



**Weekly Bulletin
Humanitarian Action in Southern Sudan
Week 46, 16 – 22 November 2008**

MEDIA ADVISORY

Juba, 25 November 2008: The United Nations Under-Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Sir John Holmes, will visit Juba, Southern Sudan from 27th – 28th November as part of his six day working visit to various humanitarian emergency operations in Sudan. Sir Holmes will brief journalists on Friday 28th November at 14:30 pm in front of the Juba Teaching Hospital, immediately after completing a tour of the hospital.

For further details please contact:

Orla Clinton, Head, Advocacy and Information and RC/HC Spokesperson: Email: Clinton@un.org, Tel: +249912174454

Jim Ocitti, Public Information Officer/Spokesperson for UN Deputy Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator, Email: jim.ocitti@undp.org, Phone: +256477171623;

Clever Maputseni, Reporting Officer, UNOCHA, Email: maputseni@un.org, Phone: +249 912 179 082

SUMMARY/HIGHLIGHTS

- ✚ Over 6,542 people displaced to Western Equatoria State
- ✚ 3,8 million children have been immunized against measles since 2005

I. CURRENT ISSUES

Refugee influx and displacements in Western Equatorial State (WES)

As at 17 November, 6,542 people had been displaced by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) rebels since September 2008 and 4,509 of them were refugees from DR Congo. The LRA rebels are attacking from their Garamba Forest base in eastern DR Congo. Southern Sudan areas bordering that area are being affected by the renewed attacks. UNHCR and local authorities are working out possible options for setting up a camp for the refugees given the continued presence of the LRA rebels close to the border on the DR Congo side.

If the LRA attacks continue, the refugee influx and displacements are feared to spill over into Central Equatoria State. MSF Spain is providing medical treatment for IDPs and refugees in Gangura and Sakure. The second round distribution of food aid for November to all refugees and IDPs spread out over the various locations in Western Equatoria State (WES) was completed. World Vision is distributing WFP food and non-food items. Office and accommodation space remain challenges for UNHCR since UNICEF is closing its base in Yambio. UNHCR is working with UNICEF, WVI, MSF-B and SSRRC on this emergency.

Statistics for Refugees, IDPs & Returnees Affected by LRA Activities as at 17 November 2008

	Site	Refugees		IDPs		Returnees		Total LRA Affected Population			Comments
		IND	HH	IND	HH	IND	HH	IND	HH	Average HH size	
1	Gangura	2034	881	273	87			2307	968	2.4	verified, new arrivals expected
2	Gbou	104	23					104	23	4.5	to be verified (logistical constraints)
3	James Diko	100	49					100	49	2.0	verification incomplete (started 17/11)
4	Madebe	437	138	6	4	152	52	595	194	3.1	verified, new arrivals expected
5	Nabanga	222	37					222	37	6.0	to be verified (logistical constraints)
6	Sakure	687	308	529	194			1216	502	2.4	verified, new arrivals expected
7	Sangua	167	112	173	110			340	222	1.5	verified, new arrivals expected
8	Ukou	390	113					390	113	3.5	verified, new arrivals expected
9	Yambio	1268	308					1268	308	4.1	not verified
Total		5409	1969	981	395	152	52	6542	2416	2.7	

II. POPULATION MOVEMENTS AND RETURNS

Refugees, Returns and Re-integration (from ...)

- The first organized convoy for voluntary repatriation of Sudanese refugees from Kenya this season arrived in Kapoeta, Eastern Equatoria State (EES) on 18 November 2008. The UNHCR convoy brought 112 persons (57 families) who were given the early reintegration package and dispersed to Chukudum, Torit, Magwi and Lopa/Lafon counties.
- To officially launch the refugee repatriation activities this season, UNHCR conducted two cross-border meetings with government and agency counterparts from Ethiopia and Uganda, at Kurmuk, BNS and in Arua Uganda, respectively. The meetings discussed registration, convoy schedules, air transport and protection concerns. Refugees were informed about security and socio-political developments in Southern Sudan and while refugee concerns about repatriation from camps were addressed.

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

III. SITUATION, NEEDS AND RESPONSE BY SECTOR

Common Services and Coordination (from UNJLC)

- Yei Bridge: - It was reported on 20 November that the bridge between Yei town and the airstrip along the Yei – Juba corridor suffered some damages. WFP sent its contractors to the site on 21 November to assess the damage and make immediate temporary repairs. The corridor is now open to traffic and agencies can resume travel.
- UN Humanitarian Air Services Flight Schedules: - Please be advised that UNHAS has updated its flight schedules from the three hubs in Southern Sudan: Juba, Rumbek and Wau. The schedules are available on: http://unjlc.org/sudan/transport/air/schedules/weekly_schedule_13th_november/view

(Humanitarian Actors in this Sector are: OCHA, RCO, UNICEF, WFP, SSRRC, UNDSS, UNMIS, UNJLC, IOM)

Health (from UNICEF)

- During 2008;
 - 56,025 children received at least 3 doses of DPT3 out of the 116,187 children target for the year and at a reporting rate of 42%.
 - 88,324 infants were vaccinated against measles. This brought the total number of children immunized against measles to 3,8 million since 2005.
 - 57,237 pregnant women each received at least two doses of tetanus toxoid (TT) vaccines. In addition, four (4) rounds of polio national immunization days (NIDs) were conducted with 101.9% coverage each for the first and second rounds and 102.6% for the third round. Three (3) State National Immunization Days (SNIDs) were conducted among children under five years.
- The central cold chain building in Torit, Eastern Equatoria State (EES), which is expected to house and store vaccines and accessories for about 37,000 children and women, is close to completion.

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

Protection (from UNHCR, UNICEF, IOM)

- For the first time, the 19th Anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child was officially celebrated in Southern Sudan. After a week of radio aired interviews on child rights with officials from the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Water & Irrigation, Ministry of Education and MGSWRA as well as civil society representatives, a “Children’s Party” on Child Rights Day was held with more than 1,000 children present. Children performed songs, dramas and speeches on child rights issues as well as traditional dances.
- In Northern Bahr el Ghazal (NBeG), IOM participated in a joint verification exercise of 517 households (2,201 individuals) in three locations of displaced camps alongside the highway in Mangok Payam, Aweil East. The majority of these were returnees who reported destruction of their *tukuls* and crops by floods before harvest.

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

Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (from UNICEF)

- The families of nine (9) Children Associated with Armed Forces and Groups (CAAFGs) identified in Unity and Upper Nile States were successfully traced in NBeG and Warrap states by SC-UK and the Child DDR Officer of Southern Sudan Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (SSDDRC).

(Humanitarian Actors in this Sector are: ...)

Water and Sanitation (from UNICEF)

- Throughout 2008, UNICEF and partners constructed or rehabilitated 524 water, sanitation and hygiene facilities that benefitted about 300,000 additional people from rural communities, schools, health facilities, guinea-worm endemic villages, high returnee areas and those in emergency situations.

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

Food Aid (from WFP)

- WFP assisted 176,910 beneficiaries with 1,804mt of food in South Sudan during the reporting week. The beneficiaries included 6,970 Gogrial IDPs in Lunyaker, Gogrial East County in Warrap State following a successful surface delivery of some 226mt of food during the week.

The location was inaccessible since May. In Kuac North location in Gogrial West, WFP donated over 10,000 plates and 16 cooking pots in support of nine schools under WFP's school feeding programme.

- Food distributions targeting 800 people (266 DRC refugees and 534) in Sakure in Western Equatoria State could not take place due to inaccessibility from Yambio. Heavy rains were reported earlier in the week that also resulted in felled trees along the roads, making them impassable. The Juba – Mundri road was also reported to be increasingly inaccessible, with tens of trucks stuck along the way.
- WFP assisted 22,400 flood affected populations with 352mt of food in Upper Nile. Of these, 10,700 beneficiaries were assisted with 173mt of food in Jamam and Jinkota payams in Maban- the worst affected county in the state. The rest, 11,000 residents, were in Maiwut County who received 169mt of food. The beneficiaries were served following a verification exercise in the previous week. In Malakal, 700 residents were assisted with 12mt of food through FFR to rehabilitate their houses that were destroyed by floods. A further 3,910 flood affected populations in Pagak Payam in Maiwut county were assessed, and will be assisted in the coming week.
- A WFP team in Maban confirmed that the Renk/Melut – Maban road whose bridges were under rehabilitation by the Maban community is operational and heavy commercial trucks are using it. The community of Maban was mobilized earlier in the month to rehabilitate broken bridges in order to access 44,700 residents of Maban affected by floods.

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

Mine Action (from UNMAO, UNICEF)

- A workshop was held in Juba during the reporting week to finalise the UNMAO "transition plan". The plan entails handing over of responsibility on mine action coordination from the UN to the National Mine Action Centre in Khartoum and Southern Sudan Demining Commission in Juba.
- 50 children (26 girls and 24 boys) were trained as mine risk education (MRE) peer educators by CHORM and Social Workers from Ministry of Social Development (MoSD) in Malakal County making a total of 150 children now trained as peer educators.

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

Non-Food Items (NFIs) & Emergency Shelter (from UNJLC)

- Efforts by sector partners in Southern Sudan continue to focus on assisting households affected by recent floods with essential non-food items (NFIs) and emergency shelter (ES).
- Jonglei State: UNICEF has completed deliveries of 2,000 pieces of plastic sheeting, 4,000 sleeping mats and 4,000 mosquito nets to Baidit Payam, South Bor County, to assist 1,666 flood-affected households in the area. Distributions by CRS, Medair, and SSRRC to the five affected Bomas in Baidit Payam have started and will continue next week. Dykes along the River Wak have been rehabilitated in order to help prevent further flooding caused by rising water levels and partners are monitoring the situation carefully.
In response to a report by SSRRC of flood-affected households in need of NFI assistance, IFRC has worked in partnership with SRCS to deliver 1,030 NFI kits to Bor Town to support households located nearby. Distributions by IFRC and SRCS are due to start in the forthcoming week and will focus on Panjak, the most severely affected area.
- Northern Bahr el Ghazal State: Following a donation from the United Arab Emirates (UAE), NFIs and emergency shelter stocks intended to assist 5,800 flood-affected households in Northern Bahr el Ghazal have been delivered to warehouses in Maluakon, Aweil Town and Nyamell. To ensure timely response, the stocks are being loaned from the NFI Common Pipeline in Northern Sudan. Distributions are expected to commence in the coming week and

will target the four counties of Aweil North, South, East and West, as laid out in UNJLC's distribution plan which was produced in coordination with implementing partners. DCV will lead distributions in Aweil South and East using stocks from Maluakon and Aweil Town, while Concern will take the lead in the North and West, distributing stocks from Nyamell.

- Upper Nile State: WVS has completed the delivery of 4,770 NFI kits from Malakal to Mabaan to assist flood-affected households in the area. Of these, 3,000 kits were from NFI Common Pipeline Project stocks, supplemented by additional kits from Medair's and Goal's own resources. Medair is leading distributions, which started this week with 1,057 kits distributed in Jamman and Jenkota.
- IOM contributed to the transportation and distribution of 4,150 NFI kits to flood affected households since early August covering Northern Bahr el Ghazal (NBeG) and Warrab states. IOM has 2,000 NFI kits that will be sent to NBeG for the gaps identified in response to the flooding.

(Humanitarian Actors in this Sector are: (ACF-USA, CAFOD, Caritas, Concern, CRS, CSI-USA, DCV, DRC, Goal, HAI, ICRC, IOM, Medair, Mercy Corps, MSF-Swiss, NCA, SC-UK, SSRRC, UNICEF, UNHCR, WARDS, WVS and UNJLC as Sector Lead. For details contact: unjlc.juba@unjlc.org or visit www.unjlc.org/sudan)

IV. ASSESSEMENTS AND MISSIONS

- The **Under-Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator**, Sir John Holmes will be on a working mission in Juba from 27 – 28 November 2008. During his mission he will meet GoSS Presidency, the UNCT and NGOs. He will undertake a tour of duty most preferably to a selected health facility before addressing journalists.
- A joint UNHCR-Swedish Rescue Services assessment mission to Jikou River Bridge in Pagak, Upper Nile on 10-17 November proposed several solutions for the rehabilitation of the bridge before February 2009, which would enhance repatriation from Ethiopia. The Ministry of Roads in Juba is reportedly able to provide most materials and UNHCR will procure the remainder locally.
- UNHCR in Kajo Keji has completed the assessment of eight villages in Kudaji Boma of Lire Payam. The major challenges identified by returnees were the lack of income generating activities, lack of education facilities, safe drinking water and shortage of drugs in the only primary healthcare facility in the area.

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