFP, 31/03/2015). Increased unemployment rates are likely contributing to reduced household food access (FEWSNET, 01/05/2015).

Cadre Harmonisé projects 720,000 people, equal to 15% of the population, will reach Crisis (IPC Level 3) food insecurity in the June–August lean season, as poor and very poor households in Nimba, Lofa, Bong, Margibi, and Montserrado counties will have insufficient purchasing power (Cadre Harmonisé 03/2015; FAO, 28/05/2015).

Agriculture and Markets

Surveys indicated that local and imported rice prices remained stable in March, but are still well above average. Imported rice, local rice and palm oil prices rose significantly in Lofa county in April (WFP, 08/05/2015; World Bank, 15/04/2015).

Over 26% of respondents to a FEWSNET survey reported that the most important

market in their area was operating at reduced levels (FEWSNET, 05/05/2015).

65% of agricultural households report a smaller harvest than last year (World Bank, 15/04/2015). In April, 21% of traders reported that rice cultivation was taking place at below-average levels (FEWSNET, 01/05/2015). Decreased agricultural production is of particular concern in Bomi, Bong, and Lofa counties, where the impact will become clear during the October 2015 harvest (ACAPS, 04/2015). Agricultural sector growth will decline by over 2% due to the Ebola outbreak, according to a recovery report (UN, 26/03/2015).

60% of Liberians rely on imported staple crops, and a rice import gap of 90,000 metric tons is exacerbating food insecurity, based on commercial forecasts (FAO, 05/01/2015; 22/01/2015).

Livelihoods

Two-thirds of respondents in a nationwide multisectoral assessment considered the income generation situation worse in April 2015 than before the Ebola outbreak. Access to income generation is prioritised over health and education needs (ACAPS, 04/2015). More than 39% of people surveyed in April reported fewer wage opportunities compared to the same period in the previous year (FEWSNET, 05/05/2015). In March, 45% of respondents who were employed between February and August 2014 reported that they were currently out of work (FEWSNET, 01/05/2015). Women are particularly vulnerable since they work disproportionately in non-farm self-employment. 95% of women who were engaged in small business have lost their markets and are accumulating debt, which they will struggle to repay (UN, 26/03/2015). Microcredit, one of women's main sources of funding, has decreased to negligible amounts (Cadre Harmonisé, 03/2015).

Health and Nutrition

Nearly all health facilities in the country are open, but most are operating at reduced levels compared to before the outbreak. Between August and December 2014, the number of outpatient visits decreased by 61% compared with the same period in 2013 (UN 26/03/2015).

The Ebola outbreak has significantly reduced vaccination rates. DTP3 (diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis) vaccinations have decreased by 53% since 2013 (UN, 26/03/2015)

Over 3% of health workers have been infected by Ebola; 2% of health workers have died of the disease (UNICEF, 29/04/2015).

Ebola

On 9 May, the outbreak of Ebola in Liberia was declared over (WHO, 09/05/2015). No new cases have been confirmed since 27 March (WHO, 29/04/2015). As of 9 May, 10,666 Ebola cases have been reported in Liberia, including 4,806 deaths (WHO,

09/05/2015). The utility of case numbers has been questioned; statistics are reported to be highly unreliable (CDC, 09/2014; international media, 20/11/2014).

Containment measures: The Government has threatened to shut down all schools and restaurants that lack WASH facilities (All Africa, 30/04/2015).

The Government reopened its borders with Sierra Leone and Guinea in February (UNMEER, 23/02/2015). Thousands of people are now crossing daily through official and unofficial crossing-points. The Sierra Leonean side of the border remains officially closed. More border points with Guinea are opening officially on both sides, although there are concerns about critical gaps in infection control supplies, particularly on the Guinean side (UNMEER, 15/03/2015; UNMEER; 15/04/2015).

Infection prevention and control challenges persist in border areas, according to a CDC assessment in March, including a lack of safe drinking water at health centres; inadequate WASH facilities; insufficient fuel for incineration; and inconsistent access to and storage and use of personal protective equipment (USAID, 25/03/2015).

Regional Ebola Outbreak

27,145 cumulative Ebola cases have been reported across the region, including 11,147 deaths (WHO, 02/06/2015).

Maternal Health

In the three most affected countries, deliveries in health facilities and the number of assisted births have decreased. Antenatal consultations decreased by 40–43%, while institutional deliveries decreased by 37–38% by the end of 2014, compared to 2013 (UN, 26/03/2015, MoH, 07/04/2015).

Measles

As of 1 May, there have been 850 confirmed and suspected measles cases, including seven deaths across ten counties. 67% of the cases were among children under five. Grand Bassa (160), Margibi (85), and Montserrado (65) reported most cases (OCHA, 01/05/2015; WHO, 02/06/2015).

There are reports of people suspected to have measles abandoning their homes to avoid specimen collection and testing (UNMEER, 27/03/2015).

Different reports suggest measles vaccination coverage has decreased by between 45% and 58% by December 2014, compared to 2013 (UN, 26/03/2015; Save the Children, 02/04/2015). A mass vaccination campaign took place between 8–14 May, targeting around 700,000 children for both measles and polio (All Africa, 24/04/2015).

Mental Health

A need for access to mental health and psychosocial support remains, especially for survivors, orphans, and the bereaved (UNMEER, 22/02/2015).

There is only one psychiatrist and there are no psychologists in Liberia. 143 mental health clinicians are meant to be attached to wellness units, but these are yet to be established. There are no long-term treatment facilities for mental health in Liberia. There is one facility with approximately 80 beds for short-term patients (PI, 21/03/2015).

Nutrition

The six counties prioritised by responders for nutrition interventions are the counties that reported the highest Ebola case numbers during the height of the crisis: Montserrado, Margibi, Bong, Nimba, Grand Cape Mount, Lofa (UNICEF, 15/04/2015). 52,000 children are estimated to be at risk of severe acute malnutrition (SAM). Relative to trends observed from 1992–2012, malnutrition prevalence is forecast to increase by 2.8–5.3% between 2014 and 2016 (UN Development Group, 11/03/2015).

WASH

According to a recent assessment of health facilities, 50% do not have a protected year-round source of water, and 20% do not have any protected source on site. 49% do not have any bulk water storage on site. Only 61% of facilities report hand washing facilities at the toilet. 23% have a drainage system and only 45% have a functioning soak pit for liquid waste (WASH Cluster, 10/04/2015).

17% of Liberians have access to improved sanitation. The number drops to 4% in rural areas. 32% don't have access to improved drinking water source (WASH Cluster, 13/04/2015).

An estimated 2,800 schools need improved access to water (PI, 26/03/2015). According to an Education Cluster assessment, 31% of schools do not have functional latrines, while schools that do average one latrine for every 123 students. Only 60% of the schools had safe drinking water within 500m, 40% of schools had soap and water for hand washing, and 39% had functional hand-washing facilities (Education Cluster, 17/03/2015).

Education

According to self-reported data, enrolment since schools re-opened in February is at 92% of the 2014 level according to the schools assessed recently by UNICEF (UNICEF, 08/04/2015). However, private sources have suggested the figure is closer to 66% and the World Bank found only 75% of people with primary school-aged children reported that at least one child had returned to school, with over 80% of parents citing lack of money as the main barrier to education (World Bank,

16/04/2015; PI, 20/04/2015). Many schools are reportedly not in compliance with hygiene protocols (UNICEF, 18/03/2015). Fear of Ebola transmission continues to be of concern countrywide, preventing people from sending their children to school (ACAPS, 04/2015).

Protection

Families of victims and survivors of the Ebola virus are experiencing physical and verbal abuse and lack access to health facilities, food, and water sources (UNMEER, 30/11/2014; UNMEER, 11/01/2015). Some survivors say marketers are refusing to accept their money for transaction (All Africa, 04/05/2015). Healthcare workers who were in ETUs face similar discriminatory attitudes (Mercy Corps, 02/04/2015).

Best estimates suggest there are currently around 2,000 survivors in Liberia (VOA, 30/03/2015). Many return home to find their possessions have been destroyed to prevent the spread of the virus. Landlords have terminated leases and some people have lost their jobs (VOA, 30/03/2015; All Africa, 04/05/2015). Women and girls, who have poorer access to jobs and education, are especially vulnerable (UNFPA, 03/02/2015).

Child Protection

It is reported that 401 of the 450 rape cases reported in Liberia since the beginning of the EVD outbreak were committed against children 0–17 years (UNICEF, 15/04/2015).

As of 6 May, 3,323 children have lost one or both parents to Ebola since the outbreak began in March 2014 (UNICEF, 06/05/2015).

Social workers have raised fears of child trafficking and exploitation, after some children, who have been placed into foster care and are receiving material support or onetime cash grants, have been claimed by strangers who failed to come forward previously (UNICEF, 31/12/2014).

Updated: 02/06/2015

LIBYA **DISPLACEMENT, CIVIL WAR, POLITICAL UNREST**



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

3 June: Islamic State abducted 86 Eritrean Christian migrants from Tripoli (International Business Times, 05/06/2015).

KEY CONCERNS

- 400,000 IDPs in 35 cities and towns (IDMC, 30/03/2014). More than 150,000 people have sought refuge abroad (UNHCR 10/10/2014).
- Over 331,000 people are at risk and in need of humanitarian assistance (OCHA, 08/10/2014).
- Indiscriminate shelling and targeting of civilian areas (UNSMIL, 04/09/2014).
- Access is a major concern (OCHA, 03/09/2014).

OVERVIEW

It is estimated that two million people have been affected by the conflict, which has generated shortages of food, fuel, water, medical supplies, and electricity, as well as reduced access to healthcare and public services.

The rapidly deteriorating security situation has caused waves of displacement, particularly in the western outskirts of Tripoli and the eastern city of Benghazi. The prices of food and basic items, such as cooking fuel and wheat flour, have doubled.

Most displaced people are living in schools and host communities are under growing strain. Access is difficult, with blocked roads preventing the delivery of food and medical supplies to areas most affected by conflict.

Political Context

Libya has two rival parliaments and governments, with militias exerting much control on the ground. The political crisis led to worsening armed conflict over 2014. Struggle over the control of resources and a sharp drop in oil production have exacerbated the crisis, and worsened the economic situation (Financial Times 19/03/2015). Islamic State (IS) has exploited the volatile security situation; the Eastern coastal town of Derna is now controlled by groups pledging allegiance to IS (Asharq Al Awsat 04/05/2015). Profiting from the deterioration of the political and security situation, smugglers have also taken control over some areas, notably Sabrata and Zuwara towns near the Tunisian border west of Tripoli. They make use of official ports for smuggling operations (BBC, 29/04/2015).

The House of Representatives (HoR) was elected in June. It moved to Tobruk in early August (AFP, 12/11/2014). The Islamist-dominated General National Congress (GNC), which preceded the House of Representatives and had never stood down, reconvened and voted to replace the House on 25 August.

Prime Minister Al Thani's Government, from the House of Representatives, was sworn in September. In October, the House of Representatives officially endorsed former General Haftar and his Operation Dignity (now known as the Libyan National Army) against Islamist militias. On 6 November, Libya's Supreme Court ruled the House of Representatives unconstitutional. Certain members of the House of Representatives declared they did not

recognise the ruling (UNHCR, 14/11/2014).

Economic Crisis

The Libyan economy contracted over 23% in 2014, and is expected to contract an additional 10% in 2015, depending on domestic stability as well as international oil prices. Insecurity-induced supply chain disruptions are likely to contribute to increased inflation in 2015. The unemployment rate, estimated at 26% as of end 2010, is unlikely to improve in the short run. A large share of the population is normally employed in the public sector (FAO, 02/06/2015). Unless the political crisis is resolved, the increasing financial constraints could pose serious risks to Libya's ability to provide essential services (UNICEF, 03/2015).

Peace Talks

Over 6–8 March, the rival parliaments held their first direct meeting, led by the UN (AFP, 06/03/2015; 11/03/2015). On 3 June, peace talks continued; they are due to conclude by 17 June (AFP, 02/06/2015).

Security Context

The surge in violence since July 2014 has affected more than two million people (UN, 03/09/2014). The rival governments have been carrying out tit-for-tat airstrikes in east and west Libya, respectively (Libya Herald, 01/04/2015). Since the beginning of 2015, over 1,100 violent deaths have been reported (ACLED, 18/05/2015). In 2014, there were 2,383 reported fatalities from battles and remote violence (ACLED, 15/01/2015).

Whilst tensions the beginning of May saw heightened tensions between Libya Dawn forces and Operation Dignity in the west, the second half of May witnessed a shift in violence, to the central city of Sirte and eastern city of Benghazi. The Libya Dawn alliance played a lesser role in violent conflict in May, reflected in several reconciliatory efforts and prisoner swaps in Zintan, Misrata, and Gharyan (ACLED, 05/06/2015).

Main Stakeholders

Libya Dawn

The Libya Shield brigades, tied to the city of Misrata, are allied to Islamist political forces, as are the Shura Council of Benghazi Revolutionaries (SCBR), a Benghazi-based alliance including Ansar al Sharia, Libya Shield units and other armed groups. Together with insurgents from Tripoli and other towns including al Zawiya and Gheryan, these groups make up Libya Dawn. Some factions are wary of the threat of IS to regional and local interests; others are willing to cooperate with IS to defeat Haftar and the Libyan National Army (ACLED, 03/2015).

Libyan National Army

Former General Khalifa Haftar launched Operation Dignity in May 2014, in support of the

House of Representatives and aiming to break the strongholds of Islamist forces. Operation Dignity and its supporters have since been renamed the Libyan National Army (LNA), with Haftar as army chief (ICG, 05/01/2014; Middle East Eye, 24/02/2015). Support comes from the Al Qa'qa' and Al Sawai'q brigades, allied with the city of Zintan, and fighters from the Warshefana region west of Tripoli. The House of Representatives has repeatedly appealed to the international community for more weapons (AFP, 05/01/2014).

Islamic State and Allies

The Islamic Youth Shura Council has declared an Islamic emirate in the eastern city of Derna and pledged allegiance to Islamic State (Al Arabiya, 06/10/2014). The Battar Brigade, based in Derna, pledges alliance to Islamic State. They are not affiliated with either of the rival governments and have warned all governments and militia groups not to interfere with its activities. IS has set up training camps in eastern Libya, according to US officials (BBC, 04/12/2014).

Regional Involvement

In October 2014, Prime Minister Al Thani announced that Egypt would help to train the Libyan army. In February, Egypt carried out airstrikes on Derna (Reuters, 23/02/2015).

Islamist fighters pushed out of Mali are said to be hiding in Libya's south. Experts see links between these groups and Islamist militias in northern and eastern Libya (AFP, 26/10/2014).

Tuareg from Mali and, reportedly, Tebu from Chad, have joined their respective Libyan tribe members in fighting over Ubari (Al Jazeera, 05/12/2014).

Palestinian, Sudanese, and Syrian nationals have been banned from entering Libya (Libya Herald, 05/01/2015). Bangladeshi workers have also been banned from entering Libya (Reuters, 16/05/2015).

Conflict Developments

Tripoli and Western Libya

Tripoli is largely under the control of Libya Dawn. On 20 March, the LNA announced an assault to recapture Tripoli (Reuters, 23/03/2015). In April, as peace talks were starting, forces loyal to the HoR carried out airstrikes on Mitiga airport and other targets in western Libya (Reuters, 15/04/2015). According to local officials, IS was behind attacks on the Spanish, South Korean, and Moroccan embassies in April (International Business Times, 13/04/2015; AFP, 21/04/2015).

Misrata: On 31 May, IS claimed responsibility for a suicide bombing at a checkpoint west of Misrata that killed five and injured eight (Reuters, 31/05/2015). On 21 May, IS claimed responsibility for a suicide bombing at another checkpoint in Misrata that killed two guards (Reuters, 21/05/2015).

Sirte: On 29 May, IS seized Sirte airport and the Great Man Made River water project, which supplies water to Libyan cities (BBC, 29/05/2015). **On 21 May, for the first time**

since fighting began in May 2014, Misrata's 166 Battalion and forces of the HoR conducted a joint security operation against IS in Sirte (ACLED, 05/06/2015). It was reported that IS, backed by local militias and militias from Misrata, had seized control of Sirte in March (NYT, 10/03/2015).

Benghazi and Eastern Libya

Operation Dignity began an offensive on Benghazi in October; SCBR had apparently been in control since mid-July (UNSMIL, 04/09/2014). Between mid-October and January, 600 people were killed due to fighting in the city, according to medical staff (Reuters, 18/01/2015). The Libyan National Army claims to have almost full control of Benghazi's Laithi district, central Benghazi's port area, as well as part of the neighbouring Suq Al Hout district (Libya Herald, 06/01/2015). Heavy fighting erupted again in Benghazi on 18 May between pro-HoR forces and Islamist groups (Reuters, 18/05/2015). **Since mid-May, IS appears to have entered Benghazi, joining the fight against the LNA. Whether IS is fighting alongside Ansar al Sharia is unclear, however the humanitarian impact on the civilian populations within Benghazi is becoming catastrophic (OCHA, 05/06/2015).** On 19 May, IS claimed responsibility for a suicide bombing that killed one and injured seven in Qubbah (Reuters, 19/05/2015).

Derna: On 30 May, four people were killed in two explosions near Derna (Libya Herald, 30/05/2015). Derna, IS's stronghold in Libya, has been hit by airstrikes several times, both by pro-HoR and Egyptian planes (Reuters, 05/05/2015; 23/02/2015).

Inter-communal Violence

Intermittent violence in the south, linked to inter and intra-ethnic rivalries, has been exacerbated by geopolitics and shifting allegiances. Fighting has occurred between the Tebu and the Tuareg since last September. On 1 June, two people were killed when clashes broke out in Ubari (Libya Herald, 01/06/2015). On 3 June, a preliminary ceasefire was agreed (Libya Herald, 03/06/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Access

Indiscriminate fighting has led to restrictions of movement for people trying to flee conflict areas. Violence and checkpoints along the route to Zawia from Tripoli are preventing people from reaching the Tunisian border. The Salloum border crossing between Libya and Egypt has been closed indefinitely (Libya Herald, 21/01/2015).

Access to areas most affected by conflict is difficult. Armed groups lack knowledge of humanitarian organisations and restrict their access. Most humanitarian agencies have left. The national agency tasked with leading the humanitarian response evaluates its own response capacity as almost non-existent (IRIN 07/08/2014).

Fuel shortages are further limiting access (AFP, 19/05/2015).

Displacement

IDPs' basic needs for shelter, food, and medical services remain grossly unmet. Their physical security has been seriously threatened by indiscriminate shelling, attacks on IDP camps, and sieges. There is serious concern for tens of thousands of displaced migrants who are trapped in Libya and particularly vulnerable (IDMC, 30/03/2015).

As of 30 March, there were an estimated 400,000 IDPs in 35 cities and towns in Libya, including approximately 290,000 women and children (IDMC, 30/03/2015; UNICEF, 03/2015). Additionally, at least 56,544 IDPs are still displaced from the 2011 conflict (IDMC, 23/09/2014).

269,000 IDPs are in and around Tripoli (IDMC, 30/03/2015). Near Tripoli, an estimated 83,270 people are living in settlements, schools and abandoned buildings (UNHCR, 16/01/2015).

In Benghazi, 90,000 people are reportedly unable to return home. The displacement has been centred around Benghazi, Derna, and near the Gulf of Sidra, in Ben Jawad and Ras Lanuf (UNHCR, 16/01/2015; IDMC 30/03/2015). More than 8,700 displaced Tawerghas, mostly women and children, are staying in nine camps in Qasr ben Ghashir, Abu Salim, Janzour in Tripoli, Ajdabiya, Bani Waleed, Tarhuna and Benghazi (UNICEF, 01/06/2015).

18,492 people from Ubari are displaced in six towns: Sabha, Wadi Shati, Jufra, Ghat, Murzuq, and Lewenat (IDMC, 30/03/2015; UNHCR, 16/01/2015). Services have been severely disrupted by fighting: Schools, hospitals and markets are completely inaccessible (UNHCR, 16/01/2015).

Migrants, Refugees and Asylum-seekers in Libya

Prior to the crisis, Libya was supporting a growing population of refugees and asylum seekers using the country as an exit point to Europe. At the end of end December 2014, 36,984 refugees were in Libya (OCHA, 28/12/2014). In addition, IOM estimated at least 150,000 migrant workers, 5,000 of whom might be vulnerable and in need of evacuation assistance, health services, and psychosocial support (IOM, 08/01/2015).

Third-country nationals face extreme difficulties leaving the country as passage through Libya's borders with Egypt and Tunisia is restricted. Migrants continue to embark on unseaworthy vessels to reach Italy aboard unseaworthy vessels. More than 40,000 people have tried to cross the Mediterranean so far in 2015, most of them using Libya as their starting point, and nearly 1,800 are feared to have died in the attempt (IOM 31/05/2015). The Libyan Naval Coast Guard intercept many boats, which has increased the number of migrants in need of urgent assistance in Libyan ports (IOM, 12/05/2015). In 2014, 170,000 migrants departed from Libya and arrived in Italy. An estimated 3,200 people died crossing the sea (IOM, 31/03/2015).

Some 20,000 Egyptians have fled Libya since 15 February (AP, 25/02/2015).

Food Security

Insecurity is affecting the food supply chain, with some estimates indicating a substantial

decline in food imports into eastern Libya. The HoR has reported it had started tapping into the country's strategic wheat reserves to ensure bread supplies. Some bakeries in Tripoli and Benghazi have closed or reduced production (Reuters, 04/02/2015). Warehouses (both public and private) are situated in conflict areas, and fuel shortages are aggravating the situation.

Health and Nutrition

Large numbers of expatriate medical personnel have left Libya, and such staff make up 80% of all medical personnel, according to the Ministry of Health.

Access to health services has become a major concern mainly in Benghazi. Ongoing fighting has led to restrictions of movement for people and health workers in the conflict areas (WHO, 24/11/2014).

The hospitals that remain operating in Tripoli and Benghazi have been overstretched dealing with casualties. Many national medical personnel have not been able to work due to insecurity. Tripoli hospitals have been hit by shelling, leading to suspension of services. Ambulances have been stolen (ICRC, 17/09/2014).

Lack of access to health services for inmates in migrant detention centres has been reported (Human Rights Watch, 21/05/2015).

WASH

Lack of adequate WASH facilities has been reported in detention centres in and outside Tripoli (Human Rights Watch, 21/05/2015). Inadequate sanitation and hygiene conditions are reported in the nine displacement camps hosting Tawerghas (UNICEF, 01/06/2015).

Protection

Abductions, looting, burning of homes and other acts of revenge have all been frequently reported (UN Security Council, 05/09/2014). In some districts of Benghazi, civilians are reporting that militants patrolling the area are not allowing them to leave (Human Rights Watch, 26/05/2015). Human rights defenders and justice sector officials are targeted, intimidated, and frequently attacked (UNSMIL/OHCHR, 25/03/2015).

Detention

According to estimates by the European Commission, nearly one million people are waiting in Libya to make their trip to Europe. Third-country refugees and asylum-seekers, including unaccompanied children, face arbitrary arrest and indefinite detention for migration control purposes by both state and non-state actors. Torture, including whippings, beatings and electric shocks, has also been reported (Human Rights Watch, 21/05/2015). As of May, 16,000 people, mainly African migrants, were reported to be detained mainly in the Tripoli region and in Misrata (Reuters, 24/05/2015). Currently, there are 12 government-run detention centres and 21 operated by armed militias (PI, 05/2015). The centres are reported to be overcrowded and lack adequate WASH facilities (Reuters, 24/05/2015).

Abduction

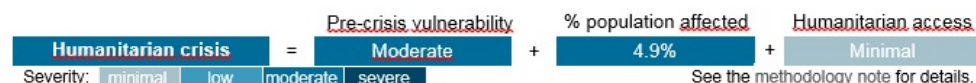
On 3 June, IS abducted 86 Eritrean Christian migrants from Tripoli (International Business Times, 05/06/2015). On 19 April, IS released a video showing the beheading of 12 Ethiopian Christians and the execution of 16 more Ethiopian Christians by gunshot (AFP, 19/04/2015). 21 Coptic Christians were victims of a similar incident in February (HRW, 24/02/2015). On 9 March, nine foreign oil workers were reportedly kidnapped by IS, during an attack on Al Ghani oil field in which several guards were killed (BBC, 09/03/2015).

Mines and ERW

Incorrectly armed fuses or faulty ammunition have resulted in large quantities of unexploded ordnance in conflict areas (UNSMIL, 04/09/2014).

Updated: 09/06/2015

MALAWI FLOODS



For more information, visit the [ACAPS country analysis page](#).

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

No significant developments this week, 09/06/2015. Last update: 26/05/2015.

KEY CONCERNS

- 107,000 people are living in 131 displacement sites as a result of January floods (IOM/Government, 20/05/2015).
- 620,000 people affected by floods and heavy rainfalls are at Crisis level of food insecurity (IPC Phase 3). Food security is likely to worsen as the 2015 harvest is projected 30–40% lower than 2014 (FEWSNET, 17/05/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Disasters: Floods

Heavy rains in January and February led to severe flooding across Malawi. Around 638,000 people have been affected, 104 people died and 645 were injured. Floods have caused great damage to crops, livestock, food stocks, and infrastructure, with the southern districts of Nsanje, Chikwawa, Phalombe, and Zomba most affected (Government/UN, 02/03/2015; 11/02/2015).

Displacement

Flood-affected IDPs

As of 20 May, an estimated 107,000 people remain displaced in 131 open sites, mostly in Nsanje, Chikwawa, and Phalombe. This is a 32% decrease on April numbers. 56% are women, and 55% are children. 88% of IDPs have remained with their area of origin. NFIs, shelter, WASH and health needs persist (IOM/Government, 20/05/2015; 29/04/2015).

Returnees

Shelter support, especially in Nsanje, is a priority for IDPs returning home after flooding (Government/UN, 07/04/2015; 02/03/2015).

As of 23 April, around 400 Malawian refugees had returned from South Africa and 3,200 had been registered in displacement sites awaiting repatriation, following a wave of xenophobic attacks in the country (Government/UN, 23/04/2015).

Refugees

At August 2014, there were 19,923 refugees and asylum seekers in Malawi, mostly from DRC, Burundi and Rwanda, residing in Dzaleka camp in Dowa district in central Malawi, or among host communities (UNHCR, 30/08/2014).

Food Security

620,000 people in 17 districts affected by floods and heavy rainfalls in January are likely to remain in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food insecurity until September, due to a reduction or total loss of livelihoods. Poor households affected by the floods are receiving food assistance from April–July and are facing Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food security outcomes. Households in districts affected by abnormal dryness since February are Stressed (IPC Phase 2) (FEWSNET, 24/05/2015; 17/05/2015). Food security is likely to worsen during the lean season (WFP, 04/05/2015).

Households in 49 sites report having no access to food; cash and distributions are the main sources for obtaining food (IOM/Government, 20/05/2015).

Agricultural Outlook

Around 64,000 hectares of land were submerged in the floods, including 42,000 hectares of cropland, affecting 116,000 farmers (Government/UN, 03/02/2015).

Dry conditions in the highly productive northern and central regions since mid-February have reportedly caused some wilting and drying of crops. Several areas have received less than 50% of their normal rainfall accumulation (UNICEF, 08/04/2015; FEWSNET, 17/04/2015).

The 2015 harvest is expected to be 30–40% lower than last year. Current estimates indicate that maize production is 28% lower than 2014, and staple food prices have significantly increased as a result. Maize prices are projected to be about 35% above the three-year average from April–September (WFP, 04/05/2015; 10/04/2015; FEWSNET, 24/05/2015).

Health and Nutrition

Cholera: As of 1 June, 675 cases of cholera, including 11 deaths, have been confirmed since the outbreak began mid-February, mostly in Nsanje. The case fatality rate is at 1.8%, above the regional average of 0.8%. Incidence has been falling in the past couple of weeks (OCHA, 01/06/2015; UNICEF, 13/05/2015). The outbreak was linked to a cholera outbreak in Mozambique (UNICEF, 08/04/2015).

Health facilities and medical supplies have been significantly damaged by floods. In IDP camps, malaria, respiratory infections, and diarrhoea are the most prevalent health problems. The long distance to health facilities (over 3km) is a challenge in more than half of IDP sites (IOM/Government, 20/05/2015).

Nutrition

There has been a significant increase in the number of malnourished children as a result of the floods and poor harvests. At least 107 sites report that no supplementary feeding is available for pregnant and lactating women, while 81 sites lack supplementary feeding for children (IOM/Government, 20/05/2015; Government/UN, 08/03/2015).

25,313 children aged 6–59 months were suffering from SAM as of July (Government/UN, 08/03/2015; UNICEF, 27/09/2014).

WASH

Water sources were damaged or contaminated and pit latrines were damaged, during the January floods (Government/UN, 03/02/2015). At end April, 35% of IDP sites reported that drinking water was still poor quality, while 8% report having less than 15L of water per person per day. WASH needs are greatest in Chikwawa and Nsanje, where the current sanitation ratio is one drop hole for 130 people (IOM/Government, 20/05/2015; 29/04/2015).

Shelter and NFIs

75% of IDP sites are spontaneous, while 22% of IDPs have sought refuge in planned displacement sites. In 16 sites, 25% of IDPs live outside without shelter, while in 124 sites, none of the individuals have access to electricity (IOM/Government, 20/05/2015). Many on the east bank in Nsanje are waiting to be allocated land, but lack resources to rebuild their homes (Government/UN, 07/04/2015).

NFIs, including kitchen sets and blankets, remain a primary need among populations in IDP sites (IOM/Government, 20/05/2015).

Education

Education has been affected by displacement, lack of school materials, and damaged classrooms, in particular in Nsanje and Phalombe (UNICEF, 14/04/2015). 415 schools and 350,000 students have been affected, including 191 schools still used as camps (IOM/Government, 29/04/2015). School enrolment for boys in Nsanje has reportedly dropped by 32% (UNICEF, 01/04/2015).

Protection

Overall, men, women, and children report feeling safe across IDP camps. 23 of the 192 remaining open IDP sites do not have separate bathing areas for male and female IDPs, which may raise protection issues (IOM/Government, 20/05/2015; 29/04/2015).

Reports of rape and cross-border trafficking between Malawi and Mozambique are a concern (Government/UN, 07/04/2015).

Reviewed: 09/06/2015

MALI CONFLICT, FOOD INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

29 May: More than 50,000 people were displaced in May due to violence in northern Mali. More than 47,000 were displaced in Timbuktu (UN; OCHA, 27/05/2015).

27 May: Insecurity in Timbuktu and Gao is limiting humanitarian access, resulting in interruption and delay of assistance to displaced populations (WFP).

KEY CONCERNS

- Security, particularly in the north, remains volatile, and access is limited for aid workers. Clashes between rival groups and government forces have increased in northern and central Mali since April.
- 181,000 children suffer from severe acute malnutrition (OCHA, 10/02/2015).
- An estimated 241,000 people are severely food insecure (IPC Phase 3 and 4) and 2.4 million people are in IPC Phase 2 (Stressed) (Cadre Harmonisé, 22/03/2015).
- 690,000 million people are in need of health assistance and 840,000 are in need of WASH (OCHA, 31/01/2015).

Political Context

The state lost control of the north of the country in 2012, after Tuareg groups from the northern region known as Azawad began a campaign for greater autonomy, and a separate coup d'état further destabilised the country. However, the fragile alliance between Tuareg and Islamists was quickly broken, and Islamists took control of key northern cities. Civilian rule was re-established in mid-2013, with the aid of French and African Union troops, and a UN mission, MINUSMA, was set up, but Mali continues to face security and political challenges. The truce in the north remains fragile, and key government institutions need

strengthening. Limited access to basic social services and the poor capacity of public administration are key drivers of the crisis.

Since the Algiers Declaration in June 2014, the Government and the Azawad Movement Coalition – comprising the National Movement for the Liberation of Azawad (MNLA), the High Council for the Unity of Azawad (HCUA), and the Arab Movement of Azawad (MAA) – have been engaged in further peace talks. The Government, representatives of pro-government militias, and two minor members of the AMC signed the Algiers peace accord on 15 May. However, the MNLA, HCUA and MAA did not sign (international media, 15/05/2015).

Security Context

Attacks by and clashes between rival armed groups, including separatist Tuareg movements, government forces and Islamist militants, continue to hamper security in the country. In addition to the northern provinces of Kidal, Gao, and Timbuktu, security incidents have been reported in the southern regions of Mopti and Segou since January, and in Bamako in March. Landmines and improvised explosive devices (IED) are a particular threat. Attacks on MINUSMA vehicles, camps, and peacekeepers have spiked since mid-August 2014 (AFP, 21/09/2014). It often remains unclear who is responsible for the attacks.

The Movement for Unity and Jihad in West Africa (MUJAO), which split from Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) in 2011, and Ansar Dine, are among the main Islamist groups active in northern Mali, carrying out attacks on pro-government and international forces.

International Presence

The stability of the Sahel region relies on the presence of foreign troops. In addition to Malian forces, there are French forces, MINUSMA, and the EU military training mission (EUTM), mainly in Bamako (53% of forces) and in northern cities such as Kidal, Gao, Timbuktu, and Menaka (28%) (OCHA, 31/05/2014). MINUSMA's mandate expires on 30 June 2015. **36 peacekeepers have died since the start of the UN mission in July 2013 and more than 150 have been wounded in close to 80 attacks (local media, 30/05/2015).**

On 1 August 2014, France deployed a 3,000-strong counterterrorism operation across the Sahel region. Based in Chad, Operation Barkhane is active in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger (Local Media, 01/08/2014).

Security Incidents

Since late April, the security situation is deteriorating as clashes between government forces, pro-government armed groups and separatist Tuareg groups have increased. Armed group attacks in Timbuktu, Gao and Mopti have caused mass displacement in May.

On 22 May, nine civilians were killed after AMC attacked Tin Hama town, close to Menaka, Gao region. They were reportedly executed by Malian soldiers. MINUSMA is investigating the case for human rights violations (international media, 22/05/2015). On the same day, AMC captured 19 Malian soldiers after clashes in Tessit, Gao region, and took temporary

control of the town. Government forces regained control the next day (local media, 25/05/2015). On 21 May, AMC clashed again with Malian armed forces near Menaka, in Tin-Fadimata, Gao region. Gambia has reportedly taken control of the town (local media, 21/05/2015).

Attacks on MINUSMA by AMC and Islamist groups continue to be reported. Most are carried out in Gao, but some in Timbuktu, Mopti and Kidal regions. **On 28 May, three peacekeepers were injured in a landmine explosion on the road between Teherdige and Timbuktu (UN, 28/05/2015). On 26 May, one peacekeeper died and another was wounded in an attack on a MINUSMA vehicle near Bamako airport (UN, 26/05/2015).** On 22 May, the MINUSMA camp in Ber, Timbuktu region, was shelled while ten people who had been held captive by AMC were being released. There were no casualties (UN, 22/05/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Access

Deterioration of the security situation and hostilities between parties of the conflict in 2015 continue to hamper humanitarian access in the north of Mali. Since the beginning of 2015, OCHA has recorded 31 access constraints, compared to 22 in the whole of 2014. 50% were related to violence against humanitarian personnel, assets or facilities, and 50% were linked to the conduct of hostilities. At least 14 humanitarian organisations had to temporarily suspend activities or relocate staff between February and April (OCHA, 04/05/2015). ACF Spain has suspended its activities in northern Mali; an ACF worker was killed in Tin Hama on 22 May (international media, 22/05/2015).

Both river and road transport are severely affected by fighting (WFP, 27/05/2015). Nutrition activities in Timbuktu region were interrupted in the first weeks of May, and general food distributions delayed in Gao (WFP, 29/05/2015).

All transportation companies have suspended activities on the route between Sevaré (Mopti region) and Gao because of the absence of escorts and increased security risks, threatening the rupture of supplies to the region and displacement to the south (local media, 27/04/2015). The road between Goundam and Timbuktu is only open to army vehicles (local media, 12/05/2015).

Humanitarian actors have limited access to areas affected by violence in Gourma Rharous district, Timbuktu region, due to insecurity, **and assistance to the newly displaced is limited (OCHA, 21/05/2015; UN, 29/05/2015).**

Humanitarian air services have been disrupted in Kidal region since January, due to insecurity and needs for repair (OCHA, 04/05/2015; 21/05/2015).

Displacement

IDPs

The total number of IDPs in Mali has reached over 100,000 since new displacement in

May (IRIN, 29/05/2015). More than 50,000 have been displaced in Gao, Mopti and Timbuktu regions.

Timbuktu is the most affected region, it hosts 47,300 newly displaced as of 17 May. Most are staying with host families or in temporary shelters, but others are camping along the Niger River in critical conditions. At least 29,214 people are displaced in Gourma Rharous district, 8,259 in Goundam, and 9,840 in Timbuktu district. They are in urgent need of water, food, NFIs, shelter support and healthcare.

An additional 2,350 people are in Gao and some 1,600 in Mopti region (OCHA, 27/05/2015; ECHO, 27/05/2015; UN News, 29/05/2015).

More than 60,000 remain displaced throughout the country. About half are in northern Mali, with 11,990 in Kidal, 10,348 in Timbuktu and 7,245 in Gao. In the south, 14,386 IDPs were identified in Bamako, and 10,456 in Koulikoro. Mopti and Segou regions also host several thousand IDPs (Government, USAID, IOM, 06/04/2015; UNHCR, 29/05/2015).

IDPs in Bamako live in difficult conditions. Most are affected by poverty and food insecurity and have limited access to basic social services and livelihood opportunities (OCHA, 16/04/2015).

Refugees in Mali

As of May, Mali hosts some 15,400 refugees, mainly from Mauritania, Côte d'Ivoire (UNHCR, 26/05/2015).

Returnees

In December 2014, 394,655 returnees were registered in Mali; most in Timbuktu, followed by Gao and Mopti. 39% of returnees came from Bamako (Government, USAID, IOM, 06/04/2015).

Some 35,000 Malian refugees have returned: more than 10,000 from Burkina Faso; over 12,000 from Niger; around 7,300 from Mauritania; and 2,200 from Algeria (OCHA, 31/01/2015; UNHCR, 14/08/2014).

Malian Refugees in Neighbouring Countries

As of May, 52,355 Malian refugees are registered in Mbera camp, Mauritania, and 50,222 in Niger. Burkina Faso hosts 33,392 Malian refugees (UNHCR, 26/05/2015).

More than 500 people have crossed the border into Niger, Mauritania, and Burkina Faso since the end of May because of renewed violence in the northern regions (WFP, 27/05/2015; UNHCR, 26/05/2015).

Food Security

The total number of people in IPC Phase 3 and above was projected to increase to more than 400,000 from April to August 2015, due to the start of the lean season (Cadre Harmonisé, 22/03/2015).

Riverine areas of Gao and Bourem districts (Gao region), the lake zone in Goundam, Haoussa in Niafunke (Timbuktu region) and the north of Youwarou (Mopti region) are Stressed (IPC Phase 2) due to decreased production and revenue. The situation will deteriorate Crisis in the peak of the lean season (July–September). Pastoral regions in Timbuktu and Gao are Stressed, but are relying on humanitarian aid to avoid deterioration. Improvements in pasture and water availability starting in June–July will enhance milk production and livestock conditions, and improve income and food security in these areas (FEWSNET, 31/05/2015).

Livelihoods

Growing insecurity in Timbuktu and Gao is disturbing movement of population and goods, negatively affecting livelihoods (FEWSNET, 31/05/2015).

169 communes in Gao, Timbuktu, Mopti, and Kidal have insufficient forage, leading to early transhumance and unusual herd movements to areas already under pressure, which could lead to tensions. Pastoral populations are losing their principle source of income and food, risking a deterioration of the food security and nutritional situation (Food Security Cluster, 03/05/2015).

Markets and Agriculture

Cereal prices increased slightly in April compared to March 2015, but are generally below the five-year average. This is mostly due to good cereal production in 2014/2015. Timbuktu is the most expensive market for most staple foods (millet, sorghum and maize). Insecurity in the north is negatively affecting market functioning, and limits households' access to food (WFP, 30/04/2015). Demand and prices for livestock have decreased overall, except in Koulikoro, Mopti and Sikasso regions, limiting market access for poor households in northern pastoral regions. These households are resorting to negative coping strategies (WFP, 30/04/2015; FEWSNET, 31/05/2015).

Sahel Food Crisis: Regional Overview

During the lean season (June–August), 7.4 million are projected to be in Crisis and Emergency food insecurity across the Sahel and West Africa, and 26.6 million to be Stressed (Cadre Harmonisé, 04/2015). In 2014, food insecurity rose dramatically to 24.7 million food insecure people, compared to 2013, when 11.3 million people had inadequate food (OCHA, 03/02/2015).

Health and Nutrition

690,000 people are estimated to be in need of health assistance (OCHA, 31/01/2015). High vigilance is observed in southern Mali for meningitis cases due to climatic conditions (ACMAD, 02/04/2015).

A measles outbreak has been confirmed in Tessalit and Kidal districts of Kidal region, with 13 confirmed cases in one week. So far, one death has been confirmed. The attack rate is 32 in 100,000. There is no permanent humanitarian health actor in the region

(OCHA, 21/05/2015; **WHO, 29/05/2015**). There is a lack of medication, qualified personnel, and means for emergency evacuation. People in remote villages cannot access health services (local media, 21/04/2015).

Nutrition

As of 10 February, 181,000 children suffer from severe acute malnutrition (SAM), and 534,000 suffer from moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) (OCHA, 04/05/2015). SAM rates are highest in Mopti (3.7%), Segou (3.4%) and Koulikoro (2.7%). MAM rates are highest in the northern provinces (FEWSNET, WFP, FAO, 28/02/2015; ACF, 31/12/2014).

In Gao region, a SMART survey showed 11.3% GAM and 2.3% SAM. Malnutrition is more severe in urban than in rural areas. Priority districts are Gao and Bourem, with 2.9% and 2.1% SAM, respectively (UNICEF, 31/03/2015; OCHA, 16/04/2015).

In Kidal, malnutrition rates have been stable since 2011, with 5.7% GAM and 1.0% SAM (UNICEF, 31/03/2015).

WASH

About 840,000 people are in need of WASH assistance, the majority of whom live in the northern regions of Gao, Kidal, Timbuktu, Mopti, and Segou, and are IDPs, returnees, and host families without access to safe drinking water (OCHA, 15/01/2015).

Education

In early May, following fighting in Tenenkou and Youwarou, Mopti region, all 147 schools were closed, affecting 19,000 students and 400 teachers. 26 schools had been closed in these areas before then (UNICEF, 07/05/2015).

Community initiatives led to the reopening of 27 out of 62 schools in Kidal, providing access to education for 1,800 students. In Kereri town, Mopti, and Nampalari, Segou, 1,100 students remain affected by the closure of schools since January, following attacks. Teachers are absent due to insecurity. 193,000 children in 57 communes remain out of school because of insecurity (OCHA, 16/04/2015).

More than 430 schools are closed due to insecurity in Gao, Kidal, Mopti, Segou, and Timbuktu regions. The situation is worsening in the central regions and in areas near the Mauritanian border (UNICEF, 15/05/2015).

Protection

About 860,000 people are in need of protection, including 313,000 non-displaced in the north (OCHA, 31/01/2015). Explosive remnants of war (ERW) caused 101 casualties from 2012 to June 2014 (OCHA, 30/06/2014).

Three armed groups (Ansar Dine, MNLA and MUJAO) are reportedly recruiting and using children, and are listed for rape and other forms of sexual violence. According to the International Medical Corps, 75% of cases of gender-based violence are not reported by victims. Of those who do report, only 5% refer to legal structures (OCHA, 16/04/2015).

For IDPs living in Bamako, destruction or loss of official documents, such as birth certificates, is a major challenge (OCHA, 16/04/2015).

Updated: 02/06/2015

MAURITANIA FOOD INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

No new significant developments this week, 03/06/2015. Last update: 20/05/2015.

KEY CONCERNS

- 723,000 are in IPC Phase 2 (Stressed) and an additional 264,000 people are in IPC Phases 3-5 (Crisis – Famine) (WFP/FAO).

- 24,100 children suffer from severe acute malnutrition (OCHA, 02/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Displacement

Malian Refugees

Since the end of April, following renewed fighting in Mali, 236 Malian refugees have arrived in Mauritania (UNHCR, 29/05/2015). Mauritania hosts 52,355 Malian refugees as of May 2015 (UNHCR, 26/05/2015). Almost all live in Mbera camp, a remote desert location on the border that has significant security challenges, and where food insecurity and malnutrition are high. According to UNHCR, 80% of camp residents are women and children, and many have been in the camp for two years, resulting in overlapping emergency and medium-term needs (UNHCR, 30/04/2015).

Security problems and inaccessibility to areas of northern Mali make it difficult to obtain return figures, however UNHCR is reporting a small number of spontaneous returns to Mali (UNHCR 30/04/2015).

Food Security

As of 31 March, 851,000 were projected to be in Stressed food insecurity (IPC Phase 2) and 465,000 people in Crisis–Famine (IPC Phases 3-5) during June to August (WFP/FAO, 31/03/2015). This includes 21,000 people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) and 443,000 people in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) (WFP, 31/03/2015). Poor households in affected areas of the

Senegal River Valley (near the border between Mauritania and Senegal) and western agro-pastoral zones (southwestern Mauritania) will be particularly vulnerable, as a result of declines in seasonal income and food consumption gaps (FEWSNET, 19/03/2015). Due to funding gaps, 188,700 severely food insecure people are not reached by assistance (WFP, 31/03/2015).

2014/15 crop production was between 30–80% below average in areas that experienced poor rainfall last year, causing household food stocks to deplete earlier than normal and lengthening the period when households depend on market purchases. Cereal production, predominantly millet, sorghum, and maize, decreased by 36.5% in 2014 compared to 2013, and by 61% compared to the last five-year average (IFRC, 15/05/2015). Below-average incomes from crop sales and reduced milk availability are also limiting food access. To cope, households are selling additional livestock, increasing debt, engaging in more wage labour, migration, fishing, and forestry product sales, and reducing the quantity and quality of their meals (FEWSNET, 04/05/2015).

Erratic rains have affected pasture regeneration and level of water points in several pastoral areas, particularly in Hodh el Chargui, Hodh el Gharbi, Gorgol, Brakna and Tagant regions (WFP, Government, 28/04/2015).

The food situation for livestock, the main source of income of households in rural areas, is difficult because of the low availability of pasture and water in the southeast (WFP/FAO, 31/03/2015; IFRC, 15/05/2015).

Food Security in the Sahel Region

During the lean season (June–August), 7.4 million are projected to be in Crisis and Emergency food insecurity across the Sahel and West Africa, and 26.6 million to be Stressed (Cadre Harmonisé, 04/2015). In 2014, food insecurity rose dramatically to 24.7 million food insecure people, compared to 2013, when 11.3 million people had inadequate food (OCHA, 03/02/2015).

Health and Nutrition

Nutrition

91,300 children are acutely malnourished as of February 2015, 24,100 of whom suffer from severe acute malnutrition (OCHA, 02/2015).

A nutrition survey carried out in Mbera camp in November 2014 showed a decrease in both global acute malnutrition (from 11.8% to 9.9%) and severe acute malnutrition (1.4% to 0.8%) (UNICEF, 12/2014).

WASH

Due to harsh climatic conditions, maintenance and rehabilitation of adequate WASH facilities in Mbera camp is challenging (UNHCR, 30/04/2015).

Education

Lack of access to education has been reported in Mbera camp, in particular affecting girls and minorities (UNHCR, 30/04/2015).

Protection

Incidents of sexual violence have been reported in Mbera camp (UNHCR, 30/04/2015).

Reviewed: 03/06/2015

NIGER FOOD INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

8 June: At least 30,000 people in Diffa region are entirely reliant on humanitarian aid: priority needs are for food, nutrition, water, health and protection (ECHO).

5 June: Fire damage to UN warehouses in Niamey has destroyed meningitis vaccines and supplies for supplementary feeding programmes (ECHO).

KEY CONCERNS

- An estimated 3.4 million people are food insecure (410,297 severely food insecure) in 2015, and 4.7 million are at risk of food insecurity during the May–September lean season (OCHA, 20/05/2015; FAO/WFP, 04/06/2015).

- 1.3 million acutely malnourished children, including 366,858 with SAM (OCHA, 01/2015).

- Nearly 100,000 Nigerian refugees in Diffa region (UNICEF, 31/05/2015).

- Cases of meningitis tripled over 24 April–15 May. 11 districts have crossed the epidemic threshold, including all five districts in Niamey, raising the risk of rapid spread (WHO). The country is under quarantine.

Security Context

Insecurity has been rising in Niger and across the region due to crises in Nigeria, Mali and Libya. Terrorist threats from Boko Haram, Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb and the Movement for Oneness and Jihad in West Africa (MUJAO) are all of concern.

On 30 April, Niger authorities ordered populations out of the Lake Chad islands in order to launch military operations against Boko Haram (UNHCR, 30/04/2015). A state of emergency was declared in February in response to Boko Haram attacks; **motorcycle traffic has been banned from 2000-0600**. It has been extended until end August (UNHCR,

29/05/2015; AFP, 27/05/2015; 26/02/2015). Niger's Parliament has also authorised the deployment of 750 Niger soldiers in a regional offensive against BH (BBC, 10/02/2015).

Boko Haram Incidents

On 7 May, a Boko Haram attack on a village near Dosso killed five; militants looted homes and shops before crossing back to Nigeria (Reuters, 07/05/2015). An assault by the group on Karamga Island on 25 April left at least 74 people dead (AFP, 01/05/2015).

Boko Haram launched its first attack in Niger on 6 February, on Bosso town, in Diffa. Thousands of troops from Niger and Chad launched a major ground and air offensive against BH in southeastern Niger in March (AFP, 14/03/2015). By 30 March, Chad and Niger troops had pushed BH back to Nigeria (international media, 31/03/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Access

Access to displaced populations in the Lake Chad area remains limited due to insecurity and lack of military escorts for humanitarian workers. All field missions have been suspended since 1 May (UNHCR, 06/05/2015).

Movement within Diffa, northern parts of Zinder, Tahoua, and Tillabery regions is possible only with military escorts (OCHA, 16/02/2015). The presence of landmines along the border between Niger and Nigeria, especially around Komadougou River, is preventing access to certain areas (UNHCR, 30/04/2015).

Displacement

Boko Haram Crisis

As of end May, 99,850 Nigerians have sought refuge in Niger's Diffa region since May 2013, including nearly 48,000 children (UNICEF, 31/05/2015). At least 30,000 people in Diffa are entirely reliant on humanitarian aid: priority needs are for food, nutrition, water, health and protection (ECHO, 08/06/2015).

About 50,000 Nigerian refugees living in the border areas of Diffa region have been displaced further since January (WFP, 07/05/2015). As of February, more than 2,800 had settled in Zinder region (OCHA, 02/2015).

25,700 people were displaced from islands around Lake Chad to Nguigmi and Bosso towns, in Diffa, over 30 April–7 May, after warnings of possible Boko Haram attacks. 75% are Nigerians and third-country nationals. 47% are women and 37% children. 18,830 are at Kigemana site in Nguigmi, and 13,000 in and around Bosso. Priority needs are for food, shelter, and WASH (OCHA, 20/05/2015; 14/05/2015).

Mali Crisis

As of 31 May, 50,980 Malian refugees are in Niger, having fled insurgency in their country, including 14,490 in Intikane camp, and 13,155 in Abala camp in Tillabery

region. 55% are women and 73% children (UNHCR, 31/05/2015).

Food Security

3.4 million people are estimated to be food insecure in 2015, **including two million children, and 4.7 million are at risk of food insecurity during the May–September lean season (FAO/WFP, 04/06/2015; UNICEF, 31/05/2015)**. 410,297 are severely food insecure (AFP, 17/04/2015; OCHA, 30/09/2014).

Around 200,000 people in Diffa region are likely to remain in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food security until September due to limited trade opportunities and high food prices (WFP, 07/05/2015; FEWSNET, 20/05/2015). Recently displaced populations from Lake Chad, including IDPs and Nigerian refugees, are Stressed (IPC Phase 2): 63% are estimated to have insufficient access to food, while the majority are deprived of livelihood means (FEWSNET, 28/05/2015; ACTED, 01/06/2015; IFRC, 28/05/2015). Security constraints have forced food assistance programmes to be scaled back (FEWSNET, 01/04/2015).

In some agropastoral and agricultural zones of Zinder and Tillabery, poor households will be Stressed (IPC Phase 2) until September due to high prices and stock depletion (FEWSNET, 28/05/2015). Poor resource availability in parts of the northern Sahel will begin to stress pastoral households from June to September (FEWSNET, 11/2014).

Agriculture and Markets

Boko Haram-related market disruptions have limited trade flows towards Diffa and increased marketing costs (FEWSNET, 31/07/2014). Moreover, the new wave of internal displacement came when farmers should have been preparing to plant crops. This has raised concerns about the long-term economic impact of the violence (Reuters, 12/02/2015).

Cereal stocks are expected to significantly decrease by September, as well as overall food stocks in May–June in southern departments (FEWSNET, 01/05/2015). 68% of villages in Diffa have a cereal deficit (OCHA, 20/05/2015).

Livelihoods

In Diffa region, insecurity has led to a decrease in demand for workers and lowered wages. This has particularly affected livelihoods of households growing pepper, who are also unable to sell because of insecurity (FEWSNET, 01/04/2015).

Sahel Food Crisis: Regional Overview

During the lean season (June–August), 7.4 million are projected to be in Crisis and Emergency food insecurity across the Sahel and West Africa, and 26.6 million Stressed (Cadre Harmonise, 04/2015). In 2014, food insecurity rose dramatically to 24.7 million food insecure people, compared to 2013, when 11.3 million people had inadequate food (OCHA, 03/02/2015). 5.8 million children in the Sahel were estimated to suffer from GAM beginning of 2015 (OCHA, 12/02/2015).

Health and Nutrition

Health services are overcrowded in Diffa region with the arrival of new IDPs and lack of medicine and qualified personnel (OCHA, 20/05/2015). **Predominant pathologies include parasitic diseases, eye infections, and respiratory infections (UNHCR, 29/05/2015).**

Fire damage to UN warehouses in Niamey on 2 June destroyed most stocks intended for immediate use. Vaccines to counter the meningitis epidemic, as well as supplementary feeding programmes for at least 10,000 children in urgent need of support during the lean season, will be severely affected (ECHO, 05/06/2015).

Cholera

As of 19 April, 51 cases of cholera and four deaths have been registered in Niger in 2015 (UNICEF, 18/05/2015). 25 cases were registered in Tillabery region, and 26 in Diffa region (OCHA, 02/05/2015).

Measles

As of 17 May, 4,870 measles cases, including 14 deaths, have been recorded in 2015 in all eight regions of Niger. 60% of cases were in Zinder region (UNICEF, 31/05/2015). 12 out of 44 health districts have epidemic outbreaks (OCHA, 23/04/2015).

Meningitis

As of 1 June, 8,260 suspected cases of meningitis, including 546 deaths, have been recorded in 2015; 2,280 new cases were recorded over 4–10 May, but incidence has since decreased. 13 districts have crossed the epidemic threshold, including all five districts in Niamey (WHO/Government, 01/06/2015). 70% of those infected are 2–15 years old (international media, 22/04/2015). The whole country is under quarantine. Cases are expected to spread due to insufficient vaccines in the country and stock availability at the international level; at least 281,000 people are at risk of being infected (IFRC, 02/06/2015).

Nutrition

In Diffa, a critical shortage of nutrition products is expected to affect displaced and hosting populations as of May (WFP, 30/04/2015). GAM is at 26% among Nigerian refugee children and pregnant and breastfeeding refugee women, exceeding the 15% crisis threshold (WFP, 07/05/2015).

1.3 million children are acutely malnourished in Niger; 366,858 of them are severely malnourished, and 9,629 of these are in Diffa (OCHA, 14/04/2015; 22/12/2014). As of August 2014, GAM among children under five is at 14.8% nationwide, and exceeds the 15% emergency threshold in Maradi region (OCHA, 09/2014). Other regions of concern are Agadez (14.0%), Tahoua (14.7%), Tillabery (13.4%), and Diffa (13.8%).

WASH

Access to safe water remains limited in certain sites hosting IDPs. Hygiene and sanitation conditions are precarious in some areas (OCHA, 20/03/2015). **43% of recently displaced**

populations from Lake Chad are estimated to have insufficient access to water sources (ACTED, 01/06/2015).

Education

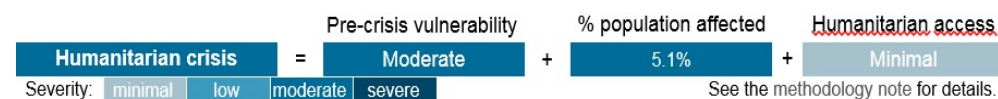
On 17 April, the government of Niger shut down all schools in the region around Niamey for ten days to allow for vaccination of children, following the meningitis outbreak (Reuters, 21/04/2015).

Protection

82% of 13,000 Nigerian refugees surveyed in Diffa did not have identity documents, according to an IOM assessment (IOM, 23/02/2015). Unaccompanied children have been reported arriving from Nigeria (OCHA, 28/11/2014).

Updated: 09/06/2015

SENEGAL FOOD INSECURITY



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

2 June: 1.3 million metric tons of cereal production, similar to the previous year's harvest, but a 16% drop relative to the five-year average, will cover about 51% of needs (Red Cross, 02/06/2015).

2 June: Podor, Matam and Tambacounda are most affected by the early lean season that started in March (Red Cross).

KEY CONCERNS

- Over 3.8 million people are food insecure, including 927,420 in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) due to erratic rains in 2014 (UN, 16/02/2015).
- 332,300 children suffering from acute malnutrition, 68,650 from severe acute malnutrition (OCHA, 30/11/2014).

Political Context

Separatists have long opposed authorities in the coastal Casamance area, but the country overall remains stable. Salif Sadio, leader of the separatist movement, declared a unilateral ceasefire in April 2014, as proof of engagement in an ongoing peace process.

Humanitarian Context and Needs

4.3 million people are in need of assistance in 2015 in Senegal (31% of the population), a 266% increase compared to 2013. The needs are mostly due to climatic conditions, a rise in food prices, and reduced cross-border exchange (UN, 16/02/2015).

Displacement

As of February, there are 17,085 refugees in Matam, Saint Louis, and Tambacounda, mostly from Mauritania. 52% of refugees have declared they are seeking naturalisation in Senegal (UN, 18/02/2015).

Food Security

3.8 million people are food insecure and **30% of rural households suffer from severe food insecurity (Red Cross, 02/06/2015)**. Under current conditions, people will face Crisis until September 2015 **particularly in the centre and north of the country, including Podor, Matam and Tambacounda** (FEWSNET, 05/05/2015; **31/05/2015, Red Cross, 02/06/2015**). Poor pasture and livestock conditions in the north and centre of the country have led to below-average incomes for rearers of livestock. In Thiès, Louga, Matam, and northern Tambacounda, households were already relying on negative coping mechanisms long before the normal start to the lean season, in June (FEWSNET, 27/02/2015; 29/01/2015; 21/04/2015).

However, in November 2015, it is expected that no one will be in Crisis and between 100,000 and 490,000 people will be Stressed (IPC Phase 2) (FEWSNET, 20/05/2015).

Agriculture and Markets

The aggregate 2014 cereal production was an estimated 1.3 million metric tons, similar to the previous year's harvest, but a 16% drop relative to the five-year average. **It will cover about 51% of needs (Red Cross, 02/06/2015)**. Production of millet, the most important staple crop, is estimated to have dropped by 38% compared to the five-year average, while production of groundnut, the main cash crop, declined by 21%. This drop in production is reducing food availability and purchasing power. (FAO, 31/03/2015; GIEWS, 08/05/2015).

Sahel Food Crisis: Regional Overview

During the lean season (June–August), 7.4 million are projected to be in Crisis and Emergency food insecurity across the Sahel and West Africa, and 26.6 million to be Stressed (Cadre Harmonisé, 04/2015). In 2014, food insecurity rose dramatically to 24.7 million food insecure people, compared to 2013, when 11.3 million people had inadequate food (OCHA, 03/02/2015).

Nutrition

332,300 children are acutely malnourished, including 68,650 suffering from SAM. Matam, Saint Louis (Podor department in particular), and Tambacounda regions are most affected (UN, 16/02/2015). 319,000 were acutely malnourished in 2013.

Updated: 04/06/2015

BURKINA FASO FOOD INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

31 March: 79,000 people are in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food security and 669,000 are Stressed (IPC Phase 2). These numbers are projected to rise to 371,000 and 1.2 million, respectively, between the June–August lean season (WFP/FAO).

KEY CONCERNS

- Long-term displacement of 33,000 Malian refugees continues to put pressure on the resources of host communities (UNHCR, 04/2014).
- More than 1.5 million people are at risk of food insecurity between the June–August lean season (WFP/FAO, 31/03/2015).
- 499,000 children suffer from acute malnutrition, of whom 149,000 are severely malnourished (UNICEF, 30/03/2015).

Political Context

Burkina Faso is being ruled by a transitional Government until the beginning of October 2015, when presidential and legislative elections will be held. **The transitional government has confirmed its will to keep to the calendar despite logistical challenges** (UNICEF, 30/03/2015; **AFP, 02/06/2015**). Internal political tensions in Burkina Faso reached crisis point in October 2014, when then President Blaise Compaoré attempted to pass a bill extending his term of office. Nationwide demonstrations culminated in the dissolution of Parliament and the resignation of the President. The transitional Government was set up in November 2014.

Burkina Faso is vulnerable to instability and unrest in Mali, Niger and Côte d'Ivoire.

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Displacement

Refugees

As of 26 May, there are 33,392 Malian refugees in camps in Bobo-Dioulasso, Goudéou, and Mentao in northern Burkina Faso; more than half the refugees are children. Saag-Nioniogo refugee camp was closed in March, with refugees relocated to other camps (WFP, 30/04/2015; UNHCR, 26/05/2015).

Food Security

Between March and May, 79,000 people are in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food security and 669,000 are Stressed (IPC Phase 2). These numbers are projected to rise to 371,000 and 1.2 million, respectively, between the June–August lean season (WFP/FAO, 31/03/2015).

Poor households in Tin-Akoff commune in Oudalan province, and Nassoumbou and Koutougou communes in Soum province in the Sahel region, moved from Stressed to Crisis in April; food stocks in these areas have been depleted since January due to below-average 2014 harvests and reduced livestock prices. Households have resorted to coping mechanisms such as selling part of their livestock (FEWSNET, 30/04/2015; FEWSNET, 22/05/2015).

Below-average rainfall has led to a significant moisture deficit that could trigger cropping concerns if it persists (FEWSNET, 30/05/2015).

Nutrition

In 2015, 499,000 children are estimated to suffer from acute malnutrition (8.6% of the under-five population), including 149,000 from SAM (UNICEF, 30/03/2015).

Updated: 03/06/2015

BURUNDI FOOD INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT, POLITICAL UNREST



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

1 June: 64 cases of cholera, including four deaths, in Nyanza Lac commune of Makamba province (OCHA citing Burundian Red Cross).

31 May: An East African Community summit urged the Government to postpone elections to mid-July (OCHA).

29 May: Police have been involved in the beating, killing, and wounding of protesters. Prisoners have reported poor detention conditions as well as beatings (Human Rights Watch).

KEY CONCERNS

- Since the beginning of April, nearly 105,000 Burundians have sought asylum in DRC, Tanzania and Rwanda ahead of the 26 June presidential election. The region may face a refugee crisis (UNHCR).
- As of September, Burundi has 78,940 IDPs (UNHCR, 31/11/2014).

Political Context

Political instability and violence escalated at the end of April when President Nkurunziza announced his intention to run for a third term. Under the Burundian constitution and the terms of the peace deal, no President is supposed to hold power for more than ten years. President Nkurunziza's supporters argue that his first term does not count, as he was selected by lawmakers in 2005, and not voted in (Reuters, 20/03/2015).

On 26 April, the party speaker of the National Liberation Forces, the opposition group, was kidnapped (ICG 30/04/2015). On 13 May, when the President was in Tanzania, Major General Godefroid Niyombareh, former head of intelligence, announced that a national salvation committee had been set up to run the country (BBC, 13/05/2015; Reuters, 13/05/2015). After two days of intense clashes in the capital, leaders of the coup admitted defeat (AFP, 15/05/2015; Reuters, 16/05/2015). President Nkurunziza returned to Bujumbura and fired the Defence and Foreign Affairs Ministers (Reuters, 17/05/2015; Le Point, 18/05/2015). However, protests have continued. On 23 May, the head of an opposition party was assassinated by unidentified attackers, leading the opposition to boycott peace talks (AFP, 23/05/2015; Reuters, 25/05/2015).

Elections are scheduled for 26 June (AFP, 05/05/2015). **An East African Community summit on 31 May urged the Government to postpone the elections to mid-July. Nkurunziza seemed favourable to the request, although no date has been officially set (OCHA, 01/06/2015). Two members of the national electoral commission have resigned and left the country (AFP, 01/06/2015).**

The UN Electoral Observation Mission in Burundi (MENUB) is mandated to follow and report on the presidential, parliamentary, and local elections scheduled between May and September 2015, though the Government has stated that MENUB's mandate is limited, and does not cover validating the results (UN, 03/01/2015; AFP, 12/01/2015). The Government, the National Independent Electoral Commission, and all political parties and actors signed the General Principles for the conduct of the 2015 elections in June 2014 (UN, 10/06/2014).

Security Context

On 29 May, one demonstrator was killed in Buterere suburb and two explosions were heard in the capital, although no one was hurt (Reuters, 29/05/2015). As of 26 May, at least 30 individuals had been killed in election-related violence (including 14 civilians and three children), 200 injured, and at least 600 arrested. Protests are mainly taking place in the capital but some communes in Bujumbura Rural and Bururi provinces have also reported demonstrations (OCHA, 12/05/2015; AFP, 26/05/2015). On 17 May, gunshots were heard although details are not available. Military forces were deployed in the city centre to contain protests (Reuters, 18/05/2015).

Few international actors on the ground have prepared contingency plans should violence worsen during and after elections (Burundi Red Cross, 04/03/2015). Eight provinces have been identified as potential 'hot spots' (Cibitoke, Bubanza, Bujumbura Mairie, Bujumbura Rural, Bururi, Makamba, Kirundo, and Muyinga) (ICG 30/04/2015; HCT, 24/04/2015).

Since the attempted coup, the UN Security Council has stated that it is ready to respond to

violent acts (UN News Service, 17/05/2015).

Scores of political killings, intimidation of the opposition, and a crackdown on media freedom have been reported since President Nkurunziza's re-election in 2010. Observers stated concerns about restrictions on civil and political rights after a series of violent acts by the ruling party's increasingly militant youth wing, Imbonerakure. In January, the Burundian army claimed it killed 100 armed fighters who had crossed from DRC. The fighters were reportedly trying to reach Kibira forest, an area used as a base by opposition groups in the past. A Human Rights Watch report published in February asserted that during this attack, the Burundian National Defense Forces and police committed at least 47 extrajudicial executions, adding that armed members of the Imbonerakure also participated in the killings (Human Rights Watch, 12/02/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Displacement

IDPs

As of January 2015, Burundi has 77,600 IDPs (IDMC, 31/01/2015). They are mostly ethnic Tutsis who were displaced by inter-ethnic and inter-communal violence and are located in and around 120 sites in northern and central Burundi (IDMC).

According to national and international organisations, in the first six months of an election crisis and related violence in Burundi, 250,000 people could be displaced (HCT, 24/04/2015; START Network, 05/05/2015).

Refugees

As of September, Burundi is host to 49,800 refugees, mostly from DRC (UNHCR, 31/11/2014). Refugees are mainly located in the border regions of Ngozi (north, alongside Rwanda), Ruyigi, Muyinga, and Cankuzo (east, alongside Tanzania) and Bubanza (west, alongside DRC).

Returnees

79,000 Burundian returnees are also going through slow reintegration processes, including 43,000 who have been forcibly repatriated from Tanzania. Most have not been registered due to a lack of reception facilities (IOM, 01/2014; HCT, 24/04/2015). The high number of IDPs and refugees returning is aggravating tensions over land ownership, as returnees claim land where other families, often of a different ethnic background, have since settled.

Burundian Refugees in Neighbouring Countries

As of 1 June 91,459 Burundian refugees have registered in Rwanda, DRC, Uganda and Tanzania since early April (OCHA, 1/06/2015). Humanitarian actors on the ground are warning of a potential refugee crisis in the region as a result of election-related displacement into Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and DRC.

Rwanda: Daily arrivals have been as high as 1,000 in Rwanda, falling to 300 in the first

days of May. (UNHCR, 26/04/2015; 05/05/2015). 60% are children (UNHCR, 17/04/2015). Unconfirmed reports suggest most of those who are fleeing are Tutsi and Twa (WFP, 28/04/2015). Refugees started arriving in mid-April and **as of 24 May, there were 27,732 with low and stable numbers of new arrivals** (local media, 12/04/2015; OCHA, 01/06/2015).

Tanzania: The number of Burundians was estimated to be as high as 70,187 as of 15 May but was revised down to **approximately 48,000 when figures were consolidated as of 27 May (UNHCR, 28/05/2015; OCHA, 27/05/2015).**

Kagunga village in Tanzania, which has a resident population of 11,400, and limited WASH facilities, was crowded with about 30,000 refugees waiting for transportation as of 19 May. As of 26 May, 1,600 refugees/asylum seekers reported in the village (UNHCR, 18/05/2015, UNHCR, 26/05/2015). **A cholera outbreak has been confirmed in refugee sites: 4,435 cases, including 31 deaths have been recorded (UNHCR, 28/05/2015).**

Uganda: As of 1 September 2014, 14,367 Burundian refugees and asylum-seekers were residing in Uganda. Most Burundian refugees are located in Nakivale and Oruchinga. **As of 28 May, 6,000 new Burundian refugees were reported (OCHA, 01/06/2015).**

DRC: Between early April and 24 May, 9,798 asylum seekers arrived (OCHA, 01/06/2015). As of 30 September 2014, 9,233 Burundian refugees were residing in DRC (UNHCR, 30/09/2014).

Kenya: As of 1 March 2015, 6,619 Burundian refugees were residing in Kenya, most of them in Kakuma camp (UNHCR, 01/03/2015).

Health and Nutrition

As of 1 June the Burundian Red Cross reported 64 cases of cholera, including four deaths, in Nyanza Lac commune of Makamba province. Previous reports of ten cases in neighbouring Rutana province were under review; 34 have been reported in Bukeye (ECHO, 29/05/2015; OCHA, 01/06/2015).

Loyalist forces entered a hospital in western Bujumbura to find soldiers affiliated to the coup. Violent clashes resulted in the death of one soldier and severe damage to the Accidents and Emergency department (AFP, 17/05/2015).

Food Security

As the lean season progresses, household food stocks and purchasing power have declined. Food security for the poor is expected to deteriorate to Stressed (IPC Phase 2) until the beginning of Season B in June. The rest of the households will remain in Minimal (IPC Phase 1) food security through June (FEWSNET, 31/03/2015).

Livelihoods

Economic activities in Bujumbura are significantly hampered by protests, with most businesses and banks closed, raising concern for the impact on an already fragile economy (OCHA, 04/05/2015).

Markets

Most staple food prices are roughly 25% above the five-year average, particularly in Bujumbura, Ruyigi, Myinga, and Gitega markets (FEWSNET, 31/03/2015).

Protection

Police have been involved in the beating, wounding, and killing of protesters. Prisoners have reported poor detention conditions as well as beatings by the police and intelligence services (Human Rights Watch, 29/05/2015). Burundians are reporting incidents of harassment and disappearance of family members who are associated with the political opposition (ICG, UNHCR, 17/04/2015). The youth of the ruling party is accused of severe abuse including torture, threats and intimidation. They have denied them (Fondation Hirondelle, 21/05/2015; Reuters, 21/05/2015). Many people have reported difficulties while trying to leave Burundi, such as threats of sexual violence by armed men and roadblocks (OCHA, 12/05/2015).

A presidential communiqué warned that the ban on protests would be valid throughout the electoral period and that protesters would be considered as “accomplices” of the coup perpetrators (OCHA, 18/05/2015).

Prominent human rights activists have been arrested (ICG 30/04/2015).

Violence against Journalists

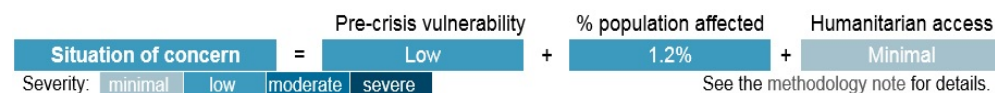
Independent radio stations have closed and social media networks have been blocked (ICG 30/04/2015). The national telecommunications company ONATEL has disconnected the telephone lines of private radio stations (OCHA, 12/05/2015). Journalists are reportedly facing violence and intimidation from authorities and members of the Imbonerakure (RSF, 30/04/2015; Human Rights Watch, 22/01/2015).

Child Protection

A high number of separated and unaccompanied children are crossing into neighbouring countries, raising protection concerns for unaccompanied minors (UNICEF, 12/04/2015).

Updated: 03/06/2015

NAMIBIA FOOD INSECURITY



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

No significant developments this week, 09/06/2015. Last update: 15/05/2015.

KEY CONCERNS

- 2015 crop production is estimated to be 30% lower than in 2014 and 33% lower than the five-year average due to prolonged dry spells since January, affecting 28,000 people in Omusati region (FNS working group, 29/04/2015; local media, 31/03/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Food Security

Large parts of the country, including the main producing regions of Oshikoto, Oshana and Omusati, have received well below-average rains since January. In April, at least 28,000 people from Ruacana in Omusati region were in need of food aid as a result of poor crops (NOAA, 08/04/2015; local media, 31/03/2015). Mitigation measures have been put into place by the Government until the June harvest (local media, 27/04/2015).

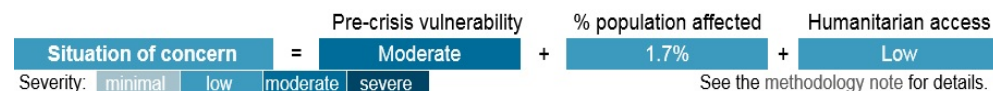
At July 2014, 117,660 people were affected by a food security crisis and around 557,900 people in rural areas were at risk of food insecurity and requiring assistance. Kunene, and parts of Omaheke, Otjozondjupa, Omusati, and Erongo regions, were most affected (SADC, 08/2014).

Agriculture and Markets

Crop production is estimated to be 30% lower than 2014 and 33% lower than the five-year average; grazing conditions for livestock are also poor (Southern African FNS working group, 29/04/2015; FAO, 28/04/2015; 11/03/2015; WFP, 03/03/2015). Farmers are in need of livestock support (local media, 24/03/2015). Price increases were reported in February, a result of fewer imports from neighbouring countries also affected by dry conditions (FAO, 28/04/2015).

Reviewed: 09/06/2015

UGANDA DISPLACEMENT



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

1 June: 5,950 refugees have arrived from Burundi in recent weeks, fleeing instability linked to presidential elections; up to 15,000 refugees could arrive in the coming months (ECHO).

KEY CONCERNS

- 146,251 South Sudanese refugees have arrived in Uganda since December 2013 (IOM, 15/04/2015).

- In Karamoja, GAM rates of 13.4% are the highest recorded in the last five years, while SAM remains above 3%. The food security situation has declined since then, with potential implications on malnutrition (UNICEF, 23/01/2015).

- Rapid expansion of refugee camps has strained health services (UNFPA, 16/02/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Displacement

IDPs

As of March, Uganda has 30,136 IDPs (OCHA, 19/05/2015).

Refugees in Uganda

As of 21 May, there were 433,030 refugees and asylum seekers in Uganda; nearly 61% are children (UNICEF, 21/05/2015). The majority are from DRC and South Sudan; other countries of origin include Somalia, Rwanda, and Burundi (UNHCR, 01/04/2015). Refugees are hosted in settlements in Adjumani, Kiryandongo, Kampala, Moyo, Nakivale and Arua districts (UNHCR, 24/11/2014).

5,950 refugees have arrived from Burundi in recent weeks, fleeing instability linked to presidential elections; up to 15,000 refugees could arrive in the coming months. They are being relocated to Nakivale refugee settlement (ECHO, 01/06/2015; UNHCR, 28/05/2015).

As of 21 May, 154,244 South Sudanese refugees had fled to Uganda since December 2013, including more than 15,000 in 2015. 65% are children (UNHCR, 02/06/2015; IOM, 18/03/2015; UNHCR, 21/05/2015). Refugees continue to arrive at Elegu border point in Amuru district at a rate of 124 per day; **new arrivals in May have been transferred from Nyumanzi transit centre to Maaji settlement in Moyo.** Priority needs are for NFIs, livelihood and psychological support (UNHCR, 02/06/2015; ACT, 15/04/2015).

Ugandan Refugees in Neighbouring Countries

At 1 April, there were 1,669 Ugandan refugees in Kenya (UNHCR, 01/04/2015). At 30 June 2014, there were 1,211 Uganda refugees in DRC (UNHCR, 30/05/2014).

Food Security

In Karamoja, food access and availability continue to decline. About 180,000 people are expected to be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) until at least next the harvest in August, which is four months later than usual, especially in Moroto and Kaabong districts, where food stocks have depleted 2–3 months earlier than usual (FEWSNET, 30/04/2015; FAO, 27/04/2015). The lean season began in January, four months earlier than normal. Below-average rainfall since January has decreased labour demand and lowered incomes.

700,000 people were Stressed (IPC Phase 2) as of end 2014 (FEWSNET, 31/12/2014).

Harsh climatic conditions and poor yields have deteriorated the food security situation in Arua camp. (UNHCR, 20/01/2015). A general food shortage has been reported in Arua district, which has led to increased cost of food items (UNHCR, 18/03/2015).

Elsewhere, Minimal (IPC Phase 1) food insecurity is expected to last through July (FEWSNET, 30/04/2015). Prices of food crops rose by 20–40% in March, mainly due to reduced stocks; maize prices increased by about 15%, reflecting a high import demand from Kenya (FAO, 27/04/2015).

Health and Nutrition

The rapid expansion of refugee camps has strained health services (UNFPA, 16/02/2015).

Health centres affected by the refugee influx require immunisation, as well as medical infrastructure and supply support, especially in Arua (UNICEF, 15/04/2015; UNHCR, 20/01/2015). Health education related to HIV counselling and testing among refugees is also needed (UNHCR, 18/03/2015).

Nutrition

GAM and SAM levels among South Sudanese refugee children reach 20.3% and 4.6%, respectively (UNICEF, 21/05/2015).

In Karamoja, GAM rates of 13.4% are the highest recorded in the last five years, while SAM prevalence remains above 3% (UNICEF, 23/01/2015).

Typhoid

As of 14 April, more than 12,000 cases of typhoid have been confirmed from Kampala, Wakiso, and Mukono districts in 2015, more than double the 19 March figure of 4,949 cases (CDC, 20/04/2015).

WASH

Boreholes have dried up, so water trucking has been necessary in Adjumani.

In Arua refugee camp, the water supply in March was 13.8L per person per day, and in Kiryandongo, 16L per person per day, both below the UNHCR standard of 20L (UNHCR, 18/03/2015).

The number of community-based hygiene promoters remains limited, with a ratio of 1:873 (UNHCR, 18/03/2015).

Updated: 03/06/2015

ERITREA FOOD INSECURITY

No accurate or verified data relating to food security of general humanitarian needs is available, therefore Eritrea is not included in the GEO prioritisation.

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

No new significant developments this week, 03/06/2015. Last update: 07/05/2015.

KEY CONCERNS

- 1.2 million people, including 696,000 children under 18, are in need of humanitarian assistance (UNICEF, 15/01/2015).
- Over 60% of the Eritrean population was reported as undernourished between 2011 and 2013 (WFP).
- Torture, arbitrary detention, and severe restrictions on freedom of expression, association, and religion are common in Eritrea (UN, HRW).
- Ongoing human rights abuses prompt thousands of Eritreans to flee the country every year. In March 2015, Ethiopia was hosting 133, 348 Eritrean refugees (OCHA, 20/04/2015).
- Operations and maintenance of established humanitarian systems remain a significant challenge (UNICEF, 15/01/2015).

Political Context

Eritrea is a one-party state governed by President Isaias Afwerq and his party People's Front for Democracy and Justice (PFDJ). No national elections have been held since Eritrea gained independence from Ethiopia in 1993.

Humanitarian Context and Needs

1.2 million people need humanitarian assistance as of 15 January 2015, including 696,000 children under 18 (UNICEF, 15/01/2015).

Access

There is a lack of updated and reliable data on the humanitarian situation due to limited humanitarian access. Providing direct humanitarian assistance remains a challenge due to limited access, and absence of assessments and humanitarian space (ECHO).

In November–December 2013, several projects in partnership with the UN and the Government began; the Government had previously ordered the end of all operations by non-state development partners by the end of 2012 (IFRC, 30/05/2014).

Displacement

Refugees

As of May 2015, there were 2,802 Somali refugees in Eritrea (UNHCR, 22/05/2015).

Eritrean Refugees in Neighbouring Countries

The entire Eritrean refugee population is estimated to constitute more than 321, 000 people (Guardian, 21/04/2015). UN estimates that some 4,000 Eritreans, among them hundreds of unaccompanied minors, are fleeing the country every month to escape government repression and lack of basic freedoms (UN, 05/06/2014). Eritreans constitute the second biggest group of migrants arriving in Italy by boat, after Syrians (Reuters, 24/03/2015). In 2014, more than 37,000 Eritrean refugees sought refuge in Europe, the vast majority arriving by boat across the Mediterranean (UNHCR). The high proportion of unaccompanied minors who cross from Eritrea to Ethiopia is a priority concern (UNHCR).

Ethiopia: At the end of April, there were 135,655 Eritrean refugees in Ethiopia (UNHCR, 30/04/2015), mainly settled in four camps in the northern Tigray and Afar regions (UNICEF, 21/04/2015). Arrival rates spiked towards the end of 2014, with a total of 33,000 arriving by the end of the year (UNHCR, 09/02/2015). The influx has resulted in shortages of shelter in the camps (OCHA, 26/01/2015). During March, Ethiopia registered 3, 636 new arrivals from Eritrea (OCHA, 20/04/2015).

Sudan: Sudan reportedly hosts at least 114,500 Eritrean refugees. Eastern Sudan received an average of 500 Eritrean refugees per month in 2013, down from 2,000 a month in 2012 (UNHCR).

Djibouti: As of 1 January, there were 1,240 Eritrean refugees in Djibouti (UNHCR, 30/01/2015).

Yemen: Reports indicate hundreds of Eritrean refugees are scattered across the streets of Al Safeyah in Sana'a, without proper shelter or livelihood. Refugees have informed UNHCR that many are imprisoned upon arrival in Yemen, on the grounds of security concerns (Yemen Times, 19/08/2014). Several NGOs have called on the Yemeni authorities to stop deporting Eritrean political refugees (UNHCR).

Kenya: As of 1 May, there were 1,563 Eritrean refugees in Kenya; the majority located in Nairobi (UNHCR, 07/05/2015).

Chad: On 6 February, the Chadian Government announced plans to deport a dozen Eritrean refugees from Chad. Humanitarian organisations have protested the move, as the returnees will likely face indefinite detention in Eritrea (local media, 06/02/2015).

Food Security

Very poor rainfall since February, including extremely sporadic rain since mid-March, has led to drought conditions in eastern Eritrea (**FEWSNET, 30/05/2015**).

A positive rainy season between June and September 2014, may improve the food security situation in highland areas, but not in the coastal lowland regions (UNICEF, 15/01/2015).

It is estimated that Eritrea produces only 60% of the food it needs, and markets appear to be dysfunctional. These two factors suggest that a significant part of the population may be in need of food assistance. Due to extensive national service, farmers are routinely absent during harvest periods (Economist, 10/03/2014). In addition, local food and fuel prices are likely to be high, putting severe pressure on household coping mechanisms. The

Government officially denies any food shortages within its borders and refuses food aid (ECHO).

Health and Nutrition

According to FAO in 2013, over 60% of the Eritrean population was reported to be undernourished between 2011 and 2013.

Protection

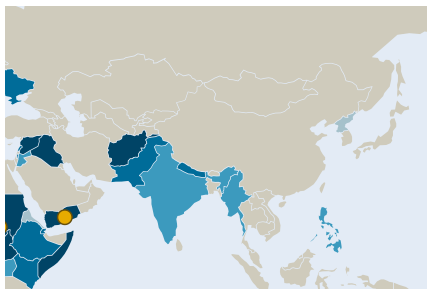
Indefinite national service, and arbitrary arrest and detention, including incommunicado detention and inhumane prison conditions, were the focus of a March 2015 UN human rights report (UN Human Rights Council). The UN human rights chief has accused the government of torture and summary executions (UN Human Rights Council, 05/02/2014).

In September 2014, the UN Human Rights Council set up a Commission of Inquiry to investigate human rights abuses in Eritrea; however by January 2015 it had still not been granted direct access to the country (Human Rights Watch, 24/09/2014; UNHRC, 16/01/2015).

Mines and ERW

With only 25% of minefields cleared, UNICEF reported in January 2015 that the impact of landmines and ERWs continue to have a serious impact on the population, including causing deaths, injuries and disabilities. Humanitarian mine action programmes in the country have been scaled down due to limited access (UNICEF, 15/01/2015). There are 995 dangerous areas, 914 mined areas and 702 minefields in Eritrea (UN Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea).

Reviewed: 03/06/2015



ASIA

AFGHANISTAN CONFLICT, FLOODS, FOOD INSECURITY, LANDSLIDES, DISPLACEMENT

Severe humanitarian crisis		Pre-crisis vulnerability	% population affected	Humanitarian access
Severe humanitarian crisis		Severe	23.3%	Severe
Severity:		minimal low moderate severe	See the methodology note for details.	

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

7 June: As of 30 April, 1,989 civilians have been injured in 2015 due to the conflict and 978 civilians killed (UNAMA).

3 June: 31% of children are illegally employed in heavy labour as family breadwinners, and 43% of girls get married when they are underage (Institute of War and Peace Reporting).

2 June: Unidentified militants killed nine Afghan employees of the Czech NGO People in Need working in Balkh province (Reuters).

2 June: Afghans are increasingly turning to Taliban courts to help them resolve legal disputes because of corruption in the official justice system (IWPR).

KEY CONCERNS

- Since the start of the war in 2001, about 26,270 civilians have been killed by direct war-related violence and more than 29,900 civilians have been injured, including 3,699 killed and 6,849 injured in 2014 (Watson Institute for International Studies, 02/06/2015, UNAMA, 18/02/2015).
- 6.9 million in need of humanitarian aid in 2015. Badghis, Helmand, Kunar, Nangarhar, and Wardak most need assistance (UNICEF, 21/01/2015; OCHA, 25/11/2014).
- 205,362 refugees from Pakistan since mid-June 2014; long-term concerns from protracted displacement (UNHCR, 22/04/2015; 06/04/2015).
- As of end of April, there were 873,000 IDPs in Afghanistan, including half displaced in April, and 24% displaced by conflict in 2014 (UNCHR, 24/05/2015).
- Nearly 68,000 people (9,300 families) in 137 districts of 24 provinces have been affected by floods, heavy snowfall, and avalanches over 1 February–15 April. Priority needs are for food, NFIs, and emergency shelter (ECHO, 15/04/2015; IFRC, 18/03/2015).
- By November 2015, it is estimated that 500,000 to 990,000 people will be in IPC Phase 3 or higher (FEWSNET 20/05/2015).
- 517,600 children under five suffer from SAM, and eight provinces show GAM rates above 15%, breaching the emergency threshold (UNICEF, 21/01/2015, OCHA, 31/07/2014).

OVERVIEW

Natural disasters and armed conflicts in Afghanistan have caused humanitarian crisis. Assistance needs include food, healthcare, and protection.

The Afghan Government faces internal and external challenges to its capacity, legitimacy, and stability. The security environment is highly volatile and expected to deteriorate as international troops gradually withdraw from the country.

Political Context

Ashraf Ghani and Abdullah Abdullah were sworn in as Afghanistan's President and Prime Minister, respectively, on 29 September 2014 (Reuters, 29/09/2014). The pair were rival presidential candidates in disputed elections (AFP, 26/09/2014). President Ghani introduced a list of 16 new cabinet appointments on 1 April, replacing the candidates rejected by Parliament end January (local media, 01/04/2015; AFP, 04/02/2015).

Peace Talks with the Taliban

Peace talks with the Afghan Taliban have been stalled since mid-2013. On 10 January, Afghanistan joined Pakistan in military operations against militants in both countries (British & Irish Agencies Afghanistan Group, 31/01/2015). On 2 May, an Afghan delegation held an open discussion in Qatar with the Taliban (Trust.org, 04/05/2015; AFP, 02/05/2015).

Security Context

On 22 April, Afghan Taliban announced the start of its spring offensive, targeting foreign embassies and government officials, as well as military (Trust.org, 22/04/2015). Assaults increased in five districts of Kunduz province in early May (BBC, Afghanistan Analyst Network).

In the first 15 weeks of 2015, 4,950 Afghan police and soldiers were killed or wounded, an increase of 70% compared with the same period in 2014 (US Institute of Peace, 01/06/2015). **As of 30 April, 1,989 civilians had been injured as a result of the conflict and 978 civilians killed (UNAMA, 07/06/2015).** In 2014, 3,699 civilians were killed and 6,849 injured. **Since the 2001 start of the war, about 26,270 civilians have been killed by direct war-related violence and more than 29,900 civilians have been injured (Watson Institute for International Studies, 02/06/2015, UNAMA, 18/02/2015).**

Taliban

Remote parts of southern and southeastern Afghanistan, near the border with Pakistan, remain under Taliban control. Taliban numbers have increased by 15% since the beginning of 2013, and the group has intensified attacks. The Taliban is increasingly financed by criminal enterprises including heroin laboratories, illegal ruby and emerald mines, and kidnapping (UNSC, 02/02/2015).

International Military Presence

NATO formally ended its combat mission in Afghanistan on 31 December 2014, moving to the Resolute Support mission made up of 9,800 US troops and 3,000 soldiers from other member states. The mission will focus on supporting Afghan forces' fight against the Taliban, along with US counter-terrorism operations (Reuters, 01/01/2015). The number of US troops remaining in Afghanistan until end December is significantly higher than the 5,500 initially planned, and has been denounced by the Taliban (Le Monde, 24/03/2015).

Conflict Developments and Incidents

Helmand: Four civilians and three police were killed and seven people wounded in the attack in Lashkargah on 13 May (Reuters, 13/05/2015).

Kabul: During May, attacks mainly targeted at police forces and government officials killed at least 45 and injured at least 55 (Al Jazeera, 26/05/2015; AFP, 19/05/2015; 17/05/2015; 14/05/2015; 10/05/2015; Trust.org, 04/05/2015).

Kunduz: Taliban offensives took place simultaneously in five districts on 2 and 3 May (Afghanistan Analyst Network, 3/05/2015). The Taliban, supported by foreign fighters, has come close to the provincial capital, cutting it off (Trust.org, 06/05/2015, 07/05/2015; BBC, 07/05/2015; AFP, 08/05/2015). The Government launched a major offensive on 7 May near the city. 100 people, including ten elders, have been killed since an estimated 50 foreign fighters from an unidentified group settled in the province. Residents have been asked for money, girls' education is regulated, and meetings with government officials are subject to authorisation.

Other incidents: On 1 June, Taliban militants stormed a police headquarters in Jalalabad after a suicide bomb attack at its gate. Nine policemen were wounded (Reuters, 1/06/2015).

During April, security incidents, mainly bombing, gun attacks and fire exchanges, in Logar, Wardak, Zabul, Paktia and Badghis killed at least 11 people and injured at least 74 (Reuters, 31/05/2015; 26/05/2015; 10/05/2015; AFP, 25/05/2015; 16/05/2015; 17/05/2015).

Suspected Taliban gunmen abducted 31 members of the country's Hazara Shi'ite Muslim minority on 23 February in Zabul province. As of 11 May, 12 are still held hostage and one had been killed (BBC, 11/05/2015; Trust.org 20/04/2015; AFP, 24/03/2015; 17/03/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Planning figures are for 6.9 million Afghans in need of humanitarian aid in 2015, including 2.8 million children, compared to 7.4 million in 2014 (UNICEF, 21/01/2015). Badghis, Helmand, Kunar, Nangarhar, and Wardak most need assistance (OCHA, 25/11/2014).

Access

As of 8 May, commercial flights to Kunduz have been suspended (AFP, 08/05/2015). As of 30 April, WFP has reported no accessibility to some districts bordering Pakistan, in east Farah, south Ghor and north Helmand as well as to the north of Badghis and south of Jowzjan (WFP, 30/04/2015).

Unidentified militants killed nine Afghan employees of the Czech NGO People in Need, on 2 June in Balkh province (Reuters, 02/06/2015).

Violence against health workers is a risk. In April, one health staff was seriously injured in Kandahar province (WHO, 18/05/2015). In Paktia province, 19 mine clearance workers were abducted and released two days later (Trust.org, 20/04/2015; 21/04/2015). Five members of an NGO's national staff were killed by their abductor on 10 April in Uruzgan (UN, 11/04/2015).

In March, there were 19 incidents against national and international NGOs. Four people were wounded, ten abducted, and two arrested (OCHA, 19/04/2015). There were 293 incidents against aid workers in 2014, including 57 killed (UN, 11/04/2015; OCHA, 31/12/2014).

Disasters

Between 1 April and 15 May, natural disaster events including avalanches, flooding, heavy rainfall, landslides and mudflows affected 44,823 people (6,690 families). 125 were killed or injured and 6,062 houses destroyed or damaged. The most affected provinces are Badakhshan, Baghlan and Faryab (OCHA, 16/05/2015). Accessibility and security challenges due to road closures and areas controlled by non-state armed groups are hampering needs assessment and aid provision in some provinces. Priority needs are for food, NFIs, and emergency shelter (ECHO, 15/04/2015; IOM/USAID, 15/03/2015; IFRC, 18/03/2015; IFRC, 11/05/2015).

Displacement

There are 873,000 IDPs in Afghanistan and **205,362 refugees from Pakistan in Khost and Paktika provinces**; returns from Pakistan are increasing since December 2014, while around 2.5 million Afghans have taken refuge in neighbouring countries.

IDPs

As of end of April, there were 873,000 IDPs in Afghanistan, including half displaced in April, and 24% displaced by conflict in 2014. Overall, nearly 220,000 IDPs are in the south, 216,000 in the west, 145,000 in the east and 121,000 in northern Afghanistan (UNHCR, 24/05/2015). In the north, fighting has reportedly displaced 18,355 families in Kunduz province, 800 families in Baghlan province, 1,283 families in Baghis, 190 in Faryab, 2,000 in Jorm and 56 in Fayzabad (OCHA, 28/05/2015).

Armed conflicts between armed groups and government continued to be the most cited reason for displacement across the country. Food and NFIs are the most urgent need but the security context challenges access. Another challenge is the identification of genuine IDPs, while host communities sometimes wrongly claim displacement (UNCHR, 24/05/2015).

Military operations in Helmand have triggered displacement since February and by 31 March, the Kandahar Provincial Disaster Management Committee (PDMC) had reported

1,896 displaced families. Priority needs are food and NFIs; health needs also emerged in the south (UNHCR, 28/02/2015, 31/12/2014, OCHA 19/04/2015).

Refugees

Displacement from Pakistan to Afghanistan's Khost and Paktika provinces has been ongoing since mid-June 2014. **As of 7 June, these provinces were hosting around 205,362 refugees (32,576 families) from Pakistan, 70% of them in Khost (UNHCR, 07/06/2015).** Funding shortfalls limited response to the most urgent needs, which persist for shelter, nutrition, and WASH (UNHCR, 08/04/2015; 01/04/2015; OCHA, 24/05/2015). Education for children in high school is not available because of language barriers and will be of increasing concern if displacement persists (UNHCR, 31/05/2015). Spontaneous returns of refugees to Pakistan have been reported, although the number is unknown (UNHCR, 14/04/2015; 08/04/2015).

An additional 600,000 Baloch refugees who have fled insurgency activities in Pakistan since 1986 are living in precarious conditions, notably in Nimroz (AAN, 31/12/2014).

Returnees

Returns of Afghans from Pakistan have increased following security incidents in Pakistan, particularly the December Taliban attack in Peshawar. Returnees report an increased number of protection issues and cite eviction notices by authorities as the primary factor that influenced their return (UNHCR, 24/05/2015). As of 13 May, 60,000 Afghans have returned home voluntarily since early 2015, including 21,505 through UNCHR. 6,000 have been expelled (AFP, 13/05/2015; UNHCR, 24/05/2015). 30–40% of undocumented returnees are vulnerable and in need of assistance (OCHA, 28/02/2015; IOM, 13/02/2015). 25,000 people returned in 2014 (AFP, 13/05/2015).

Afghan Refugees in Neighbouring Countries

As of 30 September 2014, there were 2.5 million Afghan refugees in neighbouring countries (USAID, 01/10/2014).

Food Security

As of April, Badghis province was in IPC Phase 3, Crisis. Badakhshan, Nuristan, Ghor, Daykundi and Bamyán are in IPC Phase 2, Stressed (FEWSNET, 01/05/2015). By November 2015, it is estimated that 500,000 to 990,000 people will be in IPC Phase 3 or higher (FEWSNET 20/05/2015).

Agriculture and Markets

2014 wheat production was 64% lower than 2013, and January 2015 wheat grain and flour prices have increased 12% on average compared to 2014, leading to excess sales of livestock; Badghis province is most affected (FEWSNET, 11/02/2015).

Livelihoods

Refugees in Khost and Paktika have exhausted their short term coping mechanisms and

need livelihood opportunities to face long term displacement (UNHCR, 26/05/2015). Political uncertainty during 2014 led to decreased investment in many sectors including construction and trade, which are key employers of casual labour. Faryab province saw the largest decline in casual labour wages: rates were 43% lower in September than in 2013 and the five-year average (FEWSNET, 01/11/2014). Decreased prices for some cash crops in 2014 compared to 2013 limited income (FEWSNET, 01/12/2014).

Opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan rose by 7% in a year, from 209,000 hectares in 2013 to 224,000 hectares in 2014 (UN, 12/11/2014).

Health and Nutrition

There is a shortage of trained surgeons, anaesthetists, and trauma capacity in conflict-affected areas (OCHA, 25/11/2014). Nearly 80% of maternal and reproductive health needs are unmet (WHO, 10/12/2014). Tuberculosis is also a high burden for Afghanistan, but many new cases were missed out in 2014 due to lack of close monitoring (Government, 24/03/2015).

Measles

29 measles outbreaks were reported in April 2015 (WHO, 18/05/2015). 445 laboratory-confirmed cases of measles were reported in the first quarter of 2015, representing a significant increase from last year's total of 581 cases (WHO, 26/04/2015).

Nutrition

517,596 children suffer from SAM (UNICEF, 21/01/2015). In Uruzgan, Nuristan, Khost, Paktia, Wardak, Kunar, and Laghman provinces, GAM rates were breaching the emergency threshold of 15% in mid-2014 (National Nutrition Survey, OCHA 31/07/2014).

An estimated 45% of all child deaths in refugee and IDP camps are linked to malnutrition (UNICEF, 21/01/2015). The presence of common animal diseases in areas of Khost and Paktika have reduced the availability of meat and milk products to Pakistani refugees and host communities (FEWSNET, 11/02/2015). Fewer than 20% of moderately and severely acute malnourished children received the treatment they needed in 2014 (OCHA, 25/11/2014).

Polio

One case of polio has been reported so far in 2015, from Helmand province. 28 cases were reported in 2014, mostly in conflict-affected areas, compared to 14 in 2013 and 37 in 2012 (WHO, 26/04/2015; Global Polio Eradication Initiative, 25/02/2015; 14/01/2015).

WASH

1.9 million Afghans are in need of better access to safe WASH facilities (UNICEF, 21/01/2015). Refugee influxes have stretched already limited water and hygiene resources and infrastructure in Khost and Paktika; lack of solid waste management and latrines are major challenges (UNHCR, 08/04/2015).

Shelter

A growing number of IDPs live in informal settlements in major Afghan urban centres, in substandard and crowded accommodation, with insufficient WASH facilities, food, education, and employment opportunities. Women are particularly at risk, with reduced access to education, health, and livelihood opportunities, and facing significant unmet mental health needs (NRC, 23/03/2015). As of 11 December, 40,629 refugees were in 52 informal settlements in the capital. The most populated is Charahi Qamber (7,436 people) (OCHA, 17/12/2014). Overall numbers on people in informal shelters across Afghanistan are missing.

Education

Educational facilities in Khost are overstretched, with 344 schools employing 6,000 teachers and teaching around 360,000 children. There are 50,000 school-aged refugee children in Khost (Institute for War and Peace Reporting, 05/11/2014).

In provinces most affected by fighting, schools have closed over the fear that students might get caught in crossfire. In northern Baghlan, for example, at least 18 schools were closed in May (Reuters, 31/05/2015).

Protection

UNAMA recorded 1,225 civilian casualties (468 killed) from incidents involving Afghan Security Forces, including 121 civilian casualties (52 killed) from Afghan Local Police (ALP) in 2014. ALP has been reportedly involved in intimidation, physical abuse or violence, bribe-taking, salary fraud and theft. A small number of the forces mentoring ALP witnessed rape, drug trafficking, drug abuse and the selling or renting of ALP weapons and vehicles. Some reports have described ALP commanders selling the lives of their men (ICG, 05/06/2015).

Child Protection

The Afghan national and local police and three armed groups (Taliban, Haqqani Network, and Hezb-e-Islami) have been listed for recruitment and use of children, which was criminalised in December 2014 (Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict 02/05/2015).

Six million of the 16 million minors face serious deprivation of basic rights. 31% of the children are illegally employed in heavy labour as family breadwinners, and 43% of girls get married when they are underage. In Helmand, between 15 and 20% do heavy labour due to poverty or vulnerability (Institute of War and Peace Reporting, 03/06/2015).

Corruption

Debates held in May with the Institute for War and Peace Reporting (IWPR) in Zabol, Kunar and Nuristan provinces showed that Afghans are increasingly turning to Taliban courts to help them resolve legal disputes because of corruption in the official justice system (Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission cited by IWPR, 2/06/2015).

Detention

35% of visited detainees in national facilities have experienced ill-treatment or torture, including 42% of child detainees, in a United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) study conducted between February 2013 and December 2014. The same type of study over 2011–2012 showed 49% of detainees had experienced ill-treatment or torture (OHCHR, UNAMA, 25/02/2015).

Mines and ERW

4,271 minefields and battlefields remain in Afghanistan, corresponding to almost 536 km² in 255 districts of 33 provinces (MAPA/MACCA, 06/04/2015). There is an average of 38 civilian casualties every month and another 61 civilian casualties are victims of improvised explosive devices (IED) (MAPA, 18/05/2015).

As of 23 April, 919,546 m² in Gulan camp has been cleared as well as 1,6,870 m² around the camp, where refugees have settled more recently (UNHCR, 23/04/2015; 13/05/2015).

Sexual Violence

Sexual violence is underreported because of the social stigma attached to it and lack of access to Taliban-controlled areas. Between January 2014 and January 2015, UNAMA registered 44 cases (UN Security Council, 15/04/2015).

Updated, 08/06/2015

IRAQ CONFLICT, INTERNAL UNREST, DISPLACEMENT



For the latest Briefing Notes, visit the [ACAPS country analysis page](#).

For information relating to the Syria crisis, see [SNAP's latest reports](#).

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

8 June: More than 50% of humanitarian programmes are at risk of closure or cutbacks if funding is not secured (OCHA).

7 June: An Islamic State (IS) suicide attack in Baladruz, Diyala, killed at least 15 and wounded 34 (AFP).

4 June: 8.2 million people are reported in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. Protection and livelihoods have seen substantial increases: 7.9 million and 3.4 million people, compared to 5.2 million and 800,000 end February (OCHA/UNCT).

3 June: The closure of dams by IS in both Ramadi and Falluja in Anbar is resulting in a major drop in water levels on the Euphrates River, already affecting Khalidiya and Habbaniya subdistricts (OCHA).

KEY CONCERNS

- Around 1,030 deaths recorded in May, including around 665 civilians. 12,000 people were killed in 2014, corresponding to the worst levels of violence since 2006–2007 (UNAMI, 02/05/2015; 01/01/2015).
- 8.2 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance, including more than three million IDPs and 2.2 million beyond the reach of aid agencies (OCHA/UNCT, 04/06/2015; ECHO, 12/12/2014).
- Access continues to be severely constrained in large parts of Anbar, Diyala, Kirkuk, Ninewa and Salah al Din (UN, 01/05/2015).
- 249,270 registered Syrian refugees are in Iraq; 64% are women and children (UNHCR, 31/05/2015).
- Protection is a key concern, particularly in areas directly affected by conflict and under Islamic State (IS) control.

OVERVIEW

The IS insurgency has compounded an already fragile political and humanitarian situation, leading to a level 3 humanitarian crisis and international military intervention. Iraq now hosts one of the largest internally displaced populations in the world. Priority needs are food, water, shelter, fuel, and access to healthcare. Access constraints and human rights violations, particularly in IS-controlled areas, are of major concern. There are large information gaps on the situation of affected populations outside of the Kurdistan region of Iraq.

Political Context

National Political Context

The perceived marginalisation of Sunni groups by former President Maliki's Government is considered one of the main drivers of the current conflict. A unity government, led by President Abadi, was formed in September 2014. While trying to balance sectarian tensions inside the country, Abadi has been seeking to garner international support for the fight against Islamic State, including from neighbouring Sunni Arab states (Foreign Affairs, 16/01/2015).

Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I)

Masoud Barzani's Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) have ruled the autonomous KR-I through a coalition government since 2005. Barzani's term has been extended to 2015, a move denounced as illegal by the opposition. In mid-November 2014, Baghdad and Erbil reached a budget agreement around oil revenues, which was incorporated into Iraq's 2015 national budget law late January; political relations are developing positively, as both sides honoured their part of the deal end March (local media, 26/04/2015; UN, 02/12/2014).

Security Context

Around 1,030 Iraqis were killed in acts of violence in May, including 665 civilians, an increase on April; Baghdad was the most affected (UNAMI, 01/06/2015). At least 12,000 people were killed and more than 23,000 injured in 2014, in the worst violence since 2006–2007. Reported casualty numbers are hard to verify in conflict areas (UNAMI, 01/01/2015).

Stakeholders

Islamic State (IS)

In June 2014, IS declared the establishment of a Sunni caliphate, covering the area between Aleppo in northern Syria and Diyala in eastern Iraq. Abu Bakr al Baghdadi was declared caliph and leader for Muslims worldwide. IS now controls nearly 300,000 km² of territory in Syria and Iraq (AFP, 01/06/2015). It has attracted more than 20,000 foreigners to a total fighting force of as many as 31,000 (ICSR, 21/01/2015; NBC, 02/2015).

Government Forces

Iraqi Security Forces (ISF), made up of around 48,000 troops, are involved in offensives around Baghdad, and in central governorates (Foreign Policy, 28/03/2015). The Prime Minister declared in January that falling global oil prices could lead to possible budget deficits, hampering capacity to undertake military operations (Reuters, 22/01/2015).

Shi'a militias

Three militias have been supporting government forces on all major fronts against IS since the beginning of the insurgency, as part of the Popular Mobilisation Forces: Asa'ib, Kita'ib Hezbollah, and the Badr Brigades. The Popular Mobilisation Forces are made up of around 100,000 fighters, including 30,000 reportedly backed by the Iranian Government (Al Jazeera, 23/01/2015).

KR-I Forces

The Kurdish Peshmerga, supported by Kurdish fighters from Syria and Turkey, are engaged in a counteroffensive against IS. Kurdish fighters receive training and equipment from multiple countries, including the United States (AFP).

International Involvement

In August 2014, US forces started airstrikes on IS locations. On 15 September, 30

additional countries pledged to help Iraq fight IS. Iran has dispatched members of its elite Revolutionary Guards Corps and reportedly carried out airstrikes against IS (The Economist, 03/01/2015; The Guardian, 05/01/2015, 04/12/2014).

Conflict Developments

ISF and Kurdish forces have regained territory in 2015, recapturing populated areas of Diyala in January, and Al Baghdadi in Anbar early March (AFP, 26/01/2015; 08/03/2015). Peshmerga forces are fighting IS in Kirkuk. IS made significant gains in Anbar in April.

Recent Incidents

Anbar: IS has begun moving east towards Khaldiya (OCHA, 19/05/2015). IS captured Ramadi on 17 May, killing at least 500 people in the operation against ISF and associated militias; **ISF was still surrounding the city as of 3 June**. ISF had launched operations to retake Anbar on 8 April (AFP, 17/05/2015; **OCHA, 03/06/2015**; ISW, 15/04/2015). Three people were killed and 11 wounded by indiscriminate shelling in Falluja on 10 May (AFP, 10/05/2015). Clashes have been ongoing in and around Falluja since 25–26 April, and a curfew is reportedly in place in the southeast of the city (OCHA, 28/04/2015).

Baghdad has seen nearly daily bombings and shootings since November 2014. Two IS bombings on 29 May killed nine and wounded dozens (AFP, 29/05/2015). At least ten were killed in attacks targeting Shi'ite worshippers marching to a Baghdad shrine over 12–14 May (AFP, 14/05/2015; 12/05/2015). At least 11 people were killed and 18 wounded in separate attacks in the governorate on 10 May (AFP, 10/05/2015). On 28 April, eight IDPs were reportedly killed in Baghdad, raising concerns over growing anti-IDP sentiment due to fears of IS infiltration (OCHA, 05/05/2015).

Diyala: An IS suicide attack in Baladruz killed at least 15 and wounded 34 on 7 June (AFP, 07/06/2015). On 24 May, eight bombs exploded in Baquba and Baladruz, wounding 14 (AFP, 24/05/2015). An IS attack on a Shi'ite mosque in Baladruz district killed 19 and wounded 15 on 8 May (AFP, 08/05/2015).

Kirkuk: A suicide attack on an Iraqi police base supporting operations to cut off IS supply lines to Anbar killed at least 37 people and wounded more than 30 on 1 June (AFP, 02/06/2015). Peshmerga and Popular Mobilisation forces began operations to dislodge IS from areas of southwestern Kirkuk in February, recapturing Bashir and surrounding villages by March (ISW, 18/03/2015). Both forces, with the support of ISF, are planning an operation in Al Hawija in the coming months. This cooperation is significant, as visible tensions between Kurdish and Shi'ite rivals over control of Kirkuk city are raising fears that IS will exploit the divisions to advance (ISW, 13/03/2015; Ekurd Daily, 17/02/2015; The Daily Beast, 17/02/2015).

Ninewa: IS continues to carry out security operations south of Mosul, to control tribal resistance and safeguard one of its most important areas of control.

Salah al Din: On 12 April, IS launched three suicide attacks on Baiji oil refinery, the fiercest since ISF recaptured the area in November. Clashes were accelerating as of 5 May, as IS cut off supply routes and occupied positions within the facility (ISW, 08/05/2015). As of 31 March, Iraqi forces and supporters had reportedly recaptured Albu

Ajl, Tal Ksaiba, Al Alam, Al Dour, and Tikrit from IS (local media, 31/03/2015; WSJ, 13/02/2015; Al Jazeera, 08/03/2015). Tensions then rose between government forces and allied militias (Reuters, 04/04/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

As of June, 8.2 million people are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance, including 3.7 million children, compared to 5.2 and 2.6 million end February; **the number is projected to reach 9.9 million by end 2015** (OCHA/UNCT, 04/06/2015; UNICEF, 28/02/2015). **As of 8 June, Iraq's 2015 appeal is only 24% funded: more than 50% of humanitarian programmes are at risk of closure or cutbacks** (OCHA, 08/06/2015; UNAMA/UNCT, 03/06/2015).

Access

Around 2.2 million people in need of emergency assistance are beyond the reach of aid agencies, and access to the estimated 3.6 million people in areas under control of IS and affiliated armed groups is limited (ECHO, 12/12/2014). Several INGOs have suspended activities in IS-controlled areas, or provide emergency assistance through local partners. High insecurity and unexploded ordnance (UXO) also hinders access, as do long delays in obtaining clearance from Iraqi authorities (OCHA, 05/12/2014).

Border crossings: The Ibrahim Khalil border crossing has been closed to Syrians from Kobane since 2 March; most refugees have entered via the Peshkabour crossing (UNHCR, 15/03/2015). Insecurity prevents most civilian movement at the IS-controlled Al Qa'im and Al Waleed crossings, as well as at Rabia (Reuters, 23/11/2014; UNHCR, 28/02/2015; 15/01/2015).

IDP movement restrictions: Over 30% of IDPs are forced to stay within their governorate, due to movement restrictions imposed by neighbouring governorates; restrictions have been reported in Baghdad, Salah al Din, and Anbar (IOM, 15/01/2014; Protection Cluster, 15/01/2015). Access to and in KR-I remains challenging for certain IDPs, particularly those of Arab ethnicity (UNHCR/Protection Cluster, 28/02/2015; OCHA, 23/01/2015).

Anbar remains largely inaccessible, **especially as IS is increasing its control of main routes** (UNICEF, 03/06/2015). New IDPs from Anbar face serious restrictions accessing neighbouring provinces: Babylon and Kerbala are closed to them; IDPs must provide a sponsor for admission into Baghdad from Bzabz bridge (at least six IDPs have died from lack of care in mid-May, while waiting at the bridge); IDPs attempting to enter KR-I by land also require a local guarantor: some 270 families were awaiting entry at various checkpoints at 31 May (UNHCR, 29/05/2015; HRW, 30/05/2015; OCHA, 31/05/2015; AFP, 20/05/2015). Control of the roads toward Al Baghdadi continues to shift between ISF and IS, which has delayed transportation of food and medical supplies to both Al Baghdadi subdistrict (including Al Obaidy refugee camp) and Haditha district (OCHA, 28/04/2015). IS checkpoints have proliferated in Hit district, preventing civilian movements outside the city (OCHA, 05/05/2015).

Diyala: UN staff members were abducted by unidentified gunmen end April, and have not

been located since (UN, 08/05/2015).

Kirkuk: Inaccessibility is hampering the delivery of essential medical supplies, equipment, and vaccines, especially access to Al Hawija and Debes districts, where a significant displaced population is reported (WHO, 12/03/2015; IOM, 24/02/2015).

Ninewa: Access to Mosul is impossible for humanitarian actors and communications with areas outside the city are allegedly cut off. Civilians are prevented from leaving the city. Conditions have dramatically deteriorated since IS took control (OCHA, 02/03/2015; WFP, 02/02/2015).

Displacement

There are nearly three million IDPs, 248,200 Syrian refugees, and 1.5 million people in need of assistance in host communities.

IDPs

As of 21 May, there are more than three million IDPs in 3,295 locations across 102 districts in Iraq. 36% are in KR-I (1.09 million) including 445,164 in Dahuk and 253,158 in Erbil. Anbar hosts 531,996 IDPs, Kirkuk 370,986, and Baghdad 483,648. 67% of IDPs are living in private settings, mainly in Anbar and Baghdad, 21% in critical shelter arrangements, and 8% in 31 IDP camps, mainly in Dahuk and Ninewa (IOM, 25/05/2015). The number and spread of IDPs pose a major challenge to needs assessment and assistance (IOM, 02/12/2014).

Anbar: Nearly 238,000 people are believed to have been displaced from and within Anbar since military operations began on 8 April, including 104,000 from Ramadi district over 15–29 May. **Of those displaced since April, 44% went to Baghdad and 40% stayed in Anbar; during the second wave of displacement, 74% have been displaced within Anbar, with a high concentration in Falluja and Khaldiya sub-district in Ramadi.** Priority needs are for shelter, WASH, and food (IOM, 31/05/2015; 25/05/2015; OCHA, 03/06/2015). Many of the civilians have not been able to flee to safer areas due to ad hoc entry restrictions and ongoing violence (NRC, 21/05/2015).

Erbil: 150 Sunni IDP families originally displaced from Anbar are reportedly arriving in Shablawa district from Baghdad each week, due to insecurity. The majority live in poor conditions, mostly in unfinished buildings (OCHA, 03/04/2015).

Salah al Din: 1,300 people have been displaced from Baiji to al Alam subdistrict due to military operations, and are in urgent need of food and NFIs (OCHA, 12/05/2015). Nearly 30,000 people fled operations between ISF and IS in Tikrit in March for areas in and around Samarra. The majority are living in 127 collective shelters. Priority needs are for food, shelter, health, and WASH (ECHO, 11/03/2015).

The humanitarian situation for IDPs in Najaf, Karbala, Babel, Qadissiya, and Wassit in public buildings or collective shelters, with significant food, WASH, and livelihood needs, is also critical (WFP, 27/01/2015; REACH, 27/01/2015).

IDP Returnees

900,000 IDP returnees and newly accessible are in need of assistance throughout Iraq (OCHA/UNCT, 04/06/2015). Between 27 March and 21 May, 171,200 IDPs have returned to their place of origin, including 31% to Diyala and 30% to Ninewa. 19% of returnees who did not go back to their pre-displacement homes are in critical shelters and 1% in rented homes (IOM, 25/05/2015).

Heavily disrupted basic services and infrastructure, property destruction, mines, IEDs, insecurity, and lost documentation all increase the risks for returnees (UNHCR, 15/04/2015).

Refugees in Iraq

As of 31 May 249,270 Syrian refugees were registered in Iraq; 43% are female, and 42% children. KR-I hosts an estimated 97%, with 111,285 in Erbil, 100,040 in Dahuk and 30,050 in Sulaymaniyah; 4,510 were last known to be in Anbar and 1,300 in Ninewa (UNHCR, 31/05/2015). Refugees from Aleppo continue to arrive at the Peshkhabour border, but numbers have decreased to 100 per week (UNHCR, 25/05/2015; 30/04/2015).

37.5% of refugees live in nine camps; over half are in Domiz camp in Dahuk (47,530), 10,080 in Kawergosk, and 10,110 in Darashakran in Erbil (UNHCR, 31/05/2015). The number of Syrian refugees in Al Obaidy camp in IS-controlled Al Qa'im in Anbar significantly decreased January–March, to 851; access constraints make it difficult to fully understand the situation (UNHCR, 15/03/2015, 04/03/2015).

More than 37,660 Syrian refugees returned to Syria over January 2014–March 2015. Reasons for return include high living cost in the KR-I, lack of job opportunities and family reunification (UNHCR, 15/04/2015; 31/12/2014).

There are also 41,700 non-Syrian refugees (UNHCR, 23/04/2015).

Iraqi Refugees in Neighbouring Countries

Around 254,000 Iraqi refugees are thought to be residing in neighbouring countries, including 200,000 in Turkey, 47,000 in Jordan (the Government estimated 58,000), 8,700 in Lebanon, and over 3,000 in Yemen (PI, 07/01/2015; UNHCR, 30/04/2015).

Food Security

4.4 million people urgently need food assistance (OCHA/UNCT, 04/06/2015). Food security is of particular concern for areas directly affected by conflict and displacement in April, including Anbar, Dahuk, Ninewa and Diyala. One-third of new IDPs in Anbar have borderline food consumption and are most vulnerable to food insecurity (WFP, 01/06/2015).

Agriculture

The October–November and April–May agricultural seasons were significantly affected by conflict, especially in major producing areas such as Sala al Din, Ninewa, and Anbar.

Delayed government seed distribution end 2014 impacted planting and prospects for the 2015 winter crop are uncertain (FAO, 27/05/2015). IS controls major wheat storage silos in Ninewa and Salah al Din (FAO 10/02/2015).

Livelihoods

3.4 million people are in need of emergency livelihood support, compared to 800,000 end February (OCHA/UNCT, 04/06/2015; UN, 18/02/2015). The need for livelihood support is increasing as IDPs' financial conditions are deteriorating, and unemployment is rising in IS-controlled areas (UNHCR, 15/03/2015; OCHA, 02/03/2015). In conflict-affected areas, casual labour opportunities are limited and wage rates are low (WFP, 11/03/2015). KR-I's poverty rate increased from 3.5% to 8.1% between 2013 and 2014. GDP growth in Iraq declined by five percentage points to 3% in 2014 (World Bank/Government, 12/02/2015).

Food prices are high in Anbar, Ninewa, Kirkuk, Salah al Din, and Dahuk due to conflict and blocked supply lines. They rose by 28% in Anbar and 18% in Salah al Din between March and April; prices in Anbar are now 58% higher than in Baghdad (WFP, 01/06/2015; FAO, 27/05/2015). Government support via the PDS is limited in conflict areas; 80% of households reporting having received no rations in April (WFP, 01/06/2015; FAO, 27/05/2015).

Refugees: Refugees resort to a rising range of negative coping mechanisms in Dahuk due to high food prices (UNHCR, 15/04/2015). The ability to find sustainable job opportunities is still severely limited, and hampered by competition. As of February, only 5% of refugees targeted for access to wage employment in 2015 had been reached (DRC/UNDP, 28/02/2015).

Health and Nutrition

7.8 million people need health support in Iraq (OCHA/UNCT, 04/06/2015). Acute diarrhoea, acute respiratory infections, and scabies remain a leading cause of morbidity among refugees and IDPs (Government/WHO, 29/03/2015).

A number of health facilities have been damaged by bombing and shelling. None of the three hospitals in Tikrit, Salah al Din, are functioning; in Kirkuk, some 23% of health facilities are not functioning (WHO, 27/04/2015). Recurrent shortages of essential medicines and other supplies remain a challenge, especially in Anbar, Salah al Din, and Ninewa (WHO, 27/04/2015). Difficulties in import and clearing of supplies through customs are reported (OCHA, 23/03/2015). Health professionals are in short supply in KR-I and conflict areas, while insecurity hampers access to healthcare in some areas (WHO, 16/03/2015). The influx of under-vaccinated Syrian refugees into KR-I also increases health risks (WHO, 11/2014).

Limited or unavailable treatment for tuberculosis, leishmaniasis, and hepatitis are major concerns in Salah al Din and Kirkuk (WHO, 16/03/2015).

Anbar: Khaldiya emergency hospital has suffered direct mortar hits mid-May; most staff have been evacuated to Amiriyat al Falluja general hospital (OCHA, 19/05/2015). Ramadi's main hospital came under IS control on 16 May (OCHA, 17/05/2015). The city hospital in

Hit district is also reportedly no longer accessible for civilians (OCHA, 05/05/2015). Critical shortages of essential medicines are reported by functioning health structures (ECHO, 16/02/2015). Shortages of fuel affecting healthcare delivery has been reported in one hospital in Anbar, while contact has been lost with facilities in western Anbar (WHO, 16/03/2015). Increased acute illnesses and chronic diseases are reported from Al Baghdadi district, while health concerns are rising in Habbaniya and Abu Ghraib district in Anbar due to inadequate sanitation and skin and waterborne diseases (OCHA, 26/05/2015; 15/05/2015).

Mosul: Only two units of the main hospital remain functional, staffing levels are down to 30–50%, and severe medicine shortages have been reported (AFP, 12/2014).

Sulaymaniyah: Overcrowding in Arbat IDP camp has reportedly led to referrals to medical facilities in Sulaymaniyah city, putting additional pressure on the health infrastructure (OCHA, 23/03/2015).

Refugees: 20% of the non-camp population has difficulty accessing health services, due to cost and perceived availability (WHO/UNHCR, 28/02/2015). Access to specialised primary services, including mental healthcare and control of communicable diseases, remain priorities in camps (WHO/UNHCR, 31/03/2015).

WASH

7.2 million people need WASH support (OCHA/UNCT, 04/06/2015). The closure of dams by IS in both Ramadi and Falluja in Anbar on 3 June is resulting in a major drop in water levels on the Euphrates River, already affecting Khalidiya and Habbaniya subdistricts. The move is threatening drinking water, irrigation and water treatment for thousands of residents in government areas (Radio Liberty, 05/06/2015; OCHA, 03/06/2015).

Access to safe water is a critical problem in areas affected by conflict or controlled by armed groups. Power cuts, disruption of supply routes, shortage of chlorine, and broken pipelines have also left communities without safe water (WHO, 01/02/2015). IDP sites in Baghdad, Anbar, Salah al Din, Babylon and Najaf, need WASH support (OCHA, 28/04/2015).

Refugees: Drainage, waste disposal and water quality remain pressing issues in Darashakran, Akre, Basirma, and Domiz camps (UNHCR, 15/04/2015). In Basirma, the latrine ratio is 23:1, while garbage collection remains an issue in camps in Erbil (UNHCR, 31/03/2015; UNICEF/UNHCR, 30/04/2015).

Shelter and NFIs

Around 2.9 million people require shelter and NFI support, mainly in non-camp settings in central and southern Iraq; IDPs in informal, unmanaged settlements are of highest concern (OCHA/UNCT, 04/06/2015; UNHCR/Shelter Cluster, 02/05/2015).

Qoratu camp in Diyala is now hosting 1,500 IDPs from Ramadi who are in difficult conditions under extremely high temperatures (UNHCR, 29/05/2015). Arbat IDP camp in Sulaymaniyah is overcapacity and access to basic services is of major concern, as it

hosts 19,500 individuals instead of the planned 7,160 (OCHA, 02/03/2015; CCCM, 01/03/2015). Overcrowded Laylan camp in Kirkuk also needs support (OCHA, 03/04/2015). Eleven camps are under construction for an additional capacity of 384,235 IDPs (CCCM, 02/03/2015).

New IDPs from Anbar live in overcrowded conditions in Habbaniya and Falluja, without access to clean water and proper sanitation (UNHCR, 29/05/2015). Many IDPs in Ninewa reportedly live in critical shelter conditions (OCHA, 05/05/2015). 75% of returnee houses in Al Alam in Salah al Din have been demolished (OCHA, 27/03/2015).

Refugees: In refugee camps, 24% of households live in unimproved shelters (Gol and UNHCR, 30/04/2015). Basirma, Kawergosk, Akre, Darashakran, and Domiz camps' capacities are exhausted; overcrowding in camps in Erbil is an increasing concern (Government/UNHCR, 31/03/2015; UNHCR, 15/04/2015; Gol and UNHCR, 30/04/2015). In Sulaymaniyah, refugees renting houses are facing eviction due to the pressure on accommodation (UNHCR, 15/03/2015).

Education

3.1 million people are in need of education support. Half of children in camps are not enrolled in schools, compared to 70% of those out of camps (OCHA/UNCT, 04/06/2015). Over 500 schools, including 376 in Anbar, remain occupied by IDPs, and an estimated 130 by the military, affecting 39,000 children (OCHA, 21/04/2015).

Refugees: 61% of school-aged refugee children in camps are attending school, compared to 43% of those out of camps (UNICEF/Save the Children, 31/03/2015). Challenges include limited capacity in schools with an Arabic curriculum, shortages of Syrian teachers, increasing schooling demand, and insecurity (UNHCR, 31/12/2014; 12/02/2015). Syrian refugee teachers have not received salaries since the start of 2015, due to the KR-I's limited budget (UNHCR, 15/04/2015).

Protection

7.9 million people are in need of protection support (OCHA/UNCT, 04/06/2015).

Widespread abuses committed by IS, including targeted attacks, killings, torture, rape and sexual slavery, forced religious conversion, and child conscription, may amount to war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide. Sharia courts have been established in IS-controlled territories, carrying out extreme punishments against men, women, and children (UN, 19/03/2015; 20/01/2015).

Violations allegedly carried out by ISF and associated militias during their counter-offensives against IS, including killings, torture and abductions, also amount to war crimes. Looting and human rights violations have also reportedly been committed (Reuters, 04/04/2015; 21/03/2015; Amnesty, 02/04/2015).

Eviction

Eviction concerns remain for urban families in Kirkuk, where arrests and evictions have been reported (UNHCR, 15/03/2015; OCHA, 27/03/2015).

Documentation

Around 10% of IDPs have no documentation, which is a prerequisite for obtaining residency permits and difficult to obtain outside a person's area of origin. Up to 50% of displaced families report that at least one family member is missing one or more civil documents (UNHCR/Protection Cluster, 28/02/2015).

Refugees: Refugees are in need of targeted legal responses and services including registration and documentation. Residency in urban areas is reportedly being denied to Syrian asylum-seekers lacking original ID documents (UNFPA, 31/03/2015; Protection Cluster 15/01/2015). Many of the 37,500 Syrian refugee children aged 0-4 lack birth registration documents due to their parents lacking any, increasing protection risks if they are separated (UNHCR, 25/05/2015).

SGBV

Accurate numbers of women and girls affected by abuses across Iraq are hard to obtain. Reports show an increase in sexual violence, abductions, trafficking, and forced recruitment towards women. IS reportedly carried out systematic sexual violence against Yazidi women and girls in northern Iraq (HRW, 15/04/2015). Due to stigmatisation, many survivors are reluctant to seek assistance (UNAMI, 08/03/2015).

Child Protection

Around 1.3 million children are internally displaced in Iraq, while 561,000 live in areas under IS and affiliated armed groups' control (OCHA, 28/04/2015). Concerning issues include harmful practices targeting girls, discrimination of children from ethnic minorities, and children born of rape, who risk being stateless (UN, 07/05/2015; OHCHR, 22/01/2015). IS has reportedly sold children as sex slaves, using minors as suicide bombers, and providing military training to schoolchildren in Syria and Iraq (OCHA, 06/02/2015; Radio Liberty, 10/2014). IS abducted 400 children in Anbar during the last week of May (OCHA, 31/05/2015).

ERW and Mines

Iraq is heavily mined, with up to 1,838m² of contaminated territory; IS is reportedly planting more (Landmine Monitor/ICBL, IRIN, 06/11/2014).

Updated: 08/06/2015

SYRIA DISPLACEMENT, CIVIL WAR



For more information, see the SNAP project's latest reports.

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

29 May-7 June: Islamic State launched an offensive against Jahbat Al Nusra and militant positions in the northern Aleppo countryside, seizing the town of Soran Azaz and several surrounding villages. Government strikes were reported in the area, as were US coalition strikes (ISW, 02/06/2015; SOHR, 07/06/2015).

4 June: IS seized all military checkpoints south of Al Hasakeh city, following a day of clashes, leaving 27 dead (AFP, 04/06/2015).

May: Over May, 84 people were reported to have died from torture in official and unofficial detention centres, with government forces responsible for 82 deaths (Syrian Network for Human Rights, 03/06/2015).

April: Since 2011, the average prices of wheat flour and rice have increased 260% and 434%, respectively. In besieged areas, wheat flour and rice have risen by 669% and 560% (WFP, 04/2015).

KEY CONCERNS

- Over 220,000 deaths documented March 2011–December 2014, including over 63,000 civilians, almost 11,000 of them children (SOHR 12/2014). 2014 recorded the highest number of deaths, with 76,000 fatalities.
- 12.2 million people in need of humanitarian assistance inside Syria, including 5.6 million children (OCHA/UNICEF 12/2014).
- 7.6 million IDPs (OCHA 28/12/2014).
- 4.8 million people live in hard-to-reach areas (OCHA 12/2014).
- 3,978,851 Syrians are registered or waiting to register as refugees outside Syria as of 26 May (UNHCR 26/05/2015). Children make up 51.6% of the refugee population.
- 711 of 1,921 primary health centres and 37 of 92 public hospitals are out of service. 26 of 41 basic emergency obstetric care centres are reported non-functional (Syrian Ministry of Health/UNFPA 30/11/2014).
- 13,000 people have died in detention since March 2011, including more than 100 children, reportedly from torture (SOHR, 13/03/2015).

OVERVIEW

The conflict has killed over 220,000 people and caused large-scale displacement. Protection concerns are widespread. WASH and access to food are high priorities, as well as access to health services. Humanitarian needs in areas under prolonged and ongoing siege are particularly high because access is obstructed.

Political Context

On 4 May, the Geneva III conference began. UN envoy de Mistura will hold separate consultations the Syrian Government, some opposition groups, and regional powers such as Turkey and Iran. Opposition groups have criticised the invitation to Iran, which they consider signals that de Mistura is too close to the Government (BBC, 05/05/2015).

Security Context

Widespread conflict and high levels of violence continue, including indiscriminate aerial bombing by government forces and indiscriminate shelling by armed opposition (UNSC 21/11/2014). High frequency conflict locations are Aleppo, Idleb, Damascus, Rural Damascus, Quneitra, and Dar'a governorates (SOHR in SNAP, 03/2015). Central governorates have witnessed an increase in airstrikes and the use of barrel bombs, especially Rural Damascus.

In 2014, 76,000 people were killed in the conflict, the highest toll since the war began. 18,000 civilians, including at least 3,500 children, were among the victims (SOHR, 02/01/2014). At least 6,550 civilians died during airstrikes, half of them in Aleppo. More than 220,000 people have died since fighting began in March 2011 and more than one million people have been wounded or suffered permanent disabilities (SOHR, 02/12/2014, 07/02/2015, UNICEF, 03/2015).

Stakeholders

Government forces: Government forces have control of several areas near Aleppo, in and around Homs city, and several areas in the Qalamoun region in Rural Damascus. Government forces control As-Sweida governorate, Tartous, parts of Dar'a and Latakia, several areas in Idleb, and positions in predominantly IS or Kurdish controlled areas in Al Hasakeh. Increased Iranian involvement in generating irregular forces to augment pro-Government ranks appears to be fraying government command-and-control structures and challenging direct Syrian state control (ISW, 24/03/2015).

Islamic State (IS, formerly the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant) declared an Islamic caliphate on 30 June, defining the group's territory as running from northern Syria to the Iraqi province of Diyala, northeast of Baghdad. IS has been in full control of Ar-Raqqa governorate, its stronghold in Syria, since October 2014. It holds significant swathes of territory in Aleppo, Al Hasakeh, and Deir-ez-Zor, and is fighting in Rural Damascus, Damascus, and Homs.

Democratic Union Party (PYD) and People's Protection Units (YPG): Syrian Kurds, repressed by the current Syrian Government, have been in de facto control of Kurdish zones in the north since Government forces withdrew mid-2012. Kurdish leaders from the PYD formed an armed wing, the YPG, aiming to secure control over predominantly ethnic Kurdish areas in northern and eastern Syria (ISW 19/09/2014). Media has reported the YPG has 65,000 fighters (Today's Zaman, 04/01/2015).

Jabhat al Nusra (JAN), linked to Al Qaeda, is increasingly consolidating its control in northwestern Syria, previously held by the collapsing moderate opposition. JAN has turned

against other opposition factions, which are considered mainstays of the Free Syrian Army (FSA). In contrast, mainstream Islamist groups have begun to strengthen relations with JAN. The dissolution of the Hazm Movement in western Aleppo governorate cements JAN gains in the area (ISW, 02/03/2015).

Opposition alliances: The Sham Front, a military command made up of five major factions, including Ahrar al Sham, Jaysh al Mujahideen, and Harakat Nour al Din al Zenki, was dissolved on 14 April (ISW, 30/12/2014). On 26 April, Ahrar al Sham, Jaysh al Islam, and five other Aleppo-based opposition groups announced the formation of the Aleppo Conquest Operations Room in Aleppo city (ISW, 28/04/2015). On 14 May, the Aleppo Conquest Operations Room extended its membership to include 31 opposition groups, including factions based in Idleb and Hama (ISW, 20/05/2015). On 24 March, JAN joined forces with several other Islamist groups to create the Jaysh al Fatah Operations Room, mainly active in Idleb governorate (ISW).

Christian militias: Christian militias in northeastern Syria, in alliance with Kurdish forces and other armed opposition groups, are attempting to counter IS advances. Reportedly, they number up to 450 (The Guardian, 03/03/2015).

International intervention: As part of a multinational campaign against Islamist militant groups, a US-led coalition began airstrikes on IS and JAN military installations in mid-September. Jordan has carried out 56 airstrikes on IS targets in three days in February (BBC, 08/02/2015). More than 2,500 people have been killed by coalition airstrikes so far, the vast majority of them IS fighters, according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR, 23/05/2015).

Turkish officials confirmed an agreement between Turkey and Saudi Arabia to provide joint logistical and financial support to anti-Assad forces in Syria on 7 May. According to unidentified Turkish officials, Turkey plans to pressure JAN to renounce its affiliation to Al Qaeda (ISW, 12/05/2015). On 25 May, Turkey officials stated that Turkey and the US had agreed to provide air support to Syrian groups fighting IS (The Guardian, 25/05/2015).

Increasing Iranian involvement may potentially serve their larger strategic objectives by positioning Iranian forces closer to the disputed Israeli-controlled Golan Heights (ISW, 11/02/2015; 10/03/2015).

Conflict Developments

During May, 6,657 people were killed, making it the deadliest month of 2015. Of these, 1,285 were civilians, and more than half of them were killed in government airstrikes (SOHR, 01/06/2015).

Since the seizure of Palmyra on 21 May, IS in control of more than 50% of Syrian territory (SOHR, 21/05/2015). However, IS is under pressure on four fronts in Syria (ISW, 17/03/2015). The YPG, supported by other armed groups, and coalition airstrikes have considerably challenged IS in the north (ISW, 02/03/2015). On 15 May, US commandos killed senior IS official Abu Sayyaf in Deir-ez-Zor (BBC, 17/05/2015).

The increasingly Islamist and jihadist composition of militant ranks in northern Syria strengthens JAN's position in northern Syria, and these groups are increasingly

coordinated. The fall of Jisr al Shughur to JAN and allied forces is a key indicator of the Government's inability to defend terrain without the assistance of Iranian proxies such as Hezbollah (ISW, 26/04/2015).

Aleppo: On 29 May, IS launched an offensive against JAN and militant positions in the northern Aleppo countryside, seizing the town of Soran Azaz and several surrounding villages. As of 7 June, clashes were ongoing. Government strikes have been reported; analysts indicate that this demonstrates the Government's prioritisation of defeating opposition forces over combatting IS (ISW, 02/06/2015; SOHR, 07/06/2015). On 7 June, US coalition airstrikes targeted IS positions in Soran Azaz (SOHR, 07/06/2015). On 30 May, at least 72 people were killed by barrel bombs dropped by government planes in Al Bab and Aleppo city (SOHR, 30/05/2015). Over 17–18 May, IS seized two government-held villages in the outskirts of the Sheikh Najjar Industrial District, northeast of Aleppo city (ISW, 20/05/2015). 700 coalition airstrikes and 20 suicide bombings were recorded in Kobane in April (Handicap International, 25/05/2015).

Al Hasakeh: As of 4 June, IS had seized all military checkpoints south of Al Hasakeh city, following a day of clashes that left 27 dead. IS's assault began on 30 May (AFP, 04/06/2015). On 28 May, YPG forces, supported by US airstrikes, took control of Mabrouka and a number of other villages southwest of Ras al Ayn (ISW, 28/05/2015). YPG, supported by airstrikes, took control of Abd al Aziz Mountain over 18–20 May (ISW, 20/05/2015). On 11 April, YPG forces pushed IS back from Tal Tamr town (AFP, 12/04/2015).

Ar-Raqqa: Kurdish forces made gains against IS, taking over three villages near Ain Issa on 12 April, a town less than 60km from Ar-Raqqa city. Over two days, Kurdish forces took seven villages from IS (AFP, 12/04/2015; SOHR, 12/04/2015).

Damascus: Over 18–20 May, Jaysh al Islam launched an offensive against the government-held Brigade 39 military base in the Eastern Ghouta suburbs of Damascus (ISW, 20/05/2015). IS and JAN continue to fight with Palestinian groups over control of Yarmouk refugee camp, which currently hosts around 18,000 Palestinian and Syrian refugees (AFP, 25/05/2015). Government forces have shelled the camp and dropped barrel bombs on it, according to SOHR (AFP, 05/04/2015; UN, 29/04/2015).

Dar'a: JAN and allied forces have seized terrain, including the town Salem al Golan, from alleged IS-affiliated Liwa Shuhada al Yarmouk (ISW, 27/05/2015). Sustained fighting has been recorded since mid-February, when opposition groups launched a large-scale campaign, seizing control of several strategic locations in the governorate (WFP, 31/03/2015).

Deir-ez-Zor: Over 20–25 May, clashes continued between pro-government forces and IS. The Government also dropped barrel bombs over IS-held neighbourhoods in the city of Deir-ez-Zor, killing at least 16 civilians (ISW, 27/05/2015).

Homs: On 22 May, IS claimed to have seized Jazal oil field northwest of Palmyra (ISW, 27/05/2015). IS seized Palmyra on 21 May (BBC, 21/05/2015). IS continues to expand westward, and over 22–26 May seized Sawwanah, Khunayfis, and Buhairi (ISW, 27/05/2015). On 22 May, IS seized the last remaining border crossing under government

control, al Tanf (ISW, 22/05/2015). Government officials have stated that hundreds of troops are on their way to Palmyra to begin a counteroffensive against IS (ISW, 27/05/2015).

Idleb: On 28 May, the Jaysh al Fatah Operations Room seized control of the government stronghold Ariha, south of Idleb city (ISW, 28/05/2015). Jisr Al Shughur, another government stronghold, was seized by JAN on 25 April. JAN and Ahrar Al Sham, backed by other opposition groups, seized Idleb city on 29 March (ISW, 24/03/2015; AFP, 29/03/2015).

Rural Damascus: Maydaa buffers a crucial opposition supply line into the partly besieged Eastern Ghouta suburbs of Damascus (ISW, 04/05/2015). The Syrian Government targeted Maydaa on 3 May, but Jaysh al Islam regained control over 5–9 May (ISW, 12/05/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Some 12.2 million people are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance inside Syria, including 5.6 million children. The humanitarian situation appears most critical in the governorates of Aleppo, Ar-Raqqa, Rural Damascus, and Deir-ez-Zor (SNAP, 28/01/2015).

Parties to the conflict continue to target public infrastructure and facilities. Water cuts in Aleppo, rural Damascus, Deir-ez-Zor, Ar-Raqqa, and Idleb are frequent and deliberate (UNICEF, 15/02/2015). Syria experienced severe drought conditions in 2014, impacting the availability of drinkable water and the health status of the population, as well as reducing agricultural output and local food production.

The UN's response efforts are chronically underfunded: As of 30 March, 90% of the Strategic Response Plan for 2015 has not been funded (OCHA, 07/04/2015).

Access

4.8 million people are living in **137** hard-to-reach areas, including up to two million children (UNICEF, 12/2014; **UNFPA, 31/05/2015**).

There is a trend of tit-for-tat blocking of access between IS and its opponents, making IS-controlled areas hard to reach, particularly from northern Al Hasakeh, underlining the importance of cross-border access (OCHA, 16/01/2015). Similarly, stakeholders do not allow assistance to reach people perceived to be affiliated with opposing parties, for example in government-controlled areas of Lattakia, Hama, and Idleb. Siege tactics are used by all actors in the conflict.

83% of lights in Syria have gone out since the beginning of the conflict, indicating the impact on infrastructure and supplies (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, Islamic Relief, et al., 16/03/2015).

Security Incidents Involving Aid Workers

69 humanitarian workers have been killed in the conflict since March 2011. 27 UN staff (including 24 UNRWA staff) have been detained or are missing (UNSC 21/11/2014). Five

aid workers have been killed and three injured since the beginning of 2015 (Aid Worker Security Database, 20/04/2015).

Trapped and Hard-to-Reach Communities

440,000 civilians are besieged (OCHA, 21/04/2015). An estimated 228,000 civilians are under siege in Deir-ez-Zor (OCHA, 21/04/2015). 212,000 people remain besieged in Nubul and Al Zahra in rural Aleppo; Eastern Ghouta, Daryya, and Moadamiyah in Rural Damascus; the Old City in Homs; and Yarmouk camp in Damascus (UNSC 21/11/2014; UNICEF, 12/2014).

Armed clashes and restrictions imposed by armed groups are hampering assistance, particularly in Al Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqa, Deir-ez-Zor, and rural Hama (UNICEF, 30/04/2015).

Ar-Raqqa: IS has closed the Syrian Arab Red Crescent and several small local charities, and appropriated warehouses and equipment. Several INGOs continue to operate cross-border into Ar-Raqqa (OCHA, 30/01/2015).

Damascus: At 6 April, a significant percentage of the 18,000 civilians in Yarmouk camp were in the area controlled by armed groups, according to UNRWA. There are no operational hospitals or medical facilities for the civilian population trapped inside the camp (Save the Children, 07/04/2015; WHO, 10/04/2015). UNRWA has been unable to provide assistance to Yarmouk camp since early April (UNRWA, 17/05/2015).

Deir-ez-Zor: IS has cut off access to government-controlled areas of Deir-ez-Zor, leaving an estimated 228,000 civilians under siege since February: minimal relief supplies have been airlifted into the city (UNICEF, 30/04/2015).

Homs: As of 21 April, three inter-agency convoys have reached Homs governorate (Talbiseh, Al Wa'er and Ar-Rastan). Ar-Rastan was last reached in March 2014 (OCHA, 21/04/2015). Under partial siege since October 2013, over half of Al Waer's 350,000 residents are IDPs; most are living in substandard accommodation (WFP, 22/10/2014).

Idleb: As of 14 April, lack of access due to insecurity continues to significantly hamper tracking of population movement, safe registration of IDPs, identification of lifesaving needs and provision of humanitarian assistance (OCHA, 14/04/2015). 20,000 predominantly Shia in Foah and Kefraya towns in Idleb are cut off and surrounded (OCHA, 08/04/2015).

Border Restrictions

Border closures or tight restrictions by neighbouring countries are dissuading people in life-threatening situations from seeking refuge abroad. Humanitarians have voiced concern over the inconsistent application of regulations at border crossings. Palestinian refugees are particularly affected by closed borders and forced returns from neighbouring countries (UN 24/11/2014).

Turkey: Only Bab al Hawa and Bab al Salam border crossings are open as of 24 April (OCHA, 24/04/2015). Restrictions since 1 January 2015 mean that refugees crossing between Turkey and Syria can only spend three out of every six months in Turkey. Those

without a valid passport or travel document will be turned back (IRIN, 14/01/2015).

Displacement

IDPs

There are 7.6 million IDPs within Syria; 50% are children (OCHA 25/11/2014). There are 147 IDP camps in northern Syria, and 175,520 IDPs are sheltering in camp settlements (OCHA, 30/01/2015).

1,755,000 people are displaced in Aleppo; 1,388,000 in Rural Damascus; 918,000 in Idleb; 584,000 in Lattakia; 493,000 in Homs; 464,000 in Deir-ez-Zor; 453,000 in Hama; 437,000 in Damascus; 391,000 in Dar'a; 249,000 in Al-Hasakeh; 202,000 in Tartous; 168,000 in Ar-Raqqa; 73,000 in As-Sweida; and 57,000 in Quneitra (OCHA, 02/04/2015).

540,126 people were displaced in the first four months of 2015 (OCHA, 11/05/2015). This includes a number of people who have been displaced several times since the conflict broke out (UNICEF, 30/04/2015).

In Idleb, at least 133,831 people have reportedly been displaced by fighting since late March, including 35,000 to government-controlled areas (OCHA, 11/05/2015). JAN and allied forces' capture of Jisr al Shughur on 25 April displaced 40,000 people (OCHA, 11/05/2015). At least 11,000 people have fled Palmyra since IS's takeover on 21 May (UNHCR, 22/05/2015). Many civilians have reportedly not been allowed to flee to government-controlled areas (OCHA, 11/05/2015).

Refugees

Palestinian refugees in Syria: There are 560,000 Palestine refugees (OCHA, 21/04/2015). 470,000 Palestine refugees registered with UNRWA are in need of assistance (UNRWA, 21/04/2015). Over 50% have been displaced within Syria (UNRWA 28/10/2014).

Iraqi refugees: There are an estimated 29,000 Iraqi refugees in Syria (UNHCR 25/11/2014).

Syrian Refugees in Neighbouring Countries

3,980,623 Syrians are registered as refugees outside of Syria as of 31 May (UNHCR, 31/05/2015). Children make up 51.6% of the refugee population.

Turkey: 1,761,486 registered refugees (UNHCR, 26/05/2015). The Government suspended pre-registration in October to focus on the full biometrical registration process (UNHCR, 05/01/2014).

Lebanon: 1,183,327 refugees (UNHCR 07/05/2015). Lebanon's borders have been closed to Syrian refugees since 24 October. Since January, Syrians wanting to enter Lebanon must apply for a visa (BBC, 05/01/2015).

Jordan: 628,160 refugees (UNHCR 28/05/2015).

Egypt: 134,329 refugees (UNHCR 06/05/2015).

Iraq: 249,266 refugees (UNHCR 31/05/2015).

PRS: 42,000 have been recorded with UNRWA in Lebanon, 14,348 in Jordan (UNRWA, 02/03/2015) and 860 in Gaza. Around 4,000 are reportedly in Egypt (UNRWA 28/10/2014).

Returnees

Almost 30,000 IDPs returned to their areas of origin (mostly in Dar'a) in March (OCHA, 21/04/2015). Reportedly, around 70,000 people have returned to Kobane (IRIN, 07/05/2015).

Food Security

9.8 million people require food, agriculture and livelihoods-related assistance, according to the Food Security and Livelihoods sector analysis. Of these, around 6.8 million people live in high priority districts and need critical food assistance (WFP, 26/03/2015). IDPs outside formal camps are most susceptible to food shortages (MSNA, 10/2014).

Food dispatches continue to be hindered by worsening security, particularly in the northeast and south (WFP 25/11/2014).

Agriculture and Markets

According to FAO estimates, Syria's overall cereal production in 2014 was approximately 25% below total 2013 production (FAO, 05/03/2015). Drought and conflict have both impacted production.

Since August 2014, the price of 1kg of rice has increased by 26%. Between August 2014 and February 2015, the price of diesel rose by 92% (WFP, 28/02/2015). **Since 2011, the average monthly prices of wheat flour and rice registered increases of 260% and 434%, respectively. In besieged areas, wheat flour and rice have risen by 669% and 560% respectively over the same time period. Subsidised bread prices have risen by 154%, and commercial prices by 192% (WFP, 04/2015).**

Livelihoods

Unemployment is at 54% (3.39 million people) (Syrian Centre for Policy Research/UNDP, 19/10/2014). Gross domestic product has contracted by more than 40%, and exports have fallen by 90%. Oil production has dropped by 96% (World Bank/IMF/AFP, 02/12/2014). **Official diesel prices increased by 117% between April 2014 and April 2015 (WFP, 04/2015).**

Health and Nutrition

Over 2.4 million people are in need of health assistance, with highest numbers reported from Ar-Raqqa (627,600), Aleppo (475,270), and Al Hasakeh (356,200).

Diarrhoea is one of the main causes of death for children under 12 months old (IFRC, 24/07/2014). Tuberculosis, typhoid, hepatitis A and scabies have become endemic in northern Syria (AFP, 28/11/2014).

Capacity

The number of available health professionals has fallen to approximately 45% of 2011 levels and there are severe shortages of surgeons, anaesthesiologists, laboratory professionals, and female health professionals (WHO, 27/03/2015). Local production of medicines has been reduced by 70% and many lifesaving treatments are not available (WHO, 27/03/2015). Hospitals are unable to cope with the demand for surgery, due partly to the increase in the number of injured – averaging 25,000 each month (PHR, 10/2014). Since the start of the conflict, some 200,000 Syrians have died from chronic illnesses due to lack of access to treatment and medicines.

Only 43% of hospitals are fully functioning (UNICEF, 29/01/2015). 711 of 1,921 primary health centres are out of service (Syrian Ministry of Health/UNFPA, 11/2014). Aleppo, Rural Damascus, Homs, Dar'a, and Deir-er-Zor have the highest number of non-functional public hospitals. As of end February, only four public hospitals remained operational in Aleppo governorate, and only 132 primary health care centres (WHO, 22/02/2015). Al Sakhour hospital in Aleppo suspended all activities after being bombed on two consecutive days at end April (MSF, 04/05/2015).

In Ar-Raqqa, no obstetric, gynaecological, or paediatric services are reportedly available for the 1.6 million people living there (PHR, 27/02/2015). Little to no mental health services are available (PHR, 27/02/2015).

In Idleb governorate, all three Ministry of Health-run hospitals are either non-functional or inaccessible. All pharmaceutical warehouses have been destroyed (OCHA, 14/04/2015). Ishan hospital in Saraqab was damaged in an airstrike on 18 April, rendering it non-functional (OCHA, 22/04/2015).

Attacks on Health Workers and Facilities

Since 2011, Physicians for Human Rights has recorded the killing of 615 medical personnel and 242 attacks on 187 medical facilities. Government were found to be responsible for 88% of attacks on medical facilities – including 36 attacks with barrel bombs – and 97% of medical personnel deaths – including 141 deaths by torture and execution (PHR, 17/04/2015).

Hepatitis A

Some 31,400 cases of hepatitis A were reported in 2014. Since January 2015, 1,000 cases have been recorded per month (UNHCR, 10/05/2015). Hepatitis A is linked with lack of safe water and poor sanitation.

Maternal Health

Three million women and girls of reproductive age are in need of assistance in Syria, including around 432,000 pregnant women. 26 of 41 basic emergency obstetric care centres are reported as non-functional (Syrian Ministry of Health/UNFPA, 30/11/2014).

Mental Health

More than 350,000 individuals in Syria are estimated to suffer from severe forms of mental illness; over two million people suffer from mild to moderate problems such as anxiety and depression disorders, and a large percentage suffer from moderate to severe psychological/social distress (WHO/UNHCR, 19/10/2014).

Nutrition

In areas with high IDP concentration, 2.3% SAM – above the 2% crisis threshold – and 7.2% GAM rate has been reported (UNICEF, 21/10/2014). It is estimated that four million women and children are in need of preventative and curative nutrition assistance (UNICEF, 15/02/2015).

WASH

4.6 million people are in need of WASH assistance. Six out of ten governorates report major problems in the WASH sector.

The availability of safe water is at a third of pre-crisis levels (WHO, 27/03/2015). The reliability of urban piped water is severely reduced and the quality of drinking water cannot be guaranteed due to a lack of testing facilities. Fuel shortages also affect water supply (UNICEF, 15/02/2015). One-third of water treatment plants no longer function, and sewage treatment has halved (PHR, 10/2014; WHO/UNICEF, 22/07/2014).

Shelter and NFIs

1.6 million people are in need of shelter assistance (MSNA, 30/10/2014). 1.2 million houses have been damaged, 400,000 of which have been totally destroyed (UNHCR, 30/10/2014). Only IDPs in government-controlled areas receive shelter response, through collective shelter rehabilitation and private shelter upgrade (UNHCR, 20/11/2014).

Dar'a, Lattakia, and Quneitra have acute needs, followed very closely by Hama, Ar-Raqqa, Aleppo, Al Hasakeh and Rural Damascus. 40% of people identified in need of shelter are located in Aleppo governorate, as are 34% of people identified in need of NFI assistance (MSNA, 30/10/2014). Satellite imagery analysis indicated that fighting in Kobane affected 3,250 structures, destroying 1,200 (UNOSAT, 06/03/2015).

2.7 million people are in need of NFI assistance. The dispatch of non-food items (NFIs) has fallen significantly since April 2014 (MSNA, 30/10/2014).

Education

The estimated number of children enrolled in basic education increased from 2.9 million in the 2012/13 academic year to 3.6 million in 2014/15. Likewise, the gross enrolment ratio in basic education rose from 66% in 2012/13 to 79% in 2013/14 (UNICEF, 15/02/2015).

In areas of prolonged active conflict, education enrolment is estimated to be around 6% (Save the Children, 23/03/2015). The primary reason for student drop-out is the need to work to support the family. Continued conflict and the recent closure of some schools in Ar-Raqqa and Deir-ez-Zor governorates and parts of rural Aleppo in Syria are believed to have disrupted education for 670,000 school-aged children (Syrian Interim

Government/OCHA, 07/11/2014). Around 90% of schools in Idlib city have stopped functioning due to violent conflict (OCHA, 14/04/2015).

4,000 Syrian schools have been destroyed, damaged, or used to house IDPs. 76 UNRWA schools – more than two-thirds – have become unusable.

Protection

Non-state armed groups continue to commit violations, including summary executions. Ethnic and religious communities in IS-occupied areas have been targeted directly (UN Human Rights Council 11/2014). Human and organ trafficking are reported (UNHCR 20/11/2014).

Children

Non-state armed groups and the Government's Popular Committees are increasingly recruiting children: over 120 cases – more than half by the Free Syrian Army – were documented between 1 January and 19 August 2014, including girls, and some as young as eight (UNSC, 08/2014).

In 2015 alone, IS has trained over 400 children as fighters (AFP, 24/03/2015). In Ar-Raqqa, IS is using education to foster a new generation of recruits (UN Human Rights Council, 14/11/2014).

Chemical Weapons

There have been allegations of chlorine attacks. On 8 May, at least three chlorine-filled barrel bomb attacks were reported in Idlib: on a hospital near the town of Kansafra, and on the towns of Al Janudiya and Kafr Beteekh (Syrian American Medical Society Foundation, 08/05/2015). **Human Rights Watch also reported two chemical attacks in the towns of Neirab and Saraqib on 2 May, and in the village of Kafr Batikh on 7 May. The attacks killed two people and affected 127 (HRW, 03/06/2015).** In March 2015, a chlorine gas attack in Idlib governorate, reportedly carried out by government forces, killed six and poisoned over 70 people (MSF, 18/03/2015). A chlorine gas attack was reported on the town of Kafr Zeta on 28 August (OPCW, 09/2014).

In May 2015, OPCW inspectors reported having found traces of VX and sarin nerve agents at an undeclared site (AFP, 08/05/2015).

Mines and ERW

Large quantities of unexploded ordnance and many booby-trapped houses in the Eastern sector of Kobane city and the surrounding countryside are preventing return (OCHA, 17/02/2015). Since late January, there have been 45 explosions and 66 people killed, the vast majority of them civilians, according to a demining NGO (IRIN, 07/05/2015).

In 2013, there were 2,403 civilian casualties from landmines, victim-activated improvised explosive devices (IEDs), cluster munition remnants, and other explosive remnants of war (International Campaign to Ban Landmines/Cluster Munition Coalition, 19/11/2014).

Abduction and Detention

200,000 people are estimated to be in government detention, including 20,000 detainees who are unaccounted for (SOHR/HRW, 02/12/2014). 13,000 people have died in Government detention since March 2011, including more than 100 children, reportedly from torture (SOHR, 13/03/2015).

Some 7,000 government troops held by opposition forces are unaccounted for (SOHR, 07/2014). Another 1,500 IS, other opposition, and Kurdish fighters have been kidnapped during battles in the first half of 2014 (AFP, 07/2014).

Over May, 84 people were reported to have died from torture in official and unofficial detention centres, with Government forces responsible for 82 cases (Syrian Network for Human Rights, 03/06/2015).

According to SOHR, IS has killed 217 people, including 67 civilians, in and around Palmyra since 16 May, and is holding 600 people captive (SOHR, 25/05/2015).

IS are holding at least 50 civilians hostage after a raid on Mabujeh village, Hama governorate, at end March (AFP, 10/04/2015). On 24 February, IS abducted between 220 and 300 Assyrian Christians from Tal Tamr, Al Hasakeh governorate. By 2 March, 21 had been released (Al Jazeera, 02/03/2015).

Sexual and Gender-based Violence

IS has sought to exclude Syrian women and girls from public life. Forced marriage of girls to IS fighters and the selling of abducted girls into sexual slavery have been reported (UN Human Rights Council, 14/11/2014).

Media

Journalists and other media workers are systematically targeted. **Over May, ten media activists were reported killed, three kidnapped and 12 injured (Syrian Network for Human Rights, 02/06/2015).**

Updated: 08/06/2015

YEMEN COMPLEX, CONFLICT, FOOD INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

6 June: UN-led peace talks, attended by both Government and Houthi representatives, are set to begin on 14 June in Geneva (AFP, 08/06/2015).

6 June: Houthis fired a Scud missile at Saudi Arabia, which Saudi Arabia claims to have shot down. This is the first reported use of ballistic missiles in the conflict

(Reuters, 06/06/2015). Houthis also attacked the border locations of Jazan and Najran (AFP).

5 June: At least 20 million people lack access to clean water. Since the escalation of the crisis, 9.4 million people have lost access to safe water due to fuel shortages (OCHA).

3 June: 12.5 million people are food insecure, two million people more than prior to the escalation of the crisis (OCHA, 03/06/2015). As of 5 June, at least six million people are estimated to be severely food insecure (OCHA, 05/06/2015).

3 June: More than 15 million people lack access to healthcare, 40% more than in March (OCHA, 03/06/2015).

3 June: Since 26 March, an estimated 1,019,800 people had been internally displaced by the end May, nearly double the number of IDPs in early May (OCHA).

KEY CONCERNS

- 20 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance (UN, 08/06/2015).
- 12.5 million people are food insecure, two million people more than prior to the escalation of the crisis (OCHA, 03/06/2015). As of 5 June, at least six million people are estimated to be severely food insecure (OCHA, 05/06/2015).
- More than 15 million people lack access to healthcare, 40% more than in March 2015 (OCHA, 03/06/2015).
- One million children under five are acutely malnourished; 280,000 are severely malnourished (OCHA, UNICEF 06/2014).
- At least 20 million people lack access to clean water. Since the escalation of the crisis, 9.4 million people have lost access to safe water due to fuel shortages (OCHA). Open defecation remains the practice for more than 20% of the population (UNICEF 2014).
- Since 26 March, an estimated 1,019,762 people had been internally displaced by end May, nearly double the number of IDPs in early May (OCHA, 03/06/2015).
- Extreme access constraints prevail in Hadramaut, Shabwah, and Marib governorates. The governorates with the highest severity of needs are Aden, Abyan, Amanat Al Asimah, Al Jawf, Sa'ada, Hajjah (OCHA, 22/12/2014).

OVERVIEW

The highest priority humanitarian needs include protection, food and nutrition

assistance, access to healthcare, shelter – primarily for conflict-affected people, and provision of water and sanitation.

Yemen's political transition has turned into armed conflict between Houthis from the north and the Government. Southern secessionists, Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) activity throughout the country, and recent Islamic State attacks compound the security and political challenges.

Political Context

Instability and violence continue across the country. In February 2015, the Shia Houthis dissolved Parliament and replaced the Government with a presidential council they claimed will fill the presidential vacuum for two years. The move was condemned as a coup by other parties and Yemen's neighbours.

President Hadi fled to Aden and called for troop mobilisation in the south (AFP, 21/02/2015). After almost two months of house arrest members of the cabinet were released in March (NYT, 16/03/2015).

Having fled to Saudi Arabia, on 12 April President Hadi appointed for Prime Minister Khaled Bahah to Vice President, a move apparently aimed at improving the chances of a peaceful settlement (Reuters, 12/04/2015).

UN-led peace talks, attended by both Government and Houthi representatives, are set to begin on 14 June in Geneva. President Hadi and Prime Minister Bahah stressed the talks were merely consultative, with Hadi maintaining the sole discussion point would be the Houthis' withdrawal from territory they seized (AFP, 08/06/2015). Houthis have stated they will not accept conditions from other parties (AFP, 06/06/2015). On 6 June, a Houthi delegation went to Russia for talks on the situation in Yemen (Reuters, 06/06/2015).

Economic Crisis

Oil production represents over 70% of total government revenue. Production was suspended in the major oil-producing governorates of Shabwah and Hadramaut in January, and is likely to be disrupted in Marib (FEWSNET, 18/02/2015). Oil revenues had already declined almost 30% between January 2013 and January 2014 (Yemen Central Bank, 02/2014).

Security Context

Conflict has escalated significantly since 23 March, affecting 20 of Yemen's 22 governorates (IOM, 22/05/2015). **As of 3 June, there have been 2,288 registered deaths from conflict and 9,755 injuries since March (OCHA, 03/06/2015).** Half of those killed were civilians. These numbers are expected to be much higher, due to underreporting (OCHA, 25/05/2015).

Fighting is ongoing in Marib, Taizz, Al Dhalee, al Jawf, Al Bayda, Aden, Lahj and Abyan governorates. Street fighting persists in Abyan, Al Dhalee, Aden, and Lahj, between groups supporting members of the popular committees affiliated with the Houthis and local armed

groups (AFP, 17/05/2015).

Violence escalated again on 25 May, following indefinite postponement of peace talks (AFP, 25/05/2015). On 29 May, violence further increased in Aden, Lahj, Taizz, and Al Dhalee governorates (OCHA, 29/05/2015).

On 6 June, Houthis fired a Scud missile at Saudi Arabia, which Saudi Arabia claims to have shot down. This is the first reported use of ballistic missiles in the conflict (Reuters, 06/06/2015). Houthis also attacked the border locations of Jazan and Najran (AfP, 06/06/2015).

Stakeholders

Pro-Hadi Forces

Hundreds of young men have been recruited since Hadi called for 20,000 new troops from the south (Yemen Times, 16/03/2015). On 19 April, 15,000 troops in Hadramaut province, on the border with Saudi Arabia, pledged allegiance to President Hadi. Ten divisions back Hadi (Al Arabiya, 19/04/2015).

Houthis

The Houthis, also referred to as Ansarullah, are based in Sa'ada governorate. Houthis control Sa'ada, Hajjah, Al Hudaydah, Al Mahwit, Amran, Sanaa, Al Jawf, Dhamar, and Ibb governorates. They occupied much of the capital in September 2014. The Houthis have taken up arms before, citing political, economic, and religious marginalisation (Al Jazeera, 16/11/2009). Certain factions in the deeply divided Yemeni army have allied themselves with the Houthis against President Hadi, including members of the former central security force, a unit seen as loyal to ousted president Ali Abdullah Saleh (Reuters, 12/03/2015; ABC, 23/03/2015).

Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) and Ansar al Sharia

AQAP, based in the south and east of the country, and backed by Sunni tribesmen, has fought to halt the Houthis' advance (AFP, 20/10/2014). AQAP has expanded its presence in Hadramaut, and according to analysts, the Houthi advance has bolstered support for AQAP and Ansar al Sharia (Reuters, 09/11/2014). According to the national security service, there are around 1,000 Al Qaeda militants in Yemen from 11 Arab and non-Arab countries (AFP, 17/01/2015).

Yemeni authorities blame AQAP for a campaign of targeted killings in which up to 350 senior army officers have died in the past three years (Reuters, 04/01/2014).

International Involvement

Saudi Arabia firmly backs President Hadi. UAE, Bahrain, Kuwait and Qatar are providing some of the 100 fighter jets (Washington Post 26/03/2015). Egypt, Jordan, and Sudan have said their forces are involved in the operation, with Sudan pledging ground troops as well as warplanes (Reuters 27/03/2015). The US Government stated it had authorised the provision of logistical and intelligence support to the Saudi Arabian coalition's military

intervention (Amnesty 26/03/2015).

Saudi Arabia has mobilised 150,000 troops (NBC 26/03/2015; IRIN 26/03/2015). Although on 3 May, Saudi Arabia stated there were no non-Yemeni forces fighting in Yemen. It said it was retraining Yemeni troops, after 40–50 soldiers arrived in Aden (Reuters, 03/05/2015). On 4 May, approximately 120 soldiers of Yemeni descent arrived in Aden from UAE (Stratfor, 04/05/2015). Senegal will send 2,100 troops to Saudi Arabia for the Saudi-led ground invasion (Washington Post, 05/05/2015).

Iran has been accused of backing Houthi militants financially and materially, a claim the Iranian Government denies (Amnesty 26/03/2015). Iran temporarily deployed a warship near Yemen, but also presented a peace plan to the UN calling for a ceasefire and the formation of a unity government (Huffington Post, 08/04/2015; AFP, 25/04/2015).

Security Incidents and Conflict Developments

Cluster munitions have been used by the Saudi-led coalition in air strikes on Sa'ada governorate (Human Rights Watch, 03/05/2015). According to the coalition, over 2,000 air strikes have been carried out since the start of the campaign (AFP, 20/04/2015). Clashes and airstrikes have continued.

Sanaa: As of 7 June, airstrikes continue (AFP, 08/06/2015). On 22 May, IS claimed responsibility for a bomb outside a Shi'ite mosque, which wounded 13 (BBC, 22/05/2015). Airstrikes have damaged the runways of Sanaa airport (WFP, 29/04/2015). On 20 April, a Saudi airstrike on a missile depot killed 46 people, injured at least 300 more, and destroyed a large number of houses, according to officials (Los Angeles Times, 20/04/2015). On 20 March, three suicide attacks on mosques in Sanaa, targeting Shi'ite worshippers, killed 142 people and wounded at least 351. Islamic State claimed responsibility (AFP, 21/03/2015).

Aden: Intense fighting continues in several areas, in particular near the airport (Reuters, 29/05/2015). The Saudi-led coalition has resumed airstrikes (AFP, 17/05/2015). There are reports of indiscriminate shelling of houses (OCHA, 04/05/2015). On 19 April, forces loyal to Hadi regained control of part of the coastline that had been held by Houthi forces and Saleh loyalists (Al Jazeera, 19/04/2015).

Al Bayda: Even before the recent escalation of the conflict, fighting between Houthis and AQAP and affiliated tribes was ongoing. Clashes have involved attacks on schools and hospitals used by the warring parties (AFP, 17/10/2014; 20/10/2014; 08/11/2014).

Al Dahlee: Clashes continued during the humanitarian pause (UNICEF, 19/05/2015).

Al Hudaydah: On 27 May, Hudaydah port was reportedly attacked by both planes and ships (Reuters, 27/05/2015). Multiple airstrikes have reportedly hit Hudaydah airport and the surrounding area (OCHA, 04/05/2015).

Al Jawf: Airstrikes and clashes continue (OCHA, 23/05/2015).

Abyan: Clashes were reported on 25 May (AFP, 25/05/2015).

Hajjah: Clashes continue between Houthi and pro-government forces. On 27 May, at least

40 people were killed in airstrikes (Reuters, 27/05/2015).

Ibb: On 1 June, coalition airstrikes hit several positions in Ibb governorate (AFP, 01/06/2015).

Lahj: Lahj governorate was seized by Houthi militants on 25 March (Washington Post, 26/03/2015).

Marib: On 21 May, clashes between tribesman and loyalists were reported in Sarwah district (OCHA, 22/05/2015). On 22 May, multiple airstrikes were reported (International Medical Corps, 22/05/2015). Sunni tribes, pro-Hadi security forces and Houthis are fighting, despite a ceasefire agreed in the Qania area on 25 March (Huffington Post, 12/04/2015; Yemen Times, 25/03/2015).

Sa'ada: As of 1 June, airstrikes and clashes continue (AFP, 01/06/2015). Sa'ada city has been experiencing indiscriminate aerial bombardment. Civilian infrastructure, including the post office, bank, main market area and phone network have been hit, and civilians have fled the city (OCHA).

Taizz: Violence escalated again on 24 May with increased airstrikes, shelling, and clashes (OCHA 25/05/2015). Clashes between Houthi and pro-Hadi forces continued during the humanitarian ceasefire (17/05/2015). Houthi forces seized part of Taizz city and its military airbase on 23 March (BBC, 22/03/2015; ABC, 23/03/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

An estimated 20 million people, close to 80% of the population, are in need of humanitarian aid (UN, 08/06/2015). Children under 18 years old represent 50% of people in need (OCHA, 05/03/2015).

Access

An estimated 490,000 people in Sa'ada cannot be reached by humanitarian assistance, most of whom have limited or no access to medical services, clean water, food, and communication (OCHA, 22/05/2015). Other northern governorates such as Hajjah and Amran also have limited access (OCHA, 29/05/2015). Humanitarian access to Aden, Lahj, and Taizz is intermittent as front lines shift (OCHA, 29/05/2015). Due to access constraints in Abyan, no humanitarian aid can be transported from Aden to Abyan. In Al Dhalee, an estimated 9,000 households have been left with no assistance to date (OCHA, 19/04/2015).

Many aid agencies have suspended their activities and evacuated their staff (IRIN, 27/03/2015). It is extremely difficult to move within the country to evaluate needs and provide assistance (MSF, 01/04/2015).

The arms embargo on the Houthis has also impacted the supply of humanitarian relief (AFP, 02/05/2015).

Since violence escalated, three volunteers with the Yemen Red Crescent have been killed (OCHA, 07/04/2015).

Roads connecting Sanaa to Aden, Taizz, Al Dhalee, and Lahj are becoming gradually inaccessible (WFP, 27/04/2015).

The closure of airspace over Yemen is severely restricting air operations, as are other limitations in neighbouring airspace zones. Sanaa and Taizz airports are operational, but have limited capacity. All other airports in areas with high need are closed (OCHA, 29/05/2015).

The Yemeni government-in-exile has formally banned ships, including those carrying fuel and food, from entering the country's waters without prior inspection (IRIN, 17/04/2015). As of 30 April, Hudaydah port, Aden oil port, Saleef port, Mokha port and Mukalla port are operating, whereas Balhaf port, Malla container port, and Ras Isa port are closed (Logistics Cluster, 30/04/2015).

The fuel shortage is creating severe challenges for the transportation of food, water, and medical supplies, in addition to the operation of water pumps and generators (ECHO, 14/05/2015). Fuel prices have increased by an average of 344% across the country since the conflict escalated (OCHA, 22/05/2015).

On average, Yemenis have less than one hour of electricity per day, due to fuel shortages (OCHA, 05/06/2015). The Marib central electricity network has been damaged, causing total disruption of the electricity supply to the city of Sanaa and most governorates (WHO, 13/04/2015; 27/04/2015).

Telephone networks continue to be subject to extended cuts or outages (UNICEF, 19/05/2015). Phone networks and internet have been disconnected in Al Dhalee (OCHA, 13/04/2015). In Marib, the telecommunications network has been brought down (ECHO, 20/04/2015).

Water processing plants in Sanaa city have closed (Logistics Cluster, 30/04/2015).

At least 64 public buildings have been either partially or completely destroyed by fighting (IRIN, 24/04/2015). Reports have also been received of damage to local markets, power stations, and WASH infrastructure in Aden, Hajjah and Sa'ada (OCHA, 17/04/2015).

Displacement

Several waves of conflict, lack of access, and the fluidity of displacement all make it extremely difficult to estimate new displacements and needs.

IDPs

Since 26 March, an estimated 1,019,762 people had been internally displaced by end May, nearly double the number of IDPs in early May (OCHA, 03/06/2015). This includes 249,529 people in Hajjah, 212,317 in Al Dhalee, 72,716 in Ibb, 62,588 in Amran, 51,774 in Abyan, 47,705 in Al Hudaydah, 42,484 in Taizz, 36,813 in Raymah, 35,439 in Lahj, 35,179 in Hadramaut, 34,734 in Dhamar, 31,500 in Aden, 29,150 in Al Mahwit, 23,854 in Shabwah, 19,434 in Al Jawf, 15,984 in Saada, 8,742 in Marib, 7,910

in Sana'a, 1,820 in Al Bayda and 110 Al Maharah (OCHA, 31/05/2015).

Refugees and Migrants

Around 800,000 refugees, asylum seekers, and migrants require humanitarian assistance. There are 257,645 registered refugees: most are Somalis (236,803); 5,934 are Ethiopians (Mixed Migration Secretariat, 28/02/2015).

In 2014, nearly 91,600 refugees, asylum seekers, and migrants arrived in Yemen, a 40% increase compared to 2013, according to IOM. They have reported abduction, torture, physical assault, and rape as common forms of abuse (Mixed Migration Secretariat, 28/02/2015).

Somali refugees are living in precarious conditions either in the only refugee camp, Kharaz, or in urban areas. One million undocumented Ethiopian migrants also live in Yemen (ECHO, 27/08/2014; UNHCR, 12/2014, ECHO, 09/02/2015).

At least 2,000 Syrian refugees have been registered in Yemen since August 2014. The total number of Syrians in Yemen is estimated to be more than 10,000 (OCHA, 05/11/2014).

Yemeni Refugees and Migrants in Other Countries

Since end March, Yemeni refugees have been garriving in Djibouti and in Somalia, in a reversal of migration dynamics (ECHO, 05/04/2015). As of 22 May, 28,712 Yemenis have left Yemen for the Horn of Africa or Gulf countries (OCHA, 22/05/2015). **As of 4 June, 16,801 have arrived in Djibouti and 12,444 in Somalia** (IOM, 04/06/2015).

Yemeni migrants in Saudi Arabia will be given reprieve, with eligible Yemenis being allowed to work and six-month visa renewals available (AFP, 04/05/2015).

Food Security

12.5 million people are food insecure, two million people more than prior to the escalation of the crisis (OCHA, 03/06/2015). As of 5 June, at least six million people are estimated to be severely food insecure (OCHA, 05/06/2015), one million more than prior to the escalation of the conflict (WFP, 31/12/2014). Most areas of Yemen are expected to remain in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) through June 2015, with increased needs for humanitarian assistance as the lean season and political crisis continue (FEWSNET, 03/2015). If conflict and market disruption continue, and humanitarian access remains limited, the worst affected areas of Yemen could fall into Emergency (IPC Phase 4) in the coming months (FEWSNET, 20/05/2015).

In Abyan, Al Dhalee, Aden, Lahj, Sa'ada and Shabwah, little or no food is generally available. In other governorates, food items are only sporadically available (OCHA, 29/05/2015). Severe food concerns for IDPs in Amran governorate have been reported. IDPs have relied on food offered by local communities, however resources are scarce and diminishing (OCHA, 23/05/2015). Food security among IDPs in Al Jawf, Marib, Al Bayda, and Shabwah governorates is a major concern, due to decreased resources of host families and limited food availability in general (OCHA, 23/05/2015).

Most key household income sources are likely to be affected by the conflict, including formal salaries, agricultural wage labour, petty trade, and livestock sales (FEWSNET, 20/05/2015). Yemen ordinarily imports 90% of its food, however imports of staple foods, such as cereals, have almost completely ceased since the escalation of conflict (OCHA, 29/05/2015).

Agriculture and Markets

Acute fuel shortages provoked by the conflict have affected food prices (WFP, 10/04/2015). Food prices have increased by an average of 31% since the start of the crisis (OCHA, 29/05/2015).

They are likely to increase further in the coming months, and household purchasing power will probably fall. This is likely to decrease the quantity and quality of food consumed, as almost all poor households rely heavily on market purchases (FEWSNET, 03/2015).

In many areas, wheat flour is only available on the black market (WFP, 22/05/2015).

95% of local supermarkets are reportedly closed, affecting in particular people in urban settings (OCHA, 22/05/2015).

Health and Nutrition

More than 15 million people lack access to healthcare, 40% more than in March (OCHA, 03/06/2015). The country's health system is at imminent risk of collapse due to shortages of medical supplies and fuel for generators. At least 153 health facilities have been closed since March (OCHA, 22/05/2015). Aden's main hospital Al Jumhouria has been out of service for several weeks, and Basaheeb Military Hospital is reportedly no longer operating (UNICEF, 12/05/2015). Mobile health teams in Amran, Al Baydah, Al Hudaydah, Al Jawf and Sa'ada governorates are unable to operate (OCHA, 22/05/2015).

Ambulances are also reported to be out of service (WHO, 12/05/2015). Fuel shortages are jeopardising the in-country vaccine stock, worth nearly USD 10 million (WHO, 18/04/2015). Health staff are increasingly unable to report to work. The only oxygen generating plant in Yemen has ceased to function due to lack of fuel (OCHA, 19/04/2015). Non-Yemenis make up at least 25% of health workers and their evacuation has added to shortages (WHO, 27/04/2015).

Eleven health facilities, including six hospitals, and medical personnel have come under attack since March. Four health professionals have been killed and six injured as of 29 May (OCHA, 29/05/2015). There are also reports of ambulances being commandeered by militias (OCHA, 29/05/2015).

Prior to the escalation of the crisis, qualified medical staff were already in short supply, as was medical equipment.

Cases of bloody diarrhoea, measles, and suspected malaria and dengue fever have increased (OCHA, 29/05/2015). **In Aden governorate, doctors are reporting increasing cases of dengue fever and malaria, as well as an increase in acute watery diarrhoea due to poor sanitation and limited access to safe water (WHO, 03/06/2015).**

According to WHO, 200,000 women require urgent health assistance, including an estimated 27,200 pregnant women (WHO, 18/04/2015; 19/04/2015).

Nutrition

The number of acutely malnourished children under the age of five has fallen from an estimated one million at the end of 2013 to just over 840,000 in 2014, according to the Nutrition Cluster. In the same period, the number of severely acutely malnourished children declined from 279,000 to about 170,000 (Comprehensive Food Security Survey, 11/2014).

In early February, 61 out of 333 districts in Yemen were reported to have critical levels of GAM (over 15%) and another 105 serious levels (10–14.9% GAM) (OCHA, 14/02/2015). National GAM had slightly improved: 12.7% of under five children are malnourished compared to 13% in 2011 (OCHA, 31/08/2014; FEWSNET, 16/09/2014). The Comprehensive Food Security Survey shows that GAM had improved considerably in Al Hudaydah, Aden, Lahj, Marib, Al Dhalee, Hadramaut and Al Bayda; but severely deteriorated in Taizz, Ibb, Dhamar and Al Maharah, due to various factors including poor water and sanitation conditions, poor food consumption habits, and scarce health facilities.

WASH

At least 20 million people lack access to clean water. Since the escalation of the crisis, 9.4 million people have lost access to safe water due to fuel shortages (OCHA, 05/06/2015). Millions of people are receiving less than an hour of uninterrupted water supply per day. Prior to the escalation of the crisis, 12.1 million were without access to improved sanitation, and 4.4 million lacked access to adequate sanitation (OCHA, 28/02/2015).

The lack of power combined with damaged water pumps in the south have forced people to resort to water collection from unprotected and abandoned wells. Cases of waterborne diseases, with unverified reports of acute diarrhoea resulting in a number of child deaths in Mualla, Aden governorate (UNICEF, 22/04/2015). Water trucks do not have fuel to make deliveries (OCHA, 22/05/2015). The price of water has also increased significantly (OCHA, 22/05/2015).

Lack of drinking water and adequate sanitation facilities have been reported in facilities hosting IDPs in Al Jawf and Marib governorates (OCHA, 23/05/2015).

Shelter

An inter-agency assessment in Hajjah found that shelter was one of the three greatest needs (UNHCR, 17/04/2015).

The majority of IDPs are hosted by relatives. Some families are reportedly hosting up to six or seven displaced (IOM, 22/05/2015). In southern Yemen, IDPs are staying in schools or health facilities. In Abyan, displaced families have been reported in open spaces or makeshift shelters (IOM, 22/05/2015).

In Sana'a, displaced people in Amanat Al Asimah area staying with host families are

crowded, without adequate WASH facilities (OCHA, 22/05/2015). In Amran, many IDPs are reported to be living in the open; fear of airstrikes is preventing them taking shelter in public buildings (OCHA, 10/05/2015).

IDPs in Al Jawf and Marib governorates are primarily staying with host families or in abandoned facilities, including schools. Overcrowding and lack of food and adequate WASH facilities have been reported (OCHA, 23/05/2015).

In Hajjah, Al Hudaydah and Abyan governorates, around 3,500 families are living in open spaces or in tents and other improvised shelters. Many lost all their belongings. Shelter is a major problem in Lahj and many families have now moved into schools and health facilities where they feel safer. These families lived in mud houses that are now destroyed by the conflict (OCHA, 19/04/2015).

Education

3,584 schools remain closed due to conflict, affecting 1.83 million children (OCHA, 22/05/2015). According to unconfirmed reports, 332 schools have been directly affected by conflict. Of these, 86 have been damaged by airstrikes or clashes and 246 are hosting IDPs or have been occupied by armed groups (OCHA, 22/05/2015).

No schools are operating in Sana'a city, Sa'ada, Hajjah, Al Hudaydah, Mahwit, Aden, Al Bayda or Marib governorates. In Taizz governorate, more than 160,000 children are unable to attend school due to conflict (OCHA, 29/05/2015). 87% of schools in the five southern governorates are closed (UN, 08/06/2015).

Prior to the conflict, an estimated 2.5 million children were not in school (OCHA, 04/2014). 69% of the estimated 1.14 million 6–14 year-olds not in school are girls (UNICEF cited in Yemen Times, 04/11/2014).

Protection

In Aden, militants were using tanks to fire at residential buildings in Al Ahmadi as well as Crater and Mualla districts (OCHA, 23/04/2015).

Protesters against the Houthi takeover have been illegally detained and tortured, according to several reports. One protester was reported dead on 14 February, after sustaining severe injuries while being detained by Houthi militias (AFP, 14/02/2015; Amnesty, 16/02/2015).

Over January, 1,490 migrants and refugees arriving in Yemen were reportedly abducted. 234 were women. A further 243 migrants and refugees reported being physically assaulted and 63 reported robbery or extortion (RMMS, 31/01/2015).

Due to their marginalisation, the Mumasheen minority has higher humanitarian needs than the average population (UNICEF, 20/02/2015).

Children

Up to 30% of fighters in armed groups are children. In December, the UN estimated that in 2015, an estimated 3.9 million children are living in areas where violations of their rights

constitute a serious risk. Of these, an estimated 2.6 million are in need of child protection services (OCHA, 22/12/2014).

Houthis, Ansar al Sharia, AQAP and state forces are all recruiting children (Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict, 01/10/2014). Armed children guard checkpoints throughout Sa'ada, Ibb, Hudaydah, and Amran (UNICEF, 31/12/2014; 20/01/2015).

SGBV

About 100,000 women are predicted to require support related to gender-based violence in 2015. GBV in Yemen remains critically under-reported (OCHA, 22/12/2014).

Mines and ERW

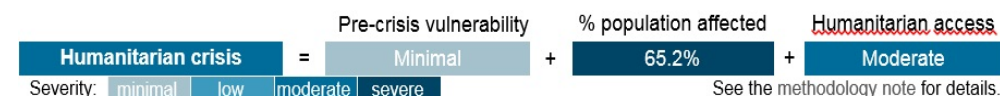
Landmines and explosive remnants of war are a major concern in the northern governorates.

In Lahj, local partners report that AQAP has placed landmines in Al Hamra area of Al Hawta district in order to guard against any Houthi advance (OCHA 31/03/2015).

Since March, incidents of civilians wounded in cluster munition attacks in Sada'a governorate have been reported (Human Rights Watch, 31/05/2015). The Yemen Executive Mine Action Center (YEMAC) has confirmed the presence of cluster munition remnants in four districts on the border between Sada'a governorate and Saudi Arabia (Cluster Monitor, 04/12/2014).

Updated: 09/06/2015

LEBANON DISPLACEMENT



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

2 June: In April, the results of the verification exercise identified some 103,391 people who either had invalid cards or had not shown up for verification (WFP).

1 June: 81% of the cluster munition clearance tasks surveyed showed that access to resources is either unsafe or completely blocked because of contamination (Mine Advisory Group).

KEY CONCERNS

- The Government has instructed the temporary suspension of registration with UNHCR (UNHCR, 06/05/2015).

- 1,183,327 Syrians are registered as refugees in Lebanon (UNHCR 07/05/2015).

- More than three million people are directly affected by the Syrian crisis in Lebanon (UNHCR, 25/01/2015).
- 300,000–400,000 refugee children of school age are not being educated within Lebanon; between 210,000 and 320,000 are involved in some form of child labour (VoA, 23/01/2015)
- Only 30% of Syrian children born in Lebanon have birth certificates (UNHCR 10/11/2014).

OVERVIEW

Lebanon has the highest per capita concentration of refugees worldwide. While the country struggles to deal with the refugee influx, which exceeds a quarter of the Lebanese population, tensions between host and refugee populations are increasing due to food price hikes, and pressure on health and education systems, housing, and employment. The number of poor living in Lebanon has risen by nearly two-thirds since 2011, to 2.1 million, and Lebanese unemployment has doubled (UNHCR 18/12/2014).

Political Context

The Lebanese Parliament has extended its mandate until June 2017, on the grounds that elections would present too much of a security risk. The Reform and Change bloc boycotted the extension vote and said it would challenge the extension at the Constitutional Council (Daily Star, 12/11/2014).

The Government was formed in February 2014 after ten months of political stalemate. It brings together the Hezbollah movement and its allies, and the Future Movement bloc, who back opposing sides in the Syria war. Neither side has veto power over the other.

Former president Michel Sleiman's term expired on 25 May 2014. The March 8 bloc, which includes Hezbollah, has boycotted voting for the new president, arguing that the sessions are futile until rival groups agree on a consensus candidate.

Security Context

Hezbollah's involvement in Syria, and the alleged presence of Jabhat al Nusra (JAN) and Islamic State (IS) in Lebanon, raises destabilisation concerns in Lebanon. Longstanding tensions between Lebanon and Israel have flared occasionally in the context of the Syrian civil war.

The Government of Syria continues to conduct cross-border air raids (UN Security Council, 22/04/2015). Cross-border incidents decreased between October and April, but there were at least 45 shooting incidents, seven shelling incidents, and 16 rocket attacks from the Syrian side of the border.

Bekaa Valley: Along its northern and northeastern border with Syria, Lebanon is engaged

in a battle against armed groups reportedly affiliated to IS and JAN. The Lebanese army has maintained a near-daily pattern of attacking militant positions on the outskirts of Ras Baalbek. Several militant positions were seized in March (Daily Star, 15/03/2015; 28/03/2015). As of 22 May, there are concerns about the possible infiltration of JAN in Aarsal. The military has not taken action but is present in the area (l'Orient le Jour, 22/05/2015). On 28 May, local media reported rising tensions between IS and JAN near Aarsal (L'Orient le Jour, 28/05/2015).

Residents of Aarsal and the adjacent Syrian village of Qara have been involved in a spate of tit-for-tat killings and kidnappings (Daily Star, 02/04/2015).

Tripoli: On 10 January, a JAN attack killed nine people and wounded 37 in an Alawite neighbourhood (AFP, 11/01/2015; OCHA, 15/01/2015). Bouts of fighting took place late in 2014 between Sunni groups sympathetic to armed opposition groups in Syria, and Alawite groups supporting the Syrian Government. Fighting was recurrent before the alleged presence of IS and JAN, and is mostly a manifestation of longstanding socio-economic grievances and sectarian tensions (SNAP 06/11/2014).

Palestinian refugee camps: The security situation in many Palestinian refugee camps is tense. A Palestinian joint security force deployed to the southern refugee camp of Mieh Mieh in late March, less than a year after a similar security plan was implemented in Ain al Hilweh (Daily Star, 24/03/2015). Security forces have reported that 46 people from Ain al Hilweh have joined jihadi groups in Syria. Fighters reportedly transit back and forth between Syria and the camp (Daily Star; AFP, 07/04/2015).

South Lebanon: On 13 May, Hezbollah moved part of its military infrastructure to villages in South Lebanon. Israel is accusing Hezbollah of using civilians as human shields and said it will strike villages if necessary (L'Orient le Jour, 13/05/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Some 3.3 million people in Lebanon, including 1.2 million children, are directly affected by the Syria crisis (UNHCR 16/12/2014). Lebanon is also hosting 270,000 long-term Palestinian refugees (UNICEF 12/12/2014).

Access

Refugees live across 1,750 different locations in Lebanon, making the delivery of humanitarian assistance challenging (UNHCR 10/2014). Northern Bekaa, Tripoli, and Akkar are areas of higher risk, and the UN will only carry out critical missions to parts of those areas (WFP 03/12/2014).

Border Restrictions

Since 6 May, registration with UNHCR has been temporarily suspended as per the Government's instruction such that refugees awaiting registration are not counted anymore. The Government formally agreed to stop welcoming displaced people in October 2014, barring exceptional cases. The policy raises serious protection concerns (UNHCR, AFP 24/10/2014; UNHCR 07/2014; UNCHR, 20/04/2015).

Since January, Syrians wanting to enter Lebanon must apply for a visa. The visa policy and other new regulations make legal stay more complex for refugees (UNHCR, 25/01/2015; BBC, 05/01/2015; Daily Star, 14/01/2015). An average of 13% of registered refugees have entered through unofficial border crossings and are not able to pay the prohibitive regularisation fees. Those who entered through official crossings often have difficulties meeting the residency renewal fees (UNHCR 10/2014).

Displacement

Refugees in Lebanon

Since 6 May, registration has been temporarily suspended. 1,183,327 Syrians are registered as refugees in Lebanon. Bekaa is hosting 415,803 refugees; Beirut 344,533; North Lebanon 283,728; and South Lebanon 139,263 (UNHCR 07/05/2015). The number of Syrians in Lebanon who are not registered with UNHCR is unknown.

26% of refugees are women, and 53% children. 32% of registered families are headed by women. Over 38% of households include at least one person with specific needs (UNHCR 09/2014).

More than half of refugees coming to Lebanon moved at least once before crossing the border; one in ten has moved more than three times (UNHCR 01/09/2014).

Palestinian refugees from Syria: 45,185 Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) reside in Lebanon (UNHCR, 28/02/2015). PRS entry to Lebanon is now almost entirely limited to those transiting to a third country. An increasing number of PRS remain in Lebanon without legal stay, and face an array of protection concerns (OCHA 01/09/2014).

Host Communities

All 446 host communities have reported inadequate or insufficient access to water, waste water management systems, affordable housing, and employment opportunities. Conditions in urban locations are better than in rural communities (OCHA 09/2014).

86% of Syrian refugees are living in Lebanon's 242 most vulnerable locations. Competition for scarce income-generating opportunities, more expensive goods and services, and less affordable accommodation are the main drivers of tensions (UNHCR 09/2014; REACH 08/2014).

Food Security

As of 6 May, 1.5 million people are in need of food assistance (WFP, FAO, Food Security cluster, 31/03/2015; UNHCR, 06/05/2015). As of end January, significant funding shortfalls resulted in a 30% reduction in the value of the food for targeted displaced Syrians (WFP/FAO, 31/01/2015). **In April, the results of the verification exercise, which cross-referenced all vouchers against registration data of beneficiaries, identified some 103,391 people who either had invalid cards or had not shown up for verification.** After a vulnerability analysis, a further 3,017 households (15,291 individuals) had been withdrawn from WFP assistance as of 1 May 2015 (UNHCR, 27/04/2015; **WFP, 02/06/2015**).

Families have been forced to prioritise their needs and adopt various negative coping strategies, notably reducing the frequency and quantity of meals, prioritising children's food needs, and increasingly relying on debt. **One in five households with school-aged children had also withdrawn their children from school** (WFP, FAO, FS cluster, 31/03/2015; **WFP, 02/06/2015**). The highest levels of food insecurity are found in North Lebanon (Akkar) and the Bekaa Valley (WFP 18/12/2014).

Agriculture and Markets

Domestic cereal production covers on average about 17% of the consumption needs and the country depends heavily on imports. In the 2014–2015 marketing year, reliance on imports will be higher (GLEWS, 01/06/2015).

Livelihoods

700,000 people are in need of livelihood assistance (UNDP, 31/01/2015; UNHCR, 06/05/2015). 36% of refugees are severely or moderately economically vulnerable (UNHCR, 04/03/2015). 78% of refugee households are not able to generate an income, citing a lack of work as the main issue.

88% of the employed are paid 40% less than the minimum wage. Female Syrian workers earn 30% less than male workers (UNHCR 09/2014).

Palestinian refugees from Syria: 75% of PRS have reported cash assistance as their main source of income (UNRWA, 15/05/2014). 11% of PRS households were able to rely on previous savings and remittances.

Health and Nutrition

3.3 million people are in need of healthcare (WHO/UNHCR, 31/01/2015; 06/05/2015). Health services are available, but costly. Short opening hours and lack of trained health personnel further limit access (WHO, 01/2015).

72% of primary health centres assessed by UNICEF in 2014 lack sufficient essential drugs, 67% lack sufficient medication for chronic diseases, and 49% lack sufficient antibiotics for children (UNICEF, 08/2014). In early 2013, a nationwide survey among refugees aged over 60 was carried out. Two-thirds of the sample described their health status as poor or very poor. Most reported at least one non-communicable disease, physical limitation, or need for medical aid. 87% reported difficulties affording medicines (Biomed centre, 20/04/2015).

Mental Health

Around 300,000 displaced Syrians are estimated to be most vulnerable to mental health concerns; 60% are women and children (WHO 07/2014). 89% of Syrian youth (18–25 years of age) have described themselves as depressed, anxious, or afraid most of the time (UNFPA; UNHCR 10/2014).

Data collected in early 2013 showed that 61% of older refugees reported feeling anxious, and significant proportions reported feelings of depression, loneliness, and believing they

were a burden to their families (Biomed centre, 20/04/2015)

WASH

3.3 million people are in need of WASH assistance (UNICEF/UNHCR, 05/05/2015). WASH conditions are worse for refugees in informal settlements, in difficult-to-access locations in the Bekaa Valley and the north, and PRS (UNHCR 07/2014). Informal settlements have limited or no sanitation facilities. Approximately 12% of households (twice the percentage in 2013) do not have access to a place for washing. Of those who had access, over 7% were sharing bathrooms and latrines with 15 people or more (VASyR 08/2014).

Only 8% of wastewater in Lebanon is treated, and the increase in the population has led to an 8–14% increase in the amount of wastewater generated (Ministry of Environment; UNHCR 16/12/2014).

Waste management: Waste management remains poor in most places where refugees live. Diminishing funding has reduced waste management activities in Bekaa and the north, and municipalities do not have the capacity to collect (UNHCR 09/2014).

Shelter and NFIs

1.8 million people are in need of shelter assistance (UNHCR, 05/05/2015). 55% of Syrians are living in poor shelter conditions compared with 32% in 2013; 36% are sharing accommodation with other families (UNHCR 24/04/2014).

The number of refugees forced to move to tents in informal shelters continues to grow (MSF, 26/01/2015). In September 2014, 1,392 informal settlements housed 186,240 refugees; in June 2012, there were 282 informal settlements (UNHCR 09/2014, 07/2014). Informal tented settlements are usually substandard. **On 1 June, a fire in a camp in the Bekaa killed one person and injured several (AFP, 01/06/2015).**

In Beirut, many Syrian refugees have settled in Palestinian refugee camps, where WASH and shelter conditions are often substandard (IFRC, 03/02/2015).

Palestinian refugees from Syria: The PRS population has increased from 110,000 to 140,000 since 2011: 44,000 are Palestinian refugees from Syria (OCHA 09/2014; 01/2015). PRS households are residing in alarmingly crowded dwellings, with an average of 4.6 persons per bedroom; 8.4 people on average share one bathroom. Most households (71%) reported paying rent for shelter. Slightly over a quarter of households (27%) were hosted free of charge. The USD 100 housing assistance for more than 43,000 PRS will be suspended July 2015 (UNRWA, 22/05/2015).

Lebanese returnees: As of 6 May, 50,000 Lebanese nationals had returned from Syria since the beginning of the crisis (UNDP, UNHCR; 06/05/2015). Assessments in 2014 indicated that at least 51% of returnees are shelter insecure: 27% live in single-room structures, warehouses, garages, or unfinished buildings; 4% live in informal settlements and collective shelters; 4% are classified as homeless (IOM/OCHA 09/2014; UNHCR 07/2014).

Education

750,000 children are in need of education assistance (UNICEF, UNHCR, 31/01/2015, 06/05/2015).

A total of 502,000 school-aged Syrian refugee children in Lebanon (aged 3–18 years) are registered by UNHCR (31/01/2015). According to ILO estimates, 300,000–400,000 refugee children of school age are not being educated (VoA, 23/01/2015). According to UNHCR, 106,795 Syrian refugee children were enrolled in public schools as of end March, which is around 21% of Syrian children who need access to a full, formal quality education (UNHCR, 06/05/2015). Less than 3,000 refugees are currently enrolled in secondary and vocational schools (UNHCR, 06/05/2015).

Enrolment rates in Beirut are far higher than in Bekaa, where school location and transportation are major issues (UNHCR, 06/05/2015). Countrywide, the biggest barrier to schooling is financial. Language barriers and safety concerns contribute to a high drop-out rate among refugee children (REACH 11/2014; UNHCR 09/2014).

Palestinian refugees from Syria: About 6,600 PRS students have enrolled in 60 UNRWA schools for the 2014/2015 school year (UNRWA 03/12/2014). School enrolment rates have doubled since the previous academic year, to 64%. Enrolment rates are lower for PRS living outside camps, and decrease as children grow older (even within the same household): children aged 13 years and older are facing difficulties adjusting to UNRWA's Lebanese curriculum, taught in English or French.

Protection

Members of the Lebanese army have committed violations of the rights of detained refugees, evictions, and threats of eviction. 45 Lebanese municipalities have imposed curfews on Syrian refugees, which violate international human rights law and appear to be illegal under Lebanese law (HRW 10/2014). By February, the Lebanese army had ordered 17,000 refugees in eastern Bekaa Valley to vacate informal tented camps, according to UNHCR, reportedly to prevent infiltration by militants (Daily Star, 07/02/2015). As of 1 May, 5,981 people had been evicted and relocated from 61 sites. 6,422 individuals remain at risk of eviction (UNHCR, 10/05/2015).

Statelessness: Stateless refugees in Lebanon include Syrian Kurds who were denaturalised in Syria in 1962. Between March 2011 and August 2014, 34,272 Syrian refugees were born in Lebanon. An estimated 72% do not possess an official birth certificate (UNFPA 30/11/2014). 65% of interviewees lacked information on birth registration and 43% of refugee parents did not have a valid residency visa, in a Norwegian Refugee Council survey (UNHCR, 06/05/2015).

Sexual and Gender-based Violence

The mobility of refugee women in Lebanon is reportedly restricted due to fear of sexual harassment and exploitation (UNFPA 13/08/2014). 25% of survivors of reported SGBV cases are under 18 years of age. A weak legal framework, limited resources, and social barriers prevent refugees at risk of SGBV, or victims, from seeking and receiving adequate protection. Other challenges include lack of documentation and growing tension between refugees and host communities.

According to ILO estimates, between 210,000 and 320,000 refugee children of school age who are not in school, are involved in some form of child labour (VoA, 23/01/2015). Social exclusion, vulnerability of households, the influx of Syrian refugees, and organised crime and exploitation are all leading children to live or work on the streets (ILO et al., 16/02/2015).

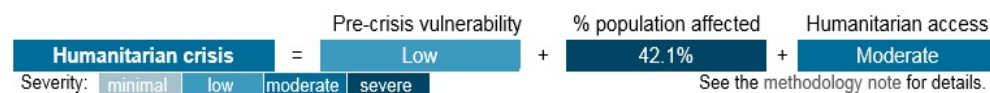
According to UNHCR, consultations with refugees confirmed trends of increasing child labour and early marriage. Young people reported security concerns and fear of harassment (UNHCR, 28/02/2015; 20/04/2015). There are no official statistics on child marriage, which exists in some areas; the rate has risen with the influx of Syrian refugees (UNICEF, AFP 08/2014).

Mines and ERW

Lebanon has nearly 1,400 confirmed minefields and 520 cluster munitions strike areas, including in areas hosting refugees. In March 2014, refugees were living within 10–20m of known minefields in West Bekaa and Rashaya (Mine Action Group). **A survey of the remaining known or suspected areas contaminated with cluster munitions found that 18% of the clearance tasks could be cancelled as they lacked evidence of contamination. However, 81% of the tasks surveyed showed that contamination makes access to resources unsafe or blocks access altogether. A significant number of landowners and workers still enter contaminated areas, stating they have no choice (Mine Advisory Group, 01/06/2015).**

Updated: 03/062015

OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES **COMPLEX, FOOD INSECURITY, INSECURITY**



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

3 June: An armed group in Gaza fired two rockets into Israel. Israel responded with airstrikes. There were no casualties from either attack (Al Jazeera, 04/06/2015).

KEY CONCERNS

- 1.9 million people need humanitarian assistance; 1.3 million in Gaza and 600,000 in the West Bank (OCHA, 31/03/2015).
- 1.45 million people, or 33% of the people in oPt, are estimated to be food insecure

(WFP, 19/12/2014). 868,000 people in Gaza alone require food aid (UNRWA, 05/02/2015).

- 1.4 million people are in need of WASH assistance, particularly access to water (OCHA, 12/05/2015).
- Continuity of medical care is threatened by the financial crisis and electricity shortages in both the West Bank and the Gaza Strip (OCHA).
- The ongoing blockade of the Gaza Strip limits access and movement of both people and goods.

Political Context

The Palestinian reconciliation Government, made up of members of both Hamas and Fatah, was sworn in before President Abbas in June, ending seven years of division (AFP, UN, 02/06/2014). It had a six-month mandate, which is still in affected despite not official extension (UNRWA, 14/12/2014).

On 27 March, the Palestinian Liberation Organisation ended its security cooperation with Israel, in response to the Israeli Government withholding the Palestinian Authority's tax revenue (Reuters, 05/03/2015). The Israeli Government released the funds in April (AFP, 20/04/2015). The PA announced they will now pay the salaries owed to public employees, which has been a source of unrest for months (AFP, 20/04/2015).

On 16 January, the ICC launched a preliminary examination of the events of the 50-day war (ICC, 16/01/2015). Palestine became an official member of the ICC on 26 March (AFP, 26/03/2015). The United States and Israel opposed the move, citing that oPt is not a sovereign state.

On 28 February an Egyptian court declared Hamas a terrorist group, increasing tension along the Gaza border (UNRWA, 06/03/2015).

Security Context

During the week ending 25 May, 77 Palestinians were injured across oPt. The majority occurred during protests in the West Bank (OCHA, 25/05/2015).

Gaza

On 31 May, an IED was detonated by an unknown group in a shopping district. No one was injured (UNRWA, 04/06/2015). Israeli forces opened fired into the Access Restricted Area (ARA) around Gaza approximately 22 times in the week ending the 25 May. Three Palestinians were injured. There has been a consistent trend of Israeli forces firing into the ARA in 2015 (OCHA, 25/05/2015). On 20 April, Egyptian patrol boats fired towards Palestinian boats west of Rafah, southern Gaza (UN, 23/04/2015).

Palestinian armed groups continue to test-fire rockets into the sea and fire rockets towards Israel. **The most recent incident occurred on 3 June, when two rockets were fired into Israel. Israel responded with airstrikes. There were no casualties from either attack**

(OCHA, 11/05/2015; Al Jazeera, 04/06/2015).

Unrest

On 29 April, a Palestinian unity rally ended in clashes between Hamas and Fatah supporters. It is unclear if anyone was injured (Reuters, 29/04/2015). Growing tensions have been attributed to the slow pace of reconstruction in the aftermath of Operation Protective Edge.

West Bank and East Jerusalem

In the last week of May, PA security forces entered Balata refugee camp near Nablus. Clashes occurred between armed groups and security forces. One camp resident was injured (Al Jazeera, 01/06/2015). On 20 May, two Israeli police officers were injured when a Palestinian car crashed into them. The Palestinian was shot and killed during the incident. It is not yet clear if this is the latest in a series of car-related attacks on Israeli police officers in recent months (local media, 20/05/2015; OCHA, 25/05/2015). On 24 and 25 April, two Palestinian men were shot and killed in the West Bank and East Jerusalem, one after stabbing a police officer. On 25 April a Palestinian allegedly rammed his car into a crowd of police officers, injuring three, in the third deliberate car ramming this year (AFP, 18/04/2015; BBC, 06/03/2015). Between 31 March and 13 April, Israeli forces shot dead two Palestinians (OCHA, 16/04/2015).

In the week ending 25 May, two Palestinian attacks were reported, which resulted in the injury of two Israelis (OCHA, 25/05/2015).

Settler-related Violence

In the week ending 25 May, five Israeli settler attacks resulted in two Palestinians being injured and property damaged (OCHA, 25/05/2015). There have been two hit-and-run incidents so far in 2015 (OCHA, 09/02/2015). 184 structures have been demolished and 227 people displaced in 2015 (OCHA, 31/03/2015).

590 buildings were destroyed and 1,177 people displaced in 2014. 330 incidents of settler-related violence resulted in Palestinian casualties or property damage in the West Bank and 237 incidents resulted in Israeli casualties or property damage in 2014 (OCHA, 16/02/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Access

Border Restrictions

On 26 May, The Rafah Crossing between Gaza and Egypt was open in both directions for one day for the first time in 75 days. 2,443 people crossed in total. **Over 27–28 May, the Rafah crossing allowed approximately 1,100 people to enter Gaza, but no one to exit. The border has since been closed** (Gisha, 26/05/2015; UNRWA, 04/06/2015). Prior to the opening, around 30,000 people had been registered to cross through Rafah. The majority remain stuck in Gaza (OCHA, 11/05/2015).

On 14 April, Israeli authorities allowed Palestinian medical staff working in Israel to enter from the West Bank with their own vehicles for the first time in 15 years (AFP, 14/04/2015).

Material for reconstruction in Gaza continues to be restricted and delayed (UNRWA, 31/03/2015). On 14 April, it was reported that the delivery of wood would be heavily restricted. Israeli authorities believe Hamas may use it to construct tunnels to launch attacks on Israel (Gisha 14/04/2015).

Critical Infrastructure

The Gaza Power Plant shut down between 22 and 25 April due to the closure of Kerem Shalom crossing during Israeli holidays (OCHA, 30/04/2015). Fuel shortages and infrastructure restrictions mean 12–18 hours of blackout per day (UNICEF, 26/03/2015).

Displacement

As of 6 March, 100,000 people remain displaced since the July–August conflict, and are residing in schools or temporary shelters (IFRC, 06/03/2015).

Food Security

1.45 million, or 33% of Palestinians, are food insecure: 57% of the population of Gaza and 19% of the population of the West Bank (WFP, 19/12/2014). 868,000 people in Gaza require food aid (UNRWA, 01/06/2015).

Electricity shortages have impacted food production and refrigeration. Delays at crossings are complicating deliveries. Destruction of tunnels bringing inexpensive goods has also impacted access to food and supplies.

Livelihood

The unemployment rate in December 2014 in oPt was 29.1%. Unemployment in the West Bank was 17%, and Gaza 44% (UN, 08/05/2015; 21/04/2015).

Health and Nutrition

Between 300,000 and 400,000 children are in need of mental health support in the Gaza Strip (UNICEF, 26/02/2015, World Vision, 13/04/2015).

WASH

1.4 million people are in need of WASH assistance, particularly access to water (OCHA, 12/05/2015).

90% of the water in Gaza fails WHO standards for safe drinking water (UNWRA, 24/03/2015). The groundwater level is declining, and the aquifer is infiltrated by seawater and wastewater.

Although solid waste is being collected in most areas, it is being left in temporary sites

rather than dumped in designated landfills.

Shelter

An estimated 500,000 Palestinians are in need of shelter assistance (OCHA, 31/03/2015). As of 30 April, 9,161 Palestine refugee houses are still considered totally destroyed by Operation Projective Edge. UNRWA has only received funding to construct 200 homes (UNRWA, 30/04/2015). As of mid-April, none had been built (UNRWA, 14/04/2015).

Education

90% of the 252 UNRWA schools in Gaza run on a double shift basis, and some on triple shifts, affecting some 400,000 students (UNRWA, 29/01/2015; OCHA, 12/02/2015).

Protection

18,000 Palestinians live in or near the 18% of the West Bank designated by the Israeli authorities as “firing zones”, areas of land claimed by the Israeli military for training and security purposes. Palestinians who live in these zones face severe access restrictions, recurrent demolition, and incidents of forced displacement and home demolition (OCHA, 12/01/2015). On 29 and 30 April, 410 were displaced for planned military manoeuvres (OCHA, 25/05/2015). Most of the around 7,450 Palestinian Bedouins and herders, some 60% of them children, have demolition orders pending against their homes, and over 85% lack connection to the electricity and water networks (OCHA, 06/05/2015; 30/04/2015).

Child Protection

Approximately 30 children were injured by live ammunition in the first quarter of 2015 (Defence for Children International, 23/03/2015).

Up to 1,500 orphaned children need sustained physiological and social support (OCHA, 04/09/2014; UNICEF, 02/01/2015).

As of December 2014, a monthly average of 185 Palestinian children were in Israeli detention (OCHA, 31/03/2015).

Mines and ERW

On 14 May in the Gaza Strip, 74 members of the Palestinian security forces were injured in an attempt to defuse unexploded ordnance near Beit Lahia, while two civilians were injured in another ERW incident southeast of Gaza City (OCHA, 18/05/2015). On 6 May, two children were injured by ERW in Gaza City. In April and March, 11 Palestinians were injured and one killed by ERW across oPt (OCHA, 30/04/2015; 16/04/2015; 02/03/2015; UNRWA, 11/05/2015; 12/03/2015).

It is estimated that more than 1,900 ERW have yet to be secured (UNRWA, 23/09/2014).

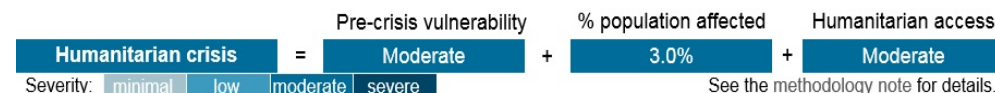
Journalists

From 15 to 17 of May, two journalists were injured by Israeli forces during Nakba Day protests (international media, 16/05/2015). On 2 May, five journalists were injured by

Israeli forces during a march marking World Press Freedom Day near Bethlehem (OCHA, 06/05/2015; local media, 02/05/2015). It has been alleged that an increasing number of journalists are being targeted and injured by Israeli forces during clashes, due to a policy change. Rubber bullets and live ammunition has been used. Palestinian journalists have been the most affected (AFP, 08/04/2015).

Updated: 04/06/2015

PAKISTAN CONFLICT, DROUGHT, DISPLACEMENT



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

7 June: Gunmen killed five people after storming two tea shops belonging to the Hazara Shi'ite community in Balochistan (AFP).

5 June: Water shortages in Karachi during the heat wave force people to rely on expensive water trucking (local media).

5 June: Flash floods in Balochistan killed at least 16 people, including 14 women (local media).

5 June: At least 94 incidents of terrorism were reported in Peshawar district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in the first five months of 2015 (local media).

KEY CONCERNS

- Nearly 860,000 displaced by military operations in Zarb-e-Azb in North Waziristan and Khyber Agency (UNHCR, 16/03/2015). There were already 1.1 million IDPs in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and FATA as of mid-December 2013.

- Ongoing chronic drought conditions in Tharparkar in Sindh. As of 23 March, 211 children have died from malnutrition in Tharparkar in 2015 (local media, 23/03/2015; USAID, 04/12/2014).

- About 21,500 civilians have been killed as a result of direct violence since the beginning of the crisis in the region in 2001 (Brown University, 29/05/2015)

OVERVIEW

Priority humanitarian needs are health, nutrition, and food assistance. The security situation remains volatile due to militant attacks in urban centres and military operations against the Taliban in the tribal areas.

Security context

Government military operations in tribal areas have escalated, notably since the Taliban attack on an army-run school in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in December 2014, which killed 141 people, in retaliation for government operations in the region (ICG, 05/01/2015; BBC News, 17/12/2014). Sectarian violence is mounting against Shi'ites, especially in Sindh. Incidents remain frequent in Balochistan.

On 21 January three Islamic State (IS) recruiters were arrested in Lahore, raising fears of an IS infiltration in the region (Le Monde, 21/01/2015). In September 2014, a new branch of Al Qaeda was announced, covering Pakistan (Financial Times, 03/09/2014).

1,781 civilians were killed in terrorist violence in Pakistan in 2014, compared to 3,001 in 2013 (SATP, 01/01/2015).

Balochistan

The Baloch Liberation Front (BLF) has opposed the alleged annexation of Balochistan since 1948. 2014 saw a sharp rise in acts of violence and Attacks by Islamist armed groups are also a problem in the state.

On 29 May, militants killed at least 20 bus passengers travelling to Karachi (ICG, 01/06/2015). Three people were killed and four others injured when Baloch separatists targeted a convoy carrying the Pakistani President's son, who was not injured (AFP, 25/05/2015). 13 people, including the Baloch Republican Army commander, were killed in May in an operation by the Frontier Corps (local media, 15/05/2015). Media report that the government is planning a military operation against militants similar to the one in Karachi (local media, 01/06/2015).

Sectarian attacks are increasing, especially against Hazara Shi'ites. **On 7 June, gunmen killed five people after storming two tea shops belonging to the Hazara Shi'ite community (AFP, 7/06/2015)** In Quetta, three Hazaras were killed on 25 May, including two killed by unidentified gunmen in a medical clinic. On 27 May, unidentified gunmen opened fire in a market, killing two. Four people were killed and eight injured when violence broke out after a peaceful protest against these attacks (AFP, 25/05/2015; 27/05/2015).

Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

In June 2014, the Taliban vowed to start an all-out war against the Government, and the Government launched Operation Zarb-e-Azb in North Waziristan Agency. A second operation began on 18 October in Khyber Agency, and was expanded mid-March 2015 to cover Landi Kotal, Jamrud, and Bara districts. The military claims to have cleared two-thirds of the tribal regions of militants (local media, 30/03/2015; 23/03/2015).

Between 1 and 5 June, at least 39 militants were killed in an airstrike in North Waziristan, 18 militants were also injured (local media, 5/06/2015). Eleven people were killed and several injured in violence related to local government elections in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, on 1 June (local media, 01/06/2015). Airstrikes killed at least 70 suspected militants in North Waziristan and Khyber Agency in May (local media, 25/05/2015; 05/05/2015; 01/06/2015; ICG, 01/06/2015).

At least 94 incidents of terrorism were reported in Peshawar district, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, in the first five months of 2015: 31 civilians were killed, six police and armed force officials were killed, while seven others were injured (local media, 05/06/2015).

At least 47 people died and 25 were injured in May, in a gunfight between two Pakistani tribes over disputed mountain territory close to the Afghan border (AFP, 09/05/2015).

Sindh

A report from the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan highlights that in Sindh, killing, including both terror attacks and other crime, dropped 34% in the first quarter of 2015 compared to the same period in 2014 (local media, 21/04/2015).

At least 43 were killed and 30 injured in a gun attack targeting a bus carrying members of the Shi'ite Ismaili minority on 13 May. This was the first attack in Pakistan officially claimed by Islamic State (AFP, 13/05/2015). Two attacks in March, targeting police and a Shi'ite mosque, killed four and wounded 20 (DAWN, 27/03/2015; AFP, 20/03/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Access

Access in Balochistan province remains challenging due to insecurity (ECHO, 20/10/2014). On 21 April in Quetta, Balochistan, an anti-polio campaign was suspended in 18 union councils due to authorities' failure to provide security to the teams (local media, 22/05/2015). Pakistan's top disaster management authority is facing serious staff and funding shortages, limiting their ability to reach people affected by disasters (local media, 19/05/2015).

Security Incidents Involving Aid Workers

A peace committee volunteer was killed by an improvised explosive device blast in Mohmand Agency on 7 May (local media, 11/05/2015). An explosion in South Waziristan on 4 April killed two bomb disposal technicians (local media, 06/04/2015). At least three peace volunteers were killed and a further two injured on 2 February in a bomb blast in Tirah Valley in Khyber Agency (DAWN, 03/02/2015).

Attacks beginning in February on polio vaccination teams have killed nine and injured one, mainly in Balochistan (DAWN, 20/05/2015; 05/02/2015; AFP, 17/03/2015; 18/02/2015; 04/02/2015; OCHA, 03/03/2015).

In 2014, 79 aid workers had been attacked as of November, in 71 incidents mostly in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, FATA, and Sindh, 51 of which were linked to polio (OCHA, 30/11/2014).

Disasters

Drought

As of 23 March, 211 children have died from malnutrition in Tharparkar in 2015, as the area continues to suffer food shortages due to chronic drought conditions (local media, 23/03/2015).

Drought in Tharparkar affected nearly 1.74 million people (259,946 families) in 2014 and killed 650, mostly children. Many families have migrated (USAID, 04/12/2014; Inter Press Service, 03/01/2015; DAWN, 16/02/2015). 50,585 hectares have been damaged in Dadu district, affecting around 50,000 people (DAWN, 21/01/2015).

Rains and Storms

On 5 June, flashfloods in Balochistan killed at least 16 people, including 14 women. According to initial assessments, 40–50 houses are partially damaged (local media, 5/06/2015; Government, 05/06/2015). On 15–17 May, heavy rain and hail affected some areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and FATA. Media reported damage to houses and at least seven deaths (ECHO, 18/05/2015). Four people were killed in house collapses during rains in Larkana, Sindh province (local media, 13/05/2015).

In Peshawar, storms at the end of April killed 49 people and injured 267. The information minister for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa declared a state of emergency at all hospitals in the province (Government, 01/05/2015; Al Jazeera, 26/04/2015). Initial assessment indicated damage to housing, electricity and communication infrastructure, crops, and orchards. The highway was also damaged. Urgent food needs were reported for 12% of interviewees, severe damage to houses for 32%, tents were required for 15%. Charsadda, Nowshera and neighbouring areas were also affected (local media, 05/05/2015; Government, 30/04/2015).

Displacement

IDPs

As of 31 May, there were 1.8 million IDPs in Pakistan, half of whom were displaced by military operations in 2014. **32% of IDP families are in Bannu (85,655), another 25% in Peshawar (67,051), and 16% in Dera Ismail Khan (44,096).** 2% are in three IDP camps in Khyber, Orakzai, and Kurram agencies in FATA (UNHCR, 31/03/2015; 30/04/2015; 05/06/2015).

Returnees

The phased return of people displaced in FATA started mid-March. **As of 4 June, 191,600 people (26,597 households) have returned:** 22,586 families to Khyber, **985 to North Waziristan Agency** and **3,238 to South Waziristan.** 1,551 families in South Waziristan and **237 in North Waziristan** are not registered. An inter-cluster assessment showed that houses in North Waziristan were largely intact and immediate needs included food security, WASH, and livelihood support (OCHA, 25/05/2015; 01/06/2015; 09/06/2015).

Refugees in Pakistan

As of 7 May, 1.6 million Afghan refugees are estimated to live in Pakistan, mostly in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, although numbers are difficult to ascertain. The majority live in host communities (UNHCR, 29/12/2014; OCHA, 7/05/2015). In addition, there are 600,000 non-Afghan registered refugees (OCHA, 7/05/2015).

Returns of undocumented Afghans from Pakistan have increased in 2015 following security incidents in Pakistan, particularly the Taliban attack in Peshawar in December. As of 13 May, 60,000 people have voluntarily returned and another 6,000 undocumented Afghans were expelled (AFP, 13/05/2015). Another 15,000 holding a Proof of Registration card reportedly returned between January and March (DAWN, 15/04/2015). Government aims at finalising a return policy by end of August (local media, 11/05/2015).

Pakistani Refugees in Neighbouring Countries

At 8 April, nearly 242,732 refugees (35,252 families) from Pakistan had arrived in Afghanistan's Khost and Paktika provinces since mid-June 2014 (OCHA, 14/04/2015).

Food Security

67 districts are in Stressed (Phase 2) food insecurity, 28 are in Crisis (Phase 3), and ten in Emergency (Phase 4). Crisis and Emergency districts are mostly in Balochistan, Sindh, and FATA (Food Security Cluster, 24/04/2015). As of February, 1.83 million people were in need of food assistance (Food Security Cluster, 04/02/2015).

Almost half of returnees in FATA (49%) reported taking loans to meet their basic needs in a recent assessment. Overall, only 28% of returnee households had acceptable food consumption (Food Security Cluster, 24/04/2015). Displaced populations in FATA remain vulnerable (FAO, 20/03/2015). Most conflict-related IDPs rely on negative coping mechanisms and require support (ECHO, 20/10/2014).

Health and Nutrition

1.1 million IDPs are in need of basic health and quality maternal and child health services (OCHA, 31/01/2015). The influx of IDPs has severely strained health facilities and the lack of medical staff to provide care for displaced women is a critical challenge (UN Population Fund, 03/10/2014).

Several health facilities in the city and many districts of Sindh have been closed because of changes in human resource allocations (DAWN, 20/05/2015).

Polio

24 new polio cases have been reported so far in 2015 from Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Khyber Agency, FATA, and Sindh, **which is a 70% drop compared to the same period last year** (Alhassan Systems, 21/04/2015; 19/05/2015; local media, 21/04/2015; 05/06/2015). In 2014, 306 polio cases were confirmed, the previous peak was 199 cases in 2000 (WHO, 24/04/2015; Global Polio Eradication Initiative, 15/01/2015; DAWN, 01/01/2015). Compared to the same period in 2014, there has been a 70% reduction in cases (Government, 22/05/2015).

Over 16,400 families across the country refused to get their children vaccinated and 610,333 children were missed during the first two days of the third round of the 2015 National Polio Campaign, initiated on 16 March (DAWN, 19/03/2015).

Nutrition

An estimated 2.86 million children and pregnant and breastfeeding women are undernourished in Pakistan, including one million IDPs (OCHA, 31/01/2015). In Sindh, 1.1 million children under five are acutely malnourished; 400,000 of them are suffering from SAM (ECHO, 20/10/2014). In Dadu district, Sindh, 3.8% of children under five were found to suffer from severe acute malnutrition in December 2014 (ACF, 03/02/2015). In FATA, GAM reaches 16% and SAM 5.6% (Nutrition Cluster, 30/04/2015).

In Balochistan, maternal mortality rates have been increasing due to malnourishment and anaemia (DAWN, 29/11/2014).

WASH

1.1 million people are in need of WASH, including 500,000 IDPs (OCHA, 31/01/2015). Over 80% of water resources in Pakistan's southern Tharparkar district have become unsafe for drinking due to the drought (Reuters, 02/02/2015). **Water shortages are important in Karachi during the summer heat wave and force people to rely on expensive water tanker trucks and preventing quick response to fire (local media, 05/06/2015).**

Shelter and NFIs

1.1 million people are in need of emergency shelter, including 530,000 IDPs (OCHA, 31/01/2015). Inadequate shelter services, overcrowding, harsh weather conditions, and high rental charges are key challenges for the displaced (OCHA, 15/08/2014). 50% of the population in Tirah valley in FATA has been living in makeshift shelters after having been displaced in 2013 (IOM, 14/11/2014).

An Afghan refugee camp that was built on valuable land was demolished in Peshawar on 1 May. The district administration demolished around 1,200 houses after the deadline to evacuate the camp, 30 April, had passed (local media, 05/05/2015).

Education

Only 59% of children go to school (local media, 5/06/2015). 450,000 children are in need of education, including 205,000 displaced children. Educational supplies are a major gap in the education response (OCHA, 31/01/2015).

Almost 275 schools in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa are non-functional, including 40 in Mansehra and 37 in Swat districts, due to lack of staff, land disputes, and security issues. Around 33% of children in Balochistan are also out of school (DAWN, 13/03/2015; 20/02/2015).

The majority of school-aged Afghan refugees in camps in Pakistan are unable to attend school after sixth grade due to lack of means to attend private schools (Inter Press Service, 22/12/2014).

Protection

An estimated 1.08 million people are in need of protection, including 500,000 displaced people. This group largely consists of IDPs and returnees in KP and FATA. Women, children, the disabled, and the elderly need referral assistance and specialised protection in displacement and returnee areas (OCHA, 31/01/2015).

About 21,500 civilians have been killed as a result of direct violence since the beginning of the crisis in the region in 2001 (Brown University, 29/05/2015).

Sabeen Mahmud, a rights activist, was killed on 24 April, shortly after hosting an event in Karachi, on disappearances in Balochistan: 2,825 people are missing to date (Al Jazeera, 25/04/2015).

SGBV

In areas where the Taliban is active, over 500 girls' schools have been bombed. In the south and southwest of the country, ethnic violence continues to curtail women's freedom of movement.

421 incidents of violence involving 534 women and girls were reported in Karachi province during the third quarter of 2014 (DAWN, 11/10/2014).

Updated: 09/06/2015

INDIA INTERNAL UNREST, FLOODS



For more information, visit the [ACAPS country analysis page](#).

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

3 June: A mild monsoon season may negatively impact agriculture (Times of India).

2 June: 2,330 people have died in a heatwave, the majority in Andhra Pradesh (CNN).

KEY CONCERNS

- An estimated 616,140 people are displaced due to armed conflict and inter-communal violence (IDMC, 20/04/2015).

-Last year's mild monsoon caused drought conditions; concern that another mild monsoon this year will further deteriorate agricultural outputs (Times of India, 03/06/2015).

- India regularly experiences natural disasters such as floods, landslides and tropical cyclones.

Political Context

Despite general stability, pockets of the country experience insecurity and conflict. India, Pakistan, and Kashmiri insurgent groups have fought over control of the disputed region of Kashmir since the Indo-Pakistan War. Although thousands have died as a result of this conflict, the situation has become less deadly in recent years.

Security Context

Kashmir

During violent protests in Srinagar over 17–19 April, a 16-year-old boy was killed by security forces, and around 30 police officers were injured (AFP, 19/04/2015). Between August 2014 and January 2015, cross-border fighting between India and Pakistan left 23 dead, the majority civilians (AFP, 03/01/2015).

Chhattisgarh

In April, at least 14 police were killed and 18 injured in Naxalite attacks in the Bastar region of Chhattisgarh. Up to 20 Naxalites were also killed in fighting (Reuters, 14/04/2015; The Hindu 15/04/2015; Times of India 13/04/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Displacement

As of April 2015, an estimated 616,140 people were displaced in India due to armed conflict and inter-communal violence. 251,000 of these are in Jammu and Kashmir, and around 113,000 in Assam. At least 346,000 of the IDPs were newly displaced between January 2014 and March 2015, with the majority fleeing inter-communal violence in Western Assam (IDMC, 20/04/2015).

The majority of the IDPs live in camps, where they often have limited access to food, clean water and adequate sanitary facilities (IDMC, 20/04/2015).

Disasters

Heatwave and Drought

As of 2 June, 2,330 people have died in a heatwave affecting eastern and southern India, with temperatures reaching up to 48 degrees Celsius. In the worst-hit state of Andhra Pradesh in the southeast, 1,179 people have died; 585 have died in neighbouring Telangana state (CNN, 02/06/2015). Poor workers and homeless people are worst affected (OCHA, 02/06/2015).

The onset of the monsoon season, which lasts from June to September, has been

delayed by a week (The Hindu, 03/06/2015). Below-average rainfalls forecast for this year's monsoon will worsen conditions (IMD, 02/06/2015). Agriculture is already affected by last year's drought, and unseasonal heavy rains in March and April (Times of India, 03/06/2015). Nine million farmers were affected by drought in Maharashtra last year (Times of India, 06/02/2015).

Earthquake

At least 87 people were killed and 350 injured by the 25 April Nepal earthquake and subsequent aftershocks in Bihar, West Bengal, and Uttar Pradesh states (Government 13/05/2015; 27/04/2015).

Floods

At least 30 people were killed by heavy rains and thunderstorms in Uttar Pradesh on 29 April (ECHO, 29/04/2015). 65 people were killed and more than 2,000 injured in a storm affecting eight districts in Bihar state over 22–23 April (Government, 23/04/2015). Thousands of hectares of standing crops of maize, wheat, and pulses were destroyed (local media, 22/04/2015).

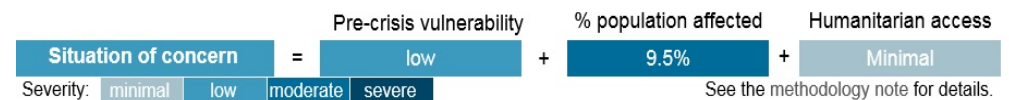
Health and Nutrition

Swine Flu

While the number of new cases has significantly decreased since April, new swine flu cases are still reported. In late May, three people died of swine flu in Maharashtra (Times of India, 01/06/2015). As of April, 35,077 cases of swine flu had been confirmed nationwide; with 2,172 deaths since the outbreak began in mid-December (local media, 11/04/2015).

Updated: 03/06/2015

JORDAN DISPLACEMENT



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

No significant developments this week, 02/06/2015. Last update 27/05/2015.

KEY CONCERNS

- 628,160 people of concern (UNHCR, 28/05/2015). Another 100,000–200,000 may be unregistered (PI, 12/11/2014).

- Syrians continue to face increasing difficulty accessing Jordan. Official border points

have closed or become inaccessible, and entry restrictions have increased (RRP6, 2014-2015).

- Since early 2014, a more rigorous approach to the encampment policy of Syrian refugees has reportedly been implemented (PI, 08/01/2014).

- An estimated 52,000 other refugees are registered with UNHCR, including 47,554 Iraqis (UNHCR, 15/03/2015; 02/05/2015).

Security Context

Concerns over spiralling crises in Iraq and Syria and extremist infiltration have increased since Jordan joined the US-led airstrikes against Islamic State (IS) in September, and reinforced its participation following the assassination of a captured Jordanian pilot on 3 February. Jordan may increasingly be the target of asymmetrical attacks against its civilians or security services, and social divisions amplify (ISW, 19/02/2015; Al Jazeera, 12/02/2015).

Jordan has a substantial home-grown extremist movement. Thousands of Jordanians are reportedly fighting for opposition groups with links to Al Qaeda, particularly Jabhat al Nusra (JAN) and IS, despite the military's tight control of cross-border movements (NYT, 12/04/2014). The country is also home to several prominent extremist religious leaders of an older generation, linked to Al Qaeda ideology and who generally support JAN (Al Jazeera, 07/07/2014). Jordan has increased pressure on the Muslim Brotherhood, arresting one of its prominent leaders in November (Jordan Times, 22/11/2014).

Social tensions between refugees and host communities are a concern, primarily due to a sense of competition over housing, jobs, and assistance (Mercy Corps, 12/2014). Despite few notable incidents, refugees report widespread discrimination and harassment (The Guardian, 01/12/2014).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

The influx of Syrian refugees has placed significant additional stress on Jordan's already-strained public services. Public health and education services, which Syrians can access, are particularly affected, and water infrastructure, waste collection, and the cost to the national budget of subsidised goods are significant issues (Government, 12/2014).

Access

International NGOs working in Jordan are required to get all projects approved by the Government, and frustration persists among NGOs about the lengthy approval process, and lack of clear guidelines. Aid agencies assisting Syrians also need to include vulnerable Jordanians as 30% of their beneficiaries; some have faced pressure to increase this proportion to 50% (PI, 06/2014).

Tension between humanitarian agencies and the Government may increase, as the Jordan Response Plan (JRP) 2015–16 attempts to channel the bulk of international assistance to Syrians through government institutions, rather than humanitarian actors (JRP, 12/2014). At 17 March, only 5.5% of the funding for the JRP has been secured (Government,

17/03/2015).

Displacement

Syrian Refugees

As of 28 May, there are 628,160 people of concern in Jordan: 52% are children and 3.5% are aged over 60. Around 83% live in urban areas and the remainder in three camps (UNHCR, 31/03/2015; 14/04/2015; 27/04/2015; **28/05/2015**). Another 100,000–200,000 refugees may be unregistered (PI, 12/11/2014).

76,000 Syrian refugees have reportedly returned to their country since the beginning of the crisis (Jordan Times, 10/02/2015). As of 27 April, 100–150 people are returning to Syria every day. Drivers include reunion with family members, increasing vulnerability with reduced aid, lack of livelihood opportunities, and a desire to continue education. (UNHCR, 27/04/2015).

Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS)

UNRWA records 14,736 PRS who have approached the agency for support since the start of the Syrian conflict, 82% of which are vulnerable or extremely vulnerable (UNRWA, 03/12/2014; 15/05/2015).

Since late 2012, the Government has explicitly stated that it would not allow PRS to enter Jordan. Those who do enter are subject to a number of protection issues, including refoulement, confiscation of documents and, for those with Jordanian citizenship, de-nationalisation (HRW 05/2014, 04/07/2012). As of 15 May, 41 forced returns to Syria have been reported to UNRWA since January 2015. UNRWA reports 106 cases of PRS deported in 2014, a 40% increase on 2013, but warns the actual number of deportations is likely much higher (UNRWA, 03/12/2014; 15/05/2015).

Non-Syrian Refugees

As of 15 March, UNHCR had registered around 52,000 refugees, including 47,554 Iraqis (UNHCR, 15/03/2015; 02/05/2015). A surge in the registration of Iraqi refugees was reported between September and December 2014, but new registration numbers have significantly decreased in 2015; no reason is known for the decrease (UNHCR, 23/09/2014; PI, 11/03/2015).

Only 1% of Iraqi refugee needs are funded. The most urgent issues are lack of access to schooling (34% of Iraqi refugees are of school age), the lack of access to healthcare and, for the most vulnerable refugees, heavy reliance on cash assistance (UNHCR, 13/05/2015).

Food Security

In October 2014, WFP began to replace blanket food distribution with targeted distributions, and cut assistance to 37,000 urban refugees (WFP, 11/11/2014, CFSME, 07/08/2014). Out of about 12,000 households excluded, 38% have been re-included (Multi-Sector Working Group, 13/04/2014).

An additional 33,466 refugees living above Jordan's absolute poverty line were removed from food assistance in April; 240,773 living between the absolute and abject poverty lines saw the value of their assistance halved to USD 14 per person/month; 191,248 refugees living under the Jordan abject poverty line received full assistance of USD 28 per person/month (WFP, 19/03/2015). Negative coping mechanisms following this reduction in assistance include relying on less preferred, less expensive food (89% of respondents to the survey); reducing the number of meals (62%); borrowing food or relying on help from relatives and friends (55%); debt (61%); reducing other essential expenditures (24%); sending children to work (13%). For this round of targeting, 35,000 appeals were filled. So far 656 were reviewed, 9% were approved for full assistance and 27% for partial assistance (Inter-sector working group, 19/05/2015).

Beneficiaries have been informed that further cuts in assistance are expected in the coming weeks (PI, 17/05/2015).

Livelihoods

More than 40% of employed Syrians outside camps in Amman, Irbid and Mafraq work in construction, while 23% work in the wholesale, retail trade and repair sector and 12% in manufacturing. 60% of refugees in Zaatari camp earn some form of income within the camp (UNHCR, 27/04/2015).

The unemployment rate among active Syrian refugees is as high as 57% (ILO, 11/05/2015). 86% of Syrian refugees in urban areas are living below the Jordanian poverty line of USD 96 per month and 10% are below the abject poverty line of USD 37. More than 80% are resorting to reducing their food intake, sending family members out to beg, or engaging in high risk, illegal or socially degrading activities to earn money. Over 60% of refugee families outside camps are in debt (VAF, 22/05/2015; UNHCR, 15/01/2015; UNICEF, 10/03/2015).

As of May, the labour force participation rate for Jordanians is similar to before the Syrian crisis, but unemployment has increased from 15% to 22% (ILO, 11/05/2015). An ILO study in May suggests that Syrians may have crowded Jordanians out of the construction sector (ILO, 11/05/2015).

Health and Nutrition

The Government decision to halt free access to health services for refugees in November 2014 led to a reduction in the number of Syrians accessing public healthcare. This reduction is partly compensated by an increased reliance on NGO and Red Crescent facilities (Inter-sector Working Group, 19/05/2015). Three in ten families could not access healthcare services when needed between October and March due to financial reasons. Maternal health is of particular concern: half of pregnant women were unable to afford antenatal care, and 60% of new mothers could not afford postnatal care (CARE, 06/04/2015). Mental health services, including severe emotional disorders and lack of vaccination among many Syrian children are also an issue (IMC, 16/03/2015; UNHCR, 10/03/2015).

Shelter and NFIs

Refugees in Host Communities

Most of the 83% of Syrian refugees living outside camps are concentrated around the major urban areas of the northwest, such as Amman and Irbid. While 91% are renting homes, over half live in substandard shelter, and many are struggling to pay the bills (UNHCR, 01/2105). A December 2014 multi-agency assessment showed that 25% of refugee households outside camps were living in overcrowded shelters (international organisations, 31/12/2014).

In Mafraq governorate, almost half of refugee households have no heating, a quarter have unreliable electricity (UNHCR, 27/04/2015).

An urban verification exercise, which requires biometric registration of all Syrians outside camps and the reissuing of key documents, has been ongoing since 15 February. As of 27 April, 54,794 Ministry of Interior cards had been issued, covering 11% of the urban refugee population (UNHCR, 13/05/2015). Non-participation could affect refugees' legal status and limit their access to government services (PI, 24/02/2015).

Camps

Zaatari camp hosts 82,071 people of concern (UNHCR, 28/05/2015). Since the beginning of 2015, significant numbers of refugees have been returning to the camp from urban areas **as a result of their increased economic vulnerability.** Since the camp was established in 2012, at least 320,000 refugees had left the camp through both official and unofficial channels (including returns to Syria) (UNICEF, 28/05/2015).

As of 28 May, Azraq camp hosts 18,896 refugees and the Emirati-Jordanian Camp (EJC) 5,989 (UNHCR, 28/05/2015).

WASH

While Jordan has an effective public water system, reports suggest these facilities are under significant strain in areas with high concentrations of Syrians. Water share in the northern governorates has dropped from 110 litres/person/day to 84 (Government, 17/03/2015). Municipal sewage and garbage removal services are also under stress (REACH, 12/11/2014).

Two out of five Syrian refugees live in poor sanitary conditions; only one in five has a functioning toilet. People in informal shelters are particularly affected (UNHCR, 14/01/2015; 27/04/2015).

Education

40% of Syrian school-aged children in Jordan, approximately 80,000, are not receiving formal education (International Peace Institute, 28/05/2015). An additional 30,000 are attending informal forms of education. 132,000 are enrolled in public schools (UNICEF, 19/03/2015). The highest attendance rates were found across the younger age groups (6–11) in all governorates – 70% of boys and 70.4% of girls, compared to 47.2% of boys and 54.5% of girls aged 12–17 (REACH, 03/2015).

Barriers to attendance and reasons for dropping out include distance; overcrowding; safety in and on the way to school; lack of resources to pay for school material, and needing to work for household income — especially boys aged 12–17 (UNHCR, 31/03/2015; REACH, 03/2015).

A survey from ILO showed that 60% of Syrian refugees above 15 have never completed basic schooling, and only about 15% of the refugees have completed secondary education (ILO, 11/05/2015).

37.5% of Iraqi refugees were not enrolled in schools in 2014, and non-attendance was reported among 40% of those enrolled, mostly for financial reasons, fear of bullying, and level differences (UNHCR, 31/01/2015).

Protection

Entry Restrictions

The average number of Syrians able to enter Jordan on a daily basis has dropped significantly since 2013 (RRP6, 2014–2015). The number and accessibility of entry points has been limited, and entry restrictions have increased, forcing Syrians to travel to remote informal crossing-points in the eastern desert (IOM, 2014).

The border crossing leading to Syria's Dar'a governorate was closed in March for reasons of insecurity (AFP, 01/04/2015).

There was increasing evidence in the second part of 2014 that the Government is returning screened refugees to Syria. Jordanian officials maintain that the border is open to refugees, and that Jordan is simply instituting security measures to exclude people connected to "terrorist organisations" (Al Ghad, 14/12/2014; Jordan Times, 11/12/2014). Numbers are hard to estimate. The most vulnerable refugees likely include those without identity documents, or with forged documents, and those who had previously returned to Syria (PI, 29/09/2014).

Encampment

Since early 2014, the Government appears to be implementing a more rigorous approach to its encampment policy of Syrian refugees. Significant numbers of refugees are being forcibly returned to camps (NRC-IRC, 13/11/2014; PI, 03/12/2014, 12/11/2014). This has often resulted in separation of family members between camp and urban settings (UNHCR, 27/04/2015).

Refugees living in urban areas are required to obtain a service card from the Ministry of Interior in order to access public health and education services, or register marriages, births or deaths. The Government has instructed humanitarian agencies not to provide assistance to Syrians who do not have service cards. There is no sign this decision has been enforced, but it creates a vulnerability (PI, 08/01/2014, 03/12/2014).

Refugees in camps and who wish to move to urban areas must obtain "bail" from the government. However, large numbers of refugees have left the camps without obtaining bail. The Government has asked UNHCR not to issue asylum-seeker certificates to

Syrians in urban areas who left the camp after 14 July 2014 and who did not obtain bail (PI, 16/07/2014 R1, PI 07/2014 R1).

Child Protection

The prevalence of child labour, often resulting in children withdrawing from school, raises concerns (UNHCR, 28/04/2015). 8% of the boys aged 9-15 are economically active and 3% are employed. In the 15-18 age group, 37% are economically active and 14% are employed (ILO, 11/05/2015).

Women and Girls

Early marriage is perceived as a form of security among Syrian refugees, but also as a way to circumnavigate government restrictions, such as the bailout rules in camps (which require a close relative for sponsorship). In the first quarter of 2014, about 32% of all registered Syrian marriages were classified as early marriages, compared to 25% in 2013 and 11% in 2011.

Working Conditions

Only about 10% of employed Syrians have obtained formal work permits, and almost all Syrian refugees working outside camps do not have work permits. Since the beginning of the crisis, Jordanians have faced deteriorating work conditions. However on average, Syrian workers are still paid less, work longer hours, and have poorer contracts compared to Jordanians in the same sector. (ILO, 11/05/2015).

SGBV

Forced marriage (33%), physical assault (25%) and psychological/emotional abuse (26%) are the most commonly reported SGBV incidents among refugees, according to research in Amman, Irbid, Mafraq and the three camps from 1 May to 31 December 2014. Women and girls make up 90% of people reporting SGBV. 82.1% of incidents disclosed were perpetrated by members of nuclear families (GBVIMS Task Force, 28/04/2015).

Updated: 02/06/2015

MYANMAR INTERNAL UNREST, FLOODS, DISPLACEMENT



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

29 May: Over 900 Rohingya and Bangladeshi migrants who were stranded at sea have come ashore in Myanmar (IOM, 27/05/2015; Reuters, 01/06/2015)..

KEY CONCERNS

- Repeated bloodshed between Buddhists and Muslims in Rakhine state since 2012, with human rights abuses reported against the Muslim minority (UN).
- 244,000 IDPs, resulting from years of internal conflict, including mainly Rohingya Muslim 146,400 IDPs in Rakhine state (OCHA, 27/02/2014).

Political Context

Myanmar's first democratic election in 25 years will take place in October or November 2015 (local media, 21/10/2014). Foreign observers will be invited to monitor the election (Reuters, 24/03/2015). On 12 February, the President approved a law allowing a referendum on changes to the constitution. This move could lift Aung San Suu Kyi's ban from the presidency (Reuters, 12/02/2015).

Peace Negotiations

In 2013, the Government made peace deals with a number of ethnic groups involved in armed insurgency, with the exception of the Kachin Independence Army (the armed wing of the Kachin Independence Organisation, or KIO), and the ethnic Ta'ang army (TNLA).

In February 2015, four armed groups signed a Deed of Commitment for Peace and National Reconciliation, agreeing to build a union based on democratic and federal principles and a nationwide ceasefire, ahead of the elections (local media, 13/01/2015). On 17 March, the KIO met with the President and affirmed its commitment to the peace process (Government, 17/03/2015). The Government and 16 ethnic opposition groups agreed on draft text for the ceasefire agreement at the end of March (AFP, 30/03/2015). The Government has made clear that the agreement will only apply to those ethnic armies taking part in negotiations (AFP, 11/05/2015).

Security Context

Despite peace negotiations, the security situation remains tense in parts of Myanmar. In January, there was fighting in Kachin state. Serious clashes broke out in Shan state in February, and fighting erupted in Rakhine in mid-April.

In early December, the United Nationalities Federal Council, the largest coalition of ethnic armed organisations, announced the establishment of the Federal Union Army. It is unclear if this army will help or hinder the peace process (VoA, 02/12/2014).

Kachin State

The KIO still has administrative control over several key areas of Kachin, and clashes between its army (the KIA) and the Myanmar army are intermittent (local media, 06/10/2014). Security incidents have been reported regularly since fighting resumed in April 2014 in Man Win Gyi, in southern Kachin state (OCHA, 16/05/2015). In January, there was fighting in the area of Hpakant (AFP, 15/01/2015; local media, 20/01/2015; local media, 27/01/2014).

Kayah State

As conflict between the government army and the Karen National Progressive Party continues, civilians find their movement further restricted as both forces have bases within various villages (local media, 18/05/2014; 17/05/2015). Both government forces and armed groups continue to occupy land and deny farmers access to farmland.

Rakhine State

The Arakan Army (AA), an ethnic insurgent group, clashed with government troops in Rakhine (formerly Arakan) state's Kyauktaw township in the last weeks of April. The insurgent group's aim is to pressure the Government to include it in peace talks. Fighting calmed in May, but the group has joined forces with the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA) in Kokang region, Shan state (Reuters, 23/04/2015).

Shan State

Fighting broke out in early February between Myanmar's army and Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA), an insurgent group in Kokang area of Shan state near the Chinese border, displacing tens of thousands of people (AFP, 10/02/2015; Radio Free Asia, 23/02/2015). The KIA, the Ta'ang National Liberation Army, the Arakan Army and the Shan State Army-North, as well as former Chinese soldiers, are all involved in the conflict (Deutsche Welle, 13/02/2014; Al Jazeera, 21/02/2015).

On 18 February, the President declared a 90-day state of emergency and imposed martial law in Kokang region. This is the first time military rule has been invoked under Myanmar's 2008 constitution (Reuters, 18/02/2015; AP, 21/02/2015). On 15 May the martial law period was extended until mid-August (local media, 14/05/2015).

On 12 April, renewed fighting was reported between the MNDAA and government troops, with the MNDAA claiming 35 casualties among government troops and four casualties among MNDAA soldiers (local media, 09/04/2015). On 8 May, five Chinese were injured, two after artillery shells fired from Myanmar landed in their village in Yunnan province (local media, 14/05/2015).

Prior to the most recent fighting, clashes between the same parties had been reported in July, October and December 2014. In 2009, serious clashes between MNDAA and the army almost wiped out the MNDAA (Deutsche Welle, 13/02/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Access

According to local NGOs, the delivery of aid to conflict-affected communities in remote areas within Shan and Kachin states is hampered by the categorisation of some areas as "black zones" by the Myanmar army, restricting foreign groups' access (IRIN, 08/10/2014). Insecurity also impedes access.

Kachin state: There continues to be little to no cross-line humanitarian assistance to non-government-controlled areas in Kachin. In December, more than 50,000 IDPs were living in

camps under KIO management (local media, 05/12/2014).

Rakhine state: Access to services improved in May as clashes between government and opposition forces abated (OCHA, 30/04/2015). As of mid-July 2014, a vulnerability mapping exercise showed that 36,000 Rohingya Muslims in 113 isolated villages in Rakhine state have no or limited access to basic (OCHA).

Local relief workers in Kyauktaw Township said that military checkpoints in the township were preventing access to displaced persons (local media, 22/04/2015).

Shan state: Estimates suggest that 60,000 people in Laukkaing are in need of humanitarian assistance, but cannot to be reached due to security concerns (OCHA, 30/04/2015). Roadblocks and border closures are restricting the movement of civilians fleeing fighting between government troops and MNDAA Chinese government officials have increased border controls (Radio Free Asia, 25/02/2015). The Government recaptured some strategic hills in March, which has improved access between Laukkai and Chinshwehaw, a town near the Chinese border. Many displaced in Laukkai are fleeing to China (Xinhua, 09/03/2015).

Security Incidents Involving Aid Workers

In February, attackers on aid vehicles in the Kokang area of Shan state wounded seven (Reuters, 17/02/2015). Government troops blamed MNDAA for both the attacks; the group has denied responsibility (AFP, 22/02/2015).

Displacement

IDPs

An estimated 244,000 protracted displaced people and are living in IDPs in Rakhine, Shan, and Kachin states (OCHA, 27/02/2015).

As of February 2015, more than half of the 98,500 IDPs in Kachin and Shan states were living in areas where government services are not available (OCHA, 12/2014; OCHA, 27/02/2015). More than 16,250 people were newly displaced in Kachin and northern Shan between January and early March 2015 (IDMC, 03/2015).

Shan: 1,000 people have been displaced to avoid forced recruitment by the KIA (local media, 01/06/2015). An unconfirmed but estimated 62,000 people are internally displaced from Kokang region; about 13,000 have fled to central Myanmar through Lashio; another 40,000 people have fled to areas near the border (OCHA, 27/02/2015; AFP, 18/02/2015; WFP, 03/2015). An unknown number have since returned home.

Kachin: Around 3,500 people remained displaced between Kachin and northern Shan (OCHA, 30/04/2015). Armed clashes in Kachin and northern Shan states displaced 20,000 IDPs between January and April 2015 (OCHA, 30/04/2015).

Rakhine: 450 people in Rakhine have fled the villages of Pinglong, Aung Lan Chaung, Dan Chaung and Kalakya to the village of Zapazeik, Kyauktaw Township, following clashes between Arakan Army and government troops (local media, 22/04/2015). On 29 April, 300

people were reported to have fled Pyingso village for Kywaytaung village, Paletwa township (Radio Free Asia, 29/04/2015).

146,000 Rohingya Muslims live in closed camps following inter-communal violence in 2012 (OCHA, 27/02/2015).

Returnees

Land taken by the military, the state, and companies close to the Government impedes the orderly future return of refugees, particularly from Thailand, and the resettlement of IDPs to their home communities or new sites (Center for International and Strategic Studies, 22/10/2014).

Refugees from Myanmar

According to UNHCR, as of late March, over 415,000 refugees originate from Myanmar. In early November, UNHCR reported that an increasing number of people, mainly Rohingya, are setting out to sea on smuggling boats; many capsize (AFP, 30/11/2014).

China: Between January and February 2015, around 60,000 people are believed to have fled to China (OCHA, 30/05/2015). Refugees are moving back and forth across the border to seek shelter, food, and employment, according to aid agencies (RFA, 23/03/2015). Recent clashes between the Myanmar government forces and armed groups spilled over the border into China in mid-April and pushed around 700 refugees further into China for fear of being caught up in fighting (OCHA, 12/05/2015).

Bangladesh: 200,000 Rohingya reside in unofficial camps or villages where they get little or no humanitarian assistance and almost no protection from human rights abuse. Most Rohingya are denied refugee status by the Bangladeshi authorities. An estimated 30,000 Rohingya Muslims live in official camps and receive assistance from aid agencies (local media, 09/11/2014).

Malaysia: As of end December, 40,700 Rohingya registered with the UN are in Malaysia. Rohingya activists say a roughly equal number are unregistered. Rohingya migrants are frequently kept in a number of trafficker camps along the border, where they are held for ransom, tortured, and raped (AFP, 30/11/2014; International Media, 30/12/2015, **Reuters**, 01/06/2015).

Thailand: Since June 2014, movement restrictions have been more strictly enforced; Myanmar refugees are banned from leaving camps, confined to their homes 1800–0600, and threatened with deportation if they do not comply (Refugees International 29/08/2014). In July, the Thai authorities pledged to send about 100,000 of the 120,000 refugees living in border camps back to Myanmar (UNHCR has registered 76,000 refugees). According to senior Thai military officials, measures are in place to deter boats from approaching the country's shores (Reuters, 15/11/2014; UNCHR, 01/2015). Rohingya Muslims are subject to human trafficking. Many are held for ransom and abused (**international media**, 01/06/2015; 02/06/2015).

Food Security

More than 1,000 people in Rakhine state are facing food shortages, as fighting between the Arakan Army and government forces is cutting off access to commercial centres (local media, 04/05/2015).

Overall, the food security situation has improved, although recurrent inter-communal tensions have negatively impacted the situation, mainly for IDPs (FAO, 24/09/2014). 70,000 people are food insecure in Rakhine state (OCHA, 31/10/2014).

Livelihoods

The trend for poppy cultivation in Shan state, which was on course to be wiped out ten years ago, has reversed. Poppy cultivation has tripled since 2006, with close to 60,700 hectares of poppy farms, according to UN surveys (NYT, 03/01/2015).

Rohingya fishermen of Maungdaw township, Rakhine state, have been barred from fishing since 7 November (local media, 10/11/2014).

Health and Nutrition

Access to healthcare is a major challenge in Rakhine (OCHA, 30/09/2014). If Rohingya camp residents wish to leave their camp to see a doctor, they must first obtain a referral by a government doctor and reportedly must also often bribe the security guards (Center for International and Strategic Studies, 22/10/2014). Only patients in the most critical condition tend to reach hospital.

Nutrition

In Rakhine state, GAM is above 20% in some areas (UNICEF, 01/02/2015). In June 2014, 2.1% SAM and 6.8% MAM was found among 32,000 children under five screened in Rakhine, indicating a deterioration in parts of the state since March. Severely malnourished children are being referred to Sittwe hospital; fewer referral services, high transportation costs, and fear of travelling to Sittwe are preventing many children from receiving medical care (OCHA 30/06/2014).

Shelter and NFIs

In Rakhine state, 15,000 people are in urgent need of assistance to repair shelters. In Kachin, there is a major need to scale up maintenance and repair work (OCHA, 31/10/2014).

Displaced people and vulnerable communities in Rakhine have limited access to cooking fuel and energy. The situation is particularly difficult for over 80,000 IDPs who have been in camps in Sittwe Township for over two years. Households in camps and isolated villages are using shelter materials or unsustainable and hazardous materials as fuel, the exchange of food rations for fuel, and over-exploitation of surrounding forest and woodland (OCHA, 30/11/2014).

WASH

In Rakhine state, a general deterioration in the WASH situation in camps is aggravating

health problems and increasing the risk of waterborne disease (OCHA, 11/09/2014).

Education

In Rakhine state, 28,000 vulnerable children require education support. 60,000 adolescents in isolated communities are without any education opportunities (OCHA, 08/2014).

Protection

Kachin Independence Army since the start of armed clashes with the army in June 2011 have been forcibly recruiting from local villages in Shan state (local media, 11/11/2014). Local media has accused government troops of rape, beatings, and shooting of unarmed civilians in the Kokang region, Shan state (RFA, 25/03/2015).

Legal Status of Rohingya Muslims

In the west, massive human rights infringements against the Rohingya Muslim minority in Rakhine state continue to be reported.

In early April, the Myanmar Government started taking back temporary identity cards issued to those without full citizenship, including Rohingya Muslims, which expired at the end of March 2015. As of 6 April, 40,000 cards were collected, according to local media (local media, 07/04/2015). These identity cards were part of a citizenship application process. This move came after dozens of protesters gathered in Yangon to call on the Government not to allow people without full citizenship to vote in the referendum on amending the constitution (AFP, 11/02/2015).

Over 800,000 people are estimated to be without citizenship in the northern part of Rakhine state, mostly Rohingya Muslims (UNHCR). Myanmar continues officially to state that the Rohingya Muslims are migrants from neighbouring Bangladesh, thus excluded from citizenship under the 1982 Citizenship Law. The Government has drafted a plan which would force Rohingya Muslims either to register as Bengalis or be detained. Rakhine authorities would construct temporary camps for people who refuse to be registered or who are without adequate documents (local media, 12/10/2015). Rights advocates say this could put thousands of Rohingya at risk of indefinite detention. Accepting the term Bengali could leave the Rohingya vulnerable if authorities class them as illegal immigrants and attempt to send them to Bangladesh (Reuters, 27/09/2014).

Rohingya in Bay of Bengal

The Thai Government began a major operation to shut down human trafficking operations along its border with Myanmar in April. It has been claimed that the Myanmar Government is primarily responsible for the Rohingya.

As of 1 June, approximately 4,000 people arrived in Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand. Over 900 have come ashore in Myanmar. The number of deaths at sea is unknown (IOM, 27/05/2015; Reuters, 01/06/2015). 2,000–3,000 people are thought to still be at sea. Some have been at sea for months. They are in severe need of water and food (Human Rights Watch, 27/05/2015; AFP, 17/05/2015; OCHA, 02/06/2015; UNHCR, 14/05/2015).

Children

42 children were released from the armed forces on 24 January. In 2014, 376 children were released (AFP, 24/01/2014).

SGBV

In 2014, the Women's League of Burma released a report that documented more than 118 victims of sexual violence at the hands of the Myanmar army since Thein Sein's government took power (local media 26/11/2014).

Assessments in northern Shan state indicate that domestic violence is prevalent in IDP camps. Drug consumption and other negative coping mechanisms among men were identified by the women as a contributing factor. Adolescent girls are exposed to particular protection risks, according to the assessment findings. Cross-border trafficking for the purposes of domestic servitude, sexual exploitation, and forced marriage was identified as a major protection concern by respondents (OCHA, 30/11/2014).

Mines and ERW

Around five million people in Myanmar live in mine-contaminated areas (Mines Advisory Group, 05/2014). In Kayah state, around 15–20 people are injured annually, although the number of fatalities is unknown. More than 34,000 IDPs are at greatest risk due to their being in unfamiliar areas.

An assessment in Kachin and Northern Shan states concluded that the majority of reported landmine victims over the second half of 2014 were male farmers, and 56% were displaced people. Most of the accidents registered happened while people were travelling on foot to areas they visit often, such as fields. More than 25% of landmine victims knew the area was dangerous before entering it (UNICEF, 30/11/2014).

According to local media, citing intelligence reports by the Bangladeshi border security forces, Myanmar security forces have planted mines along the border between Myanmar and Bangladesh (local media, 23/11/2014). Myanmar has previously denied this practice, while Bangladesh has claimed to have found and removed mines in the border area.

Updated: 03/06/2015

PHILIPPINES CONFLICT, FLOODS, TYPHOON

Situation of concern		Pre-crisis vulnerability	% population affected	Humanitarian access
=		Low	1.4%	Low
Severity: minimal low moderate severe				See the methodology note for details.

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

1 June: More than 32,200 people remain displaced in Maguindanao since fighting in January–March 2015. 28,200 people in Zamboanga are still displaced after fighting in September 2013 (OCHA).

May: El Niño conditions are likely to continue, and there is a risk of them strengthening. Maize and rice crop yields may be negatively affected (Government, 27/05/2015; FAO, 21/05/2015).

KEY CONCERNS

- Over 26,000 people remain displaced ten months after Typhoon Haiyan and more than two million lack adequate shelter or housing (FAO, 09/10/2014).
- 38,200 people who fled fighting in Zamboanga in September 2013 are still displaced (OCHA, 01/06/2015).
- The Philippines is one of the most hazard-prone countries in the world, experiencing several large-scale natural hazards a year.
- 32,200 remain displaced as of 1 June, after a month-long military campaign against BIFF in Maguindanao in March (OCHA, 01/06/2015).

OVERVIEW

A series of natural disasters, most significantly Typhoon Haiyan in November 2013, has caused widespread damage across the Philippines and affected millions. The overall political situation had been relatively stable until January 2015, when fighting broke out in Maguindanao. Although tensions remain high, the peace deal with MILF has not derailed.

[For more information, visit the ACAPS country analysis page.](#)

Political Context

Since October 2012, the Government has been engaged in finalising a lengthy peace process with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), the country's largest Muslim separatist group. Draft legislation for the 2014 March Comprehensive Agreement on Bangsamoro was submitted to Congress in September 2014 (AFP, 10/09/2014). The agreement paves the way for the creation of a new Muslim autonomous entity called Bangsamoro, replacing the current Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM). The government aims to set up the region by 2016. The agreement allows for a Muslim self-rule area in southern Philippines in exchange for the decommissioning of MILF forces.

The disarmament process for Philippine Muslim opposition groups started in September 2014. The decommissioning of a first batch of firearms was scheduled for late 2014 (AFP, 28/09/2014). The parties met on 30 January and signed the protocol for its implementation (Government, 28/01/2015; local media, 31/01/2015). The Independent Decommissioning Body has not yet reported on the process.

Security Context

Various armed groups in Mindanao, among them Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF), who split from MILF in 2008, and New People's Army (NPA), continue their violent opposition against the state. Thousands were displaced by fighting between the Philippine army and BIFF in 2014 (IRIN, 22/07/2014; OCHA). Increased violence between the Philippine armed forces and opposition groups was reported in November and later in January as a consequence of government efforts to capture militants.

On 25 January Philippine security forces entered the remote village of Mamasapano, in Maguindanao, which is held by MILF. However, they had not coordinated with MILF beforehand, as required under the ceasefire agreement. In the worst fighting since the peace agreement of 2014, 44 police officers, 11 militants and two civilians were killed (AFP, 26/01/2015, ECHO, 28/01/2015; OCHA, 02/02/2015).

In the aftermath of the 25 January clashes, the national army launched a military offensive against BIFF in Mindanao (local media, 22/02/2015). On 26 February, troops were sent to Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat, and Maguindanao. On 30 March the Philippines military chief announced that the offensive had ended. 139 insurgents were killed, 12 captured, and bomb-making bases seized during the five-week campaign (AP, 30/03/2015). As of 31 March, government reports indicated that 132,870 people had been affected (Government, 31/03/2015).

On 29 May, 15 people were wounded in an attack on a mosque at a police camp in the capital of Jolo island. No group has claimed responsibility (international media, 30/05/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Access

Insecurity in parts of Mindanao and nearby areas is limiting humanitarian access. Concurrent natural disasters have hampered further aid delivery to affected populations.

Disasters

Category 4 Typhoon Noul, locally known as Dodong, made landfall on 10 May in Cagayan province, Northern Luzon, with wind speeds of up to 185 km/hour. More than 3,600 people were pre-emptively evacuated from Cagayan and Isabela provinces. Two casualties were reported. The Government reported 4,500 people affected on 12 May. Electricity was disrupted and several flights cancelled, but all roads and bridges remained passable to vehicles and damage to houses and livelihoods was minimal. On 12 May, all public storm warning signals were lifted (IFRC, 12/05/2015; ECHO, 12/05/2015; ASEAN, 11/05/2015; Government, 11/05/2015).

Typhoon Maysak, locally known as Chedeng, weakened into a tropical storm as it made landfall on 5 April in Dinapigue municipality, Isabela province in north Luzon, with no reports of casualties (OCHA, 06/04/2015). 2, 140 people that were pre-emptively evacuated in Isabela and Aurora provinces have returned home. (OCHA, 06/04/2015).

Category 5 Typhoon Hagupit, locally known as Ruby, made landfall on 6 December 2014 in Eastern Samar province (Eastern Philippines) (GDACS, 06/12/2014). 3.8 million people were affected across nine regions (WFP, 15/12/2014). Around 38,100 houses were destroyed and 203,600 partially damaged (OCHA, 15/12/2014).

Dry Spell

Ongoing El Niño conditions are likely to continue until mid-2015 with a chance of strengthening toward the end of the year. Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao are affected by the dry spell (Government, 27/05/2015).

In southern and central Philippines the drought had already started to affect agricultural production in April, in particular in Mindanao (local media, 21/04/2015). Affected crops include maize, rice, high-value crops, and vegetables (Government, 22/04/2015).

On 1 April, Zamboanga declared a state of emergency to mobilise funds in order to mitigate the effects of the dry spell (OCHA, 30/04/2015). In Zamboanga, 15 of 25 irrigation dams are below the critical water level; nine have completely dried up. Drought and bushfires have damaged some 8,900 hectares of agricultural land around the city (OCHA, 30/04/2015). The dry spells are expected to affect even more provinces over the next months (local media, 20/04/2015).

Displacement

As of February 2015, reports suggest that nearly 500,000 people are displaced. Around 80% of the 3 million displaced in 2014 fled natural disasters. An estimated 95,000 fled conflict and violence in Mindanao. The total number of people displaced by conflict and violence reached its lowest level since 2011 (IDMC, 10/02/2015).

Maguindanao

Fighting in Maguindanao between January and March displaced 125,000 people. As of 1 June, more than 32,200 people remain displaced in 21 sites across five municipalities. 72% of IDPs are in Datu Salibo and Datu Saudi Ampatuan municipalities. 32% of IDPs are in makeshift shelters, made of light materials that offer little protection for health and safety, and where they have no privacy. Water, shelter and protection are priority needs (OCHA, 01/06/2015; IOM, 22/05/2015). The prolonged dry season is further affecting the health and incomes of the IDPs (ICRC, 20/04/2015).

Many of the IDPs who returned home still require assistance. 274 houses have been burned or destroyed (OCHA, 01/06/2015).

Zamboanga

28,200 people remain displaced after fighting between MNLF and government forces in September 2013. 3,100 people are in evacuation centres, 13,800 in transitional sites and 11,300 are staying with host families or renting temporary homes (OCHA, 01/06/2015). Some of the transitional sites, including Mampang, which hosts 7,000

IDPs, are disconnected from livelihood opportunities and have irregular and insufficient access to water and electricity (OCHA, 31/05/2015).

Typhoon Haiyan

Little information is available about progress towards solutions for the approximately four million people who have returned home, although it is believed that livelihood, food, and housing needs remain considerable in Haiyan-affected areas (IDMC, 10/02/2015). Longer-term assistance is required, such as supporting self-recovery, assisting households in no-build zones, helping with safer reconstruction, and enabling access to healthcare, schools, public transportation, and livelihood opportunities (UNHCR, 30/09/2014). Larger shelter gaps persist in Western Leyte (EU Red Cross, 20/03/2015).

Food Security

Food security is a main concern for the majority (85%) of IDPs in Maguindanao, and they are in need of livelihood support (IOM, 22/05/2015).

Food remains a priority need for people affected by typhoon Haiyan, more than a year after the event. Food prices are inflated and thousands of people still do not have the means to buy food or have sufficient access to markets (EU Red Cross, 20/03/2015).

Below-average rainfall since April may delay planting and reduce sowing. A high probability of El Niño conditions is causing concerns about production. Low levels of precipitation may result in reduced yields and affect the 2015/2016 planting season. Prospects for maize crops are also uncertain due to El Niño, but so far average-good production is expected for both rice and maize (FAO, 21/05/2015).

WASH

Only 29 of 62 return sites in Maguindanao have access to water as of 1 June, compared to 59 before the conflict. 37 have access to toilets, compared to 46 before (OCHA, 01/06/2015).

Severe water shortages are particularly affecting IDPs in Zamboanga city and sanitation facilities are difficult to maintain, especially in Mampang transition sites. Water trucking is temporarily improving the water supply for IDPs (OCHA, 30/04/2015).

Health

In nine of the 62 return sites in Maguindanao, health and nutrition facilities have been partially damaged, and one completely destroyed (OCHA, 01/06/2015). Main health concerns among the remaining IDPs are influenza, skin diseases, and diarrhoea (IOM, 22/05/2015).

Dengue: Between 1 January and 18 April, 21,962 cases of dengue fever were reported, including 61 deaths. This is a 7% increase compared to the same period in 2014 (WHO, 19/05/2015). Since mid-February, the weekly number of dengue cases reported in the country has declined (WHO, 08/04/2015).

Nutrition

A SMART survey of displaced communities of Zamboanga indicated high malnutrition rates among children under five (ACF, 20/03/2015).

Education

Schooling in Pagalungan (Maguindanao province) and Pikit (Cotabato province) has been suspended following the fighting (ECHO, 24/02/2015). Almost 50 schools, and 20,630 children, have been affected (Government, 13/03/2015).

Protection

IDPs' dependency on food assistance in Zamboanga increases tensions and the risk of SGBV. Women and children are particularly exposed to harassment, threats, and theft (OCHA, 31/05/2015).

Protection is a critical concern for IDPs in Maguindanao, particularly those in Datu Salibo and Datu Saudi Ampatuan municipalities, where the presence of military forces and militant groups are threatening their security (OCHA, 31/05/2015). In almost all IDP sites, protection services, including referral pathways, psychosocial services, and legal documentation support, are still not available (IOM, 22/05/2015).

Many armed groups are accused of recruiting children. The Philippines army has identified some 340 child soldiers currently fighting with the NPA, though the number may be higher in reality. MILF and Aby Sayyaf are also reported to recruit children and teenagers, as well as BIFF (IRIN, 20/05/2015).

Updated: 04/06/2015

DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA **FLOODS, FOOD INSECURITY, EPIDEMIC**

No accurate or verified data relating to food security of general humanitarian needs is available, therefore DPRK is not included in the GEO prioritisation.

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

30 May: The UN warns that low water supplies might lead to increased food insecurity (Reuters).

KEY CONCERNS

- Information on the food security situation remains limited. An estimated 18 million people (70% of the population) are food insecure (WFP).

- According to the 2012 National Nutrition Survey, the chronic malnutrition rate is 27.9% and the acute malnutrition rate is 4% of children under five (WFP).
- DPRK is disaster prone, regularly experiencing intense rain, floods and droughts (UN).
- Humanitarian access remains extremely limited (UN).

Political Context

DPRK is subject to sanctions by the UN, EU, and the US, amongst others. The most recent UN sanctions were implemented in a 2013 Security Council resolution following DPRK nuclear threats against South Korea and the US.

Security Context

DPRK–South Korea

In early March, following the annual joint US-South Korean military exercises, DPRK officials reiterated nuclear threats against the US. According to South Korean officials, that same week DPRK fired two short-range missiles off the coast (Reuters, 03/03/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Access

Humanitarian access remains extremely limited. Humanitarian agencies do not have the ability to freely access communities, conduct assessments, or run monitoring and evaluating processes. International sanctions are further complicating assistance, in particular due to the suspension of banking channels for fund transfers (UN, 01/04/2015).

Food Security

An estimated 18 million people, of a total population of 24.6 million, are considered food insecure and highly vulnerable to shortages in food production. Of these, 1.8 million children, older people, and pregnant and lactating women are in particular need of food assistance (UN, 01/04/2015).

The food system in DPRK remains highly vulnerable to shocks and serious shortages exist, particularly in the production of protein-rich crops. Lack of agricultural inputs, such as seeds, fertiliser and plastic sheets, is a fundamental challenge for food production (UN, 01/04/2015). According to FAO, food production stagnated in 2014, after an improvement in previous years. FAO estimates that the food security situation for 2015 is likely to remain similar to 2014 (FAO, 12/02/2015). In August 2014, the official Public Distribution System food rations were cut by almost half, from 400 to 250 grams per person per day. The rations have since increased, however there is concern that the decreased ration size reflects general food scarcity (WFP, 25/03/2015).

Forecasts that El Niño will be mild this year may lead to drought conditions, which could further impact food security, according to the UN. Farmers reportedly do not have sufficient water to plant rice, and have had to plant maize instead (Reuters,

30/05/2015). However, according to other sources, the new farm management system, which allows smaller groups of farmers to share a plot of land and keep a greater amount of their crops, coupled with a general improvement in food supplies over the last years, may prevent further food insecurity (Reuters, 31/05/2015).

WASH

Water reserves are currently very low, according to UN officials. Rainfall in 2014 was 40–60% below 2013 levels (Reuters, 30/05/2015).

An estimated seven million people need access to clean water and sanitation. There is a notable lack of proper sanitation in rural areas and in institutions such as nurseries, kindergartens and orphanages (UN, 01/04/2015).

Education

Lack of teaching/learning materials in addition to the lack of adequate sanitation facilities in school buildings remain a challenge in providing education to six million school-aged children (UNICEF, 26/01/2015).

Health and Nutrition

An estimated six million people need access to essential health services, including vaccines. Other medical products and life-saving equipment, such as ambulances, remain limited. Health facilities often lack functioning water systems, increasing the risks of hospital infections and the spread of diseases (UN, 01/04/2015).

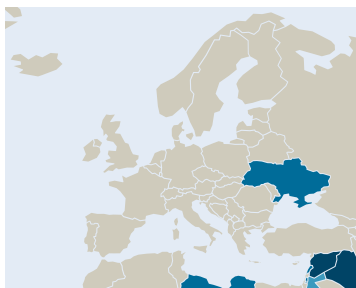
Tuberculosis and malaria are considered major health challenges, with 2, 500 people dying of TB every year (UN, 01/04/2015).

Nutrition

Chronic and acute malnutrition remains one of the major contributors to maternal and child mortality (UNICEF, 26/01/2015). According to the 2012 National Nutrition Survey, among children under the age of five, the chronic malnutrition rate is at 27.9% and the acute malnutrition rate is at four per cent, a small reduction from previous years (UN, 01/04/2015). Decreased production of vegetables and soybeans, a major source of protein, contributes to the lack of food diversity for the general population (UN, 01/04/2015).

Updated: 03/06/2015

EUROPE



UKRAINE CONFLICT, DISPLACEMENT



For more information, visit the [ACAPS country analysis page](#).

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

8 June: Humanitarian access to non-government areas has been further restricted with the closure of government checkpoints at Kurakhove and Volnovakha due to the deteriorating security situation (UNHCR).

5 June: Basic services have been interrupted due to shelling in Marynka and Krasnohorivka in Donetsk region; around 10,000 people urgently need access to water (OCHA).

3 June: Nearly 4.5 million people need health support, and 1.4 million people need shelter support, compared to 1.5 million and 600,000 end March (OCHA).

3 June: Clashes left at least 34 people dead and 180 wounded, as fears are growing of a momentary surge in violence or of a deepening, intractable conflict (AFP).

KEY CONCERNS

- Five million people are affected by the crisis, and more than 1.6 million need humanitarian support. The situation is most severe in non-government areas (MSNA, 30/03/2015).

- More than 1.3 million people have been displaced internally and 878,000 externally. It is difficult for civilians to escape contested areas (OCHA, 29/05/2015).

- Conflict, as well as bureaucratic, security and financial restrictions are impeding access and response (OCHA, 26/12/2014; MSF, 23/01/2015).

- Access to food, health and WASH are key concerns (MSNA, 30/03/2015).

Political Context

Ukraine and pro-Russian separatist forces signed a peace roadmap on 12 February, introducing a full bilateral ceasefire from 15 February, the establishment of a buffer zone around the frontline, the release of hostages and illegally detained prisoners, and the restoration of social and economic links with affected areas (BBC, 12/02/2015). The ceasefire has been broken repeatedly, with fighting intensifying along the frontline during May. On 14 April, the February deal was extended to smaller-calibre arms (Le Monde, 14/04/2015; OSCE, 21/03/2015).

A law granting special status to non-government-controlled areas was approved by Parliament, but rejected by leaders of the two self-declared Republics (local media, 17/03/2015). The list of areas beyond government control was extended end April, with all budgetary payments terminated, raising major concerns among the local population (OCHA, 01/05/2015). On 15 November, Ukraine's President ordered the withdrawal of all state services from regions held by armed groups; state allocations to these areas have also been halted since 1 December, including social payments (international media, 15/11/2014; UN, 15/12/2014).

Security Context

As of 3 June, at least 6,455 people have been documented as killed and 16,146 wounded since the beginning of the conflict, though the death toll may be higher, since access to conflict-affected areas is restricted (OCHA, 05/06/2015).

Armed groups control most of eastern Donetsk region, including Donetsk's airport and Debaltseve, and a small area of southern Luhansk region (Government, 13/01/2015; international media, 22/01/2015). Non-government forces reportedly comprise around 35,000 to 40,000 fighters, including up to 10,000 Russian fighters (AFP, 23/03/2015).

Clashes on 3 June left at least 34 people dead and 180 wounded in the conflict zone, mainly around Marynka and Krasnohorivka, in one of the worst outbreaks of violence since February; fears are growing of either a momentary surge in violence in parts of the conflict zone or of a deepening, intractable conflict (AFP, 05/06/2015; 04/06/2015).

Fighting has been reported in Shyrokyne and around Donetsk city and airport since 11–12 April, and intensified and spread to other areas in Donetsk and Luhansk regions in May. Casualty numbers are unspecified, as access to the areas is severely constrained (OSCE, 16/04/2015; 12/04/2015). The OSCE mission was involved in several incidents over 2–3 May (OSCE, 01/05/2015; 03/05/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Five million people are affected by the crisis in Ukraine, including 1.7 million children. 3.6 million are affected in non-government-controlled areas, 954,000 in government-controlled areas in Donetsk and Luhansk, and 310,000 in Dnipropetrovsk, Kharkiv and Zaporizhzhya regions, the main IDP reception areas. More than 1.6 million are in need of humanitarian support (UNICEF, 01/05/2015; MSNA, 30/03/2015).

Access

Humanitarian access to non-government areas has been further restricted with the closure of government checkpoints at Kurakhove and Volnovakha due to the deteriorating security situation (UNHCR, 08/06/2015). A plan has been developed to evacuate approximately 1,500 residents from the recently shelled Marynka and Krasnohorivka in Donetsk region, where basic services have reportedly been interrupted. All the checkpoints in that area are currently closed and roads heavily damaged and mined (OSCE, 05/06/2015; OCHA, 05/06/2015).

Getting in and out of the conflict zone is becoming more difficult (MSF, 23/01/2015). Lack of available and affordable transport, insecurity along exit routes and administrative barriers are preventing civilians from reaching safety (UNHCR, 10/03/2015). Only four international humanitarian organisations are operating in conflict zones (OCHA, 16/03/2015). The Kurakhove checkpoint, which allows humanitarian aid to non-government controlled areas, has been closed several times in May due to insecurity (OCHA, 26/05/2015).

Corruption allegations led to the dismissal of key government representatives end March, including members of the emergency services, putting additional pressure on the delivery of humanitarian assistance (OCHA, 27/03/2015).

Administrative Constraints

Administrative requirements are increasingly complicated to cross the lines separating government- from opposition-controlled areas. Obligatory permits have been enforced since 21 January, and are negatively affecting citizens on both sides of the line in accessing services (**especially social entitlements and healthcare**) and reuniting families. The permit is not easy to acquire and corruption is reported (**UNICEF/Protection Cluster, 25/05/2015; UNHCR, 20/03/2015; OCHA, 06/03/2015**). Since the ceasefire, many instances of extensive delays or refusal of permission for aid trucks to enter non-government areas have been reported (UNHCR, 20/03/2015). Volunteer organisations working in both self-declared republics have made similar reports (HRW, 13/03/2015).

Freedom of movement has been further restricted to non-government areas in Luhansk by the implementation of a local decree on 1 May, **which has effectively closed all crossing points (UNHCR, 08/06/2015)**. Authorities in self-proclaimed Donetsk Republic also issued a draft humanitarian law in May, requiring foreigners to be accredited by local authorities (UNICEF, 15/05/2015).

Logistical Constraints

The Government has decided to halt public transport in non-government areas, hampering humanitarian access (OCHA, 09/01/2015).

Luhansk region is difficult to access due to deteriorated road conditions, UXO and IEDs, and damage to the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge, which can now only support small vehicles (OCHA, 27/02/2015).

Bus connections and private vehicles crossing the administrative border to and from

Crimea are often delayed for several days (UNHCR, 06/02/2015). International shipping has been prohibited from the ports of Yevpatoria, Kerch, Sevastopol, Theodosia, and Yalta, on the Crimea peninsula, since 15 July (GARD, 17/07/2014).

Trapped and Hard-to-Reach Communities

Many civilians remain stranded in hard-to-reach areas in conflict and non-government-controlled areas. As of March, 500,000 people were living in underground shelters in conflict areas, with little or no access to humanitarian aid (OCHA, 16/03/2015). 150,000 remain in non-government- controlled Horlivka in Donetsk (OSCE, 17/03/2015). 5,000 civilians are estimated to be trapped in Debaltseve as of 20 February. Some 4,000 people remain in 21 institutional care facilities in hard-to-reach areas not controlled by the Government (ICRC, 22/02/2015; OCHA, 06/03/2015). 3,000 people remain in Kuibyshevskiy district in Donetsk city and have not been reached by humanitarian aid (OCHA, 22/03/2015).

Displacement

IDPs

By 3 June, more than 1.32 million IDPs have been registered in eastern Ukraine since March 2014, including 13% children and 4% people with disabilities. 41,500 people have been displaced over 21 May – 3 June. Key reception areas are areas under government control in Donetsk (486,800) and Luhansk regions (186,000), and Kharkiv (172,600), Zaporizhzhya (92,800), Kyiv (94,500), and Dnipropetrovsk regions (74,600) (UNHCR, 08/06/2015; 05/06/2015). 19,000 people are estimated to be displaced within Crimea (IDMC, 31/10/2014).

A discrepancy between the real and registered numbers of IDPs is significantly hampering delivery of assistance (OCHA, 30/01/2015). Many pensioners have registered as IDPs solely to be able to access their pension payments, and then moved back home (UNHCR, 06/02/2015). Other IDPs and affected populations continue to commute to their areas of origin, to receive assistance or scope out damage to their homes (OCHA, 22/03/2015).

Returnees

Some IDPs have reportedly returned to conflict areas, as the devaluation of the national currency has limited their ability to afford basic living expenses, including rent and food (OCHA, 06/03/2015). With the fighting intensifying in May, reported returns have decreased (OCHA, 25/05/2015).

Refugees in Neighbouring Countries

878,000 Ukrainians are seeking asylum (39%) or other forms of legal stay in neighbouring countries, including 728,200 in Russia, 81,100 in Belarus and 55,500 in Poland (UNHCR, 05/06/2015). Since July 2014, Russian authorities have prevented Ukrainians from obtaining refugee status in several regions, including border areas and major cities such as Moscow. Most asylum seekers have been unable to collect the required documents and access refugee status (IO, 09/12/2014).

Food Security

Nearly 1.8 million people need food assistance, compared to 1.3 million end March. **People in non-government areas are particularly affected by high food prices and lack of commodities in shops (OCHA, 03/06/2015; MSNA, 30/03/2015).** Food shortages have been reported especially in Luhansk, significantly affecting IDPs (OCHA, 10/04/2015; FAO, 26/01/2015). IDPs in Kharkiv are also in need of food and nutrition support (OCHA, 24/04/2015).

Since November 2014, food prices have been multiplied by 3-4. In Donetsk region, fruit and vegetable price increases range from 60% to 383% (OCHA, 01/05/2015). Increased food prices, disrupted transport systems, high insecurity, remoteness, and lack of hard currency limit access to markets for at least 20% of the population in Luhansk, Donetsk, Kharkiv, Dnepropetrovsk, and Zaporizhzhya regions (HNO, 12/2014). Populations in non-government areas are particularly affected (OCHA, 24/04/2015).

Agriculture

Insecurity, damaged infrastructure, landmines, and lack of resources are delaying agricultural activity in many conflict areas (OCHA, 10/04/2015). Some farming enterprises close to the conflict zone have lost up to 30% of their winter harvest. 80,250 people living in small farming households in rural areas need assistance in the next six months (FAO, 31/01/2015).

13% of wheat, barley, and maize, and up to 30% of sunflower crops were not harvested in 2014 due to displacement, corresponding to losses of 530,000 and 400,000 MT (FAO, 31/01/2015).

Livelihoods

Households' poor financial situation is the main driver of need (MSNA, 30/03/2015). 2.7 million people are in need of livelihood support as employment opportunities are reduced, and access to social services, such as pensions and salaries, remains suspended in many conflict and non-government areas (**OCHA, 03/06/2015**). IDPs from Crimea are also often unable to transfer their pensions to mainland Ukraine since banks ceased the use of electronic banking (UNHCR, 06/02/2015).

Ukraine's economy keeps sinking: GDP fell by 17.6% in the first quarter of 2015 compared to the same period in 2014, while inflation rose 61% compared to April 2014 (Les Echos, 07/05/2015). Damage to industrial plants of national importance, such as Avdiivka coke plant on 22 May, is affecting the country's economic output (Reuters, 24/05/2015).

Health and Nutrition

Nearly 4.5 million people are in need of health support, compared to 1.5 million end March (OCHA, 03/06/2015; MSNA, 30/03/2015). The devaluation of the Ukrainian currency means the health budget for 2015 will only cover an estimated 30% of needs (OCHA, 24/02/2015).

There are critical shortages of medicines and medical supplies in eastern Ukraine,

especially in conflict areas in Donetsk region, and many people cut off from medical care in non-government areas. A significant increase in medicine prices affects access to basic medication and treatment for chronic illnesses (MSF, 04/03/2015; WHO, 16/01/2015; OCHA, 16/05/2015). Significant vaccine shortages are also reported, with only 7-10% of required quantities available in non-government areas in Donetsk (UNICEF, 01/05/2015).

More than 100 health facilities in Donetsk and Luhansk regions have been destroyed or damaged, while 30% and 70% of health workers are no longer at their posts in the respective regions (OCHA, 21/03/2015; WHO, 16/01/2015). The safety and security of health workers remains a major concern in conflict areas (OCHA, 17/10/2014; IMC, 31/01/2015). The self-proclaimed Luhansk Republic aims to reduce the number of hospitals (OCHA, 01/05/2015).

HIV/AIDS

HIV-related needs are a concern in non-government areas with reports of interruption of antiretroviral treatment for adults and children (UNICEF, 15/05/2015). Over 16,000 people are living with HIV/AIDS in non-government areas, including over 7,000 people receiving antiretroviral therapy (HRW, 13/03/2015).

Opioid Substitution Treatment (OST)

Restrictions on the delivery of narcotic drugs since December 2014 for people undergoing OST in Donetsk and Luhansk regions has resulted in discontinuation of treatment for more than 300 of the 899 patients residing in the area (OCHA, 23/01/2015).

Mental Health

Children are showing signs of stress and anxiety in all areas; 200,000 kindergarten and school-aged children are affected, especially in Donetsk region (UNICEF, 03/04/2015; MSNA, 30/03/2015).

Tuberculosis (TB)

At least 2,400 people in non-government areas with TB, including 530 people with multidrug-resistant TB, lack consistent treatment provision and follow-up, and are at risk of treatment interruption (HRW, 13/03/2015). In areas under government control, stocks of drug supplies for HIV and TB patients were used up in March 2015 (OCHA, 23/01/2015). New TB cases are estimated to have increased by 5% in non-government areas of Donetsk, mainly among the elderly and combatants (OCHA, 06/02/2015).

Shelter and NFIs

1.4 million people are estimated to be in need of emergency shelter and NFIs, compared to 600,000 end March. Government and non-government areas in Donetsk and Luhansk, as well as high IDP reception areas are most affected (**OCHA, 03/06/2015; MSNA, 30/03/2015**).

IDPs

Housing solutions are provided to only 3–5% of IDPs in temporary collective centres (UNHCR, 20/03/2015). 95% of IDPs are in host families or with volunteers and are often excluded from humanitarian assistance (UNHCR, 21/05/2015). The absorption capacity within host communities is exhausted in high reception areas and in Odessa. Secondary displacement to seek more sustainable solutions is likely (UNHCR, 21/05/2015).

Conflict Areas

Repair needs are high along the conflict line (UNHCR/Shelter cluster, 30/04/2015). 60% of Shyrokyne's buildings have been destroyed by shelling, while shelter and food support remain priorities in Debaltseve (MSF, 21/04/2015; OSCE, 27/03/2015). People in underground shelters in conflict areas are in acute need of basic NFIs (MSF, 03/03/2015).

In Luhansk region, more than 10,000 houses need emergency repair (OCHA, 13/03/2015). 30,000 in Donbas are without electricity (OCHA, 03/04/2015).

WASH

More than 1.3 million people need WASH assistance, including nearly 1.2 million in non-government areas (MSNA, 30/03/2015). More than 2,000km of pipelines have been damaged in Donbas; inability to conduct repairs or provide drinking water by water trucks in non-government areas further hampers access (UNICEF, 15/05/2015; OCHA, 10/04/2015).

Around 10,000 people in Maryinka and Krasnohorivka in Donetsk region have lacked access to water since shelling on 3 June (OCHA, 05/06/2015). Over 100,000 people in non-government areas in Luhansk are without access to safe water as the main water treatment station was destroyed; another main pipeline was damaged by shelling in Rodina village end May, leaving a significant part of the non-government area without water supply. Drinking water is urgently needed in Pervomaisk, Brianka, Stakhanov, and Kirovsk, where only 40% of water needs are covered (OCHA, 05/06/2015; 01/05/2015; UNICEF, 15/05/2015).

Education

600,000 people in Donetsk and Luhansk need education support (OCHA, 03/06/2015). The education cluster plans for a total of 1.2 million learners affected by the crisis, including 300,000 children in 2015 (Education Cluster/UNICEF, 15/05/2015). Lack of transportation, mines, and overcrowding are main barriers to school attendance in Donetsk, where 523 facilities need repair (OSCE, 22/04/2015; UNICEF, 20/03/2015). Reconstruction support is also needed for 60% of schools in non-government areas of Luhansk (OCHA, 08/05/2015).

50% of teachers are thought to have left non-government areas, including 35% in Luhansk (OCHA, 08/05/2015; 27/03/2015).

Protection

5.1 million people are in need of protection; lack of access to conflict areas is a major challenge in this regard (OCHA, 03/06/2015). Human rights violations and abuses persist in eastern Ukraine, including shelling, executions, arbitrary and illegal detentions,

torture, ill-treatment, human trafficking, the lack of justice and accountability, as well as deprivation of economic and social rights for people in conflict areas (UN, 01/06/2015).

IDPs

The requirement to register as an IDP in government-controlled areas to be eligible for social payments and pensions is causing displacement and confusing overall IDP numbers (UNHCR 31/12/2014; 23/01/2015). **Children are unable to register for IDP status unless accompanied by a parent or legal guardian (UNHCR, 08/06/2015).** IDPs from Crimea are particularly vulnerable, as transport communications to Crimea have ceased (UNHCR, 31/01/2015).

A mechanism for verifying IDP addresses introduced in April could lead to 20–30% IDPs losing their status and benefits (UNHCR, 10/04/2015). There are also concerns that military-age men are not registering as IDPs for fear of being drafted to the army (OCHA, 10/04/2015).

An increasing number of unlawful refusals of registration and financial assistance, violations of employment rights, limited access to social benefits, discrimination and stigmatisation is reported among IDPs (OCHA, 13/03/2015; IOM, 22/10/2014).

Minorities

The situation of minority communities in Crimea, including Crimean Tatars and ethnic Ukrainians, among others, is of concern, while there has been an apparent escalation of anti-Roma sentiment in the country (UN, 27/01/2015). Roma report living with restricted water and electricity supply, as well as unequal access to healthcare (OCHA, 01/05/2015).

In Crimea, at least nine people have reportedly been abducted; intimidation and restrictive laws have been used to silence the media – including almost all Crimean Tatar media outlets – and NGOs, and public protests have been banned since annexation (UN, 01/06/2015; UNHCR, 31/01/2015; Amnesty, 17/03/2015; local media, 01/04/2015).

Vulnerable Groups

The 54,000 disabled people in eastern Ukraine constitute the most vulnerable in the population (UNHCR, 21/05/2015).

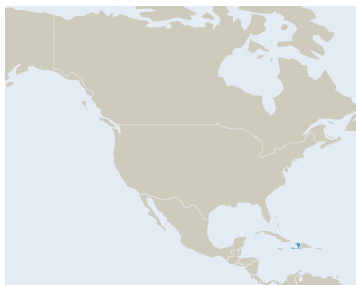
The situation for older people in Donetsk and Luhansk is worsening, and particularly alarming in remote rural areas and areas with active conflict. Access to pension income and therefore to food and medicine is almost non-existent for many who are not mobile (OCHA, 20/02/2015). Members of armed groups have not allowed their evacuation from nursing institutions to government areas (Help Age, 25/02/2015).

50% of state and municipal institutions for the care and guardianship of minors in Donetsk and Luhansk regions are not functioning (international media, 07/10/2014). There are also concerns over militarisation of children in non-government areas (Protection Cluster, 04/03/2015).

Mines and ERW

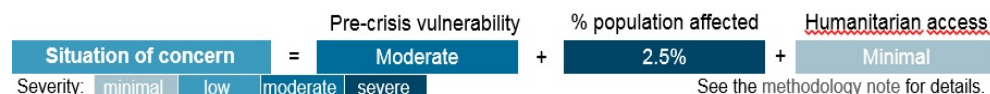
Incidents from landmines and UXO continue to be reported in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, especially near conflict areas (UNHCR, 08/06/2015). 30,000 hectares of land along the frontline in Novoazovskiy and Artemivskiy districts in Donetsk region are reportedly contaminated (UNHCR, 10/04/2015).

Updated: 10/06/2015



NORTH AMERICA

HAITI FOOD INSECURITY, EPIDEMIC, HURRICANE



LATEST DEVELOPMENT

No significant developments this week, 09/06/2015. Last update 20/05/2015.

KEY CONCERNS

- An increase in basic food prices due to depleted stocks from the late 2014 harvest, combined with erratic rains since January, is expected to increase food insecurity (FEWSNET, 08/05/2015).
- The upward trend in cholera incidence continues in 2015, with 14,226 suspected cases and 121 deaths between as of April, almost double that of the same period in 2014 (OCHA, 22/05/2015).
- 64,680 IDPs remain in 66 camps as a result of the 2010 earthquake. 59% of camps are tents and makeshift sites (IOM, 31/03/2015).

OVERVIEW

Humanitarian needs in Haiti stem from displacement, food insecurity, and malnutrition.

The situation is compounded by an extremely fragile political and economic situation, and a significant vulnerability to natural disasters, including hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, landslides, and droughts. The resilience of the population is also extremely low.

Political Context

President Martelly appointed a unity government on 19 January, and on 22 January the new Prime Minister set up a new electoral council (AFP, 22/01/2015). A calendar for legislative, presidential, and local elections was formally presented on 12 March; the first round is scheduled to start on 9 August. Elections have been delayed since 2011, leading to tensions and opposition demonstrations in the country, most significantly in January (AFP, 20/04/2015; UN, 18/03/2015).

Armed criminal violence is reportedly increasing in Haiti (Alter Press, 24/02/2015). While the UN stabilisation mission, MINUSTAH, maintains police in regions, the Haitian National Police is not yet fully capable of dealing with civil unrest (OCHA, 31/07/2014).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Access

A UN peacekeeper was killed on 14 April near Ouanaminthe in Nord-Est department, during a violent protest to authorities' lack of solutions for the recurring lack of electricity (UN, 14/04/2015).

The number of humanitarian actors has continued to decrease, from 512 in 2010 to 147 by the end of 2014, and government capacity has not always improved, creating critical sectoral gaps (OCHA/UN, 31/12/2014). The UN launched a Transitional Appeal Process in March, requiring USD 401 million, in an effort to address basic development challenges that result in persistent humanitarian needs and risks (OCHA/UNCT, 11/03/2015).

Disasters

Heavy rainfall leading to flooding in Ouest and Grande Anse departments over 4–5 April killed six and affected nearly 50,000 people. 8,800 houses were damaged, including 85% in Cité Soleil in Ouest department (OCHA, 20/04/2015; UN, 15/04/2015).

Displacement

IDPs

As of 31 March, 64,680 IDPs remain in 66 camps following the 2010 earthquake, including 43% in Delmas (27,914), 16% in Croix des Bouquets (10,636), and 9% in Port au Prince (6,114). 39 IDP sites closed between 1 January and 31 March (IOM, 31/03/2015).

Basic services in camps have declined faster than the pace of return or relocation. Only one-third of camps have access to water and access to healthcare is problematic due to lack of infrastructure and funding (OCHA/UN, 31/12/2014). As of end 2014, priority needs included the provision of minimum basic services, protection monitoring, and promotion of

durable solutions (OCHA, 03/11/2014). **Absence of a protection-sensitive approach, lack of coherent urban planning, and instability, in part due to poor rule of law, are major obstacles to durable solutions for IDPs (UNHCR, 08/05/2015).**

Food Security

As a result of below-average rainfall in 2015, 180,000 people are in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food security (ECHO, 27/05/2015). Basic food prices have reportedly increased since January, up 30–40% for some, as a result of depleted food stocks. The combined effect of food prices, erratic rains, and lack of investment in the agricultural sector may shift poor households in Sud-Est, Nord-Ouest and Artibonite from Stressed (IPC Phase 2) to Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food insecurity until September (FEWSNET, 08/05/2015; OCHA, 29/05/2015).

As of end 2014, 605,000 Haitians were food insecure, including 165,000 in Crisis due to early exhaustion of food stocks as a result of the drought (OCHA/UN, 31/12/2014).

Agricultural Outlook

Between 60 and 80% of the main local crops and vegetables have been lost in parts of Haiti due to below-average rainfall conditions in 2015 (ECHO, 27/05/2015). Drought conditions have also delayed and reduced planting activities in some areas for the spring harvest (which accounts of 60% of annual production), particularly in the main producing area of Artibonite (FAO, 27/05/2015). Agricultural support is also required in Cap-Haitien, Gonaives, Ouanaminthe, Thomazeau, and Plateau Central (Alter Press, 25/03/2015).

Livestock has been severely affected by the drought conditions, and pressure has been put on fishery as a result (ECHO, 27/05/2015).

Health and Nutrition

Five million Haitians (half of the total population) lack access to basic health services (UN, 27/10/2014). Some hospitals have still not been fully rehabilitated since the earthquake (MSF, 08/01/2015). Lack of mental health support is also reported (Alter Press, 10/01/2015).

Cholera

The upward trend in incidence continues in 2015, with 14,226 suspected cases and 121 deaths between January and April, almost double that of the same period in 2014. January recorded the most number of cases, with 4,321 suspected cases and 36 deaths (OCHA, 22/05/2015).

Six communes in Centre and Ouest departments were placed on red alert as the cyclone period began 1 June (Alter Press, 01/06/2015). Overall, 55 communes across the ten departments are in need of assistance, including access to water sources and vaccination (UNCT, 31/03/2015).

Nearly 738,000 suspected cholera cases and 8,965 deaths have been reported since the start of the epidemic in October 2010 (OCHA, 22/05/2015).

Nutrition

At March, 85,000 children suffered from acute malnutrition, including 17,000 requiring immediate assistance (OCHA/UNCT, 11/03/2015).

WASH

Populations in Belladere and Fonds-Verrets in Centre and Ouest departments have lacked access to safe drinking water for the past six months, mainly due to drought conditions, causing children to miss school, and rising tensions between populations (Alter Press, 15/05/2015; local media, 22/05/2015).

More than 3.4 million Haitians lack access to safe water (one-third of the total population and 47% of the rural population) (UN, 30/09/2014). 38% do not have access to improved water sources and 69% lack access to improved sanitation (World Bank, 30/09/2014). 60% of schools have no toilets and more than three-quarters lack access to water (HRW, 08/10/2014).

Shelter

The majority of remaining IDP sites are in Port au Prince (21), Delmas (15), and Leogane (11). 59% of sites are tents and make-shift centres, 9% are mixed sites and 32% transitional shelters (IOM, 31/03/2015).

96% of people left homeless by the 2010 earthquake have been relocated outside camps (IOM, 31/03/2015). Overall, 3.5 million Haitians live in precarious neighbourhoods and informal settlements in urban areas where they suffer from socio-economic deprivation, elevated risk of disaster impacts, and forced eviction. Around a third do not have legitimate status/rights for the land they occupy. Land disputes and tensions are common and have been accompanied by coercion, violence, and forced eviction (OCHA/UNCT, 11/03/2015).

Protection

Children

Many children still show signs of emotional and psychological stress since the earthquake, and remain in need of protection; minors in camps are particularly at risk of exploitation, with sexual violence commonplace (Save the Children, 08/01/2015).

Risk of Deportation

Hundreds of Haitians living irregularly in the Dominican Republic, and more than 300,000 Dominicans of Haitian descent, are at risk of forced expulsion beginning 16 June, when the regularisation process will end (OCHA, 26/03/2015). Some 6,680 irregular migrants were repatriated to Ouanaminthe commune in the first four months of 2015, more than half of them in April alone. Some 5,570 irregular migrants were repatriated in total in 2014 (Alter Press, 08/05/2015).

In total, an estimated 600,000 Haitian nationals or people of Haitian descent face an

elevated risk of forced expulsion and deportations from countries of the Caribbean region. Most of them are unable to obtain birth certificates (OCHA/UNCT, 11/03/2015).

Sexual and Gender-based Violence

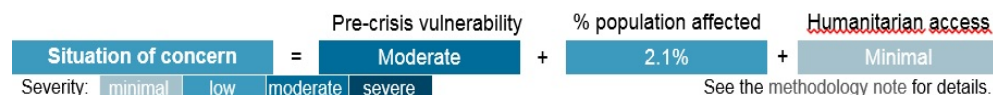
The number of rapes reported in the first half of 2014 was double that of the same period in 2013. More than two-thirds of the rapes reported involved minors (OHCHR and Protection Cluster, 30/06/2014). Gender-based violence continues to be of great concern in IDP camps (OHCHR/MINUSTAH/Protection Cluster, 30/06/2014).

Reviewed, 09/06/2015



OCEANIA

KIRIBATI CYCLONE



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

No new significant developments this week, 03/06/2015. Last update: 19/05/2015.

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Disaster

Category 5 Tropical Cyclone Pam caused severe bad weather on the islands of Kiribati. 4m waves and heavy rain 11–13 March caused widespread coastal flooding, with damage in the capital, Tarawa (UNICEF, 15/03/2015; Red Cross Movement, 16/03/2015). The southern islands, including Tamana and Arorae, were especially affected by high tides exacerbated by strong winds (FAO, 23/03/2015; international media, 16/03/2015). The storm hit after several weeks of severe flooding (international media, 16/03/2015).

The southern island of Arorae no longer requires assistance, as public buildings have been restored and communities are repairing damaged houses. Tamana Island was most affected; homes were completely destroyed or inundated. Key priorities on Tamana Island

remain water, NFIs, and sanitation (Red Cross Movement, 10/04/2015; 15/05/2015). Assessments are still underway on Onotoa and Nonouti Islands.

Access

Power and mobile phone networks have been fully restored (Red Cross Movement, 15/05/2015).

Food Security

Seawater has heavily impacted food crops and other valuable plants, and salinization means large areas cannot now be cultivated. Food crops at the shoreline were uprooted or wiped out. The impact on food security is significant, as most families cultivate fruit trees and food plants around their homes (FAO, 23/03/2015).

Health

In the week to 19 April, 126 cases of diarrhoea were reported in the country (WHO, 19/04/2015). An outbreak of chikungunya virus was declared in most of the outer islands. Two of the islands have reported more than 200 cases (international media, 27/04/2015).

On Tamana island, six children under five have been reported with diarrhoea and vomiting (Red Cross Movement, 10/04/2015).

Shelter and NFIs

On Tamana, around 65 houses were reported destroyed and most household items lost. Affected families have been staying with host families and relocating inland. By mid-April, the majority IDPs indicated they were planning to return (UNICEF, 24/03/2015; Red Cross Movement, 10/04/2015; 15/05/2015).

WASH

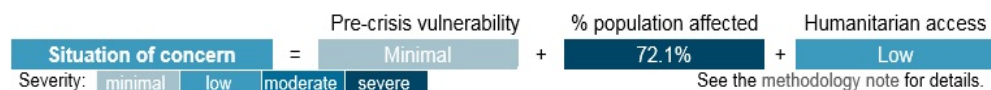
Local sources report the main concerns on Tamana Island are fresh water and sanitation (international media, 24/03/2015). A number of wells have filled with seawater or been contaminated with E. coli, particularly in Bakarawa and Bakaka. 51 wells were severely damaged and require rehabilitation (UNICEF, 22/04/2015; 08/04/2015; Red Cross Movement, 15/05/2015). Toilets and latrines have been destroyed on Tamana island, leaving those rebuilding their houses without sanitation. Many people are practicing open defecation. (UNICEF, 08/04/2015; Red Cross Movement, 10/04/2015).

Education

Schools are open but lack of transportation means a lot of children cannot reach school (UNICEF, 17/03/2015).

Reviewed 03/06/2015.

VANUATU DISPLACEMENT, CYCLONE



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

No new significant developments this week, 02/06/2015. Last update: 28/05/2015.

KEY CONCERNS

- 188,000 people on 22 islands were affected by Category five Tropical Cyclone Pam on 13 March and are in need of assistance (Government, 17/04/2015).

[For more information, visit the ACAPS country analysis page.](#)

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Disasters

Category five Tropical Cyclone Pam hit Vanuatu on 13 May, affecting 188,000 people and causing severe and widespread damage on 22 islands. The worst impacted provinces include Shefa, Tafea, Malampa and Penama (Government, 16/03/2015). Other reports also indicate that Tanna Island has been severely hit (Radio New Zealand, 01/04/2015). Preliminary estimates place the total economic value of effects at nearly USD 400 million, or nearly 50% of Vanuatu's GDP (Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, 06/05/2015).

Access

The Government of Vanuatu has indicated it needs telecommunications technology assistance beyond May and has requested to keep using the three currently deployed British Telecom satellites. Funding for Emergency Telecommunications Cluster operations, providing internet connectivity for aid operations, is secured until 15 June (WFP, 14/05/2015; ECT, 21/05/2015).

Food Security

Food shortages are a serious concern for the majority of the population. In all provinces, much of the population will be without local staple food supply until at least mid-June, when fast-growing crops can be harvested, if replanting starts immediately (FAO, 23/03/2015). As of 22 May, 15% of households still need to replant damaged crops (REACH, 22/05/2015). Efate Island and southeast Pentecost have been prioritised for full food rations (WFP, 15/05/2015).

Agriculture

In Vanuatu, around 80% of the population relies on agriculture for their livelihoods; 70% of

the rural population depends on subsistence farming (OCHA, 02/04/2015; WFP, 31/03/2015; FAO, 23/03/2015).

Cyclone Pam destroyed approximately 96% of crops in the country (OCHA, 02/04/2015). In the affected areas, as much as 75% of coconut, 80% of coffee, 80% of leaf vegetables, 70% of taro and 65% of kumala was irretrievably damaged.

Agricultural equipment and assets worth over USD 330,400 were damaged or destroyed. Pigs (69%), poultry (26%), fishing equipment, and bee hives (5%) were all significantly affected, with a devastating impact on the availability of protein for households (Government, 17/04/2015).

Tafea, Shefa and Malampa provinces were the most impacted. 90–95% of farming and fishing equipment has been destroyed in the Shepherd Islands and the outer islands surrounding Efate (OCHA, 02/04/2015).

Health and Nutrition

On affected islands, 70 of the 71 health facilities (not including first aid posts) were assessed and 54 had minor or no damage; six were destroyed and ten severely damaged. As of 17 April, 64 facilities were functioning, partially or fully. The Tafea and Shefa provinces were most affected (Health Cluster, 11/04/2015; Government, 17/04/2015). As of 20 May, facilities are still damaged but temporary infrastructure allows doctors to treat patients (WHO, 20/05/2015).

In the week ending 10 May, the number of watery diarrhoea cases and influenza-like illness cases were mostly stable but some areas, in particular Penama, witnessed an unusual increase (Health Cluster, 18/05/2015). 45 cases of acute fever and rash on Erromango were diagnosed as chicken pox. Numbers have since stabilised. Cases of the rare mosquito-borne Zika virus have been confirmed (Australian Broadcasting Corporation, 28/04/2015; Health Cluster, 11/05/2015). Symptoms of Zika virus are relatively mild.

It is expected that at least 50% of children under five (17,000 children) will be at higher risk of childhood illnesses and worse nutritional status (OCHA 15/03/2015). Measles is present in Vanuatu, and a breakdown in sanitation could facilitate transmission. Cases were reported on Efate over 4–10 May. (UNICEF 15/03/2015; Health Cluster, 18/05/2015). Immunisation and child nutrition are priorities (OCHA 15/03/2015).

Nutrition

Adequate nutrition is required for over 160,000 affected people, in particular nutritional support for pregnant and lactating women and children under five years (OCHA, 03/04/2015). As of 11 May, 35 children aged 6–59 months had been admitted for inpatient treatment for severe acute malnutrition in Santo, Tanna, and Port Vila (Health Cluster, 02/05/2015; Health Cluster, 11/05/2015).

Shelter and NFIs

Approximately 13,574 houses were damaged (Government 17/04/2015). 81% of households in affected areas reported that their shelter had sustained some of damage and

24% of these households reported that the roof, walls, floors, and doors had been completely destroyed (REACH, 22/05/2015). As of 22 May, 72% of households in affected areas reported that they had completed substantial repairs or reconstruction work. Primary NFI needs are nails and repair material, according to 68% of households (REACH, 22/05/2015). At 17 April, the Government highlights that gaps in shelter assistance remain on Tanna and urban Port Vila (Government, 17/04/2015).

WASH

A second harmonised assessment released 17 April showed that two-thirds of the communities surveyed had severe WASH needs requiring immediate attention (Government, 17/04/2015).

Water

110,000 people are in need of clean drinking water (OCHA, 03/04/2015). As of 17 April, more than 50% of the communities reported access to less than three litres of drinking water a day. As of 22 May, 35% of rainwater collection systems are still not operational (Government, 17/04/2015, REACH, 22/05/2015). 70% of wells were contaminated, and piped water systems were also damaged. A tenfold increase in WASH supplies will be needed for the 2–3 months following the storm (OCHA 15/03/2015).

Tafea and Shefa have much less access to water than Penama and Malampa. In particular, north Tanna and the Shepherd Islands (Mataso, Tongariki, Puninga) have poor access to fresh water (Government, 17/04/2015; Logistics Cluster, 28/04/2015). Water quality is poor everywhere except Port Vila, but only half of households reported using water treatment methods. The health risk is high (Government, 17/04/2015).

Sanitation and hygiene

Nearly half of households have access to soap, but less than 30% are using it. Use of soap was as low as 7% in Penama. Two-thirds of communities did not have access to sanitary protection materials for girls and women, especially in Malampa (Government, 17/04/2015).

68% of sanitation superstructures have been destroyed, such that open defecation was reported to be up to 45% in Tafea (Government, 17/04/2015).

Education

The Provincial Education Office reported that up to 90% of primary school children have returned to school. **However, more than 1,500 children in Early Childhood Care and Education centres in Tafea province have not gone returned due to lack of learning spaces (UNICEF, 29/05/2015).**

53% of all assessed primary and secondary schools were found to have been affected: 16% have been destroyed; 24% have sustained major damage; 13% have sustained minor damage (Government, 17/04/2015). Most schools in Tafea province and half of schools in Shefa province were damaged (Government, 17/04/2015).

Protection

Displacement continues to be a concern, with some people still in unofficial temporary shelters. The physical security of the affected population is an issue, with increased crime rates in the aftermath of the cyclone.

There are gaps in communication and a lack information about remote affected communities. Assessment identified a gap in attention towards housing, land and property issues.

Reporting mechanisms and support services for survivors of gender-based violence or child abuse are inadequate. Targeted assistance is needed for persons living with disabilities, female-headed households and older persons (Government, 17/04/2015).

Updated: 02/06/2015



SOUTH AMERICA

COLOMBIA CONFLICT, DROUGHT, DISPLACEMENT, INSECURITY



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

4 June: 100,316 people were reported missing in Colombia as of December 2014. 72,544 are still missing, 4,288 were found dead, 23,484 were found alive (Red Cross)

3 June: San Pelayo municipality, in Cordoba department, has seen a drastic reduction in rainfall. Safe water is lacking, livelihood opportunities are scarce and the health system failing (OCHA and UN Country Team).

29 May: Heavy rains triggered moderate floods in Salgar (El Espectador).

29 May: Peace talks resumed in Havana, Cuba (Colombia reports)

28 May: Priority needs among displaced communities in Cauca are food in rural areas, the shelter support in urban hosting communities, and access to safe water (OCHA).

KEY CONCERNS

- 4.8 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance (OCHA, 10/05/2015).
- 5.7 million cumulative IDPs, including 224,300 in 2014 (IDMC, 10/2014; HDMX, 2015).
- From January-March 2015, 186,390 people have been trapped in their communities due to armed violence (OCHA, 18/04/2015).
- Approximately 1.3 million people are affected by natural disasters (flood, wind, heat wave, drought) every year (OCHA, 24/02/2015).

OVERVIEW

Five decades of armed violence coupled with the country's frequent natural disasters have had serious humanitarian consequences. Forced displacement, landmine contamination, and gender-based violence are among the major concerns. For rural communities, movement restrictions by armed groups limit access to basic health services, crops and labour markets, especially in the country's Pacific region.

Political Context

Colombia's armed conflict has spanned five decades, pitting the central government against armed groups such as the Armed Revolutionary Forces of Colombia – People's Army (FARC-EP) and the National Liberation Army (ELN). Created by landless peasants, the FARC-EP stated aim is to "end social, political, and economic inequalities". The ELN was founded on Marxist-Leninist ideals (In Sight Crime). Attempts at peace negotiations in the 1980s and 1998–2000 failed. The latest FARC-EP–Government peace negotiations began in November 2012 in Havana, Cuba. Agreements have been reached on agrarian reform, political participation, and illicit drugs. Negotiations resumed on 2 February and will focus on the end of the armed conflict (World Bulletin, 20/01/2014; AFP, 02/02/2015). On 3 March, FARC-EP declared a peace agreement would not be signed if its members were to be tried and jailed (AFP, 03/03/2015).

Security Context

The intensity of the armed conflict has decreased substantially since peace negotiations began in 2012. Disarmament, demobilisation, and reintegration programmes have been operational since 2003: 56,903 people have been demobilised from armed groups, including 47,770 people who have gone through reintegration programmes with the Colombian Reintegration Agency (Government, 16/12/2014).

Nonetheless, violence and insecurity persist, including kidnappings and extortion by armed groups and BACRIM.

On 20 December 2014, FARC-EP announced a unilateral ceasefire (Washington Office on

Latin America, 2014). In March, the Colombian Government and FARC-EP agreed to remove landmines and explosives, aiming to complete demining by 2025 (Reuters, 09/03/2015). On 19 March, the FARC-EP threatened to end the unilateral ceasefire unless the President called off all attacks, stating that air raids had stopped but other offensive manoeuvres had continued (Reuters, 19/03/2015). **In April the Government's suspension of airstrikes was lifted after an attack by the FARC-EP in Cauca department, which left eleven soldiers dead and eighteen wounded (local media, 15/04/2015).** Following a military bombardment in Cauca department that left 25 FARC-EP dead, FARC-EP lifted its unilateral ceasefire on 22 May (AFP, 22/05/2015).

On 29 May, peace talks resumed in Cuba, with discussions on victim compensation, how to achieve justice for crimes committed by both parties, and how to reintegrate demobilised FARC fighters in the event of a final deal (Colombia Reports, 29/05/2015).

Stakeholders

FARC-EP: The Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia – People's Army (FARC-EP) is the oldest left-wing militant group in Colombia. It was formed in 1964 by the Colombian Communist Party as a result of rural unrest from fighting between the liberal and conservative parties. Approximately 7,000 fighters make up the FARC-EP today, which allegedly makes between USD 500 and 600 million in profits from the illicit drug trade (UNRIC 2013; BBC 29/08/2013). The FARC-EP has been active throughout the country, but especially in Arauca, Meta, Norte de Santander, Cauca and Antioquia. In November 2012, the group joined peace negotiations with the Government.

ELN: The National Liberation Army is a left-wing militant group formed in 1965 and composed of 1,500 fighters. On 7 January, it stated that it intended to join the peace talks and would consider disarmament (AFP, 07/01/2015; BBC, 07/01/2015). The ELN has been active in Arauca, Norte de Santander, Nariño and Cauca Departments (Kienyke, 2013).

Government forces: The Government of Colombia's strategies to combat non-state armed have been closely linked to eliminating the cultivation of illicit crops in the country, which finance the armed groups.

BACRIM and post-demobilised armed groups: Criminal gangs (*bandas criminales*) under the names Black Eagles, Erpac, and Rastrojos, among others, are generally made up of former paramilitary fighters and another former armed group, the United Armed Forces of Colombia (AUC). They are involved in drug-trafficking and extortion throughout the country and in Venezuela and Panama. These groups are particularly active in Antioquia department, as well as the Pacific and Caribbean regions (BBC 29/08/2013).

Conflict Developments

During the fourth quarter of 2014, Antioquia, Cauca, Arauca, Meta, and Norte de Santander departments were the most affected by armed activity (OCHA, 07/01/2015). Following the FARC-EP's unilateral ceasefire in mid-December, the number of violent incidents related to the armed conflict has dropped to levels not seen since the 1980s (Missionary International Service News Agency, 12/01/2015).

Recent Incidents

A military bombardment in Cauca department left 26 FARC-EP dead on 22 May, **including a peace negotiator and leader of the movement** (AFP, 22/05/2015; **27/05/2015**). On 26 May, the military killed five FARC-EP members in Chocó department, raising the death toll since 22 May to 40 FARC-EP members (AFP, 26/05/2015).

On 14 April, a FARC-EP attack in Cauca department left 11 soldiers dead; in nearby Suarez municipality five civilians were killed by an unidentified group (local media, 15/04/2015; 16/04/2015).

On 6 April, three police officers were killed by an unidentified armed group in Norte de Santander department, bordering Venezuela (Colombia Reports, 06/04/2015).

Humanitarian Context and Needs

4.8 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance in Colombia, including 1.3 million affected by natural disasters, 1.3 million people in areas with confinement and access constraints, 900,000 IDPs, and 1.1 million people in host communities (OCHA, 01/05/2015).

As of January 2015, 262,000 people are in trapped communities, primarily in Chocó department and made up mostly of indigenous communities and Afro-Colombians (OCHA, 20/01/2015).

Access

Trapped Communities

As of May, OCHA reports 1.3 million people are affected by confinement and access constraints (OCHA, 01/05/2015).

1,950 people are affected by confinement in Guapi, Cauca department, due to the military offensive against the FARC-EP that began on 22 May (OCHA, 28/05/2015).

From January-March, 186,390 people have been affected by access and mobility constraints, including 28,790 who were affected by access constraints in March (OCHA, 18/04/2015). Since end February, movement has been restricted and humanitarian assistance blocked for 1,200 members of indigenous and farming communities in Caceres, Antioquia department, due to fear of potential clashes between ELN and a 'demobilised' armed group (OCHA, 11/03/2015). A community of 912 Eperera Siapidara, an indigenous people, are confined to a rural zone in Timbiquí, Cauca department, due to security threats – school was cancelled and daily activities ceased (OCHA, 19/03/2015). Some 990 people are confined to their homes in Bagado, Choco department, due to a military offensive on the ELN from end March to 19 April (OCHA, 27/04/2015). In Catatumbo, Norte de Santander department 24,000 people have been affected by confinement in 2015 (OCHA, 17/05/2015).

Disasters

From January 2014 to February 2015, 1.3 million people were affected by natural disasters (OCHA, 24/02/2015). In March, 22,370 people were affected by natural disasters (OCHA, 18/04/2015).

Drought

San Pelayo municipality, in Cordoba department, has seen from a drastic reduction in rainfall. Safe water is lacking and livelihood opportunities are scarce, leading to food security and nutrition problems as well as failure in the health system (lack of medication and access to disabled people (OCHA and UN Country Team, 03/06/2015).

Six forest fires have been reported in the department of Antioquia (Ituango, Anzá, Urrao, Caicedo, Itagui and Medellín municipalities). 24 of the southwestern municipalities are on red alert (PAHO, 13/03/2015). As of early April, more than 600 emergencies have been recorded due to forest fires in southern Atlantic department (Manati, Candelaria, Suan, and Campo de la Cruz municipalities). On 23 April, an emergency was called in Santa Marta, Magdalena department, due to a drought caused by El Niño that will last until June (El Espectador, 24/04/2015; El Colombiano, 18/04/2015).

Floods

On 26 May, more than 2,290 people were affected by heavy rains in Arauca and Boyaca departments. 1,990 are in Saravena, Arauca and Araucita municipalities, Arauca department, and 300 in Cubara, Boyaca department. (OCHA, 26/05/2015). **Shelter is identified as an urgent need as temporary shelters (houses and public spaces) are being flooded. Water distribution is affected and river water is polluted by industrial activity. Energy supply is affected and initial findings highlight damage to crops and livestock that could impact food security. As assessments reach more people, the number of affected people is expected to reach up to 30,000 (ACT Alliance, 29/05/2015)**

Heavy rains led to a landslide in Salgar, Antioquia department, on 18 May. **94 people were killed**, 48 injured, and at least 782 people were affected, (OCHA, 25/05/2015). Some 500 people's homes were damaged or destroyed (Reuters, 20/05/2015; ECHO, 19/05/2015; **El Espectador, 29/05/2015**). Three shelters are hosting 107 people in Salgar municipality and La Margarita (OCHA, 25/05/2015). **As of 29 May, heavy rains triggered new moderate floods (El Espectador, 29/05/2015). The road between Medellín and Bucaramanga was damaged by a landslide on 31 May (local media, 01/06/2015).** 2,000 people were trapped when heavy April rains caused the San Juan, Taparto, and Santa Rita Rivers to overflow, destroying buildings and bridges in Antioquia department (PAHO, 14/04/2015).

In Condoto municipality, Chocó department, heavy rains and strong winds affected 500 homes on 15 May (ECHO, 19/05/2015).

Flooding, winds, and landslides affected more than 20,000 people in April, including 4,000 in the Amazons (OCHA, 17/05/2015).

In Nariño department, heavy rains have damaged infrastructure and livelihoods; more than 400 people have been left without shelter (El Espectador, 21/04/2015).

Displacement

IDPs

Colombia has 6.1 million IDPs (IOM, 29/05/2015). In 2014, there were 224,300 new IDPs (OCHA, 20/01/2015), compared to 228,526 in 2013 (Reuters, 25/02/2015). 39% of the IDP caseload between 2012 and June 2014 was concentrated in the Pacific region. In 2014, new displacement was primarily concentrated in Cauca and Chocó (OCHA, 07/01/2015). 79,989 people below the age of 18 were displaced during 2014 (OCHA, 01/05/2015).

The total number of people displaced by armed violence from January-March 2015 was 3,040, including 1,470 who were displaced in March. This is an 8% reduction compared to September-December 2014 (OCHA, 18/04/2015). OCHA reports that those responsible are primarily the ELN, post-demobilised armed groups and other unidentified armed groups (OCHA, 18/04/2015).

Chocó: 655 people were displaced at end February from rural communities in Bajo Baudó, Chocó department due to clashes between the ELN and a post-demobilised armed group. Those affected include five indigenous Embera communities and three Afro-descendant communities. More than 1,000 others are trapped and at risk of displacement. Access to the region is difficult, and populations have limited access to food, water, education, and health services (OCHA, 04/03/2015; 06/04/2015). 711 indigenous people from five communities in Bagadó, Chocó department were displaced due to a military offensive against the ELN from end March to 19 April (OCHA, 27/04/2015).

Antioquia: 145 people from Angostura municipality, Antioquia department were displaced due to clashes between armed forces and armed groups (Instituto Popular de Capacitación, 23/04/2015). On 11 May, clashes between a post-demobilized armed group and the ELN displaced 529 people in rural Zaragoza. Most IDPs are staying with host-families (OCHA, 15/05/2015).

Cauca: 909 indigenous people have been displaced due to the presence of an unidentified armed group on the reserve Calle Santa Rosa, Timbiqui municipality, since 3 March (OCHA, 22/04/2015). 400 people from Afro-Colombian communities were displaced in Guapi due to fear of military operations against FARC-EP. **352 people remain displaced since 22 May following military operations.** They are in shelters or with friends and family (OCHA, 24/05/2015; 28/05/2015). **The priorities identified for these communities were the provision of food for rural communities, the poor quality of shelter of urban hosting communities and the access to safe water (OCHA, 28/05/2015).**

Returnees

206 Embera Katio, an indigenous people, will return to Pueblo Rico municipality in Antioquia department (Government, 19/03/2015).

Colombian Refugees in Neighbouring Countries

400,000 Colombians have sought refuge in neighbouring countries.

Food Security

1.2 million people are food insecure, due to in part to low food production, poverty and internal displacement from conflict that leads (OCHA, 20/01/2015; USAID). 557,000 require food assistance. Indigenous communities in Nariño are among the most affected (OCHA, 20/01/2015).

Health and Nutrition

Only 30% of victims of armed conflict have access to healthcare (OCHA, 20/01/2015).

Chikungunya

At least 213,000 people have been infected with chikungunya, including 90,000 who are predicted to suffer from long-term arthritis as a side-effect of the disease. The outbreak began in September 2014 (local media, 19/03/2015; 12/03/2015). The Caribbean region is the most affected (local media, 19/03/2015).

30,230 cases of chikungunya were reported from November 2014 until April 2015 in the Valle del Cauca department (local media, 07/04/2015).

WASH

1.1 million people are in need of WASH (OCHA, 20/01/2015). Only 35.5% of the population consumes safe drinking water, with only 15% of rural areas consuming treated water (OCHA, 20/01/2015).

Attacks on the petroleum industry in Putumayo department in 2014 are still affecting nearby communities, who have little access to water. Some companies have taken charge by providing each family with 20-40L of water per week, which is below standard (OCHA, 23/04/2015).

The indigenous communities on the reserve Calle Santa Rosa rely on four water tanks that do not meet their needs, resulting in use of river water contaminated by mining activity (OCHA, 22/04/2015).

Shelter and NFIs

916,000 people need shelter (OCHA, 20/01/2015). Many of those displaced by armed conflict come from rural areas and have difficulty re-obtaining rights to their homes when they return. A legal process is in place in the departments of Atlántico and Magdalena in northern Colombia, though some claimants have received threats from paramilitary groups (Amnesty, 23/01/2015).

Protection

According to the World Organisation against Torture, torture and ill-treatment in various forms are being practiced abundantly in Colombia, and measures for protection and compensation are either very limited or ineffective. Practices include abuse by paramilitary

and criminal gangs; extrajudicial killings; sexual abuse in conflict; child soldiers, mass arrests; mass detention by law enforcement officers and enforced disappearances; extradition, human trafficking, and the detention of women in male detention facilities. Overcrowding in prisons has reached dire level: detainees had on average a sleeping area of 50–60cm² (World Organisation against Torture, 01/05/2015).

Afro-Colombians and indigenous peoples are highly vulnerable groups, as they are minorities and generally live in areas more likely to be cut off by conflict (NRC, 09/2014).

In 2014, there were 626 registered attacks against human rights defenders, a 147% increase compared to 2013. 73% of attacks were carried out by post-demobilised armed groups. Many local NGOs are concerned that successful peace negotiations may not result in a decrease in such attacks (OCHA, 28/02/2015).

Since November 2012, the FARC was responsible for 1,024 crimes. 700 civil servants and 148 civilians were killed, 70 civilians and 10 civil servants were kidnapped, 1,651 civil servants and 148 civilians were injured (local media, 02/06/2015).

100,316 people were listed as missing in Colombia as of December 2014. As of June, 72,544 are missing, 4,288 have been killed (Red Cross, 04/06/2015)

Mines and ERW

Over November 2012–March 2015, the duration of the peace negotiations, there were 789 victims of anti-personnel mines and unexploded ordnance, an average of 27 people per month (OCHA, 17/05/2015).

Child Protection

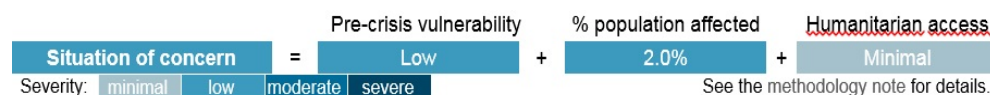
There are approximately 2,000 underage fighters in the FARC. The Government is urging for their release (Reuters, 15/04/2015). Reports show that since peace negotiations began in 2012, 76% of children fighting with the FARC-EP and 18% with the ELN have been reintegrated into society (UNICEF, 2014). **Child abduction for ransom has been reported (Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict, 04/06/2015)**

Sexual and Gender-based Violence

52% of displaced women have suffered some type of sexual violence after displacement, according to a study by OHCHR. Women in the Pacific region are particularly affected (NRC, 09/2014).

Updated: 04/06/2015

BOLIVIA DROUGHT, FLOODS



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

No new significant developments this week, 03/06/2015. Last update: 29/05/2015.

KEY CONCERNS

- 159,203 people affected by heavy rains, 32 people have died and six are missing (ECHO, 14/04/2015).
- Around 130,000 people affected by drought (Government, Media, 10/12/2014).
- A series of natural disasters has affected Bolivia since the beginning of the rainy season in October 2013 and has had a severe impact on livelihoods and food security.

Humanitarian Context and Needs

Access

On 27 February, a bridge connecting Cochabamba to Santa Cruz was destroyed. Reconstruction will take six months, and metal bridges will be set up in the meantime (Government, 05/03/2015).

Disasters

The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock estimates that 132 municipalities have an 80% risk of major drought, while 90 municipalities have a 50% risk of flooding. Departments most at risk are Beni, Pando, and Santa Cruz (local media, 28/04/2015).

Volcano

Volcano Guallatiri, located on the Chilean side of the border with Bolivia, has shown increased activity (local media, 01/06/2015).

Drought

Around 130,000 people have been affected by drought, including an estimated 20,000 farmers (Government, 05/01/2015).

Estimates indicate that close to 63,000 hectares of crops, including rice, maize, and cassava, have been negatively impacted. Another 120,000 hectares of soy have been lost in Cuatro Canadas and Pailon, Santa Cruz (local media, 22/02/2015). 1,545 hectares of crops, farmed by 461 families (1,844 individuals) are reported to have been affected in Cochabamba (local media, 28/04/2015).

Heavy Rainfall and Floods

As of 5 May, flooding was reported in Cochabamba, Santa Cruz, Beni, Pando, and Chuquisaca, where an orange alert has been declared. 1,380 families (5,934 people) and 30 hectares of crop have been affected (local media, 05/05/2015; Government,

08/05/2015). 159,203 people were affected by heavy rains between October 2014 and April 2015. The three departments with the most people affected are Chuquisaca, with 38,585 people affected; Cochabamba, 39,508; and La Paz, 38,442. 20,846 hectares of land have been affected. The rains have had an impact on 119 municipalities in nine departments. 32 people have died and six are missing (Government, 22/04/2015, ECHO, 14/04/2015).

Hailstorms have damaged 400 families' (1,600 individuals) agricultural production in Potosi as well as 42.75 hectares in Cochabamba (local media, 28/04/2015; Government, 28/04/2015).

On 26 May, heavy rains and flooding killed three people in Yacapani, in Santa Cruz department. In the same department, overflow from another river trapped vehicles and six people are missing (local media, 26/05/2015).

The floods in Bolivia's Amazon valleys, lowlands, and plains during the October 2013–March 2014 rains were the worst in 60 years, affecting an estimated 325,000 people (OCHA 06/2014; ACT Alliance, 24/09/2014).

Health and Nutrition

Health

As of 9 May, 3,500 cases of chikungunya have been confirmed in Santa Cruz. In April, 15 cases were imported in Cochabamba and one in Oruro (Government, 09/05/2015; local media, 09/05/2015; 16/05/2015).

As of 21 April, 6,542 cases of respiratory infections have been reported, reaching the epidemic threshold. Some 49,000 cases were reported during the same period last year (international media, 21/04/2015).

Nutrition

1.8 million people (15.9% of the population) are undernourished, according to the latest FAO estimations (FAO, 29/05/2015).

WASH

Rockfalls have damaged the water system supplying the city of Sucre. As of 19 May, there has been no water in the city for five days (Government, 19/05/2015).

Updated: 03/06/2015

Introduction to the Global Emergency Overview

The Global Emergency Overview (GEO) is a weekly update that provides a snapshot of current humanitarian priorities and recent events. Its primary objective is to rapidly inform humanitarian decision makers by presenting a summary of major humanitarian crises, both recent and protracted. It collates information from a wide range of sources, including Reliefweb and media, and displays this information to enable quick comparison of different humanitarian crises. It is designed to provide answers to four questions:

1. Which humanitarian crises currently exist? (World map)
2. What has happened in the last seven days? (Snapshot and Latest Developments)
3. What is the situation in the country affected by a crisis? (Latest Developments and Narrative)
4. Which countries could be prioritised in terms of humanitarian response? (Prioritisation)

The **world map and the table** provide an overview of how the countries are prioritised. The countries are subdivided by four **priority levels**: "watch list", "situation of concern", "humanitarian crisis", and "severe humanitarian crisis".

The priority levels are assigned on the basis of:

- the number of people affected by recent disasters
- the level of access to the affected population
- the under-5 mortality rate
- the level of development of the country
- the number of protracted IDPs and refugees.

If a country experienced a disaster in the seven days prior to an update or witnessed an escalation of an on-going crisis, a country is **highlighted** by a yellow dot on the map.

The **snapshot** briefly describes major events in the seven days to the date of publication.

Narratives for each country in the GEO reflect major developments and underlying vulnerabilities of the country over recent months. They are based on secondary data. The **latest developments** for each country cover the incidents over the past seven days, and **key concerns** highlight humanitarian priorities.

More information on the Global Emergency Overview Methodology can be found in the [Global Overview Methodology Brief](#) and the [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

The Global Emergency Overview is a mobile application.

To download the mobile application for Android phones [click here](#).

Or go here: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=org.acaps.acaps>

To download the mobile application for iOS phones [click here](#).

Or go here: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/global-emergency-overview/id567382309?mt=8>

Updates

The Global Emergency Overview prioritisation will be updated once a week and the results will be available every Tuesday. In case of major new humanitarian events or an escalation of an ongoing crisis which triggers a change of prioritisation, the Global Overview will be updated on an ad hoc basis.

Disclaimer

While ACAPS has defined a methodology striving to ensure accuracy, the information provided is indicative and should not be used in isolation from alternative sources of information for any decision making. ACAPS is not responsible for any damage or loss resulting from the use of the information presented on this website.