



**Southern Sudan – Abyei Displacement  
OCHA Situation Report No. 23  
Reporting Period 23<sup>rd</sup> July – 08<sup>th</sup> August 2008**

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- UN planning for return of Abyei IDPs
- 27,000 people received food rations (third round WFP food distributions) in Agok

**SITUATION**

**Background**

- Following the conflict on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> May 2008, most residents of Abyei town fled southwards to the areas of Abatok, Awal, Wunpeth, Malual Alio and Agok in the border areas and downwards into Twic County in Warrap State. A small number went to Aweil East in Northern Bahr el Ghazal State and Bentiu in Unity State. The humanitarian community is responding to the situation on the basis of the following estimates – 50,000 internally displaced persons and 40,000 persons within war affected communities. However, WFP beneficiary lists up to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2008 have confirmed 72,300 people affected by the crisis. This number includes both IDPs and affected host communities. The last head count as at end of May 2008 confirmed about 27,000 IDPs.

**Security and Humanitarian Access**

- The Commander of the Integrated Police Force arrived in Abyei on 03<sup>rd</sup> August and traveled to Ajak Kuac to inspect his force. Movement of the force to Abyei and deployment has started.
- Eyat Construction is expected to begin work on the airstrip in Agok this week. The work is expected to take two weeks. Direct air access to Agok will greatly assist the movement of humanitarian agencies.
- NGOs, UN agencies and international organizations sending staff to the field (Agok) are expected to coordinate with UNDSS in Juba and ensure that they obtain security clearance. Accommodation, food and transport are scarce in the field and staff should be self supporting. Staff lists and daily movement plans should also be submitted to the UN security focal point.
- The access road (approx. 100m) leading to Mercy-Corps compound, where the UN agencies and the four INGO's, plus the ICRC are based, including two health facilities, needs up-grading because it is very badly damaged due to the rainy season. The poor condition of the track leads to an average of six vehicles each day being stuck in the mud. The road is deteriorating rapidly after every storm. Funds for upgrading the road have been allocated from the Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF).

**COORDINATION**

- Teams composed of OCHA, Resident Coordinator's Office, UNMIS and UNJLC are facilitating coordination of activities among partners involved in the Abyei response. The teams are based in Agok, Turalei and Juba.
- Regular coordination/information sharing with UNMO and daily contacts with UNMIS head (Abyei) and OCHA (Agok) has been instituted, in addition to frequent visits by Abyei UNMIS leads to Agok inter-agency community.
- Schedule of Coordination Meetings;

SECTOR / MEETING	FREQUENCY	DATE(S) / Day(s)	TIME	VENUE/PLACE
General Coordination	Weekly	Mondays & Thursdays	16 00H / 17 00H	Mercy Corps Compound, Agok
General Coordination	Bi-Weekly	Mondays	14 00H	Turalei
Abyei Emergency Taskforce	Every 2 Weeks	Wednesday 20 August 2008	14 00H	SSRRC, Juba
Water and Sanitation	Weekly	Saturdays	17 00H	Mercy Corps Compound, Agok
Health	Weekly	Fridays	16 00H	Mercy Corps Compound, Agok

*(Humanitarian Actors in this Sector are: OCHA, RCO, SSRRC, UNDSS, UNMIS, UNJLC)*



## **LOGISTICS**

- All agencies planning to send cargo (relief supplies) to the areas affected by the Abyei conflict should liaise with UNJLC in order to jointly coordinate the delivery of cargo and maximize available tonnage space.
- A 6 by 8 meters rub hall has been erected in WARDS compound, in Agok. The rub hall will be used to store food for WFP and other partners like Mercy corps and MSF depending on the availability of space.

*(Humanitarian Actors in this Sector are: UNJLC, IOM, OCHA, UNICEF, Mercy Corps)*

## **INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE**

### **Water and Sanitation**

- The water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sector continues to provide 5 – 10 litres per person per day of safe potable water through tankering, hand-pump schemes and motorized systems. Water purification sachets are being distributed. Eight mini water yards were established by UNICEF in Agok. The water yards and other systems are serving over 36,000 people per day in Agok and Twic areas.
- During the reporting period, two boreholes were completed, one in Mading Chok Chan and the other in Koluth.
- Latrines continue to be established both in households and in clinics and Health/Hygiene Promotion teams are active daily in the communities.

*(Humanitarian Actors in this Sector are: ADRA, ICRC, Save the Children US, MSF Switzerland, GOAL, Mercy Corps, ACAD, WARD, Ministry of Health and UNICEF as sector lead)*

### **Food Aid**

- At the peak of the response to Abyei displacements on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2008, WFP and partners had assisted 72,300 people with 1,227MT of assorted food commodities. Food aid interventions towards people affected by the Abyei crisis started on May 17<sup>th</sup>. The numbers above cover IDPs and affected host communities from Abyei, Warrab, Northern Bahr el Ghazal (NBEG) and Unity States that are affected by IDP influx.
- Food is distributed at a ration size of 540 grams of mixed commodities (cereals, oil, pulses and salt) per person per day. This is calculated at 2,100 kilocalories per day.
- During the reporting period, third round distributions in Agok area were completed, targeting 27,000 IDPs. A one month ration was distributed in seven locations. Up to 34,000 IDPs received a two month ration in the previous round and are therefore not included in this week's figures.
- For the third round distribution a blanket distribution of CSB was included. Biscuits were distributed to 3,000 students in five schools.
- The food for recovery project - shelter construction – is covering 400 households (26 MT of mixed commodities). The project is supporting building of 400 huts/tukuls for IDPs who had mainly been living in school classrooms. The vegetable gardening project is ongoing and WFP food distributions cover 584 households with a total of 47.3 MT. Up to 140 shelters have been more or less completed and have received food support. The remaining 260 further shelters will receive food support during the coming week.
- WFP jointly with other agencies completed an emergency food security assessment in seven locations. 190 households were interviewed and community questionnaires completed. Data entry is under way in Khartoum and the results should be available shortly.
- Hospital feeding has been agreed in principle and is awaiting a formal request from MSF.

*(Humanitarian Actors in this Sector are: World Vision, Save the Children USA, Mercy Corps and WFP as sector lead)*

### **Food Security and Livelihoods**

- Mercy Corps has established fourteen (14) vegetable sites since the beginning of the Abyei emergency and they are all under cultivation. The composition of program beneficiaries – a total of 584 households, includes about 90% women and the remaining 10% men, mainly displaced from communities in and around Abyei Town.



- High yielding, quick maturing and farmer preferred vegetable seeds and gardening tools are being provided to each site for cultivation. In addition, Mercy Corps is helping with the provision of pertinent technical advice and backstopping in basic agronomic practices for effective production.
- First set of training for the 14 sites households have been conducted, primarily emphasizing on site preparation and other basic agronomic practices for successful garden establishment.
- Refresher Field Agronomic practices training for six field extension and agriculture coordinators was completed in a bid to better prepare the staff for effective and efficient technical backstopping.
- Construction of the sheds for the establishment of grinding mills and restaurants is in progress as most of the construction materials are now available.
- Field assessment for the support of bread bakers commenced. The primary aim is to provide the bakers with flour and basic equipment and furniture to improve on the hygienic handling of bread for public consumption.
- The distribution of seeds was finalized, targeting 2,558 households in 16 locations both north and south of the Kiir River. Some tool distributions remain to be completed.
- Planning is on-going with the Animal Resources Department for a vaccination campaign for livestock. 75,000 doses of vaccine have been supplied and equipment (bicycles, blankets, plastic sheets and vaccination equipment) have been supplied to 20 vaccinators.
- 600 head of cattle have so far been vaccinated in Mading Chok Chan and Mading Achueng
- 15 boxes of fishing twine have been supplied to ACAD and training for fishermen will be begin within the next two weeks

*(Humanitarian Actors in this Sector are: FAO, Mercy Corps, ACAD, NDO, WARDS and ASOA)*

### Health

- MSF-Switzerland has moved their mobile clinic at Benton bridge up to Benton I in order to increase coverage. It is operating once a week, in addition to their ongoing mobile clinics in Abathok, Agok and Wunchin.
- The mobile clinics have been increased to include the Malual Aleu area.
- The results from MSF- Switzerland nutritional survey should be available this week.
- The second round of TT vaccination is expected to begin on 12<sup>th</sup> August for two days

*(Humanitarian Actors in this Sector are: Goal, Ministry of Health, MSF-Switzerland, ADRA, SSRRC, and UNICEF, WHO as sector lead)*

### Protection

- 290 vulnerable children (missing, unaccompanied or separated) have been registered since mid-May. 92 children are still awaiting tracing and reunification.
- 1,973 children are currently using child friendly spaces in three locations – Abathok, Awal and Agok, according to Save the Children US.
- Five youth clubs have been set up for recreation activities and psychosocial support. 350 youth are currently benefiting from these facilities and physical structures are planned for the 5 clubs in Abathok, Awal and Agok and two as yet unidentified locations.

*(Humanitarian Actors in this Sector are: UNMIS, UNICEF, SSRRC/GoSS, SC-USA, Department of Social Welfare in Agok)*

### Education

- School-in-a-box kits have been delivered to 4 schools. The cumulative number of kits delivered so far is 55. The total number of enrolled children in these schools is yet to be submitted by the education authorities.
- Transport is to be provided to deliver education materials from Kuajok, Warrap State to 7 schools. Fifteen schools are targeted, with 13 so far accessed.
- Assessments on school enrolments continue to identify gaps in attendance in comparison to prior to the crisis.

*(Humanitarian Actors in this Sector are: UNICEF, GoSS/MoEST, SCF-UK, Norwegian Refugee Council, World Vision, ADRA, Concern, IAS)*



### **Return and Reintegration**

- Inter-agency planning for possible voluntary return (during the rainy season) of up to 21,000 people displaced from Abyei Town and its surroundings in mid-May is under way. The planning process involves UNRC SO, UNMIS/RRR, OCHA, UNDP, IOM and other partners. Organized returns are planned to begin after the rainy season, which ends around October/November. In that regard, higher priority is currently placed on the repair of the Agok – Abyei road, which is one of the major return routes. Funding and implementing partners are currently being identified by UNRC SO in Abyei.
- Installation of new security arrangements and appointment of a new administration in Abyei is likely to be completed in the next few weeks. This was one of the conditions for returns according to the road map agreement to end the mid-May conflict. However, the humanitarian community would not encourage returns to take place during the current rain season although voluntary returns will be assisted in the best way possible.

*(Humanitarian Actors in this Sector are: UNMIS/RRR, OCHA)*

### **Nutrition**

- Nothing to report.

*(Humanitarian Actors in this Sector are: Goal, Ministry of Health, MSF-Switzerland, and UNICEF as sector lead)*

### **Non-food items (NFIs)**

- Nothing to report.

*(Humanitarian Actors in this Sector are: ACF-USA, Caritas, Concern, CSI-USA, Goal, ICRC, IOM, Mercy Corps, MSF-Swiss, SC-USA, SSRRC, UNICEF, WARDS, WFP, World Vision, and UNJLC as sector lead. For details contact: [Thomas.Nyambane@wfp.org](mailto:Thomas.Nyambane@wfp.org))*

### **Emergency Shelter**

- Nothing to report.

*(Humanitarian Actors in this Sector are: Mercy Corps, GOAL, SC-US, UNICEF, UNJLC and WFP)*

**// END ...**

**Disclaimer:** This report is a consolidation of information from OCHA field reports, UN agencies, NGOs, GoSS-SSRRC and other humanitarian partners. The report is subject to availability of data and does not claim to be exhaustive or fully verified and does not represent the official position of the United Nations. If you have inputs for the next edition, or questions/comments to the current issue, please contact: [maputseni@un.org](mailto:maputseni@un.org)