

11-17 March 2013

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Civilians sought refuge in the bush and temporary safety in UN compound in Jonglei State as insecurity escalates
- The government has ordered removal of taxation on relief supplies and expediting of clearance of relief cargo.
- S. Sudan and Sudan sign implementation Matrix for Agreements paving way for the resumption of oil production.

### BASELINE

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| Population 2008 (NBS)                                  | 8.26 million  |
| GDP per capita (NBS)                                   | \$1,546       |
| Pop. living below poverty line (NBHS)                  | 51%           |
| Life expectancy (SHHS)                                 | 42 years      |
| Child mortality (SHHS)                                 | 105/1,000     |
| Maternal mortality (SHHS)                              | 2,054/100,000 |
| >5 global acute Malnutrition (NBS)                     | 18.1%         |
| Adult literacy (NBS)                                   | 27%           |
| Net enrolment secondary education                      | 1.6%          |
| Households using improved sanitation (SHHS)            | 7.4%          |
| Households with improved drinking water sources (SHHS) | 68.7%         |



Families in Jonglei State's Pibor town flee for safety to the UN mission compound, as insecurity persists. (UNMISS/Perret)

## Situation overview

Insecurity persisted in Jonglei State's Pibor town with reports of unconfirmed number of civilians seeking refuge in the bush while others temporarily sought safety in UN mission compound amid fears of further clashes. Humanitarian actors continued to provide aid to those in need.

The Government of South Sudan issued formal directives for humanitarian aid to be immediately accorded free movement at the borders, including expediting clearance of relief cargo at border crossings and removal of taxation on all relief supplies.

In Ethiopia's Addis Ababa, the governments of South Sudan and Sudan agreed on an implementation matrix outlining timelines of the nine agreements signed on 27 September 2012. This paves way for the resumption of oil production and the transit of South Sudan's oil through Sudan.

## Humanitarian challenges, needs and response

### Civilians sought refuge in the bush, UN compound in Jonglei State

As insecurity escalates in Jonglei State's Pibor County, the suffering of civilians continues. The humanitarian community is concerned about the protection and safety of civilians and respect of international humanitarian law by all parties involved in the hostilities.

Aid actors report that armed violence between state and non-state armed groups resulted in scores of injuries in Jonglei State. The presence of armed groups in the areas bordering Duk, Nyirol and Uror counties raises fears of possible military offensive.

An unconfirmed number of civilians in Pibor town have sought refuge in the bush along the Keng Keng River while others temporarily sought safety in UN mission compound. Places such as Kondako and Longachot remain largely deserted, with people reportedly only

coming to collect aid and return to the bush for safety. Humanitarian actors are closely monitoring the situation and have stepped up their preparedness plans. Life-saving



Women, children and the elderly are the most affected by insecurity in Pibor, Jonglei State. (UNMISS/Perret)

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## 2013 FIGURES

|                                  |        |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| Violent-related incidents        | 69     |
| Number of people newly displaced | 12,433 |

Source: OCHA based on reports from local authorities and assessment teams. Figures as of 28 February 2013.

*Temporary road closure delayed prepositioning of aid in Jonglei State.*

*Aid agencies are mobilizing resources to address the needs of the new arrivals in Jonglei State's Akobo.*

*The directives are with immediate effect to enable aid agencies to achieve their objectives.*

*The agreement paves way for the resumption of oil production in South Sudan.*

*The matrix includes the implementation of the Agreement on Temporary Arrangements for the Administration of the Abyei Area.*

medical supplies were also prepositioned in Boma and Pibor. Surgical teams are on standby.

### Gumuruk-Pibor road re-opens

In Jonglei State, the Gumuruk-Pibor road which was temporarily closed on 12 March following the attack on an UN mission convoy was re-opened on 15 March but under strict security measures. On-going humanitarian operations including the delivery of food assistance to Boma, Gumuruk, Likuangule and Pibor and prepositioning of humanitarian emergency stocks were put on hold because of the road suspension.

However, food security partners have distributed one month food rations to about 5,300 displaced people in Likuangule and over 2,500 individuals from two villages in Gumuruk.

### Newly displaced people increase in Jonglei

Aid agencies continued to respond to the increasing number of newly displaced people in Jonglei State's Akobo County. During the past week, aid agencies witnessed the arrival of 2,800 more people from different places. The cause of these new arrivals is yet to be established.

More household items such as mosquito nets, blankets and kitchen sets, including water and sanitation facilities are urgently required. Aid agencies are now mobilizing resources to address the needs of the new arrivals and ensure adequate water and sanitation facilities to avert disease outbreaks. Prior to new arrivals, aid actors were responding to the needs of over 9,000 people affected by the February inter-communal violence in Akobo County.

### Government orders removal of taxation on relief supplies

The Office of the President issued formal directives on 18 March to Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria and Upper Nile states for humanitarian aid to be immediately accorded free movement at the borders and throughout the states, including expediting the clearance of relief cargo. The directives also reiterate that no taxation should be levied on any humanitarian relief cargo or vessel.

According to the circular, the directives are with immediate effect in order to enable aid agencies to accomplish their objectives. It is hoped that this will enable the release of relief supplies currently stuck in different border areas and reduce the cost of delivering aid to vulnerable people across the country. The government noted that these challenges are seriously restricting aid agencies' efforts to provide relief to refugees, displaced people and other vulnerable groups across the country.

### S. Sudan and Sudan agree on Matrix for Agreements

The governments of South Sudan and Sudan agreed on an implementation Matrix on 12 March during high level discussions in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The matrix outlines the implementation timelines of the nine agreements signed on 27 September 2012. This paves way for the resumption of oil production and the transit of South Sudan's oil through Sudan.

Oil production contributed 98 per cent of South Sudan's annual revenue before it was shut down in January 2012 after disagreements with Sudan over how much should be paid for the transit of oil through Sudanese pipelines to the Red Sea.

The matrix also includes an agreement on the modalities and timelines for the implementation of the Agreement on Temporary Arrangements for the Administration and Security of the Abyei Area, in particular the establishment of the Abyei Area Administration, the Abyei Area Council, and the Abyei Area Police. It came four days after the signing of the Implementation Modalities for Security Arrangements, which prompts both governments to withdraw troops to their respective sides of the Safe Demilitarized Border Areas.

## REFUGEES

Numbers in Upper Nile

|              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| Doro         | 45,458         |
| Gendrassa    | 15,733         |
| Jamam        | 16,056         |
| Yusuf Batil  | 37,720         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>114,967</b> |

Numbers in Unity

|              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| Nyeel        | 952           |
| Pariang      | 795           |
| Yida         | 70,601        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>72,348</b> |

Source: UNHCR, figures as of 17 March 2013.

*Over 1,200 new arrivals were registered in Upper Nile State since mid-February.*

*The incident highlights UNHCR's concerns over the presence of armed elements in Yida settlement.*

*Aid organizations are ready to provide assistance to returnees upon arrival in Upper Nile State.*

## Refugee update

### New refugee arrivals into Upper Nile State on the increase

UNHCR interviewed and registered a little over 280 new refugee arrivals in Upper Nile State from Sudan's Blue Nile State on 14 March. These follow the arrival of over 850 refugees in the state during the first week of March.

The group claims continued aerial bombardment in Sudan's Blue Nile State with unverified reports alleging that hundreds of people are still hiding in the forests and mountains en route from Kurmuk County. They also report that the humanitarian situation in Blue Nile State is worsening as many people are facing food shortages. Those who walked from Kurmuk, over a period of five days survived on wild food. To avoid harassment and detection from the air, which would leave them vulnerable to possible air strikes, they travel under the cover of darkness.

New arrivals are hosted at Jamam Transit Centre where aid agencies are providing assistance and services. High-energy biscuits are provided to refugees upon arrival. Once in Jamam, new arrivals receive food rations together with the general camp population. Over 1,200 new arrivals were received in Upper Nile State since mid-February; half of them are at the Jamam Transit Center. The new arrivals together with the 16,000 refugees remaining in the Jamam camp will be relocated to UNHCR's newest refugee camp, Kaya in May before the onset of the rainy season.

Aid agencies are pre-positioning relief supplies in case of a significant influx of new arrivals into Upper Nile State and ensure that refugee camps are sufficiently stocked and items replenished before roads are rendered impassable during the rainy season. This preparedness plan caters for 130,000 refugees in Upper Nile State.

### Aid agencies assist refugees displaced by fighting in Yida settlement

Armed clashes broke out between South Sudanese law enforcement officials and armed elements in the north-eastern section of Yida settlement on 16 March. About 600 people, mostly women and children, fled their homes to seek safety in UNHCR base where they were sheltered in two compounds and provided with relief supplies.

As the situation calmed in the settlement, those who fled to the bush and those who sought refuge at the UNHCR base are resettling in the western part of the camp, away from where the fighting took place.

The incident highlights aid agencies' concerns over the presence of armed elements in Yida. In addition to severely compromising the civilian character of the settlement, the presence of armed elements greatly hinders aid actors' ability to provide protection to refugees. Since Yida's establishment, UNHCR has expressed concerns over its proximity to a contested border area. UNHCR has opened a new refugee camp host 20,000 refugees in Unity State's Ajuong Thok on 30 March to ease over-crowding in Yida.

## Returns to South Sudan

### Some 850 South Sudanese journey from Sudan

An African Inland Church organized movement carrying 850 South Sudanese who were stranded at Sudan's Jaborana, Shegera and Soba open areas, departed Khartoum last week in a convoy of 20 buses and 9 trucks. Most of the returnees are headed for Jonglei, Lakes, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Unity, Upper Nile and Warrap states.

Discussions on the size of luggage returnees can take delayed the departure of the movement. According to the organizers of the movement each family is allowed not more than 50 kilograms of luggage which the returnees were reluctant to accept.

The convoy will pass through Kosti and Renk and is expected to arrive in Malakal in the next few days. Aid organizations in Malakal are waiting to verify the returnees and provide

## CLUSTERS

### Lead/Co-lead organization

|                                    |                             |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Coordination & Common services     | OCHA<br>NGO Sec.            |
| Education                          | UNICEF<br>Save the Children |
| Emergency returns sector           | IOM<br>UNHCR                |
| Emergency telecommunications       | WFP                         |
| Food security & livelihoods        | FAO/WFP<br>VSF-B            |
| Health                             | WHO<br>IMC                  |
| Logistics                          | WFP                         |
| Non-food items & emergency shelter | IOM<br>World Vision         |
| Nutrition                          | UNICEF<br>ACF               |
| Protection                         | UNHCR<br>NRC                |
| Water, sanitation & hygiene        | UNICEF<br>Medair            |

## CAP 2013

### Funding

**1.16 billion**  
requested (US\$)

**93 million**  
received (US\$)

**8 %** funded

Source: Finance Tracking Service, as of 18 March 2013

assistance upon arrival, including onward transportation arrangements to their final destinations.

### Some 500 returnees headed to Maban

In Upper Nile, a land convoy comprising 11 buses and 8 trucks departed Renk town on 15 March heading for Maban with about 500 individuals. They were accompanied by 22 hygiene and protection volunteers. The convoy spent a night in Paloj before proceeding to Maban. Humanitarian partners are ready to respond to the needs of the returnees at the reception centers in Maban.

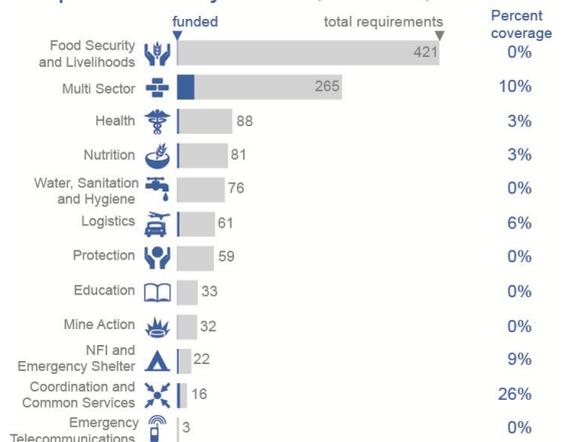
## Humanitarian financing

### Life-saving clusters still underfunded

The Consolidated Appeal (CAP) 2013 is only approximately 8 per cent funded. This time last year, CAP 2012 was approximately 35 per cent funded but funding requirements were 52 per cent lower than this year. Funding levels for several life-saving clusters are still between zero and five per cent.

The UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) continues to face a funding crisis, as current pledges only secure operations until mid-May. Lack of funding for the lifesaving air service can potentially paralyze the entire aid operation. UNHAS recently received new funding of US\$4.6 million from the US, Spain and Germany, in addition to pledges of \$5.8 million. However, even if all the pledges materialize there is still a huge funding shortage from May 2013 onwards. Aid organizations appeal to donors to ensure reliable and predictable funding for the lifesaving service.

### Requirements by Sector (in million US\$)



This report was prepared by the OCHA South Sudan office in collaboration with humanitarian partners. If you have inputs for the next edition, or questions/comments on the current issue, please contact: [ochasouthsudan@un.org](mailto:ochasouthsudan@un.org)