

HIGHLIGHTS

- Aid agencies continued to respond to over 23,000 people affected by recent violence in Jonglei State, as tensions persist ahead of a planned military offensive against non-state armed actors in Pibor County.
- The UN Humanitarian Air Service has only secured funding until May, potentially paralyzing the entire aid operation for the second half of the year if further funding is not identified.
- Over 4 million people are anticipated to be food insecure in 2013, of which 1 million will be severely food insecure, according to the latest report from food security partners.

BASELINE INDICATORS

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Population (2008) (NBS) | 8.26m |
| GDP per capita (NBS) | \$1,546 |
| Pop. living below poverty line (NBHS) | 50.6% |
| 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 (EMIS) | 1.6% |
| Households using improved sanitation (SHHS) | 7.4% |
| Households with improved drinking water sources (SHHS) | 68.7% |



A Sudanese woman is supported by UNICEF in Maban County (UNICEF/Sokol).

Situation overview

The security situation in parts of Jonglei State remained precarious. Despite this, aid agencies continued to deliver assistance to people affected by recent violence. Humanitarian actors are concerned that a build-up of troops in Pibor town and preparations for a military offensive against non-state armed actors may impact the humanitarian situation.

New refugees continued to arrive in Unity and Upper Nile states, in particular in Yida settlement, where partners are concerned that the site could see upwards of 120,000 people from its current 70,000 refugees by June.

A newly published report found that while less people than anticipated are likely to be food insecure in 2013, more than a million people will remain severely food insecure.

Challenges, needs and response

Aid delivered to Jonglei amid insecurity

Tensions remained high in Jonglei State following a spate of violence caused by inter-communal clashes, and fighting between state and non-state armed groups.

In Pibor County, Government officials confirmed that preparations are ongoing for a military offensive against the non-state armed group aligned with David Yau Yau. Humanitarian actors are concerned about the potential humanitarian impact on civilians of escalating military activities. Partners in Pibor town are also concerned that the increased presence of troops will deter people from returning, who have been hiding in the bush.

Elsewhere in Jonglei State, the humanitarian response continued to people affected by inter-communal violence in Akobo County in February. In Walgak, food was distributed to 9,000 people affected by heavy inter-communal fighting, which took place on 8 February. In Upper Nile State's Ulang County, household items including mosquito nets, blankets and kitchen sets were provided to 2,500 households affected by related fighting in Akobo. Treatment of the injured has been carried out, as well as immunization and health education. Aid agencies have distributed water containers and soap to people in need.

Food provided to people affected by clashes in Lakes

Food was provided to people affected by inter-communal clashes which took place outside Rumbek North County headquarters on 18 February. Food rations to last one month were provided to 2,400 people, half from households in Rumbek town and half from villages to the east of Rumbek town. Household items will shortly be provided to the group.

Needs identified of people affected by Warrap cattle raid

An inter-agency assessment carried out on 27 February established the humanitarian impact of a cattle raid in Gogrial East County, Warrap State, which killed 23 people and

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FIGURES 2013

Violence-related incidents 46

Number of newly displaced people 12,433

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

CLUSTERS

Lead/Co-lead organization

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Coordination & common services | OCHA NGO Sec. |
| Education | UNICEF Save the Children |
| Emergency telecomms | WFP |
| Food security & livelihoods | FAO/WFP VSF-B |
| Health | WHO IMC |
| Logistics | WFP |
| Mine action | UNMAS Handicap Intl |
| Multi-sector | UNHCR IOM |
| Nutrition | UNICEF ACF |
| Protection | UNHCR NRC |
| Shelter and NFIs | IOM WVI |
| Water, sanitation & hygiene | UNICEF Medair |

Consolidated Appeal

FUNDING

1.16 billion
requested (US\$)

73 million
received (US\$)

6.3% funded

Source: Financial Tracking Service, as of 4 March 2013.

affected about 13,500 people. Health organizations provided medical assistance to the wounded following the incident. The assessment team identified the main needs of the affected community as protection, the provision of health supplies and food assistance. Livestock is the main livelihood of the community in the affected area. Households that lost their cattle during the incident are the most impacted. One month food is being mobilized for the most vulnerable 300 people who lost their livelihoods. Protection partners are tracking five children who went missing during the raid.

Humanitarian air service may ground flights in May

The UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) continues to face a funding crisis, as current pledges only secure operations until end of April. The lifesaving air service has continued to face funding shortages over the past months, potentially paralyzing the entire aid operation.

UNHAS recently received funding of US\$4.6 million from the US, Spain and Germany, and has pledges of \$4.5 million. However, even if all the pledges materialize there is still a huge funding shortage from May onwards. UNHAS requires \$3.4 million per month to operate, or \$40 million until the end of 2013, to enable aid to reach 3.3 million people across South Sudan.

UNHAS continues to make improvements in professionalizing its service and has introduced a robust accountability system to guard against and respond to any attempted misuse of the service. Aid organizations appeal to donors to ensure reliable and predictable funding for the lifesaving service.

Real-time crisis response as telecommunications connects

The Emergency Telecommunication Cluster (ETC) enables real-time response to crises by setting up telecommunication services for aid agencies across the most remote corners of South Sudan. In times of disaster, the Cluster has been able connect people by internet, phone and security telecommunications, enabling quicker and more effective delivery of lifesaving assistance. More than 3,000 aid workers in Bentiu, Maban, Renk, Pibor and Yida benefited from the deployment of voice and data telecommunication services in 2012, strengthening their ability to manage and coordinate emergencies, such as the refugee crisis.

| Emergency Telecommunications in numbers for 2012 | |
|--|--|
| 100% | Humanitarian staff provided with radio coverage in the 10 state capitals |
| >1,000 | Radios programmed for the humanitarian community |
| 2,223 | ICT support tasks completed for the humanitarian community |
| 428 | Humanitarian staff provided with radio training |
| 23 | Telecommunications professionals provided with technical training |
| >3,000 | Humanitarian staff utilized the ground-breaking ETC response solution |

Source: Emergency Telecommunication Cluster

Food security update

Harvest increases but food insecurity remains high

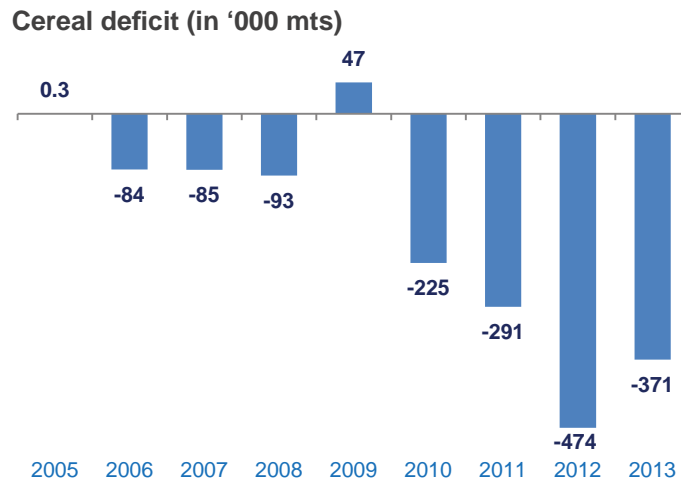
At least 4.1 million people in South Sudan are likely to be food insecure this year, according to a new report by the UN Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) and World Food Programme (WFP). That is a slight decrease from last year's food security figures (4.7 million food insecure), thanks in part to an improved cereal harvest. However, it still means that nearly 40 per cent of the country's population will have trouble getting enough to eat at some point during the year. This includes more than a million people who are expected to remain severely food insecure. The food security outlook for the poorest, most food insecure people engaged in marginal livelihoods will remain negative, with food assistance requirements staying largely unchanged.

40 per cent of South Sudan's population will have trouble getting enough food to eat at some point during the year.

Over a million people are expected to remain severely food insecure in 2013.

South Sudan's cereal deficit is estimated at 371,000 metric tons for the year, which is about one-third of its total cereal requirement of just over one million tonnes.

WFP plans to provide food and nutrition assistance to about 2.8 million people over the course of 2013.



(Source: FAO/WFP CFSAM, 2005-2013)

Food production increased by over 35 per cent between 2011 and 2012 due to good rains, improved cultivation practices and expanded area under cultivation, according to the report. South Sudan's cereal deficit is estimated at 371,000 metric tons for the year, which is about one-third of its total cereal requirement of just over one million tonnes. Commercial imports will meet some of the 'cereal gap', but because of high food prices and poor commercial supply in some parts of the country, a significant amount of food assistance will be required.

WFP plans to provide food and nutrition assistance to about 2.8 million people, including food insecure rural families, vulnerable children, internally displaced people, refugees and returnees. This will require about 224,000 tonnes of food.

The report also warns that heightened conflict and economic instability could increase the number of people requiring food assistance by more than a million. Insecurity still remains a major constraint to optimizing South Sudan's agricultural potential. Incidents of armed cattle rustling, violence between and among communities, and the activities of non-state armed groups continue to inhibit farmers.

The FAO-WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission to South Sudan report is based on a study carried out between October and November 2012. It is an important tool in analyzing South Sudan's agricultural production and food availability.

Response underway to deadly livestock disease outbreak in Jonglei

Food security and livelihood partners are responding to an outbreak of Haemorrhagic Septicaemia disease in Bor, Duk and Twic East counties in Jonglei State, where an estimated 2,500 cattle have reportedly died in the first two months of 2013. Haemorrhagic Septicaemia is a bacterial disease endemic to South Sudan, which destroys the respiratory system of cattle and can be rapidly fatal.

In January, local authorities requested assistance responding to an outbreak in Twic East. Twenty thousand vaccines were immediately sent to the affected counties. In February,

350,000

Refugees anticipated to be hosted in South Sudan in 2013, largely from Sudan.

200,000

People anticipated to be internally displaced by violence in South Sudan in 2013.

125,000

South Sudanese anticipated to return home from Sudan in 2013.

Partners are responding to a disease outbreak in Bor, Duk and Twic East counties, where an estimated 2,500 cattle reportedly died in the first two months of 2013.

REFUGEES

Numbers in Upper Nile

| | |
|--------------|----------------|
| Doro | 45,186 |
| Gendrassa | 15,269 |
| Jamam | 16,071 |
| Yusuf Batil | 37,558 |
| Total | 114,084 |

Numbers in Unity

| | |
|--------------|---------------|
| Nyeel | 913 |
| Pariang | 795 |
| Yida | 68,997 |
| Total | 70,705 |

Source: UNHCR, figures as of 3 March 2013.

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

an additional 60,000 vaccines were sent to treat infected cattle. So far, more than 50,000 of the 100,000 cattle targeted for vaccination have been reached. Blood samples have been taken from a number of cattle in the three counties, and the results will be known in the coming week. Response strategies will be adjusted accordingly.

Refugee update

Biometric registration preparations underway in Maban



Biometric registration of a young girl in Yida (UNHCR)

Biometric registration and verification will begin in the coming weeks in the four refugee camps in Maban County, Upper Nile State. The exercise will start in Jamam camp on 13 March and will conclude in Yusuf Batil settlement on 3 May.

Biometric registration will enable the humanitarian community to determine exactly how many refugees from Sudan's Blue Nile State are in need of protection and assistance. The exercise will also help to prevent any fraud or abuse of the system. Biometric registration captures all relevant data of persons of concern to aid agencies, and is a key tool for protection partners. While an individual's core information will usually remain unaltered, some personal data will be updated as necessary, for example, after marriage or childbirth.

Aid agencies work to ease tensions between Nuban and host community

Humanitarian partners are working to resolve tensions and promote peaceful coexistence between the host and refugee community in and around Yida, South Sudan's largest refugee settlement, following a recent cattle raiding incident.

As the number of refugees in Yida grows, aid agencies are working to ensure equitable access to natural resources which can often be a point of contention. Issues such as water scarcity, lack of suitable grazing land, and allegations of cattle raiding have been reported in various areas of Unity State's Pariang County.

South Sudan critical events timeline

