

SOUTH SUDAN

UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE 33/2015

22-31 August 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

- On 26 August, **President Salva Kiir signed the compromise peace deal** in presence of regional leaders in Juba. President Kiir called upon the international community to help South Sudan implement the agreement.
- **Japanese Ambassador visits Maban refugee operation** - UNHCR organized a field visit to Upper Nile's Maban for Japanese Ambassador to South Sudan, Kiya Masahiko. Accompanied by UNHCR Country Representative, Ahmed Warsame, the Ambassador paid a visit to some of the projects funded by Japan in Doro camp, including classrooms at the Nur primary school, a solar-power borehole and the mud-plastered transitional shelters for vulnerable refugees. UNHCR's second largest donor globally, Japan has contributed more than \$16 million since 2014 to support UNHCR's efforts to protect and assist refugees and extend a helping hand to host communities in South Sudan.
- **UNHCR starts relocation of asylum seekers out of the Protection of Civilians (PoC) site 2 in Juba** – Whilst continuing to register asylum seekers for relocation out of Juba PoC 2 (UN House II), UNHCR has already moved 112 individuals to urban Juba. Another 102 asylum seekers are scheduled to fly to Yambio on 1 September for further transfer to Western Equatoria's Makpandu refugee settlement. To date, 240 out of 510 asylum seekers have accepted UNHCR assistance to relocate. UNMISS reiterated its decision to close the site on 31 August and discontinue services starting from 1 September, save for water.
- **Eye care campaign finishes successfully** - UNHCR and partner Samaritan's Pursue concluded a week-long campaign at Maban County Hospital to provide eye care services for patients (refugee and host communities) with various eye problems including cataracts and glaucoma. Out of 1,430 patients who were screened, 401 benefited from cataract surgeries (64 per cent refugees).

414,052,136 USD

Requested for the operation

Current population of concern



IDPs since 15
Dec 2013



1,600,000

Of them, 166,142 IDPs reside in UNMISS Protection of Civilians sites

Refugees in
South Sudan



265,296

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

- On 26 August, President Salva Kiir signed the compromise peace deal in presence of regional leaders in Juba. President Kiir called upon the international community to help South Sudan implement the agreement. On 29 August, South Sudan president Salva Kiir Mayardit and the leader of the opposition group Dr Riek Machar Teny have declared a permanent ceasefire as required in the IGAD-brokered compromise peace deal. President Salva Kiir Mayardit called on all SPLA army in the country not to carry out any bellicose activities, but to be vigilant in their respective areas. The same day Dr Riek Machar Teny also made similar statements, urging all the SPLA-IO soldiers not to pursue any aggression at the frontline.

REFUGEE RESPONSE



Protection

Achievements and Impact

Unity State

- In Yida, UNHCR registered 103 new arrivals during the reporting period from Sudan's South Kordofan State, bring the total number to 14,302 since the start of a new influx on 23 December 2014.
- As part of the relocation effort, 125 refugees were relocated from Yida to Ajuong Thok. In total, 15,535 refugees have been relocated from Yida to AT since 23 December 2014. Currently, the refugee population figure in Ajuong Thok stands at 30,828, with 70,033 in Yida.
- In Yida, UNHCR and its partner International Rescue Committee (IRC) distributed sanitary towels and underwear to 7,571 women of reproductive age.

Upper Nile State

- At Gendrassa camp, the UNHCR led biometric exercise has been successfully completed. UNHCR has biometrically verified 17,722 refugees and referred to relevant partners 865 PSNs cases, 7 of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) and 159 child protection cases. UNHCR partners such as Commission for Refugee Affairs (CRA), ACTED, Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and Lutheran World Federation (LWF) supported the biometric verification exercise.

Central Equatoria State

Juba

- In Gorom, as a result of a two-week long registration verification exercise held from 10-24 August, a total of 1,819 individuals (681 HHs) were biometrically verified indicating a 24 percent decrease in the registered camp population. 153 individuals also received refugee identification cards during the exercise. Furthermore, 88 persons were identified with specific needs, 71 new born babies and 44 new arrivals.
- In Juba, UNHCR Refugee Protection Unit and International Rescue Committee (IRC) conducted a one-day training held on 20 August on international and domestic refugee law for refugee leaders from Sudan.
- UNHCR supported the relocation of 137 asylum-seekers currently residing in Juba Protection of Civilians (PoC) 2 site to Juba town and another 96 individuals to Yambio to reside in Makpandu refugee camp. These individuals were provided with transport to pre-determined locations in the town and a financial grant of USD 300.

Identified needs and remaining gaps

Central Equatoria State

- In Lasu settlement, 358 new arrivals are pending registration. Discussion on screening between UNHCR and CRA are ongoing.

- The absence of female police officers to handle SGBV cases is still a challenge in Lasu refugee settlement. UNHCR continues to engage CRA to ensure that at least two female police officers are deployed to the settlement.

Western Equatoria State

- In Makpandu refugee camp, UNHCR registered 66 new arrivals (31HHs) bringing the total number of refugees in Makpandu refugee settlement to 3,180.

Access to Energy

Achievements and Impact

Unity State

- In Ajuong Thok, refugees have constructed more than 120 fuel efficient stoves with the assistance from Community Environmental Action Group. While production of more stoves continues, UNHCR has already noticed a reduction in fuel wood consumption.
- In Ajuong Thok UNHCR partner, CARE International distributed 401 seedlings to community members as part of a broader strategy to address the environmental degradation caused by the unsustainable cutting of trees for firewood and shelter construction. CARE has distributed more than 20,000 seedlings so far this year.

Central Equatoria State

- UNHCR conducted a needs assessment for tree planting in refugee and host community schools in and around Lasu. The plan is to plant 1,500 seedlings of different species in public facilities in the camp and surrounding areas.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- There is a need to increase environmental awareness among the new arrivals from Yida to Ajuong Thok.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

Achievements and Impact

Unity State

- In Ajuong Thok, 105 fuel-efficient stoves (FES) were produced during the reporting period, increasing the total number of FESs to 2,360.
- In Ajuong Thok, 299 mango, neem, pawpaw, banco, and lemon seedlings were distributed to 211 refugees.

Central Equatoria State

- At Lasu settlement, assorted seeds of maize, groundnuts, sesame and cowpeas were distributed to 1,866 households. It is hoped that the seeds would enable refugee and host community households to plant during the second planting season and promote self-reliance in food security.

Western Equatoria State

- During the reporting period, 500 orange, mango, guava, avocado and jack fruits seedlings were distributed in Makpandu refugee settlement.
- UNHCR partner World Vision International distributed 25 pangas, 21 hoes and handles, five forked hoes and handles, three rakes and four water cans to 25 beneficiaries from Aniwasa kitchen garden members in Napere.
- In Yambio, agricultural tools for refugees and host communities procured by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) arrived in Makpandu, Napere, Naandi and Source Yubu. Inputs will be distributed in close consultations with CRA.

Education

Achievements and Impact

Western Equatoria State

- In Yambio, 80 desks have been delivered to Nabagu Primary school. Another 160 desks, 16 teachers' tables and chairs are set to be delivered to Nabagu and Yabua Schools. UNHCR recently handed over the two schools to the state Ministry of Education.

Upper Nile State

- In Yusif Batil and Gendressa camps, normal learning instructions have fully commenced following a month-long teachers' strike over increase of incentives and payment of incentives in US dollars.
- The six-month long teacher training of refugee teachers and English language and Adult Literacy courses organized by the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) have been completed in Bunj town, Gendressa, Kaya and Yusif Batil camps. As a result, 127 teachers participated, 98 received certificates of participation, with 640 refugees and host community members in the English courses of which 379 received certificates of participation.

Unity State

- Soba Secondary School students in Ajuong Thok have completed the second term curriculum examination.

Central Equatoria State

- In Yei, daily average primary and secondary school attendance improved by 23.6% and 4.9% respectively from the previous week's record of 1,063 and 149 respectively.
- UNHCR and partner ACROSS conducted village-to-village "come back to school" mobilization targeting nearly 2,200 registered pupils to sit for end of term examinations (lower and upper primary classes) from 17 to 24 August.
- UNHCR partner ACROSS distributed stationery in Lasu settlement to facilitate term two examinations. 51 primary eight candidates from two primary schools sat for mock final examinations (39 boys and 12 girls).

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

Upper Nile State

- The newly recruited secondary school teachers from Juba were attacked, and their personal properties looted. As a protection measure, teachers have been moved to UNHCR's partner Lutheran World Federation (LWF) compound.
- To date, the construction of 211 classrooms has been completed in Maban refugee camps. However, there is a shortage of 330 classrooms in primary schools to accommodate the current enrollment of rate of 27,074 pupils.

Unity State

- Since the recent insecurity close to Jamjang, the Adult Literacy Education Program has not resumed. Payam (sub-county) administrators and PTA committees are working to address the issue.

Food Security and Nutrition

Achievements and Impact

Upper Nile State

- General food distribution for the month of August took place in Doro and Gendressa camps. During the reporting period, refugees in Kaya and Yusuf Batil camps received cereals, pulses, oil and soap.
- With support from the Coverage Monitoring Network (CMN), semi-Quantitative Evaluation of Access and Coverage (SQUEAC) of community management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) programmes has been completed at Kaya resettlement.
- Through UNICEF intervention, UNHCR facilitated the transportation 658 cartoons of plumpy nut and nutrition –related medicines for the nutrition programme for refugees and the surrounding host communities.

Unity State

- In Yida, 67,674 individuals were targeted for General Food Distribution and 66,568 received food, which is 98.4% of the population.
- In Ajuong Thok, 28,911 individuals received food out of a target of 30,675; bringing the total number of the people who received food to 94.2% of the target.

Identified needs and remaining gaps

Upper Nile State

- The thirty percent food reduction by WFP remained a concern given the fragile nutrition in camps.

Central Equatoria State

- Delivery of seeds and farm tools for 2,828 families in Yei (2,174 refugees and 654 host community) was delayed ahead of the second planting season.
- The insecurity on the Juba-Yei road continued to inhibit WFP's efforts to dispatch food assistance to refugees in Lasu.



Health

Achievements and Impact

Upper Nile State

- In Maban, UNHCR partner Samaritans' Purse has successfully conducted a week-long eye care campaign. Of the total of 1,430 patients screened during the campaign period, 678 were refugees; 401 patients benefited from cataract surgeries (64% of them refugees). UNHCR coordinated and provided material and logistics support to facilitate the campaign. A second round of eye campaigns is planned for November / December 2015.

Unity State

- In response to a malaria outbreak in Pariang County, UNHCR donated 1,000 mosquito nets to IDPs and Host community.
- In Pariang County, a brand new ambulance was assigned to Ajuong Thok to strengthen community-based referral of emergencies and referral to Pariang Public Health Care Centre (PHCC).
- UNHCR and partners facilitated refugee women with fistula to benefit from the fistula repair campaign that started in July 2015 at Wau Hospital; since the campaign started 17 cases have been identified from various camps. 16 cases have been operated and discharged to date.

Identified needs and remaining gaps

Central Equatoria State

- As of 29 August 2015, the cholera outbreak continued; since the outbreak a total of 1,681 cholera cases including 46 deaths (CFR 2.74%) have been reported in South Sudan.
- At Lasu settlement, from 20 to 21 August, UNHCR partner ACROSS conducted a two-day awareness campaign on HIV/AIDS. The training was organized under the theme: "Don't get HIV, Don't pass it, come for HIV Test now" benefiting 6,300 refugees, mainly women and children.



Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

Western Equatoria State

- In Makpandu, UNHCR partner WVI distributed 3,134 soaps to 3,134 refugees and 3,222 soaps to 3,222 refugees in Napere during the reporting period

Upper Nile State

- UNHCR partner DRC completed 1,075 transitional shelters (94%) out of 1,140 units planned in Doro camp, while partner ACTED completed another 705 (92%) out of 768 shelters planned in Gendrassa camp in 2015.
- During the reporting period, an additional 1,300 transitional shelters for Doro and Batil Yusif have been secured. The construction phase is due to begin in September 2015.

Identified needs and remaining gaps

- Despite the enormous efforts made in terms of the construction of transitional shelters, 80 percent of refugee households are still living under tents.



Water and Sanitation

Achievements and Impact

Unity State

- The construction of 21 family and two communal latrines at the PHCC have increased figures of communal latrines to 483 and family latrines to 2,764 in Ajuong Thok. Crude latrine coverage is 11 people per drop hole, which meets UNHCR standard of a maximum of 20 persons per latrine.
- In Yida, 66,680 bars of soap were distributed to refugees during the GFD, and 290 bars of soap to Water Management Committees (600g each).

Western Equatoria State

- In Makpandu and Napere refugee camps, out of the 30 latrines planned for vulnerable individuals 7 are completed in Makpandu while 8 remain under construction. In a related intervention, the construction of 15 latrines in Napere is ongoing.

Upper Nile State

- At all refugee camps in Maban, normal WASH services were recorded. The flow of water supply ranges between 19 and 21 liters per person per day. Meanwhile, the latrine coverage stands between 1:14 and 1:17 across the camps.
- At all refugee camps in Maban, hygiene promotion was heightened during the reporting period. Key messages communicated includes methods of prevention and proper usage of latrines and importance of hand washing with soap/ash.

Identified needs and remaining gaps

Central Equatoria State

- In spite of ongoing discussion with the community, the refugee population in Lasu settlement remains reluctant about taking responsibility for maintaining the cleanliness of water points.

IDP RESPONSE



Protection

Achievements and Impact

Upper Nile State

- At seven IDP camps in Bunj town, UNHCR partner Humanitarian Development Consortium (HDC) conducted protection, identification and verification of persons with specific needs.
- At Banchuli IDP site, 21 family shared latrines were completed, and another construction of 29 latrines are ongoing.

Unity State

- In Bentiu, in order to enhance the protection and assistance of IDPs and vulnerable host community members, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and UNHCR identified a compound for the finalization of the necessary documentation and improved services.
- In Pariang, following UNHCR's biometric registration, 8,422 IDPs received food distributions from WFP partnership with Samaritans' Purse between 26 and 29 August.
- UNHCR partner, African Humanitarian Action (AHA) carried out an awareness campaign in Kumagon boma, Nyiel payam on SGBV and child protection. 49 female and male participants were drawn from the IDPs and members of the host community.

Central Equatoria State

- On 28 August, the Protection Cluster (PC) led by UNHCR and co-led by Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) held a workshop on the Protection Mainstreaming Operational Guidelines with participants representing UN agencies and international and national NGOs. These Guidelines will serve to operationalize the protection mainstreaming objective set out in the 2015 Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) Protection Strategy.



Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

Upper Nile State

- At Ortiji and Balchuluk IDP sites in Maban County, four shelters allocated to Persons with Specific Needs were constructed – this intervention is expected to be rolled-out in a full-scale IDP shelter programme in Maban.
- In Melut, shelter and NFI assessments were completed by UNHCR partner DRC at Khor Dar and Malek IDP sites ahead of an upcoming NFI distribution.

Lakes State

- In Rumbek center, during the reporting period UNHCR and the NFI Cluster distributed UNHCR NFIs to 217 IDP households. These were IDPs who were displaced from Timic, Rumbek Centre following a revenge attack on 16 July.

Jonglei State

- At Mingkaman IDP site, during the reporting period UNHCR partner HDC repaired 40 shelters for extremely vulnerable individuals in sites 1 and 2, bringing the total number of shelters to 112 out 152 planned.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- There is a very high need for shelter materials/NFIs including mosquito nets, soap, mats and blankets for vulnerable IDPs in Unity state.
- Due to the looting of NFIs at PDU in Rumbek Centre, and as per the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission's recommendations, the NFI Cluster planned distribution in Cuel Adukan on 26 August to 231 IDP households has been halted.

Funding received (in USD)

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to US\$ 111,326,720 as of 18 August 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.

