



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE 01/2017

01-15 January 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

KEY FIGURES

INSIDE SOUTH SUDAN

262,560

Refugees in South Sudan

1.853 M

IDPs in South Sudan, including
204,370 people in UNMISS
Protection of Civilians site

US \$172 million

Funding requested for comprehensive
needs in 2017

US \$125 million

Funding requested for priority needs
in 2017

OUTSIDE SOUTH SUDAN

1,434,742

South Sudanese refugees in
neighboring countries (as of 31
December, 2016):

- Uganda: 640,008
- Ethiopia: 338,821
- Sudan: 297,168
- Kenya: 87,141
- DRC: 66,672
- CAR: 4,932

US \$649 million

Funding requested by UNHCR for
South Sudanese refugees in the region

US \$166 million

Funding received by UNHCR for
South Sudanese refugees in the region

- **Maban IDP assessment undertaken after December Unrest:** In Maban, UNHCR, and partners Humanitarian Development Consortium (HDC), WFP and South Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC) forged a multi-functional team and conducted a rapid need assessment to the areas hosting IDPs. On the riverbank site, the team identified 1,207 households consisting of 6,053 individuals displaced from two different communities from Doro and Tweji living in the open. The team visited the second IDP site Haj Stipta which is hosting 348 households consisting of 1,923 individuals. Main priority findings included food, NFIs, and shelters.
- **UNHCR extends relief support to vulnerable groups in Upper Nile:** In Malakal's Protection of Civilians site (PoC), UNHCR and its partners Humanitarian Development Consortium (HDC) and Danish Refugee Council (DRC) distributed hygiene kits including soaps and towels to 1,360 Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs). UNHCR and its partners HDC and Samaritan's Purse also distributed NFIs to 2,464 IDPs, including blankets, plastic sheets, mosquito nest, kitchen sets and sleeping mats for the newly displaced population from Tweji.
- **UNHCR distributes Fuel-Efficient Stoves to refugees in Unity:** In Ajuong Thok, UNHCR distributed 1,500 Fuel Efficient Stoves (FES) to refugee 730 households. These stoves will reduce the frequency of firewood collection thereby enabling refugees to do other domestic duties. This will also help control environmental degradation around the area.
- **UNHCR screens 475 children for malnutrition in Western Equatoria:** In Makpandu refugee settlement, UNHCR undertook Mid Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) screening for 475 children from the age of 6 – 59 months, including both refugees and host community. Three refugee children were found with Acute Malnourishment, while nine host community children were found with moderate acute malnutrition, and no severe acute malnutrition was found among both the host community and refugee families. All children were admitted for outpatient services.
- **Movements to Pamir Camp in Unity Continue:** During the reporting period, UNHCR relocated 321 refugees previously settled in Yida to Pamir. Cumulatively, Pamir is now home to 6,862 refugees since opening in September 2016.

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

- **UN Report Details killings, rapes in South Sudan continued 'unabated' after July 2016 violence:** Hundreds of people were killed in South Sudan during an outbreak of violence last July, and more than 200 people were raped, according to a United Nations report, which emphasizes the need for accountability and justice for those human rights violations. The report by the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) and the UN human rights office (OHCHR) found that throughout the fighting that occurred between 8 and 12 July 2016 between the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army in Opposition (SPLM/A-IO), "the belligerents blatantly ignored international human rights law and humanitarian law." "The fighting that erupted in July 2016 was a serious setback for peace in South Sudan and showed just how volatile the situation in the country is, with civilians living under the risk of mass atrocities," said the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein. The report his office co-authored found that SPLA and SPLM/A-IO showed "complete disregard for civilians", after 12 July, and that six months later, "there remains widespread impunity, as violations continue unabated.
- **President Kiir creates eight new states, fires central bank governor:** President Salva Kiir issued a presidential decree creating eight new states and divided previous 28 states created in October 2015 into 32 states. The presidential decree read out on state-run SSBC, President Kiir split and created Central Upper Nile state, Northern Upper Nile state, Latjor state, Maiwut state, Bieh state, Akobo state, Tombura state and Gbudue state. In another decree, President Kiir removed the Governor of Central Bank Kornelio Koriom Mayiik and replaced him with Dr. Othom Ajak.
- **Fighting continues in Nasir Town, Upper Nile:** Intense fighting erupted in Nasir between SPLA and SPLA-IO troops. The current round of conflict began on 2 January, and the area is currently restricted, with unconfirmed reports of displacement of people from nearby villages; the population has reportedly now settled along Jikmir to Buribiey town at the Ethiopia border. UNHCR South Sudan and Ethiopia are continuing to monitor the situation for potential movements over the border to Ethiopia.
- **Security in Yei remains volatile:** The situation in areas surrounding Yei Town continues to be challenging, with reports of ambushes along both the roads to Juba and Kaya resulting in the deaths of civilians. For security reasons humanitarians continue to limit their movements to within Yei Town, with humanitarian access to surrounding villages and areas of displacement restricted. The Vice President Taban Deng Gai visited Yei on 31 December 2016 where he held meetings with the religious leaders of the Episcopal Church in South Sudan.
- **Fighting outside Yambio Displaces Thousands of Civilians:** Humanitarian actors in Yambio witnessed mass displacement of families in five villages within a 40km radius of Yambio, to the north-eastern side and along the road to Maridi and Juba. An inter-agency assessment of the displaced population which included UNHCR was undertaken on 4 January. Over 4,000 IDPs are now sheltering together in a primary school within the town. Those affected noted during the assessment that they were displaced by armed men in uniform who invaded their villages and started destroying property and burning houses. UNHCR will provide assistance along with inter alia UNICEF and UNHCR partner World Vision as part of the inter agency response. This incident is one of a series of acts leading to continued instability, including ambushes, targeted killings and destruction and looting of property in the surrounding areas. The refugee camp of Makpandu remained unreachable for the majority of December and through to 9 January 2017, with attacks on vehicles along the road to the camp persisting.
- **South Sudan Army collects over 1200 assorted weapons during weapon search in Juba:** The command of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) concluded a house to house search in Juba which began in mid-November 2016. The unannounced operation collected up to 1200 different type of weapons and the arrest of at least nine suspects involved in illegal activities.. The national capital has been rocked with armed robbery during the day and nights including killing and extorting cash from Juba residents. The government attributed relative calm during the festive season as a direct impact of the weapon search.

REFUGEE RESPONSE



Achievements and impact

Central Equatoria

- In Juba, UNHCR and the South Sudan Commission for Refugee Affairs (CRA) resumed screenings for refugees in Juba, and screened 86 Sudanese refugees previously settled in Lasu refugee settlement, who have been displaced to Juba as a result of the

renewed violence in July 2016. The screening exercise identifies vulnerable refugees for voluntary relocation to Ajuong Thok refugee camp in northern Unity region.

Unity

- During the reporting period, UNHCR relocated 321 refugees previously settled in Yida to Pamir. Cumulatively, Pamir is now home to 6,862 refugees since opening in September 2016.
- In Ajuong Thok camp, UNHCR supported 186 women and girls with special needs with underwear, second-hand clothes, and salt. PSNs included orphan and single mothers.

Education

Identified needs and remaining gaps

Central Equatoria

- In Juba, UNHCR and the Ministry of General Education and Instruction (MoGEI) discussed a framework for the improvement of education quality for both the refugees and the host communities. The Ministry pledged to evaluate ongoing teacher training in the refugee camps for possible accreditation to a teacher training college in Juba. This would provide certification of 470 refugee teachers trained by UNHCR's partners in camps in Maban and Pariang.

Upper Nile

- In Doro Camp, UNHCR partner Save the Children reported the looting of schools' properties including desks, chairs, books, gardening tools and other education materials as a consequence of the violence between the host community and refugees in December 2016. The Women Center was also looted including all the 15 sewing machines, along with fabrics for tailoring vocational training.

Health

Achievements and Impact

Unity

- During the reporting period, UNHCR and its partners Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA), International Rescue Committee (IRC), and CARE conducted a balanced scorecard assessment to assess the quality of health services in the health facilities in refugee settings in Ruweng state. The outcome of the assessment indicated good quality of services but also with several areas for improvement including capacity building to health workers.

Food Security and Nutrition

Achievements and impact

Western Equatoria

- In Makpandu refugee settlement, UNHCR undertook Mid Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) screening for 475 children from the age of 6 – 59 months including both refugees and host community. Three children were found with Acute Malnourishment from refugees. Nine children were found with moderate acute malnutrition, and no severe acute malnutrition was found from host community. All children were admitted in outpatient.

Upper Nile

- In Doro and Gendrassa camps, UNHCR partner World Food Programme (WFP) carried out general food distribution for the month of January to 68,567 refugees. Food distribution in Yusuf Batil and Kaya camps will commence on 17 January.

Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

Unity

- In Pamir camp, UNHCR pitched 100 family tents for refugees relocating from Yida. Meanwhile, refugees in both Yida and Pamir continue to mold bricks to construct their own shelters.

Water and Sanitation

Achievements and impact

Unity

- In Ajuong Thok camp, crude latrine coverage stood at 7 people per latrine, with water coverage at 17.6 litres per person per day. In Pamir camp, latrine coverage stood at 16 people per latrine, water coverage stood at 34.6 liters per person. In Ajuong Thok camp, UNHCR constructed 20 family and eight communal latrines.

Identified needs and remaining gaps

Upper Nile

- In Doro camp, UNHCR and partners planned to build 80 latrines at two sites hosting the displaced host community population.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

Achievements and impact

Central Equatoria

- In Gorom refugee settlement, UNHCR partner ACROSS demarcated and distributed 70 plots of one hectare each, of land for agriculture activities for refugee farmers in Gorom Camp. The 35% of available land for farming was assessed in 2016.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Achievements and Impact

Central Equatoria

- In Gorom refugee settlement, UNHCR partner ACROSS work progressed well on the rehabilitation of internal roads totaling seven kilometers. The labor-based cash for work scheme utilized to rehabilitate these roads is assisting vulnerable refugees to make income for their essential needs that they do not receive through the World Food Programme (WFP) general food distribution.

Access to Energy

Achievements and Impact

- In Ajuong Thok, UNHCR distributed 1,500 Fuel Efficient Stoves (FES) to 730 households. These stoves will reduce the frequency of firewood collection thereby enabling refugees to do other domestic duties. This will also help control environmental degradation around the area.

IDP RESPONSE

Protection

COORDINATION

Achievements and impact

Unity

- In Bentiu and Rubkona towns, UNHCR and cluster partners Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and UNICEF conducted a protection assessment to identify vulnerable cases for proper and timely humanitarian intervention. The joint assessment identified 69 households (301 individuals) who need material support. Also, UNICEF identified seven separated children aged between 2-12 years.

Upper Nile

- In Maban, UNHCR, and partners Humanitarian Development Consortium (HDC), WFP and South Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC) forged a multi-functional team and conducted a rapid need assessment to the areas hosting IDPs. On the riverbank site, the team identified 1,207 households consisting of 6,053 individuals displaced from two different communities from

Doro and Tweji living in the open. The team visited the second IDP site Haj Stipta which is hosting 348 households consisting of 1,923 individuals. Main priority findings included food, NFIs, and shelters.

OPERATIONS



Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and impact

Upper Nile

- In Malakal, UNHCR and its partners Humanitarian Development Consortium (HDC) and Danish Refugee Council (DRC) distributed hygiene kits including soaps and towels to 1,360 Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs).
- In Bunj, UNHCR and its partners HDC and Samaritan Purse distributed NFIs to 2,464 IDPs. NFIs included blankets, plastic sheets, mosquito nets, kitchen sets and sleeping mats for the newly displaced population from Tweji. UNHCR and partners will provide the same assistance to further groups of IDPs displaced in Maban.



Food Security and Nutrition

Achievements and impact

Upper Nile

- In Bunj UNHCR and partners coordinated with WFP to distribute food to 2,464 IDPs displaced as a result of violence between the host community and refugees.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to USD 89,773,301 for the financial year 2016. UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programs with earmarked and broadly earmarked funds. UNHCR's comprehensive needs for 2017 amount to \$172 million, with most priority needs of \$125 million. UNHCR will report on 2017 contributions upon close of accounts for 2016 by end of January 2017.

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Links:

[South Sudan Situation Regional Portal](#)

[UNHCR South Sudan Facebook page](#)

[Einstein scholarships bring hope to refugee students in South Sudan](#)

[UNHCR News Story: New 'Protection Desks' give expert help to South Sudan's vulnerable](#)

[UNHCR News Story: 100,000 fearful civilians trapped in South Sudan town](#)

[UNHCR Briefing Note: UNHCR sounds warning alarms over situation in South Sudan's Yei](#)