



Credit: Fred Noy/UNMIS-PIO/2007

Organised returns from Khartoum: According to the joint GNU-GoSS-UN plan for organised returns, up to 150,00 displaced Sudanese are to be assisted in returning from Khartoum and other northern states to their places of origin in Southern Sudan and Southern Kordofan.

SOUTHERN SUDAN

Security

April has seen some important steps forward in improving stability and security in Southern Sudan and surrounding areas, which are an essential condition for successful humanitarian action, as well as recovery, and development. A productive meeting was held on 13 and 14 April in Nabanga (Western Equatoria) between the Government of Uganda and the Ugandan opposition armed group “**Lord’s Resistance Army**” (LRA), under the auspices of the Government of Southern Sudan (GoSS) as host and mediator, and in the presence of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for LRA-affected areas, Mr. Joaquim Chissano. After a three months suspension in the talks, it opened the way for peace talks to resume in Juba, and saw the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement (COHA) extended until 30 June. The United Nations will continue to monitor the process, and provide support to the GoSS as may be required and deemed appropriate.

This revitalization of the peace process is bound to have a continued positive impact on humanitarian, recovery, and development operations. Stability and security are essential to

THIS ISSUE'S HIGHLIGHTS:

- OVERVIEW OF THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN SOUTHERN SUDAN
- DARFUR UPDATE
- FUNDING UPDATE
- MEETINGS & EVENTS MAY 2007

Welcome to the third issue of the Sudan Humanitarian Overview (SHO) for 2007. Produced by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), in collaboration with other UN agencies and partner NGOs, the SHO aims to provide an overview of humanitarian trends and activities in Sudan, as well as focus on particular issues of interest. Send comments and contributions to sho@unsudanig.org



organized return operations, to continued road reconstruction, and to humanitarian access to deliver badly needed food and health supplies as well as monitor protection of civilians in some areas. The progress in the peace talks is expected to be conducive for continued tranquillity in the region, including in terms of continued compliance with Sudan's Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) by the parties involved.

Despite such developments, security incidents have been reported in several parts of Southern Sudan, including Eastern Equatoria, Jonglei, and Western Equatoria states. These have ranged from lootings and child abductions, to cattle raids, to attacks against vehicles by armed individuals. These reported incidents are a humanitarian concern. By damaging the local economies, and thereby leading to new needs, they make access more difficult, and negatively affect the human rights of civilians living in the most affected areas.

Humanitarian

Even though Southern Sudan is slowly but gradually shifting from humanitarian action to recovery and development, humanitarian needs are not yet a thing of the past, and they will need continued attention for some time. For example, since the beginning of the year up to 22 April, over 630 people have died from meningitis and 340 from acute watery diarrhoea (AWD), according to available information. The surveillance system is in a nascent phase, awareness among the population is relatively low, and the response capacity of the local health facilities leaves space for improvement. If the international community can address these development issues in support of the Government, humanitarian concerns will gradually diminish. While continuing to provide food and health care in order to save lives, the United Nations and partners will prioritize the development of human resources, to work for local capacity-building, in order to place the Government in a position to take a lead in responding to emergencies – epidemic outbreaks, floods, violence – while working together towards development.

The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)'s Emergency Preparedness and Response (EP&R) unit has embarked on disaster preparedness and hazard mapping in Northern Bahr el-Ghazal and Upper Nile states. Two teams have been

Welcome to the UN Common Map Shop !

The Map Shop is a joint effort of several UN agencies, created with the intention of providing map products to the wider humanitarian community. We have over 450 different maps of Sudan in a variety of sizes and formats, available free of charge to humanitarian organizations, donors, and government. We are located in the basement of the OCHA office, House 23, Block 11, Riyadh, Khartoum (3 streets east of the UNMIS compound)

We are open Sunday - Thursday, 9:00 - 15:30

You may view and download most of our maps at:

<http://www.unsudanig.org/library/mapcatalogue/sudan/index.php>



Credit: Fred Noy/UNMIS-PIO/2007

Prostheses used by mine survivors displayed during the 'International Day for Mine Awareness' which was celebrated throughout Southern Sudan. The aim of the celebration was to increase awareness of the threat posed by mines and unexploded ordnance (UXO).

deployed, aiming to collect and compile basic information on potential hazard, storage capacity, and response capacity. In April, the EP&R unit has completed the **training of Emergency Response Teams (ERTs)** across all ten states of Southern Sudan, through five trainings, each targeting team members from two states. The teams, under the leadership of the local authorities and in concert with the United Nations and partners on the ground, will play a key role in responding to emergencies, ranging from natural disasters like floods or epidemic outbreaks, to human-made crisis situations that may result, for example, from local violence.

Returns

As of 30 April, since the beginning of organized internally displaced persons (IDP) return operations in February, **over 24,000 IDPs have been assisted to return home to or within Southern Sudan** (out of a total of over 30,000 assisted throughout the Sudan). The movements reached their peak during April, with 18,253 people moved during the month. IDPs are assisted with NFIs and food aid during the move and on arrival.



Within repatriation operations organized by the United Nations and partners since the signing of the CPA, **the 50,000th Southern Sudanese refugee returned home on 09 April**. That day saw 543 returnees arrive to Upper Nile State from Fugnido Camp in Ethiopia, while 84 returnees including the 50,000th individual were flown from Mboki in the Central African Republic (CAR) to Yambio in Western Equatoria State. **Repatriation of refugees from CAR has been completed** in April, with a ceremony held in Nzara on 11 April to close the operation as a flight arrived with 31 returnees, 17 years after the first camps for Sudanese refugees were opened in CAR. **On 14 April, repatriation from Ethiopia started being conducted by air**. Over 1,000 refugees are due to be flown from Ethiopia to Southern Sudan over the coming weeks.

On 02 April, the United Nations and partners completed the **air movement of 452 spontaneous returnees**, from Boma to several locations across Southern Sudan. This was the remainder of a group of 1,035 individuals who had arrived from Dimma Camp in Ethiopia last January, after reportedly walking for three days, about half of whom however travelled to their onward destinations through other means.

Funding Tools

The second allocation of the CHF was finalized on 15 April, with **USD 16.2M**, through which five states have been prioritized; UN and partners in each State were allocated \$2 million for projects prioritised to support the return of IDPs and refugees to their areas of origin. The following sectors were prioritised education, health, and water and sanitation, as well as distribution of seeds and tools where host families were also targeted. Funding to NGOs constitutes 55.9% of the allocation.

As of the end of April, the OCHA-managed Emergency Response Fund (ERF) has disbursed USD 231,678 from the beginning of 2007, mainly supporting activities in disease outbreak emergency preparedness and response, in Northern Bahr el-Ghazal, and Eastern Equatoria States.

Sector Updates

In April, United Nations agencies have completed the global plan for **seeds and tools distribution** for 2007. A total of 120,000 households are expected to benefit from distribution of 1,843 metric tonnes (MT) of seeds (sorghum, groundnuts, maize, sesame) and 480,000 pieces of hand tools (rakes, sickles, machetes, malodas, hoes). Between 60% and 80% of this aid is meant to address the needs of returnees, thereby contributing not only to their livelihoods, but also to the recovery of the areas of return.

World Mine Action Day was commemorated on 04 April and hosted by the Southern Sudan Demining Commission, and the United Nations Mine Action Office (UNMAO). It was aimed at increasing awareness of the threat posed by mines and unexploded ordnance (UXO) to the people of Southern Sudan, and it included demonstrations of manual and mechanical mine detection, dog-based demining, prostheses used by mine survivors, and mine risk education messages. Such awareness initiatives, on a smaller scale, are ongoing throughout Southern Sudan.

So far through UNMAO and implementing partners 2,482km of roads have been cleared since the beginning of the year and route surveys conducted for Pibor to Akobo, Rasolo to Maridi, Faraksika to Maridi, Maridi to Yambio, Lainya to Jambo, Limbe to Dimu and Logobero and Yei. These routes and areas can now be considered safe to drive. These actions enabled a United Nations **convoy of six vehicles** to leave Khartoum on 20 April and arrive in Juba on 25 April. The aims of the mission were to collect road condition data as part of an infrastructure and road assessment mapping project in Southern Sudan. The convoy's route was Khartoum - Rabak/Kosti - El Obeid - El Fula - Babanusa - Muglad - Meiram - As Sumayah - Aweil - Kanji - Wau - Tonj - Rumbek - Akot - Mvolo - Mundri - Rokon - Juba. For the first time in over 20 years, it was possible for light vehicles to travel overland, relatively smoothly, from Khartoum to Juba. This has been possible, in good part, thanks to the international community's support to the Government in the reconstruction or construction of the road network, and it is also the result of improved security. An efficient road network is essential to economic recovery, as it facilitates the returns of refugees and IDPs, it favours commerce, and it supports security.



Credit: Marie-Sophie Reck/OCHA/2007

The peace dividend: People in Juba are again able to buy local produce at the market. A woman buying tomatoes in the local customs market in Juba.



Preparation for the Census

Despite late dispersal of funds, the **pilot census** was conducted successfully in Southern Sudan from 15 to 30 April, and over 5,000 households were reached in all ten states, across 50 enumeration areas (five per state, mostly in one site). There were five enumerators per state working with one supervisor, thereby involving a total of 60 staff across Southern Sudan. At each site, between 100 and 200 households (HH) we reached. The aims of the pilot census included: testing of methods; ensuring that tools can be applied correctly; identification of mapped areas and verification of household listings. This also served as an important mechanism to understand any potential difficulties, and to identify challenges. In order to do this, a wide variety of sites have been used, including cattle camps in Northern Bahr el-Ghazal, swampy areas in Jonglei state that tested mobility over the time period, agricultural settlements in areas of dense population in Western Equatoria, locations with poor road infrastructure in Unity State, as well as planned urban areas like Juba, and unplanned urban areas like Rumbek.

DARFUR

In April, while relatively few armed clashes between the parties to the conflict took place, the effects of the ongoing conflict on both the civilian populations and the humanitarian community remains extremely concerning. As a consequence, new displacements continue in the face of wide-spread insecurity, while targeted attacks on humanitarian aid workers and their assets have become an almost daily reality, severely constraining the capacity of humanitarian actors to adequately deliver their services.

About 130,000 newly displaced people have been identified since the beginning of the year, some 40,000 more than what was reported in March. IDPs continue to arrive to the Zalingei camps (West Darfur) which are nearing full capacity. In addition, a delegation of Sheikhs from Saraf Omra (North Darfur) visited Zalingei and indicated that many of the 37,200 IDPs from that area are seeking an alternative place to settle. In South Darfur, some 700 new IDPs arrived in Al Salam camp between 23 March and 4 April from different areas in the state, bringing the total number of IDPs to 11,900, whereas the camp has a capacity of 12,000. IDP camps in North Darfur, especially around El Fasher, are facing serious water shortages as a result of the poor water levels and the high numbers of IDPs in concentrated areas.

Also in April, 16 humanitarian vehicles were hijacked, during which 23 aid workers were temporarily abducted, while 4 carjacking attempts were thwarted and 7 humanitarian convoys ambushed and/or looted. The violence deployed during the ambushes is increasingly worrisome: 2 NGO staff and 1 Ministry of Health nurse were wounded by gunshots in 2 separate ambushes. NGO staff members were physically assaulted on 5 occasions and private security guards beaten up during break-in attempts into 5 humanitarian compounds. Humanitarian staff relocated from 2 locations in West Darfur this month, leaving more than 100,000 affected people temporarily with minimal humanitarian assistance. While humanitarian activities were later resumed in For Baranga, NGOs in Umm Dukhum have suspended the bulk of their operations while safeguarding emergency interventions. Also in West Darfur, a shoot-out between GoS Police/National Security forces and armed Arab men in Dorti camp led to the suspension of all humanitarian activities in the camp on 10 April, and again on 15 April, when GoS police raided the



Credit: Derk Segaar/OCHA/2007

IDP camps throughout Darfur are reaching full capacity limit as newly displaced continue to arrive in camps. As Salaam IDP



Credit: Derk Segaar/OCHA/2006



IDP women in Darfur

camp in search of alcohol production sites. On 23 April, humanitarians also withdrew from Ardamata camp, again in West Darfur, when armed men tried to stop a children's festival and physically assaulted 3 NGO staff. In North Darfur, an NGO temporarily suspended its operations following the hijacking of one of its vehicles together with their driver. Another NGO also suspended its operations and closed its clinic in Tawilla after one of their vehicles had been hijacked.

Despite these setbacks, the humanitarian community continues to explore ways to increase access and/or resume activities in areas difficult to access. In West Darfur, coordination meetings were held in Zalingei to define gaps in assistance and ways forward for increased humanitarian activities in the Jebel Marra, an area which has been off-limits for a long time and where activities have only recently been resumed. In eastern Jebel Marra, an NGO opened a new permanent clinic in Feina and Solidarités started drilling a new borehole in Feina and Dulda. Efforts are also underway to allow the resumption of humanitarian operations in the Abaata area (eastern West Darfur), after a series of road incidents in the previous months had resulted in a significant reduction of humanitarian activities there. In South Darfur, NGOs are slowly returning to the Adilla area after they had suspended their operations in December 2006 in the face of widespread insecurity. Access to most areas in North Darfur has also generally improved. OCHA visited Kutum on 26 March, and met with all humanitarian actors and the new AU commander, preparing the ground for a full resumption of humanitarian operations after targeted attacks on humanitarians and their assets in early December 2006 had caused a significant reduction in humanitarian presence and services. In addition, an NGO returned with its full team to Shangil Tobayi, after most of their staff had been withdrawn on 11 December 2006 due to general insecurity, while another NGO is in the final stages of returning its entire team to Saraf Omra, from where they had relocated in July

2006. A humanitarian mission was able to visit northern Dar Zaghawa for the first time in nine months, where humanitarian activities had been reduced to a minimum due to insecurity. Plans are underway for in-depth needs assessments in order to fully resume activities, particularly in the health, safe water and education sectors. However, the security situation in Darfur has not markedly changed and the planned reopening of various field stations should be seen as an act of good faith of the NGOs' determination to assist the populations in need, rather than the result of a trend change in the security situation.

In the current, often strenuous work environment, the humanitarian community has been able to contain a humanitarian crisis. In March, WFP assisted 2 million affected people; only 56,000 people of their target population could not be reached. Non-food items continued as programmed during the month of April, although no distributions have been possible in North Darfur due to lack of access as a result of insecurity and shortage of implementing partners. UNJLC, however, continues to pre-position stocks ahead of the upcoming rainy season. In the agricultural sector, FAO and partners have pre-positioned about 1,000 MT (about 35% of the planned figures under the Work Plan 2007) of field crop seeds at the field level. The procurement process is still ongoing and veterinary supplies are expected towards the end of the month. On another positive note, the 26-28 March polio vaccination campaign reached many areas that had been previously inaccessible. This was a result of UNICEF's efforts to transport vaccines by air and mobilize the warring factions in order to facilitate polio immunization in their controlled areas. In Gondo, West Darfur, a total of 14,422 children under-five years of age were immunized for the first time ever. Total admissions into Supplementary and Therapeutic Feeding Centres increased but these were in line with the seasonal trends in admission noted over the past three years. Pockets of high malnutrition rates however continue to persist and demand continuous vigilance.

A new Joint Communiqué was signed by the UN and the GoS on 28 March, facilitating humanitarian activities and administrative procedures in Darfur. A High Level Committee comprising representatives from the Government, UN and NGOs has been set up to monitor the implementation of the Communiqué and a first preparatory meeting was held on 28 April. It is hoped that the 'fast track procedures', foreseen in the Communiqué, will be effectively and consequently put into practice by the Sudanese authorities, both at Khartoum level and in the field.

ONLINE CONTACT DATABASE

The online contact database for the UN, NGOs and key government authorities, launched by the OCHA Information Management Unit (IMU), is available at:
<http://www.unsudan.info/contacts/>

The database can be searched by various fields, such as name, job title, organisation, acronym, sector and state, and query results can be printed or saved in a variety of formats. There is also a link for updating or correcting existing information. Please direct your inquiries to:
ochasudan@un.org



2007 WORK PLAN FUNDING STATUS BY ASSISTANCE CATEGORY AND RECIPIENT TYPE - AS OF 15 APRIL 2007

ASSISTANCE CATEGORY	Work Plan Required	Pledged	Shortfall	Coverage
Humanitarian Action	\$1,258,948,841	\$687,689,373	\$571,259,468	55%
Recovery and Development	\$559,597,487	\$133,882,414	\$425,715,073	24%
TOTAL	\$1,818,546,328	\$821,571,787	\$996,974,541	45%

2007 WORK PLAN FUNDING OVERVIEW BY REGION - BY REGION

Work Plan Region	Humanitarian funding	Work plan requirement by 2nd Quarter	Coverage	Work Plan Total Requirement	Coverage
Abyei	\$6,064,389	\$14,032,111	43%	\$16,668,769	36%
Blue Nile	\$9,540,589	\$25,146,067	38%	\$32,149,272	30%
Darfur	\$251,446,697	\$526,874,747	48%	\$651,524,128	39%
Eastern States	\$14,471,112	\$44,636,042	32%	\$61,297,986	24%
Khartoum & Other Northern States	\$2,712,748	\$20,963,026	13%	\$29,387,810	9%
National Programmes	\$31,195,176	\$98,569,702	32%	\$134,276,663	23%
Southern Kordofan	\$19,003,496	\$44,274,694	43%	\$54,509,337	35%
Southern Sudan	\$95,290,699	\$223,830,026	43%	\$279,134,876	34%
Northern Sudan Unspecified	\$15,296,450	-	-	-	-
Unspecified	\$242,668,017	-	-	-	-
Total	\$687,689,373	\$998,326,415	69%	\$1,258,948,841	55%

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS OF NOTE IN MAY 2007

*For full information on meetings go to the meeting schedule on www.unsudani.org

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		01 MAY 13:00 KHT Protection WG, UNHCR	02 MAY 15:30 WATSAN, UNICEF	03 MAY 11:00 Nutrition, UNICEF 12:00 Child Protection, National Council for Child Welfare 12:00 RH Coordination meeting, UNFPA	04 MAY	05 MAY
06 MAY	07 MAY	08 MAY	09 MAY	10 MAY	11 MAY	12 MAY
15:00 Return and Reintegration WG, OCHA 14:00 Common Pipeline Management Meeting, UNDP	13:00 UN Sector Coordinators RoS, UNDP 11:00 KHT State Inter-Agency, FAR	11:00 IAWG, OCHA	08:30 UN Security Brief for NGOs, UNDSS	14:00 Logistics meeting for Darfur & RoS, UNDP		
13 MAY	14 MAY	15 MAY	16 MAY	17 MAY	18 MAY	19 MAY
15:00 Return and Reintegration WG, OCHA 15:00 Health, WHO	10:00 Food Sector Coordination, HAC 12:00 SGBV Core Group, UNFPA 14:00 UN Sector Coord Darfur, UNDP 15:15 UN Donor briefing,	13:00 KHT Protection WG, UNHCR	08:30 UN Security Brief for NGOs, UNDSS 09:00 Reproductive Health, UNFPA 11:00 Food Security and Livelihoods Sector, FAO	10:00 NFI Coordination - Darfur, OCHA 11:00 NFI Coordination - RoS, UNDP 11:00 Cooperating Partner Coord Meeting (CETA/CPs), OCHA		
20 MAY	21 MAY	22 MAY	23 MAY	24 MAY	25 MAY	26 MAY
15:00 Return and Reintegration WG, OCHA	11:00 KHT State Inter-Agency, FAR 13:00 UN Sector Coordinators RoS, UNDP	11:00 IAWG, OCHA	08:30 UN Security Brief for NGOs, UNDSS	11:00 Nutrition, UNICEF		
27 MAY	28 MAY	29 MAY	30 MAY	31 MAY		
15:00 Return and Reintegration WG, OCHA 15:00 Health, WHO	12:00 SGBV Core Group, UNFPA 14:00 UN Sector Coordinators Darfur, UNDP 15:15 UN Donor briefing, UNDP	13:00 KHT Protection WG, UNHCR	08:30 UN Security Brief for NGOs, UNDSS 11:00 KPSG, OCHA 11:00 Education, UNICEF	12:00 Child Protection, National Council for Child Welfare		