



## Weekly Bulletin Humanitarian Action in Southern Sudan Week 32, 10 – 16 August 2008

### HIGHLIGHTS

- ✚ Detailed update on response to flooding in Aweil Town, NBeG (*see Section II*)
- ✚ More on Aweil floods response (*see Section IV, under respective sectors*)
- ✚ Gogrial East food crisis (*see Section IV, under Food Aid*)
- ✚ Mid-August to end September peak period for floods in Sudan, says GoS/EWEF

### I. FOCUS ON STABILITY AND SECURITY (*from UN Security*)

- Jonglei State - Motot was raised to Phase Three security Level 4 on 03 August 2008 by the security focal person due to armed tension in the area. On 04 August 08, UN Security re-assessed the area and reduced it to security Level 3. Four staff members from an INGO were relocated to safety. Current security level of Motot is Level 3, effective 04 Aug 08.
- Upper Nile State - Given concerns pertaining to insecurity resulting from road and river ambushes as well as other criminal incidents, all roads and river stretches in the Ulang and Baliet counties have been raised to Level 3 effective 03 July 2008. Armed escort is mandatory.
- Warrap State - Due to insecurity in Abyei, Agok (Northern Warrap) was raised to UN Security Level 3, effective 20 May 2008 as a precautionary measure to limit accessibility to Abyei and to control and monitor humanitarian access to Agok itself as required for security management. All inwards movement to Agok (both by road and air) must be cleared by UNDDSS in consultation with the Security Focal Point on ground.

### II. CURRENT ISSUES (*from OCHA EP&R, UNRCSO, GoSS-SSRRC, GoS*)

#### Humanitarian assistance reaches floods affected population in Aweil Town, NBeG

##### Situation

- Heavy rains and poor drainage from a newly constructed road caused flash floods in Aweil Town, Northern Bahr el Ghazal State beginning on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2008.
- Up to 38,891 people (5,292 households) were affected largely by displacement and loss of belongings. Total population of Aweil Town is estimated to be 57,000 (MSF-France)
- The most affected population were those living in low lying areas.
- According to IFRC, of the affected population, 70% are returnees and 30% had always been resident in the town.
- Displaced people moved to Maper Akot Aru along the Aweil - Aroyo road.
- Acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) – suspected cholera has been reported with a cumulative

total of 199 cases and 8 deaths. Of these, 90 cases and 2 deaths were recorded at Maper Akot Cholera Treatment Centre (CTC). Other cases and deaths were reported at Wathok CTC, Akuem Hospital and Odum CTC.

- An unspecified high number of malaria cases have also been registered especially among children under five years.

##### Response

- Humanitarian organizations are delivering assistance to the affected people as the impact of the flooding persists.
- Ministry of Health, MSF France, Concern, Red Cross Society, International Rescue Committee and Medair are responding to the

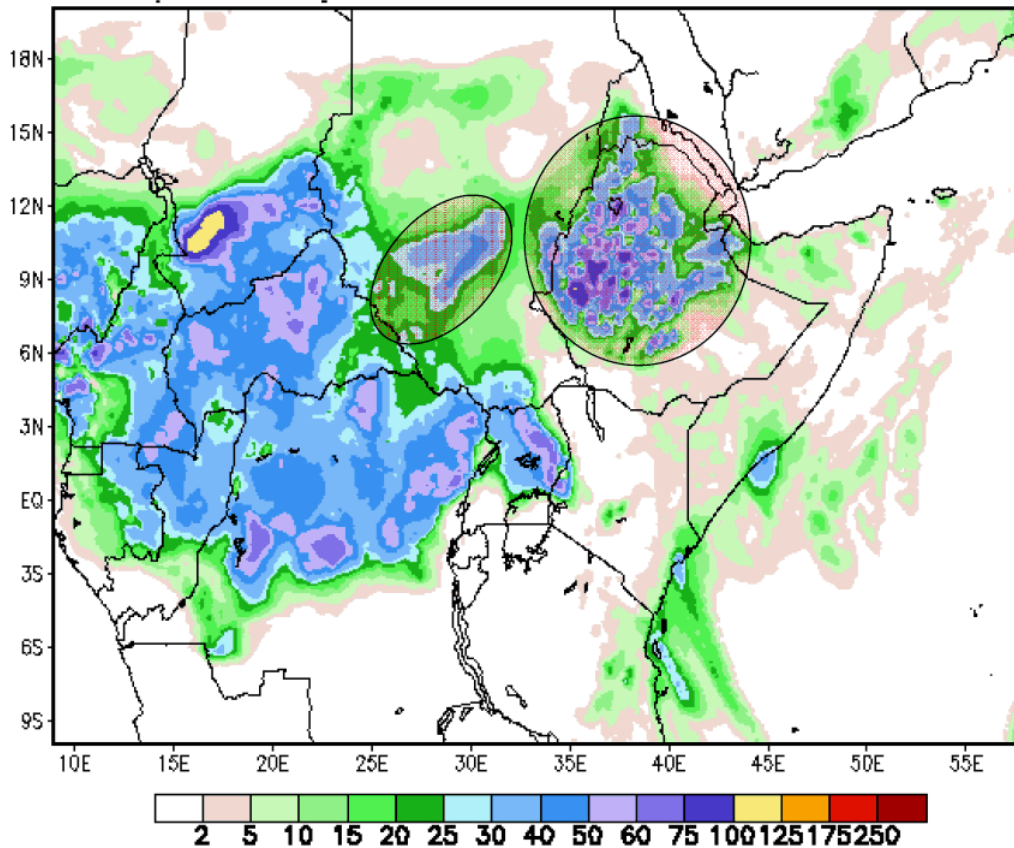
cholera outbreak with support from WHO, UNICEF and OCHA EP&R.

- Logistical challenges especially road access are being faced in accessing the affected population, particularly in Aweil East and South. UNJLC, UNHAS and OCHA are working together to coordinate humanitarian air cargo.
  - MoH/WHO assessment team from Juba went to Aweil 150,000 AS/SP malaria treatment, an emergency drug kit, a malaria kit and 96,000 units of waterguard tablets from PSI.
  - Malaria Consortium has funding to provide training in new regime treatment in half of the health facilities in their target Counties (Aweil Centre, North and West). They are currently sourcing other funds to expand the training. Concern will be monitoring efficacy of AS/SP and will share data. Other health NGOs and MoH have been requested to do the same. Training of Community Health Workers (CHWs) in case management of malaria and AWD is needed.
  - Up to 30,000 long lasting insecticides treated nets (LLITNs) were allocated by MoH-GOSS for the Aweil flood response. Currently 1,000 have reached Aweil and more deliveries are expected in the next two weeks depending on the capacity of the aircraft used to transport them. The 5,292 HH registered by SSRRC as flood affected and in need of NFI assistance will receive at least one LLITN each as part of that package. Distributions are ongoing. In addition, the
- Red Cross Society has indicated that they will distribute LLITNs in Aweil town.
  - Malaria Consortium has also planned a mass distribution of up to 150,000 mosquito nets procured through UNDP to affected population in Aweil North, West and Centre. However, more coordination and consensus is needed on the allocation of LLITNs.
  - WFP and partners are collaborating with authorities like the SSRRC to register beneficiaries of food aid. GoSS allocated food for 1,500 households in Maper Akot Aru.
  - Total non-food items (NFI) needs were **5,292** in the accessible areas around Aweil town and registered by SSRRC.
  - Total NFIs distributed so far are **1,154**. World Vision International has committed **1,000** and UNICEF has another **114** on ground. They are distributed on the basis of one kit per household.
  - The NFI shortfall therefore stands at **3,024** - more than half the total needed.
  - A few other response activities to the emergency are reported under respective sectors below.
  - *If you need more details and information on the Aweil floods response, contact OCHA EP&R ([poole1@un.org](mailto:poole1@un.org)).*

### **Sudan: High Flood Risk - Flood Watch Update 12 – 14 August 2008**

- Wet conditions are forecast to continue prevailing over the Ethiopian and Eritrean plateau as indicated by the model. Water levels along the main River Nile and tributaries are at high risk level.
- Areas prone to flooding along the main Nile River course and its tributaries are under high risk of flooding. Flash floods continue endangering some Southern Sudan areas prone to flash floods in Upper Nile, Jonglei, Greater Bahr Al-Ghazal, Eastern Equatoria and Central Equatoria States as well as Butana plains.
- Precautionary and preparatory measures must be taken immediately to avert disastrous impacts on people, properties and health especially during the upcoming peak period for floods (15 August to end of September) [*Source: GoS, Center For Early Warning And Emergency Information (EWEF)*]

### Rainfall forecast 12 -14 Aug 2008



### III. POPULATION MOVEMENTS AND RETURNS

#### **Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) (from UNMIS/RRR)**

- On 13 August, a team comprising UNMIS/RRR, SSRRC, Islamic Relief and IOM visited an IDP settlement located southwest of Juba. The main IDP community visited had been displaced from the village of Mugiri in 1986 during the war. Many of these IDPs returned to Mugiri in 1992 when the situation in Juba became hostile, but were again displaced in 2004 by violence involving killings and abduction of children. The total population of the Mugiri community at the settlement stands at about 2,956. All the people have expressed their willingness to return to Mugiri. However, concerns remained regarding insecurity and lack of basic services in the area, which remain as deterrents of return.

#### **Returns & Reintegration (from UNMIS/RRR)**

- ADRA reported a barge carrying 1,167 spontaneous returnees that arrived at the port in Juba on 11 August from Kosti. These returnees received NFIs and transit food rations before departing Kosti. Upon arrival and registration at their destinations, these returnees will be provided with a three-month food package as part of early reintegration assistance. ADRA also reported that the number of spontaneous returnees, who had come by barge a few weeks ago, after completion of registration, totalled 2,283 individuals or 467 households.

*(Humanitarian Actors in this Sector are: UNMIS/RRR, SSRRC/GoSS, IOM, ADRA)*

### **Refugees, Returns and Re-integration (from UNHCR)**

- There were no *organized* convoys this week. Most return routes in southern Sudan are either inaccessible or accessible with difficulty due to bad road conditions or insecurity. However this week UNHCR assisted 19 self-repatriated returnees in four households who returned from Uganda to Central and Eastern Equatoria states. The total number of UNHCR facilitated returnees in 2008 is now **60,386**, which is 75% of our planned repatriation target figure for this year; the target is expected to be met by the end of the year.
- Insecurity along the Sobat River corridor in Upper Nile State has prevented distribution of the second three-month food package to returnees around Nassir this week by UNHCR/ADRA. Separately, UNHCR village assessments in CES are revealing that returnee women who had been trained in soap making, bakery, weaving, sewing and knitting while in exile are lacking means to generate income due to lack of seed money. In another area, food insecurity, lack of safe drinking water, and lack of education and health facilities have repeatedly arisen in protection assessments.
- There were some reports of new arrivals of Ethiopian Anuak refugees to Pibor. Verification of this development is still pending as road conditions are inaccessible.

*(Humanitarian Actors in this Sector are: UNHCR, UNMIS/RRR)*

## **IV. SITUATION, NEEDS AND RESPONSE BY SECTOR**

### **Coordination and Common Services (from UNOCHA EP&R)**

- As part of strengthening humanitarian coordination in Southern Sudan OCHA facilitated the launch of the Inter-agency Emergency Preparedness & Response Taskforce on 14 August 2008. A total of 18 participants (12 UN, 5 NGO and 1 from IFRC) participated in the launch and hailed the initiative. The primary purpose of the Inter-Agency EP&R Taskforce in Southern Sudan is to proactively put in place emergency preparedness measures, ensure a prompt, effective and concerted (Southern Sudan wide) emergency response by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) members, UN system and public authorities in the event of a human-induced or natural disaster. The team is set up to ensure effective and efficient humanitarian coordination that is complementary to government efforts. It will also take steps to avoid wasteful duplication or competition for resources by humanitarian agencies.
- UNOCHA EP&R has deployed staff to help coordinate humanitarian response activities in Aweil and Agok.

*(Humanitarian Actors in this Sector are: OCHA, Oxfam GB, Medair, Swedish Rescue Service, UNRCSSO, UNICEF, WFP, SSRRC, UNDSS, UNMIS, UNJLC, IOM)*

### **Disease outbreaks (from GoSS-MoH, WHO)**

- Cholera outbreak in Aweil (*refer to Section 1 above*)
- Acute Bloody Diarrhoea (ABD) - 243 (90%) of reported ABD were from Western Equatoria State.
- Malaria cases/consultations have significantly increased in comparison to similar periods in the past, especially in Unity and Upper Nile States. Incidence of over 100 cases per day has been reported at the Akuem health center in the Bahr el Ghazal area. The inter-agency Malaria working group is exploring options to fill supply gaps in malaria treatment drugs.

### **Health (from UNICEF, OCHA EP&R)**

- GoSS, UN agencies and NGOs have among other things, established Cholera Treatment Centres and Units (GoSS/MoH, MSF-France and Concern) in Maper Akot, Akwem, Wathok, Udhum, and Aweil Civic Hospital to respond to disease outbreaks arising from the flooding in Aweil.

- The Global Fund and UNDP are said to have procured 221,000 mosquito nets. Of these, 143,000 are meant for three counties of NBeG state. The distribution is expected to take place latest by end of August 2008. The target will be pregnant mothers and under five children.
- 1,660 HIV test kits, 10,600 tablets and 5 bottles of Nevirapine were distributed to Juba teaching hospital for VCT and PMTCT programmes.

*(Humanitarian Actors in this Sector are: Goal, Ministry of Health, MSF-France, MSF-Switzerland, GoSS/MoH, Concern, UNICEF and WHO as sector lead)*

### **Protection (from UNICEF)**

- A child welfare committee network meeting was held on the 9 August at Baliet in which 43 members (18 males and 25 females) participated from both Adong and Baliet Payams. The members discussed harmful cultural practices that affect children such as forced/early marriage and all of them made a commitment to support and work together with CHORM child protection officers in Baliet County for the welfare of children.

*(Humanitarian Actors in this Sector are: UNMIS, UNHCR, UNICEF, IOM, SSRRC/GoSS,)*

### **Nutrition (from UNICEF)**

- 10 infant weighing scales, 10 weighing scales (25kgs) and 10 adult bathroom weighing scales were issued to the state Ministry of Health, Central Equatoria.
- World Breastfeeding Week was celebrated in Torit. Celebrations were attended by H.E, the Minister of Health Eastern Equatoria State, UNICEF director and RPO Juba zone office.

*(Humanitarian Actors in this Sector are: Goal, Ministry of Health, MSF-Switzerland, and UNICEF as sector lead)*

### **Water and Sanitation (from UNICEF, Medair)**

- In response to Aweil floods;
  - UNICEF has drilled 3 boreholes in Maper Akot (1) and Mayen Akot (2). Possibility of motorizing some or all of them to increase coverage is being considered strongly.
  - MSF has provided bladders (60,000 L capacity) and other materials in Maper Akot for emergency water treatment systems. The water consumption has increased from 20,000 litres to 45,000 litres per day surpassing supply capacity that is also compounded by unreliable water trucking facilities.
  - Medair with UNICEF support is constructing 100 new public latrines in Wathok, Maper Akot and Mayen Akot.
  - IRC plans to complete 73 household latrines in Aweil Town by September but needs to strengthen capacity to do so.
- Raw Water Chlorination at 21 water points by the river Nile is on going, implemented by Rural Water Development and Sudanese Red Crescent Society in Upper Nile.
- The Urban Water Corporation, with UNICEF support, has started the construction of valve access chambers for the 5 high pressure water points along the Urban Water Network constructed last year in response to the cholera outbreak in Juba. This will enable water tankers to have access to safe water when collecting raw water directly from the River Nile. The access chambers are for easy control and management of the water points. These water points are expected to reduce the use of unsafe water by up to 50% in the communities.

*(Humanitarian Actors in this Sector are: Medair, IRC, ICRC, Save the Children US, MSF Switzerland, GOAL, Mercy Corps, two local partners, Ministry of Health and UNICEF as sector lead)*

## **Food Aid (from WFP, UNOCHA EP&R)**

### **Food aid for Aweil floods affected population, NBeG State**

- An agreement on criteria for beneficiary registration was reached among WFP, SSRRC, UNMIS/RRR, OCHA, IRC, UNRC SO and UNICEF. A beneficiary verification exercise was conducted in Maper Akot (NBeG) to allow food assistance to be distributed to the flood affected population. One month food rations will be provided.

### **Food Crisis in Gogrial East, Warrab State**

- 5,000 households were affected by displacement and loss of property during periodic inter-clan fights from April to June 2008 in Gogrial East. Most of them lost their sources of livelihood and coping mechanisms and are now food insecure.
- WFP, WVI and others conducted assessments and are planning general food distributions.
- On 15 August WFP chartered a flight from Wau to assist deployment of GoSS state officials in preparation for air dropping of food that was earmarked to begin on 17 August.
- World Vision with WFP, ACF and SSRRC plan to screen children to identify severely malnourished children to be enrolled into the supplementary feeding scheme.
- 51,000 children under five are reportedly malnourished.
- 30,000 people are set to receive 526MT of food, including CSB and sugar in 30-day rations under the general food distributions (GFD) programme.
- Additional food including vegetable oil will be supplied after the numbers of people in need are verified.
- Assessment of the food needs in Gogrial East will be expanded to Tonj East.
- The cargo flight used to transport food takes only 7 tons of food at a time. It will take up to two weeks to get all the 526MT food to Gogrial East.
- SSRRC has provided 7 MT of mixed food commodities.

*(Humanitarian Actors in this Sector are: World Vision, ACF, Save the Children USA, Mercy Corps and WFP as sector lead)*

## **Food Security and Sustainable Livelihoods (from FAO)**

- FAO field office in Bor distributed 3 MT of various varieties of field crop seeds and 4 kgs of assorted vegetable seeds to 200 households in Kolyang payam engaged in late planting, through implementing partner Kolyang Development Association (KDA).

*(Humanitarian Actors in this Sector are: FAO, ADRA, Mercy Corps, ACROSS, WOTAP)*

## **Education (from UNICEF, UNHCR)**

- Life skills training was carried out in Korfulus, Northern Jonglei state for 65 participants - 33 girls and 25 boys and 7 teachers. Life skills training is on-going in Guit and Pariang with a total of 160 participants, 50 girls and 30 boys, including teachers in each centre.
- Construction of latrines is ongoing in 3 child friendly schools in Unity State.
- 50 participants (20 boys and 30 girls) completed GEM TOT training in Yambio. The training was facilitated by the Girls' Education Movement coordinator and trainer at the Ministry of Education.
- Basic construction of one girls' secondary school in Malakal was completed, and finishing work is ongoing, while another UNHCR team has selected the site for another basic school in Malakal along the White Nile River this week. Upon request from the Kapoeta South County Commissioner, UNHCR distributed 6 rolls of plastic sheeting for students' accommodation in the schools during the rainy season.

*(Humanitarian Actors in this Sector are: UNICEF, GoSS/MoEST, SCF-UK, Norwegian Refugee Council, World Vision, ADRA, Concern, IAS)*

### **Mine Action (from UNMAO)**

- Explosive Ordnance Disposal and Manual Clearance Teams from the UNMIS Bangladeshi Military Demining Company (BMDC) continued to clear the site of the new UN HQ site at Jebel Kujoor, Juba.
- Manual Clearance Teams from the UNMIS Kenyan Military Demining Company worked on minefield clearance in the Busseri area.
- Norwegian Peoples' Aid along with an UN-contracted mine clearance machine (MineWolf) continued with the clearance of a dangerous area between Ngangala and Liria on the Juba - Torit Road. Note that the road remains open for traffic. NPA also continued with clearance of Loka Primary School (Lainya county) which is now 85% complete, as well as at Lutya School, Atende Primary School, and dangerous areas in Kenyi and Mundri.
- The Mines Advisory Group continued with UXO spot tasks in the Juba area

*(Humanitarian Actors in this Sector are: United Nations Mine Action Office, NPA)*

## **V. ASSESSEMENTS AND MISSIONS**

- Verification of returnees and food assessments in Ayod County, Jonglei State, UNMIS/RRR, UNHCR, WFP, FAO, SSRRC  
*[For full report contact: [kiwanuka@un.org](mailto:kiwanuka@un.org)]*
- Aweil Floods Disaster Assessment Report (Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement) - 11 - 14 August 2008  
*[For full report contact: [kelemu.yitbarek@ifrc.org](mailto:kelemu.yitbarek@ifrc.org)]*
- Water and Sanitation Emergency Response Assessment Report on Aweil, Northern Bahr el Ghazal State, 08 – 11 August 2008 – Medair  
*[For full report contact: [programmes-southsudan@medair.org](mailto:programmes-southsudan@medair.org)]*
- Assessment Report on Cholera Outbreak in Aweil, 08 - 11 August 2008 – GoSS-MoH/WHO  
*[For full report contact: [jgumbous@yahoo.com](mailto:jgumbous@yahoo.com)]*

**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](mailto:maputseni@un.org)