

25 June – 1 July

HIGHLIGHTS

- The UN refugee agency, UNHCR, warns of a possible disease outbreak at Yida refugee site, which hosts close to 59,000 people.
- Heavy rains impede access to conflict-affected areas in Western Bahr el Ghazal State.
- Humanitarian assistance continues to about 10,000 people displaced by border conflict in Northern Bahr el Ghazal State.

2012 FIGURES

Conflict incidents	177
Number of people newly displaced	164,331

Source: OCHA based on reports from local authorities and assessment teams. Figures as of 30 June 2012.



A mother and her children at Yida refugee site in Unity (UNHCR)

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Situation overview

Humanitarian actors in South Sudan remained focused on responding to the continued influx of Sudanese refugees arriving in Unity and Upper Nile states, with aid organizations working to prevent a possible disease outbreak at the Yida refugee site in Unity. There are currently about 170,000 Sudanese refugees being provided with humanitarian assistance in South Sudan. The humanitarian community is also focused on responding to close to 10,000 people displaced in Northern Bahr el Ghazal State in March-April border fighting. The onset of the rainy season is impeding relief work, for example in Western Bahr el Ghazal State, where aid organizations are unable to reach 3,500 conflict-displaced people by road, and in the Abyei area where road access is becoming increasingly difficult.

African Union-mediated talks between the governments of South Sudan and Sudan adjourned in Addis Ababa on 28 June, without any clear progress reportedly made. Negotiations are set to resume on 5 July, according to the African Union.

Humanitarian challenges, needs and response

Assistance continues to people displaced in Northern Bahr el Ghazal

Humanitarian assistance continues to be provided in Northern Bahr el Ghazal State to people displaced by March-April border clashes between Sudan and South Sudan. Some 10,000 people are reportedly still displaced in Jaac (3,595), Gokmachar (3,133), Rumaker (2,620) and Warlang (645).

In Warlang, water, sanitation and hygiene partners are building five latrine blocks and five hand-washing facilities, as well as promoting personal hygiene practices to prevent a potential disease outbreak. The training of six hygiene promoters in Warlang has begun, and further hygiene kits have been distributed. In Jaac, a mobile health clinic continues to provide medical assistance to people displaced, with one month's supply of essential drugs and supplies delivered during the week. Partners report that additional drugs are required in Rumaker. Plans are being mobilized to strengthen the protection response in Jaac and Gokmachar, with a child-friendly space to be set up in Gokmachar, and rape management training for health workers to be carried out shortly. Over 3,000 exercise books are due to arrive in Gokmachar and Jaac by the end of the week, in response to a recent assessment showing gaps in addressing education needs.

Food security and livelihood partners reported a shortage of seeds and tools in Jaac, Gokmachar, Warlang and Rumaker. Seeds and tools were provided to 300 households in Gokmachar during the week, but partners indicate that over 2,000 households are still in need. Food security cluster members are mobilizing tools, seeds and other agricultural inputs at state and national level.

CLUSTERS

Lead/Co-lead organization

Education	UNICEF Save the Children
Emergency returns sector	IOM UNHCR
Emergency telecommunications	WFP
Food security & livelihoods	FAO/WFP VSF-B
Health	WHO GOAL
Logistics	WFP
Non-food items & emergency shelter	IOM World Vision
Nutrition	UNICEF ACF
Protection	UNHCR NRC
Water, sanitation & hygiene	UNICEF Medair

REFUGEES

Numbers in Upper Nile

Doro	40,289
Jamman	34,871
Yusuf Batil	25,000
Border areas	7,000
Total	107,160

Numbers in Unity

Yida	58,376
Pariang	2,396
Nyeel	844
Total	61,616

Source: UNHCR

Rains restrict access to conflict-affected people in Western Bahr el Ghazal

The onset of the rainy season is impeding access to some 3,500 people displaced in Firka from Seri-malaga in Raja County, because of attacks in border areas of Western Bahr el Ghazal at the start of May. Two humanitarian organizations previously able to reach Firka now lack road access to people in need because of the recent heavy rains. Humanitarian vehicles carrying emergency aid became stuck as a result of heavy rainfall and were forced to turn back with the aid they were carrying. Relief organizations are looking into the possibility of airlifting the emergency items to the communities in need. Due to security restrictions by the authorities, UN agencies are still prevented from entering the area.

Heavy rains hamper movement in Abyei

Heavy rains have begun in the contested Abyei area. Many roads within Abyei are flooded, restricting the possible return of the people displaced from the area and hampering the movement of humanitarian actors. The number of people who have returned to Abyei town since the withdrawal of non-UN armed forces stands at about 1,500 individuals, according to the UN peacekeeping mission (UNISFA). This brings the total number to have returned to Abyei to some 9,700 people, according to the UN mission. This number is yet to be confirmed by humanitarian partners. Protection partners continue to carry out community meetings with people displaced in the nearby Agok area, who have been travelling to Abyei town on “go and see” visits.

10,000 household item kits arrive for Abyei displaced community

Ten thousand kits arrived in Agok over the week, containing household items such as mosquito nets, blankets and plastic sheets, for distribution to people displaced from Abyei. The kits will be distributed simultaneously to areas both north and south of the River Kiir/Bahr el Arab to ensure that aid is provided where people are located rather than guiding their movements.

Refugee updates

Health crisis concerns for 59,000 refugees in Yida

Sanitary and hygiene conditions at the Yida refugee site in Unity State have seriously deteriorated, according to the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR). Health partners are concerned about the risk of a disease outbreak. The site is the largest refugee settlement in South Sudan and hosts close to 59,000 people. The refugee population has doubled in size since the end of April, and Yida is still currently receiving between 500 and 1,000 new arrivals each day.

Scaling up the number of latrines and boreholes to match the pace of new arrivals is a huge challenge, according to UNHCR. Diarrhea has become the main cause of morbidity among refugees. A lack of basic infrastructure and low local technical capacity are the reasons cited for the problems in addressing the situation. The rainy season has compounded problems as the road (Pariang-Yida) linking two of the sites hosting refugees is closed to all traffic and only passable after three dry days. The delivery of aid by road has been severely restricted as a result.

New partners with expertise in water, sanitation and hygiene are boosting the efforts of organizations on the ground. Operational responses include the drilling of six new boreholes to complement the existing six, as well as construction of 900 additional community latrines. Large-scale health and hygiene promotion campaigns, including education on vector control and transmission, will be conducted to promote behavioural change.

Efforts to find additional water sources continue, with two additional boreholes tested and yielding a high water supply in Yusuf Batil

Water sourcing continues at refugee sites in Upper Nile State



Newly arrived refugees at Jammam refugee site in Upper Nile. Due to appalling road conditions the refugees have taken some 3 weeks to make their way 70km to Jammam (UNHCR)

Small numbers of refugees from Sudan's Blue Nile State arrived in Upper Nile State during the week, with some 120 individuals registered. Refugees are generally dehydrated, hungry and exhausted from travelling by foot for several weeks, without access to proper food and having had to drink untreated drinking water. More than 107,000 refugees have entered Upper Nile since fighting broke out in Blue Nile in September 2011. Responding adequately to the increasing numbers of people in need is the main concern of relief organizations working in Maban County, particularly as torrential downpours hamper ground transport operations.

Efforts to find additional water sources continue, with two additional boreholes tested and yielding a high water supply in Yusuf Batil. This is in addition to six fully functional boreholes at the camp. Yusuf Batil is providing 15 litres of water per person per day to the 25,000 people it is currently hosting, meeting international recommended water levels of 15-20 litres per person per day. With the onset of the rainy season, water specialists have identified a back-up solution: using jet drilling techniques to extract water from nearby shallow sources. In Doro, boreholes are yielding 12 litres of water per person per day for 40,000 refugees. In Jammam, the yield for some 35,000 refugees is 9 litres per person per day. The solution for the water shortage in Jammam is to relocate part of the population to a new site closer to the Nile River, which is under negotiation with the authorities.

Returns to South Sudan

Close to 406,000 returnees have arrived in South Sudan since the beginning of the organized returns programme in October 2010

Returnees*

State	Previous total	New arrivals 20-26 June	Updated total
Unity	88,016	0	88,016
N. Bahr el Ghazal	72,757	0	72,757
Upper Nile	73,107	351	73,458
Central Equatoria	53,459	0	53,459
Warrap	37,073	82	37,155
W. Bahr el Ghazal	25,434	35	25,469
Jonglei	21,586	81	21,667
Lakes	17,475	0	17,475
Eastern Equatoria	13,654	0	13,654
Western Equatoria	2,682	0	2,682
Total	405,243	549	405,792

By type

Government assisted	Spontaneous	Un-specified
32,462	55,554	0
25,076	46,290	1,391
25,797	32,511	15,150
37,348	16,111	0
17,664	10,234	9,257
10,882	14,587	0
16,090	5,547	30
15,704	1,501	270
11,833	1,821	0
1,960	673	49
194,816	184,829	26,147

*since 30 October 2010. Contains only verified IOM data unless otherwise noted. Figures as of 26 June 2012.

Renk and Juba remain hubs for returnee movement

South Sudan's capital Juba and Upper Nile State's Renk remain the hubs for movements by South Sudanese returnees transiting home from Sudan. Renk, which currently hosts over 19,000 returnees, remains the main entry point for returnees arriving into South

*Luggage loading
and passenger
manifestation
continues for an
IOM-organized barge
convoy preparing to
carry over 2,000
returnees to Juba*

Sudan from Sudan. The Payuer transit site in Renk now accommodates some 1,200 returnees, the majority of whom are returnees accompanying luggage that was transported from Sudan's Kosti to Renk by the South Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission in conjunction with the returnee air movement to Juba in May and June. The 1,200 returnees are the final members of the group that were residing at the Kosti way station, which is now closed. Some of returnees are moving on from the site spontaneously, while others are expected to travel by barge. However, the majority await onward transport to be organized.

Regarding organized movements from Renk, luggage loading and passenger manifestation continues for an IOM-organized barge convoy preparing to carry over 2,000 returnees to Juba. IOM is also organizing another barge movement to Juba from Malakal for some 450 individuals, who comprise the majority of the returnee population in the Malakal way station and transit site.

Returnee movements continued over the week. Some 550 returnees arrived at final destinations in South Sudan between 20 and 26 June. Some 1,300 returnees in transit continued to arrive in Renk from Sudan. At the same time, 800 returnees were reported to have departed Renk spontaneously, all heading to various parts of Upper Nile State. Close to 406,000 returnees have arrived in South Sudan since the beginning of the organized returns programme in October 2010.

In Juba, a barge movement carrying over 300 returnees arrived on 27 June. IOM also organized onward transport from the Juba transit site to Western Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria and Greater Bahr El Ghazal for close to 500 returnees, leaving some 1,500 remaining in the site.

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