

2- 8 July 2012

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Humanitarian organizations in Upper Nile and Unity states are focused on sourcing clean water, and addressing health and sanitation issues, as refugee numbers continue to rise.
- IOM tracking and monitoring estimates that 10,000 people are living in Abyei, with return movements occurring since late 2011 and accelerating since mid-June.
- Food security partners are concerned about possible effects on crops and livestock from rainfall forecasted above 300mm in the western, southern and parts of central regions of South Sudan between June and August.

### 2012 FIGURES

Conflict incidents	177
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Number of people newly displaced	164,331
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Source: OCHA based on reports from local authorities and assessment teams. Figures as of 30 June 2012.



A Sudanese woman prepares the family meal at Yusuf Batil refugee settlement in Upper Nile State (UNHCR)

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## Situation overview

The humanitarian situation in South Sudan remained relatively calm over the week, although the lack of a breakthrough progress in peace negotiations with Sudan could signal further humanitarian challenges ahead. The influx of refugees from Sudan continued to strain the water supply and raise health concerns at refugee sites in Upper Nile and Unity states. At present, partners are engaged in 35 ongoing humanitarian operations in 51 of South Sudan's 79 counties, including assistance to refugees, displaced communities and vulnerable people.

### Deadline nears on outstanding CPA issues

Negotiators from the Governments of South Sudan and Sudan resumed talks on 5 July through African Union (AU) mediation in Addis Ababa, focusing first on establishing a demilitarized buffer zone to prevent border clashes. The two sides face a deadline of 2 August, set by the AU and backed by a UN Security Council resolution, to resolve their disputes on border demarcation, the status of the contested Abyei area, division of oil revenues and other post-Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) issues.

The President of South Sudan Salva Kiir is to meet his counterpart from Sudan, Omar al-Bashir, during the AU summit of 9-16 July in Addis Ababa, their first meeting since last October, the AU said.

### Elders urge two states to talk

Archbishop Desmond Tutu, former President of Ireland Mary Robinson and former President of Finland Martti Ahtisaari met President Kiir, Government officials and humanitarian partners in Juba on 6-8 July to discuss the challenges for South Sudan as it celebrated the first anniversary of its independence. The three dignitaries form part of the Elders, a group of independent global leaders working for peace. The Elders expressed deep concern about the unresolved issues between Sudan and South Sudan. "Dialogue is the only way to resolve their differences and to build two viable states," Archbishop Tutu said.

## Humanitarian challenges, needs and response

### Abyei returns intensify since mid-June

People from Abyei continue to return to areas north of the River Kiir/Bahr el-Arab, after being displaced by conflict which broke out in May 2011. An estimated 10,000 people are living in Abyei north of the river, compared to about 2,000 six months ago, with the return movement particularly intensifying in the second half of June, according to tracking and monitoring teams from the International Organization for Migration (IOM). However, returns to the contested area still appear tentative, mostly involving a few family members

## CLUSTERS

### Lead/Co-lead organization

Education	UNICEF Save the Children
Emergency returns sector	IOM UNHCR
Emergency telecommunications	WFP
Food security & livelihoods	FAO/WFP VSF-B
Health	WHO GOAL
Logistics	WFP
Non-food items & emergency shelter	IOM World Vision
Nutrition	UNICEF ACF
Protection	UNHCR NRC
Water, sanitation & hygiene	UNICEF Medair

*Climate forecasting indicates a higher probability of rainfall above 300mm in the western, southern and parts of the central regions between June and August*

going back to their homes ahead of others, as basic services such as healthcare and education are limited in Abyei.

Humanitarian organizations in South Sudan continue providing assistance in the Agok area, Warrap State and other areas of South Sudan where people displaced from Abyei are concentrated, as well as scaling up response capacity in the Abyei area. Aid agencies anticipate that up to 30,000 people may return by September.

The Abyei Joint Oversight Committee (AJOC) held its fifth meeting on 5 July in Abyei. The AU welcomed the signing of terms of reference for the Joint Military Observer Committee (JMOC) at the meeting. The AJOC also discussed terms of reference of the Inter-Governmental Task Force on Humanitarian Assistance. The AJOC is to meet again on 5 August



Woman returns to Abyei to rebuild her home (UNOCHA)

### Rainfall raises concerns about crops and livestock

The wet season started in nearly all parts of South Sudan by the end of June. Climate forecasting by the Famine Early Warning System network indicated a higher probability of rainfall above 300mm in the western, southern and parts of the central regions of the country between June and August. While the onset of rains will facilitate agricultural cropping and pasture regeneration for livestock, some areas are prone to floods, which could disrupt roads, hamper access to markets and ruin farm assets. Similarly, wet conditions are likely to trigger livestock diseases such as pneumonia, tick-borne diseases, hoof rot in goats, external and internal parasites, and foot and mouth diseases, all of which contribute to food insecurity. Food security partners have sought to improve livestock disease surveillance to help contain and control outbreaks.

### Relief ongoing to people displaced in Northern Bahr el Ghazal

Humanitarian assistance is ongoing in Northern Bahr el Ghazal to people displaced by border conflict in March and April. Education partners delivered exercise books to Gokmachar, where over 3,000 people are displaced. Deliveries to other sites for displaced people at Jaac and Warlang are planned for the coming weeks. Consultations are reportedly proceeding well for the introduction of school feeding at the sites. Health partners have strengthened disease surveillance at the three locations following increased cases of malaria and diarrhea.

Displaced people in Gokmachar, uprooted from neighbouring border areas that remain militarized and highly sensitive, are integrating well and can benefit from access to land in Gokmachar without serious obstacles, according to a Protection Cluster assessment mission. Protection partners continue working with the payam-level land council to resolve any local land-related disputes that might arise. Partners started work to establish the first child-friendly space in Gokmachar, due to open within a week. Gender-based violence partners reported cases of rape and forced or early marriage among the displaced people in Gokmachar, with response planning underway, including plans for case management of rape.

Food security and livelihood partners reported a shortage of seeds and tools in Jaac, Gokmachar, Warlang and Rumaker. Seeds and tools were provided to 300 households in Gokmachar, but seeds are in very short supply, with partners indicating that over 2,000 households are still in need. Food security cluster members are mobilizing tools, seeds and other agricultural inputs at state and national level.

## REFUGEES

### Numbers in Upper Nile

Doro	45,521
Jamman	32,361
Yusuf Batil	35,690
<b>Total</b>	<b>113,572</b>

### Numbers in Unity

Yida	64,317
Pariang	1,011
Nyeel	844
<b>Total</b>	<b>66,172</b>

Source: UNHCR, figures as of 6 July 2012

*A mass health screening is being undertaken to obtain better data on mortality rates and vaccination coverage rates across refugee sites in Upper Nile and Unity states*

*Over 2,500 returnees in Renk are finalizing their arrangements to travel to Juba by an IOM-supported barge*

## Refugee updates

### Efforts continue to address water shortages in Upper Nile's refugee sites

Upper Nile State's Maban County hosts about 112,000 refugees from Sudan's Blue Nile State, amid continuing concerns about insufficient supply of clean water. Additional chlorine is being used to treat water at the sites. Partners distributed water containers to all families with children under 5 years of age during the week, while promoting awareness among the refugee community about hygiene, health and nutrition risks.

Most of the people at the Jamman refugee site are being relocated to other sites, as floods are compromising hygiene, and clean drinking water is scarce. While refugees were initially reluctant to move, community mobilization efforts are producing positive results. Aid agencies have been working with local authorities to identify more sites with reliable water sources to ease pressure on existing refugee settlements and accommodate expected new arrivals.

The few roads in the area have become largely impassable due to heavy rains and flooding. This has slowed the delivery of humanitarian assistance. Using helicopters to move lifesaving drilling equipment to areas in need is being considered, but a lack of funds is hampering efforts.

### Congestion at Yida refugee site requires health and sanitation response

The health situation in Unity State's refugee settlements has become a key humanitarian priority, as conditions worsen under the strain of continuing large refugee inflows and flooding from torrential rains. The population in Unity State's Yida refugee site has more than doubled since early May, to about 64,000 people. Yida occupies a limited strip of land, which is already congested and is increasingly cut-off by rains. Health partners reported a sharp increase in diarrhea at the site during the week. More wells are being drilled to secure clean and sufficient drinking water and improved sanitation.

In light of the weakened state of many refugees on arrival to Unity State, large-scale programmes are required to prevent their health from deteriorating further. Health organizations are undertaking a mass health screening to obtain better data on mortality rates and vaccination coverage rates across all refugee sites in Upper Nile and Unity states.

## Returns to South Sudan

### Movements through returnee hubs continue

Over 2,500 South Sudanese returnees are registered to travel on an IOM-supported barge, which will carry the group from Upper Nile's Renk to Juba. Loading of the barges with luggage is underway and the movement is expected to depart Renk by next week. This will leave over 16,000 still in transit in Renk, waiting on transport to move to final destinations across South Sudan. In the meantime, returnees continue to move in and out of Renk spontaneously. About 650 people arrived and some 700 departed between 27 June and 3 July.

In Malakal, Upper Nile State, returnees moved from the transit site to the way station, where humanitarian assistance can be more easily provided. A total of over 400 returnees are being hosted at the way station as they wait for onward transport by barge, which is being organized by IOM.

In Juba, some 1,300 returnees remain at the transit site on the outskirts of the city, following continued IOM-supported movements to parts of Central Equatoria State. A further movement is planned shortly to bring some 250 individuals to the Greater Bahr el

Ghazal region. Another verification exercise at the site will be conducted shortly to update information on the intended final destinations of returnees and their intentions to move from the transit site.

Almost 407,000 South Sudanese have arrived from Sudan to South Sudan since October 2010, with close to 1,000 arriving in the latest reporting week from 27 June to 3 July.

Returnees*				By type		
State	Previous total	New arrivals 27 June – 3 July	Updated total	Government assisted	Spontan- eous	Un- specified
Unity	88,016	0	88,016	32,462	55,554	0
N. Bahr el Ghazal	72,757	11	72,768	25,076	46,301	1,391
Upper Nile	73,458	566	74,024	25,797	33,077	15,150
Central Equatoria	53,459	258	53,717	37,348	16,369	0
Warrap	37,155	59	37,214	17,664	10,293	9,257
W. Bahr el Ghazal	25,469	27	25,496	10,882	14,614	0
Jonglei	21,667	18	21,685	16,090	5,565	30
Lakes	17,475	0	17,475	15,704	1,501	270
Eastern Equatoria	13,654	36	13,690	11,833	1,857	0
Western Equatoria	2,682	0	2,682	1,960	673	49
<b>Total</b>	<b>405,792</b>	<b>975</b>	<b>406,767</b>	<b>194,816</b>	<b>185,804</b>	<b>26,147</b>

\*since 30 October 2010. Contains only verified IOM data unless otherwise noted. Figures as of 3 July 2012.

## Returnees reintegrate into South Sudanese society

South Sudanese returning home continue to reintegrate into new communities across the country. In Eastern Equatoria State, a joint assessment team visited returnees settling in rural areas of Torit County to understand their needs. The team reported that food, shelter and household items were required for the returnees, as well as a need to set up education and health facilities. In Lakes State, household item kits including fishing gear, soap, blankets, jerry cans and plastic sheeting are being distributed to some 10,000 returnees to support their reintegration.

Returnees in Upper Nile State's Maban County report difficulty reintegrating with local communities, in particular due to the strain on the county from the massive refugee influx from Sudan's Blue Nile State. An assessment team visited Maban County on 28 June and is working with the Reintegration Theme Group – a coordination group for reintegration made up of Government, UN partners and NGOs – to provide transition support to help returnees with reintegration and longer term sustainability.

This report was prepared by the OCHA South Sudan office in collaboration with humanitarian partners. If you have inputs for the next edition, or questions/comments on the current issue, please contact: [ochasouthsudan@un.org](mailto:ochasouthsudan@un.org)

*Some 10,000 returnees in Lakes State are being provided with household kits to support their reintegration to new communities*