



## Humanitarian Action in Southern Sudan Report Week 06, 02 – 08 February 2009

### SUMMARY/HIGHLIGHTS

- ✚ 38,000 households headed by women and returnees set to benefit from \$13.5m grant – IFAD
- ✚ 4,134 refugees have been repatriated to Southern Sudan since January 2009

### I. FOCUS ON SECURITY AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- Tribal clashes were reported in Jonglei State, where 30 people are said to have been killed.
- The Sobat corridor remains at Level III and is not accessible without armed escort. All roads and river stretches in Baliet and Ulang Counties are also at Level III. The UN security level along the Bor - Pibor and Bor - Juba roads was reduced to Level II in Jonglei. Area Security Management Team (ASMT) in Yei reduced the Security Level to II along the Yei - Juba, Yei - Lasu and Yei- Kaya roads. Southern Sudan is in security Phase III.

[SOURCES: UNHCR]

### II. CURRENT ISSUES

#### Over 4,000 refugees have been repatriated to Southern Sudan since January 2009

The number of persons repatriated through organised means supported by UNHCR since 1 January 2009 is 4,134 of whom 4,128 were organised and 6 were under the assisted self-repatriation programme against the planning figure of 54,000 for 2009. The total number of returnees assisted by UNHCR to return to Southern Sudan since the start of the voluntary repatriation in December 2005 is now 300,329 of which 131,483 were organised and 12,016 were assisted self-repatriation. With this figure, the Southern Sudan operation has achieved the 300,000 record returns from the 418,270 refugees who were registered in December 2004 in the countries neighbouring Sudan. The 300,000<sup>th</sup> returnee arrived from

Uganda at the Nimule way station on 7 February (see photo below - UNHCR).



#### IFAD aid for Southern Sudan

*UN News Centre, 5/2/09* -- The UN International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) announced 5 February that it will help 38,000 of the poorest and most vulnerable households overcome food insecurity and extreme poverty in six counties in Southern Sudan's Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria and Jonglei states, with a \$13.5 million grant to support the Southern Sudan Livelihoods Development Project. The project, targeting households headed by women and returnees, will be IFAD's first operation in Southern Sudan since the CPA was signed. It will tackle rural poverty, population displacement, poor public services and low agricultural productivity, by supporting community-based development of productive on-farm and off-farm activities. This includes technical and financial support for agricultural micro-projects, rural infrastructure and marketing facilities. An additional grant of \$9 million will be

provided by the Netherlands, and \$3.4 million by the Government of Southern Sudan and the beneficiaries.

[SOURCES: UN News Centre, UNHCR]

### **III. POPULATION MOVEMENTS**

#### **Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)**

- About 30,000 Sudanese have been displaced by the rebel Ugandan Lord's Resistance Army attacks in Western and Central Equatoria States since October 2008. The county breakdown for IDPs is: Mundri West and East- 9305, Yambio- 1000, Maridi - 4000, Nzara -1032, Ibba - 2150, Ezo -7056, Tambura - 912. The remainder is in Central Equatoria state. The death toll reported by GoSS authorities is 127 people with 66 people abducted. Humanitarian agencies continue to respond to the increasing number of displaced people as a result of the LRA attacks.

#### **Refugees, Returns and Re-integration**

- According to UNHCR, about 12,000 refugees had moved into Western Equatoria State from DR Congo as at 6th February 2009. The refugees are part of approximately 41,000 people displaced by the LRA attacks.
- The planned airlift of refugees from Fugnido camp to Nasir in Upper Nile State is due to start on 26 February, but WFP food supplies at the Nasir way station were insufficient for the 2,800 persons expected to return. WFP has informed UNHCR that it cannot restock by barge, as the water level in the Sobat River is now too low for barges. New food supplies can only be sent by road in March, which makes changes to the airlifting schedule imperative. Discussions are now underway to find ways of urgently addressing the situation. Funding constraints may result in a portion of the returnees having to come by road through Pagak although the feasibility of this option has to be confirmed as there are swamps along the route, which are unlikely to dry up by March/April.
- Preparations for repatriation through the Maban corridor are underway with the first convoy of 57 returnees and some secondary returnees expected on 13 February.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Tripartite Commission for the Return and Reintegration of Sudanese from Kenya was held at UNHCR Juba on 7 February, attended by the delegations of the Governments of Sudan and Kenya and UNHCR Sudan and Kenya. This meeting was preceded by the Technical Working Commission on the previous day. After the meeting the Commission issued a Joint Communiqué, setting the goal of repatriation from Kenya in 2009 at 5,000 and addressing return and reintegration-related issues. The meeting of the Tripartite Commission with Uganda will follow on 10 February, with the Technical Working Committee meeting on 9 February.
- During the reporting period, organised return convoys from Arua, Adjumani and Moyo in Uganda repatriated 1,061 returnees through the Yei, Kajo Keji and Nimule corridors to Southern Sudan.

[SOURCES: UNHCR]

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

#### **Common Services and Coordination**

- UNHCR, SSRRC and WFP registered Congolese people in Rubeke, Mitika, Old Lasu and New Lasu in Lasu Payam on 1-3 February. Up to 1,953 individuals (732 households) were registered and provided with food and NFIs. About 421 individuals (112 household) did not receive food and NFIs due to logistical constraints as trucks had to move to the Keri way station for repatriation. UNHCR will finalize the food and NFI distribution to the remaining 112 households on 9 February when trucks are released from the return programme between convoys.

[SOURCES: UNHCR]

### **Disease Outbreaks**

- **Meningitis** (*serotype A N. meningitides*) outbreak has been confirmed in Kapoeta South and North Counties, Eastern Equatoria State (EES). As at 05 February, 62 cases and 6 deaths were reported with a case fatality rate (CFR) of 14.8%. Approximately 300,000 people are at a greater risk of infection. In week 5, most cases were from Machi 2 Payam, Kapoeta South, which has no functioning health facilities and all suspected cases were referred to DOT mission hospital.

Case management and surveillance are ongoing in these and neighboring counties like Budi and Kapoeta East. A mass vaccination activity for the affected population is planned through MSF-Swiss with help of vaccines/accessories from UNICEF, WHO and MoH/State/GoSS.

A State Crisis Committee meeting was held in Torit (EES) and this will continue meeting regularly to support coordination of outbreak response activities both at the State and County levels. In Central Equatoria State, increasing numbers of suspected cases was noted in two payams from Yei County, where monitoring and investigations are under way.

- **Measles:** The State Ministry of Health (SMoH) reported that mass measles vaccination campaigns were completed in Awerial County, Lakes State (Minkaman, Door and Magok Payams) with the support of CCM. SMoH plans to vaccinate remaining 3 payams of Bunagok, Abuyong and Alel, to cover the whole county.

[SOURCES: WHO/MoH-GoSS, UNICEF, OCHA EP&R]

### **Health**

- WHO has donated three emergency health kits for Western Equatoria State (WES). One kit is sufficient to support 10,000 people for three months. The Mundri kit was delivered via and OCHA charter aircraft, the Yambio kit was delivered by UNHAS/JLC and the Maridi kit was dispatched by IOM/JLC.
- Accelerated campaign against tetanus is ongoing in Wau County and the surrounding villages since 2<sup>nd</sup> February. The measles campaign in Yirol County was completed on 3<sup>rd</sup> February.
- Primary Health Care supplies (PHCU, midwifery, growth monitoring kits and assorted medical supplies), expected to benefit 5,000 people, were delivered to the communities in Magwi and Kajo-keji through ARC with UNICEF support.
- Assorted supplies (5 diarrhoea, 5 PHCU and clean delivery kits), provided by UNICEF, were delivered through the SMoH for a targeted 500 beneficiaries among the displaced population in Lainya County.

[SOURCE: UNICEF]

### **Nutrition**

- World Vision International, a WFP partner, assisted 2,000 children under five-years with 14mt of one-month rations through the ongoing Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme in Aweil East in Northern Bahr el Ghazal State. A Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) assessment was carried out on the beneficiaries in Rialdit and Rumrol locations, which revealed a relatively (99.7 percent) satisfactory nutritional status. The programme assists 5,000 Gogrial IDP children in the county. The IDPs were displaced from Gogrial County in Northern Bahr el Ghazal by an inter-tribal conflict that resulted in the displacement of 32,000 people in June 2008.
- UNICEF provided nutrition supplies (plumpy nuts and BP-5) to support the therapeutic feeding centers and out-patient therapeutic programmes (OTPs) in Eastern Equatoria State.
- Under the UNICEF –ACEF partnership, ACFE Bentiu received 70 cartons of plumpy nut from ACF USA Malakal to support treatment of 95 severe malnourished children in Rubkona OTP and Bentiu therapeutic feeding centre (TFC).

[SOURCES: WFP, UNICEF]

### **Food Aid**

- During the reporting week, WFP assisted 23,850 beneficiaries with 380mt of food. Among the beneficiaries were 8,810 IDPs affected by the Mvolo/Wullu inter-tribal conflict in Lakes State who received a three-month food ration. The IDPs are spread in three locations namely, Mvolo, Western Equatoria (5,610), Wullu, Lakes State (2,910) and Wau in Western Bahr el Ghazal (210).
- The beneficiaries also included 6,450 IDPs and refugees affected by LRA attacks in Eastern and Western Equatoria States who received one-month food rations. Up to 230MT were delivered for the intervention and a further 250mt of food is scheduled for delivery in February.
- Some 434 returning Lobonok IDPs received a three-month reintegration food ration during the reporting week, in an organized return process under a ‘Special Presidential Project’ implemented by the GoSS Ministry of Presidential Affairs in partnership with WFP, IOM and SSRRC. The ongoing operation is targeting repatriation of 4,580 IDPs from Juba to Lobonok in Central Equatoria. Since the operation started in December, 2,540 IDPs have been repatriated.
- The Pochalla County Commissioner reported that all Anuak refugees in Pochalla had received 3-months food ration except those who were not in the camp when the verification exercise had been undertaken last November (approximately 295 households). UNHCR and WFP will verify those remaining families during the upcoming mission to Pochalla to provide food assistance as soon as possible.

*[SOURCES: WFP, UNHCR]*

### **Food Security and Sustainable Livelihoods**

- FAO has made advanced plans to procure and preposition seeds and tools set to benefit 100,000 households across the 10 states of Southern Sudan. The targeted beneficiaries will mainly be vulnerably returnees, IDPs and host communities. Implementing partners have been identified and the development of letters of agreements for distribution is on-going.

*[SOURCE: FAO]*

### **Non-Food Items (NFIs) & Emergency Shelter**

- **Western Equatoria:** UNICEF delivered 1,700 kitchen sets and 1,724 NFI kits to OXFAM-GB in response to SSRRC’s request to support the LRA displaced population of over 1,591 households in Mundiri County. Another 200 kitchen sets and 200 NFI kits were sent to Yambio to support the displaced people there and in other sounding counties.

*[SOURCE: UNICEF]*

### **Water and Sanitation**

- UNICEF supported COMPASS, a local organization with 10 fast moving kits for rehabilitation/repair of at least 10 boreholes in Juba which when completed are expected to re-establish access to safe water for at least 5,000 people.
- UNICEF supported the rehabilitation of 12 broken down safe water sources in Wau County, the drilling of 2 boreholes for estimated 1,000 people in the NBeG and provided drilling materials to a contractor to drill 15 boreholes in Raja, where work is expected to start soon.

*[SOURCE: UNICEF]*

### **Protection**

- Four children abducted allegedly by the Murle in Juba, Central Equatoria in 2008 were traced and released by the community leaders to the vice president of the GoSS H. E. Riek Machar.

- UNICEF visited police stations and a prison in Wau town, where 33 juveniles were in detention. Six were released following the visit. UNICEF had a meeting with the Judge who stated that remaining cases would be reviewed soon before they may be released. The Judge expressed his appreciation for the role played by the social workers whom UNICEF has been technically supporting. Also, UNICEF held a meeting with the Police Commissioner to lobby for the training of key police officers in child friendly procedures and training on key messages on the Child Act as well as to support the juveniles system to improve the situation of children on contact with the law.
- A total of 77 separated children, 5 unaccompanied and 2 missing cases were registered from among the IDPs of Wulu in Lakes State that reached Wau during the past weeks. The list was finalized and shared with Ministry of Social Development (MoSD) in Lakes State and SC-UK for family tracing and reunification (FTR).

[SOURCES: UNICEF, UNHCR]

### **Mine Action**

- South Sudan De-mining Commission (SSDC)'s mine risk education (MRE) team, supported by UNICEF, conducted MRE awareness sessions in Malakal central and Southern zones on 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> February 2009, in 5 basic schools located near mine fields. Up to 592 children (295 girls and 286 boys) and 11 adults (6 women and 5 men) benefitted. UNICEF also provided 22 sets of MRE posters and 50 MRE training manuals to SSDC/A Malakal.

[SOURCES: UNICEF]

### **Education**

- Educational materials were dispatched to Pochalla and Pibor Counties, Jonglei State by UNICEF and partners. Onward distribution to other counties will be done from there. Once the distribution is completed a total of 4,147 girls and 9,450 boys in 29 schools will benefit from 111,600 exercise books, 192 student kits, 192 teacher kits, 39 recreational kits and 39 blackboards. Meanwhile the distribution to 69 schools in Budi and Kapoeta South is ongoing.

[SOURCES: UNICEF]

## **V. ASSESSEMENTS AND MISSIONS**

- UN agencies and NGOs have carried out assessments in Lainya and Yei in Central Equatoria and seven counties out of eight in Western Equatoria (Mundri West, Mundri East, Maridi, Yambio, Ibba, Nzara and Ezo). An assessment in Tambura County began on 07 February.
- For reports of inter-agency assessments completed during the reporting week, please contact Leonard Tedd from OCHA-EP&R: [tedd@un.org](mailto:tedd@un.org).

**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)