

19-25 November 2012

### HIGHLIGHTS

- The presence of armed elements in refugee sites in Upper Nile State is of increasing concern, according to the UN refugee agency, UNHCR.
- Aid agencies are preparing for distribution of humanitarian assistance to conflict-affected communities in Jonglei State.
- Food security continues to show slight improvements, but remains fragile, according to preliminary results of the latest IPC analysis.

### 2012 FIGURES

Conflict incidents	253
Number of people newly displaced	172,970

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

*Some 5,500 people in Jonglei's Pibor town remain displaced by recent insecurity.*



Refugees witnessing an airdrop over Yida Camp in Upper Nile State (Logistics Cluster)

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## Situation overview

Aid organizations are alarmed about increasing reports of the presence of armed elements in refugee sites in Upper Nile State, hosting some 111,000 Sudanese people. About 700 new refugees arrived in Yida, Unity State over the last week, about a third compared to the week before. The disputed Mile 14 area in the Northern Bahr El Ghazal State border area was reportedly bombed 20- 22 November. While no humanitarian consequences were reported aid organizations are concerned about the impact of further violence on civilians. In Jonglei State, humanitarian partners are preparing to distribute household and WASH items to about 5,500 displaced people in Pibor town affected by recent insecurity. The overall food security situation in South Sudan is predicted to improve slightly, according to the latest IPC analysis, but the situation remains fragile.

## Humanitarian challenges, needs and response

### Concern over bombing in Northern Bahr el Ghazal border area

Aid agencies were concerned about the humanitarian impact of aerial bombing reported in the disputed Mile 14 area from 20-22 November. The security situation in the area, which lies between Northern Bahr-el-Ghazal State and Sudan's South Darfur State, was tense and unpredictable following the bombing.

An inter-agency humanitarian assessment was carried out in Gochmachar on 23 November in response to reports of people displaced by the insecurity. The assessment team did not identify people freshly displaced by the bombs. An assessment to verify reports of people displaced in Wachum, located about 9kms from Gochmachar, is scheduled to be carried out on 27 November.

Close to 10,000 people displaced from earlier bombardments in March and April in the KiirAdem area of Mile 14 are thought to remain displaced.

### Humanitarian partners respond in Pibor

The security situation in Pibor County remained tense with clashes reported between the South Sudan army and non-state armed actors in Likuongole on 19 November. While there are still about 5,500 people from Likuongole registered in Pibor town, more people are believed to be in the area between Likuongole and Pibor, totaling up to 10,000 people.

Aid agencies have positioned household items, water, sanitation and hygiene supplies in Pibor town, and food is due to be flown in imminently. The Protection Cluster has voiced concerns that people may be robbed of their rations on their way back home having collected them in town. Unexploded ordnances pose another concern, especially around Gumuruk. The Protection Cluster is working with communities to identify the most appropriate method for distributions which will address these issues.

## 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%

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

## Food security continues to show slight improvements, but remains fragile

The preliminary report of the November Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis concludes that the overall food security situation continued to show slight improvements, although the situation remains fragile. The main reason for the overall improvement is enhanced agricultural production due to average to above average rains, and a good harvest in the first season in the bimodal rainfall zone.

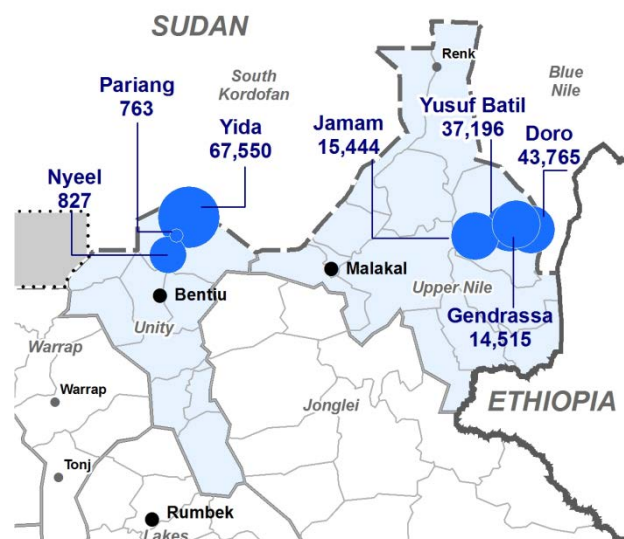
The projected situation between November and early March 2013 is however mixed with a worsening predicted in parts of Jonglei, Lakes and Northern Bahr-el-Ghazal states. This is likely because of crop destruction following this year's flooding, conflict over grazing resources, cattle-rustling in Jonglei and Lakes states, human and livestock disease outbreaks, and border tension with Sudan in the Northern Bahr-el-Ghazal area. Humanitarian partners are planning to provide food assistance to 2.3 million people in 2013.

## Refugee update

### Aid agencies concerned about armed elements in refugee sites

Humanitarian partners are alarmed about increasing reports of the presence of armed elements in refugee sites in Upper Nile State's Maban County, hosting some 111,000 Sudanese refugees. The presence of armed personal among the refugees undermines the civilian character of asylum and endangers refugees and humanitarian workers.

Relief organizations are implementing a number of measures to mitigate the presence of combatants in the four settlements in Upper Nile. Registration personnel have been trained to detect armed elements.



Refugee arrivals from Sudan's South Kordofan and Blue Nile states into South Sudan. Source: UNHCR

New refugee arrivals are being screened and any person suspected to be a combatant referred to the Protection Unit. In several cases, new arrivals have been denied registration.

The UN refugee agency, UNHCR, continues to have discussions with local authorities as well as national and international stakeholders regarding the removal of non-civilians from the Maban settlements. It is advocating with local authorities to conduct screening and disarming of combatants at border points, and to carry out weapons checks outside the refugee sites. UNHCR is also educating local police authorities on refugee law, particularly on the exclusion of combatants from refugee camps. Protection partners continue to monitor the situation closely.

### Biometric registration begins in Yida

A new process to register refugees using biometrics – or fingerprinting - was launched in South Sudan's largest refugee site, Yida, on 22 November. The registration was due to

start two weeks ago but was delayed due to technical issues. Biometric registration will provide humanitarian partners a more accurate baseline population, critical for 2013 planning. As more refugees arrive, more detailed and up-to-date data will help organizations to pre-position food and relief items to meet increasing needs.

Since its launch on 22 November, 4,351 refugees have been verified using biometrics. The process will continue for about one month to register the population of the camp, which is thought to host about 60,000 people. So far, the registration has identified almost 400 cases of fraud. About 700 new refugees have arrived in Yida over the week, about a third of the number compared with the previous week.

## Returns to South Sudan continue

### Verification and registration of returnees underway in Renk

Data from a recently concluded verification exercise of the four sites where returnees are stranded in Renk in Upper Nile State is undergoing analysis and should be released in the coming week. The exercise updated information on stranded returnees, including their overall numbers and their desired final destinations, which will help to plan for further transport assistance and reintegration.

At the same time, manifesting and loading of luggage of about 1,000 returnees is ongoing for the next barge movement from Renk to Juba, supported by the humanitarian community. Despite the severe logistic challenges of moving returnees from Renk, movement has been consistent throughout the year, with some 9,200 returnees moved from Renk to final destinations by both barge and bus in 2012. Overall, about 136,500 returnees are estimated to have arrived in South Sudan in 2012, including 678 from 16-22 November.

### Returnees prepare to move to Maban from Renk

Some 800 returnees stranded in Renk have expressed their wish to proceed to Maban County, where preparations for their arrival are proceeding. For returnees who do not have family ties or other access to land, land for settlement has been identified by local authorities. Plans are already in place for humanitarian partners to support the site during the initial phase of settlement, such as the provision of about twenty communal latrines, health services and other basic services. Once a clean water supply system has been established and hygiene promotion arranged it will be possible for these returnees to settle. Another 90 returnee households reportedly residing among the refugees in the area will also move to this site to settle permanently.

*IOM estimates that about 136,500 people returned from South Sudan from Sudan since January 2012.*

### Consolidated Appeal

## FUNDING

**1.2 billion**  
requested (US\$)

**724 million**  
received (US\$)

**62%** funded

Source: Financial Tracking Service

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