Highlights

- In Upper Nile, heavy fighting in Nasir and Ulang counties caused significant movement of people. Over the last week, more than 11,000 people south refugee in Ethiopia.

- Parties to the conflict signed an agreement on May 9, in Addis Ababa, to end the conflict and to cooperate with the humanitarian community to ensure that aid reaches millions of affected people in South Sudan.

- The latest IPC food security analysis indicates that some 3.7 million people are experiencing emergency or crisis levels of food insecurity.

- On 5 May, parties to the conflict signed an agreement under the Intergovernmental Authority of Development (IGAD), recommitting to the humanitarian affairs in the cessation of hostilities.

Situation overview

The fighting continued in various parts of the country displacing tens of thousands people in different locations. In Jonglei State, clashes were reported in Ayod, Duk and Twic East counties. In Unity State, fighting broke out again in Bentiu and Rubkona towns displacing thousands of people into the UN base and several locations. The situation remained unpredictable as the towns changed hands several times. In Upper Nile, fighting was concentrated in Longechuk, Nassir and Ulang, resulting in more than 11,000 people fleeing into Ethiopia. Clashes were also reported in Renk County.

On 9 May, in Addis Ababa, the Government of South Sudan and opposition signed an agreement to resolve the crisis. Both parties agreed to end the conflict and to cooperate with humanitarian partners to scale up operations to meet the needs of the million people affected by the conflict. On 5 May, the Government of South Sudan and opposition signed a re-commitment document on facilitating humanitarian action. The call for one month of tranquility was reiterated (7 May-7 June) to allow pre-positioning of aid supplies and enable people to plant, tend their livestock, and seek safety wherever they wish. The agreement emphasizes the need to respect human rights and protect the civilians from attacks, rape or any other form of abuse.
Humanitarian needs and response

The humanitarian situation continued to deteriorate, with over a million people internally displaced since the crisis started. Around 86,000 of them are sheltered in UN bases. In addition, more than 310,000 people have fled to neighbouring countries in Ethiopian, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda. Hostilities escalated in Longechuk, Nassir and Ulang in Upper Nile where an estimated 11,000 people fled into the Ethiopian town of Burubiey where partners are providing assistance. In Unity State, fighting in Mayom and Bentiu has seen the number of people sheltering in the UN base rising from 25,000 on 2 May to about 30,000 on 7 May. Partners continued to scale up their response to meet the urgent needs of displaced people. Some of the displaced people are reported to have fled to Warrap State, and people from Abiemnhom County, Unity, were heading towards the Abyei region. However, humanitarian access remains a challenge, as the area can only be reached by air. In Jonglei State, the number of people in Bor UN base decreased from 4,800 on 23 April to 4,700 on 7 May, with reports that some of them were heading to Juba. Partners are concerned that movement of people from Jonglei to Juba may expose them to attacks, gender violence and human trafficking.

The latest Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) food security analysis indicates that food security has deteriorated at an alarming rate since the outbreak of the conflict. Hence, the risk of famine through the second half of 2014 must be taken into consideration. Today, some 1.3 million are experiencing Emergency levels of food insecurity. In addition, there are 2.4 million people in IPC Food Security Crisis Phase (scoring 3 in the IPC scale of 5) needing urgent assistance. Taken together, more than one-third of the total population of the country is facing exceptional levels of food insecurity.

The UN and Amnesty International released reports on 8 May violations of human rights that have occurred since the conflict began. Based on thorough investigations, there are reasonable grounds to believe that extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, rape and other forms of sexual violence, and attacks against civilians, have been committed by both sides to the conflict. There are serious concerns about gender-based violence. The UN report highlights the tragedy of survivors of sexual violence who, for the most part, have limited access to health and psychosocial services during this conflict. Consequently, most incidents of sexual violence could not be reported to health actors, or documented or verified through medical reports. The UN recommends that judicial institutions should be enhanced and their independence respected. Should the Government prove unwilling or unable to pursue genuine accountability, a special or hybrid tribunal should be considered.

Camp Coordination and Management

Response:

- In Malakal, Upper Nile, camp management upgrades resumed in the UN camp. Ground work for the new camp was delayed due to rains. Communities were mobilized to carry out hazard mitigation measures, following reports of fire and flooding in the camp.
- In Tomping UN base in Juba, the provision of non-essential assistance remained on hold, to allow dialogue between community leaders, UN security and partners to ensure the safety of aid workers following violence against staff.
- In Warrap, new arrivals have been reported following recent fighting in Mayom in Unity State. The number of new arrivals was still being verified.
- In Wau, Western Bahr el Ghazal, partners are improving the new site established on 27 April and currently sheltering an estimated 700 displaced people.
- In Bentiu, Unity, authorities have approved land for new camp location.

Needs, gaps and constraints:

- In Malakal, Upper Nile, insecurity continues to hinder food distribution.
- In Bor, Jonglei, overcrowding and the rains are increasing the risk of disease outbreaks.
**Education**

**Response:**

- During the reporting period, 8,200 (38 per cent girls) have accessed emergency education in Central Equatoria, Jonglei, Lakes, Upper Nile, Unity, and Warrap states. The total number of people reached was 66,900 children (28,200 girls), since the outbreak of the crisis.
- Partners established seven new temporary learning spaces and provided emergency education services for 1,600 pre-school children and 6,500 primary school students across the country.
- Education emergency supplies were distributed to 6,700 students (2,400 girls) in Central Equatoria, Jonglei, Lakes, Unity and Warrap states.
- 71 out of 85 schools occupied by either armed forces or displaced people, remained occupied.

**Needs, gaps and constraints:**

- There is a lack of space to set up learning spaces in UN bases.
- Partners continued to advocate for the resumption of learning in occupied schools.
- Children and youths in Bentiu and Bor have not accessed education due to fear of insecurity.
- Many teachers who have not been paid are unwilling to resume work and schools have remained closed in some sites.

**Emergency Telecommunications**

**Response:**

- Partners implemented a voucher-based system for effective utilization of available bandwidth and ensure faster internet access.
- 80 radios and 102 call signs were programmed for partners across the country.
- VHF connectivity, including a 24/7 radio room, was re-established in Bor, Jonglei State for partners outside the UN base.

**Needs, gaps and constraints:**

- Insecurity has delayed the shipment of internet connectivity equipment to Nassir, Upper Nile.
- Procurement of equipment continues to be challenging.
- The availability of suitable supplies, such as internet connectivity and solar kits, continues to be limited in-country.

**Food Security and Livelihoods**

**Response:**

- Food partners have so far reached about 788,800 people under the emergency operation as of 1 May. Food assistance has also been provided to 534,300 other food-insecure people, including refugees and displaced people in areas not directly affected by violence.
- Airdrops were conducted in Ganyel, Unity State, and Lankien and Motot, Jonglei State and other locations in Upper Nile.
- Due to fighting in Upper Nile, some partners relocated their staff from Nassir and Ulang.
- Partners have reached about 47,600 families under the emergency livelihood operation in conflict-affected states of Jonglei, Upper Nile and Unity.

**Needs, gaps and constraints:**

- Transportation and logistics remains major challenges.
- Food partner presence in conflict-affected areas remains insufficient.
- Procurement delays have affected the livelihoods pipeline.
Health

Response:

- 285,389 outpatient consultations have been conducted since the start of the crisis.
- A surveillance system is in place with 32 reporting sites for priority diseases.
- In Mingkaman camp, Lakes State, seven cases of Hepatitis E were identified and five were confirmed. A community awareness campaign on Hepatitis E is ongoing.
- Vaccination update: 265,336 children immunized against measles; 173,707 children immunized against polio. The cholera vaccination campaign commenced in Bor UN base and has reached 2,767 people so far.
- A single cholera case was confirmed on May 6 in UN House camp. All the household contacts were evaluated and remained disease free. A cholera Task Force was set up. Oral cholera vaccination (OCV) campaigns have been completed in four camps – Malakal, Mingkaman, Tomping, UN House and ongoing in Bor.
- 6,938 surgical interventions were conducted with 408 medical evacuations since the crisis broke out.
- 1,886 emergency reproductive kits have been distributed, including 1,012 in key affected states.

Needs, gaps and constraints:

- Insecurity has prevented medical teams from accessing Ayod County, Jonglei State. Renk and Ulang counties in Upper Nile State were also inaccessible.

Logistics

Response:

- Partners facilitated the airlift of 67 metric tons of aid supplies to Jonglei, Upper Nile and Unity states.
- Additional storage facilities were sent to Bor and Malakal. These facilities are located within UN bases.

Needs, gaps and constraints:

- Flights run by the Logistic Cluster were postponed due to security and airstrip conditions.

Mine Action

Response:

- Partners conducted an assessment for Unexploded Ordnances at Bentiu airport and surrounding areas.
- Partners responded to various reports of more Unexploded Ordnances in Mingkaman.

Needs, gaps and constraints:

- Insecurity has curtailed partners’ ability to carry out assessments.
Multi-Sector Response to Refugees

Response:

- Provision of protection, education, nutrition, health and WASH support to refugees in Central Equatoria, Unity and Upper Nile states continued.
- A biometric registration and verification exercise was completed for Ethiopian refugees in Pochalla, Jonglei State. Three quarters of the refugees reside with host communities in Pochalla town, with the remainder in Alari designated settlement.
- Food was distributed in camps in Maban, Upper Nile. Food airdrops from Gambella, Ethiopia, also started.

Needs, gaps and constraints:

- Food shortages remain critical in Upper Nile. Airdrops are planned for the coming week.
- Lack of road access due to insecurity is hampering the supply of materials needed for camp improvement and construction during the rainy season.

Nutrition

Response:

- There are 259 locations with outpatient treatment programmes, across the country. 27 of these have stabilization centers, 148 with targeted supplementary feeding and 91 with blanket supplementary feeding programmes.
- 343,827 children (6-59 months) were screened for acute malnutrition from January to date (including 13,087 last week). 21,275 (5.9 per cent) were identified with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and 44,410 (12.4 per cent) with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM).
- 15,223 children (0-59 months) were admitted to SAM treatment programmes. 65 per cent of all children were discharged as cured. 29 per cent children defaulted from the programme. Defaulting decreased from 49 per cent in January to 13 per cent in April.
- 18,668 children (0-59 months) were admitted to the MAM treatment programmes. By the end of April, 6,962 children were cured (56 per cent).
- 78,573 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) were screened for acute malnutrition and 20,571 (28.1 per cent) were identified with acute malnutrition. 6,726 PLW were admitted to acute malnutrition treatment programmes.

Needs, gaps and constraints:

- Gaps exist in the provision of comprehensive malnutrition prevention and management programmes in Jonglei, Unity and Upper Nile states. The cluster is identifying partners to fill the gaps in the priority counties.
- Scaling up activities for child feeding programmes is needed to prevent the malnutrition for children (0-24 months).

Protection

Response:

- Protection partners deployed rapid response members to Old Fangak, Jonglei.
- Sixteen gender-based violence awareness sessions were conducted for 2,200 women and girls in Awerial, Juba and Malakal.
- Child protection partners have reached 31,900 children since January with protection in emergency activities.

Needs, gaps and constraints:
• The conflict continued to raise concerns on human rights violations. The Human Rights Report published on 6 May noted widespread gender-based abuse, attacks on civilians, family separation and destruction of property in Bentiu, Bor and Malakal.

• Dignity Kits and "safe spaces" are required in all UN bases.

• Cases of separated children have increased in Bentiu, creating the need to expedite identification, registration and interim care.

• There is a need to strengthen capacities of child protection partners with a systematic and comprehensive monitoring and reporting mechanism.

**Shelter and Non-Food Items**

**Response:**

- In Old Fangak, Jonglei, the distribution of various household materials reached 1,540 families.
- In Mayendit, Unity, household materials reached 5,286 families.
- In Mingkaman, Lakes, 4,400 newly arrived families received assistance.
- Emergency shelter kits reached 6,600 families in Mingkaman. In Bentiu UN base 1,640 newly arrived families received household materials.
- In Juba, UN House, 800 families received shelter reinforcement kits.
- In Jonglei’s Twic East and Bor South counties, 1,769 families in transit received household materials.
- In Bor UN base of Bor, 1,390 families received reinforcement plastic sheets.

**Needs, gaps and constraints:**

- Limited logistics capacity is hindering delivery of supplies to field locations. Emergency shelter response was delayed by rains.

**Water, Sanitation and Hygiene**

**Response:**

- Over 40 WASH partners have reached 487,600 displaced people in over 50 sites with life-saving emergency assistance.
- Partners continued to maintain emergency WASH service in various areas of displacement.
- Global emergency standards for water supply (15 litres per person per day) have been achieved in ten sites.
- Site upgrading activities and cholera preparedness measures continue in different locations. In the last two weeks humanitarian (SPHERE) standards have been significantly improved in all four Bentiu sites.

**Needs, gaps and constraints:**

- Fighting in Bentiu town is hampering ongoing efforts to scale up and provide WASH assistance.
- Funding is needed for the prepositioning of pipeline supplies, front line services and the deployment of more mobile teams into remote rural locations.
- More WASH personnel is needed.
Funding

The South Sudan Crisis Response Plan (CRP) is seeking US$1.27 billion. So far, some $540 million has been received representing 40 per cent of the amount requested until June 2014.

Humanitarian partners are reviewing requirements needed for the rest of 2014 and early 2015, with revised requirements to be announced at the Oslo Pledging Conference of 19-20 May.

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Background on the crisis:
Violence broke out in Juba, the capital of South Sudan, on 15 December 2013 and quickly spread to several other states. Within weeks, thousands of people had been killed or wounded in the violence, and hundreds of thousands displaced from their homes. Despite the signing of a cessation of hostilities agreement on 23 January 2014, fighting between Government and opposition forces has continued, especially in Jonglei, Unity and Upper Nile states, where towns and rural areas have been ravaged by the violence. The crisis has led to a serious deterioration in the food security situation, and some 3.7 million people are now at high risk of food insecurity in the coming year.

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