HIGHLIGHTS

• Nearly 4,500 internally displaced people departed the Bentiu Protection of Civilians site in May.
• Over 310,000 people are receiving humanitarian assistance and protection in southern Unity.
• Thousands remain displaced in Yambio and Gangura.
• Violent incidents against aid workers increased in May.
• Health partners investigate an outbreak of a haemorrhagic fever syndrome in Aweil.

FIGURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Figure</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. of Internally Displaced Persons</td>
<td>1.61 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>No. of refugees in neighboring countries (post 15 Dec 2013)</td>
<td>721,173</td>
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<tr>
<td>No. of people reached with assistance in 2016</td>
<td>2.36 million</td>
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FUNDING

$389 million funding received in 2016
30% of appeal funding received in 2016
$1.29 billion requirements for South Sudan 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan

Aid reaches people beyond Bentiu

Thousands of people have received humanitarian assistance in Guit, Koch, Mayom and Rubkona counties in recent months as partners based in Bentiu took advantage of the dry season to extend aid to parts of Unity previously inaccessible by road.

About 103,400 people have been reached with food rations distributed outside the Bentiu Protection of Civilians (PoC) site - including in Bentiu Town, Ding Ding, Kuach, Nhialdu, Nimni, Bil, Kadet and Jazeera – since February, while seeds and fishing kits have been provided to about 7,400 households in Guit County and 10,000 in Koch County. Nutrition surveys have been conducted in Guit and Rubkona in May and support for acutely malnourished children and pregnant and lactating mothers is ongoing.

Emergency shelter materials and basic household items – a top priority in many locations where people’s homes have been damaged or destroyed – were provided to 13,350 households in Koch, Mayom, Guin and Rubkona counties by the end of May.

Four health facilities that stopped operating when conflict began in December 2013 were reopened in Guit County in May and partners provided staff and medical supplies. A cold chain facility for routine immunization was established and vaccines were delivered at the health facility in Nimni payam in Guit County in May after two years without immunization services. About 3,600 patients and about 1,850 children under age 5 were vaccinated against measles through 15 mobile health clinics in Nhialdu, Ding Ding and Thong payams in Rubkona County.

Education services have been revamped. Over 18,000 children, including 8,500 girls, have been enrolled in schools as a result of 12 back-to-learning campaigns, and 45 temporary learning spaces for children have been established. In Nimni, four schools have been reopened for the first time since the conflict began and over 1,200 children have been enrolled. In Mankien (Mayom County), materials for 2,480 children have been distributed at three schools and pupils will receive food through the School Feeding programme. Emergency education supplies for 3,000 children have also been pre-positioned in Nhialdu.

Humanitarian partners have focused on ensuring assistance and protection reaches the most vulnerable. Twenty cases of unaccompanied, separated and missing children were identified and documented in Nhialdu, Nimni and Kuach in May for follow-up, and profiling of people with special needs has been conducted in Kuach, Nimni, Mankien, Kaljak, Bauw, Nhialdu and Ding Ding to inform a tailored response.

The expansion of the response has been facilitated by common services.
Light Base Camps have been established to accommodate humanitarians based in Nimni and Nhialdiu, funded by the Common Humanitarian Fund, and six key roads have been cleared of unexploded ordnance (UXO), connecting Bentiu with Nhialdiu, Kaljak, Koch, Kadet, Mayom and Leer, facilitating safe movement for civilians and humanitarians.

**Increasing movement of civilians**

In May, nearly 4,500 internally displaced people (IDPs) departed the Bentiu Protection of Civilians (PoC) site, bringing the PoC population to about 95,000 at the end of the month. Most of those departing - mainly adult men and women – reported that they planned on engaging in farming activities in Rubkona, Guit and Koch counties. Many noted that the elderly and children from their families remained in the PoC.

From February to May, partners biometrically registered more than 31,800 people in Bentiu and Ding Ding in Rubkona County, and Nimni in Guit County. Of these, about 5,800 people changed their ration cards from the Bentiu PoC site.

**Partners responding in southern Unity face funding shortfalls**

More than one year on from the beginning of the major offensive in south and central Unity in April 2015, which displaced hundreds of thousands of people, over 310,000 people - including displaced, returnees and vulnerable host community members - are receiving humanitarian assistance and protection in southern Unity.

Food assistance was provided in May to 310,000 people in Mayandit, Leer and Panyijiar counties. To boost livelihoods activities, partners provided 26,000 vulnerable farming households with seeds, tools and fishing kits in the three counties in May and June. Over 15,000 extremely vulnerable people were provided with basic household items and emergency shelter in Leer in April and Mayandit in May. Partners have recently scaled up education in Leer by reopening 21 primary schools and learning centres. In Panyijiar County, partners are distributing scholastic kits, training for teachers, and upgrading school facilities. Partners are also mobilizing the community to send girls to school.

However, humanitarian partners have reported that their activities are increasingly impeded by under-funding. Ganyiel hospital, the only functioning referral theatre in southern Unity, has shortages of regular primary health care commodities due to logistical constraints and road insecurities. In mid April, health cluster partners from Bentiu had to send surgical and anaesthetic kits to the hospital. A WASH project was suspended in February due to lack of funding, leading to increased open defecation practices and water shortages, according to local authorities. A nutrition partner may also be forced to downsize its staff and discontinue some nutrition activities at the end of June due to under-funding. Protection activities have reduced in Nyal due to a decrease in funds.

**Thousands remain displaced in Yambio and Gangura**

Humanitarian partners conducted an interagency rapid needs assessment in Yambio and Gangura payams of Western Equatoria in May, following a relative improvement of the security situation, including the signing of a local peace agreement between two armed actors in April. Parts of Gangura payam had not been accessible to humanitarian actors since July 2015.

Since August 2015, ongoing insecurity and four major outbreaks of fighting have affected Yambio and Gangura. As a result, civilians were displaced multiple times, including to the surrounding jungle areas and other payams. Killing, sexual and gender-based violence, forced recruitment, looting, and burning of homes and crops were reportedly committed by armed actors and criminals during the fighting.
Civilians in Yambio and Gangura had been displaced multiple times, including to the surrounding jungle areas and other payams.

Parts of Gangura payam had not been accessible to humanitarian actors since July 2015.

In May, 78 humanitarian access incidents were reported by humanitarian partners.

May sees increased violence against aid workers

Violent incidents - including shooting, ambushes, assaults, harassment and robberies – increased during May, including the tragic killing of three humanitarians, bringing the reported number of aid workers killed in South Sudan since the conflict began in December 2013 to 55.

In May, 78 humanitarian access incidents were reported by humanitarian partners, 73 per cent of which involved violence against humanitarian personnel or their properties. This was significantly higher than in April, when 48 incidents were reported, and also higher than the monthly average of 63 incidents reported from January to March.

Road and river travel for humanitarians continues to be hazardous. Since January 2016, there have been 29 incidents of robberies of vehicles while travelling to assess, deliver and pre-position vital supplies, 13 of them in the month of May. In Upper Nile, humanitarian partners were shot at while attempting to cross the River Nile to deliver humanitarian assistance between Malakal and Wau Shilluk on 26 and 30 May.

At least 74 humanitarian compounds, including offices, residences and warehouses, have been broken into since the beginning of the year countrywide, resulting in looting and robberies of humanitarian supplies and personal belongings. Sixteen such incidents took place in May.

The Humanitarian Coordinator, Eugene Owusu, has stated that violence against humanitarian workers and humanitarian assets is categorically unacceptable and must stop and urged the Transitional Government of National Unity to endeavour to strengthen the safety and security environment for aid workers.

For more information: https://shar.es/1J4Z2V
Investigation of haemorrhagic fever syndrome underway in Aweil

Health partners are investigating an outbreak of a haemorrhagic fever syndrome that has affected Aweil North and West counties since December 2015. The latest case was detected on 3 June, although no new deaths have been reported since 28 February 2016.

As of 9 June, a total of 52 suspected cases, including 10 deaths with a case fatality rate of 19.2 per cent, had been reported. Aweil North accounted for 45 cases and all deaths, while seven cases were reported in Aweil West. Young people below the age of 20 years are most affected and account for 73 per cent of the suspected cases and 90 per cent of the deaths. No health care workers have been reported among the cases. The most frequent symptoms include unexplained bleeding, fever, fatigue, headache and vomiting. The symptoms rapidly resolve following supportive treatment.

In response to the outbreak, partners have scaled-up disease surveillance and trained health workers on case definition and protective measures. Community meetings have been held to raise people’s awareness of the outbreak and to encourage them to rapidly report any case of fever or bleeding to health facilities.

Efforts to prevent cholera continue

As the rainy season begins, humanitarian partners are working closely with relevant authorities to avert an outbreak of cholera. Surveillance, health promotion and community mobilization activities have increased in the past weeks. To date, all suspected cholera cases reported in Juba have tested negative for cholera following microbiological culturing. However, risk factors remain high, including due to the rapidly increasing price of water in urban areas.

About 4,000 children reunited with their families

Humanitarian partners have assisted 4,000 children who were separated from their parents due to the conflict to reunite with their families.

The milestone marking 4,000 reunifications was reached when seven-year-old Nyabitu returned to her family home in Kodok on 11 June, after living for two years in Juba. In 2014, Nyabitu and her siblings fled from Malakal after attacks on the area that left their mother dead. After arriving in Kodok on board a UN aircraft, Nyabitu had a tearful reunion with her grandmother. “I want to stay with my grandmother and join school. If I finish my education, I want be a pilot so that I can drive my relatives around,” she said.

Reuniting separated children with their families is a challenging process. A complex multi-agency system identifies, registers, reunifies and follows-up on separated children, which can take between six to eight months on average.

About 12,800 separated and unaccompanied children have been registered by partners since December 2013. Efforts are ongoing to trace the families of more than 8,000 children who are still separated from their caregivers.

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