



Weekly Bulletin
Humanitarian Action in Southern Sudan
Week 22, 01 – 07 June 2008

I. SUMMARY/HIGHLIGHTS

- ✚ Abyei humanitarian emergency; follow the links under section II below,
- ✚ Inter-tribal fights displace thousands of people in Gogrial – SSRRC,
- ✚ Flood alert raised for Unity and Upper Nile States,

II. CURRENT ISSUES

- For the latest situation report on the Abyei humanitarian emergency please visit the following web links;
 - <http://ochaonline.un.org/Default.aspx?alias=ochaonline.un.org/sudan>
 - http://www.unsudanig.org/library/mapcatalogue/3areas/data/planning/Map%201228%20Abyei%20&%20Surround%20Humanitarian%20Hub%20&%20Access_A3_10%20June%2008.pdf
- **Flood Alert** - Unity and Upper Nile States face a high likelihood of more floods this year as excessive ground water has begun to show following heavy rains that have come too early in the rain season, the Head of RCO Office in Unity State has warned. Contingency planning on the basis of this scenario is an immediate priority.

III. POPULATION MOVEMENTS AND RETURNS

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) (from UNRCO, SSRRC)

Northern Bahr el Ghazal

- As at 06th June, Northern Bahr el Ghazal State had received 613 households (2,301 individuals) displaced southwards from Abyei (Southern Kordofan State) following the conflict in mid-May. The IDPs are spread around the following areas of Aweil East County (Mabil, Malualkon, Lieth, Mathaing Dut, Malualbai and Manyiel).
- Food and non-food items have been distributed to the IDPs. The Aweil East County authority has allocated land for these IDPs to settle. However the area where the IDPs are currently allocated is prone to localized flooding when it rains heavily. A recommendation was made for the authorities to move the people so that a borehole and pit latrines may be installed by humanitarian partners in the area.

Unity State

- Up to 1,024 IDPs from Abyei have resettled in Abiemnom. Provision of NFIs, water and sanitation for the IDPs remain a major concern.

Warrap State

- On 9 June, the South Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (SSRRC) reported that 50,028 people were displaced by inter-tribal fighting between the Aguok and the Apuk in Gogrial East and West Counties. These numbers are not verified yet by aid agencies. The SSRRC appealed for assistance from the humanitarian community to attend to the immediate humanitarian needs of these IDPs.

Returns & Reintegration (from UNMIS/RRR)

- Up to 27,463 individuals have returned to their places of choice under the Joint Organized Return Plan since January 2008.
- During the week under review, 248 individuals (105 households) return from Central Equatoria to Jonglei.
- The ADRA/IOM team in Kosti reported that a total of 362 individuals (82 households) passed through the transit hub in spontaneous movements from 30th of May to 5th of June, representing a slight increase by 7% compared to the previous week. The main destinations were South Kordofan and Upper Nile.

IV. SITUATION, NEEDS AND RESPONSE BY SECTOR

Coordination and Common Services (from UNICEF)

- A three day training session was conducted from 2nd - 4th April on the core commitments of children in emergencies for 20 professionals working for children in NGOs and Government in Lakes State.

Disease outbreaks (from WHO, EP&R-OCHA/Oxfam GB/Medair/UNJLC)

- Hepatitis E Alert - A Hepatitis E outbreak has been reported in Kitgum district, just south of the border between South Sudan and Uganda. Over 2,390 cases and 45 deaths were reported, mainly among pregnant women. As the Uganda authorities fight the outbreak, it is important for health sector players in South Sudan to maintain close surveillance of Hepatitis E in health facilities and among returnees especially in Magwi, Eastern Equatoria State.
- Cholera in Juba (Central Equatoria State) - The outbreak in Juba continues to be of concern. In week 22, 194 new cases were treated in Juba Teaching Hospital and Munuki Cholera Treatment Centre (CTC) with one death recorded. Safe drinking water has been provided for the community through installation of a 20,000L Surface Water Treatment (SWAT) system in Gabat and rehabilitation of a 3 x 20,000L SWAT systems in Kator by Medair. Gaps remain, particularly with regard to improved sanitation and health and hygiene promotion (HHP) in vulnerable areas with high prevalence of cholera cases.
- Cases reduce in Magwi County (Eastern Equatoria State) - Cholera case numbers continue to reduce in Magwi, Owinkibul and Parajok. The CTCs in Magwi and Owinkibul have been handed over to the State Ministry of Health (SMoH). The cumulative total of cases in Magwi is 129, Owinkibul 107 (civilian), 121 (military), Parajok 171. The CTC in Parajok will be handed over in week 24 according to Medair. A clean water system (SWAT) has been established and health and hygiene promotion programme was completed in Parajok (Medair). In Owinkibul, two boreholes were rehabilitated and two new ones planned. In Magwi, two boreholes were also rehabilitated (UNICEF). Health and hygiene promotion targeting people returning to Magwi County has been strengthened while oral rehydration solutions (ORS) and chlorine were added to the return package (Merlin, UNHCR).
- Cholera assessment in Pachidi Payam (Eastern Equatoria State) - An assessment is ongoing following reports of 30 cases of suspected cholera with two deaths. (SMoH/Merlin)

Health (from UNICEF)

- UNICEF supported the Polio National Immunization Days (NIDS) from 4-6 June in all ten states with the exception of three counties in Unity and Jonglei where it was postponed to the next week. A total of 2.85 million children under five were being targeted with the Polio vaccine and 2.28 million children aged 6 - 59 months received Vitamin A supplementation.
- UNICEF provided measles vaccines and accessories (2,925 vials of measles vaccine, 58,500 AD syringes, 2,925 diluents, 10 cold boxes, and 45 vaccines carriers) to Agok for the measles and tetanus toxoid (TT) campaign for the IDPs of Abyei in Agok and surrounding areas.

- Mass measles campaign targeting an estimated 80,000 children between 6 months and fifteen years in Mayom and Abiemnhom counties is ongoing and is expected to be completed by June 9th.

Child Protection (from UNICEF)

- The consultative workshop on birth registration, formation of children's council and policy on children without parental care took place in Jonglei state.
- UNICEF provided the following supplies to the Ministry of Social Welfare: footballs, volleyballs, used clothes, plates enamel, blankets, mug cups, skipping ropes, kitchen sets, plastic sheets, reintegration kits, mosquito nets, notebooks, board games, T-shirts, brown papers and soaps. The items will benefit vulnerable children in Upper Nile.

Nutrition (from UNICEF)

- Eight bottles of vitamin A, which will provide 2,000 children with two doses of Vitamin A, were given to the SMoH in Western Bahr el Ghazal (WBeG) for distribution to selected eight health facilities providing maternal and child health or antenatal care in Wau.
- 48 cartons of F-75 and 144 cartons of plump nut were taken to Aweil in NBeG state to be distributed to NGO partners implementing nutrition activities in NBEG.
- A team of nutritionists from MoH-GoSS, SMoH Upper Nile State and UNICEF carried out a joint assessment mission to Renk town. Two doctors in the hospital reported that they were seeing an average of six children suffering from severe acute malnutrition every week. A detailed report will be made available and shared with all concerned parties.

Water and Sanitation (from UNICEF)

- UNICEF Wau office has sent water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) supplies including five hand pumps, five boxes of standard tool kits, 30 hand washing plastics, 10 boxes of fast moving kits, 230 PVC casing plain, 50 PVC casing screen, six clumps, and complete submersible pumps in response to the Abyei crisis.
- 50 household pit-latrines were dug in Kuajok Town Warrap State by individual households;
- UNICEF received 200 latrine slabs from Kaduguli for emergency responses in the Agok Abyei area.
- The emergency water treatment plant at Kator has been rehabilitated to produce at least 240,000 litres per day serving at least 12,000 people in this high risk area.
- The construction of a new emergency water treatment plant in Pajok by Medair is almost complete.

Food Security and Livelihoods (from FAO)

- During the reporting period, distribution of seeds and tools was intensified especially in Upper Nile and Unity States, where the planting season has just begun and farmers need to plant in a timely manner. In Akobo and Pouchala Counties FAO and partners distributed 15.2 MT of different type of field crop seeds to 2,400 households.
- In Upper Nile State (Panyikango and Manyo Counties) 1,500 families have benefited from the distribution of in 6.75 MT of quality crop seeds and 6,000 pieces of hand tools.
- In Unity State, (Rubkona, Mayom, Guit, and Panyijar Counties) 3,180 returnees benefited from 19.08 MT of seeds and 12,720 pieces of hand tools.
- Elsewhere, in Lakes State, FAO has finalized distribution of seeds/tools in all counties with the exception of Rumbek North, which is very difficult to access due to bad road surfaces that are affected by the rains. However, there are initiatives being put in place to ensure that seeds are delivered to the 700 households earmarked for the distribution in Rumbek North.
- FAO in partnership with other Food Security & Livelihood Sector partners were able to reach a total of 4,442 households.

- In support of adoption of improved crop husbandry practices FAO together with an implementing partner OXFAM has established demonstration farms in Wullu and Cuibet counties. This is a follow up of the previous training provided to the extension workers by FAO and OXFAM in Lakes State.
- In Yirol West County a group of 80 vulnerable families supported by the Comboni Missionaries in Mapourdit were provided with tools and assorted vegetable seeds, sesame, maize and groundnuts, these vulnerable people are mostly neglected members of the community suffering from Leprosy.
- In an effort to improve farming methods in Lakes State, FAO ox-plough programme distributed 17 ox-ploughs in the counties of Yirol East, Yirol West and Awerial. These ox-ploughs will go a long way in seeing more acreage cultivated by the farmers to increase their yields.

Education (from UNICEF)

- Two school tents were dispatched to the Ministry of Education in Wau in response to the Abyei crisis.
- Education supplies including 144 cartons of exercise books, 89 student kits and 89 teachers' kits were sent to Raja, WBeG.

Mine Action (from UNMAO)

The following mine action operations were conducted this week by UNMAO-contracted organizations and partners:

- Juba / Yei areas:
 - ArmorGroup worked on route and area survey in the Lokoyo / Lulubo area, route survey from Yei to Kaya, clearance of the minefield at Gulumbi, and clearance of a large contention line on the Juba – Kajo Keji Road (supported by the Minewolf machine).
 - The Development Initiative worked on clearing the minefield at Kuda, while Mechem conducted route survey and clearance between Sermon and Polo.
 - The Danish Demining Group and Mines Advisory Group worked on UXO-clearance spot tasks in Nimule and Yei respectively, while Norwegian Peoples' Aid continued to clear minefields at Kenyi, Andukase and Loka Primary School in Lainya.
 - The UNMIS Bangladeshi Military Demining Company conducted mine clearance operations at the dairy and poultry farm in Mafao, as well as Battle Area Clearance and Explosive Ordnance Disposal at the new UNHQ site at Jebel Kujoor, Juba.
- Malakal:
 - The Development Initiative and Minetech International both worked on clearance of the large barrier minefield in Malakal.
- Wau / Rumbek areas:
 - The Development Initiative worked on clearance of a minefield at Bo River Post.
 - ArmorGroup conducted a general mine action assessment in Gogrial, clearance in the Maridi and Kotobi areas, and route survey from Awoda to Raga, and from Aroya to Marial Bai.

V. ASSESSEMENTS AND MISSIONS

- Nothing to report.

END

Disclaimer: The information in this report is consolidated from OCHA field reports, UN agencies, RCO at state level, NGOs, and other humanitarian partners. The report is subject to availability of data and does not claim to be exhaustive or fully verified. If you have inputs for the next edition, or questions/comments to the current issue, please contact: maputseni@un.org