

South Sudan Crisis

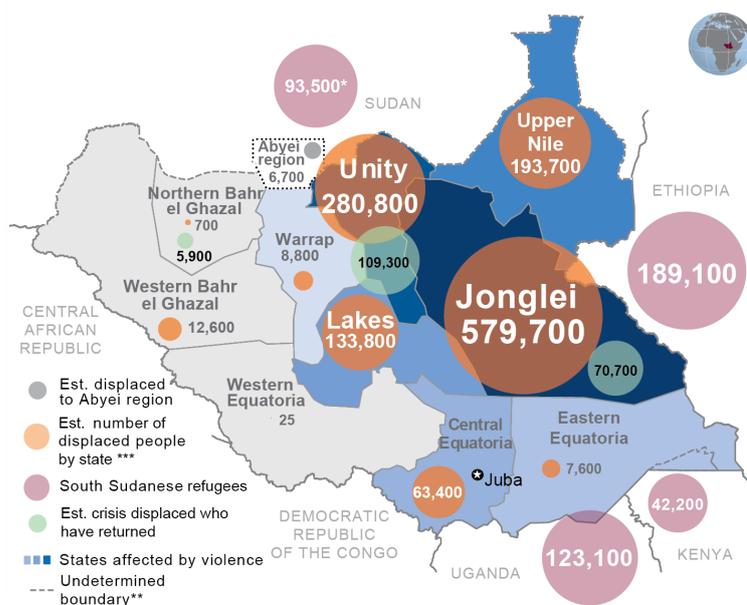
Situation Report No. 50 (as of 21 August 2014)



This report is produced by OCHA South Sudan in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 14-21 August. The next report will be issued on or around 28 August 2014.

Highlights

- Preliminary analysis of food security in conflict-affected areas shows that while the situation remains dire, it has not worsened.
- Humanitarian barges continued their progress, arriving at Malakal on 19 August and now continuing to Melut, for final offloading.
- Some 2.7 million people have been reached with some form of emergency assistance as of 31 July.
- Thirteen humanitarian aid workers have been killed in South Sudan since the conflict began in December 2013.



The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. **Final boundary between the Republic of South Sudan and Republic of Sudan has not yet been determined. Final status of the Abyei area is not yet determined. *New arrivals from South Sudan (NOT REFUGEES). ***Verification of the IDP & returned figures is a work in progress.
Data Sources: OCHA, UNMISS, IOM, UNHCR, RRC and partners. Refugee figures as of 21 August 2014 OCHA South Sudan, 22 August 2014.

3.8 million

People to be assisted by the end of the year

2.7 million

People reached with humanitarian assistance*

1.3 million

People internally displaced by violence

448,000

People have fled to neighboring countries

* This includes people internally displaced, refugees from other countries sheltering in South Sudan and other vulnerable communities who have received assistance since January 2014. This does not mean that the needs of these people have been comprehensively met.

Situation overview

The security situation in Bentiu, Unity State deteriorated sharply, with clashes breaking out in areas surrounding the city. Humanitarian flights were suspended but have now resumed. A child was wounded by stray gunfire within the site. Also in Bentiu, tensions remained high within the Protection of Civilians (PoC) site over poor living conditions and fears of attack. Humanitarian organizations were working closely with community leaders to mitigate tension.

In Malakal, Upper Nile State, troop movements were reported over the previous weekend, with potential clashes feared.

In Lakes State, the security situation remained calm but tense. There was a reported increase in criminality, revenge attacks, gender-based-violence, and cattle raids throughout the state. Meanwhile, partners reported that poor road accessibility (45 per cent of roads are inaccessible to trucks) has contributed to sharply increasing food prices. Assessments on the Rumbek-Wulu road showed some 200 trucks and light vehicles stranded there.

Humanitarian response

Food security situation

Preliminary analysis of the food security situation indicated crisis and emergency levels of food insecurity are projected to affect some 3.9 million people, mainly in the conflict affected states of Jonglei, Unity, and Upper Nile.

Humanitarian assistance has reduced food insecurity in Leer, Mayendit, Panjar, and Rubkona counties, Unity State that were formerly classified as “emergency” but are now classified as “crisis” level.

In addition, in Mayom, Abiemnhom, Pariang, and Ayod, Unity State, food security had **not** deteriorated to “emergency” levels. Analysis indicates, however, that the longer term situation remains severe and that **large scale food insecurity is highly likely in 2015**, due to decreased coping mechanisms, lowered crop production and disrupted livestock movements and trade. Updated Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) results will be released September.

Response in Bentiu

Humanitarian response continued in Bentiu PoC site. Partners have completed the construction of a vital drainage ditch to mitigate the flood situation. Meanwhile, sanitation conditions were at 1 latrine per 73 people.

Partners reported some 582 people had arrived at the PoC site during the week. Some people were leaving, however, taking perilous journeys north into Sudan and elsewhere. Partners in Leer, for example, reported some 270 families arriving from Bentiu PoC, as well as Bentiu town. Most were women, some were elders. While a formal survey had not yet been carried out, reasons cited for leaving Bentiu PoC site included flooding and fear of attack.

Humanitarian barges update

Humanitarian barges carrying 1200MT of food and other assistance arrived in Malakal, leaving 300MT of supplies for pre-positioning before continuing on to Melut. The barges can carry about 60 times what a fixed wing aircraft can.

Cholera response continues, under-5 mortality in decline

Response to and tracking of the cholera outbreak continued, with cases declining in most of the country. As of 18 August, a total of 5,868 cases including 130 deaths (CFR 2.19 per cent) had been reported. Despite the overall decline, the persistent high number of cases throughout Eastern Equatoria State remained of concern, accounting for most - 2,539 - of the total cases reported. Acute watery diarrhea among displaced populations had declined; partners attributed this to vaccination and water and sanitation interventions.

Overall, under-5 mortality had declined in displacement sites surveyed; during the period 4-10 August, the under-5 mortality rate for Bentiu was 0.53 deaths per 10,000 per day; below the emergency threshold of 2 deaths per 10,000 per day. Across displacement sites, the major cause of death for under-5s as in the same period was complications related to Severe Acute Malnutrition. Two children, both in Bentiu, died during that period.

Rapid response operations continue in hard-to-reach areas

Rapid response operations continued, and have so far reached some 896,340 people. New multi-sector responses began in Ngop and Wicok, Unity State. Rapid response operations were ongoing in Jiech, Jonglei State; Leer and Koch in Unity State; Chotbora, Mathiang, and Udier in Longochuk, Upper Nile State, and Kiechkwon, Upper Nile State.

In Longochuk, a food distribution was pending, while treatment interventions for severe acute malnutrition were scheduled to begin alongside vaccination campaigns in the coming days. Rapid response operations were completed in Kaldak in Pigi/Canal, Jonglei State. Canal and Khorfulus locations were pending operations due to security concerns.

Ebola Preparedness

In response to the Ebola situation, the Ministry of Health, with the support of health partners, implemented a number of preparedness activities, including: convening a Task Force on Ebola Preparedness, meeting with the President and ministers, and the opening of an airport screening centre. The centre, opened on 15 August, is at the arrival gate at Juba International Airport.

Trained public health officers provide all arriving passengers with screening and information on the disease. Any suspected Ebola cases among incoming international travelers will be transferred to a new isolation ward within Juba Teaching Hospital. In addition, airport immigration officials and civil aviation staff were sensitized.

Next steps on Ebola preparedness include expanding training of immigration officers and screening facilities to other international border points, such as Nimule, and increasing awareness through various social mobilization initiatives.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Response

- **Relocations in Mingkaman, Lakes State:** Voluntary relocations were ongoing to new sites. Over 1,200 families were registered for relocation. CCCM and Protection cluster teams were collaborating with the community to minimize tensions.
- **Flood response in Bentiu PoC Site:** The most flood-affected and vulnerable individuals in Bentiu were assisted in voluntary relocation to 17 communal shelters in a new area of the PoC site. Assessment of further higher-ground sites continued. Partners completed the 1.2km drainage ditch on the northern side of the site, which should help mitigate flooding.
- **Relocation of foreign nationals:** Biometric registration of foreign national communities in the second Juba PoC site had started.
- **Communications with communities training:** Partners participated in a Communication with Communities (CWC) training in Malakal and Juba.

421,752

people reached with CCCM support

Needs, gaps, and constraints

- **Development of Bor PoC site delayed:** The preparation of the new PoC site was delayed as approximately 1,000 metres of culverts were needed to develop the area. Discussions were ongoing to identify solutions for procurement and set-up.
- **Tensions remain high in Bentiu:** Tensions inside the PoC site remained high, due to the lack of available dry land and the technical challenges of improving the area. Partners were working with community leaders to address community concerns as technical work continued.

Education

Response

- **New enrollments:** 123 new students (50 per cent girls) enrolled in emergency education programs in Malakal, Upper Nile State during the week. This brought the total number of children enrolled in emergency education to 173,376 (42.3 per cent girls).
- **New learning centres:** A learning centre was rehabilitated in Rubkona and two were established as part of rapid response operations in Canal/Pigi. During the same operation, 2,600 children were registered to start school, and 36 teachers and 6 parents were trained on life skills, peace building, and psychosocial support.
- **Awareness campaigns conducted:** 539 people (42 per cent women) participated in awareness campaigns in Abyei, Melut, and Torit. Sessions covered protection and health topics.

1,188

schools are closed in conflict affected states

Needs, gaps, and constraints

- **Occupied schools:** Overall, a total of 83 schools were occupied (48 by displaced people, two by armed forces and displaced people, 30 by armed forces and three schools whose status was unknown.) Schools need to be vacated in order for education programming to move forward in these areas.
- **School closure:** Apart from occupied schools, 1,188 schools were closed in the conflict affected states.
- **Teacher salaries remain delayed:** School closure is related to inconsistent payment of teachers. Partners continued to advocate with relevant authorities on this urgent issue.
- **Students in hard-to-reach areas need to sit their exams:** Secondary students in remote areas will need to sit their leaving exams in August. In addition, a modality for awarding certificates needs to be worked out. Partners were working with the Ministry of Education to facilitate this.
- **Securing education supplies:** remained a challenge due to restrictions at some border crossings.
- **Funding:** Education partners have few sources of funding for the rest of 2014, and the cluster is 29 per cent funded.

Emergency Telecommunication

Response

- **Connectivity services installed:** A K-band VSAT was installed and is now operational at Yida, Unity State serving 60 humanitarian staff from several partners and local NGOs. In Malakal, ETC services were reaching some 150 users from the new humanitarian hub. Overall, ETC connectivity services were reaching 120 humanitarian organizations in 10 different sites.
- **Radios programmed:** The ETC continued to programme radios and allocate call signs for the humanitarian community. In the past week, the ETC programmed 34 radios. Radio communications are vital for security and coordination, especially in remote areas.

Needs, gaps, and constraints

- **Service is down in Ganyiel:** ETC connectivity services in Ganyiel were down, a technician was to travel in the coming week to check the equipment and fix the issue. Furthermore, solar hybrid equipment is ready to be shipped to Ganyiel. It was due to be shipped last week but the flight was canceled.
- **Radio room staffing:** There was a shortage of radio room staff in Bentiu, Bor, and Malakal.
- **Equipment procurement:** There was a lack of VHF radio equipment in operational hubs. Procuring equipment continued to be a challenge due to lengthy import procedures and security related delays.

Food Security and Livelihoods

Response

- **Food assistance reached 1.4 million people in July:** Approximately 22,000 mt of food were distributed in July. Almost 186,000 children, pregnant woman and lactating mothers were provided with supplementary feeding. Cumulatively, between January and July 2014, food assistance was provided to 2.3 million unique beneficiaries.
- **Mobile teams deployed:** Four mobile teams were deployed in Old Fangak, Jonglei State; Kodok and Kiechkwon, Upper Nile State, and Ngop, Unity State. Distributions were ongoing.
- **Food distributions were completed in Maban:** Following the evacuation on 9 August, a multi-partner team was re-deployed to the area to expedite food distributions to refugees.
- **Livelihoods support continued:** Emergency livelihood kits have been released to all ten states. Over the past week, 1,450 vegetable kits and 300 fishing kits were released to partners to reach beneficiaries in Upper Nile State
- **Trainings for community animal workers continued:** In Rumbek, Lakes State, 20 Community Based Animal Health Workers (two focal points from each county) were trained for four days. They will be provided with kits to distribute in their communities.

2.3
million people reached with
food assistance by July 2014

Health

Response

- **Cholera response ongoing, amid decline in new cases:** As of 18 August 2014, a total of 5,868 cholera cases including 130 deaths (CFR 2.19 per cent) had been reported in South Sudan. Cholera cases were declining in most of the country. In Juba, due to a decline in cases, the Cholera Treatment Center (CTC) at Juba PoC 3 has been converted into an Oral Rehydration Point. Overall, new cholera cases were reduced from 825 new weekly cases five weeks previous to 105 in the last week. During week 33 Torit, Lopa-Lafon and Malakal reported the highest number of cholera cases.

	During the past week	Cumulative since January
People reached	147,149	2,258,892
Outpatient consultations	78,624	1,046,203
Cholera cases	171	5,868
Hepatitis E cases (Mingkaman)	7	90
Measles vaccinations	26,580	426,852
Polio vaccinations	27,151	324,698
Cholera vaccinations (2 doses)	-	120,176
Women provided ante-natal care	2,334	54,622
Women with assisted deliveries	341	9,397

Source: Health Cluster, as of 20 August 2014 (cholera figures as of 18 August)

- **Persistence of cholera in Eastern Equatoria State concerning:** Eastern Equatoria State accounted for 2,539 of the total cases and 61 of total deaths reported. Despite declining trends countrywide, Eastern Equatoria State continued to report the highest number of cases. In response, social mobilization has been scaled up in these areas.
- **Hepatitis E in Mingkaman:** Surveillance was ongoing in Mingkaman. Seven new Hepatitis E Virus (HEV) cases were reported in the reporting period, bringing the cumulative total to 90 cases. There have been four deaths (CFR 4.4 per cent) since the virus first appeared.

Needs, gaps, and constraints

- **Rains increase risk of waterborne disease:** Heavy rains and floods were increasing health risks due to waterborne diseases; as well as impeding access to populations and delivery of medicines.
- **HIV services lacking:** A lack of HIV services in PoC sites is a concern. Partners are working on an action plan to address the issue through voluntary counseling and testing.



Logistics

Response

- **Supplies airlifted:** Over 98 metric tonnes (mt) of humanitarian supplies were airlifted on behalf of ten different organizations to Akobo, Bentiu, Kiech Kon, Leer, Malakal, Ngop, Panyagor, Walgak, and Yuai.
- **Ad-hoc flights to Malakal assist construction of humanitarian hub:** An ad-hoc flight was arranged for the delivery of 26 prefabs urgently in Malakal by four different humanitarian organizations. The first rotation took place on 21 August.
- **Additional aircraft contracted:** The cluster contracted a Mi26 helicopter to complement the current fleet (16 mt payload with two rotations per day). The helicopter will be based in Rumbek and will assist in increasing the delivery of cargo to conflict affected areas.
- **Fixed wing aircraft operational:** The fixed wing aircraft (Hawker – 5 mt payload) was down for maintenance last week but was repaired during the reporting period.
- **Barge progress:** The first barge movement successfully reached Malakal and carried on to Melut for final offloading. Another barge is currently being loaded with food which is planned to depart this week. The Logistics Cluster is currently working with the humanitarian community to determine which organizations are interested in a barge movement for the transport of NFIs and other relief items.

98 mt

humanitarian supplies airlifted this week.

Needs, gaps, and constraints

- **Poor road access due to rains:** Roads continued to deteriorate throughout the rainy season. The latest Access Constraints map can be found here: http://www.logcluster.org/sites/default/files/maps/lc_ss_774_currentroadclosures_20140015_1.pdf
- **Bentiu airstrip conditions:** The Bentiu/Rubkona airstrip remained closed for fixed wings. During this week, many flights were cancelled due to airstrip conditions and insecurity.
- **Juba-Rumbek route:** The Mvolo Culvert on the Juba-Rumbek route was washed away which has resulted in a significant increase in travel time from Juba to Rumbek. Given the criticality of this supply route, an engineering team was sent to assess the situation and working on developing a plan for the way forward.



Mine Action

Response

- **Visual check of Bentiu runway:** Cluster performed a visual check of the runway in Bentiu. After surveying, hundreds of cartridges were removed from the center line.
- **Gondokoro school survey began:** Cluster partners revisited Gondokoro school in Juba, and plan to begin clearing surroundings as soon as possible in order to open the school.

Needs, gaps, and constraints

- **Difficult conditions in Unity and Upper Nile:** Mine action teams faced challenges working in Unity and Upper Nile states due to weather constraints.



Multi-Sector Response to Refugees

Response

- **Response continued in Maban and other refugee camps in country:** Partners' critical staff continued with life-saving activities in the refugee camps of Upper Nile and Unity States.
- **Road improvements continue:** Partners deployed in Pariang County of Unity State, to repair roads on the Yida-Pariang Jamjang corridor. This will improve the deteriorating road condition due to heavy rains.

Needs, gaps, and constraints

- **Prepositioning of supplies to Bunj airstrip is preferred by partners** in order to build up stocks of salt, pulses and oil sooner rather than later as the late prepositioning of these three commodities has represented a major constraint in previous distributions.



Nutrition

Response

- **Nutrition treatment centers in operation:** 143 locations were operational with functioning outpatient treatment programmes, 19 with stabilization centres, 144 with targeted supplementary feeding programmes and 110 with blanket supplementary feeding programmes.
- **Screening of children continued:** 648,411 children 6-59 months were screened for acute malnutrition from January 2014 to date (including 4,580 last week). 43,098 (6.6 per cent) were identified with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and 80,920 (12.5 per cent) with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM).
- **Admission into SAM programmes:** 43,141 children 0-59 months were admitted to SAM treatment programmes from January 2014 to date, (including 2,338 (5.4 per cent) admitted as SAM with complications). To date, 67.5 per cent of all children were discharged as cured; 0.6 per cent died; 20 per cent children defaulted from the programme. High defaulting rate in January (45.3 per cent) decreased in February (12 per cent), March (12.8 per cent) and April (12.8 per cent); In May defaulting rates rose again (17.4 per cent) probably due to increases in population movement over the past month.
- **Admission into MAM programmes:** 39,650 children 0-59 months were admitted to the MAM treatment programmes from January 2014 to date. By the end of June, 74.2 per cent were cured, 0.3 per cent died and 13.3 per cent defaulted.
- **Pregnant women screened and treated:** 120,172 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) were screened for acute malnutrition and 29,951 (24.9 per cent) were identified with acute malnutrition (MUAC less than 23,0cm). 12,621 PLW were admitted to acute malnutrition treatment programmes.
- **Blanket supplementary feeding programmes continued:** 203,866 children aged 6-35 months and 22,054 PLWs were enrolled in blanket supplementary feeding programmes in January-June 2014.

	Target	Reached
Total number of people (whole country)	1,113,683	321,332
Number of Children treated for SAM	176,283	43,141
Number of Children treated for MAM	420,000	39,650
Number of Children reached with BSFP	380,000	203,866
Number of PLWs reached with BSFP	24,300	22,054

Source: Nutrition Cluster, as of 20 August 2014 (cholera figures as of 18 August)



Protection

Response

- **Psychosocial support provided to survivors of violence:** In Bor, Lologo and Malakal psychosocial and basic emotional support was provided to GBV survivors. Over 1,100 community members (75 per cent female) were reached with awareness raising activities in those locations. Messages included information on GBV prevention, on referral pathways and on the benefits of reporting sexual violence cases to health centers immediately after a sexual violence incident occurs.

“Survival sex; gender based violence are of concern”

- **Safety audits conducted:** In Malakal, safety audits were conducted in all the POC's with 298 community members (76 per cent women) and identified 64 badly lit areas that pose protection concerns. Street lights are under recruitment.
- **Tracking of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC):** The CRP target for 2014 is 5,000 children identified and documented. As of 15 August 2014, there were 4,340 children registered as unaccompanied, separated or missing in the Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS).

Needs, gaps, and constraints

- **Unable to collect wood in Bor:** In Bor, women faced constraints in providing food for their families because insecurity prevented them leaving the PoC site to collect wood for charcoal. In order to address this issue, CCCM partners provided a weeks worth of firewood to families.
- **Malakal shelter construction is delayed:** In Malakal, the floods, the cholera outbreak and relocations were delaying the establishment of safe shelters. Delivery of materials from Juba and availability of labour is taking many weeks longer than expected. It is predicted that soil to erect shelters will not be available before October. Camp management is exploring contingencies and in the meantime, protocols were being completed to manage the shelter once it is erected.
- **Abortion a concern in displacement sites:** There was growing concern about abortion incidents in Malakal and Juba PoC sites, where several fetuses have been found. GBV is one of many contributing factors to unwanted pregnancies; in Malakal, women noted that survival sex is also of growing concern. More information is being gathered to inform appropriate response and GBV actors will further investigate this issue.
- **Need to measure coverage and quality of child protection response:** Given the protracted nature of the emergency in South Sudan, there is need to measure both the coverage as well as the quality of the Child protection (CP) response. Partners recently agreed on indicators for this. There is also a need for real time evidence on CP risks and needs to inform effective response. The CP sub-cluster is currently exploring ways to fill the information gap through tapping into existing health and education data collection mechanisms.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Response

- **Emergency WASH provision:** Partners maintained emergency WASH services in Protection of Civilian (PoC) sites and other displacement sites. Since the start of the current crisis over 40 WASH Cluster partners have reached over 2.7 million conflict affected people –at least half were displaced people- in over 55 sites with life-saving emergency WASH assistance.
- **Progress against emergency standards:** Global emergency water standards (15 litres per person per day) were achieved in 28 sites. Sanitation standards of 1 latrine per 50 people were achieved in 15 sites. Matching latrine construction to compensate for decommissioning is an ongoing challenge.
- **Ongoing cholera response:** Cholera response, with WASH partners was ongoing in Juba, Malakal POC, Wau Shilluk and Kodok/Lul, in Upper Nile State. WASH partners across South Sudan were working on Cholera prevention activities including: distributions of purification tablets; distribution of soap and jerry cans; intensive hygiene promotion awareness campaigns.
- **Scale up continues in Bentiu PoC site:** The scale up of WASH activities was ongoing in the Bentiu PoC site. Water supply was at 11.6 litres per person per day. Sanitation remained a high priority, with 1 latrine per 73 people currently available - the decrease in coverage is because some latrines had to be decommissioned due to flooding. There was a gap of 269 latrines to reach emergency SPHERE standards (1 latrine per 50 people). Hygiene promotion awareness campaigns continued.

Needs, gaps, and constraints

- **Sanitation coverage:** Keeping up the rate of latrine construction to match the rate of latrine decommissioning is making it challenging to scale up latrine coverage in many locations, especially where there has been flooding.
- **Improved access:** Sustained access to priority areas as well as new locations is critical for continued service provision.
- **More staff needed:** Additional WASH personnel is needed to coordinate and implement WASH programming.
- **Funding is needed to ensure scale up of pipeline supplies and to maintain front-line services.**

Humanitarian Funding

New Contributions from Irish Aid, Australia

This week Irish Aid deposited an additional US \$2 million to the Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF) to meet urgent needs identified in the Crisis Response Plan (CRP). This brings Ireland's total contribution to the response plan overall to \$7.5 million.

The Australian Government also announced a further \$5 million in humanitarian assistance, bringing Australia's contribution to the crisis to over \$18 million. The funding will also be channeled through the Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF) to support priority needs.

Funding gaps remain

Overall, humanitarian operations were 51 per cent funded, with \$918 million received. An additional \$883 million is still required to support identified needs in the response plan up to December 2014. There remained significant shortfall in key sectors: education which was 29 per cent funded and refugee response 30 percent funded. Humanitarian partners warned that about 242,000 refugees from the neighboring countries sheltering in South Sudan most in heavily affected conflict areas must not be forgotten.

World Humanitarian Day

On 19 August the world commemorated the service of aid workers who have been injured or killed in the course of their work. Since December 2013, 13 aid workers have been killed in South Sudan, the majority of them South Sudanese.

In an op-ed published in the Guardian, the Humanitarian Coordinator noted that, "The best way to honour the work of humanitarians in South Sudan is to work for peace; for an immediate end to all violence against civilians; for aid workers to be able to do their life-saving work in safety. The parties to the conflict must be held accountable for keeping people safe from harm, and for participating meaningfully in the peace process."

Background on the crisis:

Conflict broke out in Juba, the capital of South Sudan, on 15 December 2013 and quickly spread to several other states. Within weeks, thousands of people had been killed or wounded in the violence, and hundreds of thousands displaced from their homes. Despite the signing of a cessation of hostilities agreement on 23 January 2014 and a recommitment to the peace process on 9 May, fighting between Government and opposition forces has continued, especially in Jonglei, Unity and Upper Nile states. The crisis has led to a serious deterioration in the food security situation, and some 3.9 million people will face alarming levels of food insecurity by August 2014.

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