SITUATION OVERVIEW

Parties to the September 2018 peace deal have delayed on further sub-national appointments and the implementation of other key aspects of the agreement while the transitional government grapples with the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. At the same time, conflict has persisted at the national, sub-national, and local levels, driven – at least in part – by continued contestation over land and authority. Flooding and the accompanying displacement, along with rapid economic decline, could further drive conflict in certain areas, particularly the Equatoria Region.

Monthly Highlights

- 1,037,393 individuals reached through COVID-19 health and hygiene promotion outreachs
- 80,288 individuals provided with safe drinking water
- 52,717 individuals received outpatient health consultations
- 16,653 flood affected individuals provided with Emergency Shelter and NFI materials
INFECTIOUS DISEASE PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE

COVID-19

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, IOM is carrying out response activities, focusing on health screenings; risk communication and community engagement; health and hygiene promotion; WASH/Infection, Prevention, and Control; and displacement tracking.

13,981 individuals screened at IOM-managed COVID-19 PoE sites in September, with a cumulative total of 347,724 travellers screened since April 2020 when the team began the COVID-19 screening of travellers.

IOM continues to disseminate messages on COVID-19 awareness (regarding prevention, transmission, and signs of COVID-19), proper hand washing with soap and water, social distancing, and maintaining a safe water chain.

1,037,393 individuals reached through COVID-19 health and hygiene promotion outreach in September.

MENTAL HEALTH & PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

A total of 13,079 individuals received MHPSS services in Wau, Malakal, and Bentiu in September. To commemorate World Suicide Prevention Day on 10 September, MHPSS teams carried out various awareness-raising and suicide prevention activities at all field locations, engaging communities and MHPSS stakeholders. This included support group discussions with diverse gender and age groups to address risk factors and facilitate peer-to-peer support for suicide prevention. Radio talk shows and virtual round table discussions were also held to mobilize joint action to prevent suicide and provide support to those at increased risk. Toll-free numbers for a Regional Hotline for MHPSS in South Sudan are functional in all three field locations in Wau, Malakal, and Bentiu, to provide remote MHPSS services. Information, education, and communication materials developed by IOM on MHPSS considerations in the context of COVID-19 were approved by the Ministry of Health in South Sudan and are available at the IOM Online Bookstore for download in English, Arabic, and Nuer.

MIGRATION HEALTH

IOM continued to provide primary health care services in eight static and five mobile health facilities in Rubkona, Wau, and Malakal counties, attaining the following results:

The Health Rapid Response Team (RRT) mission in Kajo Keji is ongoing, through which support is provided to three health facilities. A total of 1,907 consultations were conducted, 102 mothers were provided with antenatal care, and 1,891 individuals were reached with health promotion messages. The Health RRT was also deployed to Canal Pigi, Ulang, and Manyo counties to provide primary health care.

IOM also continued to provide HIV prevention services, including awareness-raising, HIV testing, and counselling for key populations.
CAMP COORDINATION & CAMP MANAGEMENT

In response to the torrential rains and devastating flooding in Jonglei and Central Equatoria, IOM CCCM – through its Cluster State Focal Point in Jonglei – supported an inter-agency needs assessments aimed at informing humanitarian flood responses. In Juba, where more than 14,000 flood-affected individuals are temporarily sheltering in four collective centres in Sharikat, a CCCM assessment team was deployed to determine the situation of IDPs arriving from Twic East, Bor South, and Duk Counties. Similarly, a joint DTM and CCCM team conducted a visit to Mangalla to assess the needs and concerns of displaced populations and establish population figures. In Wau PoCAA, Camp Management is actively engaging with UNMISS and other stakeholders to facilitate the PoCCAA Transition and Community Engagement plans to ensure due diligence is met prior to status reclassification. In support of the United Nations Secretary-General’s High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement, CCCM teams conducted focus group discussions with IDPs and host community in protracted and urban settlements, including Bentiu and Wau PoC sites, Hai Masna Collective Centre, and Bor town, to identify concrete recommendations on how to prevent, respond, and achieve solutions to internal displacement, as well as durable solutions for livelihoods.

CCCM CLUSTER

In September, the CCCM Cluster engaged state and national level forums, including the Humanitarian Country Teams (HCT), Inter-Cluster Coordination Groups (ICCG), UNMISS, and other Clusters to discuss the PoC transition process. The Cluster is also actively involved in drafting PoC transition and community engagement plans for each PoC site. As of 30 September, the Bor PoC site has been re-designated to a traditional IDP site, and IDPs have been informed about the decision. The Wau PoCCAA will be converted to an IDP site by October. In other PoC sites, respective camp management agencies and the Cluster team continue to engage with UNMISS, state/national level ICCG, different clusters, and community members to discuss the transition process. In addition, the Cluster team also contributed to the joint discussion between UNMISS, Protection Cluster, OCHA, and camp management agencies on camp administration roles and responsibilities, which will later be taken up by the government and the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC).

MIGRATION MANAGEMENT

IOM facilitated two workshops with the Policy Task Team on Diaspora Engagement and Remittances to discuss policy proposals. In addition, meetings were organized with the Technical Working Group on Identity Management to discuss the planning of the consultative workshop on Civil Registry and examine the discussion paper provided by IOM’s technical experts on Identity Management. IOM continued to support the National Taskforce on Countering Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants, which launched a nationwide awareness campaign on the prevalence of Trafficking in Persons in South Sudan. The official campaign was launched in Juba and convened by the Deputy Inspector General of Police on 28 September. IOM also conducted COVID-19 sensitization for 20 border officials, including customs, immigration, and police from Wau and Raja. At the regional level, IOM participated in a baseline survey on cross-border cooperation on trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, with a specific focus on protection.

LOGISTICS

- 676 metric tons of humanitarian cargo delivered this month
- 30 humanitarian organisations supported
- 11,761 metric tons of humanitarian cargo transported this year
RAPID RESPONSE FUND

With support from the USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance, the Rapid Response Fund commenced with the due diligence and subsequent proposal review for emergency flood responses. The areas of WASH, health, protection, and S-NFI are the current focus of RRF’s ongoing and proposed response initiatives.

LOCATION OF RRF PROJECTS AND PARTNERS

Legend

- counties with ongoing RRF funded projects

Project Activities*

- Emergency WASH COVID-19 preparedness and response
- Provision of emergency NFI/ES response
- Provision of emergency livelihood kits
- Distribution of vegetable crop seeds, and fishing kits
- Create community awareness on prevention and control of COVID-19
- NFI assistance
- Provision of basic WASH Services
- Protection / GBV

* For details on projects and targets please contact RRF South Sudan at RRFSouthSudan@iom.int.
CORE PIPELINE

In September, IOM Core Pipeline processed 14 approved requests from 11 WASH partners for the benefit of approximately 32,788 households. In addition, nine requests were processed for eight S-NFI partners for the benefit of 11,525 households. The supplies reached 16 counties, namely Fangak, Aweil, Malakal, Mundri West, Mundri East, Wau, Bor South, Aweil East, Terekeka, Nyirol, Yirol East, Renk, Twic East, Bor South, Maiwut, and Uror.

While IOM Core Pipeline was able to preposition 28 metric tons of WASH supplies to Rumbek logistics hub, the rainy season has posed challenges, with most road networks to other logistics hubs remaining impassable. The rainy season also caused flooding in some parts of the country, creating an increase in demand for emergency WASH and S-NFI supplies. Some of the most in demand supplies include plastic sheets, rubber ropes, household water treatment and storage. Due to the high demand and low stock available, IOM anticipates a pipeline break for plastic sheets in December 2020. IOM Core Pipeline also received most of the PPE supplies for COVID-19 through BHA and FCDO funding. The available Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) items are reflected in the South Sudan common pool managed by the Logistics and Operations Technical Working Group. All requests go through the COVID-19 Inter-Agency Technical Team, and IOM Core Pipeline will release supplies to approved partners in October.

23 requests for WASH and Shelter NFI supplies were approved and processed
19 WASH and S-NFI Cluster partners received NFIs for distribution
32,788 HHs in 16 counties & 11,525 HHs in 16 counties benefited from WASH & S-NFI supplies respectively
28 MT of S-NFI & WASH supplies transported for prepositioning in Rumbek, Bor and Wau

SHELTER & NON-FOOD ITEMS

IOM assisted 16,653 flood-affected individuals in Bor South through the provision of shelter and non-food items. In addition, IOM, in coordination with the local community, is supporting the repair and maintenance of a broken dike in Bor Town, Jonglei. Bor Town, situated at the edge of the White Nile River was hit by flooding in late July, displacing thousands residents. The town is normally protected by a dike to contain the flood water, however the dike collapsed in the last week of July. Water subsequently entered the town, sweeping away homes and displacing residents. IOM, in coordination with other humanitarian partners, conducted a detailed technical assessment of the dike and identified sections of the dike that were susceptible to further damage. Based on the findings, IOM's S-NFI Unit, began repair and maintenance work of the dike. IOM procured sandbags, wooden poles and bamboos to strengthen exposed sections. Youth from the community voluntarily participated in the repair works. The dike repair work is in progress as the water level continues to increase. In collaboration with the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MHADM), IOM organized a one-day floods early warning system workshop in Juba, attended by numerous line ministries. The workshop also brought together disaster readiness experts and data scientists to discuss how data collection and sharing methodologies can improve governmental disaster management efforts, humanitarian responses, and rates of individual survival and prosperity. In Wau, IOM is conducting a housing, land, and property (HLP) mapping in 15 villages.

S-NFI CLUSTER

The S-NFI cluster supported a total of 51,963 individuals through the provision of emergency shelter and non-food items during the reporting period. In addition, S-NFI partners conducted 15 assessments, 13 distributions, and two post-distribution monitoring (PDMs) in conflict and flood-affected areas. The Cluster completed the strategy for flood response, targeting 60,000 households (360,000 individuals), with a funding requirement of USD 4.55 million.

WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE

IOM continued to provide water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services to over 136,271 IDPs in Bentiu, Malakal, and Wau PoC sites. On 19 September, IOM handed over a solar-powered water yard to the community in Hai Barak, Juba, providing an estimated 3,000 individuals with access to safe and clean drinking water daily. The WASH EPnR team deployed two missions to respond to the floods in Pibor and Panyagor, Jonglei State. To support the COVID-19 response, IOM continued to maintain 708 handwashing stations in Malakal PoC, Bentiu PoC, Wau PoC, Wau town, Twic, Juba, and Magwi. IOM also continued to conduct COVID-19 awareness raising and hygiene promotion activities through a network of 314 community hygiene promoters, reaching 1,037,393 individuals in Bentiu PoC, Malakal PoC, Wau, Twic, Juba, Magwi, Renk, Abyei, and Nimule in September.

A total of 1 SWAT system 6 boreholes, and 1,437 WASH NFIs, including household water treatment, will provide safe water for 41,509 individuals

This month, IOM provided safe drinking water to 80,228 individuals residing in the following sites

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Number of Individuals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wau PoC AA</td>
<td>9,925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malakal PoC</td>
<td>27,924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bentiu PoC</td>
<td>43,069</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX

In September, IOM finalized field data collection for Round 9 of Mobility Tracking; validation is ongoing and will provide partners and the humanitarian community with an updated cross-country baseline on IDPs and returnees. The usual baseline assessment was complemented by a tailored COVID-19 questionnaire to support evidence-based planning on COVID-19 awareness and the impact it has on service delivery, mobility, and livelihoods across 500 payams. The initial release will be shared in mid-October. Field Flow Monitoring Registry (FMR) enumerators conducted 11,801 surveys, representing 48,606 individual journeys. The team continued with the weekly COVID-19 preparedness and response assessment at more than 90 internal transit hubs, areas, and border crossing points. Weekly data is uploaded on the Global DTM mobility impact portal, whilst an overview of the situation in South Sudan is provided in the bi-weekly mobility update. In collaboration with WHO and WFP, DTM finalized data collection for a household-level multisectoral COVID-19 study in Juba, combined with randomized COVID-19 testing to strengthen understanding of population vulnerability to COVID-19. Data collection in Juba PoCs will be finalized in October 2020.

REPORTS AND MAPS

- IOM DTM Wau PoC AA And Masna Collective Centre Population Count (July 2020)
- IOM DTM COVID-19 Mobility Update 15 (27 July – 9 August 2020)
- IOM DTM Pibor UNMISS AA Site Flow Monitoring Summary (7 -18 August 2020)
- IOM DTM Event Tracking: Unom Flooding (August 2020)
- IOM DTM Event Tracking: Rink County, Upper Nile State (August 2020)
- IOM DTM Event Tracking: Unity State Flooding Event Tracking (August 2020)
- IOM DTM Event Tracking: Central Equatoria State (August 2020)
- WHO/DTM Joint Analysis on Health Access for IDPs And Returnees (August 2020)
- IOM DTM Unity State Flooding Map (August 2020)
- IOM DTM Jonglei State Flooding Map (August 2020)
- IOM DTM Event Tracking: Tory North Localized Conflict (September 2020)

DATASETS

- South Sudan - Flow Monitoring Registry - July 2020
- South Sudan - COVID-19 Mobility Update 14 (13 - 26 July 2020) Database
- South Sudan - COVID-19 Mobility Update 15 (27 July - 9 August 2020) Dataset

TRANSITION & RECOVERY

In Abyei Administrative Area, IOM trained 10 men on modern basic beekeeping for honey production, and the group received assorted essential beekeeping equipment. IOM also conducted the first phase of peace club patrons training in Abyei for 60 peace club patrons, representing 19 schools. The training included awareness raising on COVID-19 and conflict management and peacebuilding in schools. In collaboration with WFP, IOM conducted community consultations with IDPs and the host community in Abyei centre and Agok to discuss methods to prevent, respond to, and achieve solutions to internal displacement. A total of 168 members (117 men; 51 women) attended, comprising of youth, women, persons with disabilities, local administration, IDPs, host community members, elders, as well as Community Development Committee leadership.

In Wau, IOM continued supporting community-based facilitators in conducting COVID-19 awareness and functional adult literacy activities for 100 female beneficiaries. In addition, IOM conducted women’s leadership training for 25 women livelihoods beneficiaries in Bussere and Bazia Jedid. In collaboration with Community Empowerment for Progress (CEPO), a national partner, two community theatre performances and one radio talk show on the roles youth can play in reducing conflict and violence was conducted in Wau. CEPO and IOM also led an inter-generation dialogue with at-risk youth and their parents on the gaps which exist between parents, elders, and youth. In partnership with the Inter-State Committee on Cattle Seasonal Migration (ICCSM), IOM conducted a youth conference in Kangi to create peaceful co-existence among the youth of Warrap State and Western Bahr el Ghazal State. The conference brought together 30 individuals (26 men; 4 women), including the Payam Executive Directors, to witness the conference on behalf of government officials. In addition, a two-day training of trainers for conflict mediation, which targeted frontline peacebuilding actors, including cattle migration committees, community peace ambassadors, and local chiefs was held in Wau.
PROTECTION/GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

IOM conducted a protection assessment in Twic, Warrap, which led to the identification of 22 individuals for protection assistance. Teams and partners in the location were trained on protection mainstreaming, protection against sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), and Disability Inclusion, reaching 25 individuals (18 men; 7 women). In Pibor, IOM’s protection and S-NFI team supported efforts to identify persons with heightened vulnerabilities for assistance and referral to other partners. In Juba, IOM worked with the Women’s Disability Network and the WASH team to deliver messages on disability inclusion in WASH. In addition, IOM’s protection and migration management teams trained 49 border officials (36 men; 13 women) on protection.

As part of IOM’s commitment to women’s empowerment and gender equality, the research report and programme guidance developed with RedR UK, WASH Cluster, and GBV sub-cluster on “Closing the Gender Gap in the Humanitarian WASH Sector in South Sudan” was launched. Accompanying events included a talk show on Radio Miraya with the WASH Cluster and a series of dialogue sessions on gender and GBV with IOM WASH staff. In partnership with Active Youth Agency (AYA) in Juba, IOM reached 846 persons through GBV awareness-raising and 161 women and girls through skills building and life skills sessions. To strengthen local capacities, IOM is expanding GBV prevention and response programming in Juba, Wau town, Jur River, and Tonj South with three national NGOs, namely Active Youth Agency (AYA), The Organisation for Children’s Harmony (TOCH), and Strategic Initiative for the Horn of Africa (SIHA) network.

IN FOCUS

IOM and RedR UK Report
Closing the gap in Women’s Rights and Opportunities in Humanitarian Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Response in South Sudan

Significant barriers including entrenched gendered divisions in labour, high risks of gender-based violence and working environments not considerate of women’s needs or valuing their contributions, are hampering women’s participation in water, sanitation and hygiene services as well as the wider humanitarian sector in South Sudan, research conducted by IOM and RedR UK has revealed.

The research, “Closing Gender Gap in the Humanitarian WASH Sector in South Sudan”, is the first ever systematic and cluster-wide study in the country on this issue. It has identified barriers that women face at three-levels — structural, institutional and individual — and the harmful gender norms that underpin these barriers and limit opportunities in the sector for women.

The work was funded as part of the ‘Humanitarian Assistance and Resilience in South Sudan (HARISS)’ project funded by the United Kingdom Department for International Development. It is endorsed by the national Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Cluster and Gender-based Violence (GBV) Sub-cluster in South Sudan.

The research and programme guidance are launched against a backdrop of efforts to prevent and respond for COVID-19 pandemic, while continuing to provide for the humanitarian needs of nearly 7.5 million South Sudanese in need of humanitarian assistance — among them, more than one million internally displaced persons.

“In South Sudan 62 percent of the population have to travel for longer than 30 minutes to access a safe water source. This is both a public health and a protection risk. As women and girls are primarily impacted by this issue, without engaging and employing women to work in the WASH sector, our ability to address their needs and issues is reduced… this priority issue for the WASH Cluster in South Sudan,” said WASH Cluster Information Management Officer, Olivia Pearson.

Read full the story online
Programme Activities

- WASH
- HEALTH
- S-NFI
- DTM
- CCCM
- MHPSS
- OFFICES/STATIC PRESENCE
- T&R
- PIPELINE
- PROTECTION /GBV
- HUMANITARIAN HUB (HH)
- INFECTIOUS DISEASE PoE SCREENING SITES
- LOGS/CTS
- MMU

IOM South Sudan Operations are funded by

[Logos and names of funding partners]