

SOUTH SUDAN

UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE 37/2015

14-28 October 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

- **A new report reveals the killing of 80 civilians in Leer County** - The Protection Cluster released a flash update on 23 October, highlighting reports of violence in over twenty locations in southern and central Unity State since the signing of the Peace Agreement in August. As of 3 October, all static humanitarian operations had been suspended in Leer and Koch Counties, leaving an estimated 250,000 people without humanitarian assistance. Over a three-week period between 4 and 22 October, at least 80 civilians were reportedly killed in Leer County. Among these were at least 57 children, 29 of whom drowned while fleeing attacks. Widespread use of sexual violence was also reported, with sources on the ground reporting over 50 cases of rape.
- **UNHCR assists IDPs in Bunj with relief supplies:** UNHCR distributed non-food items (NFI) to some 2,500 of the nearly 11,000 people who sought safety in Bunj after fleeing armed clashes between government and opposition forces in Maban County's Liang Boma on 11 October. NFI distribution for the remaining population will be completed by the end of October. The displaced from Liang Boma are currently sheltered in four schools in Bunj town.
- **UNHCR joins a five-day assessment of IDPs in Mundri:** UNHCR joined an Inter-agency Rapid Needs Assessment (IRNA) mission in Western Equatoria's Mundri on 26 October to look into the protection needs and concerns of IDPs. According to local authorities, there are some 19,000 IDPs in Mundri East and another 44,000 in Mundri West.
- **UNHCR kicks off verification and registration of Nuba asylum seekers in Juba:** On 26 October, UNHCR in partnership with the Commission for Refugee Affairs launched an operation to verify, register and issue with an ID card an estimated 6,000 asylum seekers from Sudan's South Kordofan and Blue Nile states who are living in Juba
- **UNHCR constructs maternity ward for the host community in Bunj:** UNHCR partner Humanitarian Development Consortium (HCD) completed the construction of Bunj Primary Health Care Centre's maternity ward to improve access to quality basic emergency obstetric and neonatal care services for the host community.
- **Nearly 12,000 women and girls receive dignity kits in Maban:** UNHCR and partner ACTED distributed dignity kits to 11,497 girls and women aged 10-50 years in Kaya (6,405) and Gendrassa (5,092).

418,882,292 USD

Funding requested for comprehensive needs (27 per cent funded so far)

143,921,611 USD

Funding requested for top priority activities (80 per cent funded so far)

Current population of concern

IDPs since 15 December 2013  1,650,000

Of them, 184,282 IDPs reside in UNMISS Protection of Civilians sites

Refugees in South Sudan  265,701

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

- Uganda's People Defence Forces (UPDF) begun its pull-out from neighbouring South Sudan, in line with a peace deal aimed at ending nearly two years of civil war. On 20 October, the troops started moving from Bor south to the capital where they would link up with other UPDF troops and then leave the country.
- According to September's Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), released on 22 October, an estimated 3.9 million people in South Sudan (3.1 million in Crisis and 800,000 in Emergency) or 34 per cent of the population are classified as severely food and nutrition insecure and are unable to meet their food needs in September. This represents an 80 per cent increase compared to the same period last year. Some 30,000 people in Unity State are experiencing Catastrophe and are likely to deteriorate into famine in the absence of urgent and immediate humanitarian access.
- The general security situation in Central Equatoria's Yei and its environs remained relatively calm during the reporting period. The situation northwest of Lainya county remained fluid in Wanduruba and Katigiri Payams due to armed clashes between government forces and unknown armed groups. A UNHCR partner's vehicle came under attack at the hands of an unknown armed group on 25 October along the Juba-Kajokeji road at Khor-Romula, some 40 km south of Juba. No injured were reported.

REFUGEE RESPONSE



Protection

Achievements and Impact

Upper Nile State

- In Yusuf Batil and Gendrassa camps, UNHCR in collaboration with partner Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and Danish Refugee Council (DRC) identified and supported with NFIs 68 refugees with specific needs.
- In Yusuf Batil camp, UNHCR and partner DRC facilitated a one-day training for 40 women and 50 youth on leadership skills and community participation.
- In Maban, UNHCR partner LWF supported 216 caregivers and single parents with clothes and blankets to improve their living conditions and access to learning.

Unity State

- In Yida settlement, UNHCR registered 112 Sudanese new arrivals from South Kordofan during the reporting period, bringing the total number to 14,810 since 23 December 2014. Most were single men from Boram, Heban and Umdoreen counties. During the same period, UNHCR relocated 129 new arrivals and refugees from Yida to Ajuong Thok, bringing the total number of refugees relocated to Ajuong Thok to 16,083 since 23 December 2014.
- In Ajuong Thok, UNHCR partner LWF trained 18 community mobilizers on Family Tracing and Reunification (FTR) and Best Interest Assessment (BIA).
- In Ajuong Thok camp, UNHCR distributed sanitary kits to 248 girls at Soba Secondary School, including soap, underwear and sanitary towels.
- In Ajuong Thok, UNHCR provided 50 foster parents with received supplementary food and NFIs to help them better provide for their foster children.
- In Ajuong Thok, UNHCR identified and provided with clothing and NFIs 119 women with specific needs and another 18 vulnerable children.
- UNHCR received a donation of 550 bales of clothing by the Church of Latter-day Saints, which will be soon distributed to vulnerable refugees in Yida and Ajuong Thok.

Central Equatoria State

- In Juba, UNHCR in partnership with the Commission for Refugee Affairs launched an operation on 26 October to verify, register and issue with an ID card an estimated 6,000 asylum seekers from Sudan's South Cordovan and Blue Nile states who are living in Juba.

- In Lasu settlement, UNHCR and partners conducted a participatory assessment, including through 52 focus group discussions with nearly 600 Sudanese and Congolese refugees. The objective was to gather and reflect the refugees' views and needs into 2016 programming.
- In Gorom settlement, UNHCR received 203 Ethiopian new arrivals (43 families) of Anyuak ethnicity, whom are believed to have relocated from other areas in South Sudan, including Pochalla, Renk and Malakal. Protection interviews, verification (and registration for new cases) will be undertaken in the coming month to understand the reasons for fleeing and the protection needs of this group.

Western Equatoria State

- In Makpandu settlement, UNHCR partner World Vision International (WVI) carried out a training on Sexual and Gender-based Violence prevention and response for 40 participants from the refugee and host communities.
- In Makpandu, UNHCR partner WVI distributed a three-month stock of comfort kits and soap to 84 primary school girls.

Eastern Equatoria State

- Between 12th and 25th October, 523 South Sudanese crossed Nimule border point to seek asylum in Uganda. The vast majority was of Dinka ethnicity from Bor (68 families) and Madi ethnicity from Pageri (51 families).

Identified needs and remaining gaps

Unity State

- The 30 per cent reduction of monthly food rations has affected many families in Yida, especially those hosting refugees without ration cards. UNHCR is promoting the relocation of refugees without ration cards to Ajuong Thok.

Central Equatoria State

- In Gorom settlement, there is a need to provide shelter, food and NFIs to the new arrivals, currently hosted by members of the community.



Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

Achievements and Impact

Unity State

- In Ajuong Thok, UNHCR partner CARE distributed 783 seedlings to refugees and host community members.

Central Equatoria State

- In Lasu settlement, UNHCR identified seven physically challenged refugees to be targeted with a business start-up grant and support schemes. One of them has already received tools and seed capital to start a shoe cobbler business.

Western Equatoria State

- In Makpandu settlement, UNHCR partner WVI conducted a three-day workshop on crop production and management, pest and disease control for 52 refugee farmers.
- In Makpandu settlement, UNHCR partner WVI distributed 1,000 fruit tree seedlings to 875 refugees.



Education

Achievements and Impact

Upper Nile State

- In Maban, 22 out of 27 refugee students and 14 out of 24 host community students passed the examinations for secondary school leaving certificate.

Central Equatoria State

- In Lasu settlement, UNHCR partner ACROSS distributed school uniforms to 300 primary school pupils.

- In Lasu settlement, primary school attendance increased from 58 per cent to 67 per cent compared to the first two weeks of October, following a back-to-school campaign organized by UNHCR partner ACROSS in collaboration with the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and the Village Education Committee (VEC).
- In Lasu settlement, UNHCR begun constructing accommodation for 22 teachers to eliminate commuting time between Yei and Lasu and therefore enable teachers to spend more time with pupils.

Western Equatoria State

- UNHCR delivered 240 benches, 16 teacher tables and chairs to Nabagu and Yabua primary schools in Nzara and Yambio counties, which UNHCR officially donated to the host community in August this year.

Identified needs and remaining gaps

Upper Nile State

- Education activities slowed down in Bunj secondary and Bankuman primary schools during the reporting period as they were occupied by civilians who fled armed clashes between government and opposition forces in Banashowa Payam on 11 October.



Food Security and Nutrition

Achievements and Impact

Unity State

- UNHCR completed data collection for the nutrition survey in Yida and Ajuong Thok, covering anthropometry and health, Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF), WASH, anemia and mosquito net coverage. Preliminary results will be shared shortly.
- In Yida and Ajuong Thok, UNHCR partners Samaritan's Pursue and DRC carried out October's General Food Distribution (GFD), reaching 66,493 individuals in Yida and 29,145 individuals in Ajuong Thok.



Health

Achievements and Impact

Unity State

- In Yida and Ajuong Thok, UNHCR begun vector control interventions to reduce the incidence of malaria among refugees, including through awareness campaigns and prepositioning of 15,000 mosquito nets.

Upper Nile State

- In view of MSF-Holland's departure in December, Medair is preparing to start 24-hour skilled delivery and referrals of complications from a temporary building space in their central primary health care centre in Maban.
- UNHCR partner Humanitarian Development Consortium (HCD) completed the construction of Bunj Primary Health Care Centre's maternity ward to improve access to quality basic emergency obstetric and neonatal care services for the host community.
- Mentor Initiative conducted indoor Residual Spraying (IRS) campaigns in Doro, Gendrassa, Yusuf Batil and Kaya camps to reduce the incidence of malaria - the most common cause of morbidity in Maban. In addition, health care partners received a four-day training on vector borne diseases.

Central Equatoria State

- UNHCR participated in the development of the national framework paper on tuberculosis prevention and control.

Identified needs and remaining gaps

Central Equatoria State

- The relocation of nearly 1,400 Sudanese refugees from Yei to Lasu has drastically increased the demand for drugs in the camp, causing a shortage of essential medicines. UNHCR is working to replenish the stock of depleted drugs.



Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

Upper Nile State

- UNHCR and partner ACTED distributed dignity kits to 11,497 girls and women aged 10-50 years in Kaya (6,405) and Gendrassa (5,092).



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Unity State

- UNHCR partner UNOPS completed Ajuong Thok's northern and eastern expansion, including roadwork and culvert installation.



Water and Sanitation

Achievements and Impact

Unity State

- In Ajuong Thok, water availability stood at 11.7 liters per person per day and the latrine ratio per person ratio was equal to 1:10, which is within the UNHCR standard of a maximum of 20 persons per drop hole.
- In Yida, water availability stood at 14.5 liter per person per day and the latrine ratio person ratio was equal to 1:10.
- UNHCR and partners celebrated Global Hand Washing Day together with the refugee and host communities under the theme "Raise a Hand for Hygiene", including through dramas, songs and speeches.

Upper Nile State

- In Maban camps, water availability stood at 19.9 liters per person per day and the average latrine ratio per person ratio was equal to 1:14.
- UNHCR and partners celebrated Global Hand Washing Day together with the refugee and host communities in Maban camps.

Central Equatoria State

- In Gorom settlement, UNHCR began construction of family latrines in a bid to enhance water, sanitation and hygiene facilities and services whilst shifting from communal latrines. Thirty family latrines were constructed so far.
- In Lasu settlement, UNHCR partner ACROSS repaired 8 boreholes. It is expected that the repairs will restore the standard of 20 liters of water per person per day.

Western Equatoria

- In Ezo and Makpandu settlements, refugees celebrated Global Hand washing Day with drama performances and poems. UNHCR partner WVI conducted a house-to-house campaign to promote hand washing with soap and ash, reaching 436 people.

Identified needs and remaining gaps**Unity State**

- In Yida, refugees who were relocated from block 5 to block 15 are in urgent need of WASH facilities and services.
- According to a recent survey, only 30 percent of refugees in Ajuong Thok are aware of the importance of hand washing with soap. UNHCR is looking into carrying out more awareness campaigns and promoting the use of alternatives to soap, including ash.

Central Equatoria State

- There is a need to construct another 678 family latrines in Gorom settlement to meet the needs of the entire camp population.

IDP RESPONSE**Protection***COORDINATION***Achievements and impact**

- On 23 October, the Protection Cluster released a flash update on the situation in the central and southern counties of Unity State. The note, which covers incidents September and October, reports on violence against civilians and forced displacement that continue despite the signing of the peace agreement, as well as the impact on humanitarian operations. The report is available to download [here](#)
- The Protection Cluster prepared a report on behalf of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) to submit to the UN Security Council (UNSG)'s Informal Experts Group on Protection of Civilians in South Sudan regarding the UNMISS mandate renewal. The report identifies key protection of civilians concerns since the last report in May, describes the response and remaining gaps, and provides recommendations for possible action by the UNSG.

Identified needs and remaining gaps

- Protection partners remained concerned about the practices associated with the detention of IDPs in UNMISS holding facilities as well as the conditions of their detention. The Detentions Working Group, which was established in July by the Protection Cluster and UNMISS, has agreed that protection partners will contribute to a standard NFI package that will be given to all holdees and support the establishment of a program for regular visits by religious figures to promote welfare.

*OPERATIONS***Achievements and Impact****Upper Nile State**

- Armed clashes between government and opposition occurred on 11 October in Liang Boma (Benshawa Payam), forcing more than 10,000 people to flee to Bunj town, some 15 km north of Liang, and to occupy Bunj primary school, Dangaj primary school, Chouny secondary school and Bankuman primary school. Following an inter-agency assessment led by UNHCR, 2,522 IDPs in Bunj primary school (967) and Bunj secondary school (1,555) received food and NFIs from WFP and UNHCR respectively. Another 8,072 individuals will receive food and NFIs in Bankuman primary school (4,218) and Dangaj primary school (3,854) before the end of October. The displaced population has begun vacating the schools and settling within the host community in Bunj.

Unity State

- A total of 2,147 individuals (861 families) sought safety at the Protection of Civilians site in Bentiu during the reporting period. They arrived mainly from Leer, Mayendit, and Koch, citing deterioration in the security situation and severe food shortage as reasons for fleeing. During IOM-led registration, UNHCR identified and assisted with NFIs 65 vulnerable individuals. Five cases of rape were identified and referred to relevant partners for medical and

psychosocial attention. Among the new arrivals, UNHCR found 2 separated children, whom were reunited with their families at Bentiu POC.

Jonglei State

- During the reporting period, UNHCR monitored the arrivals of 366 South Sudanese at Bor dock. Most of them confirmed their intention to stay in Bor town and that they have no immediate plans to return to their places of original residence in Twic East and Duk counties.
- UNHCR partner INTERSOS provided dignity kits and NFIs to 24 women detained at Bor prison, NFIs to 237 vulnerable families in Waat Nyirol County (109), Lekyak A & B (68) and Wunchuei village (60).

Lakes State

- In Mingkaman, UNHCR received a list of 300 vulnerable families to be assisted with NFIs.

Central Equatoria State

- In Yei, UNHCR -as part of a multi-functional team led by South Sudan's Relief and Rehabilitation Committee- registered 1,154 individuals (282 families) who had fled from Mundri, Yambio and Maridi in early October. They need food, shelter and health care. UNHCR is looking into the possibility of distributing NFIs for the most vulnerable.

Western Equatoria State

- UNHCR joined an Inter-agency Rapid Needs Assessment (IRNA) mission in Western Equatoria's Mundri on 26 October to look into the protection needs and concerns of IDPs. The deterioration of security in Mundri, resulting from armed clashes between Sudan's People Liberation Army (SPLA) and unknown armed groups in early October, led to the death of some 300 people, the burning of entire villages in Mundri East and West counties and mass displacement within and outside the counties. According to local authorities, there are some 19,000 IDPs in Mundri East and another 44,000 in Mundri West.

Eastern Equatoria State

- In Nimule, UNHCR partner Health Link distributed sanitary kits to 166 girls aged 14 years and above, including soap and underwear.
- UNHCR partner Health Link distributed agricultural tools and seeds to 200 vulnerable farmers in Melijo (100) and Nimule (100).

Identified needs and remaining gaps

Lakes State

- In Mingkaman, there is a need for specialized services for persons with disabilities.
- In Mingkaman, funding gaps are likely to result in the closure of educational activities at the end of November.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to USD 113,819,679 as of 20 October 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)

USA	90,300,000
Japan	10,016,945
ECHO	3,769,682
Canada	1,573,564
United Kingdom	1,538,462
CHF - SSD	1,488,963
CERF	1,451,678
Republic of Korea	800,000
Luxembourg	625,782
Switzerland	520,291
UN Prog. On HIV/AIDS	490,000
The Church of Latter-day Saint	336,548
France	250,000