

HIGHLIGHTS

- Violence in Wau, Western Bahr el Ghazal results in temporary displacement of 5,000 civilians in UN mission
- Number of new arrivals from Democratic Republic of Congo decreases significantly
- Aid agencies respond to 4,000 displaced people in Jaac, Northern Bahr el Ghazal State

2012 FIGURES

Conflict incidences 288

Number of people newly displaced 174,086

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

FUNDING

1.2 billion
requested (US\$)

766 million
received (US\$)

65.1% funded

Source: Finance Tracking Service

Aid agencies are monitoring the situation in Wau in case of possible humanitarian consequences.



Returnees from Sudan start to build their own villages back in South Sudan (UNHCR).

In this issue

- [Situation overview P.1](#)
- [Humanitarian Updates P.1](#)
- [Refugee Updates P.2](#)
- [Returns to South Sudan P.4](#)

Situation overview

About 5,000 civilians sought protection in the UN Mission (UNMISS) compound in the town of Wau, Western Bahr el Ghazal State after violence broke out on 19 December. By 22 December all civilians had left the compound. Aid agencies will continue monitoring the situation in case of humanitarian consequences.

The violence in Wau also delayed the movement of extremely vulnerable individuals (EVIs) to Western Bahr el Ghazal State.

Some 4,000 individuals who fled fighting from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) into South Sudan on 13 December have started returning to their homes. According to UN refugee agency (UNHCR), less than 1,000 people remain in Morobo County, Central Equatoria State.

In Northern Bahr el Ghazal State, aid agencies are concerned that lack of adequate water at the new Rumtiit site may delay the ongoing relocation of returnees. Available water facilities can only cater for 100 families, way below what is required for 500 families expected to settle in the new site.

Humanitarian challenges, needs and response

Violence in Wau results in temporary displacement

Violence between different groups in Wau town, Western Bahr el Ghazal State, on 19 December resulted in some 5,000 civilians, the majority of whom were women and children including unaccompanied minors, seeking refuge in the United Nations peacekeeping mission (UNMISS) compound.

An unconfirmed number of homes and shops were also destroyed. By 22 December all civilians had left the UNMISS compound, returning to their homes as the security situation stabilized.

The humanitarian community ensured that it had sufficient emergency stocks prepositioned in and around Wau to respond to identified humanitarian needs.

An inter-agency mission will assess and respond to any humanitarian needs for people whose homes have been destroyed.

The recent outbreak of insecurity comes within ten days after another protest turned violent in Wau resulting in the death of nine people and an unconfirmed number of injured.

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%

Fewer than 1,000 people remain in Central Equatoria State compared to 4,000 on 13 December

Aid to Gumuruk in Jonglei State delayed

The tragic shooting down of a United Nations helicopter resulting in the deaths of the four crew members, in Jonglei on 21 December will also impact on humanitarian assistance planned to be provided to the some 2,500 displaced people registered in Gumuruk who had fled their homes in November 2012 but have since returned.

Efforts by aid agencies to access these displaced people were hindered by logistical and security challenges in Pibor County, Jonglei. Recently, aid agencies successfully overcame the challenges that disrupted both access and delivery of aid. Verification and registration of the displaced people was finally conducted in villages of Thodo and Lawul, in Gumuruk, Pibor. Distribution of relief materials including household kits containing mosquito nets, blankets, plastic sheeting and kitchen equipment was planned for 28 to 31 December. Due to insecurity following the downing of the UN helicopter, humanitarian partners will be unable to access Gumuruk as planned. Partners stand ready to assist once access is possible.

Aid agencies respond to 4,000 displaced people in Jaac

Aid agencies are responding to the urgent needs of some 4,000 displaced people in Jaac, Northern Bahr el Ghazal State. These are from communities displaced by aerial bombardments between 20 and 23 November in the surrounding areas of Kiir Adem.

More than 560 families that arrived at Jaac on 27 November from the villages of Nyinthom, Majong Anei and Marol Laac near Kiir Adem, received household kits containing mosquito nets, blankets and kitchen equipment as a first line of response pending a comprehensive assessment.

Due to insecurity, earlier attempts to conduct an inter-agency assessment were postponed until 17 December. The assessment, however, established that the transit site lacked sanitary facilities resulting in diarrhea cases mainly among children. A local clinic is reportedly overwhelmed by the increasing demand for services.

Food salvaged from previous harvests while in Kiir Adem, was fast depleting, forcing many to supplement with wild foods. Aid agencies mobilized support and have launched an emergency response to address the identified gaps starting with a food distribution.

Refugee update

Number of new arrivals from the Democratic Republic of Congo decreased significantly

Some 4,000 individuals who fled fighting from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) into South Sudan on 13 December have started returning to their homes. According to UN refugee agency (UNHCR), less than 1,000 of the original 4,000 people remain in Morobo County, Central Equatoria State.

Reports suggest that many people have returned to the Democratic Republic of Congo to harvest, while others secured shelter with family members in nearby villages.

Aid agencies continue to provide lifesaving assistance to the group, one third of who are under the age of five. So far, only a small number of people were identified as having early signs of malnutrition. Aid agencies have procured additional high-energy biscuits and other nutritional food to reduce the risk of malnutrition among the group. Those in need of medical care were transported to a local health unit. UNHCR will facilitate the relocation of the group to a new site identified by authorities, about 25 kilometers from the border.

REFUGEES

Numbers in Upper Nile

Doro	44,741
Gendrassa	14,706
Jamam	15,717
Yusuf Batil	37,199
Total	112,363

Numbers in Unity

Nyeel	827
Pariang	763
Yida	56,079
Total	57,669

Source: UNHCR, figures as of 23 December 2012.

Aid agencies will carry out a mass education campaign on proper hygiene practice to control Hepatitis E

New arrivals in Jamam, Upper Nile State, report bombardments

New arrivals evacuated from El Fuj to Jamam in Upper Nile State have reported aerial bombardments in parts of Blue Nile State, burnt villages and the presence of armed forces hampering their movement to the border of South Sudan.

Household kits were given to the more than 270 new arrivals who were moved to Jamam last week. Aid agencies have ensured access to adequate water supply in the settlement. There are currently 15,717 refugees living in Jamam temporary settlement.

Fire outbreaks raise alarm in Yida refugee settlement, Unity State

There has been an alarming increase of fire outbreaks in Yida refugee settlement in Unity State, since the onset of the dry season. These incidences are mainly caused by people cooking inside shelters. Aid agencies are conducting sensitization sessions which include training on fire prevention and how to safely extinguish fires using local materials such as sand.

By 23 December several large shelters, housing more than 60 unaccompanied girls aged between seven and 18, were burnt. Some 26 individuals from five households also lost their belongings in separate fire incidents in recent weeks.

UNHCR identified family members for 37 girls and 16 moved in with relatives. Additional relief items were provided to the families to ensure the new living arrangements are suitable for the girls. The remaining girls were paired with other unaccompanied girls under care takers for their safety and wellbeing. Relatives or foster care families will be identified for them.

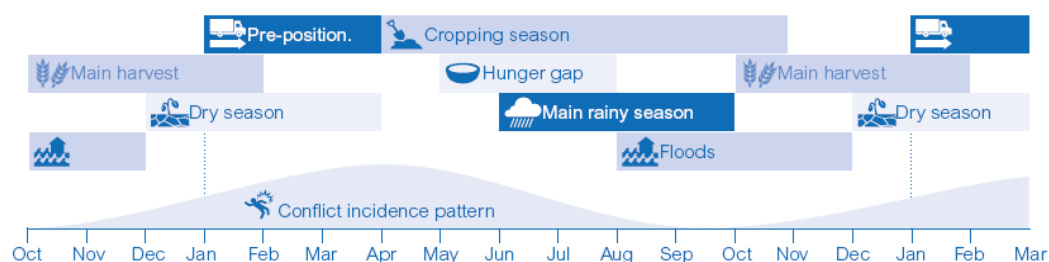
A family reunion exercise by aid agencies significantly reduced the number of unaccompanied girls between June and July. However the number started increasing again with the arrival of the new wave of refugees in September and October and aid agencies have stepped up efforts to ensure that unaccompanied girls are protected in the settlements.

Mass education to control Hepatitis E in Batil, Upper Nile State

Health partners are responding to cases of Hepatitis E in Batil refugee temporary settlement, in Upper Nile State after about 30 cases of the viral disease were reported.

Response activities to contain the disease before it spreads further within the settlement and to host communities have been stepped up. Aid agencies will carry out a mass education campaign on proper hygiene practice in the refugee communities, alongside a mass oral cholera vaccination exercise.

According to the World Health Organization, Hepatitis E is a liver disease caused by the hepatitis E virus transmitted mainly through contaminated drinking water including poor hygiene.



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 Merlin
Logistics	WFP
Non-food items & emergency shelter	IOM World Vision
Nutrition	UNICEF ACF
Protection	UNHCR NRC
Water, sanitation & hygiene	UNICEF Medair

Returns to South Sudan

Returnees arrive at Renk checkpoint, Upper Nile

A convoy of 32 buses and 4 trucks arrived at Upper Nile's Renk checkpoint on 19 December carrying 944 returnees. These are among groups of South Sudanese that have been waiting in many open spaces in Khartoum to return to South Sudan.

The number of returnees received at Renk check point shows an increase of 78 from the 866 verified at departure point in Jebel Awlia in Khartoum, Sudan. These additional returnees are reported to have joined the group along the way to Renk.

Some 656 returnees are headed for Maban, Malakal and Renk towns in Upper Nile State, while the rest are heading to Jonglei and Unity States. Aid agencies are providing food, water, medical services and ensuring protection in transit and at the reception centers.

Wau violence delays movement of vulnerable

The movement of 346 extremely vulnerable individuals (EVIs) by air, from Khartoum to Western Bahr el Ghazal State, was postponed after violence broke out in Wau town. Aid agencies are ready to support the resumption of the movement on 24 December if the security situation improves.

Another EVI air operation is currently underway for some 170 returnees headed for Aweil in Northern Bahr el Ghazal State. Aid agencies are providing support at the reception centres, including registration of returnees, shelter, food, water and sanitation and health services. The returnees also receive household kits containing mosquito nets, blankets, plastic sheeting and kitchen equipment and additional support for onward transport to final destinations.

Water shortage threatens Rumtiit relocation

In Northern Bahr el Ghazal State, aid agencies are concerned that lack of adequate water at the new Rumtiit site may disrupt the ongoing relocation of returnees.

By 21 December, some 700 people were relocated from Maduany transit site in Aweil to Rumtiit in an exercise that is targeting 500 families.

The only available water point can provide for approximately 100 families, way below what is required for 500 families expected to settle in the new site. Water and sanitation cluster partners have bolstered the current water point to improve coverage but are considering to drill additional boreholes as a long term solution and to avert outbreaks of diseases. Humanitarian actors have been supporting the movement process including registration of and transportation provision for returnees.

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