



SOUTH SUDAN

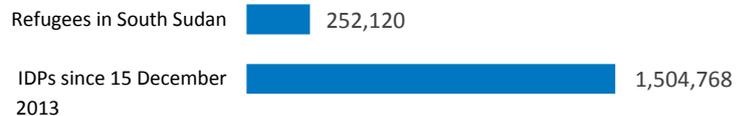
UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE 6/2015

13 to 19 February 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

- UNHCR Representative, senior Government officials visit Unity State:** On a 14-16 February visit to Pariang County, the UNHCR Representative and the Commissioner for Refugee Affairs, as well as other senior Government officials, agreed to allow the expansion of Ajuong Thok refugee camp to accommodate up to 40,000 people. The two sides also identified Pamy (8 km southeast of Yida) as the next potential refugee camp for the Yida caseload. Pamy, which has yet to be built, would be allowed to accommodate up to 20,000 refugees.
- Construction materials:** The Government wants to see construction materials rather than prefabs delivered to Ajuong Thok. UNHCR has taken note of the request.
- Closure of Yida:** The Government reiterated its position on the closure of Yida settlement by June 2015 and the relocation of refugees to Ajuong Thok (and Pamy, once up and running), with the support of UNHCR.
- Aid trucks arriving:** More than 100 trucks have been loaded in Juba, are being dispatched, or have arrived in Unity and Upper Nile States, primarily with aid items for refugees in Yida settlement and Ajuong Thok camp in Unity State; 27 trucks are heading for Maban in Upper Nile State. So far over 40 trucks have arrived at their intended destinations.

Current population of concern



252,120

Registered refugees in South Sudan
(UNHCR South Sudan: 31/01/2015)

112,887

IDPs estimated living in UNMISS POC sites –
7 locations (UNMISS: 12/02/2015).

1,382,000

IDPs estimated living outside UNMISS POC
sites (OCHA: 31/01/2015).

419,053,573 USD

Requested for the operation



OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

- The Government has cancelled the June 2015 elections and extended its own term by two years. Optimism among UN agencies about the peace process is “not as high as in January”.
- While there have been no dry season offensives so far, sporadic skirmishes, general insecurity and crime, as well as a fragile infrastructure, are significant challenges for UNHCR and its partners, especially in and around Bentiu, Unity State.
- While dry season roads are now open, the large number of checkpoints in Unity State and elsewhere is delaying the delivery of goods.
- Changing politico-military allegiances make predictable planning difficult.

Protection

Refugees Response:

Achievements and Impact

- More arrivals from Sudan: Between 23 December 2014 and 14 February 2015, UNHCR registered 5,045 new arrivals in Yida. Around 1,000 individuals arrived in Yida in the past week, though the figure fluctuates from week to week. Of them, more than 80 per cent have been taken to Ajuong Thok (AT - 70 km away by road), which is now hosting over 22,000 people. The camp is expected to reach peak capacity of 24,000 shortly.

IDP Response:

Achievements and Impact

- A UNHCR team arrived in Leer County of Unity State, an opposition-held area, to meet local authorities, traditional leaders, IDPs and aid agencies to prepare for a proposed "Go and See" visit by four IDPs from Wau Protection of Civilians (POC) site in Western Bahr el Ghazal State. The team was well received by the Relief and Rehabilitation Agency (RRA), NGOs and IDPs on the ground.
- A project begun in 2013 to construct a waiting area for the government's Directorate of Nationality, Passports and Immigration (DPNI) has been completed in Bor, Jonglei State. (DPNI has an agreement with UNHCR in various states to provide nationality certificates to vulnerable returning populations, including IDPs.)
- The Danish Refugee Council has screened (to find out if they have been to the POC before or if they are new arrivals – part of a pre-registration exercise) a further 681 households in the Bentiu (Unity State) Protection of Civilians (POC) site, bringing to 1,200 the number of IDPs screened since December 2014. Currently there are 52,908 individuals in the POC site.
- UNHCR identified 160 individuals who arrived in the POC through the main gate. They are from Niemne, Kuach and Kedet *payams* in Guit County as well as Paneay, Dorbor and Kaljak *payams* in Rubkhona County, Unity State. They said last year's floods had destroyed their farms, that they lacked food, and are unable to support themselves without humanitarian assistance. An estimated 90 per cent of the new arrivals are women and children (10 per cent are older men).
- UNHCR identified six children, (4 boys and 2 girls) who were separated from their families during shelling in Paneay *payam*, Rubkhona County, Unity State. The cases were referred to Non-Violent Peace Force who reunified the children with their mothers in the POC.
- The Protection Cluster released the third *Lakes State Situation and Protection Update*, as well as a paper on the security perceptions of IDPs in Juba summarizing recent consultations with IDPs by International Rescue Committee, IsraAid, Nonviolent Peace Force, UNHCR and UNICEF.

Education

Refugee Response:

Achievements and Impact

- Over 14,000 textbooks have been printed and delivered to UNHCR in Juba for onward distribution; 11,524 will go to four camps in Maban targeting 20,027 primary school children, while Ajuong Thok camp will receive 3,076 (targeting 2,150 primary school children).
- In response to a request from UNESCO Juba, UNHCR provided two vehicles to pick up visitors from UNESCO, Ericsson and Zain at the airstrip in Nimule (Eastern Equatoria State) to transport them to a nearby Youth Centre where they opened a computer/library room.
- In Yei's Lasu refugee settlement 1,633 pupils (871 boys and 762 girls) have been enrolled in the two primary schools; 95 students (64 boys and 31 girls) were enrolled in the secondary school.

Challenges and constraints:

- Overcrowded primary schools and Child Friendly Spaces and lack of trained teachers in refugee camps in Unity State.



Health/Nutrition

Refugees Response:

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR and partners have completed three rounds of polio vaccination campaigns (87.3% coverage), and measles vaccinations (96%) in all refugee camps in Maban (Upper Nile State) and in Unity State. Médecins Sans Frontières reported 90 cases of measles in Yida exacerbated by the influx of refugees. Regular vaccinations are taking place.
- Medical and nutritional screening of newly arriving refugees in Yida and Ajuong Thok showed global acute malnutrition rates, based on Middle Upper Arm Circumference measurements, are below the emergency threshold of 10 per cent.



Water and Sanitation

Refugees Response:

Achievements and Impact

- A central waste disposal site, including for medical items, catering for UNHCR refugee operations in Maban (four camps), is ready for use. Mapping of WASH coverage will be boosted by the recent arrival of a mapping expert from UNHCR partner REACH.



Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

Refugee response:

- Following a Rapid Needs Assessment by UNHCR and partners in Maban County, 1,449 individuals (361 families) were assisted with NFI kits on 14 February.

IDP response:

- Upper Nile State: UNHCR's Malakal field office completed a nearly two-week biometric registration on 14 February of 18,870 IDPs (5,673 families) and members of host communities, 10 per cent of whom had special needs. This exercise will help identify IDPs and host communities separately - useful when delivering assistance on the ground and at the time of return, and will be shared with the inter-agency group.



Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

Achievements and Impact

- **Child Protection:** 82 children (62 male, 20 female) comprising six Unaccompanied Minors (5 male, 1 female) and 76 separated children (57 male, 19 female) were relocated from Yida to Ajuong Thok refugee camp this week. All the separated children were reunited with their relatives.
- Best Interest Assessments were conducted for 14 Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC - 9 male, 5 female); 16 UASC who have turned 18 had their files closed. UNHCR and partners will continue to monitor the progress of these individuals to ensure that their protection needs are met.
- Sanitary materials were distributed to 465 girls of reproductive age in Napata, Merowe, and Jamjang primary schools in Unity State. This will ensure their continued presence in school over the coming month.
- **GBV:** Awareness-raising sessions were held in Ajuong Thok: 118 refugees were educated on the consequences of rape, especially health implications; 304 men and boys from five selected blocks in the camp participated in information sessions that highlighted the consequences of forced marriage, especially on the lives of girls. Another 237 females accessed the Women and Girls Wellness Centre for various psychosocial activities including skill-building during which they were also educated on the importance of timely reporting of GBV cases as well as the support systems available in the camp.



Logistics/Supply

Achievements and Impact

- Over 700 refugees were relocated from Yida to Ajuong Thok (AT) refugee camp in two convoys; 47 refugees who came from AT refugee camp to accompany their relatives were also transported by UNHCR trucks and buses.
- In Yei, UNHCR facilitated the relocation of 134 Nuban refugees to Lasu settlement. The individuals were registered, transported and subsequently provided with standard NFI packages as well as a month's food ration. Relocated refugees were provided with residential plots following assessment, identification and demarcation of 31 plots.
- Out of 54 trucks dispatched from Juba to warehouses in Yida and AT, 43 (40 of NFIs/construction materials) were received by Action Africa Help International (AAH-I). The International Rescue Committee also received three trucks with WASH materials.
- Airlift of NFIs, fuel and food continues to Maban, Yida and Malakal although at a reduced pace owing to items being dispatched by road.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to some US\$ 1,117,463 as of 16 February 2015.

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 programmes with earmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

Funding received (in USD)

Luxemburg		625782
PRIV DONORS...	1433	
PRIV DONORS...	213	
PRIV DONORS...	35	
UN PROG ON...		499000