



UNHCR South Sudan

Situation Report

Developments

The signing of a ceasefire agreement has been announced. The agreement provides for, *inter alia*, cessation of hostilities within 24 hours with elements related to provision of humanitarian assistance.

UNDSS and UNMISS reports from Bor and Malakal indicate relative calm and stability since recapture by Government forces, although sporadic gunfire continues to be heard from time to time.

Refugee operations

• Unity state

As of 23 January, there are 33 UNHCR staff in Yida (12 international).

481 refugees have been relocated to Ajuong Thok from Yida since the beginning of the year.

• Upper Nile state

Currently there are 25 UNHCR staff in Bunj, Maban County (8 international).

Essential operations continue in all four refugee camps. Indicators remain stable and below emergency threshold, although Hepatitis E cases are increasing particularly in Kaya and Yusuf Batil. Partners are strengthening messaging and WASH response to prevent outbreak. A shipment of vaccines was received in Maban, while essential medicines are to be airlifted from Yei with shortages reported at health facilities three of the four camps.

Internal displacement

UNHCR is participating in the IDP response via the inter-agency collaborative approach under the leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator.

• Staff deployments

UNHCR has strengthened its capacity to manage the IDP response with the arrival in Juba of an experienced Senior Protection Cluster Coordinator.

The Protection Cluster has finalized an understanding with Swiss Development Corporation to support funding of a dedicated Protection Cluster

Statistics of Sudanese refugees (21 Jan-14)

	Camp/settlement	Pop.
Unity State	Ajuong Thok	6,667
	Yida	70,160
	Sub-total	77,311
Upper Nile State	Doro	47,424
	Gendrassa	17,289
	Kaya	17,788
	Yusuf Batil	39,033
	Lelo	956
	Sub-total	123,490
	TOTAL	200,337

“Conflict Analyst” to be hosted by NRC (Cluster co-coordinator) and to support, *inter alia*, population profile and movement analysis and trends including in the context of planning for possible durable solutions for displaced populations.

UNHCR received USD754,320 from the Rapid Response Window of the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to support the establishment and roll out of the Camp Coordination & Camp Management cluster. UNHCR has dedicated staff co-leading the cluster with IOM and ACTED. In addition to the leadership structures, an Information Management Cell and an Inter-Cluster Technical Site Planning Working Group have been rolled out. Three UNHCR camp managers are expected to arrive shortly to strengthen CCCM capacity.

Potential partners have submitted four proposals to support implementation of UNHCR’s IDP protection response interventions. Agreements are expected to be concluded next week following a quick review.

• Site Planning in UNMISS PoC Areas (Juba)

The second of two extensions to the PoC Area at UN House has been completed. The 1.13 hectare extension has the capacity to hold 1,000 persons. Plot allocation to IDPs is in progress. Meanwhile,

site clearance is in progress for a second POC extension adjacent to the UN House.

- **Eastern Equatoria State**

UNHCR sent a mission to Nimule to engage in cross-border discussions with staff from Adjumani, Uganda. The border town in Magwi County is situated on route used by roughly 85% of nearly 60,000 South Sudanese refugees who have sought refuge in Uganda since the conflict broke out in December. The average rate of arrival, which peaked at 2,500 daily arrivals, had slowed to 250 over the past few days. The main reason cited during the initial influx stage was protection related (insecurity, fear for life) whereas recent new arrivals were observed to be crossing the border due to lack of assistance. Cross-border collaboration will continue with a view to assisting the Uganda side to prepare for new arrivals.

Regarding internal displacement, the team found Magwi County had been receiving IDPs, mostly from Jonglei State, since the outbreak of conflict. Estimates provided by local authorities indicate IDPs currently number around 35,000. The majority are women and children, reflecting the profile of refugees arriving in Uganda. The team visited communal facilities (churches and schools) where they found people settled in the open under trees with significant evidence of vulnerable groups such as elderly-headed households and unaccompanied minors. Food, water and basic non food items were identified as the most critical needs.

- **Lakes State**

The scope of secondary displacement of IDPs from Minkamon and their intentions in light of current circumstances, will be assessed as soon as safe humanitarian access is re-established and Protection cluster actors are able to return. The IDPs who were primarily from Bor had originally sought refuge in Minkamon (Awerial County, Lakes State), and were displaced a second time owing to credible reports of armed elements moving in their direction.

On 22 January, UNHCR led the Protection cluster in conducting a Rapid Needs Assessment in the UNMISS PoC area in Rumbek. The State Ministry of Social Development, UNMISS, IRC, Nonviolent Peaceforce, DRDA, OCHA and UNICEF attended. The main issues raised by IDPs were physical security, access to education, food, and shelter. The government shall address the issue of physical security through RRC. UNICEF shall deal with education issues when the school year commences. Food (WFP) and shelter too shall be addressed after verification is completed.

- **Upper Nile State**

In Malakal, UNMISS conducted patrols and reported that the town was generally calm. Streets were deserted. UN warehouses were completely looted. Humanitarian flights resumed.

Displaced persons continue to arrive at the UNMISS PoC site in Malakal, which IOM now estimates is occupied by more than 27,000 IDPs.

In Maban County, UNHCR, WFP, IOM, RI and CAFOD participated in a meeting convened by the RRC regarding IDP situation. RRC informed that there were new arrivals from Melut, Malakal, Adar, Palouch and other areas in Bunj town. An inter-agency assessment and registration will follow with a view to targeting the vulnerable on a case-by-case basis. RRC was advised to relay clear messages that assistance would target only vulnerable individuals among IDPs and not local populations or those joining their families or in transit to other areas.

An inter-agency assessment is scheduled on 25 January following reports of new arrivals of IDPs in Beneshawa.

There are also reports of large numbers of IDPs from Palouch/Melut/Adar in Melut UNMISS base. Communication is ongoing with UNMISS to ascertain numbers and determine requirements for support.

- **Western Bahr-el-Ghazal State**

In Wau agencies are responding to an influx of persons who were displaced from Bentiu. IOM has registered 1,121 with more reportedly on the move, displaced from Bentiu. The majority are Sudanese nationals and other nationalities (Sudanese, Ethiopians/Eritreans). Currently they are living in various locations in Wau municipality. Local authorities convened an operational inter-agency meeting to agree actions including: profiling/verification led by IOM; quick provision of WASH, food, NFI, security/protection; relocation to the IOM-managed way station on Kuajok road 10km from Wau for a temporary stay (max. 15 days) pending onward transportation. Returnees are expected to be airlifted from Malakal and would require use of the way station facilities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Teresa Ongaro
Senior External Relations Officer
UNHCR Juba, South Sudan, ongaro@unhcr.org

FOR REFUGEE INFORMATION ON THE SOUTH SUDAN SITUATION, VISIT

<http://data.unhcr.org/SouthSudan/regional.php>

