South Sudan Crisis
Situation report as of 2 May 2014
Report number 34

This report is produced by OCHA South Sudan in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 26 April to 2 May 2014. The next report will be published on or around 9 May 2014.

Highlights

- Fighting was reported in Jonglei State, mainly in Duk and Twic East counties causing movement of people out of these areas.
- Thousands of people fled violence in Unity State and have sought refuge in the neighbouring states including in the Abyei region.
- Rains caused significant flooding in the UN base in Malakal, where 18,000 people are sheltering.
- The number of people displaced by conflict within South Sudan rose to 959,000 with 20 per cent of the displaced in inaccessible areas.

4.9 million
People in need of humanitarian assistance

3.2 million
People to be assisted by June

1.3 million
People reached with humanitarian assistance*

959,000
People internally displaced by violence

*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 remained tense in the hot spot states, with fighting reported in Jonglei, mainly in Duk and Twic East counties causing significant population movement out of these areas. Tensions were also high in Bor town amid fears of another attack. Lakes State’s Mingakaman area continued to receive people displaced by conflict in Bor, Duk and Twic counties. Clashes were also reported in the area between the towns of Bor and Panyagor.

The situation in Bentiu and Rubkona towns in Unity State remained fragile. Fighting continued in the northern parts of the state, mainly in Abiemnhom, Mayom and Pariang with movement of people between Bentiu and Pariang. At least 3,000 people have arrived in several locations in the Abyei region, fleeing violence in Unity. In Malakal, Upper Nile rains resulted in flooding, further compounding the situation of people sheltering at the base.

*IDP figures, as per 23 April
Humanitarian needs and response

Humanitarian response reached over 1.3 million people of the 3.2 million people estimated to be in need of assistance across the country. Active hostilities continued to constrain humanitarian access, with restrictions such as checkpoints, cancellation of flights, bureaucratic impediments and interference in the aid operation. Humanitarian partners estimate that at least 20 per cent of the displaced people in South Sudan are in inaccessible areas. An estimated 959,000 people are internally displaced in South Sudan with a further 293,000 seeking refuge in neighbouring countries. The humanitarian community called on all parties to the conflict to observe one month of tranquility to allow people free movement to tend to their livelihoods or to seek refuge wherever they choose to do so. A month of non-violence would enable displaced people to take advantage of the April to May planting season amid fears of increasing severe food insecurity.

In Malakal, the rains worsened the humanitarian situation of thousands of internally displaced people living in the UN base. The base, which is flood-prone, is hosting at least 18,000 people in congested conditions. Clean drinking water is inadequate, challenging sanitation conditions and increasing the risk of epidemics. Health partners treated hundreds of people at the camp, including those injured in conflict-related incidents.

In Bentiu, the number of people seeking protection in the UN base rose from 8,000 on 15 April to approximately 25,000 by 1 May. New arrivals continue to be registered on daily basis. These figures are only estimates as the situation on the ground is fluid, with ongoing population movements. A multi-sector response operation is ongoing in the UN base, including provision of food assistance, health and nutrition, water and sanitation, protection activities and emergency education. However, the recent influx of displaced people into the UN base is increasing pressure on existing basic resources including access to water. With severe overcrowding, conditions inside the UN base are dire, with almost nine litres of water per person per day. Humanitarians are working hard to scale up activities in extremely difficult conditions. In Wau, Western Bahr El-Ghazal State, about 700 displaced people are sheltered into the UN base after fleeing violence in the surrounding areas, raising concern of the conflict spreading into states not so far affected. Partners are deploying additional staff to respond to their needs.

Camp Coordination and Management

Response:

- Rehabilitation of the displacement site inside the UN bases in Bor is now ongoing, including improving the drainage system.
- Partners are surveying the intentions of displaced people in the UN base in Bor, some of whom are asking to be relocated.
- Heavy rains in Malakal resulted in flooding inside the UN base. An estimated 40 per cent of the families living in the base were affected with water inundating their shelter.
- Efforts to improve the drainage system in displacement sites in Awerial, Lakes State are underway. Some 11 km of land for the development of a new site have been cleared.
- An estimated 25,000 displaced people are reported to be sheltering in the new UN base in Bentiu.

Needs, gaps and constraints:

- Delays in preparation of the new PoC site in Malakal is preventing relocation of displaced people
- Due to the poor shelter conditions in the UN base of Malakal, health risks are increasing.

Education

Response:

- During the reporting period, 10,600 children were reached with emergency education services in Central and Eastern Equatoria, Jonglei, Lakes Upper Nile, Unity and Warrap states.
- 58,600 children have been reached with emergency education services since the crisis broke out, over 25,000 of these are girls.
- Partners established 15 new temporary learning spaces and provided emergency education services for 1,300 pre-school children and 9,000 primary school students.
- 47 children with special needs (24 girls) benefitted from emergency education services in Jonglei, Upper Nile and Warrap states.
- 4,600 community members, including 1,980 girls, received life-saving messages in Upper Nile and Warrap.
- Education emergency supplies were distributed to 7,000 students (2,390 girls) in Central and Eastern Equatoria, Lakes, Upper Nile, Unity, and Warrap states.

Needs, gaps and constraints:
- Lack of space to set up temporary learning spaces in the UN bases due to congestion remained a challenge.
- More human resources are urgently needed to scale up emergency education to allow children, youth and teachers to return to schools.
- Thousands of children and youth in Bentiu and Bor are unable to attend school due to insecurity, with most schools remaining closed.
- Many teachers have not reported for work, because of unpaid salaries leading to the closure of some schools in displacement areas. Partners are working with community leaders and the Ministry of Education to identify interim solutions and to produce a guideline on standard payments for teachers in emergencies.
- Hundreds of students have not sat their final primary school examinations due to the crisis. However, in UN bases, partners have facilitated exams and are working with the Ministry of Education to support displaced candidates to sit for exams in June.
- 72 schools remained occupied across South Sudan either by armed elements or by displaced people.

Emergency Telecommunications
Response:
- Partners upgraded the broadband system in Bentiu and implemented a voucher-based user administration system for aid workers to access faster internet connection.
- In Mingkaman, fast data connectivity has facilitated timely delivery of assistance to affected people.
- A telecommunications maintenance mission was conducted in Maban, Upper Nile. The mission included programming of radios, maintenance and repair of telecommunications equipment in humanitarian vehicles as well as the provision of Information and Communications Technology (ICT).

Needs, gaps and constraints:
- The procurement of IT and communication equipment continues to be challenging due to active hostilities, leading to substantial delays.
- The availability of suitable supplies, such as internet connectivity kits and solar kits, continues to be very limited in-country.

Food Security and Livelihoods
Response:
- Six mobile food distribution teams were deployed to Lankien, Motot, Pibor and Pochalla in Jonglei. So far they have reached about 8,500 people in the areas of Bor and Haat in Jonglei.
- The teams were also deployed in hard-to-reach locations of Ulang, Upper Nile and Ganyel, Unity.
- Food assistance has so far reached about 766,713 people under the emergency operation and 534,290 other food-insecure people, including refugees and displaced people in areas not directly affected by violence.
- Delivery of food assistance was conducted by road in Bor, Pagak, Mathiang, Meiwut, and Pibor, while the Nassir and Ulang areas were reached by river.
- Fishing kits have reached 23,048 families, while vegetable kits have reached 22,208 families countrywide.
- The Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) analysis was conducted in Yei, Western Equatoria State. The findings will be shared once the analysis is finalized.
Needs, gaps and constraints:

- Logistical constraints and with procurement delays continue to challenge the operation.
- Supplies that cannot be moved overland might have to be airlifted as the rains cut-off road access.

Health

Response:

- 267,900 outpatient consultations have been conducted since the beginning of the crisis.
- A surveillance system is in place with 32 reporting sites for priority diseases.
- Vaccination update: 248,018 children have been immunized against measles, 159,688 children immunized against polio, 74,118 people vaccinated against cholera at the UN bases in Juba, Mingkaman, and Malakal. 32,681 meningitis vaccinations were conducted in Mingkaman.
- 6,577 surgical interventions with 385 medical evacuations were conducted.
- A surgical team was deployed from the Juba Teaching Hospital to Rumbek Hospital to support surgical operation following a spike in arrival of new casualties.
- 15,616 women and girls and 458 men and boys were reached with Gender-based violence (GBV) awareness messages.

Needs, gaps and constraints:

- Medical teams were unable to access Ayod and Renk, Upper Nile, to provide health services due to insecurity.

Logistics

Response:

- 67 metric tons of aid supplies were airlifted to Akobo, Bentiu, Malakal, Mayendit, Nyal, and Pochalla.
- The airstrip in Bentiu was repaired and partners continue to deliver urgently needed relief supplies.
- Partners are sending storage facilities to Bor and Malakal.

Needs, gaps and constraints:

- Storage capacity across the country remains a challenge for all humanitarian actors. Partners are identifying options to expand common warehousing facilities.
- Due to insecurity and limited storage capacity, cargo will be stored for a maximum of 30 days in the common stores.
- Access to Bentiu remains restricted and can only by air.
- Barge movements between Juba and Bor and Malakal are still on hold due to administrative restrictions.

Mine Action

Response:

- A UXO threat assessment is being conducted in Renk, Upper Nile.
- Road assessments are being conducted in in eastern Jonglei.

Needs, gaps and constraints:

- Active hostilities have left varying levels of unexploded ordnance, cluster bombs and landmines. Mine clearance is required to get rid of explosive remnants and ensure safer humanitarian access and reduce the risk to civilians in affected areas.
Mine risk education and landmine awareness training is required for displaced people and humanitarian actors in areas where there are explosive remnants of war.

**Multi-Sector Response to Refugees**

**Response:**

- The airlifting of relief supplies for displaced people in Upper Nile is ongoing for both life-saving and pre-positioning.
- The construction of transitional shelters continued in Ajuong Thok camp in Unity. Community mobilization on the new shelter project in the Gendrassa and Yusuf Batil camps in Upper Nile has begun.
- In Unity, displaced refugee students completed their school exams while in Upper Nile exams are ongoing.
- Partners continue to provide protection, education, nutrition, health and WASH support to displaced people in Central Equatoria, Unity and Upper Nile states.

**Needs, gaps and constraints:**

- Food insecurity in Upper Nile continues to deteriorate due to disruptions of relief supplies by both air and by road.
- Food shortages are giving rise to tensions and negative coping strategies within the refugee community.
- Partners continue to explore options for the rapid pre-positioning of food.
- Protection concerns continue to arise from the erosion of the civilian character of the refugee camps in both Unity and Upper Nile states including the recruitment of adults and children into armed groups.
- Protection actors continue to undertake advocacy to improve safety and protection of civilians.

**Nutrition**

**Response:**

- 357,384 children (aged 6-59 months) have been screened for acute malnutrition from January 2014 to date (including 42,528 last week). 21,275 (5.9 per cent) were identified with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and 44,410 (12.4 per cent) with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM).
- 19,342 children (aged 0-59 months) were admitted to SAM treatment programmes (including 1,296, 6.7 per cent, who were admitted for SAM with complications). To date, 65 per cent of all those admitted have been discharged as cured.
- 18,341 children, 0-59 months old, were admitted to the MAM treatment programmes. By the end of March, 6,962 children were cured (56 per cent) in the programme. However, 40 per cent of those admitted into the programme defaulted with a peak of 55 per cent defaulters in February. This declined to 17 per cent in March.
- 73,211 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) were screened for acute malnutrition. Of these, 20,571 (28.1 per cent) were identified with acute malnutrition.

**Needs, gaps and constraints:**

- In Upper Nile, nutrition outreach activities need to be scaled up to cater for new arrivals in the Malakal UN base.
- In Bor, Jonglei state, there is a need to strengthen partner presence to fill in identified gaps. A state level nutrition coordinator is on the ground to support nutrition partners.

**Protection**

**Response:**
Protection partners supported a multi-sectoral rapid response for 650 new arrivals in the UN base in Wau, Western Bahr El Ghazal.

Partners increased media advocacy on the situation including news/radio spots by three leading protection NGOs.

Protection partners provided briefing inputs to the high level visit involving the UN Commissioner for Human Rights and the Secretary General’s Special Advisor on the Prevention of Genocide.

Since January 2014, some 27,000 children have been reached with Child Protection in Emergencies activities.

Needs, gaps and constraints:

- The conflict continues to cause grave human rights violations particularly in Bor, Bentiu and Malakal.
- Reports of GBV indicate the need for additional capacity and improvements to be made in the PoC area in Malakal.
- An estimated 63 per cent of people reached by the protection partners are in three UN bases - Minkamman, Tomping and UN House in Juba. Refugees in Yida are among those reached.
- There is a need for more child protection partners in Unity.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Response:

- 40 partners have reached 454,500 displaced people (out of 500,000 people targeted in the Crisis Response Plan) in over 50 sites with life-saving emergency WASH assistance. Partners are continuing to maintain emergency WASH service provision in sites and are reaching new locations through deployment of teams into remote locations.
- So far, global emergency standards for water supply (15 liters p/p/d) have been achieved in 10 sites. However, meeting sanitation standards (1 latrine per 50 people) is proving challenging, due to lack of space. In Tomping UN base, sanitation coverage remains a concern but partners are close to meeting the SPHERE humanitarian standards.
- Site upgrading activities and cholera preparedness measures continued.
- In Bentiu, WASH partners are scaling up services to meet the needs of new arrivals in the UN base. Displaced people in the UN base are receiving up to nine litres of water per day.

Needs, gaps and constraints:

- Funding is needed to scale up the pre-positioning of pipeline supplies and to improve front line services, to mitigate against, and be prepared for, potential disease outbreaks in major sites.
- Funding is required for the deployment of mobile teams into hard-to-reach locations.
- Additional qualified WASH personnel able to coordinate and implement quality programs in a crisis context are needed on the ground.

Funding

The South Sudan Crisis Response Plan (CRP) seeks US$1.27 billion. Some $492 million has been received representing 39 per cent of the amount requested. Within that, the total pipeline requirement is $748m, with current contributions $278m. The Protection Cluster remains the most unfunded (12% funded).

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