South Sudan
Emergency type: Humanitarian Crisis in South Sudan

HIGHLIGHTS

1. Since the beginning of 2019, measles outbreaks have been confirmed in 11 counties and three PoC sites. Cumulatively a total of 908 cases have been reported in the 11 counties and three PoC sites with 62 laboratory-confirmed cases and seven deaths.

2. One suspected EVD case was reported at Ezo-Nabiapai point of entry site. This was a 3 months old male from a village called Sugba in DRC. The sample tested negative for Ebola virus disease and other hemorrhagic virus diseases.

3. The roll out of the Ebola vaccination in Jubek State commenced with training of 15 vaccination team.

4. Nearly 6.5 million people (57% of the population) are estimated to be facing severe food insecurity with an estimated 45,000 in ‘catastrophic’ conditions. In May-June an estimated 6.9 million people will face severe food insecurity at the peak of the lean season – the time when people’s food stock runs out before the next harvest – in May-June 2019.
Overview of the Humanitarian crisis

- Nearly 6.5 million people (57 per cent of the population) are estimated to face severe food insecurity from February to April 2019 with an estimated 45,000 in ‘catastrophic’ conditions according to Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Technical Working Group in South Sudan. This is expected to increase to an estimated 6.9 million people facing severe food insecurity at the peak of the lean season – the time when people’s food stock runs out before the next harvest – in May-June. An estimated 50,000 people will be in ‘catastrophic’ conditions, which means they will be facing a famine-like situation. Malnutrition levels remained critical in many areas, with some 860,000 children under the age of five estimated to be severely malnourished in 2019. The number of acutely food insecure people has already increased by 13 per cent since January last year. Humanitarian organizations said that funding and an urgent scale-up of humanitarian food assistance were needed to help vulnerable people across the country. Sustained humanitarian support is required to address the immediate food assistance needs. It is also critical to support resilience activities to improve livelihoods and to increase families’ ability to cope.”

Event Description/ Situation update

Wild fire destroyed 200 houses
- On 12 April, partners reported wildfire outbreaks that have affected four counties between January and March, including Rum-Aker, Baac, Wunatemei and Warguet Counties in Aweil East. The fires destroyed around 200 homes, two fatalities and an estimated 2,000 people displaced. The displaced communities are reported to be in critical need of shelter, food and NFIs. A joint assessment of the affected communities by humanitarian partners is planned.

Inter-communal tensions in Duk County.
- On 13 April, an unspecified number of individuals from Bor were reportedly ambushed and cattle raided by the Gawar Nuer in Duk Padiet in Duk County, and three people killed. An emergency meeting between the authorities in Jonglei, Fangak and Bieh States and Duk Padiet to diffuse the tension and to prevent reprisals and revenge attacks was held. Humanitarian partners are closely monitoring the situation.

Epidemiological Update

- In epidemiological week 16 of 2019, completeness and timeliness for Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR) reporting at county level were 60% and 59% respectively while EWARN reporting from the Internally Displaced Population (IDP) health facilities was 84% for timeliness and 84% for completeness.
- A total of 62 alerts were reported in week 16. The teams verified 61% of the alerts, 5% risk assessed and 3% required a response.
- Measles, bloody diarrhea, acute watery diarrhea and Malaria were the most frequently reported infectious diseases alerts in epidemiological week 16 of 2019.
- Since the beginning of 2019, measles outbreaks have been confirmed in 11 counties and three PoC sites (Juba, Bentiu, and Malakal). The affected counties are Abyei, Juba (including Juba 1 and 3 PoC), Pibor, Gogrial West, Gogrial East, Mayom, Melut, Aweil South, Tonj North, Aweil West and Aweil Center counties. A total of 310,582 children 6-months to 15 years have been vaccinated.
- Malaria was the leading cause of morbidity and mortality accounting for 48% of all morbidities and 0.3% of all mortalities in week 16, 2019.
- For more information on Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR) please click on this link: http://www.afro.who.int/publications/south-sudan-weekly-disease-surveillance-bulletin
Ebola Virus Disease preparedness and response
• During the reporting week one suspected EVD case was reported at Ezo- Nabiapai point of entry site. This was a 3 months old male from a village called Sugba in DRC. The sample tested negative for Ebola virus disease and other hemorrhagic virus diseases.
• The vaccination exercise against Ebola Virus disease is still ongoing and as of 28th April 2019, a total of 1904 frontline healthcare workers have been vaccinated. The vaccination exercise was completed in Yambio-Gbudue State (935), Yei River State (626) and Nimule/Torit State (343). Preparations for the vaccination in Juba are in advanced stage.
• The national level Ebola task force continues to hold weekly meetings with the last one held on 25th April 2019 at the National Public Health Emergency Operations Center (PHEOC) in Juba. State level Task Force meetings also were held and updates from Yei, Jubek and Nimule shared with the National Task Force.
• During week 16, a total of 68 141 incoming travelers were screened from the 30 functional screening points in the country. IOM opened 4 new points of entry 2 in Yei River state and 2 in Torit. WHO is in the process of handing over its 5 points on entry (Juba airport, Nimule and Wau) to IOM.
• The roll out of the Ebola vaccination in Jubek State commenced with training of 15 vaccination team who include vaccinators, social mobilizers, follow up doctors, and logistician.
• For more information on the weekly Ebola Virus Disease preparedness update access the report on this link: https://www.afro.who.int/publications/weekly-update-ebola-virus-disease-evd-preparedness-south-sudan.

Polio National Immunization Days
• The country is on track to submit its polio-free certification to the African Regional certification committee in the 4th Quarter of 2019.
  o AFP surveillance indicators in all the states are above the nationally accepted standard with a total of 125 Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) cases reported and investigated giving a national Non-Polio AFP rate of 4.94 in 2019.
  o A total of 2540 supportive supervisory visits have been conducted and evidenced by the Open data kit.
  o A total of 23 samples have been collected from the environment with all testing negative for polio virus.
• The second round of Polio Supplementary Immunization Activities (SIAs) will start on 30th April in all states and counties of the country with a target of 3,351,954 under 5 children to be immunized.

• Periodic Intensification of Routine Immunization (PIRI) activities have also commenced in most states to reach children in the most difficult area with the needed vaccines.

Updates from the State Hubs
• Aweil Hub: 47 new suspected measles cases were reported in Aweil East, North and Centre and investigations done. Two NGO have been identified to respond to Measles outbreak in Aweil town and plans are underway to implement the response plan.

• To improve the reporting rate, the EWARS TOT roll out in Aweil was conducted and the teams will be deployed to cascade the training for health workers to all counties. 141 phones were received to be distributed to the health workers after training.

• WHO state coordinator in Wau in partnership with OXFAM conducted a three-day IPC-WASH training with more focus on Ebola virus disease, organized by WASH for 20 participants drawn from 5 health facilities in Wau municipality.

• Security situation in the state is relatively calm but unpredictable in Kuarjena and Roc Roc Dong Payams under Jur River County where attack of cattle keepers from neighbouring state still ongoing, attacks of cattle keepers extended from Kuarjena to Roc Roc Dong payam during the week where houses were looted, burned and population displaced to Wau IDPs collective sites and POC-AA and some population said displaced toward the Wau Bai payam. No casualties reported to the state hospital.

• In Wau, attacks on civilians by cattle keeper’s in Kuarjena payam in Jur River county continued and extended to Roc Roc Dong payam where houses were looted, burnt and population displaced to Wau IDPs collective sites and POC-AA and some population displaced toward the Wau Bai payam. No casualties reported in the state hospital.

• Lakes Hub: WHO participated in a 3 days Inter-Agency Rapid Need Assessment(IRNA) in Tiap-tiap, Pagoor and Citchok Payams in Cueibet County, Gok State from 25th – 28th April, 2019 aiming to identify immediate health needs of the displaced Persons following the intersectional fighting among Tiap-tiap, Citchok and Pagoor Payams on 2nd and 14th April 2019. Participants included WHO, UNICEF, WFP, SMOH/CHD, FAO, NPA. CCOSS, CUAMM.

• Findings include: An estimated 10 150 individuals in 2030 households were displaced and integrated into the communities (RRC reports); security situation still tense; there were no major health problems reported; most of the drugs were not available in the facilities. CUAMM confirmed it has drugs in its medical store in Cueibet but they were not distributed due to lack of transport. During the debriefing, CUAMM and CHD have promised to deliver the supplies to the facilities next week.

• Measles outbreak is confirmed in Aweil West and Centre. There were suspected
Measles cases reported in Aweil North, East. Investigations were done and Samples were collected and sent to Juba.

Operational gaps and challenges

The humanitarian operations in the country still continue to be hampered by sporadic Incidents of insecurity, and poor road network.

Financial Information:

- The total recorded contributions for WHO emergency operations as of 28th April 2019 amounts to US$ 7.2 million (DFID, Government of Japan, USAID, GAVI, ECHO, SSHF) for the 2019 financial year with a funding gap of US$ 16.2 million.
- The Ebola Preparedness plan for WHO has received US$ 4.6 million (WHO Core, WHO/CFE, DFID, Canada, Germany, CERF).
- WHO is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to WHO programmes with un-earmarked and broadly earmarked funds. Concerted efforts to mobilize additional resources to address the funding gap are ongoing.

### FUNDING STATUS OF APPEALS US$

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