

South Sudan Crisis

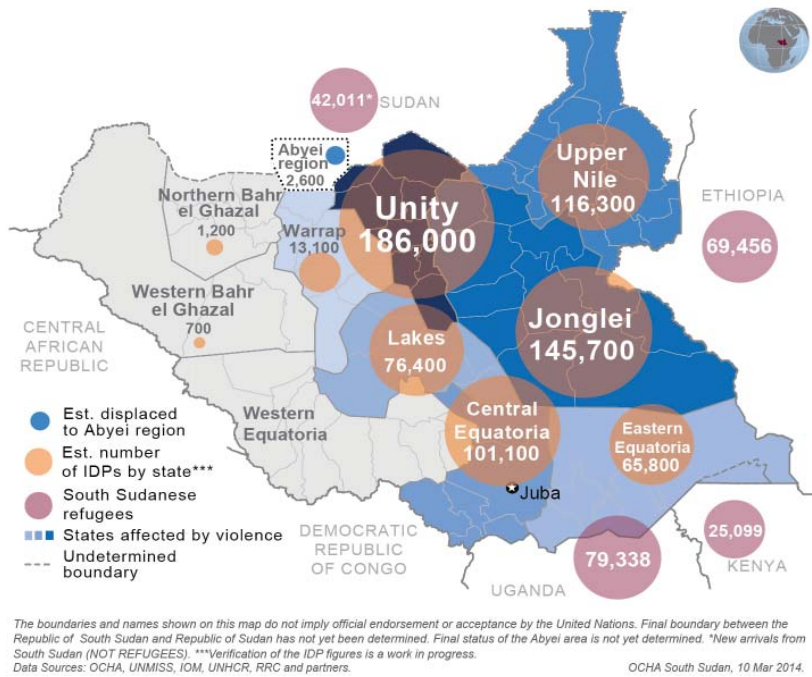
Situation Report No. 26 (as of 10 March 2014)



This report is produced by OCHA South Sudan in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 7 to 10 March 2014. The next report will be issued on or around 14 March 2014.

Highlights

- Early rains in Juba caused flooding in the UN Tamping displacement site, destroying hundreds of shelters and exacerbating already difficult living conditions.
- Food partners have provided emergency food assistance to 428,900 conflict-affected people since the start of 2014, and continued regular food support to 335,700 other vulnerable people, including refugees inside South Sudan.
- Partners are reporting an increase in obstacles to humanitarian operations, including along key roads into Unity and Upper Nile states.
- Funding gaps hamper the crisis response. For example, 390,000 children in need of protection services risk going without support if more resources are not provided.



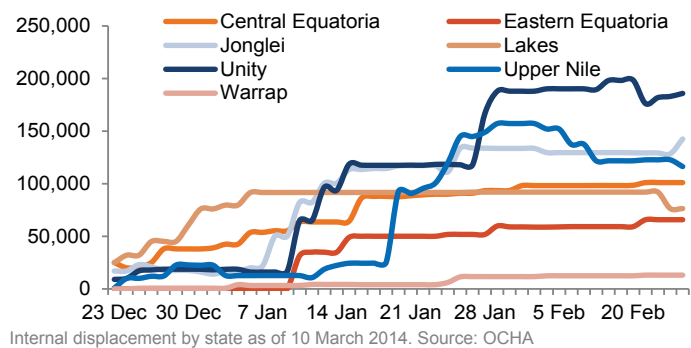
<h3>4.9 million</h3> <p>Estimated people in need of humanitarian assistance</p>	<h3>3.2 million</h3> <p>People to be assisted by aid organizations by June 2014</p>	<h3>764,600</h3> <p>People provided with humanitarian assistance*</p>	<h3>708,900</h3> <p>People internally displaced by violence since 15 December 2013</p>
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* This includes people internally displaced, violence-affected or highly food insecure communities, and refugees from other countries sheltering in South Sudan who have received assistance since January 2014. This does not mean that the needs of these people have been comprehensively met.

Situation overview

The situation remained tense in several states, though no major clashes were reported. Early rains in Juba caused flooding in the UN Tamping displacement site, which hosts over 20,000 people. This worsened already difficult conditions in the site.

Since the start of the crisis, some 708,900 people have been displaced by violence within South Sudan. Another 215,904 people have fled into neighbouring countries. This number is lower than that reported in the last situation report, as last week's number included some refugees who arrived in Uganda before the current crisis. So far, aid agencies have reached 764,600 people inside South Sudan with assistance.



Impediments to humanitarian access increased with several aid convoys and one flight delayed or prevented from reaching areas of operations by local authorities and humanitarian convoys searched by authorities, sometimes accompanied by demands for unauthorised payments and intimidation of aid staff or transporters.

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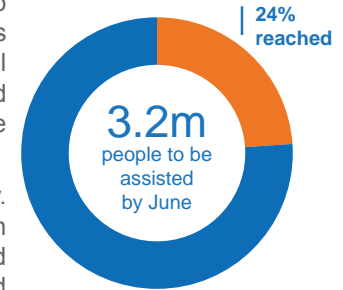
The mission of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is to mobilize and coordinate effective and principled humanitarian action in partnership with national and international actors.

Coordination Saves Lives

Humanitarian response

In Jonglei, partners expanded the response in Bor by providing food assistance to 3,000 people displaced from Duk and Twic East counties. On 7 March, aid agencies assessed needs on the 14 islands between Bor County, Jonglei State and Awerial County, Lakes State. Preliminary findings indicate that there are between 30,000 and 60,000 people sheltering on these islands. Upcoming aid distributions will help provide confirmed figures.

In Unity State, the response continued in Bentiu town and in Ganyiel in Panyijar County. Nevertheless, the state remained one of the main gaps in the humanitarian response, with access to displaced people in Leer and Koch still severely constrained by insecurity, and limited partner capacity in other parts of the state. In Upper Nile, aid agencies conducted a needs assessment in two locations in Dethoma on 10 March. Preliminary findings indicate that 20,000 displaced people are sheltering in these locations, with key needs including food, household items, shelter and water.



Source: OCHA

In Central Equatoria, rains in Juba on 7 March caused flooding in the site for displaced people in the UN Topping base, destroying up to 20 per cent of shelters and worsening already difficult living conditions in the overcrowded site. Aid agencies responded with measures to improve drainage and shelters in the site, and will assist people to move to plots in the UN House base starting on 13 March. The floods gave a sense of the challenges displaced communities and the aid agencies supporting them will face in several sites once the rainy season starts in earnest in April. Improving and expanding displacement sites to relocate people away from flood-prone ground is a top priority for the coming weeks in Awerial County, Juba, Malakal and other flood-prone locations.

In several parts of the country, partners reported an increase in obstacles to the movement of aid road convoys, including illegal taxation on the transport of supplies. These obstacles have severely limited movement of aid supplies along several key roads, increasing reliance on air assets and hampering the pre-positioning efforts of the humanitarian community.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Response:

- So far, the cluster has provided camp management services to 244,152 people of the target of 433,500 people to be assisted by June.
- The cluster has developed an immediate response strategy to deal with the flooding and destruction of shelters in Topping as the cluster awaits for sufficient space to be available for movement of displaced people from Topping flood zones to UN House.
- Initial works on the perimeter of the extension of the displacement site in the UN base in Malakal began during the week using UNMISS resources and staff. Further options to develop the site are being explored.

244,152

People reached with camp management and coordination services

Needs, gaps and constraints:

- Both Juba and Malakal experienced the first rains of the season over the week, causing flooding and widespread damage to both sites. The Topping site was most heavily affected with the storm destroying more than 640 shelters and flooding the shelters of more than 8,700 individuals. The damage served to highlight the importance of proper resources being allocated for site preparation throughout the country. This is feeding into the discussion on allocation of the resources in the Common Humanitarian Fund, and bilateral discussions with donors.
- A lack of engineering equipment is hampering the much-needed expansion of protection of civilians sites in Bor and Malakal. Humanitarian partners are liaising with UNMISS to resolve this issue.
- Transporting equipment by road is not possible in some parts of the country due to insecurity.

Education

Response:

- The cluster has so far provided services to 3,541 of the targeted 204,100 people to be assisted by June.
- In the UN base in Malakal, one temporary learning space is operational and another being installed. 17 primary school teachers (2 female, 15 male) have been selected and are set to start mobilizing and registering children in the base.

- In the UN base in Bor, 722 children (including 361 girls) have been registered and are accessing emergency learning activities.
- In Aerial County, 24 teachers have completed training on life skills and psychosocial support. 16 classrooms have been erected in two locations and registration of students has started in Agrobal, Ahou and Mingkaman Primary.

3,541

People reached with education activities

Needs, gaps and constraints:

- Congestion in places of displacement is limiting the availability of emergency protective learning spaces. Education partners are working with CCCM partners and UNMISS to resolve this.
- Increased presence of education partners with strong logistical and surge capacity to reach the most vulnerable people is needed in all areas affected by violence. Cluster leads are reaching out to partners to improve coverage.
- Occupation of schools by displaced communities or armed forces remains a concern.
- In many places, teachers employed by the state are not paid on time, meaning availability of their services are unpredictable.


Emergency Telecommunication
Response:

- The cluster conducted a mission to Minkaman following the reports of technical difficulties affecting the data connectivity kit. The cluster will deploy a generator to Mingkaman to power the system.
- A mission took place in Bentiu to retrieve repeaters and to conduct a needs assessment. ETC is now planning for the setup of a radio room in the UNMISS base in Bentiu.
- This week, the cluster programmed 22 radios for NGOs and UN agencies.
- An ETC assessment mission took place in Nimule to verify the presence of NGOs and the need for ETC services. The assessment report is available to partners on request.

Needs, gaps and constraints:

- Insecurity has delayed the re-establishment of the VHF network in most key locations including Bentiu, Malakal, and Bor.
- Two additional data solution are needed in Lankien and Nasir.


Food Security and Livelihoods
Response:

- As of 10 March, food partners had reached around 764,600 people with food assistance. This includes 428,900 people reached under the emergency operation and some 335,700 other food-insecure people, including refugees and displaced people in the Abyei region. The target for the cluster is to assist 3.2 million people by June.
- The geographical breakdown of people assisted under the emergency operation is as follows: 117,000 people in Jonglei; 84,600 in Lakes; 48,900 in Unity; 48,800 in Upper Nile; 38,200 in Northern Bahr el Ghazal; 38,100 in Central Equatoria; 33,100 in Eastern Equatoria; 17,200 in Warrap; 2,900 in Western Bahr el Ghazal; and 100 in Western Equatoria.
- Emergency livelihood kits are expected to be delivered to over 20,700 households in Jonglei and Central Equatoria in the next three months. These kits include assorted vegetable seeds, hand tools and fishing gear.
- Partners have been distributing fishing equipment to flood affected and displaced people in Warrap, targeting 4,150 families.
- Two new solar fridges that have been set up in Eastern Equatoria are enabling the cold-chain pre-positioning of vaccines and other drugs for livestock health in the region.

764,600

People reached with food assistance so far in 2014

Needs, gaps and constraints:

- The resumption of food production by displaced communities is vital to improve food security.
- Support to protein-rich food production - vegetables, livestock and fish - is key to containing malnutrition among displaced communities.
- The crisis has increased insecurity along commercial supply routes causing private sector actors to flee the country, market fragmentation, and food and fuel price inflation making availability and affordability a challenge.
- Access constraints, including insecurity, require a flexible approach to delivering assistance, focusing on rapid distributions and pre-positioning in strategic but accessible hubs.

- Partners are also facing logistical challenges associated with insecurity and loss of major assets during the conflict.

Health

Response:

- The cluster has so far reached 479,723 of the 1.9 million people to be assisted by June.
- This week, 7,466 consultations were recorded in the health facilities in conflict-affected states, bringing the total to 140,346.
- Some 142,600 children have been vaccinated for measles to date and 121,400 have been vaccinated against polio.
- Some 2,600 women attended antenatal services; 859 normal deliveries were conducted and 148 caesarean sections carried out to date.

479,723

People in conflict-affected states reached with health services

Needs, gaps and constraints:

- Secondary health care is needed in Bor, Bentiu and Malakal.
- There are funding constraint for support to Bor hospital (US\$250,000), primary health care in Malakal (\$750,000) and the core pipeline for health supplies (\$8.6m). Donors are requested to contact the cluster leads for information on which organizations require funding for these activities.
- Mental health services are needed in all displacement sites.

Logistics

Response:

- During last week, the cluster facilitated the airlift of 54 mt (24 flights) of lifesaving supplies on behalf of ten humanitarian organizations to Akobo, Ajoung Thok, Malakal, Rubkona and Waat.
- The cluster travelled to Minkaman to assess current storage facilities. Preliminary findings indicated a need to increase common storage capacity. The cluster is planning to erect an additional 1-2 mobile storage units for inter-agency use.
- The cluster is currently working on consolidating common storage stock reports for all common storage locations.

Needs, gaps and constraints:

- River access via the Nile continues to be restricted. Juba–Bor is open but port activities are low.
- There have been reports of increased checkpoints for aid convoys in locations in Unity, Warrap, Western Bahr el Ghazal and Western Equatoria states.

Nutrition

Response:

- In Malakal, 118 mother-support groups have been formed and trained on infant and young child feeding (ICYF). 26 nutrition workers were trained on malnutrition screening and 22 volunteers trained on integrated management of severe acute malnutrition.
- Also in Malakal, a malnutrition screening was conducted in the POC area, reaching 2,126 children under five years. Of these, 110 (5 per cent) were severely malnourished and 246 (12 per cent) were moderately malnourished. IYCF health messaging reached 879 pregnant and lactating women and care givers.
- Malnutrition screening was also conducted in Akobo, Jonglei State, reaching 5,403 children under five years. 504 (9 per cent) of the children were severely malnourished and 2,424 (45 per cent) were moderately malnourished. 23 children were admitted in the stabilization center and 158 admitted to outpatient treatment.

128,394

People reached with nutrition activities

Needs, gaps and constraints:

- Frequent movement in and out of displacement sites is making it difficult to conduct detailed anthropometric and mortality surveys.
- Additional storage and warehousing facilities are needed, in particular in Awerial County, Bentiu, Bor and Malakal as the previous ones were destroyed. The lack of storage hampers the pre-positioning strategy of the cluster.

Protection

Response:

- The cluster has so far reached 316,669 displaced people with protection services, of the 1.6 million people to be assisted by June. The number of people reached does not yet include the host communities who are also benefitting from protection services on offer, and who are included in the overall target.
- Additional staff have been deployed to Bentiu, Bor and Malakal to boost the emergency child protection response in these sites.
- 202 unaccompanied, separated and missing children have been reunified since December 2013 of 1,488 children identified (13 per cent).
- Over 2,110 children between 5 and 18 received psychosocial support in seven child friendly spaces in UN bases in Bentiu and Juba during the last three days. Partners in UN House in Juba and in Minkaman reached 897 children and 437 parents with messages on preventing family separation and psychosocial support.
- Some 55 community members in UN House in Juba were trained on child protection issues. Since February, child protection partners have trained 276 people on these issues.

316,669

People reached with protection activities

Needs, gaps and constraints:

- Overall funding shortfalls impact partners' activities, in particular in the area of child protection. With current funds available, partners will only be able to assist 60,000 of the 450,000 children planned to be assisted under the Crisis Response Plan.
- Child protection activities and resumption of work on housing, land and property activities have been delayed by insecurity.
- Funding needs to be made available for national partners to support community-oriented protection, in particular in areas of limited international presence.

Shelter and Non-Food Items

Response:

- The cluster has distributed household items to 304,100 people of the 400,000 people to be assisted by June. For shelter, progress has been slower, with around 36,300 of the targeted 340,000 people given shelter materials to date.
- In UN Topping in Juba, assessments of vulnerable rain-affected households was ongoing and will inform shelter assistance distribution commencing soon. In UN House, household kits continued to be distributed to vulnerable new arrivals.
- In Jonglei, distribution of household items to 300 displaced families in Panyagor, Twic East County was concluded. In Bor, 229 families received household items. The cluster participated in a needs assessment to Ayod.
- In Lakes, acute shelter and household kit distributions were ongoing in Minkaman and surrounding areas.

304,100

People reached with household kits since start of crisis

Needs, gaps and constraints:

- Humanitarian standards cannot be met due to the restricted secure land inside UNMISS bases and the remote and dispersed nature of most displacement.
- Assessing needs is complex, as air and road access is limited by insecurity. Stocks and transport assets have been looted or are vulnerable to looting in some locations.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Response:

- The cluster has so far reached 242,760 people displaced by conflict across over 20 displacement sites. The total number of people who have received WASH services from over 50 cluster partners in emergency and recovery contexts since the start of the year is currently not known. The cluster's target is to assist 2.6 million people by June.
- Partners have managed to achieve (or come close to achieving) global emergency standards for water supply and sanitation coverage in the UN bases in Bentiu, Bor, UN House (Juba), Topping (Juba), and Melut, and in displacement sites in Awerial County.

242,760

Displaced people reached with WASH services

Needs, gaps and constraints:

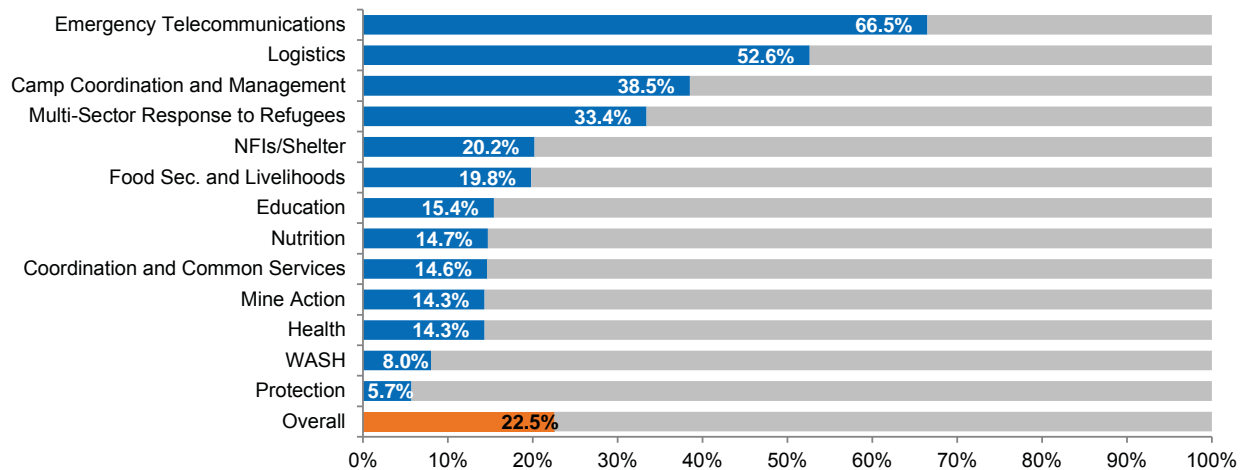
- In Upper Nile, the response is still strained. Improvements need to be made in the UN base in Malakal, services must be scaled up in Dethoma and Melut further north. The cluster has partners ready to begin operations in Dethoma, and is exploring options for improving services in Malakal.
- Gaps remain in locations across the country in terms of accessing new sites and achieving SPHERE standards in existing response locations.
- Funding for front line service provision activities, pipeline procurement and pre-positioning, and for sub-national cluster coordination is still essential.
- Experienced WASH personnel, able to implement large projects in difficult to access locations are critically needed.

Funding

The Crisis Response Plan for humanitarian activities until June 2014 was just over 22 per cent funded, with \$286 million received. This leaves a shortfall of over \$1 billion. The Protection and WASH clusters are 5.7 and 8 per cent funded respectively.

In the coming days, some \$20 million will be allocated to aid agencies through the emergency window of the South Sudan Common Humanitarian Fund. These resources will go towards food security and livelihoods and shelter and non-food items. Other urgent funding gaps include money for improvement of displacement sites ahead of the rainy season and frontline services across different clusters.

Limited funding is having a direct impact on the response. For example, with current funding levels, child protection partners will only be able to assist 60,000 of a targeted 450,000 children with assistance. Lack of funding is also constraining partners' ability to provide life-saving health services to tens of thousands of people in Bor and Malakal.



Funding status as of 10 March 2014. Source: <http://fts.unocha.org/>. All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS - <http://fts.unocha.org/>) of cash and in-kind contributions by e-mailing: fts@un.org.

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