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Coordination Saves Lives

South Sudan Crisis
Situation report as of 7 January 2014
Report number 8

This report is produced by OCHA South Sudan in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 5 to 7 January 2014. The next report will be published on or around 11 January 2014.

Highlights

- An estimated 201,000 people have been internally displaced by the current crisis in South Sudan since 15 December, with some 60,000 people in UN bases across the country.
- About 85,000 people are estimated to be displaced in Mingkaman and surrounding areas in Awerial County, Lakes State.
- At least another 32,000 people have sought refuge in neighbouring countries, of whom nearly 75 per cent crossed into Uganda.
- A multi-sector response has been launched with around 167,000 people reached with some kind of assistance.

Situation overview

Armed violence continued in Central Equatoria, Jonglei, Unity and Upper Nile states between 5 and 7 January. Over 200,000 people are estimated to have been displaced, of whom about 85,000 people are displaced in Mingkaman and other sites in Awerial County, and around 60,000 are sheltering in UN bases. Health partners reported that over 2,500 people with gunshot wounds had been treated in health facilities across the country since the start of the crisis. The total number of casualties is likely to be far higher.

Heavy fighting was reported in Jonglei State, in the Pariak/Yebak area south of Bor, causing further displacement and casualties. Clashes also occurred in Mayom and Pariang counties in Unity State, and Balliet County, Upper Nile. Fighting occurred in Juba on 4 and 5 January, including one incident where gunfire entered the UNMISS Tomping base, injuring seven people. As of 7 January, the security situation in Juba was tense but relatively calm.
Ceasefire talks continued in Addis Abeba between the main parties to the hostilities. In a separate initiative, a ceasefire was announced on 6 January between Government forces and the non-state armed actor led by David Yau-Yau, operating in Jonglei’s Pibor County. Talks also began between South Sudan and Sudan about deploying joint armed forces to oil fields in Unity and Upper Nile states.

Wherever security conditions allowed, NGOs and UN agencies continued the response to people displaced. So far, some 167,000 people have received some assistance, with partners scaling up their capacity on the ground further to comprehensively meet humanitarian needs across the country. In addition to physical protection from violence, food, healthcare, shelter, water, sanitation and hygiene remain the top life-saving priorities for the response. Aid agencies are also doing contingency planning for additional displacement in the coming weeks, and for the rainy season starting in May.

Humanitarian access continued to be constrained by active hostilities, attacks on aid workers and assets, interference with humanitarian activities and other obstacles. Humanitarian flights into Bor were severely disrupted as a result of ongoing fighting in the area, which has not allowed humanitarian actors to secure all necessary safety assurances to launch flights. Engagement with all parties to the hostilities is ongoing to secure safe access by aid agencies to civilians in need.

The number of South Sudanese seeking shelter in neighbouring countries has risen to at least 32,000, according to UNHCR. Over 23,500 people had crossed into Uganda by 6 January. Another 5,300 refugees have been registered in Ethiopia, and some 3,200 in Kenya. The number of refugees in Sudan remains to be verified. Some 2,000 people have reportedly arrived in the Abyei area since the start of the violence.

Humanitarian needs and response

Central Equatoria State

Sporadic fighting broke out in the Jebel area of Juba in the evening of 4 January, allegedly between factions in the armed forces, causing several hundred civilians to temporarily flee their homes. On 5 January, violence in the Bilpam area affected displaced communities in the UN Tomping site, with two people in the site wounded by gunfire coming from outside the base, and five more injured in the tumult that followed the shooting. Fighting in Mangalla, some 20 kilometres outside Juba, reportedly caused at least 6,000 people to flee their homes. Clashes also occurred in Yei.

The response to close to 30,000 people in the two UN peacekeeping bases in Juba continued. With displaced people continuing to arrive, lack of space for shelter and common facilities is becoming pressing, both for sanitation reasons and because of the tensions caused by over-crowding. Several short- and longer-term solutions are being explored to secure more space to host the displaced communities.

Jonglei State

Heavy fighting south of Bor since 2 January continued, centering on Pariak/Yebsak, with over 20 casualties brought to health facilities for treatment. The humanitarian situation in the area deteriorated, including for the 9,000 civilians sheltering in the UN base in Bor, as aid flights and movements outside the base were cancelled due to the ongoing fighting and the lack of the requisite flight safety assurances from the parties to the hostilities. The medical situation is particularly dire, with drugs and other essential supplies about to run out in the UN clinic. Food rations and nutritional supplements retrieved from an aid warehouse during a lull in fighting on 3 January were distributed to 850 families, and 1,051 children under 5 years. To strengthen the response, a humanitarian team is on stand-by to travel from Juba to Bor with supplies as soon as security allows.

Lakes State

The number of people displaced in Mingkaman and other sites in Awerial County rose to around 85,000 people. Distribution of food rations for all the displaced people began; a surface-water treatment system (SWAT) is in place, and latrine construction about to begin. The health, sanitation and shelter situation is still precarious among the displaced communities. An inter-agency rapid assessment to Rumbek Central and Yirol East and West counties found about 7,400 people displaced, with immediate needs for food, household items, sanitation, water and nutritional supplies. Partners are mobilizing to respond to the needs identified.

Unity State

The security situation in Unity State remained volatile, with clashes and continuing military mobilization reported in several locations around the state. Some 8,000 people continued to shelter in the UN base in Bentiu town, though
the number of civilians in the UN base in Pariang dropped from 3,000 to about 400. The ongoing fighting in Unity displaced several thousand people to different locations in Warrap State, including 3,200 people to Twic County. The humanitarian situation in the UN base in Bentiu improved, with increased water supply and sanitation. A measles vaccination campaign kicked off and food distribution to people in need inside and outside the UN base was due to begin in the coming days.

**Upper Nile State**

The situation in Malakal town remained relatively calm, though clashes continued in Baliet County. Some 12,000 civilians sheltering in the UN base in Malakal received food, water and sanitation assistance, though delivering sufficient water on a daily basis remained a challenge. The number of latrines remained insufficient to meet sanitation needs. A measles vaccination campaign began during the week. About 600 people sheltering in the UN base in Melut received household items, including blankets and mosquito nets.

**Camp Coordination and Management**

**Needs:**
- Strong advocacy with Government and host communities to identify secure settlements to provide basic living conditions that are adequate and dignified for the people displaced, in accordance with international SPHERE standards.
- Contingency planning for new arrivals of people displaced and for the upcoming rainy seasons is critical, particularly in congested and low-laying sites.

**Response:**
- The registration is ongoing of displaced people in UN House in Juba. 6,634 people were registered as of 7 January, bringing the registered number people displaced in the two Juba sites to over 24,000.
- The cluster is working on prioritizing accessible states with high displacement numbers for registration.

**Gaps and constraints:**
- The CCCM cluster is looking at verifying reports of spontaneous displacements in accessible states.
- Partners with site management and engineering capacity are encouraged to approach the cluster to work on displacement sites both within and outside UN bases in Unity, Upper Nile, Lakes and Central Equatoria.
- Constraints with regard to heavy equipment and machineries are becoming increasingly pressing.

**Emergency Telecommunications**

**Needs:**
- The ETC response solution in Kaya is intact but was switched off in the early stages of the crisis when some partners relocated to Gendrassa. However, the cluster has received requests from partners operating out of Maban that they still need these services in Kaya.
- Security telecoms in Bor, Malakal and Bentiu were seriously affected due to radio operators moving out of these locations. Bor was evacuated, while Malakal and Bentiu operate only daytime radio rooms. A solution is being sought to make these radio rooms operational again 24/7.

**Response:**
- Mobile connectivity kits are being put together by the cluster in Juba to provide services to mobile teams which go out to operational field locations like Awerial and Twic counties.
- Full connectivity hubs are being set up in UN Tomping and UN House in Juba. These hubs will provide internet services to aid organizations operating in those two locations, and will provide backup in case any agency needs to relocated there.

**Gaps and constraints:**
- During the recent violence in Bor, the ETC response solution was damaged. The cluster does not have adequate access yet due to security conditions to restore the solution.
**Education**

**Needs:**
- Final school examinations will take place between 13 and 17 January, and partners need to find a solution to allow displaced students to participate in the exams.

**Response:**
- The Education Cluster is coordinating with the CCCM Cluster to register 8th grade primary students sheltering in UN Tomping and UN House who will take part in final examination. The cluster is looking into similar needs in other areas.
- The Education Cluster is advocating with the Ministry of Education of Central Equatoria State for a leniency policy for affected children and parents who cannot undertake their final exams.

**Food Security and Livelihoods**

**Needs:**
- Access to food remains limited for people sheltering in UN bases around the country, and distribution of basic food and nutrition supplies is needed – particularly in Bor.
- Violence and displacement has resulted in the loss of livelihood, particularly sources of food. This may eventually result in a nutrition crisis.

**Response:**
- In Awerial, food assistance is being provided for 85,000 people who have been displaced from Bor.
- In Juba, the second round of distributions is ongoing in UN House. So far, 3,469 people have received food. In UN Tomping, the second round of distributions is likely to start in the coming days.
- Food rations of 5 kg of sorghum was distributed to 850 displaced families in Bor. Some 1,050 children under 5 years also received super-cereal. Further rations are required to meet food needs in Bor. If security allows, additional rations will be retrieved from the WFP warehouse. A humanitarian flight with food supplies is also on standby to travel to Bor if the requisite flight safety assurances from the parties to hostilities are received.

**Gaps and constraints:**
- Active hostilities are impeding the ability to conduct assessments and provide assistance.
- There are reports of food stocks being looted. However, restricted access due to insecurity in several areas means it is difficult to confirm if food stocks have been taken.
- NGO staff shortages are affecting partners’ ability to deliver ongoing and foreseen food distributions.

**Health**

**Needs:**
- Displaced people living inside and outside UN bases in Bentiu, Bor, Malakal require primary healthcare services.
- The threat of cholera is still present in many sites, including at the UN Tomping base in Juba, Bentiu, Bor and Malakal and Bor, due to poor sanitation.
- Reproductive health services including emergency obstetric care are a major gap in all sites for displaced people.
- Surgical capacity needs to be scaled up to respond to wounded patients in Bentiu, Bor, Juba and Malakal, in particular in light of ongoing fighting in Bor.
- Fourteen suspected measles cases with one death were recorded in Juba (7) and Bentiu (7) displacement sites in the last two weeks.
- Five acute jaundice syndrome cases were reported from Bentiu and Malakal in the past two weeks.

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85,000
People covered by food distribution in Awerial County.

2,500
Patients with gunshot wounds treated in health facilities since 15 December.
Response:
- In the past three weeks, 9,780 consultations were held across the different displacement sites. Respiratory tract infections (24%), suspected malaria (22%) and acute diarrhea (18%) were the leading causes of morbidity in sites in Awerial, Bentiu, Juba and Malakal.
- Reproductive health services are ongoing in the Juba sites. 61 deliveries have been recorded in UN Tomping.
- Health partners have treated over 2,500 patients with gunshot wounds since 15 December, including evacuating 120 patients to allow them to access appropriate care.

Gaps and constraints:
- Health promotion and prevention campaigns are limited in most sites hosting displaced people. Health partners are devising a joint strategy to address this gap.
- UNMISS level 2 hospital in UN Tomping is overwhelmed with trauma patients, including those evacuated from other state, requiring surgery. Discharged patients in the hospital remain stranded at the facility. They should be sent to other suitable facilities to continue treatment and decongest the hospital.
- Evacuation of 26 wounded patients in Bor is not possible as flights cannot access the town.
- Reproductive health services in sites with displaced people outside Juba need reinforcing.

Logistics

Needs:
- Air-lift capacity to serve locations in Jonglei, Unity and Upper Nile.
- Common storage for aid supplies inside the UN bases in Bor, Malakal and Rubkhona.

Response:
- The common storage facility is being prepared for partners in Juba at the WFP warehouse.
- UNHAS has begun to operate a passenger service to Mingkaman in Awerial County as part of its regular schedule, served by helicopter three times a week.
- The Logistics Cluster facilitated the airlift of urgently required health and WASH supplies into Mingkaman.

Constraints:
- Bor and other locations remain inaccessible due to insecurity. Helicopters are on standby to move food supplies and aid workers to Bor.

Nutrition

Needs:
- Violence and displacement has resulted in the loss of livelihood, particularly sources of food. This may eventually result in a nutrition crisis.

Response:
- In Juba, out-patient treatment of severe acute malnutrition without medical complications started in UN Tomping and will be initiated in UN House in the coming days.
- Distribution of high energy biscuits is still ongoing in UN House, in particular targeting new arrivals and children aged below five years old.
- Malnutrition screening of children continues in all sites hosting displaced people in Juba and in Awerial County. New arrivals are specifically targeted for screening and referral.

Gaps and constraints:
- Absence of staff from major organizations working on nutrition is hampering the response in priority locations such as Bentiu and Malakal.
**Protection**

**Needs:**
- Continued hostilities lead to additional displacement and anticipatory displacement in areas likely to see fighting and civilians caught in cross-fire. Continued credible reports have been received of civilians targeted in killings, beatings and abductions based on ethnicity or perceived political affiliation, as well as destruction and looting of property.
- The areas hosting civilians inside UN bases have several protection issues including physical protection, fighting over space and resources, overall law and order issues, prevention and response to gender-based violence and addressing needs of missing, separated and unaccompanied children.
- In Bentiu, there is a need to increase the size of the civilian area to mitigate community tensions.
- In Juba, assessments of displaced people in churches indicate a need for further profiling of people and their needs, and a discussion among clusters about how to provide assistance without anchoring people in unsafe locations.

**Response:**
- Protection partners continue to participate in inter-agency assessments to accessible locations, including a recent assessment of displaced people in Twic County, Warrap State, where physical security and family separation are major issues.
- Protection monitoring in Juba continued, with night-time patrolling in UN bases underway.
- The Protection Cluster has also begun to work closely with UNMISS to plan for ongoing UN Police patrolling within UNMISS bases and perimeter areas.
- Identification and documentation of unaccompanied and separated children underway in UN bases in Juba. 174 children have been identified as unaccompanied. So far, family tracing has been successful for 17 who have been reunified with their families. 72 children have been documented as missing. So far 11 of these have been found and reunified with their parents. Individual case management for the unaccompanied children has been initiated in both UN bases and so far foster care arrangements have been organized for 65 unaccompanied children.

**Gaps and constraints:**
- Physical access to affected people outside UN bases in areas with active hostilities remains a constraint.
- Due to space limitations in UN bases in Juba, it is not possible to establish child-friendly spaces. The cluster is developing a model to provide psychosocial support using existing community structures.
- Family tracing and psycho-social support to displaced children and their families outside Juba.

**Shelter and NFI**

**Needs:**
- Of the 201,000 people displaced, a large proportion likely require NFI and shelter.
- A Juba church is sheltering an estimated 2,500 people who need relief items.
- In Jonglei, an estimated 1,000 displaced people in Waat need assistance.
- In Unity, of the 8,000 displaced people in the UN base in Bentiu, around 1,000 families need plastic sheets for shelter, to supplement the initial distribution.
- In Upper Nile, an estimated 15,000 people in Malakal require assistance.

**Response:**
- In Juba, 8,681 household kits were distributed to displaced families, with distribution ongoing in UN House. In UN Tomping, 26 communal shelters were erected to house 1,300 people needing immediate shelter. In a Juba church, 19 displaced families were given bedding and hygiene items.
- In Mingkaman, Awerial County, 60,000 people received household items. Distribution to another 16,000 is pending security clearance for the organization in question.
- In Bentiu, household items were distributed according to need and availability, including 655 kitchen sets, 600 plastic sheets, 600 mosquito nets, 350 sleeping mats, 1000 jerry cans and 25,360 bars of soap.

**Gaps and constraints:**
- In several places, severe security concerns prevent humanitarian access by air and by road, making delivery and distribution of relief items challenging.
Several displacement areas within UN bases are congested and space remains a critical issue to meet minimum standards for safety and security. Hostilities restrict the size of defensible space, causing overcrowding.

**Water, Sanitation and Hygiene**

**Needs:**

- The water, sanitation and hygiene situation – though improving – remains challenging in all IDP sites across the country, particularly Awerial County, Bor, Bentiu and Malakal.
- Further measures to prevent the spread of infectious disease.

**Response:**

- In UN House in Juba, 15 litres per person and day is provided, in line with the international SPHERE standard; 266 latrines are functioning; and 114 bathing shelters are in use. In UN Tomping, close to 14 litres of water per person and day was provided; 230 latrines are now functioning; bathing shelters and more latrines are being planned for and constructed; a garbage collection system is in place; and 20 hygiene promoters have been mobilized.
- In Bentiu, around 12 litres of water per person and day is provided; 16 latrines are functional with more planned; solid waste disposal has begun; and 25 hygiene promoters are being mobilized.
- In Malakal, some 10 litres of water per person and day is provided, falling short of SPHERE standards; 132 latrines are functional with 40 more planned garbage collection is nearly complete.
- In Awerial, less than one litre of water per person and day is currently being provided; a second surface water treatment system is being installed and a borehole drilling strategy put in place to increase water provision. Some 960 families have received water purification sachets and training for water treatment.
- In Bor, 48,000 litres is being served per day from boreholes within the UN base. This comes to only about 5 litres per person and day, and partners are exploring accessing the WFP and UNHCR boreholes when security permits movement outside the base. 30 latrines are functioning. Old latrines are being decommissioned and new ones built. Daily garbage collection is in place.
- Partners have assessed needs in Melut, Upper Nile State and a WASH response is underway.

**Gaps and constraints:**

- Access to Bor and other locations with ongoing hostilities are required for response and assessments.
- Qualified emergency response WASH staff are critically needed for ongoing activities.
- In general, WASH partners need water bladders in different sizes. In Malakal, there is a specific need to ensure consistent water trucking and finalizing the garbage removal process.

**Funding**

Aid agencies launched the South Sudan Crisis Response Plan on 31 December, seeking $209 million to meet the needs of the current crisis. The requirements are for core pipeline supplies and priority frontline services for up to 400,000 people displaced by violence, and assistance to 228,000 refugees hosted in the country. To download the Response Plan, click on [bit.ly/1ivuche](http://bit.ly/1ivuche).

As of 7 January, the South Sudan Consolidated Appeal (CAP), which sets out the comprehensive funding needs for 2014, was just close to 7 per cent funded, with $75 million received against the full requirements of $1.1 billion. Early funding is critical to tackle the deteriorating crisis and take advantage of the operational window of opportunity offered by the dry season, which runs until May.