Humanitarian Bulletin South Sudan

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HIGHLIGHTS

- The exodus of South Sudanese to neighbouring countries continues, with Uganda hosting the largest number.
- Aid convoy arrives in Yei to deliver assistance for 52,000 people.
- Partners are responding to malaria, with nearly 1.9 million cases reported this year.
- Aid agencies are scaling up operations to assist nearly 40,000 displaced people in Wau.
- Armed forces and armed groups have been urged to release child soldiers.

FIGURES

No. of	
Internally	1.73 million
Displaced	1.73 111111011
Persons	
No. of	
refugees in	
neighboring	1.05 million
countries	
(post 15 Dec 2013)	

No. of food insecure people in July (IPC figures) 4.8 million

FUNDING

\$821 million funding received in 2016

64% of appeal funding received in 2016

\$1.29 billion requirements for South Sudan 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan



An internally displaced woman registers in Bentiu as insecurity fuels further displacements in South Sudan. Photo:IOM/A.McLaughlin.

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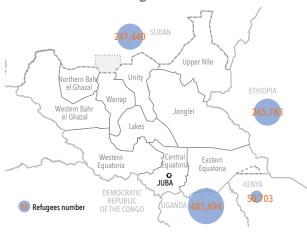
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Equatorias: South Sudanese continue to flee





Source: UNHCR, Graphic: OCHA

Fighting and insecurity in South Sudan's Greater Equatoria region have continued to cause thousands of people to flee, turning a Ugandan border village into the third largest refugee camp in the world in just over two months.

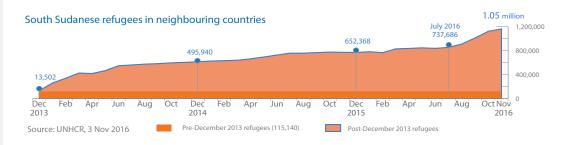
Since July's outbreak of fighting in South Sudan's capital Juba, an estimated 295,000 South Sudanese have fled across the border to Uganda. In August 2016, the Bidibidi refugee settlement was re-established in Uganda's Yumbe district to help accommodate the rapidly rising influx. By 2 November, Bibidi settlement was home to 188,133 South Sudanese refugees.

making it larger than Kakuma (163,192) in Kenya, and third in size in the world only to Dolo Ado (216,795) in Ethiopia and Dadaab (275,467) in Kenya, according to UNHCR data.

Most people arriving in Uganda in recent weeks have come from locations in Central Equatoria, including Kajo-Keji, Kendila, Lainya, Morobo and Yei. They report fleeing South Sudan due to fighting and insecurity and many say they have travelled through the bush to the border in order to remain hidden. Refugees also indicated that many elderly people remained in South Sudan as they could not make the lengthy and grueling journey. On 1 November, 5,892 new arrivals were reported in Uganda – this is the third highest number in a single day since 7 July, when violence escalated in South Sudan.

Despite the rapidly growing needs, the Refugee Response Plan for South Sudan remains just 19 per cent funded, with only US\$48.5 million received out of \$251 million required to respond.

Read more: UNHCR Uganda Update -- http://bit.ly/2frkiOV



Tens of thousands of people have been displaced in the Equatorias due to fighting since July.

A convoy reached Yei

town on 4 November

with vital food, WASH.

child protection and

shelter items.

Internal displacement rises

In addition to those fleeing the country, humanitarian partners continue to receive reports of people being internally displaced. In Central Equatoria, tens of thousands of people from surrounding areas have displaced into Yei town, while thousands more are thought to remain stranded in the bushes in areas outside the town. At the same time, there are reports of thousands of people being relocated from Yei town to Juba, facilitated by the Government. In Eastern Equatoria, it is estimated that at least 40,000 people are displaced in and around Torit town,

Entry points into Uganda



Source: OCHA

thousands of whom have sought refuge in mountainous areas in fear of further fighting and attacks.

Partners respond in the Equatorias

Humanitarian organisations are continuing to scale-up the response in areas of the Greater Equatoria region that have been hardest hit by fighting.

In Central Equatoria, some 9,500 people received food assistance in Loca West and Logwili in Lainya on 19 October, after WFP led a convoy carrying 215 metric tons of food to the area. In Yei, a rapid response mission team comprised of health, nutrition, protection, non-food items (NFI), education, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) partners arrived in Yei town on 26 October.

On 4 November, a convoy of 38 trucks transporting one month of food rations including sorghum, yellow-split peas, and vegetable oil from WFP, water, sanitation and child protection items from UNICEF and shelter items from UNHCR arrived in Yei town. Distribution of the food assistance, which will reach nearly 52,000 people, began on 5 November.

In Western Equatoria, humanitarian partners travelled to Ezo from 26 to 31 October and distributed vital NFIs - including blankets, kitchen sets, mats, and mosquito-nets – to more than 2,000 households, and WASH items to 700 households. The mission also carried medical supplies for the health facilities.

In Eastern Equatoria, partners have completed registration of 1,000 households in Inyif and Ifuotu areas of Torit town and have flown in NFIs for distribution. Partners also recently restocked two health facilities and schools which had been looted and damaged in Ikwotos County, enabling them to resume operations.

However, insecurity remains a major challenge. On 29 October, a national non-governmental organization vehicle was reportedly ambushed by an armed group along the Torit-Kapoeta road. WASH supplies were looted and the driver was beaten.

This was at least the fourth major incident affecting humanitarian operations on roads in Eastern Equatoria in October, including the killing of an NGO staff member who was traveling to a project site outside Torit on 14 October.



Part of the WFP convoy that arrived in Yei with food in November. Photo: WFP/B. Langdon.

on roads in Eastern
Equatoria, including
the death of an aid
worker, affected

operations in October.

Four major incidents

Read more: UNHCR WFP Press Release http://bit.ly/2eaJnS8

Nearly 1.9 million malaria cases have been reported in 2016.

Fight against malaria continues

Reported malaria cases in 2016 have surpassed the number recorded at the same time last year. As of 23 October, nearly 1.9 million cases had been reported across South Sudan, an increase of more than 80,000 compared to 1.82 million cases reported during the same period in 2015.

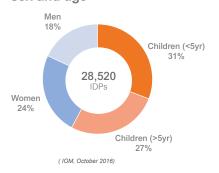
Following spikes in reported malaria cases in multiple locations, the malaria incidence at IDP sites is within expected levels and has either normalized or is gradually returning to normal in 26 (33 per cent) affected counties. This follows a series of interventions by health organisations, including improving access to treatment through mobile clinics, distribution of insecticide-treated mosquito nets, indoor residual spraying and larviciding.

Partners are also providing malaria diagnostics and medicines and have increased both the number of treatment points and opening hours at primary healthcare centres. Radio programmes promoting the use of mosquito nets to reduce malaria transmission are also being aired.

All counties reported an upsurge in malaria across the country in 2016, with Northern Bahr El Ghazal and Upper Nile reporting more than twice the number of cases when compared to 2015. The number of malaria cases is expected to decline with the onset of the dry season in the coming weeks.

Read more: WHO South Sudan Weekly Disease Surveillance Bulletin -- http://bit.ly/2fip4A2

IDPs in Wau Protected Area by sex and age



Nearly 40,000 IDPs in Wau town

There are now more than 39,600 internally displaced people (IDP) in Wau town, according to findings from a head count exercise concluded on 22 October. This includes 28,520 IDPs in the protected area next to UNMISS, 7,656 in 'Cathedral', 1,225 in Nazareth, 1,311 in Lokoloko, 751 in St. Joseph Church, and 214 in South Sudan Red Cross compound.

Nearly 83 per cent of the IDP population in the protected area and other collective sites are women and children. Congestion and living conditions in the collective sites remain a major public health concern due to increased cases of acute watery diarrhea and respiratory tract infections. The Wau protected area is the most congested Protection of Civilians (PoC) site in the country, with more than 28,520 IDPs sheltering on just 134,514 m2 of land.

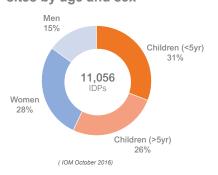
Aid agencies are scaling up operations to respond to the needs of the increasing number of people sheltering in the protected area. Construction of a new health clinic is on-going. More than 5,000 pupils (2,306 girls and 2,735 boys) are enrolled for temporary learning and scholastic materials, including exercise books, have been distributed to the school children. More teachers have been recruited as the number of pupils has increased. The Temporary Learning Space (TLS) now has two shifts in a day; morning and afternoon.

A general food distribution to IDPs in all the collective sites was kicked off on 31 October. along with a nutrition programme for pregnant and lactating mothers. Partners are exploring options to ensure that IDPs have continued access to clean water following reports of the increased cost of water trucking to IDPs in the PoC site.

Beyond the collective sites, partners are continuing to support service delivery throughout Wau town. Over 50 boreholes have been repaired in Wau town and additional boreholes have been identified for repair, with technical assessments underway. Nutrition support is ongoing through five outpatient therapeutic programme (OTP) sites, including Lokoloko Primary Health Care Centre and Wau Teaching Hospital. Partners are also supporting health facilities, including Wau Teaching Hospital and county health departments with medical supplies and technical support.

Read more: CCCM Fact Sheet http://bit.ly/2eoxZxk

IDPs in other Wau collective sites by age and sex



Tens of thousands of people displaced in the Greater Baggari Area have received limited assistance due to continued insecurity.

Conflict parties have been urged to abide by international law, end recruitment of children and release those in their ranks.

It is estimated that about 16,000 children have been recruited by armed forces and armed groups since December 2013.

Governor calls for access to areas outside of Wau town

Following months of intensive access negotiations, the Governor of Wau, Andrea Mayar, has called for an end to restrictions against aid operations.

"We have written letters to organizations and distributed to all our checkpoints and then put at Tombura road, Raja, and Bagari checkpoints, saying that don't obstruct the work of organizations operating there," Mayar told Eye Radio.

Humanitarian partners estimate that tens of thousands of people remain displaced in the Greater Baggari Area - including in Biringi, Ngo Halima, Tadu, and Ngisa - and Mboro. However, they have only been able to reach these areas intermittently since July 2016 and have mostly been unable to carry large amounts of humanitarian supplies.

Intimidation of aid workers at checkpoints has been a major challenge. Most recently, on 21 October, a humanitarian worker providing relief assistance was detained at Lokoloko.

Call to end use of child soldiers as armed groups release 145 children



Child soldiers being demobilised in Pibor. Photo: UNICEF

Some 145 children used by armed groups were released at a ceremony in Pibor on 26 October, marking the largest release of child soldiers since 2015, when 1,775 children were released in the Greater Pibor Administrative Area.

Speaking at the event, UNICEF's Representative in South Sudan, Mahimbo Mdoe, urged all parties to abide by international law, to end recruitment and to release children who are currently serving in their ranks.

"Our hope is that today's release will be followed by many others so that the 16,000 children who are still in armed forces and armed groups will be able to return to their families." he said.

During their release, the children were formally disarmed and provided with civilian clothes. They also underwent medical screening and were registered for a reintegration programme. Over the coming months, all released children will receive counselling and psychosocial support. They will also be placed in an interim care centre, until their families can be traced. Following their reunification, the children's families will be provided with three months' worth of food assistance as a take-home package as well as livestock to supplement household income during the reintegration process.

It is estimated that about 16,000 children have been recruited by armed forces and armed groups in South Sudan since the onset of fighting in December 2013. More than 800 children are estimated to have been recruited since the beginning of 2016, and partners continue to receive reports about the recruitment of children.

Partners are working with the Government of South Sudan's National Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission to secure the release and reintegration of children associated with armed forces and armed groups and to provide the children with livelihood and education opportunities.

Read more: UNICEF Press Release -- http://uni.cf/2fz08Yz

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OCHA humanitarian bulletins are available at: www.reliefweb.int