

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Humanitarian partners respond following violence in Malakal Protection of Civilians Site.
- Fighting in Pibor has left at least five humanitarian facilities looted and thousands of people have been displaced.
- Insecurity in Wau increases needs.
- Secretary-General announces \$21 million from CERF during visit to South Sudan.

## FIGURES

No. of Internally Displaced Persons	1.69 million
No. of refugees in neighboring countries (post 15 Dec 2013)	640,034
No. of severely food insecure people from Jan - Mar 2016	2.8 million

## FUNDING

**\$84 million**

funding received in 2016 (including \$21 m from CERF)

**6%**

of appeal funding received in 2016

**\$1.29 billion**

requirements for South Sudan 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan



Displaced women sit in the ashes of their shelter which was burnt during the fighting at Malakal PoC site. Photo: OCHA

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## Humanitarian partners respond following violence in Malakal Protection of Civilians Site

Humanitarian partners have rapidly mobilized additional staff and supplies to respond to new needs generated by the violence that took place in Malakal Protection of Civilians (PoC) site on 17 and 18 February. At least 25 people, including three aid workers, were killed, and more than 120 wounded. About 3,700 families' shelters were destroyed or damaged during the fighting and fires, along with multiple humanitarian facilities, including clinics, water tankers, nutrition centers and schools. There are credible reports of armed men in Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) uniforms entering the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) camp and firing on civilians during the fighting.

Prior to the violence, there were around 47,000 internally displaced people (IDP) sheltering in Malakal PoC. During the fighting, about 26,000 of the IDPs fled inside the UNMISS base, while around 4,000 IDPs fled from the PoC to Malakal town, where they are staying in public buildings and abandoned houses.

In the PoC, humanitarian partners immediately set up temporary water points and treated people wounded during the fighting. Partners are constructing emergency latrines, distributing hygiene and sanitation items, and establishing temporary clinics to continue providing services. Distribution of food to more than 40,100 people has been completed, and more than 8,600 children have been provided with supplementary feeding. More than 6,300 households have been provided with vital non-food items, such as mosquito nets and blankets, and nearly 1,500 shelter kits have been distributed to the most vulnerable households. Many children were separated from their families during the chaos, and child protection partners have already reunited 58 children with their families.

In Malakal town, partners distributed high-energy biscuits to children in the days following the violence and have since distributed food for more than 4,600 people, along with water purification tablets and other basic WASH supplies, such as buckets and collapsible jerry cans. Efforts are ongoing to reestablish health and nutrition services in the town and partners have engaged intensively with authorities to secure the necessary assurances regarding the safety of civilians accessing and transporting assistance, the safety and security of aid workers, and the demilitarization of areas where assistance and protection is being provided.



A displaced woman collects food in Malakal PoC site. Photo: OCHA

## Assistant Secretary-General Kang visits Malakal with Humanitarian Coordinator Owusu

*"I am outraged by what I have seen in Malakal," said ASG Kang.*

The UN Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Kyung-wha Kang, visited Malakal on 26 February, together with the Humanitarian Coordinator for South Sudan, Mr. Eugene Owusu, and members of the Humanitarian Country Team. They witnessed first-hand the devastating impact of the violence that took place in the PoC site.

"I am outraged by what I have seen in Malakal," said the Assistant Secretary-General. "Civilians who had sought safety in the PoC have been attacked, killed, traumatized and displaced once more, with whole sections of the PoC completely and systematically burnt down and destroyed, including medical clinics and schools. Those responsible for these heinous acts must be held to account."

"The events which took place on 17 and 18 February in Malakal Protection of Civilians site are utterly reprehensible," said Mr. Eugene Owusu. "The PoC site was established as a place of refuge for people fleeing for their lives. It is absolutely unacceptable that this place of refuge has become a site where people have been killed and injured."

"Despite the peace agreement, civilians in this country continue to face destitution, destruction, death and devastation, and the humanitarian needs continue to grow," said Ms. Kang. "The fighting must stop now. People caught in the middle must be protected and humanitarians granted immediate and unhindered access to all those who need aid and protection."

Read ASG's press release <https://shar.es/1CrgK7> and HC's press release <https://shar.es/14RrHh>



ASG Kang and UNICEF Representative in South Sudan, Jonathan Veitch, at a destroyed school at Malakal PoC site. Photo: OCHA.

## Humanitarian facilities looted, thousands displaced by fighting in Pibor

Fighting in Pibor has left at least five humanitarian facilities looted and thousands of people have been displaced.

On 21 February, increasing tensions and sporadic gunfire were reported in Pibor and its vicinity. This was followed by intense fighting on 23-25 February, reportedly between forces loyal to the newly appointed Governor of the proposed Boma State and forces that remain loyal to the former Chief Administrator of the Greater Pibor Administrative Area, David Yau Yau.

More than 2,500 civilians sought refuge at the former Protection of Civilians site, next to the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) base. All aid workers in Pibor moved to the UNMISS base due to the violence and some non-essential humanitarian staff were relocated.

Aid workers are striving to meet the most urgent needs of those displaced and have managed to recover some supplies. They are distributing high-energy biscuits to children, providing water buckets and water purification supplies, constructing emergency latrines, and have established a mobile health clinic. Partners

*Fighting in Pibor has left at least five humanitarian facilities looted and thousands of people have been displaced.*



Distribution of water to displaced people in Pibor. Photo: UNICEF

have registered 15 separated children and 16 former child soldiers.

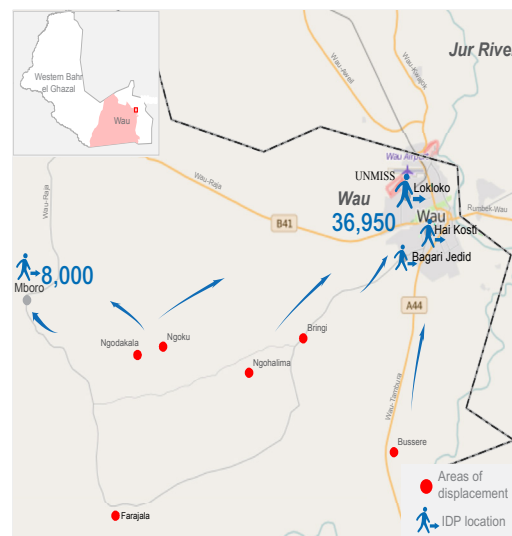
## Insecurity in Wau increases needs

After several months of tensions in neighbouring areas, in mid-February, fighting intensified in Wau town, Western Bahr el Ghazl, leading to death, injury and displacement, mostly in the south and western parts of Wau town. Homes were reportedly burnt down in Jebel Keer and Bazia Jedid.

Prior to this latest eruption of violence, about 36,950 people had already reportedly been displaced into Kosti, Baggari Jedid and Lokoloko areas from Bagari, Buseri, Bessilai and Kpaile payams outside Wau town. About 8,000 people are reported to be displaced in Mboro, about 30km from Wau, and in need of humanitarian assistance.

High levels of insecurity in the western and southern parts of Wau town, as well as blockages at checkpoints on key road routes, have prevented humanitarian partners from reaching locations outside Wau town, while needs have continued to increase.

Tensions remain high in and around Wau town. Humanitarian partners are working intensively to assess people's needs and respond wherever possible.



*Tens of thousands of people are reported to be displaced in multiple locations in and around Wau town.*

## Partners utilize dry season to scale-up response in Unity

Humanitarian organizations are taking advantage of the dry season to respond to urgent humanitarian needs in parts of Unity that had been inaccessible by road for months.

In February, partners conducted several assessment and response missions from Bentiu to places that had not been accessed since mid-2015, particularly in Mayom, Guit and Koch counties.

In Mayom County, partners distributed household items to extremely vulnerable families and delivered Education in Emergency kits to schools in Mankien. Food partners have completed beneficiary registration in four locations and food assistance targeting 60,000 people will start in the coming days. Immunization for children under age 5 is a top priority, as the last vaccination campaign took place in 2013. Acute malnutrition is also a major concern as the Targeted Supplementary Feeding Program was stopped at the end of December 2015 due to lack of funding.

In Guit County, humanitarians have started to deliver aid to Kadet and Kuach. More than 500 children under age 5 have been vaccinated against polio and measles. Pregnant women and lactating mothers have received mama dignity kits, mosquito nets and tetanus vaccines. Screening for malnutrition was conducted for children under age 5, finding high levels of acute malnutrition in both Kadet and Kuach. More than 200 patients have been treated in two temporary mobile clinics established by health partners. In Kuach, partners have distributed household items and Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food for malnourished children, and three boreholes have been repaired, providing clean water to the local population.

In Koch County, humanitarian partners undertook an assessment and distributed blankets, soap and mosquito nets to the most vulnerable families in Bauw and Duar. Partners

*The dry season provided an opportunity for humanitarian partners to reach previously inaccessible parts of Unity with critical aid.*



*Partners have conducted several missions from Bentiu to places that had not been accessed since mid-2015.*

*“Time lost means lives lost. I urge the international community to show its commitment to the people of South Sudan.”*

*The Secretary-General commended humanitarians for their work and courage and urged all parties to remove restrictions on the freedom of movement of humanitarian actors.*

observed that livestock were dying and people complained of lack of seeds and tools and fishing kits. Communities also expressed concern regarding shortages of water, education materials and household items.

In Ding Ding of Rubkona County, communities noted that they are suffering from shortages of water and lack of education materials, food and household items. Partners have started delivery of education materials and the school is re-opened on 1 March.

## Secretary-General announces \$21 million from CERF during visit to South Sudan



SG Ban Ki-moon at a school in Juba PoC site. Photo: UNMISS.

The UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon announced on 25 February, during a visit to South Sudan, that the United Nations will allocate US\$21 million from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to assist people in dire need in South Sudan.

“These much needed resources will provide protection and relief when it is needed most,” he said. “I hope that these funds will catalyze much more. Time lost means lives lost. I urge the international commu-

nity to show its commitment to the people of South Sudan.”

Mr. Ban visited Juba to underscore the United Nations commitment to the peace process and the future of South Sudan. He met his Excellency President Salva Kiir and also spoke by phone with First Vice President Dr. Riek Machar. He also met with diplomats and visited a school at the UN Protection of Civilians site in Juba.

He urged all parties to respect PoC sites. “Attacks against civilians, peacekeepers and UN premises – such as in Malakal last week – violate international humanitarian law and must stop.”

“The protection camps are not a long-term solution. As important as it is, humanitarian action can never be a substitute for political solutions,” he stated and emphasized that the Government of South Sudan must step up to its responsibility and protect its population.

The Secretary-General commended humanitarians for their work and courage and urged all parties to remove restrictions on the freedom of movement of humanitarian actors and ensure access to people in need of protection, and life-saving aid.

With the CERF allocation, the Humanitarian Response Plan for South Sudan remains just over 6 per cent funded, while aid workers are racing against the clock to pre-position and deliver vital supplies and assistance ahead of the rainy season.

Read more: <http://www.un.org/sg/offthecuff/index.asp?nid=4388>

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OCHA humanitarian bulletins are available at: [www.unocha.org/south-sudan](http://www.unocha.org/south-sudan) | [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int)