

## SOUTH SUDAN

### UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE 30/2015

30 July - 5 August 2015

## HIGHLIGHTS

- **4,500 IDP families registered:** The UNHCR, World Vision International and Africa Action Help-International team in Maridi, Western Equatoria State, has completed registration of over 4,500 IDP families in Maridi and Ibba. UNHCR is planning NFI distributions to up to 5,000 families from 6-12 August.
- **Food reduction:** During meetings with UNHCR, refugees from several refugee camps across South Sudan expressed concern about the upcoming 30 per cent reduction in WFP food rations, due to start in August. Many fear that such a measure would prevent them to purchase other essential commodities. In the months of June and July, UNHCR and WFP jointly reached out to the communities to convey the message and are now in discussion to ensure that the food needs of the most vulnerable individuals in the most food-insecure areas are met, regardless of the reduction implementation.
- **Biometric registration under way:** On 27 July UNHCR, supported by ACTED, began biometrically verifying and documenting refugees in Kaya camp, Upper Nile State. 7,034 individuals, about a third of the camp's population, have been verified so far.
- **Fistula operations:** UNHCR and partner ACROSS have assisted 12 refugee patients (and their 12 care-givers) from all over South Sudan with transport to Wau Teaching Hospital in Bahr El-Ghazal for UNFPA-sponsored fistula operations. Four of the 12 have already had operations.
- **World Breastfeeding Week:** UNHCR together with refugees and partner organizations kicked off World Breastfeeding Week (WBW) in many refugee camps across South Sudan. The theme of this year's WBW campaign, "Breastfeeding and work, let's make it work", focuses on children well-being and the need for better support systems to enable working mothers to breastfeed.

**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

- In public statement, President Salva Kiir and the army chief of staff have (separately) rejected the IGAD-plus peace proposal.
- UNHCR operations were affected by civil strife in Yambio, Western Equatoria State; 9 people were killed in clashes between rival groups.
- Inter-communal violence in Gogrial East and Gogrial West, Warrap State, on 27 July left 19 people dead. Movement by road from Kuajok to Twic County was restricted for a week and UNHCR was unable to complete a planned mission.
- 300 families displaced by recent fighting in Pochalla County, Jonglei State, have had little food for nearly a month, according to a local Relief and Rehabilitation Commission official (Radio Tamazuj, 31 July).
- Aid agencies say thousands of civilians in Upper Nile State face starvation due to Government restrictions on barges; UNHAS flights to Malakal are still suspended.
- Armed individuals have been seen in the IDP sites and market in Mingkaman, Lakes State. OCHA has advised humanitarian partners to be vigilant.
- Continuing armed attacks on vehicles on the Juba-Yei road are hampering humanitarian operations and forcing UNHCR and partners to use the much longer route from Juba via Uganda; some transport companies have suspended services.
- IDPs are reported to be in dire need in Melut, Upper Nile State, but access is constrained by insecurity.

## REFUGEE RESPONSE

### Protection

#### Achievements and Impact

##### Unity State

- 83 refugees arrived in the final week of July. July saw 500 refugees arriving from South Kordofan, down from 1,095 in June and 1,705 in May.
- There were 114 relocations from Yida refugee settlement to Ajuong Thok in the past week. 437 refugees were relocated from Yida to Ajuong Thok in July.
- Awareness-raising campaigns have been conducted in 5 blocks in Yida on the importance of timely SGBV reporting. 2,270 people were reached (1,220 women, 500 men, 280 boys and 270 girls).
- The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) distributed food to 82 foster parents (59 females and 23 males) in Ajuong Thok.

##### Upper Nile State

- UNHCR facilitated Level I registration in Gendrassa camp for 11 households/29 individuals who recently arrived from Bulang village in Sudan's Blue Nile State. The refugees cited intimidation, harassment, arbitrary arrest, aerial bombardment and destruction of livelihoods and farms by the Sudan Armed Forces as reasons for their flight.

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

##### Central Equatoria State

- The 15 additional police assigned Lasu refugee settlement are still in Juba due to financial and administrative issues.

### Camp Coordination and Camp Management

#### Achievements and Impact

##### Unity State

- The upgrading of existing Ajuong Thok camp roads is 40 per cent complete.
- Repairs to the Pariang-Yida road are 37 per cent complete.
- New Ajuong Thok and Pamir camp roads are 29 per cent complete.

## Education

### Achievements and Impact

#### Central Equatoria State

- School attendance in the 2 primary schools in Lasu refugee settlement increased to 828 from 762 the previous week, despite the ongoing strike by refugee teachers. The secondary school is also open. UNHCR and partners are encouraging children to go to school.

#### Unity State

- A barbed wire perimeter fence around Soba secondary school in Ajuong Thok has been completed.

#### Western Equatoria State

- UNHCR partner World Vision International delivered school uniforms (259 for boys and 238 for girls) to Makpandu settlement primary school pupils.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

#### Central Equatoria State

- Lasu refugee settlement: Child friendly spaces remain unequipped preventing their use by children. The plan is to address the situation in next year's budget.

#### Upper Nile State

- Teachers in Gendrassa and Batil camps remained on strike during the week over issues of increased incentives and/or payments in US dollars. UNHCR and education partner LWF is in ongoing discussions with refugee leaders and teachers in the two camps. Education services continued normally in Doro and Kaya camps.



## Food Security and Nutrition

### Achievements and Impact

#### Unity State

- The start of World Breastfeeding Week was marked in Ajuong Thok with speeches, drama and dance. The event, was attended by the head of the UNHCR Sub-Office in Jamjang, officials from partner Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA) and around 200 refugees, and promoted the message that exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months is important for children's well-being. According to a November 2014 nutrition survey in the camp, 54 per cent of women engage in exclusive breastfeeding during the first six months of their child's life, far better than the global average of 38 per cent. Mothers' Support Groups in 20 of the camp's 66 blocks, supported by AHA, are helping to roll out the message. 400 people attended a similar event in Yida.

### Identified needs and remaining gaps

#### Central Equatoria State

- There was no general food distribution in Lasu refugee settlement in July due to a shortage of food stocks as a result of insecurity on the Juba-Yei road.

#### Unity State

- Among pregnant and lactating women in Ajuong Thok malnutrition levels are 16 per cent. Efforts are continuing to ensure pregnant and lactating women continue to receive supplementary feeding rations and nutrition education.
- Refugee leaders reported that living conditions are deteriorating in Yida due to the lack of salt, grinding vouchers, plastic sheeting and women's underwear, and the reduction in soap rations. Refugees fear that the 30 per cent reduction in WFP food rations, due to start in August, will prevent them from purchasing other items. UNHCR and IRC are working to improve identification and verification of persons with specific needs in order to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable. Distribution of sanitary towels and underwear is planned for 18,800 women and girls aged 12-49 on 24-25 August.

### **Upper Nile State**

- The 30 per cent reduction in the WFP general food distribution is also a major concern for refugees in Maban camps. Multiple channels have been used to disseminate messaging on the reduction, including Radio Salam. Crop and vegetable seeds were distributed in all 4 camps in June and refugee communities are encouraged to embark on farming to supplement their food rations in the coming months. The next general food distribution is due to start on 5 August.



## Health

### **Achievements and Impact**

#### **Upper Nile State**

- A UNHCR health information officer conducted a one-week mission to provide technical support and capacity-building training to UNHCR partners in Maban with the aim of improving the quality of Health Information Systems (HIS) data management and reporting. A balanced scorecard assessment was done to assess the quality of care in primary healthcare facilities in Kaya, Gendrassa and Yusuf Batil camps.



## Shelter and NFIs

### **Achievements and Impact**

#### **Upper Nile State**

- Out of 1,140 transitional shelters planned in Doro, the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) has completed 710 units (59%).
- Out of 768 transitional shelters planned in Gendrassa in 2015, ACTED has completed 599 units (78%).



## Water and Sanitation

### **Achievements and Impact**

#### **Upper Nile State**

- A new latrine structure with 4 stances, a water tank installation (11,000 litres) and two tap stands with 12 taps have been constructed by UNHCR partner ACTED at the Community Centre in Kaya camp.

#### **Unity State**

- A bus-load of Ajuong Thok block leaders, zonal wash managers, and student representatives from school hygiene clubs, accompanied by UNHCR and IRC representatives, went on a "go-and-see" visit to Yida refugee settlement on 3 August to meet, and learn from, volunteers who man water points and supervise jerry-can cleaning. The visit was designed to improve WASH governance and assist the shift from an agency-led to a user-centered paradigm to enhance participatory planning, monitoring, service delivery and volunteerism.

## IDP RESPONSE



Protection

### Achievements and Impact

- The Protection Cluster (PC) organized two days of DFID-funded training for its partners on Housing, Land and Property (HLP) Rights (18 participants).
- The PC published its latest Protection Trends paper on selected key issues reported and observed between 1 April and early July 2015: forced displacement, gender-based violence, grave violations of children's rights, protection threats at UNMISS POC sites, the protection situation outside the Greater Upper Nile region, landmines and explosive remnants of war, and issues around humanitarian space. The report contains recommendations for key actors.
- A special working group has been created to follow-up on the detention of IDPs in UNMISS holding facilities. UNMISS has agreed to have a representative from the PC be part of the Case Review Conference which meets regularly to review long-term detainees.

### Jonglei State

- Profiling and monitoring of returnees (refugees and IDPs) at Bor dock continued, with 156 returnees recorded. 4,014 returnees have been recorded since profiling started in June 2015.
- UNHCR Bor visited Malek Leprosy Centre on 27 July as part of its Protection Monitoring outside Bor town. The current population at the centre stands at 154 (38 households). UNHCR is in the process of assisting them with NFIs while the Government's Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC) will provide food rations.

### Lakes State

- UNHCR successfully advocated with WFP and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) for registration and food distribution for 42 extremely vulnerable individuals in Mingkaman profiled by the Protection Cluster.

### Unity State

#### Achievements and Impact

- Finger-print checking and issuance of temporary ration cards for new arrivals in Bentiu POC site continued: 3,905 individuals (1,470 households) received temporary ration cards this week.
- 6 minors who came from Guit County were identified, and reunited with their families in the POC site.
- UNHCR implementing partner Nonviolent Peaceforce (NP) has acquired two motorbikes for patrolling the vicinity of the POC.
- UNHCR/AHA managed to arrange foster care for 2 IDP children in Jamjang *payam*, Pariang County.

### Warrap State

- Kuajok: During a joint inter-agency verification exercise on 17-18 July in the Manguie and Manawan IDP sites, 18 households out of 63 were verified to be genuine IDPs from Unity State and will be included in WFP food distributions.

### Western Bahr El-Ghazal

- 9,043 Abyei IDPs have been re-verified in spontaneous settlements in Wau. WFP and IOM led the team, while UNHCR ensured participatory, fair and impartial re-verification.

## Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

### Unity State

- Serious crimes involving the use of fire-arms in Bentiu POC have increased during the reporting week. UNPOL apprehended two suspects and aims to step up search operations in the POC.



## Camp Coordination and Camp Management

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

#### Unity State

- Patrols around the perimeter of Bentiu POC are inadequate, and the lack of lighting and fencing along the POC perimeter is causing security and SGBV problems. The Unity State Protection Cluster has requested UNMISS to conduct regular patrolling.
- 2,895 individuals (598 households) arrived recently in Maker village, Jamjang *payam*, Pariang County, and have been identified by AHA and RRC as IDPs. Around half fled fighting in Malakal. A decision is awaited on whether they will be included in the forthcoming biometric registration.



## Shelter and NFIs

### Achievements and Impact

#### Lakes State

- Two Africa Action Help (AAH) trucks arrived in Mingkaman on 31 July with 680 plastic sheets, 1,000 plastic buckets, 1,350 bars of soap, 3,000 sanitary towels and 20 plastic rolls.

#### Jonglei State

- UNHCR released 50 plastic sheets to INTERSOS to be taken to Waat, Nyirol County. Another 120 will be sent at a later date.
- 7 vulnerable households at Bor Dock benefited from a targeted NFI distribution.

#### Western Bahr El-Ghazal

- 122 IDPs at the Alel Chok Way Station, including some with special needs, were given NFIs.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

#### Lakes State

- It remains unclear when HDC will begin shelter repairs and maintenance work in Mingkaman. A Norwegian Refugee Council assessment earlier this year identified 2,929 shelters in need of repair.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to US\$ 111,324,020 as of 5 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.

### Funding received (in USD)

USA	90,300,000
Japan	10,016,945
ECHO	3,769,682
Canada	1,573,564
CHF - SSD	1,488,963
Republic of Korea	800,000
Luxembourg	625,782
Switzerland	520,291
UN Prog. On HIV/AIDS	490,000
France	250,000
Holy See	3,362