



UNHCR South Sudan

Situation Report

Developments

• Upper Nile state

Malakal was the theatre of intense fighting between pro- and anti-government forces over the weekend. As of 12 January, the security situation was tense within the town and nearby villages, with no major reported incident. Rumours of defections from the pro-government side heightened fears of an imminent attack on Malakal town, caused panic amongst civilians who deserted town.

On 11 January there were reports of SAF bombardment along Guffa, an entry point used by refugees on the Sudan-South Sudan border 45km from Bunj, capital of Maban county.

• Unity state

UNHCR is reporting the presence of armed elements in and around Yida and Ajuong Thok refugee camps, mainly youth carrying guns. Local authorities are providing reassurances by that the situation has improved greatly and they can work normally. Government authorities have reiterated their intention to return vehicles taken by SPLA in Yida.

MONBATT troops are due to redeploy in Yida, with daily patrols along the Yida-Pariang-Ajuong Thok axis, paving the way for UNHCR will be able to resume full presence in Pariang County.

In Ajuong Thok, the vehicle that was looted, belonging to UNHCR health partner AHA, has been returned. Local authorities have promised to return other assets like radios "borrowed" from NGOs.

Refugee operations

• Unity state

In both Ajuong Thok and Yida, services for refugees are operating normally although staff are overstretched. Food prices have escalated.

UNHCR, WFP and Samaritans Purse are ready for the next food distribution on 15 Jan. All biometric servers have been returned to Yida and are operational.

There is overcrowding at the Yida transit centre. As soon as AAHI personnel are on the ground to drive trucks and buses, the new arrivals will be transported to Ajuong Thok.

In Yida, primary healthcare services are mainly provided by MSF-F. The majority of inpatient cases are war wounded. MSF outpatient services are functioning normally (1,700 cases seen in one week). IRC has continued reproductive health services with one of its clinics reporting 70 deliveries in one week. One IRC public health clinic (near the market) is closed, requiring urgent negotiation with local authorities. The second IRC PHC (near the airstrip) is functional. MSF is managing cases of malnutrition with medical complications. Samaritans Purse is on ground to support supplementary feeding programmes.

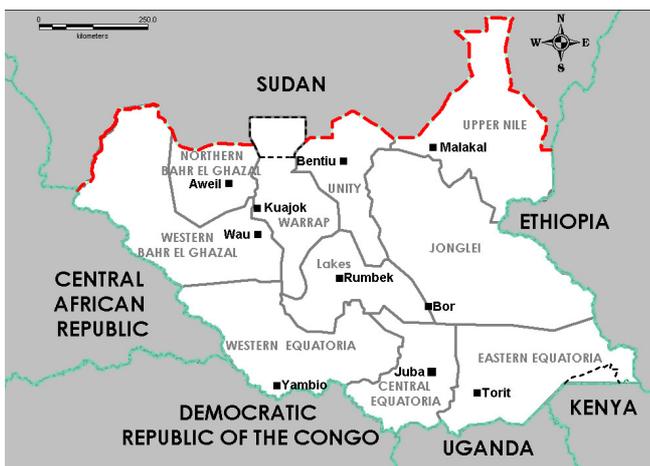
• Upper Nile State

Refugees, particularly in Doro camp, are expressing concerns about forced recruitment by SPLA-N. This situation is presenting increased risk for the relatives of affected youths, who try to protect them from forced recruitment and are consequently threatened.

Gendrassa refugees sheiks confirmed that they set up community watch groups to protect humanitarian assets in the camps from thieves and vandals. The watch groups reportedly to arrested delinquents.

• Central Equatoria State

UNHCR brought a Darfuri refugee, registered in Kenya, to the level II UNMISS Clinic after he was severely beaten by unknown persons inside the



UNMISS PoC Area reportedly because it was believed that JEM and Sudan are providing support to the Government. Increasing reports of such incidents within UNMISS bases reinforce the need to ensure there are locations within UNMISS PoC in which different groups feel safe.

UNHCR continued focus group discussions with Eritreans brought from Bor and elsewhere to UNMISS PoC Areas in Juba. Several individual cases have already been identified that may have credible 1951 Convention claims.

Internal displacement

UNHCR is participating in the IDP response via the inter-agency collaborative approach under the leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator.

- **Population movements**

6,500 new individuals entered UNMISS in Malakal area on 12 January, bringing the number of IDPs in the POC area to over 15,000. Many more civilians could be seen leaving Malakal town for Makal and Wau Shuluk. It was reported that a boat that was carrying fleeing civilians of unknown number capsized not far from Malakal. The number of casualties is unknown though they are said to be mainly women and children.

- **Unity state**

Bentiu: UNHCR Representative has authorized the immediate release of NFI kits for 5,000 IDPs in Bentiu. Most urgent needs are for NFI (particularly blankets in view of cold nights when temperatures drop to 15°C) WASH and food. 1,000 each of plastic sheets, blankets, sleeping mats, mosquito nets and jerry cans will be airlifted by UNMISS helicopter to Yida to Bentiu. Meanwhile, urgent support is needed to strengthen coordination and provision of protection and assistance to IDPs in the Bentiu PoC area. UNMISS teams are overwhelmed; they have not the expertise to respond to the needs of 9,000 IDPs who are mostly women and children.

Emergency non-food items stockpile

NON-FOOD ITEMS	ORDERED	RECEIVED		DISTRIBUTED	
		This day	Total	This day	Total
Plastic rolls	200	-	200	-	-
Plastic sheets	20,000	-	10,076	-	-
Blankets	12,500	-	12,480	-	-
Kitchen sets	12,500	-	3,898	-	-
Family tents	30	-	-	-	-
Rubbhalls	10	-	4	-	-

Ajuong Thok and Yida: UNHCR staff have been instructed to work with the Payam administrators in Yida and Jamjang to identify the IDPs and verify the numbers reported by local authorities to be 56,000. If those numbers are correct it would mean that over 50% of the civilian population in Pariang was displaced.

- **Upper Nile State**

Malakal

As a result of the security situation, the planned inter-agency assessment in Southern Malakal proposed by UNHCR to verify the number of the displaced has been put on hold until UNDSS conducts a security assessment and gives clearance. Moreover, it is surmised that most of the people who were to be assessed are among the ones fleeing the town.

Maban County

RRC, UNHCR, WFP, IOM, Oxfam, Solidarites and MSF-H conducted a follow-up mission to Nurashine village (46km southwest Jamam). UNHCR facilitated preliminary registration/ profiling of the IDPs with WFP and IOM—there are 745 individuals (182 households), 86% women and children. They are of Mabanese origin and were displaced from Banpoko, Banchenyo, Kila-towa (Maban County within Adar area). They attribute their flight to indiscriminate attack and looting by both White Army and SPLA. Though they do not have information on the situation in their villages, they have no intention of returning at this stage for fear of continued fighting. The main concerns for IDPs in Nurashine are: food, safe drinking water (one borehole in the village, shared between humans and animals) and non-food items MSF-H conducted medical screening and although diarrhea was confirmed as the main cause of morbidity, overall the population is in relatively good health condition.

The Nuer population previously displaced to Nurashine has reportedly moved to Beneshawa, for fear of retaliation from the Mabanese population. A

follow up assessment and registration/ profiling of this group will be conducted in Beneshawa on 13 January prior to providing food and non-food assistance to any of the two groups in order to maintain neutrality and non-discriminatory nature of humanitarian operations.

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