



**Southern Sudan – Abyei Displacement  
OCHA Situation Report No. 24  
Reporting Period 08<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> August 2008**

**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 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.

**Recent Developments – Security and Humanitarian Access**

- A new administrator and deputy for Abyei were appointed during the reporting period. Most security arrangements as outlined in the Road Map have been put in place.
- The humanitarian situation remains stable and agencies continue to deliver assistance to displaced persons while preparing to assist those that may wish to return to Abyei Town.
- Return of the IDPs is currently hindered by the presence of unexploded ordinances (UXOs) and extremely poor road conditions between Agok and Abyei, which are being worsened by the rains.
- The UN anticipates that 10,000-20,000 of the 50,000 people may return to Abyei over the rainy season while the remaining majority group to return in the early dry-season.
- The UN and NGOs have appealed to the donors for \$10 million to begin reconstruction and early recovery activities.
- The UN has appealed for \$2 million and NGOs \$1.5 million to re-establish its presence in Abyei Town, where most compounds for humanitarian agencies were also destroyed.

**COORDINATION**

- Teams composed of OCHA, Resident Coordinator’s Office, UNMIS and UNJLC are facilitating coordination of humanitarian activities among partners involved in the Abyei response. The teams are based in Agok, Turalei and Juba.
- Regular coordination/information sharing with UNMAO 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 has reached over 72,000 people in Agok, Twic and Abyei areas with 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.
- Over 75 emergency latrine facilities benefiting 3,500 people have been put in place. Hygiene and sanitation promotion sessions ongoing in 10 IDP villages.

*(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**

- The third round of food distributions to Abyei IDPs in Wunrok in Warrap State and Abyei area was completed during the reporting week. Up to 27,030 IDPs received 440mt of one-month food ration during the round of distributions that had started in the last week of July.
- Dispatching of food is ongoing in Wunrok in preparation for another round of monthly food rations for the Abyei IDPs scheduled to commence in the third week of August, which will cover food needs for September.
- 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.

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

### **Food Security and Livelihoods**

- 400 families have benefited from food/cash for work to build tukuls (homes), providing improved shelter
- 14 groups of women and men have been supported in bread making small business
- 15 communities have started vegetable gardens while 2,900 people have received vegetable seeds.
- 3,000 households have benefited from seeds and tools distribution.



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

### **Protection**

- SC-US and UNICEF are working closely with the Department of Social Services on reported cases of missing children that resulted from the Abyei fighting. So far 283 children were reported missing. Out of these, 176 children have been reunified with their families, 107 are still being traced. Four children have been placed into foster families (care takers) pending reunification.
- Five youth clubs have been formed, mainly for recreational activities and psycho-social support. On average 500 youths are attending the activities.
- Three child friendly spaces (CFS) have been established for approximately 1,973 children.

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

### **Education**

- Emergency school supplies are being distributed to existing schools to enable them to absorb and retain additional IDP caseloads. A total of 55 school kits were distributed to 13 schools.
- SC/USA education sector is providing logistical support to the department of education in distribution of 6,274 educational materials to 7 schools in Agok area.

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

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