

Highlights

- Humanitarian actors continue response to displaced civilians following recent insecurity in Jonglei, Lakes and Western Equatoria.
- Despite an agreement to cease hostilities, the security situation along the border between Lakes and Western Equatoria remain tense, with 34,000 people still displaced.
- Spontaneous returnees continue to arrive in southern Sudan with the number of new arrivals since October now more than 290,100 people.
- Humanitarian actors to start supporting the spontaneously returned 3,635 IDPs and refugees in Nyoro village, West Darfur

1. North-South population movements

Spontaneous returnees continue to arrive at a slowed pace in Southern Sudan with just over 2,200 people returning over the past week bringing the cumulative total of new arrivals since October 2010 to more than 290,100 people. Onward transportation for people who arrived by barge from Kosti last week has been largely completed and IOM reports some 500 people remain at the UNHCR way station in Juba.

Returnees overview (Statistical update for 14 April 2011)

According to information from IOM, ADRA, SSRRC, the Resident Coordinator's Support Office (RCSO) and WFP, the number of returnees in southern Sudan, Southern Kordofan and the Abyei area since October 2010 is as follows:

Southern Sudan	Southern Kordofan	Abyei Area
290,100	5,210	37,727

Kosti

ADRA is reporting that as of 13 April, there are 1,750 people currently at the Kosti Way Station, of whom 1,034 are children. UN agencies and NGO partners continue to provide assistance in water and sanitation, health, nutrition, food and non food items, education and protection. However, the construction of additional new shelters at the way station by ADRA and FAR has been delayed. UN agencies and NGO partners are awaiting government clarification on this delay.

Southerners stranded in Khartoum

Discussions within the Joint Returns Task Force continue regarding plans for the movement of 6,000 people from Khartoum and Kosti via barge to Upper Nile, Jonglei, and Greater Equatoria. Movement by rail to Wau and Aweil is unlikely to take due to the poor state of the railway and the lengthy journey of six weeks. Alternative arrangements are being considered. The taskforce is also discussing modalities for registration, or re-verification of the numbers of people waiting for onward transportation in Khartoum.

South-North returns

UN agencies and NGO partners are providing emergency assistance in water and sanitation, healthcare, non food items and food security to 6,748 northern Sudanese returnees in the White Nile State communities of Al Dub, Karya and Al Hudieb.

Family Tracing and reunification

As part of their operational plan for family tracing at departure points in Khartoum and southern Sudan, Save the Children Sweden (SCS) have trained social workers and partners from International Non-governmental Organizations (INGOs), the Ministry of Social Welfare (MoSW), Sudan Red Crescent Society (SRCS), Center for Women and Children (CFWA), local NGOs and Community Based Organizations (CBOs) on family tracking and reunification (FTR). The FTR database, managed by the National Council for Child Welfare (NCCW), is now operational and awareness materials for the prevention of family separations and safety/security on barges at the wharf have been finalized by UNICEF and NCCW.

In order to setup temporary child friendly spaces in departure points in Khartoum, UNICEF and CFWCA have requested the Committee for Voluntary Humanitarian Work (CVHW) to provide access for their NGO staff.

2. Southern Sudan

Land allocation for returnees remains challenging

In Northern Bahr el Ghazal, land allocation remains urgent. UNDP surveyors have begun a programme of support in surveying land in the State. In Kwajok in Warrap, returnees who have been occupying schools since December are receiving their land in an attempt to clear the schools due to the beginning of the school year. At least 172 households received plots over the week and it is anticipated that the estimated 800 remaining households hosted in schools will receive land in the coming week.

Response to civilian displacement continues in Jonglei

In Jonglei, humanitarian actors have continued to focus on assessments and response to displaced populations from Pigi and Fangak. In Fangak, an assessment took place on 11 April and preliminary findings indicate approximately 2,700 people have been displaced and are in need of food, shelter, non-food items and health support as the area is heavily affected by the tropical disease kala-azar. About 1,280 households received non-food items and livelihood tools in Fangak between 4-9 April. In response to additional reports of displacements in Canal and Khorfulus resulting from recent insecurity, a one-day inter-agency mission went to Khorfulus on 13 April. Preliminary findings point at additional displacements on top of the previously registered 2,800 people. The assessment team noted that the majority of the displaced were women and children, while the men were reported to be in hiding for fear of being attacked or recruited by either the security forces or other armed groups. Assistance to the people who were previously registered as displaced has begun with food aid being distributed in Khorfulus. Meanwhile, the UN Mine Action Office has been able to go to Khorwai in northern Jonglei to map areas that need to be demined. Some schools in Jonglei have not been able to open at the start of the school year as buildings are reportedly occupied by displaced people and returnees impacting nearly 4,900 students. Efforts are underway to resolve the situation with displaced in schools and to speed up distribution of temporary plastic sheets so that displaced people can move out.

Disputes over cattle in Pibor County in Jonglei leads to fresh displacement

Another assessment in Jonglei, following clashes over stolen cattle in Boma in Pibor County at the end of March, took place on 7 April. The clashes which erupted between security forces and civilians over a cattle dispute left 10 people dead and five injured. In addition, Nyaipuru village was burnt to the ground, the only school and clinic leveled and over 9,300 people displaced. Humanitarian needs reported include access to water, food and shelter support. A further assessment mission with state officials was scheduled for 12 April.

Tensions remain high in Lakes and Western Equatoria due to inter-communal violence

The security situation along the border between Mapuordit in Yirol West County in Lakes and Mvolo County in Western Equatoria continues to be of concern. On 5 April, the Governors of Lakes and Western Equatoria met in Mapuordit in an effort to resolve the conflict that has led to the displacement of more than 34,000 people on both sides. Despite the 5 April meeting to ease tensions, the Governor of Western Equatoria reported that 13 civilians were killed in Bahr el Grindi on 6 April. The two parties have agreed to cease hostilities and deploy security forces to parts of the affected area. UNMIS has also conducted a series of patrols in the conflict affected area. Humanitarian assistance to displaced people in Mvolo (some 8,960 people) is in progress. Food assistance will commence on 14 April and provision of non-food items, livelihoods assistance and protection monitoring is also underway. On 4-8 April food assistance was distributed to approximately 5,100 households (25,680 individuals)

affected by the inter-communal clashes in Anuol, Kathiar, Ngop, Pabur Aganny and Mapuordit in Lakes. About 1,500 plastic sheets were also distributed to displaced people in Mapuordit.

Food security of concern in Eastern Equatoria

The Eastern Equatoria State Minister for Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management on 6 April called an emergency meeting attended by UN agencies and NGOs operating in Torit and representatives of the American Consulate in southern Sudan. The meeting was addressed by GoSS officials and discussed the humanitarian situation in Kapoeta area following failure of crops in the last cultivation season and warned of a looming food crisis. A task force consisting of UN and NGOs met on 8 April to follow-up on humanitarian assistance to affected areas in Eastern Equatoria.

3. Three Protocol areas

Abyei

The UNMIS Head of Office in Abyei reported that despite increased visibility of weapons within Abyei town and rumours of impending attacks, the population within the town has not fluctuated and schools remain operational with grade eight year students attending exams. Some stalls at the markets remain closed but produce and goods are being brought in from Agok market.

On April 12, UNMIS Civil Affairs department (CAD)-Abyei, OCHA and UNICEF visited Agok and held a joint meeting with Save the Children Sweden (SC-S) to discuss outlying issues regarding repair of two water pumps in the northern Abyei village of Goli. OCHA provided SC-S with background information on prior discussions held between RCSO, OCHA and the Abyei Area Administration, and subsequent discussions held between UNICEF and its partners, explaining security for the technical teams needed to perform the task is of high concern for local partners. CAD-Abyei explained the importance and urgency of the water pump repairs stating that it would help alleviate tension and future potential conflict within the Abyei Area especially between the Ngok Dinka and Misseriya nomadic community. CAD-Abyei noted Goli is a permanent settlement for both Misseriya and Ngok Dinka communities and whilst there is presence of armed elements in the area (both military and militants), there are still women and children residing in the area. SC-S resolved it would provide three technicians on 15 April to undertake this task of repairing the broken hand pumps.

UNMIS launches free medical/veterinary Camps in Abyei

The Indian Force Reserve Battalion (FRB) launched a series of free medical and veterinary camps from 3-6 April. On the first day a team consisting of two medical officers, one veterinarian and 12 support staff arrived in Abyei from Kadugli and treated a total of 431 people. On the second day, a medical clinic was organized at the Joint Integrated Unit camp in Noong where 195 soldiers (out of total 210 present) were given health checkups and treatment. On 6 April, the team went to Agok where they treated 275 people. The veterinarians treated 1,145 animals in Abyei and 764 animals in Agok.

Blue Nile State

The Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sector together with relevant government bodies conducted a water supply needs assessment in Kurmuk town. Following the assessment, it was found that two existing water points had been covering about 42.5 per cent of clean water needs in the town. Two additional water points have been commissioned and the current output meets about 93 per cent of Kurmuk's daily clean water requirements. The assessment also found that no outbreaks of water-borne diseases had been reported.

Southern Kordofan State

On 13 April four villages within the locality of Al Rashad, approximately 200 km north east of Kadugli, were targeted by violence by armed tribesmen, resulting in the alleged death of 19 people and the injury of some 30 others, while more than 200 houses were set on fire. Approximately 2,000 people were displaced to Al Faïd (the center of Al Rashad locality) around 250 people settled in a school building, while the remaining moved in with family members.

On 14 April, an inter-agency assessment team (UNICEF, WFP, UNHCR) visited the affected area to assess the humanitarian needs. Findings showed that NFIs were a priority (plastic sheeting and kitchen sets). Food and

water were not noted as an immediate priority but if the displacement should continue beyond one week provision of emergency food assistance will be considered.

4. Darfur

Release of 12 aid workers taken hostage in Kalma IDP Camp, South Darfur

On 13 April, UNAMID, OCHA and camp leaders successfully mediated the release of twelve Sudanese aid workers who were taken hostage by a youth group at Kalma IDP Camp. The aid workers had been taken on 11 April in retaliation for the 9 April arrest of an IDP who worked for a national NGO by security officials. The aid workers had been conducting a vaccination campaign in the camp.

Inter-agency field mission to Sag Al Naam and Abu Delek, North Darfur

On 12 April, OCHA led a one day inter-agency road mission to Sag El Naam and Abu Delek local councils in Kalimandu locality, North Darfur, to monitor population movements/displacements and assess the general situation of the villages. In Sag El Naam, findings from the mission showed that of the original population of about 8,750 people, approximately 1,000 people had gone to Zamzam IDP Camp for fear of possible attacks due to the presence of armed militias in the area. The IDPs who remained have moved all their property to Zamzam and El Fasher town. There are about 1,000 people displaced from neighbouring Abu Delek and Ed Al Baeda who are living in the wadi (riverbed) area with their livestock. All social services were reported to be functioning in Sag Al Naam.

In Abu Delek, (60km west of El Fasher), the mission met with about ten men and two women who reported that the area had been attacked on 3 February and two villages burnt. As a result of this attack the local population fled to Zamzam and El Fasher town. At the time of the visit the area was deserted except for seven households who were reportedly returning from Zamzam. All social services in the area have shut down.

Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) supported returns to Sani Daliba

On 10 April, 76 IDP households (approximately 380 people), with the support of HAC, departed from Sakale IDP Camp to Sani Daliba. HAC has reported that 170 households (850 people) from Sakale IDP Camp had expressed interest to be supported to return to their villages in Sani Daliba.

Results of nutrition survey conducted in Otash and Asalam IDP camps, South Darfur

Results following a nutrition survey conducted in Otash IDP Camp from 16-20 January and Asalam IDP Camp from 23-27 January, show that Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) levels for the post harvest season have not changed compared to 2010. Asalam IDP Camp showed GAM of 8.7 per cent, which is below the emergency levels while Otash IDP Camp remains above the emergency level at 11.4 per cent. Trends show that the situation in Otash IDP Camp is deteriorating and returning to 2008 levels, whereas Asalam is improving. The nutrition sector is planning a further investigation in the coming weeks.

UNHCR reported that about 75 people from Hashaba village (east of Jebel Marra, West Darfur) have been reported in Hassahisa IDP Camp (Zalingei, South Darfur) as newly displaced persons.

Returnees to Nyoro, West Darfur

Humanitarian actors are to start supporting the spontaneously returned 3,635 IDPs and refugees in Nyoro village (approximately 35 km south-west of El-Geneina on the road to Masteri). UNHCR will establish boreholes, FAO will start distributing agricultural tools through the national NGO Sudan Salam, and CRS will provide shelter assistance.

Fire season

The fire season is at its peak and IDP camps are vulnerable as there is insufficient spacing between shelters. During the last two weeks approximately 435 people have been affected in Masteri, Dorti, Ryad, Krenek and Sisi with three cases of deaths reported. UNAMID is carrying out awareness campaigns on fire prevention and management in the camps on a regular basis. UNHCR has also started fire prevention campaigns in IDP camps in South Darfur.

Food aid distribution in Mukjar, West Darfur

WFP in Mukjar reported that food distribution has resumed and two months ration (March and April) is being distributed to 153,000 people. UNHCR in Mukjar has purchased agricultural tools, seeds and carts from the local market in Mukjar and Garsila, for distribution to returnees in Andi and Gido villages.

Sudanese returnees from Libya

According to IOM, as of 14 April 12,798 Sudanese migrant workers and their families fleeing the conflict in Libya have been assisted to return to Khartoum from Tunisia on 69 flights organized by IOM. In addition, 49 people have been assisted to return from Algeria. The Libya evacuation operation, organized jointly by IOM and UNHCR, has so far assisted a total of 106,926 people of many different nationalities to return to their home countries safely by air.

Humanitarian Financing

The Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) has approved the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) request for US\$ 2.65 million for the measles vaccination campaign targeting over two million children in Sudan. UNICEF and WHO will be utilising this grant to run a joint measles campaign in States of North Darfur, South Darfur, West Darfur, North Kordofan and South Kordofan.

A multi-fund response to displacement in North Darfur was approved last week. The CERF will contribute US\$ 5.2 million for the sectors of WASH, Nutrition, NFI, Child Protection, Education and Health while the Sudan CHF will allocate a further US\$ 1.3 million under its Emergency Reserve to the NFI, Education, Child Protection and WASH sectors.