

South Sudan Update



17th November 2011

Blue Nile Refugees in Upper Nile State, South Sudan

The security situation in Maban County in Upper Nile State was calm but unpredictable during the week, following aerial bombardments along the border with Blue Nile State in Sudan from 7-9 November. UNHCR reported that some 1,200 refugees have been arriving into the state each day from the ongoing fighting in Blue Nile. The UN agency reports that between 10,000 and 15,000 refugees are estimated to be in the border areas in Upper Nile State. Humanitarian partners are working to move the refugees to safe locations in South Sudan, with the most vulnerable to be settled at a temporary site in Doro, near the county capital of Bunj town. An inter-agency assessment began on 14 November. By 17 November, UNHCR had registered 5,281 refugees in Doro. The assessment identified food, emergency shelter and health support as the most urgent needs of the population. About 41 metric tons of cereals and pulses had been distributed to the population as of 16 November, which is enough food to feed 2,315 persons for one month (a further distribution for 770 pers took place on Sat, not sure whether it fits in the sitrep period). 3000 NFI kits are available on site at the UNHCR warehouse and NFIs are distributed at the same time as the food distribution. More Food and NFI stocks are being redeployed from other locations in Upper Nile.

A medical team (RI) conducted medical screening after which 775 children [1 - 5 years] were vaccinated for polio and measles; 441 adults received treatment for different diseases while 222 women were also assisted for ante and post natal health care [5 new born babies born by end of last week].

In addition to the refugee population, some 11,200 IOM-tracked returnees have also arrived into Maban from Blue Nile since the displacements began in August. There are also reportedly some 30 internally displaced persons who fled the border area following the aerial bombardment.