

SOUTH SUDAN

UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE 10/2016

15 – 30 May 2016

HIGHLIGHTS

- **UNHCR and FAO join efforts to enhance refugees' food security** - UNHCR and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) completed distribution of seeds and agricultural tools to 200,000 refugees and their host communities across South Sudan to help them become more self-sufficient in a country facing a serious food crisis. This year, the two agencies have jointly contributed 186 tons of crop seeds, assorted vegetable seeds, hand tools and fishing kits for refugees and local communities in Unity, Upper Nile, Jonglei, Central Equatoria and Western Equatoria. While many have received assistance through direct distributions in the past, in 2016 refugees in Central Equatoria were invited to attend seed fairs for the first time.
- **More higher education opportunities for refugees** - Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative Fund, also known as DAFI programme, made available 10 scholarships for refugees in South Sudan to enable them to study at universities, colleges and polytechnics abroad. For students and graduates, the DAFI programme serves as a foundation for social and professional development, allowing them to build careers in competitive fields of employment.
- **A new primary school opens in Unity's refugee camp** - UNHCR and partners inaugurated the fourth primary school in Ajuong Thok refugee camp, catering for both the refugees and the host community.

275,668,213 USD

Funding requested for comprehensive needs in 2016

121,556,542 USD

Funding requested for prioritized needs in 2016

Current population of concern

IDPs since 15 December 2013  1,690,000

Of them, 169,983 IDPs reside in UNMISS Protection of Civilians sites

Refugees in South Sudan  266,916

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

- On 30 May, a refugee and two local South Sudanese sustained fatal injuries during an incident in Upper Nile's Doro refugee camp. UNHCR staff on the ground are gathering exact details about the circumstances of these deaths. However, initial reports suggest that members of the host communities and refugees clashed on Monday during a football match. Tensions have been growing between the two communities for weeks over the alleged theft of livestock. The situation is calmer following UNHCR's engagement with local authorities, refugee leaders and host community representatives as well as the deployment of UN peacekeepers. However, security remains volatile due to the heightened presence of armed groups and weapons in the camps. UNHCR continues to monitor the situation and engage all key stakeholders in peaceful conflict resolution.
- On 31 May, the Security Council adopted a resolution renewing the South Sudan sanctions regime (assets freezes and travel bans on designated individuals) for an additional year and the Panel of Experts for 13 months. The resolution requests the Panel of Experts to provide a special report to the Council within 120 days on some key issues: first, to analyse security threats facing the transitional government, and the government's needs in maintaining law and order; second, to analyse how the transfer of arms and related equipment to South Sudan since the formation of the transitional government has affected the implementation of the peace agreement and has posed threats to UNMISS and humanitarian personnel.
- On 27 May, South Sudan's Council of Ministers recognized the presence of Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army-In Opposition (SPLM/A-IO) forces in Greater Equatoria and Greater Bahr el Ghazal and approved to allow them to assemble. The Joint Monitoring Ceasefire Committee (JMCC) will be responsible for identifying their cantonment sites.
- On 25 May, International Crisis Group released its report "*South Sudan's South: Conflict in the Equatorias*," highlighting that the Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (ARCSS), designed to primarily address a war between the government and the SPLM/A-IO in the Greater Upper Nile region, is an imperfect solution to other conflict fault lines, notably in the Equatoria region.
- On 24 May, Human Rights Watch released its report "*South Sudan: Civilians Killed, Tortured in Western Region*," providing evidence of government soldiers' deadly attacks on civilians in and around the western town of Wau. According to this report, soldiers have killed, tortured, raped, and detained civilians and looted and burned down homes. The abuses in the Western Bahr el Ghazal region took place during government counterinsurgency operations that intensified after the August 2015 peace deal.
- On 23 May, the Parliament endorsed South Sudan's accession to the East African Community, following the signing of the accession treaty and protocols by President Kiir in Dar es Salaam on 16 April.
- On 20 May, South Sudan's Council of Ministers resolved that all prisoners of war under arrest from both parties would be released and handed over to the appropriate authorities.
- On 12 May, South Sudan deposited the instruments of accession to the 1969 Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa. The instruments were given to the African Union (AU) Representation in Juba for delivery to the AU Secretariat in Addis Adaba,

REFUGEE RESPONSE



Protection

Achievements and Impact

Unity

- In Yida settlement, UNHCR registered and assisted 794 new arrivals from Sudan's South Kordofan State in the last two weeks of May, bringing the number of new arrivals since 1 January 2016 to 7,542. 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 1,455 refugees to Ajuong Thok, including 718 new arrivals and 737 refugees who had previously registered in Yida, bringing the total number of Sudanese relocated to Ajuong Thok since 1 January 2016 to 9,059. UNHCR identified 71 unaccompanied minors and separated children among the new arrivals. They were transported to Ajuong Thok camp for family reunification and foster care placement, bringing the total number of unaccompanied minors and separated children in the camp to 3,565. Among the new arrivals were also 12 children with disabilities, who will be provided with wheelchairs and crutches. Ajuong Thok camp is home to 40,937 refugees, while Yida hosts 66,472 people.

Upper Nile

- In Doro camp, UNHCR registered 63 Sudanese new arrivals from Blue Nile State. In coordination with South Sudan's Commission for Refugee Affairs (CRA) and other partners, UNHCR relocated them to Kaya camp and provided them with shelter and non-food items.
- In Maban camps, UNHCR partner Lutheran World Federation (LWF) trained 162 foster care parents on child protection, child rights, and child abuse prevention, with the aim to create a healthy and conducive environment for the development of the children.
- In Yusul Batil camp, UNHCR and partner Danish Refugee Council (DRC) facilitated a training for refugee leaders on prevention of and response to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV).

Central Equatoria

- In Lasu camp, UNHCR provided psychosocial support, medical and legal assistance to 15 SGBV survivors.
- In Juba, UNHCR conducted a two-day training for 66 officials from the Directorate of Nationality, Passports and Immigration (DNPI) on South Sudanese nationality laws and prevention of statelessness.
- In Juba, UNHCR and partner, Humanitarian Development Consortium (HDC) organized a two-day training on community-based protection for 52 refugees of the newly formed Community Protection Networks and Child Protection Committees. The two structures are responsible for identifying protection cases among the urban refugee community in Juba and referring them to UNHCR and partners for response and follow-up.

Western Equatoria

- In Makpandu camp, UNHCR provided psychosocial support, medical and legal assistance to four SGBV survivors.
- In Makpandu camp, UNHCR conducted a training for 19 traditional leaders on International Refugee Protection, South Sudanese Refugee Act and the role of tradition chiefs in helping protect refugees.

Education

Achievements and Impact

- Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative Fund, also known as DAFI programme, made available 10 scholarships for refugees in South Sudan to enable them to study at universities, colleges and polytechnics abroad. For students and graduates, the DAFI programme serves as a foundation for social and professional development, allowing them to build careers in competitive fields of employment.

Unity

- In Ajuong Thok camp, UNHCR and partners LWF and Action Africa Help International (AAHI) inaugurated a new primary school with some 140 desks, bringing the total number of primary schools to four. Teachers have been recruited and underwent a code of conduct training. In Ajuong Thok, 9,113 students are enrolled in schools, including 1,089 in the Accelerated Learning Programme (ALP), 6,522 in primary schools and 1,502 in secondary education. Given the high number of new arrivals from Sudan's South Kordofan, schools remain overcrowded, with an average of 105 students per classroom. Six semi-permanent classrooms are under construction to ease congestion.

Upper Nile

- In Maban camps, UNHCR partners LWF and Save the Children produced 10,260 school uniforms to help increase school enrollment.

- In Yusuf Batil camp, UNHCR partner LWF produced 265 desks for newly opened Gurmuth Primary School.

Health

Achievements and Impact

Upper Nile

- UNHCR began distributing drugs for Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV/AIDS (PMTCT) to health facilities in Maban camps and Bunj Hospital, as received from the Ministry of Health and UNICEF.

Central Equatoria

- In Lasu camp, UNHCR and partners successfully contained a measles outbreak, which started in mid-January this year. Some 2,759 children have been immunized during the past months. Furthermore, the 52 cases who had been admitted for isolation and treatment have all recovered.

Water and Sanitation

Achievements and Impact

Unity

- In Yida settlement and Ajuong Thok camp, the average water coverage stood respectively at 19 litres per person per day (l/p/d) and 16 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 water, sanitation and hygiene services, UNHCR partner Samaritan's Pursue built three additional water stands and 8 additional communal and family latrines in Ajuong Thok during the reporting period. This brings the total number of water stands to 234 and the total number of latrines to 4,135 (3,611 family toilets and 524 communal toilets). The refugee-to-latrine ratio in Ajuong Thok is 1:11, above UNHCR standards of a maximum 20 latrines per person.

Upper Nile

- In Maban camps, the water supply ranged between 21 and 25 l/p/d and the refugee-to-latrine ratio was 1:14 during the reporting period.

Food Security and Nutrition

Achievements and Impact

Unity

- In Yida settlement, some 2,135 children were screened for malnutrition through Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) test. As a result, 2.5 percent of these children were found to suffer from moderate acute malnutrition and 0.5 percent from severe acute malnutrition. All malnourished children were enrolled in relevant nutrition programmes for treatment.
- In Ajuong Thok camp, UNHCR and partners completed the Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP) distribution for children under two years and for Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLW). BSFP is used to both prevent malnutrition and reduce anaemia.

Upper Nile

- In Maban camps, UNHCR and partners completed BSFP distribution for children under two years.

Central Equatoria

- In Lasu camp, UNHCR conducted MUAC screening amongst 243 refugee and host community children. As a result, 4 percent of children were diagnosed with moderate acute malnutrition and 2 percent with severe acute malnutrition. All malnourished children were enrolled in relevant nutrition programmes for treatment.

Western Equatoria

- In Makpandu camp, UNHCR carried out MUAC screening amongst children and found 16 children suffering from moderate acute malnutrition and another six from severe acute malnutrition. The latter were referred to Yambio State Hospital for treatment while the former were provided with Plumpy'nuts.
- In Makpandu camp, UNHCR partner Word Vision International (WVI) distributed a one-time one-month ration of sorghum to some 3,600 refugees to compensate for the items missing from the previous food distribution, including pulses, salt and oil.



Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

Central Equatoria

- In Lasu camp, UNHCR partner United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) distributed second-hand clothes to 190 refugees with specific needs.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Achievements and Impact

Central Equatoria

- In Lasu camp, UNHCR organized a two-day workshop for refugee camp leaders with a focus on self-management and leadership; camp security and camp management; the roles and responsibilities of village leaders and camp committees members; human rights; refugee law; and code of conduct.



Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) completed distribution of seeds and agricultural tools to 200,000 refugees and their host communities across South Sudan to help them become more self-sufficient in a country facing a serious food crisis. This year, the two agencies have jointly contributed 186 tons of crop seeds, assorted vegetable seeds, hand tools and fishing kits for refugees and local communities in Unity, Upper Nile, Jonglei, Central Equatoria and Western Equatoria. While many have received assistance through direct distributions in the past, in 2016 refugees in Central Equatoria were invited to attend seed fairs for the first time. [Read more](#)

IDP RESPONSE



Protection

COORDINATION

- The Protection Cluster released its Protection Trends Paper for January-March 2016, highlighting trends on forced displacement and population movements, threats against children, gender-based violence, and landmines and explosive remnants of war. [Read more](#)

- The Protection Cluster prepared a guidance note to support field operations vis a vis decision-making and activities relating to the spontaneous departure of internally displaced people (IDP) from the Protection of Civilians (POC) sites. The note, endorsed by the Inter-Cluster Working Group (ICWG) and submitted to the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) for approval, provides interim guidance on spontaneous return until a comprehensive Durable Solutions Framework is developed with the government and the security situation is conducive for a mass organized return. Since the beginning of 2016, it is estimated that over 90,000 IDPs have either returned or relocated from their place of displacement.

OPERATIONS

Unity

- In Bentiu, UNHCR identified and referred 18 SGBV survivors for psychosocial and medical assistance.

Western Equatoria

- In Yambio, UNHCR joined an inter-agency rapid need assessment of IDPs in Yambio and Gangura Payams. The initial findings indicate that some 18,000 IDPs are in urgent need of medical assistance, shelter, water and sanitation, non-food items and psychosocial support.

Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

Unity

- In Bentiu, UNHCR distributed non-food items to some 649 IDP families who had spontaneously returned from Juba.

Upper Nile

- In Melut area, UNHCR partner DRC distributed non-food items to some 1,500 vulnerable IDPs in the Melut POC as well as the IDP settlements in Dethoma I and II, New Paloich and Khor Adar.
- In Maban County, UNHCR partner HDC distributed plastic sheets for the construction of to 129 families who relocated from Tukchecha to their place of origin in Kongo Farjallah.

Eastern Equatoria

- In Melijo IDP site, UNHCR and partner Health Link rebuilt 132 shelters, which had been destroyed by rainy storms.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to USD 47,945,541 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
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation	119,498
Vodafone Foundation	80,541
UN Prog. On HIV/AIDS	80,250
Spain	13,115