



**Southern Sudan – Abyei Displacement
OCHA Situation Report No. 25
Reporting Period 16th – 22nd August 2008**

SITUATION

Background

- Armed conflict broke out in Abyei Town on 13th and 14th May 2008. The conflict displaced approximately 50,000 people. The displaced people fled from Abyei Town going southwards to the areas of Abatok, Awal, Wunpeth, Malual Alio and Agok in the North – South 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 displaced people moved into households of relatives and friends, leading to 40,000 more people from the host communities being vulnerable. The humanitarian community is responding to the situation on the basis of the numbers above. WFP beneficiary lists up to 30th June 2008 confirmed 72,300 people affected by the crisis. This number includes both IDPs and affected host communities.

Recent Developments – Security and Humanitarian Access

- A new administration for Abyei has been appointed. 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 is expected 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 Support 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.
- 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 in the south should liaise with UNJLC in order to jointly coordinate the delivery of cargo and maximize available tonnage space.
- Humanitarian agencies are requesting UNJLC support to cater for transportation of goods from Khartoum to Agok.
- Construction of the all weather airstrip in Agok is well underway. It is hoped that soon planes will be able to land there. The airstrip is planned to be 1.200 metres long and 30 metres wide. The first 700 m section is aimed to be completed shortly. The airstrip will improve staff and cargo movement.

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

INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE

Water and Sanitation

- 830 hygiene kits for school children (including toothbrushes, toothpastes, soaps, cups) were distributed on Friday 15th at Juol Jok school.
- 9 additional emergency latrines have been completed in Ganga, Awil and Mading Jok Thiang during the reporting period.
- Hygiene promotion is ongoing in 10 selected IDP sites/villages in Agok area.
- Maintenance of 2 water yards in Abyei town is ongoing.
- Assessment of 24 water points in Abyei town and surrounding areas has been conducted.
- 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

- Approximately 77MT of food were distributed to 5,770 beneficiaries under 4th round general food distributions in Turalei and Aweng.
- During the week, 82MT of food were shunted to Agok for the fourth round of distributions. Agok distributions expected to start early next week
- Pre-positioning and preparations to distribute one-month General Food Distribution rations to communities of Rumamer, Mabok, Marial Achak and Tagallei have been made.
- 16.8 MT of one month food rations to communities engaged in Shelter Construction Projects, (Mading Jokthiang, Awal, Juol Jok, Agok and Akenyang) positioned for distribution.
- An additional 1.75 MT for the Therapeutic Feeding Centre (TFC/CT) in Agok/Juol Jok is positioned for distribution.
- On 18 August, 1.75MT was positioned as Food for Education in communities of Tagallei and Mijak.



- At the peak of the response to Abyei displacements on 30th 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 17th. 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

- The vegetable gardening project is progressing well. It involves groups of displaced women, 35 per group, in communities of Kolbol, Teatia, Wunkir, Dokra, Nyn Kuach, Kolan, Duop, Mading Jok Thiang, Ny Ny, Waochin, Awal, Ganga, Nyngoh, Mabugn and Gongarang. Farmer preferred short duration and high yield crops are planted and the women receive basic agricultural training and meet to share information.
- In order to add value to food processing available to populations in and around Mading Jok, Malual Aleo, Awal, Juol Jok and Majbon, the establishment of new grinding mills is ongoing. The entire area has so far been served by 3 older grinding mills in Agok town. The Grinding Mills Associations formed have benefited from trainings in business practices and business development. All 5 grinding mills will be operational within 1-2 weeks.
- A 70 - member widows Association group – including IDPs and vulnerable hosts – have been trained in business development and hygiene practices, in order to run a restaurant in Agok town. All necessary hard-ware, from construction of building to deep freezer, generator, needed kitchen and cutlery materials are being provided as well as a start-up capital. The restaurant is expected to open within a fortnight.
- The bakery support programme to 13 existing bakeries is ongoing with the primary aim of increasing quantities and improved quality bread to the populations of 7 locations. In Agok town area only, 5 bakeries are receiving support.
- 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

- As at 15 August, 283 children were reported missing, unaccompanied or separated. Out of these, 176 children had been reunified with their families, 107 were still being traced. Four children had been placed into foster families (care takers) pending reunification.
- During the reporting period, 2 new children have been registered and 1 child has been re-united with the parents.
- The major constraints affecting the reunification processes are inaccessibility due to road conditions and lack of transportation means, incomplete information given by either children or parents and the need to continue to capacitate the newly formed social welfare groups.
- A meeting with youth leaders on Monday 18th, highlighted the need for additional recreational/youth sites in Agok area. The Youth clubs also need better equipment. The support to the “community based child protection” teams is also being focussed on.
- Plans to support and re-establishing the community based child protection network in Abyei area are underway.



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

Health and Nutrition

- A Tetanus (TT2) + breastfeeding + hand washing campaign is being planned for IDPs from Abyei and the host community in Agok and surrounding villages, targeting approximately 15,000 people. The intervention is a required 2nd round of the TT campaign that started in June. 15 teams will operate for 3 days. All supplies required will be in place during the coming week.
- The Primary Health Care (PHC) clinics and teams are operational without constraints.
- The nutritional survey in Agok area conducted by MSF-CH will be published within a week.
- Health and sanitation promotion is ongoing in Juol Jok, Agok, Ganga and surrounding villages.

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

Return and Reintegration

- The newly deployed Joint Integrated Unit forces are patrolling Abyei. Training for the Joint Integrated Police Unit is ongoing. Efforts are being made to have a re-assessment of the unexploded ordinances (UXO) situation in town.
- As of 16 August, between 500 and 1,000 persons were in Abyei town, including traders, both Misseriya and Dinka, as well as returnees clearing their *tukuls* both in the town-centre and on the peripheries. Many come only during daylight and leave at night for villages some eight kilometres to the south. More will likely begin to stay overnight in Abyei soon. The slow rate of return appears to result from concerns among the IDP leadership and IDPs themselves about the possible presence of UXO. In addition, it seems that, having been displaced twice from the Abyei area, during the civil war and in May, many IDPs remain wary of returning until stability is more ensured and a civil administration gets well established.
- An INGO “PACT”, is planning to conduct a conference with traditional leaders to address issues of community co-existence, the implementation of the CPA including the recent Road Map. Participants will include pastoralists, agro-pastoralists and migrants.
- A youth workshop will also be organized by PACT. The workshop will among other issues, focus on peace building & social stability, as well as Youth Union affairs.

(Humanitarian Actors in this Sector are: UNMIS/RRR, IOM, UNRC/CSO, OCHA)

Non-food items (NFIs)

- The government of South Africa has donated 40MT of NFIs including tents, blankets and sleeping bags that are scheduled to arrive in Juba on 22 August.
- As at 04 July, organizations in the NFI sector had distributed 11,421 kits to a corresponding number of families. Organizations in the NFI sector have mobilized a total of 17,030 NFI kits and distribution continues. The NFIs include commodities like kitchen sets, blankets, sleeping mats, mosquito nets, soap, etc.

(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)

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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