

13-19 August 2012

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Mass hygiene and sanitation campaigns continued in settlements hosting Sudanese refugees in Upper Nile and Unity states.
- WFP airdropped enough food to feed 15,000 people for 30 days, to refugee sites in Upper Nile's Maban County.
- Food inflation increased by 73 per cent year-to-year as of June, according to the National Bureau of Statistics.

### 2012 FIGURES

Conflict incidents	200
Number of people newly displaced	164,331

Source: OCHA based on reports from local authorities and assessment teams. Figures as of 15 August 2012.

### BASELINE

Population (NBS)	8.26 million
GDP per capita (SSNBS)	\$1,546
% pop living on less than \$1.25 per day (UNDP)	51%
Life expectancy (Health Survey 2006)	42 years
Under-five mortality (MoH)	135/1,000
<5 global acute malnutrition rate (SSNBS)	18.1%



A plane takes the runway in Ethiopia to drop some 32 metric tons of wheat over refugee sites in Upper Nile State (WFP).

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## Situation overview

Humanitarian organizations continued to respond to the emergency needs of about 170,000 Sudanese refugees in Upper Nile and Unity states, where hygiene and sanitation campaigns were of utmost concern to partners on the ground. Seasonal flooding has affected almost all of South Sudan's states, with relief organizations carrying out assessments and mobilizing response operations to people affected by the floods.

On the food security front, the food inflation rate increased by 73 per cent year-to-year as of June, according to the National Bureau of Statistics, eroding the purchasing power of South Sudanese households.

## Humanitarian challenges, needs and response

### Seasonal flooding continues to impact several states

Seasonal flooding continued to impact several areas across South Sudan, including Greater Bahr el Ghazal, Warrap, Unity, Upper Nile, Jonglei, Lakes and Central Equatoria.

Rapid inter-agency assessments are planned for Jonglei's Bor South, Ayod, Pochalla and Nyirol counties. A special flight is scheduled to visit Ayod County and Lankien in Nyirol County from 21-23 August to assess any humanitarian impact of recent flooding. Partners are considering sending critical emergency supplies with assessment teams to speed up the response. Partners on the ground reported that the floods affected large areas in Lankien. The town is the reception point for people from surrounding areas affected by flooding, placing pressure on the health facility located there. An inter-agency assessment is planned to Bor on 22 August.



Lankien airstrip in Jonglei State affected by heavy flooding (MSF).

Flooding was also reported in Aweil South in Northern Bahr el Ghazal State, with an inter-agency assessment undertaken on 17 August. The needs identified were water, sanitation, hygiene and health support, and partners are mobilizing relief.

Multiple locations in Warrap State were also reportedly affected by flooding. An inter-agency assessment is scheduled to be carried out in the area from 21-24 August, to identify the humanitarian impacts of the rains.

## 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

## 2.4 million

food-insecure people targeted (4.7 million at risk of food insecurity. Source: CAP MYR 2012)

## REFUGEES

### Numbers in Upper Nile

Doro	41,787
Jamman	23,196
Yusuf Batil	34,112
Gendrassa	6,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>105,595</b>

### Numbers in Unity

Yida	60,366
Pariang	1,051
Nyeel	844
<b>Total</b>	<b>62,261</b>

Source: UNHCR, figures as of 18 August 2012.

In addition to potential immediate humanitarian needs resulting from flooding, partners will monitor the impact of possible crop destruction in relation to longer-term food insecurity.

### 73 per cent food inflation hits households hard

The food inflation rate increased by 73 per cent year-to-year as of June, according to the National Bureau of Statistics. This greatly impacts South Sudanese households by eroding purchasing power, stretching coping mechanisms and pushing people further towards food insecurity.

The inflation rate was 81 per cent for cereals and bread, 50 per cent for meat, and 33 per cent for oil and fats. The nominal retail prices of food staples white sorghum, wheat flour and broad beans stood above long term average (2007 -2011) at 30-280 per cent and at 20-200 per cent more than prices in June 2011, according to the World Food Programme's monthly price monitoring.

About 80 per cent of households assessed in June reported that increases in the price of food commodities were one of the main shocks they faced in the last three months. With the ability to buy less with their money, households are more likely to cut down on meal portions and to eat less nutritious food. A combination of high fuel prices and a dip in the foreign exchange rate are the key drivers of high food prices, according to the Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster.

### First open defecation free village in South Sudan

Adiem village in Warrap State has become the first village in South Sudan to achieve Open Defecation Free status. The small village, which consists of 68 households, has ended the practice of open defecation by digging pit latrines and constructing a structure over them using locally available materials. This follows the introduction of a new approach to combat the country's poor sanitation situation. The approach being championed by the Government, and water, sanitation and hygiene partners is called Community Led Total Sanitation. Through the approach communities appraise and analyze their sanitation practices and take appropriate corrective measures. Community Led Total Sanitation emphasizes behaviour change as the key to sanitation improvement. It triggers a realization in the community of the harmful consequences of open defecation and a desire to take action. The initiatives by the communities have resulted in greater ownership and sustainability of latrine use practice. The NGO, ACTED, with the support of UNICEF, initiated Community Led Total Sanitation in Adiem in March, and within three months the village had entirely stopped the practice of open defecation.

## Refugee updates

### Airdrops re-establish lifesaving food pipeline to refugees in Upper Nile

The World Food Programme (WFP) launched an emergency airdrop operation on 15 August to deliver food to refugees in Upper Nile State's Maban County, where an influx of people fleeing conflict in Sudan's Blue Nile State has brought a sharp rise in food needs. The airdrop is being used as a last resort following a river transport operation which was slower and less reliable. Since the beginning of the airdrop operation, WFP has dropped 224 metric tons of wheat, enough to feed 15,000 people for 30 days. The limited airdrop operation is supplementing food arriving by river, to complete distributions for 105,000 refugees in August. Further airdrops are planned in northern Unity State to cover the needs of over 60,000 people at the Yida refugee site, which is expected to remain inaccessible until January 2013.

### Mass hygiene and sanitation campaigns continue in refugee sites

Expanded hygiene and sanitation campaigns continued in Upper Nile and Unity states in a concerted effort to curb high rates of waterborne and hygiene-related illnesses. As climatic factors foster conditions for life-threatening illnesses to flourish, malnutrition,

*In Yusuf Batil, where the crisis is most severe, refugees are increasingly visiting 20 oral rehydration points, and UNHCR is starting to see a decrease in the number of cases of deaths due to diarrhea.*

*The newest refugee site, Gendrassa, is almost fully equipped to provide adequate water for an initial population of 10,000 people thanks to the successful drilling of six boreholes.*

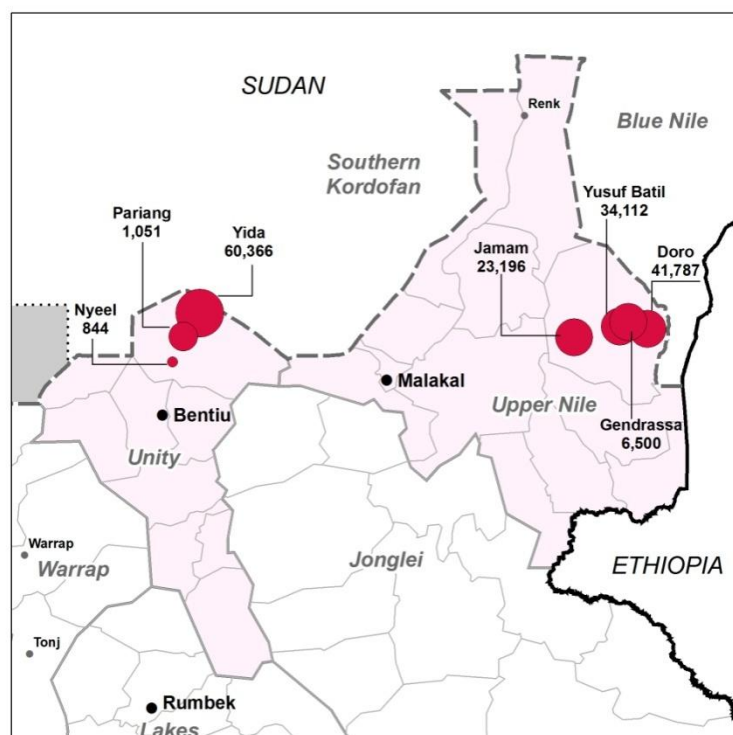
morbidity and mortality rates remained alarming despite strong efforts to mitigate the situation.

In Upper Nile's Yusuf Batil, where the crisis is most severe, refugees are increasingly visiting 20 oral rehydration points, and the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) is starting to see a decrease in the number of cases of deaths due to diarrhea. These oral rehydration points can serve a total of 16,000 people, or nearly half the camp's population. Health organizations are conducting more than 4,000 consultations per week. Sixteen measles cases have been identified and a mass measles vaccination campaign is being launched to prevent a potential outbreak. All children under five - or nearly 9,000 children - will be vaccinated by early next week. To tackle high malnutrition rates partners have begun distributing food to all children under five, and are providing extra food for pregnant and lactating women. The rate of admittance for children under the age of five into the severe acute malnutrition programme remains at 15 per cent, or approximately 1,600 children.

Also in refugee settlements in Upper Nile, community hygiene promoters are in place to work with refugees to improve hygiene. In preparedness for epidemic diseases such as cholera and bloody diarrhea, two dumping sites have been built for wastewater at contingency treatment facilities. To meet the international SPHERE standard latrine ratio of one latrine for 20 people, teams continued to build new latrines, replace those that have been decommissioned, and improve latrine conditions.

The newest site in Maban County, Gendrassa, is almost fully equipped to provide adequate water for an initial population of 10,000 people, due to the successful drilling of six boreholes. Currently, 75 per cent of refugees are within 500 meters of a water point.

Health partners are also working to improve hygiene and sanitation conditions. In Unity State's Yida refugee site, the largest settlement hosting refugees in South Sudan. Four outpatient therapeutic programme sites are now fully operational, and the sites have admitted more than 1,100 malnourished children to date. Eight boreholes are also fully operational.



Refugee influx from Sudan's Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile states into South Sudan.

## Returns to South Sudan

### Returnees continue to transit across South Sudan

Over the week, some 600 returnees were tracked in transit to their final destinations in South Sudan. Spontaneous returns from Sudan continued in Upper Nile State during the reporting period, with 262 people arriving at Mina, Abayok and Payuer transit sites. The final destinations for most of this group of returnees are Upper Nile and Jonglei states.

*IOM estimates that 113,292 returnees returned to South Sudan since January 2012.*

## Consolidated Appeal FUNDING

**1.2 billion**

requested (US\$)

**577 million**

received (US\$)

**50%** funded

Source: Financial Tracking  
Service

About 640 returnees were also tracked departing Renk spontaneously, heading to various counties within Upper Nile.

The convoy of eight barges carrying over 2,700 returnees from Renk to Juba reached Upper Nile's Malakal between 13-14 August. Some 30 people disembarked at Malakal. On 18 August, the convoy continued onto Adok in Unity State. The barges are expected to reach Juba within 10 days, while stopping at other various points en route, including Bor in Jonglei State.

On 16 August, onward transport by road was organized from Juba's way station for 100 returnees wishing to reach Western Bahr el Ghazal and Western Equatorial states.

### **Emergency assistance ongoing for returnees at Juba transit centre**

Discussions continued among government officials and humanitarian agencies about the relocation of some 1,600 returnees remaining at the National Teacher Training Institute in Juba, which was set up as a transit centre for returnees arriving from Sudan's Kosti in May and June. In the meantime, humanitarian assistance continued at the transit site, including health, water, sanitation and hygiene support. Government partners are leading the relocation process and demarcation of the land plots in new site, located some 35 kilometers outside Juba in Terekeka County.

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)