



**Humanitarian Action in Southern Sudan Report
Week 22, 25-31 May 2009**

SUMMARY/HIGHLIGHTS

✚ On-going inter-ethnic revenge attacks and LRA attacks threaten security in the South.

I. FOCUS ON SECURITY AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

Western Equatoria State (WES): LRA attacks continue in Western Equatoria. LRA reportedly abducted one woman in Andari (Ezo County) on 26 May. One female Congolese minor died on May 28 from gunshot wounds. MSF-E reports of new refugee arrivals in Ezo County following lootings and killings in DRC around 50km from the Sudan border. UNHCR is currently carrying out registration of refugees in Ezo as many locals are said to have registered as refugees. A separate LRA attack occurred in Ibba County in a village near Bamani, South of Ibba town during the reporting week. In total over 54,000 people have been displaced by the LRA within Southern Sudan since December 2008, 20,000 LRA affected refugees from DRC currently in Southern Sudan.

Jonglei State: The situation in Jonglei continues to be tense, with humanitarian agencies making efforts to meet the assessed needs. Food distribution in Pibor took place on 27 May. Unicef airlifted 1300 NFI kits (shelter, cooking equipment and mosquito nets) to Akobo on 30th May. Pochalla County, Jonglei State remains isolated, with no road or river access for most of the year. There are no national or international NGOs on the ground. UNHCR assessment in the area identified food and health supplies as critical needs for the region.

Warrap State: At least nine people were killed and three persons seriously injured during a retaliatory attack, on 31 May, between the Jur tribe of Wulu County and Dinka Agar from Rumbek East. In a separate inter-ethnic attack in Warrap State, 11 people, including 7 SPLA soldiers and 4 civilians were killed on 01 June. The Payam Administrator of Ajak Kuac Payam in Twic County was among the dead.

[RCSO, OCHA EP&R]

II. CURRENT ISSUES

NSTR

III. POPULATION MOVEMENTS

Refugees, Returns and Re-integration

This week 1,023 returnees (259 families) were assisted by UNHCR to repatriate from countries of asylum. 1,010 persons (256 families) came through organized convoys from Uganda to Central and Eastern Equatoria states, 6 persons (2 families) returned from Uganda and seven persons (one family) came from Egypt to Upper Nile State by self-repatriation. The total number of refugees assisted for repatriation in 2009 stands at 27,658 persons.

[UNHCR]

IV. SITUATION, NEEDS AND RESPONSE BY SECTOR

Common Services and Coordination

UNJLC is handing over coordination of large cargo movement requests for the UNHAS dedicated cargo aircraft to UNHAS, as the service has currently been operating successfully in Southern Sudan for two months. Cargo Movement Requests (CMRs) should be sent directly to wfphas.juba@wfp.org with all relevant information detailed on the form.

Upon confirmation of loading date, all large cargoes (100kg or more) to be loaded by the requesting organization must be presented to the UNHAS cargo booking office for inspection the day prior to movement, failure to which the agency will be charged in full for the flight. Cargo loaded by UNHAS (100kg or less) can be presented at anytime prior to the day of movement.

[UNJLC]

Disease Outbreaks

- *Acute Watery Diarrhoea*: The Surveillance & Diseases Control Committee in Central Equatoria State (CES) reported 89 cases of suspected acute watery diarrhea IN Juba zone. Of these 42 are in Yei, 26 in Lanya and 21 cases in Kajokeji counties.No deaths have been reported.
- *Chicken Pox*: Morobo County continued to report cases of chicken pox for 5 consecutive weeks.
- *Cholera*: According to UNICEF, fifteen PHCU drug kits and three cholera kits for cholera prevention activities in Akobo are located in Malakal. 60 hygiene promoters have been trained by Nile Hope Development Forum (NHDF) with UNICEF support. 1,500 NFI; 1,500 kitchen kits, 3,000 LLTN's of NFIs; medical and WatSan supplies were flown to Akobo on 29 April. To date 1,000 NFI kits; 1,000 kitchen sets and 2,000 mosquito nets were distributed by NHDF. Further, 4,000 NFI kits were loaded for barge to Malakal from Juba on 28 May.

[UNICEF]

Health

- Health and Nutrition Annual Work plan 2009 for Warrap State was signed on 29/05/2009 in the presence of Deputy Governor of Warrap State and the Directors of the respective line ministries.
- In Wau, Health and Nutrition coordination meeting for WBeG was held on 29/05/2009 with participation from NGOs partners.
- *Polio*: The National Immunisation Days (NIDs) kicked off in CES, WES, EES, Jonglei, Western Bahr El Ghazal State, Unity, Warrap, Lakes State and in Northern Bahr El Ghazal State. The vaccination is expected to reach 95% children under five with polio vaccines. The SMoH, WHO and UNICEF have been involved in monitoring and supervising the implementation of the campaigns.

[UNICEF]

Food Aid

- WFP and its partners assisted 84,685 beneficiaries with 1,065mt of food in South Sudan during the reporting week. Of the beneficiaries, 45 percent (38,110 beneficiaries) were school children assisted through food-for-education and the Girls Incentive activities- who received 20 percent (216mt) of the food distributed.
- The beneficiaries also included 6,410 IDPs in Pibor (5,512 IDPs) and Walgak (900 IDPs) who received 210mt of food. The IDPs were displaced by the inter-tribal conflict between Lou Nuer and Murle tribesmen in March 2009. Those in Pibor, who were also assisted in March, received a two-month food ration while those in Walgak, receiving interventions for the first time, were assisted with a three-month food ration. Further deliveries of 25mt were made to MSF-B in Pibor for a targeted 5,050 beneficiaries in its health and nutritional programmes.
- WFP also dispatched 77mt of maize-meal to Lasu refugee camp in Yei, Western Equatoria, for distribution to 5,400 refugees from DRC during the reporting week. The maize-meal will replace grain maize currently stocked at a UNHCR warehouse in the location, which is easier to cook. WFP was undertaking contingency measures in the event that, the insurgency reported in north DRC during the reporting week results in more displacements of Congolese into Western Equatoria. In May, WFP assisted about 27,555 IDPs and refugees affected by the LRA activities in Western Equatoria.
- A WFP/SSRRC rapid assessment team recommended three-month food assistance to 5,000 residents in Lauro in Eastern Equatoria. The residents were displaced by an inter-tribal conflict between the Didinga and Toposa tribesmen in 2007 that left 54 people dead, and have slowly been settling back. The food was expected to last the residents to the first harvest season in August/September.

Nutrition

- In Malakal, 600 cartons of nutrition supplies were provided to support newly established nutrition programmes in Detang, Bam, Malakia, Owaci, Ulang, Kodok and Obel PHCCs. The programme is supported by SMOH and partner NGOs.
- WFP and UNICEF discussed the current nutrition crises in Bor, and how sector coordination could be improved. UNICEF health officer is now in Bor for two weeks to help set up health/nutrition coordination mechanism, identify issues, challenges, constraints and gap, and most importantly advocate for more partners.
- According to MSF-Belgium the food security situation in Pibor is of great concern, particularly in Lekongole. Stocks of food in the markets are depleted, and due to the tribal clashes, many communities were not able to plant as normal in April. There is a worry that the hunger gap will be longer than normal, probably lasting until September/October. MSF-B is monitoring the nutritional situation in the county. *[WFP,RCSO]*

Non-Food Items (NFIs) & Emergency Shelter

- Following inter-tribal clashes in Upper Nile, Jonglei, Lakes and Warrap States, the NFI & ES Sector is working to support displaced households with non-food items and emergency shelter. Insecurity in Warrap state has hampered dispatches of NFIs but Sector partners are ready to respond as soon as access opens up.
- Jonglei: UNICEF delivered 1,500 NFI kits to assist displaced populations in Akobo. Distributions will be carried out by Nile Hope. Fighting in March in Le-Kuangole Payam has displaced some 6,000 people to Pibor, where cholera has also broken out. In response, Oxfam-Great Britain has distributed 2,000 buckets and 2,000 pieces of soap to support 1,000 households of IDPs. On 29 May, CRS, SSRRC and RRR distributed 169 IOM NFI kits in Jalle to support spontaneous returns.
- Upper Nile: Following floods in Mathiang, Oxfam-Great Britain coordinated an inter-agency distribution of non-food items and emergency shelter between 21 and 23 May. A total of 500 buckets, 120 plastic sheets, 3000 pieces of soap and 1,000 PUR water sachets were distributed to support 289 households, supplemented by additional NFIs from other NGOs to subsidize distributions or support unregistered IDPs.
- Lakes: Oxfam-Great Britain distributed 92 UNICEF NFI kits, 92 buckets with lids and 4,600 pieces of soap to displaced households in Rumbek North and supported an additional 40 households in Rumbek East with 40 UNICEF NFI kits, 40 buckets with lids and 2,000 pieces of soap.
- Unity: A total of 211 vulnerable households of spontaneous returnees have been identified in Koch. UNICEF will provide NFI kits, which will be distributed by Save the Children-UK and RRR.
- Further information on the NFI & ES Sector can be obtained by visiting UNJLC's website at www.unjlc.org/sudan or by e-mailing sudan.juba@unjlc.org.

[UNJLC, UNICEF]

Water and Sanitation

- The two surface water treatment systems in Lasu Refugee Camp in Yei County have been officially handed over to the local authorities and UNHCR. The two surface water treatment systems provide access to safe water to at least 3,000 additional refugees in the camp.
- 4 hand-pumps (3 in Rumbek North and 1 in Rumbek Centre) were rehabilitated by rural water and sanitation department in Lakes State increasing access to 2,000 people.
- Rural Water Department from Lakes State continued training the Pump mechanics in the most inaccessible counties of the state.
- 50 latrine slabs and 25 pieces of vent pipes were delivered to Yei to support promotion of 50 household latrines targeting providing access to safe means of excreta disposal to 500 people.
- WASH materials were also sent to Yambio to support provision of WASH services to LRA affected populations in Western Equatoria State. The supplies included: 20 sets of handpumps, 50 boxes of water purifiers (chloroflocs), 75 cartons (1875 pieces) of washing soap and 80 latrines digging kits.

Protection

- In Central Equatoria (CES) 270 new refugee arrivals (140 F, 130 M) were registered at Lasu settlement. The refugees stated that the LRA is still active in their area of origin, with reports of 3 persons being recently abducted. Self-reliance is being encouraged in Lasu through the promotion of agricultural activities: 296 plots have been allocated to 198 families to date. Tools and seeds from FAO (2,000 pangas, 1,000 sickles, 2,000 kg sorghum and 5,000 kg maize seeds) will be distributed after plot allocations.
- Security situation in Western Equatoria (WES) is calm although reportedly 2 Sudanese villages bordering the DRC in Andari Payam were attacked this week resulting in displacement of locals as well as some refugees who had settled in those villages (figures to be established). The attackers, believed to be LRA, released 4 civilians after the attack of May 25, but a woman abducted on 26 May remains missing. Some refugees newly arrived in Andari are to be verified/registered in the coming week.
- On 26 May a group of over 100 ethnic Nuer from Gambella, Ethiopia approached UNHCR Juba to request basic assistance claiming to have fled political persecution. UNHCR recorded basic information, and shared the information with UNHCR Gambella to establish credibility.
- UNHCR Juba and UNPOL finalized discussions on the Letter of Understanding on UNHCR's contribution towards the Special Protection Units (SPU) project. UNHCR committed US\$ 40,000 to cover procurement for the project, including office supplies, furniture and rape kits.
- Child protection officer in Juba including CFO and WASH officer had a one day trip to Makpandu refugee camp to assess the situation of the Congolese unaccompanied minors who were placed under foster care families. 6 of the 19 children taken to Makpandu by UNHCR/ICRC came back to Yambio town. The children were complaining of less amount of food given to them. Lack of shelter, tools for work, lack of clothing and recreational items were among the reasons that made them desert the camp and come back to town. They also needs English lesson to be taught in the school.

[UNHCR]

V. ASSESSEMENTS AND MISSIONS

- Preliminary results from a UNHCR-SSRRC registration mission in Pochalla, Jonglei State indicate the population of Ethiopian Anuak refugees in the county at some 3,200. During a coordination meeting facilitated by the UNRC SO, WFP, UNICEF and FAO respectively indicated that further distributions of food, NFI and seeds/tools to Pochalla in 2009 will have to be airlifted or transported by barge when the river is high enough, due to the road being impassable for the remainder of the year.

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: **Truphosa Anjichi, OCHA Humanitarian Reporting Officer** on anjichi@un.org