

South Sudan: Flooding Situation Report

Inter-Cluster Coordination Group

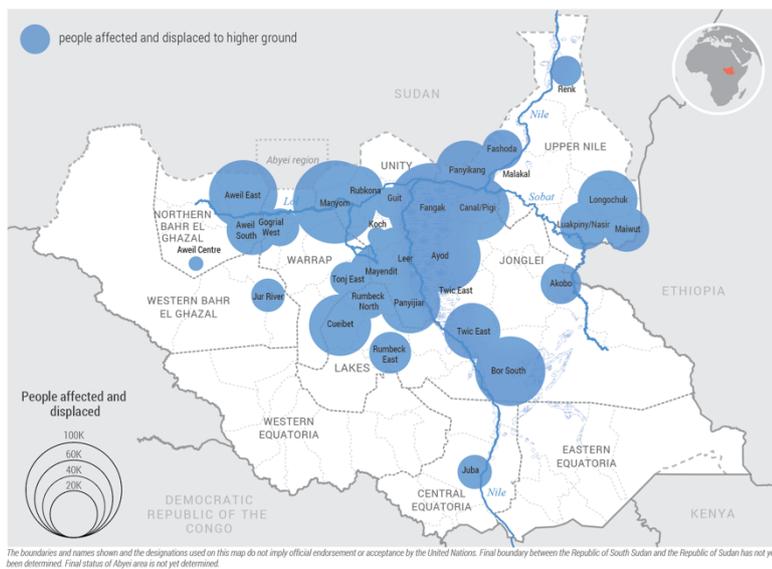
As of 12 November 2021



This report is produced by OCHA South Sudan on behalf of the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG). The reporting covers the period from May 2021 to 31 October 2021. The next report will be issued in December.

HIGHLIGHTS

- An estimated 780,000 people were reported as affected by flooding in areas along the Nile and Lol rivers, and in Sudd marshlands since May.
- People in Jonglei, Unity and Upper Nile states, are the worst affected by the floods.
- Humanitarian organizations are responding to the immediate needs of flood-affected people with emergency relief and community-based support.
- At least 310,000 people were reached with WASH assistance; and 294,000 people were provided with food assistance in September and October. Some 174,000 people were reached with shelter and non-food items support as of 31 October.
- Funding constraints continue to be a challenge, which hinders the overall flood response.
- The current resources available are inadequate to meet people's needs.



780K

People affected by the floods as of 11 November

310K

People reached with some form of assistance

8

flood-affected states

31

flood-affected counties

2,355

metric tons of humanitarian cargo transported by air, road and river

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Early seasonal rains resulted in the Nile river, Sudd wetlands, the Lol and Sobat rivers to overflow, flooding vast areas of land and settlements. Some 780,000 people were reported as affected by flooding as of 12 November. At the time of reporting, people in Jonglei are the worst affected (278,000 people), followed by Unity (208,000 people), Upper Nile (126,000), Northern Bahr el Ghazal (65,000), Lakes (61,000), Warrap (23,000), Western Bahr el Ghazal (10,000) and Central Equatoria (10,000). The flooding has displaced thousands of people, many of whom have taken refuge on higher ground within their county, with many sheltering in churches, schools and public spaces.

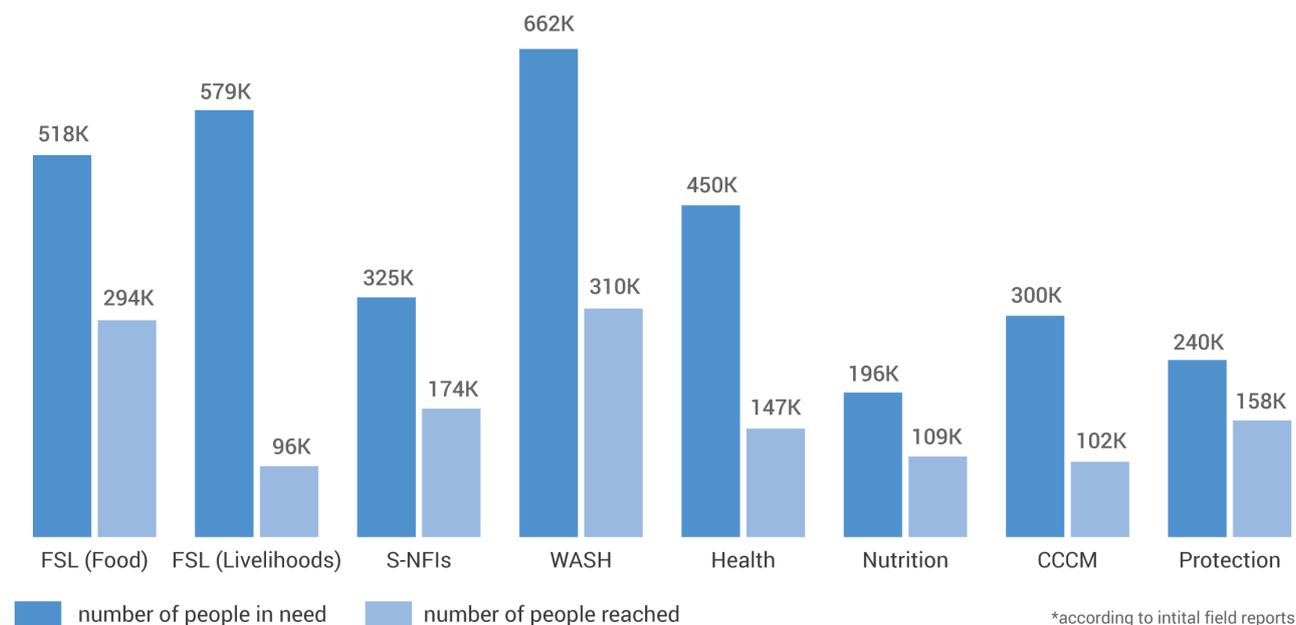
Humanitarians are responding as resources allow to the immediate needs of flood-affected people with services which include food assistance, water purification tablets, plastic sheeting for temporary shelter, mosquito nets, fishing kits and basic health items. Support includes anti-venom for snake bites and the replenishment of medicine, nutritional supplies, reintegration kits for unaccompanied and separated children, recreational and dignity kits. Community-based support is being provided through cash-for-work and food-for-work assistance, with flood-affected communities working alongside humanitarian organizations. However, the proportion of people's needs outstrips the resources available. Earlier this year, more work was done in the preparedness and prevention phase to mitigate the impact of the floodwaters ahead of time by repairing and maintaining dykes.

Sub-national violence, conflict and displacement in Greater Tonj in Warrap, Tambura in Western Equatoria and Unity states are challenging the capacity of humanitarian organizations to effectively respond to crises-affected people. Resources are limited and commodities need to be replenished to meet increasing needs. In Bentiu and Rubkona, flood waters are dangerously high, despite ongoing dykes repair and maintenance work. As of 31 October, the Kulkal IDP settlement is flooded and there is an increasing risk of Bentiu town, the IDP camp and airstrip being submerged. Maintaining the operational nature of the airstrip is critical as the main supply road between Bentiu and Juba is cut off due to flooding. On 6 November, parts of Rubkona town were flooded and a large number of flood-affected people were seen accessing the IDP camp in the area. On 7 November, a dyke breached and parts of Rubkona town business area were flooded. The Government, local and humanitarian community, and UNMISS are working tirelessly to keep the water at bay and prevent further flooding impact. Any further rise in flood waters has the potential to have devastating impact.

The current response is inadequate to meet the holistic needs of the people affected. Humanitarian organizations have been forced to re-prioritise vital services and commodities to try to respond. In addition, many of the frontline response teams are themselves suffering the impact of the rising flood waters.

Of the US\$1.7 billion requested in the 2021 South Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan, \$1.06 billion or 63 per cent has been received as of the end of 11 November. The Humanitarian Coordinator allocated \$20 million from the South Sudan Humanitarian Fund, with part of the allocation supporting flood response efforts, complementing bilateral funding sources. Donors have shared information of additional top-up funding for bilateral partner arrangements of over \$10 million. However, additional funding is urgently needed. Insecurity and access constraints also hamper the overall flood response.

An estimated 780,000* people are affected by floods



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Needs

- An estimated 300,000 flood-affected people need Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) support as of 31 October.
- CCCM needs are highest in Unity, Upper Nile and Jonglei states.

Response

- A total of 101,556 displaced people were reached with CCCM assistance by three CCCM cluster members. This includes 33,692 displaced people in Rubkona town, Unity State; 31,000 in Panyikang; 14,000 in Fashoda; 5,000 in Malakal town, Upper Nile State; 11,255 in Akobo; and 6,000 displaced people in Pigi/Canal, Jonglei State.

- CCCM Cluster members deployed mobile camp management teams to support site governance structures, community groups, service providers and to produce site-based safety plans to ensure plans are regularly updated.
- Working closely with the Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Sub-Cluster and local national authorities, the CCCM Cluster employed a risk-based approach to evaluate external and internal threats and institute appropriate measures to respond.
- Through safety audits, CCCM members assessed IDP settlements to identify safety concerns of the site residents and to implement the necessary mitigation measures.
- By establishing site safety committees and enhancing site development committees, CCCM members facilitated meaningful community participation, for example by introducing cash-for-work as an incentive for community site care and maintenance.

Gaps & Constraints

- People's CCCM needs are rising as many locations are now inaccessible due to the ongoing flooding and the damage and destruction to vital infrastructure (roads, etc.). This, in addition to security concerns, is greatly hindering the ability of the CCCM Cluster to respond to the needs of affected people, particularly those who are the most vulnerable and unable to move to safer locations or higher ground.

Food Security and Livelihoods

Needs

- An estimated 730,000 people across 30 counties in eight states, severely affected by floods, have been verified by WFP. The highest caseloads with over 40,000 people affected are in Bor South, Fangak and Ayod counties in Jonglei and Mayom and Leer counties in Unity State. Of the 730,000 flood-affected people, some 365,000, or 50 per cent, are estimated to be female.
- Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL) Cluster needs are especially high in locations impacted by multiple shocks such as persistent high food prices (across the whole country), sub-national violence in Tonj East, Fangak, Panyikang and Fashoda and in locations of highest food insecurity.
- Locations such as Bentiu and Rubkona are of concern, where the number of flood-affected people is expected to greatly increase once verified later in November.
- FSL needs are driven by the loss of farmland and harvested stocks; lack of access to wild foods and pasture for animals; increased morbidity and mortality for people and livestock, water-borne diseases and inability to access healthcare. The prevalence of livestock diseases is amplified with the loss of pasture resulting in high levels of mortality and where animals are being moved to grazing areas where milk is no longer available to those residing at homesteads (demographically the elderly, children and women).

Response

- Some 294,000 people, half of which are estimated to be female, were reached with food assistance in October across 18 counties in six states.
- The emergency food assistance, comprises of a 30-day food ration (cereal/ pulse/oil/ salt), was provided in the six Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) locations by air drop and a 15-day food ration in another 12 locations supported in October.
- Some 97,000 people were reached with livelihoods support across two states in September and October. Of the 97,000, 48,526 are estimated to be female.
- Livelihood support provided comprises of a fishing kit (hooks, monofilament/twine), vegetable kit (seeds of five fast maturing varieties of vegetable) and one tool for each identified 'vulnerable' household.

Gaps & Constraints

- The FSL Cluster planned to reach 518,000 people with food assistance in October but reached 294,000: leaving a gap of 224,337 people.

- Accessibility issues hindered the FSL response in Jonglei (two counties), Unity (four counties), Lakes (four counties), Upper Nile (two counties) and Northern Bahr el Ghazal (three counties). In Warrap, only one county was reached with food assistance. Pipeline breaks were the main cause of counties not being reached as planned.
- The FSL Cluster planned to reach 579,000 people with livelihoods support in October but reached 96,000: leaving a gap of 482,000 people.
- The main constraint faced is funding of the core livelihood pipeline, which is due to be replenished in mid-November. Additional bilateral funding was not available to respond which had been the case in previous years. In eight counties, Emergency Livelihood Response Programme funded partners are awaiting replenishment of the core pipeline. In 11 counties, the SSHF First Standard Allocation (SA1) funded interventions are expected to be delivered to field locations in November, while in six counties SA1 funded interventions are underway.

Health

Needs

- The Health Cluster is targeting some 450,000 people with health support as of 31 October.
- Additional supplies of essential drugs and medical supplies is required to meet the increasing needs of flood-affected communities.
- There has been an increase in the number of snake bites (over 300 cases) during the reporting period, including three deaths, implying an urgent need for anti-venom.
- Seventy health facilities have been affected by the floods, with 20 storage facilities reportedly damaged.

Response

- More than 147,000 people were reached with health services through static and mobile outreach as of 31 October. About 81,000, or 55 per cent of people reached, were female.
- Some 260,000 out-patient department consultations were conducted across 21 counties as of 31 October.
- Health Cluster members continue to support health facilities and respond to flood-affected communities with available medical supplies.
- Health Cluster members are providing lifesaving primary healthcare services, including the provision of reproductive health services and routine immunization services, distribution of Long-Lasting Insecticide-Treated Nets and community health promotion, with a focus on cholera awareness as most latrines are flooded.
- With increased trauma due to flooding, Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) services continue to be provided in health facilities by partners.
- The Primary Health Care Unit in Rumbek East, Lakes State continues to provide health service to displaced people from Panyijar, Unity State, however due to overcrowding, the health facility may soon run out of drugs.

Gaps & Constraints

- There is an acute shortage of medical supplies to continue the provision of essential primary health care services. There is limited human resource capacity and a lack of funding to adequately respond to rising health needs.
- With several health facilities cut off by floods, emergency referrals have become a challenge and the high cost of transportation has worsened the situation.
- Shortage of essential medicines and other medical supplies has been reported by many partners including the shortage of mosquito nets, anti-malarial drugs, anti-venom and cholera investigation kits.
- At least 18 health facilities in more than 10 counties are submerged, affecting storage facilities and in some cases destroying medical supplies.
- In many locations, healthcare workers, including volunteers, are unable to access health facilities due to the floodwaters. Many health service providers have relocated to higher ground and continue to deliver services to people under temporary erected tents.
- Most health facilities in flood-prone areas are at risk of being submerged.

Logistics

Needs

- Based on locations prioritized for a response scale-up by the Needs Analysis Working Group consistent with established criteria and endorsed by the ICCG, the Logistics Cluster plans and facilitates the transportation of humanitarian supplies, while maintaining the support for existing needs.

Response

- Between 1 May and 31 October, 2,355 metric tons (MT) of assorted humanitarian cargo was transported by air, road and river to 76 locations in flood-affected counties, supporting 52 partners. In addition, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the departure of road convoys to Aweil, Cueibet, Rumbek, Mayom and Gogrial West, carrying about 3,080 MT of humanitarian cargo, including flood response specific materials.
- The Logistics Cluster has temporarily added a second helicopter to its fleet to support the flood response. The air asset is based in Bor and will be available until January 2022.

Gaps & Constraints

- The transport of humanitarian cargo has increasingly been affected by heavy rains, infrastructure damage and reduced physical accessibility. The majority of supply roads in Unity, Jonglei and the southern part of Upper Nile states are not passable, which increases the reliance on costly and limited air assets for cargo transportation. Airstrips are adversely affected by flooding too, rendering locations inaccessible for periods of time.

Nutrition

Needs

- Between July and September, some 278,000 flood-affected people are estimated to need nutrition support.
- Of the 278,000, 196,000 were targeted with nutrition support. This represents 65,370 girls, 62,806 boys and 67,916 pregnant and lactating women (PLW).

Response

- As of the end of October, the Nutrition Cluster reached some 109,000 people (out of 196,000 targeted) with nutrition support. This represents 38,164 girls, 32,262 boys and 38,957 PLW.

People affected	Boys affected	Girls affected	PLW affected	People targeted	Boys targeted	Girls targeted	PLW targeted	People Reached	Boys reached	Girls reached	PLW reached
277,964	100,681	104,791	72,492	196,092	62,806	65,370	67,916	109,383	32,262	38,164	38,957

- Nutrition supplies were pre-positioned across most nutrition sites ahead of the rainy season, hence the reduction in shortfalls compared to 2020.

Gaps & Constraints

- The continued rains and flooding are impacting the delivery of nutrition support to flood-affected people.
- The displacement of people is contributing to defaulters and increases expenses to transport nutrition supplies by canoe.
- In 13 flood-affected counties in Jonglei, Upper Nile, Warrap and Unity states, 68 nutrition sites structures were affected by floods, 41 sites were relocated, and 27 sites were closed.
- There is an urgent need for tents to construct temporary nutrition sites and storage space to pre-position extra tents, canoes for secondary transportation and monitoring.
- In September, some 7,211 people (724 children found to have severe acute malnutrition, 2,639 children found to have moderate acute malnutrition, and 3,888 acutely malnourished PLW) were lost to follow-up from Outpatient Therapeutic Feeding Programs and Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programs due to the floods and displacement.

Protection

Needs

- Some 240,000 people are being targeted with protection services as of 31 October. Of the 240,000, some 105,000 are being targeted with general protection services; 202,500 with child protection support; 75,000 with GBV support; and 37,000 people are being targeted through the Mine Action (MA) Sub-Cluster.
- In Bentiu town, it is estimated that more than 34,000 people have been displaced to the new IDP settlement.
- In Malakal, new arrivals were reported from Fangak, Khorfulus, Dolebi, Canal/Pigi, Tokagey and Wunakot.

Response

- From May to September, the Protection Cluster reached some 158,000 people, or 66 per cent of the 240,000 people targeted, with protection services.
- The MA Sub-Cluster reached some 25,000 people, or 67 per cent of their target, with explosive ordnance prevention assistance.
- The Child Protection Sub-Cluster provided essential child protection services to an estimated 167,000 girls, boys and caregivers including MHPSS and family tracing and reunification services for unaccompanied and separated children. This represented 75 per cent of their target of 220,000 people.
- The GBV Sub-Cluster reached some 48,000 people with vital support. This represented 64 per cent of their target.
- Protection Cluster members led inter-cluster assessment, fact finding and light response missions to flood-displaced people in Leer, Mayom, Panyijjar, Mayiandit, Rubkona and Guit counties. Through an inter-cluster WASH approach, protection for people with special needs, dignity kits, mosquito nets, and soaps were delivered to over 39,800 people over the last three months.
- Newly displaced people in Bentiu are being provided with protection related information through awareness raising and during monitoring on service locations, protection desks and other reporting channels are available. Protection members are providing information on services available in the areas of displacement.

Gaps & Constraints

- Protection members received reports of harassment from gangs in IDP settlement areas, creating fear among the community, especially to women and girls. The movement of displaced people is being restricted due to these security concerns.
- Insecurity due to sub-national violence in flood-affected areas in Unity State is impacting the delivery of response activities. Access remains challenging in many locations due to the rising floodwaters. Limited funding is hindering the response to the growing needs of people displaced by floods, including returnees.
- Additional funding is needed to scale up protection services in flood-affected areas, especially in Bentiu town, Upper Nile and Jonglei states.

Shelter and Non-Food Items

Needs

- An estimated 750,000 people require shelter and non-food items support. The Shelter/NFI Cluster is targeting approximately 325,000 people, or 43 per cent of the estimated number of people in need.
- An estimated \$8.2 million is required to respond to the priority needs of 325,000 flood-affected people in 33 counties, across nine flood-affected states.

Response

- Approximately 174,000 people, or 54 per cent of the 325,000 people targeted, have been reached with shelter and non-food items assistance as of 31 October.
- Of the 174,000 people reached by the Shelter/NFI Cluster in 33 counties, 91,000 (52 per cent) were female. A total of 6,800 people with disabilities were reached. Further disaggregation can be found in the table below.

Boys 0-5	Girls 0-5	Boys 6-17	Girls 6-17	Men 18-59	Women 18-59	Men 60+	Women 60+	Persons with disabilities
20,749	21,854	25,519	28,055	26,873	30,299	9,845	10,708	6,839

- Flood-affected people received more than 42,400 mosquito nets, over 26,000 blankets, nearly 12,800 rubber ropes and more than 22,300 plastic sheets between 1 May and 31 October 2021.
- Additional materials are expected to arrive in South Sudan in late November before being dispatched to areas with high needs. The supplies expected in November are largely already committed to people that have been assessed and are waiting for assistance.

Gaps & Constraints

- Some \$3.9 million additional funding (\$1.4 million for frontline and \$2.5 million for core pipeline) is required to meet remaining S/NFI needs.
- Despite recent additional funding allocated through the SSHF reserve allocation, shelter and NFI core pipeline stocks have been depleted, and the Shelter/NFI Cluster is unable to meet all requests by members to provide shelter and NFI response items.
- Although additional funding was directed to the core pipeline to meet gaps, key supplies in-country have been depleted and members who have completed needs assessments are awaiting the arrival of new supplies.
- Physical access to some remote and deep field locations continues to delay the response, and many partners are facing challenges in moving flood response supplies from offloading points along rivers and canals to distribution sites. Limited air transport capacity by the Logistics Cluster due to a lack of funding to further scale-up air transportation has left partners reliant on barge transportation, which requires considerable time to reach flood-affected areas.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Needs

- Some 662,000 people are estimated to need WASH support through Phase One of the WASH Cluster's Flooding Response as of the end of October.
- To complete Phase One of the WASH Cluster's Flooding Response, the WASH Cluster estimates that \$2.4 million is required for frontline activities, with priority given to Lakes, Unity and Upper Nile states, and \$1.6 million to replenish the core pipeline.
- Once water levels have receded, an estimated \$7 million will be needed to conduct key disaster risk reduction activities (elevated waterpoints and latrines) in flood-prone counties classified as 4 or 5 likely during the WASH Severity Classification.

Response

- Through Phase One of the WASH Cluster's flood response, some 310,000 people out of the targeted 662,000 were reached with emergency WASH/NFI kits and hygiene promotion.
- In locations where floodwaters are receding, some 37,500 people have been reached through Phase Two of the WASH Cluster's flood response: the rehabilitation of flood impacted boreholes.
- In Jonglei, some 64 per cent of people targeted have been reached with WASH support. In Upper Nile, some 27 per cent of people targeted have been reached and in Unity State some 54 per cent have been reached.
- In Northern and Western Bahr el Ghazal, and Lakes states, WASH teams have finalized assessment reports and the response is beginning.
- Communities in Guit County have not been reached with WASH support due to access issues.

Gaps & Constraints

- Access is a key WASH challenge. Floodwaters are preventing WASH services from reaching people in need.
- In Jonglei, the increased demand on the transportation of WASH supplies from Bor to other parts of the state has delayed the response in Fangak and Twic East counties.
- The increased pressure on WASH supplies from key warehouses in Bentiu, Malakal and Bor has reduced the available stock. Access to the warehouses, to be able to restock, is limited due to the floodwaters.
- High river water levels has made it difficult for barges to unload key WASH/NFI materials in Malakal.

Education

Needs

- In Unity State, 111 schools including primary, early child development, accelerated learning facilities and secondary schools have been affected in seven counties (Leer, Mayendit, Koch, Leer, Mayom, Panyijiar and Rubkona).
- Some 69,058 school-age children (42,919 boys and 26,139 girls) have been affected and displaced by the floods in Unity State and 1,452 teachers affected.

Response

- In Bentiu, 442 school-age children (197 girls) from various classes were registered. A distribution of education materials is being planned and two emergency education tents will be established in overcrowded schools.
- To date, 24 teachers have been mobilized and reassigned to existing schools by the State Ministries of General Education and Instruction (SMoGEI).
- In Panyijiar, Mayendit, Leer and Koch counties, over 4,000 school-age children were supported with teaching and learning materials.

Gaps & Constraints

- Additional Education in Emergencies (EiE) funding is needed to scale-up existing light EiE response services in hard-to-reach areas including refresher training for flood-affected teachers.
- Access is an issue in Bentiu/Rubkona, Panyijiar, Mayendit and Leer counties where emergency tents are needed must be transported to.

GENERAL COORDINATION

Between May and 12 November 2021, 17 flood coordination response meetings were conducted by OCHA at Juba level. During the same period, other coordination meetings were held at the state and field levels facilitated by OCHA and the deep-field coordinators.

On 10 November, an inter-cluster meeting of national and Unity State cluster coordination teams convened. The meeting allowed real time problem solving and offered space to re-affirm the HC a.i. message of subsidiarity, where teams who are closest to the response are empowered to make decisions necessary to move the response forward.

On 11 November, an ad hoc HCT convened dedicated on the flood situation and response. There was a consensus that while the response was ongoing with the resources available, it remains inadequate to meet the spectrum of flood-affected people's needs. The HCT agreed to strengthened advocacy highlighting people's needs, strengthen area-based coordination, and continue to lobby for a holistic approach to flood management to mitigate and prevent future suffering.

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