



**UNHCR**  
The UN Refugee Agency

## KEY FIGURES

### INSIDE SOUTH SUDAN

**260,868**

Refugees in South Sudan

**1.893 M**

IDPs in South Sudan, including  
223,994 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

**1,609,200**

South Sudanese refugees in  
neighboring countries (as of 28  
February, 2017):

- Uganda: 764,326
- Ethiopia: 345,687
- Sudan: 332,885
- Kenya: 93,601
- DRC: 71,062
- CAR: 1,639

**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

## UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE 04/2017

15-28 February 2017

## HIGHLIGHTS

- **UNHCR distributes relief items to IDPs in Western Equatoria:** In Yambio, UNHCR distributed non-food items (NFIs) including plastic sheets and pieces of soap to 1,346 vulnerable individuals formerly sheltering at Nabima Primary School who have been relocated to the Yambio Women's General Union premises. These IDPs had previously been sleeping in the open, and these plastic sheets will help IDPs to erect temporary shelters. Many of the other 4,000 IDPs are integrating with their relatives and people they know in residential areas of Yambio town. IDPs are displaced in Yambio as a result of fresh fighting between government forces and armed youth in areas north of Yambio since 03 January 2017 from five bomas including Bazumburu, Gitikiri, Bodo, Riimenze, and Bazungua.
- **Relocation of refugees from Yida settlement to Pamir Camp continues:** During the reporting period, UNHCR relocated 744 refugees to Pamir camp including 656 new arrivals and 88 refugees previously settled in Yida. Cumulatively, Pamir is hosting 9,123 refugees (2,144 Households) since opening in September 2016. Upon arrival, refugees received core relief items and residential plots.
- **UNHCR registers over 800 news arrivals in Yida settlement:** UNHCR registered 814 new arrivals to South Sudan, representing a 10% decrease compared to the previous reporting period. The majority of the new arrivals are women and children, with Unaccompanied and Separated Children constituting 17% of the new arrivals. Most of the new arrivals came from Heban, Umdoreen, Dalami and Al-Boram Counties in South Kordofan and reported hunger and search for education as the primary reason for their flight to Yida. Others are coming for family reunification. Cumulatively, 2,855 new arrivals have been registered from South Kordofan since the beginning of 2017.
- **UNHCR distributes material items to IDPs in Juba:** In Juba, UNHCR and its partner Humanitarian Development Consortium (HDC) distributed kitchen sets to 396 individuals (70 households) as a supplement of NFI Cluster assistance to persons with special needs living at the Mahad IDP collective site; the distribution was conducted following the fire incidence on 19 February.
- **UNHCR supports refugees with family tents in Unity's Pamir:** In Pamir camp, UNHCR partner, Danish Refugee Council (DRC) supported 560 individuals (140 households) with family tents. Cumulatively, 414 family tents have been pitched in 2017.
- **Primary schools in Pamir camp receive new desks:** UNHCR partner Lutheran World Federation (LWF) delivered 70 desks to Kings of Nuba Primary School in Pamir, 50 desks to Napata and 80 to Merowe Primary schools to mitigate the shortage of desks. Meanwhile, LWF is in the process of recruiting more teachers for Kings of Nuba Primary schools to reduce the pupil-teacher ratio, which is high at the moment more than 1:110
- **UNHCR gives startup business kits to refugees in Ajuong Thok camp:** In Ajuong Thok camp, UNHCR gave startup business kits to 25 male foster parents to start up business in Ajuong Thok market to help them support Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC) in their custody. UNHCR extended a similar support to 25 women to open up tea canteens as a way of generating income also to support UASCs.

## OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

- **Emergency Relief Coordinator Visits South Sudan** – The Under-Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Stephen O'Brien, completed a two-day visit to South Sudan on Sunday 5 March. On Saturday 4 March, he undertook a visit to Ganyiel in the far south of Southern Unity, home to IDPs from the famine-hit areas of Leer and Mayendit in Southern Unity as well as Lakes State. During the visit, O'Brien also met with Government officials and humanitarian partners. In a press release on Sunday 5 March, he articulated that "The cause of this suffering is conflict, people have been displaced, brutalized and raped. They have been attacked when they sought out assistance. This must stop, and it must end now." He also called for immediate full and unimpeded humanitarian access in the country.
- **Humanitarian Coordinator, Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) Express Concerns on Humanitarian Access:** On 28 February, Eugene Owusu, the South Sudan Humanitarian Coordinator, released a statement in response to humanitarian access issues, noting "it is imperative that humanitarians can act swiftly and robustly. I implore all parties to this conflict to uphold their responsibilities under international humanitarian law, place the plight of the people first, give aid workers unfettered access, and protect civilians". The statement came in response to the relocation of 28 aid workers from famine-affected Mayendit in Southern Unity. In a separate statement on Friday 3 March, the SRSG for South Sudan, David Shearer echoed the sentiments, highlighting that humanitarians were also forced to evacuate Yuai and Moto in northeast Jonglei due to fighting, with their compounds and supplies subsequently looted. The statement also noted that "Humanitarian agencies and non-governmental organizations were told to evacuate the town of Mayendit in the heart of the famine-afflicted area because of the risk of fighting resuming."
- **Famine declared in South Sudan:** Famine has been declared in parts of South Sudan, where UN agencies warned on 20 February that war and a collapsing economy had left 100,000 people facing starvation in some parts of South Sudan. A further 1 million people were classified as being on the brink of famine, according to the World Food Programme (WFP) and other UN bodies. Unimpeded humanitarian access was urgently needed to reverse "an escalating catastrophe," they added. On 21 February, the acting spokesperson for the US Department of State, Mark Toner, expressed grave concern over the declaration of famine in parts of the country and the significant scale of humanitarian need throughout the country. The spokesperson noted that "this crisis is man-made, the direct consequence of a conflict prolonged by warring parties who are unwilling to put aside political differences for the good of their people. Donor countries, including Norway, Switzerland and the European Union, have pledged additional emergency funds for famine response since the declaration.

## REFUGEE RESPONSE



### Achievements and impact

#### Unity

- During the reporting period, UNHCR relocated 744 refugees to Pamir camp including 656 new arrivals and 88 refugees previously settled in Yida. Cumulatively, Pamir is hosting 9,123 refugees (2,144 Households) since opening in September 2016. Upon arrival, refugees received core relief items and residential plots.
- During the reporting period, UNHCR relocated 705 individuals from Yida settlement to Ajuong camp on family reunification grounds. Most of these refugees are members of nuclear families, while other were considered on foster caring grounds.
- UNHCR registered 814 new arrivals to South Sudan, representing a 10% decrease compared to the previous reporting period. The majority of the new arrivals are women and children, with Unaccompanied and Separated Children constituting 17% of the new arrivals. Most of the new arrivals came from Heban, Umdoreen, Dalami and Al-Boram Counties in South Kordofan and reported hunger and search for education as the primary reason for their flight to Yida. Others are coming for family reunification. Cumulatively, 2,855 new arrivals have been registered from South Kordofan since the beginning of 2017.
- In Pamir camp, UNHCR distributed sanitary kit materials to 520 adolescent primary school girls from Napata (251), Alwa (69) and (200) Kings of Nuba Primary School.
- In Ajuong Thok Camp, UNHCR gave startup business kits to 25 male foster parents to start up business in Ajuong Thok market to help them support Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC) in their custody. Also, UNHCR extended a similar support to 25 women to open up tea canteens as a way of generating income also to support UASCs.

#### Upper Nile

- In Maban County, UNHCR conducted a panel meeting on Child and Youth Protection Best interest determination (BID) to discuss protection cases, follow up action points were agreed with partners for each case including forced/early marriage cases.



## Education

### Achievements and Impact

#### Unity

- UNHCR partner Lutheran World Federation (LWF) delivered 70 desks to Kings of Nuba Primary School in Pamir, 50 desks to Napata and 80 to Merowe Primary schools to mitigate the shortage of desks. Meanwhile, LWF is in the process of recruiting more teachers for Kings of Nuba Primary schools to reduce the pupil teacher ratio, which is currently high at more than 1:110.

### Identified needs and remaining gaps

#### Unity

- In Ajuong Thok camps, classrooms congestion remains a problem in all primary schools and Soba Secondary School., LWF has started using the Reception Centre for teaching 788 pupils from the lower classes as a temporary measure until temporary shelters and a new school are constructed.
- In Pamir camp, lack of textbooks in both primary and secondary schools especially in Mandela Secondary school remains an issue
- There are a limited number of class rooms for F1 in Soba Secondary School, plans are underway to construct temporary classrooms in all schools.
- There are a limited number of portable blackboards; UNHCR partner LWF, is currently sourcing the portable boards.



## Food Security and Nutrition

### Achievements and impact

#### Upper Nile

- In the four refugee camps in Maban, UNHCR operational partner World Food Programme (WFP) completed General Food Distribution (GFD) for February. The food items consisted of cereals for 30 days, cooking oil for 29 days, and pulses for 26 days and all at a reduced rate 70% food ration.

#### Unity

- In Ajuong Thok, Pamir and Yida, UNHCR operational partner the World Food Programme (WFP) completed General Food Distribution (GFD) for February.
- In Ajuong Thok and Pamir camps, UNHCR partners International Rescue Committee (IRC) and Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA) continued Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP) food distribution to pregnant and lactating mothers.
- In Pamir, UNHCR partner, IRC conducted Nutrition screening for new arrivals in blocks 18 to 21 and in the reception center, as well as BSFP distribution screening and daily screening at Out Patient Department (OPD) for all children under five years of age who sought consultation at the clinic. During the reporting period, UNHCR and partners screened 1,590 children under five years of age, 805 females and 785 males.



## Shelter and NFIs

### Achievements and Impact

#### Unity

- In Pamir camp, UNHCR partner, Danish Refugee Council (DRC) supported 560 individuals (140 households) with family tents for the newly arrived residents and for those with additional needs such as large families. Cumulatively, 414 family tents have been pitched in 2017.
- In Pamir camp, UNHCR partner DRC constructed 67 emergency shelters for refugees with special needs. Cumulatively, 179 shelters have been built in 2017.
- In Jamjang, UNHCR competed for the excavation of three Hafirs for the host community awaiting official handover as an implementation of project in support of host community



## Water and Sanitation

### Achievements and impact

#### Unity

- During the reporting period, UNHCR constructed 156 family and five communal latrines in Ajuong Thok camp, and 138 family and 13 communal latrines in Pamir camp respectively.
- During the reporting period, the water supply coverage stood at 19.2 liters per person per day in Ajuong Thok, an improvement to the coverage in the previous reporting period, while in Pamir camp, water supply coverage stood at 28.6 litres per day per person. In both camps, massive brick moulding for shelter construction is bringing the average water coverage down. UNHCR and its partner Samaritan's Purse (SP) are looking at ways to ensure that brick moulding does not impact too negatively on water availability for the refugees.
- During the reporting period, crude latrine coverage stood at 6 per person and in Ajuong Thok, and Pamir crude latrine coverage stood at 12 per person.

### Upper Nile

- In Maban three camps, the water supply coverage stood at a level of 20 liters per person per day, except for Yusuf Batil Camp where water coverage stood at 19 litres per person per day. Sanitation coverage stood at 12 persons per latrine in all camps.



## Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

### Achievements and impact

#### Upper Nile

- In Yusuf Batil Camp, UNHCR and its partner Danish Refugee Council (DRC) conducted a one-day refresher training to 25 Outreach Workers on their roles and responsibilities of camp management.

## IDP RESPONSE



## Protection

### COORDINATION

### Achievements and impact

#### Upper Nile

- In Malakal's protection of civilians (POC) sites (II and III), UNHCR and its partner Humanitarian Development Consortium (HDC) verified and registered 67 Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs). The PSNs will be prioritized for service delivery in the POC. UNHCR protection team will continue to closely monitor the ongoing verification and registration of PSNs to ensure the needed assistance is delivered to them.
- In Malakal town, UNHCR and its partner HDC in collaboration with the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC) undertook a field assessment and identified 125 PSNs among the newly arrived IDPs from Juba. UNHCR and other humanitarian actors are coordinating support to this group.
- UNHCR and its partner Danish Refugee Council (DRC) completed the verification exercise of 163 PSNs in the POC sector I and IV. UNHCR and DRC will extend the much-needed protection assistance for the verified PSNs.

### OPERATIONS

#### Central Equatoria

### Achievements and impact

- In Yei, UNHCR and its partner UMCOR distributed sorghum of 10 kgs each to 531 IDPs with specific needs. The sorghum was the balance of WFP's food meant for refugees in Lasu settlement which could not be distributed. The PSNs includes people living with HIV/AIDS, UASCs, physically challenged and elderly identified during protection monitoring.
- In Yei's Sobe IDP center, UNHCR partner UMCOR distributed mosquito nets and health kits to 28 unaccompanied children (19 males and nine females) at Child Protection Centre.
- During the reporting period, RRC recorded 1,598 new arrivals to Yei from the villages of Atende, Logo, Jonsuk, Kegulu, Minyori, Pakula, Mapoko and Kabegere. UNHCR, RRC, and UMCOR are working on the verification and provision of NFIs.

### Identified needs and remaining gaps

- In Yei, inadequate humanitarian support such as food and non-food items for PSNs and the newly displaced individuals from the rural areas into Yei Town remains an issue due to unpredictable security situation.

## Shelter and NFIs

### Achievements and impact

#### Unity

- In Bentiu, UNHCR distributed non-food items to five survivors of sexual gender-based violence (SGBV) including four inside the POC and one in Rubkona collective center. NFIs kit consisted of the kitchen set, bucket, soap, sanitary kit and sleeping mats.

#### Western Equatoria

- In Yambio, UNHCR distributed non-food items (NFIs) including plastic sheets and pieces of soap to 1,346 vulnerable individuals formerly sheltering at Nabima Primary School who have been relocated to the Yambio Women's General Union premises. These IDPs had previously been sleeping in the open, and these plastic sheets will help IDPs to erect temporary shelters. Many of the other 4,000 IDPs are integrating with their relatives and people they know in residential areas of Yambio town. IDPs are displaced in Yambio as a result of fresh fighting between government forces and armed youth in areas north of Yambio since 03 January 2017 from five bomas including Bazumburu, Gitikiri, Bodo, Riimenze, and Bazungua.

#### Central Equatoria

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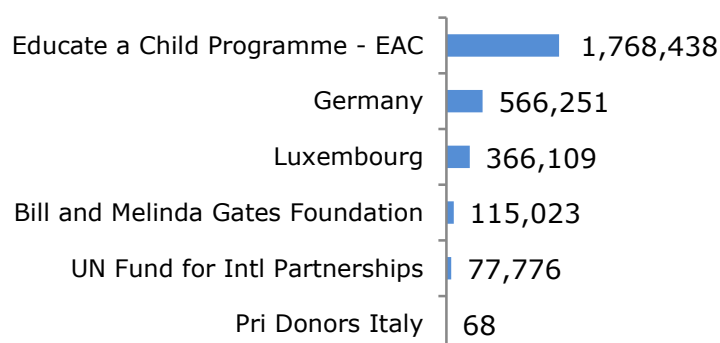
## Camp Coordination and Camp Management

### Achievements and Impact

- In Bentiu, UNHCR CCCM cluster partner INTERNEWS in collaboration with Concern Worldwide & CARE International distributed additional 190 radio sets to IDPs. The solar radios will promote access to information to the community. INTERNEWS plans to handout 2,050 solar radios in Bentiu and Rubkona respectively.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to USD 2,893,665 for the financial year 2017 as of 28 February. 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.



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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](#)

