

# SOUTH SUDAN

## UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE 12/2016

15 – 30 June 2016

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **UNHCR deploys mobile response team to Wau** – Following the June 24 violence in Wau, which displaced more than 12,000 people near the UNMISS base, UNHCR deployed an emergency response team to look into the protection needs of the most vulnerable internally displaced people and plan for targeted assistance, including distribution of sanitary pads to girls and women of reproductive age.
- **UNHCR distributes ID cards to refugees in Ajuong Thok camp** – Nearly 8,500 refugees in Unity’s Ajuong Thok camp have received ID cards bearing the seal of South Sudan’s Commission for Refugee Affairs and UNHCR. Distribution of ID cards will continue throughout July to reach those eligible amongst a population of 39,529.
- **Thousands of refugee families receive agricultural land in Greater Equatoria** – Local authorities and host communities in Lasu and Makpandu settlements began allocating agricultural land to some 2,150 refugee families as part of UNHCR’s intervention to help refugees become more self-reliant.
- **Ethiopian refugees in Pochalla receive aid supplies** – For the first time since 2009, UNHCR carried out a distribution of non-food items for some 625 Ethiopian refugee families in Jonglei’s Pochalla, near the border with Ethiopia.
- **UNHCR marks World Refugee Day 2016** – Thousands of people got together in 12 locations across South Sudan -towns, refugee camps, IDP sites- to commemorate World Refugee Day and support the #WithRefugees campaign, including refugees, government representatives, UNHCR and partner organizations staff, donors, media and members of the civil society.

**275,668,213 USD**

Funding requested for comprehensive needs in 2016

**121,749,542 USD**

Funding requested for prioritized needs in 2016

#### Current population of concern

IDPs since 15 December 2013  1,690,000

Of them, 169,418 IDPs reside in UNMISS Protection of Civilians sites

Refugees in South Sudan  266,916

## OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

- On 30 June, Humanitarian Coordinator for South Sudan, Eugene Owusu, paid a visit to Wau following the June 24 violence that forced some 12,000 people to seek shelter near the UNMISS base. According to reports, fighting erupted between the Sudan's People Liberation Army (SPLA) and unknown armed groups, including heavy shelling and small arms fire leading to the death of more than 40 people. As an emergency lifesaving measure, UNMISS opened the gates of the Protection of Civilians (POC) site to allow civilians to enter. Up to 35,000 fled into environs of the town to hide in the bush. On 25 June, President Kiir removed the Governor of Wau, who was subsequently arrested. Humanitarian partners sent in additional team to respond to the situation, including UNHCR. The security situation has improved, but remains volatile. "This is entirely unacceptable. All armed actors must immediately uphold their obligations to protect civilians and ensure that the guns remain silent in Wau," said Owusu in a public statement.
- On 29 June, the South Sudan Integrated Food Security Phase Classification Technical Working Group released its May-July 2016 update, highlighting rising food insecurity and critical malnutrition. As of April 2016, 4.3 million people were estimated to be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3), Emergency (IPC Phase 4) and Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) and require urgent humanitarian assistance, compared to 2.8 million people in the first quarter of 2016 and 3.8 million people during the same period in 2015. In May-July 2016, the number of severely food insecure people is expected to increase further from 4.3 million to 4.8 million in line with seasonal vulnerabilities and the economic crisis, especially in Northern and Western Bahr el Ghazal and Unity.
- On 23 June, during the Plenary meeting of the Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (JMEC), the Chairperson Festus Mogae expressed concern on the stalemate in negotiations around two key components of the peace Agreement: the proposed Commission on the number of states in South Sudan, and the issue of cantonment sites. President Salva Kiir has yet to sign the resolutions on consensus reached around the issue to date. Mogae highlighted that the work of the National Constitutional Amendment Committee, mandated to discuss the issues of the 28 states, has stalled. The Ceasefire and Transitional Security Arrangements Monitoring Mechanism has also faced setbacks, with frequent access denials noted in Yambio, Torit and Juba.
- On 23 June, the South Sudan Deputy Central Bank Governor announced that foreign currency reserves in the country are at all-time low. He noted that the current reserves will cover imports for the next five weeks only, which will have the knock-on effect of sharply increasing prices of goods. Meanwhile, the depreciation of the South Sudanese Pound continues since the introduction of the floating exchange rate in December. Celebrations for South Sudan Independence Day on 11 July have also been cancelled due to the dire economic conditions. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) noted recently during their mission in June that "there is a risk of total economic collapse without correcting measures to restore macroeconomic stability."

## REFUGEE RESPONSE



### Achievements and Impact

#### Unity

- In Yida settlement, UNHCR registered and assisted 328 new arrivals from Sudan's South Kordofan State in the last two weeks of June, bringing the number of new arrivals since 1 January 2016 to 8,405. Nearly 90 percent of new arrivals were women and children from Boram, Heban and Umdoreen Counties in Sudan, with unaccompanied minors and separated children representing 10 percent of the new arrivals. They reported hunger, aerial bombing and ground attacks as the main reasons for fleeing to South Sudan. During the reporting period, UNHCR relocated 716 refugees to Ajuong Thok, including 345 new arrivals and 371 refugees who had previously registered in Yida, bringing the total number of Sudanese relocated to Ajuong

Thok since 1 January 2016 to 11,493, including 3,214 refugees who had previously registered in Yida – 2,476 of them have been relocated since May 2016.

- In Ajuong Thok camp, UNHCR continued to distribute ID cards to refugees in conjunction with the ongoing verification exercise. So far, 8,489 ID cards have been issued, representing 28 percent of the targeted population. By the end of June, Ajuong Thok population stood at 39,529, with 3,567 cases put on hold in UNHCR database due to non-attendance and 134 others closed.

### **Central Equatoria**

- In Juba, UNHCR, in collaboration with South Sudan's Commission for Refugee Affairs (CRA), organised a one-day round-table discussion on accession to the 1951 Refugee Convention, its 1967 Protocol and the Kampala Convention, for the Parliamentary Committees for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, and Legislation and Justice.
- In Juba, UNHCR provided a two-day training on statelessness for 54 officers from the Department of Nationality, Passports and Immigration (DNPI) who are primarily responsible for receiving and processing nationality applications. The training focussed on the relevant international and national legislation, identification of persons at-risk of statelessness and prevention of statelessness activities in South Sudan, including procedures for acquisition of nationality.
- UNHCR registered 118 new arrivals in Juba (52) and Gorom camp (66), including asylum-seekers and persons recognised on a prima facie basis from Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea and Burundi.
- In Lasu settlement, UNHCR partner United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) officially opened three Early Child Development (ECD) centers to provide early learning and play opportunities to children aged between three and five. The three centres currently host 260 children (109 girls and 151 boys) under the care of 15 volunteer teachers.
- In Lasu settlement, UNHCR trained 67 teachers and 21 partners staff in Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) concepts and the key elements to consider in SGBV prevention and response.

### **Jonglei**

- In Pochalla, for the first time since 2009, UNHCR carried out a distribution of Non-Food Items (NFIs) for some 625 Ethiopian refugee families. A handful of national and international NGOs remain on the ground in Pochalla to provide food, health care and education.

## Education

### **Achievements and Impact**

#### **Western Equatoria**

- In Makpandu camp, UNHCR completed the construction of two additional classrooms at Makpandu secondary school. The construction of a laboratory and a library is underway.



## **Health**

### **Achievements and Impact**

#### **Unity**

- In Pamir camp, UNHCR opened the new Primary Health Care Centre (PHCC). Although it is yet to be fully operational, the PHCC is ready to provide critical services, including delivery, lab tests and essential medicines.
- In Pariang, UNHCR completed the construction of an X-ray room and placenta pit at Pariang County Hospital.

## Upper Nile

- In Maban, UNHCR and partners delivered a two-day refresher training on Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT), in preparation of the upcoming launching of PMTCT services in Kaya, Yusuf Batil and Gendrassa camps. Furthermore, an awareness campaign is underway to sensitize the community on the importance of such a service.

## Water and Sanitation

### **Achievements and Impact**

#### Unity

- In Yida settlement and Ajuong Thok camp, the average water coverage stood respectively at 13.8 litres per person per day (l/p/d) and 17.3 l/p/d – below UNHCR standards of 20 l/p/d. This is due to the ongoing arrival of Sudanese refugees from South Kordofan, which has put a strain on existing services. In order to enhance the standards in the provision of sanitation and hygiene services, UNHCR partner Samaritan's Pursue built 28 latrines (16 family latrines and 12 communal latrines) in Ajuong Thok during the reporting period, bringing the total number of latrines to 4,244 (3,675 family toilets and 569 communal toilets). The refugee-to-latrines ratio in Ajuong Thok is 1:10, above UNHCR standards of a maximum 20 latrines per person.

#### Upper Nile

- In Maban, water supply ranged between 16 and 20 l/p/d as a result of ongoing rains. The average water supply before the rainy season ranged between 21 and 25 l/p/d.
- In Maban, UNHCR drilled five boreholes including four in the host community areas and one at Yusuf Batil camp, serving up to 11,000 people.
- In Yusuf Batil camp, UNHCR completed the construction of 14 school latrines, to benefit some 8,000 pupils.

#### Western Equatoria

- In Makpandu camp, UNHCR completed the drilling and platform construction of three boreholes including one at the primary school, bringing the total number of boreholes in the camp to 11. The aim is to ensure a minimum of 20l/p/d, whereby the current water supply stands at 16.7 l/p/d.

## Food Security and Nutrition

### **Achievements and Impact**

#### Unity

- In Ajuong Thok camp, UNHCR and partners screened 78 new arrival children under five years for malnutrition through Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) test. As a result, 10 percent were found to suffer from severe acute malnutrition and 30 percent from moderate acute malnutrition. They were all referred for Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme (TSFP) in the camp.

#### Central Equatoria

- In Lasu settlement, UNHCR and partners screened 333 children for malnutrition through MUAC test. As a result, 2 percent were diagnosed with moderate acute malnutrition and 0.3 percent with severe acute malnutrition. They were all referred to relevant feeding programmes.

## Shelter and NFIs

### Achievements and Impact

#### Unity

- In Pamiir, UNHCR and partners demarcated 2,880 plots as part of the efforts to receive refugees relocating from Yida settlement.
- In Ajuong Thok, UNHCR partner Danish Refugee Council (DRC) distributed 204 emergency shelters and 54 family tents to new arrivals, bringing the total number of emergency shelters and tents distributed since January 2016 to respectively 3,770 and 558.

#### Upper Nile

- In Doro camp, UNHCR partner DRC distributed plastic sheets and mosquito nets to more than 8,600 refugee families.

## Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

### Achievements and Impact

#### Unity

- In Ajuong Thok camp, UNHCR partner International Rescue Committee trained 77 refugee youths in business skills, including cooking, baking, photography, bicycle repair, electronics and hairdressing. Each trainee will receive 3,000 South Sudanese Pounds to contribute to forming cooperative businesses.
- In Ajuong Thok camp, UNHCR distributed 5,360 tree seedlings to refugees and host communities to help reduce the effects of environmental degradation in refugee-hosting areas.
- In Ajuong Thok camp, UNHCR partners IRC and DRC started distributing seeds (cereals and vegetables) and agricultural tools to some 5,000 refugee families.

#### Central Equatoria

- In Lasu settlement, UNHCR partner UMCOR demarcated more than 200 feddans of agricultural land for allocation to some 2,000 refugee families, including Sudanese refugees who have recently relocated from Yei town. Furthermore, 800 refugee and local farmers received assorted vegetable seeds and agricultural tools.

#### Western Equatoria

- In Makpandu settlement, representatives of the host community officially donated 625 hectares of agricultural land to refugees. So far, 60 out of 150 families have received each a plot of 100 square meters.

## IDP RESPONSE

### Protection

#### COORDINATION

#### Upper Nile

- UNHCR joined an inter-agency assessment mission with OCHA and others to Rambo village in Guelguk Payam, Longichuk County, to assess the conditions of approximately 1,600 people displaced from Malakal, Melut, Nasir, Palouch and Akoka since August 2015. Preliminary results include presence and proximity of military barracks near the civilian population, presence of separated children, limited food and livelihoods opportunities, poor health, education and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) services and need for

non-food items and shelter. It was recommended that humanitarian partners provide assistance as necessary.

## OPERATIONS

### Upper Nile

- In Malakal, UNHCR identified and assisted 295 persons with specific needs during the reporting period.

### Central Equatoria

- UNHCR undertook an assessment mission to Kajo Keji to gather first-hand information about the displacement of some 18,000 people, following the attack on the SPLA base in Nyepo payam on 10 June at the hands of armed groups claiming to be allied with Sudan's People Liberation Army in Opposition (SPLA-IO). According to local leaders, 80 percent of IDPs had returned home by the end of June, except for people displaced from Kansuk boma, the most affected amongst the four bomas in Nyepo payam. Security seems to have improved but remains volatile, with some 2,000 people remaining displaced in IDP sites and in need of humanitarian assistance, including food and non-food items as well as WASH facilities and services.

### Western Bahr al Ghazal

- Following the June 24 violence that displaced some 12,000 people near the UNMISS base in Wau and left more than 40 people, UNHCR deployed a mobile response team to look into the protection needs of the most vulnerable internally displaced people and plan for targeted assistance, including distribution of sanitary pads to girls and women of reproductive age.

## Shelter and NFIs

### Achievements and Impact

#### Central Equatoria

- In Yei's Libango boma, UNHCR distributed NFIs to 119 IDPs whose houses were burnt as a result of deadly inter-community violence.

#### Jonglei

- In Waat, UNHCR partner INTERSOS distributed plastic sheets to 409 extremely vulnerable IDPs.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to USD 49,279,541 as of 31 May 2016. UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with earmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

### Funding received (in USD)

United States of America	28,900,000
CERF	5,989,321
ECHO	4,530,011
Japan	3,500,000
Canada	1,872,659
Educate A Child Programme - EAA	1,726,396
Germany	1,132,503
Common Humanitarian Fund -	199,852
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation	119,498
Vodafone Foundation	80,541
UN Prog. On HIV/AIDS	80,250
Spain	13,115