Country: South Sudan

Highlights

- While there are over 20,000 mt of food for South Sudan in stock in Ethiopia, the total available stock in Juba, Uganda and Mombasa has fallen to 3,500 mt, sufficient for less than one week's needs. This is indicative of the extent to which donors’ limited response to date is impacting WFP operations. Immediate confirmation of additional donor contributions would trigger the release of urgent needed commodities under the Forward Purchase Facility.

- On 06 May, the UN Secretary General visited South Sudan. WFP was able to brief him drawing attention to its difficulties with respect to both access and lack of resources. He was informed that WFP continues to seek Government’s clearance to remobilise Nile river barge operations both from Juba and the north of the country.

- UNHCR, WFP and cooperating partners have been preoccupied by rising tensions within Maban refugee camp, which currently houses about 125,000 refugees. This results from rising inter-ethnic strains impacting on refugees, UN agencies and NGOs and are compounded by serious food shortages mainly caused by a combination of the military action around Renk (Upper Nile) preventing food deliveries from the north and a lack of aviation fuel in Gambella, Ethiopia, which has recently curtailed airdrops. Following the 10 days distribution made in April, WFP has managed to distribute a five days food ration from 03 to 05 May.

- Due to ongoing fighting, access to Unity State remains restricted and is only reachable by air. In Bentiu, WFP team is on the ground and is currently performing the registration process ahead of the next food distribution round. Despite the extremely volatile security conditions, three mobile distribution teams are currently on the ground in Lankien, Motot (Jonglei) and Ganyel (Unity) to provide critical food assistance. In Jonglei, over the past week, WFP and partners have distributed a total of 486 mt of assorted food commodities to 32,227 beneficiaries. This number includes a combined number of IDPs served in Bor and food insecure residents in Pochalla and in Pibor County.

- The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification workshop in Yei concluded last week. Findings have been shared with the IPC Emergency Review Committee for technical endorsement and the release is anticipated on 09 May.

WFP Response

Food and Nutrition Assistance

- Since January 2014, WFP has provided critical food assistance to people directly affected by the current conflict. As of 05 May April, under the EMOP, WFP has assisted 272,414 beneficiaries in January, 218,985 in February and 332,214 in March. About 397,036 have been reached in April, but these figures are provisional only, as new distribution reports are being received from WFP’s cooperating partners.

Logistics

- Since 01 January, WFP Logistics had dispatched both for prepositioning and distribution, 75,201 mt of mixed commodities, of which more than 25,000 mt have been dispatched during the month of April. Around 3,980 mt have been airlifted and airdropped since 01 January, of which 2,920 mt from Juba and 1,060 mt airdropped from Gambella, Ethiopia.

- A third Iluyshin 76 has been contracted to airlift non droppable cargo between Juba and Maban via Poloich. It will mainly deliver non cereals for 30 mt per rotation. Additional 70 mt have been airdropped to Maban from Gambella.

- River deliveries for Nassir have been suspended due to the fighting currently ongoing in the area. A pilot river delivery has been successfully conducted for Akobo.

- Due to shortage of fuel in Gambella, the Ethiopia Country Office is exploring other options of moving air operations to Asosa which is better connected by road to Addis Ababa.
Special Operations

Food Security & Livelihoods Cluster

- The Food Security and Livelihood cluster has begun an analysis of CRP partners’ achievements to date in preparation for the donor consultations in Oslo and the revision of the Crisis Response Plan. This analysis will allow the cluster to identify gaps, strengths and weaknesses in the response so far which will inform the revisions.

Logistics Cluster

- Over the last week, the Logistics Cluster has facilitated the airlift of 72 mt of humanitarian supplies on behalf of 13 humanitarian organizations to Ganyiel, Nyal, Mayendit, Bentiu, Pochalla, Malakal, and Akobo.
- The airstrip in Bentiu has been repaired and the Logistics Cluster continues to deliver urgently needed supplies for humanitarian response pending security clearance.
- The Logistics Cluster is sending one additional Repositionable Storage Unit, to increase the current storage capacity.
- Storage capacity across the country remains a challenge for all humanitarian actors. The Logistics Cluster is in discussion with partners to see where common warehousing facilities can be expanded.

Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)

- On 28 April, the ETC upgraded internet bandwidth in Bentiu and implemented a voucher-based user administration system, allowing humanitarian workers to benefit from faster internet access.
- Between 28 and 30 April, the ETC met with humanitarian partners in Malakal to discuss their needs and requirements going forward. Furthermore, the same user administration system as in Bentiu was installed to balance available bandwidth more efficiently and allow all humanitarians to enjoy sufficiently fast internet.
- In Mingkaman the ETC carried out internet connectivity maintenance at the Save the Children compound from 25 to 27 April and needs assessments at both sites serviced by the ETC. Feedback from humanitarian partners indicated that the internet connection has been working well inside the humanitarian hub and played an key role in coordinating the crisis response.
- On 28 April, an ETC team travelled to Bor and re-established VHF connectivity in the WFP office outside the UNMISS compound, increasing security and coordination capacity in the field.

UN Humanitarian Air Service

- UNHAS has recently prepared an analysis of the flights undertaken during week-ends and public holidays since the start of the crisis on 15 December 2013 until 01 May 2014. During this period UNHAS has operated flights for 72 percent of weekend days and holidays, transporting around 1,477 passengers for a total of 99 flights on these days. These flights have included medical evacuations, personnel relocations and recovery after cancellations due to bad weather and other constraints.

Feeder Roads

- Last week, the international bridge engineer completed a mission to Kuajok to supervise a survey of the site. A contract for a geotechnical survey of the same site is being awarded this week. In the past week a detailed proposal has been submitted to Canada to programme the funds received from them in the past month. The launch of tenders for two additional roads is expected in the coming week.

Resourcing Update

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Crisis Response Plan Requirements (USD)</th>
<th>Shortfall (USD)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EMOP 200659</td>
<td>$343 million*</td>
<td>$224 million*</td>
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<tr>
<td>PRRO 200572</td>
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<td>SO 200634</td>
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<td>SO 200361</td>
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<td>ETC</td>
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<td>SO 200399</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>$611 million</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* Figures anticipate the approval of budget revisions currently under process.

EMOP requirements are for 9 months, PRRO requirements are for 12 months, Special Operations requirements are for 6 months as per the South Sudan Crisis Response Plan.

Contacts

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Photo: WFP/George Fominyen