

21-27 January 2013

HIGHLIGHTS

- Hepatitis E surge was confirmed in Upper Nile State refugee campsites and has infected 3,319 people and led to 69 deaths since July 2012.
- A clash between two factions of the same armed group affected about 2,500 people in Pibor town, Jonglei State.
- Food prices to remain high in the border areas.

BASELINE

Population 2008 (NBS)	8.26 million
GDP per capita (NBS)	\$1,546
Pop. living below poverty line (NBHS)	51%
Life expectancy (SHHS)	42 years
Child mortality (SHHS)	105/1,000
Maternal mortality (SHHS)	2,054/100,000
>5 global acute Malnutrition (NBS)	18.1%
Adult literacy (NBS)	27%
Net enrolment secondary education	1.6%
Households using improved sanitation (SHHS)	7.4%
Households with improved drinking water sources (SHHS)	68.7%



About 1,500 people returned to Abyei region from Western Bahr el Ghazal State last week (IOM)

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Situation overview

Humanitarian organizations continued to respond to the needs of people affected or displaced by inter-communal violence and cattle-raiding across the country. Recent clashes in Jonglei State's Pibor County resulted in temporary displacement of 2,500 people.

Food security partners warned that food commodity prices, especially white sorghum and wheat flour, will remain high throughout the dry season in border areas, even after the December harvest.

The Ministry of Health, UNHCR and WHO confirmed a surge in the number of cases of Hepatitis E in the four refugee camps in Upper Nile State, which has infected 3,319 people and led to 69 deaths since July 2012.

Humanitarian challenges, needs and response

Fighting affects 2,500 people in Jonglei State

A clash between two factions of the same armed group in Pibor town, Jonglei State, on 27 January caused thousands of people to temporarily flee their homes and seek safety in the bush and at the two UN mission bases.

Approximately 2,500 people reportedly spent the night inside the UN mission (UNMISS) compound because of the insecurity. Humanitarian partners on the ground reported that several houses were burnt around Pibor town.

While the affected people returned to their homes, the situation remained tense and unpredictable. Humanitarian organizations are closely monitoring the situation in case of further skirmishes and possible humanitarian consequences.

Inter-communal fighting displaces 3,000 people in Western Bahr el Ghazal

An inter-agency assessment carried out on 24 January identified about 3,000 people, largely women and children, displaced by inter-communal violence which broke out on 24 January in Raja County, Western Bahr el Ghazal. Preliminary findings indicate that the people displaced are in need of food, shelter, blankets, water and sanitation and humanitarian partners are mobilizing assistance to the people in need.

The displaced people in Western Equatoria State are in need of food, emergency shelter, water and sanitation.

2,300 people from Western Bahr el Ghazal seek safety in Western Equatoria

In Western Equatoria State, an inter-agency assessment confirmed that about 2,300 people, mainly women and children, moved from Western Bahr el Ghazal to Western Equatoria as a precautionary measure, following inter-communal violence which broke out in Wau town in December.

Some 1,120 people are located in Tambura while another group of 1,200 people is in Nagero County, Western Equatoria. Some of these people moved in with relatives while the rest are staying in the open due to limited shelter. The assessment established that most of the people displaced are in need of food, emergency shelter, water and sanitation. Relief organizations are mobilizing support to respond to the identified needs. The number of people moving from Western Bahr el Ghazal to Western Equatoria is expected to increase as insecurity persists in Wau.

Toilet latrines for Abyei people in Warrap State

In Warrap State, humanitarian partners continued to provide assistance to people displaced from Abyei. Over the week, aid agencies finalized the construction of 10 of the planned 34 latrines in Mayen Abun to benefit 612 people. It is hoped this will minimize outbreaks of hygiene related diseases among the displaced community.

Aid partners in collaboration with local authorities engaged with the Abyei people's community leadership to identify sites for the construction of the remaining 24 pit latrines. Mobilization of materials is on-going with construction expected to commence next week.

Aid agencies provide health and hygiene assistance in Jonglei

In Jonglei State, humanitarian partners responded to the health, water and sanitation needs of 6,000 people in Gumuruk. Insecurity continues to delay the delivery of humanitarian assistance to people who returned to Gumuruk after they were displaced to Pibor following persistent hostilities between state and non-state armed forces. Aid agencies are ready to provide comprehensive humanitarian assistance and pre-position supplies before the rainy season, as soon as access and the security situation improves.

Latrines will minimize outbreaks of hygiene related diseases in Warrap State.

Insecurity continues to delay the delivery of aid Gumuruk, Jonglei.

Food security update

Food prices to remain high in the border areas

According to food security partners, food commodity prices, especially white sorghum and wheat flour, remained higher than the 5 year average and those of 2011 in border areas such as Aweil and Bentiu up to December, despite it being immediately after the harvest.

Often, increased food availability after harvests tends to lower food prices. However, an analysis for November and December showed that food prices were still higher than 2011 and the 5-year average. Among the reasons for this include prolonged limited commodity flows from Sudan following border closure and the continued tightening of economic conditions. The implication is that as the dry season progresses and household's food stocks decline, they will have to rely more on markets. The high market prices may therefore impact on their ability to afford adequate amount of food.

Food distributed to 53,000 displaced people of Abyei in Warrap

Food has been distributed to over 53,000 people displaced from the Abyei area in Warrap State. These are among the 110,000 people who were uprooted from their homes in Abyei after fighting broke out in May 2011. They are currently located in Twic and Gogrial West counties in Warrap State.

Meanwhile, to improve access to a variety of basic requirements, food partners are implementing a cash transfer programme in Kuach South Payam, Gogrial West County targeting 200 households especially those affected by seasonal flooding which devastated most parts of Warrap State.

CAP 2013

Funding

1.16 billion
requested (US\$)

4.9 million
received (US\$)

0.4 % funded

Source: Finance Tracking Service, as of 27 January 2013

Refugee update

Hepatitis E surge confirmed in Upper Nile settlements

A surge in the number of cases of Hepatitis E in the four refugee camps has affected 3,319 people and led to 69 deaths since July 2012, the Ministry of Health, UNHCR and WHO confirmed on 26 January.

The increase in the number of cases and suspected cases has mainly affected the Yusuf Batil site, which alone accounted for over 1,900 cases, including 39 deaths, or 71 per cent of all reported new cases. The camp currently holds over 36,000 refugees.

The increase in Hepatitis E in Yusuf Batil was confirmed during a registration exercise in early December which, according to UNHCR, could have been caused by the growth in population due to refugee influx from Sudan's Blue Nile State.

While there is no treatment or WHO-approved vaccine for Hepatitis E, the risk of infection can be significantly reduced by improving water and sanitation conditions and avoiding eating uncooked fruits and vegetables. In response to the spike, aid agencies are accelerating the construction of 700 latrines and additional boreholes in Yusuf Batil, including the distribution of soap and replacement of 22,000 jerry cans suspected to be a source of infection if filled with contaminated water. An additional 5,000 buckets are expected to arrive in the settlement in the coming days. Enhanced disease surveillance, water chlorination, and a health and hygiene promotion campaign in markets, schools, and at the household level are underway.

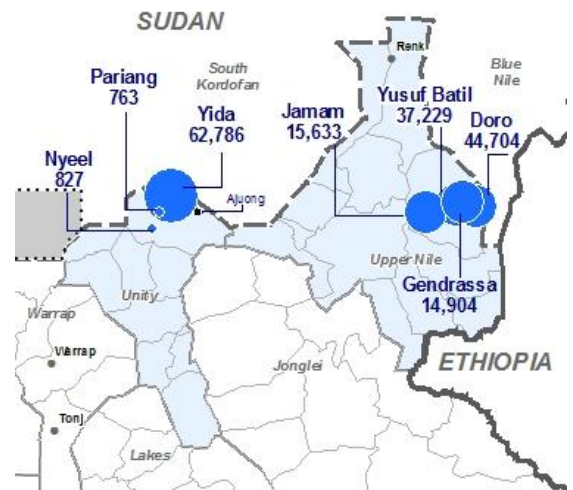
Refugee and host community discuss peaceful coexistence

Aid agencies facilitated a meeting between refugee leaders from Yida and the chiefs of villages near Ajuong, where a new refugee site will be operational from March.

The discussions focused on the rules regarding cattle grazing, firewood collection and the general security situation in the area.

This was the second "go and see" visit aimed at fostering peaceful coexistence between the two communities. More visits will be organized in the coming weeks to allow more refugees the opportunity to view the new site.

During the week, UNHCR registered 2,135 new arrivals from South Kordofan further highlighting the need for new sites in Unity State to host refugees. This is a significant increase from the previous week when some 1,200 refugees were registered in Yida.



Aid agencies are accelerating the construction of latrines and additional boreholes in Yusuf Batil

Hepatitis E has affected 3,319 people and led to 69 deaths in four refugee camps in Upper Nile State.

The risk of infection can be reduced by improving water and sanitation.

REFUGEES

Numbers in Upper Nile

Doro	44,704
Gendrasa	14,904
Jamam	15,633
Yusuf Batil	37,229
Total	112,470

Numbers in Unity

Nyeel	827
Pariang	763
Yida	62,786
Total	64,376

Source: UNHCR, figures as of 27 January 2013.

Over 2,100 new arrivals registered from South Kordofan the past week alone.

2013 FIGURES

Conflict incidents	9
Number of people newly displaced	0

Source: OCHA based on reports from local authorities and assessment teams. Figures as of 15 January 2013.

CLUSTERS

Lead/Co-lead organization

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

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:
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Returns to South Sudan

Strengthening hygiene and sanitation in Northern Bahr El Ghazal

Humanitarian partners launched a hygiene and sanitation campaign in Rumtiit, in Northern Bahr El Ghazal. Rumtiit is a permanent site for returnees who are being relocated from Mudwany temporary site which was considered inappropriate because of its proximity to the airport extension area in Aweil.

The response by aid agencies follows reports of deteriorating water and sanitation conditions at the Rumtiit site. Humanitarian partners opted for community sensitization on household latrines construction using locally available materials as part of strengthening their capacity and promoting sustainability instead of constructing the latrines themselves. In fact some families have already constructed their latrines.

Water partners have also installed a 1,000 liter water bladder to address the water problem that threatened to derail the relocation exercise over the past weeks. The Rumtiit site had one water point which could only cater for approximately 100 families out of the 500 expected to settle in the new site. Aid agencies are, however, discussing long term solutions to the water problem.

New site for returnees in Unity State

During the past week, aid agencies assisted 138 people with onward transport from Malakal way-station, Upper Nile State to Bentiu, Unity State as their final destination. These returnees are part of the 1,163 individuals who arrived in the state in December from Khartoum.

Upon arrival, the majority of the group expressed their intention to remain in Bentiu town. Humanitarian organizations and local authorities have identified sites to be allocated to the returnees wishing to remain in Bentiu town. Registration and distribution of reintegration package is underway to the returnees as they start new lives.

Overview of returns to South Sudan

State	Previous total*	New arrivals	Total stranded	Updated total
Upper Nile	21,904	92	19,402	41,398
Central Equatoria	20,219	10	864	21,093
Warrap	18,378	32	-	18,410
Northern Bahr el Ghazal	13,097	36	-	13,133
Jonglei	13,603	-	-	13,603
Unity	12,136	152	-	12,288
Eastern Equatoria	11,921	-	-	11,921
Lakes	11,464	-	-	11,464
Western Bahr el Ghazal	9,494	3	-	9,497
Western Equatoria	4,776	-	-	4,776
Total	136,992	325	20,266	157,583

Source: IOM as of 24 January 2013 Contains only verified IOM data unless otherwise noted.

