South Sudan: Bi-Weekly Humanitarian Situation Report

Emergency type: Humanitarian Crises

Issue #: 05

Date: 1 -- 15 March 2020



Key figures			
7.5 M	Humanitarian Assistance		
1.67 M	Internally Displaced Persons with 189K living in PoCs		
2.23 M	South Sudanese refugees in other countries		
6.01 M	Severely Food Insecure		
1.3 M	Malnourished Children		
352K	Malnourished Women		
93	Stabilization centres		
Cumulative vaccination			
121 066 (20%)	Children under one year vaccinated with oral polio vaccine		
962, 158	Initial numbers of children Vaccinated against measles in the follow up campaign phase one		
Public Health Threats			
24	Counties with confirmed measles outbreaks in 2019 and Jan 2020		
4	Protection of Civilians (PoC) sites with confirmed measles outbreaks in 2019		
30	Counties affected by floods		
4	Counties with malaria cases surpassing their set thresholds in week 5		
119	Cumulative EVD alerts received since August 2018 to 30 th Jan-2020		



On 13th March 2020, WHO responded to the health needs of IDPs displaced from Pibor in Anyidi with Essential Lifesaving Medical Services. Photo: WHO.

Key Bi-Weekly Highlights

- As of 15 March six COVID-19 alerts investigated in Juba Wau and Malakal
- As part of COVID-19 Preparedness activities, the government issued travel restrictions from all affected countries
- Intercommunal Conflicts displaced 8 491 in greater
 Pibor county and 16 000 in Akobo county
- A total of 15 health facilities closed in Unity State due to funding gap

- On 1 March, six people were reportedly killed in a fighting between Muok,
 Jurwiir and Thony communities in Tonj South County.
- An estimated 16,000 people affected by severe food insecurity and cattle raiding in Waat area, Akobo County.
- On 4 March, General security situation in the Greater Pibor County is improving and the Secretary-General of the Government convened a highlevel meeting on the humanitarian situation focusing on deescalating violence, addressing root causes and safety to humanitarian agencies in Pibor and Akobo counties.
- On 5 March, IOM DTM conducted population count for IDPs sheltering in UNMISS Adjacent Area in Pibor. The count confirmed the presence of 8,491 individuals (1 522 households) of which 58% are females and 42% are males.
- On 6 March, additional response capacity from Juba has been deployed including coordination support and a displacement tracking team to verify the number of IDPs in Pibor.
- During this reporting period, a total of 2 621 individuals (441 households) have been affected by wildfire incidences in six locations in Nzara County.
- An International Non-Governmental Organization vehicle ambushed and shot at on the Thoardiok-Pieri road, Uror County and Bor-Pibor supply route remains closed due to insecurities in Manyabol areas, Pibor County.
- Humanitarian partners working in Tonga have reported that the local authorities are trying to enforce employment of staff only from the local community. On 6 March UNOCHA supported negotiation on same issue.
- On 3 March, a Hepatitis E Taskforce met to discuss the increased Hepatitis E cases in Bentiu Protection of Civilian site. Health partners have reported total of 73 people tested positive for HEV-RDT and 22 cases confirmed positive with the help of Polymerase Chain Reaction since January 2020.
- On 2 March, number of health facilities across Unity state closed due to lack of funds. In Mayendit, seven with population of 29 319, In Leer, four health facilities 39 225 people and in Koch, four HF serving 44 366 people.
- Some 1 000 people have reportedly been displaced from Mapel to Akoyo village in Jur River County following reports of intercommunal between the communities in Jur River and Tonj South
- On the 7 March, reportedly three people died because of intercommunal clashes due to cattle raiding in Torit County.

Overview of the humanitarian crises

Emergency Response Activities

- WHO supported Bor State Hospital with a full Severe Acute Malnutrition
 Kit-MC kit to support 50 malnourished children for 3 months .
- 117 individuals were reached by the emergency Medical Mobile Team in Anyidi Bor South County. The mission targeted displaced population from Pibor and host community.
- The Oral Cholera Vaccination campaign has been put on hold as the current insecurity situation in Pibor is unpredictable. But consultation is ongoing to conduct campaign within the UNMISS POC AA Pibor due to increase number of Acute Watery Diarrhea reports in Pibor.

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19)

As of 23 March 2020, Globally total and (new) in the last 24 hours

- 292 142 confirmed (26 069)
- 12 784 deaths (1600)
- As of 23 March 2020, 36 countries in Africa reported at least a confirmed case of COVID-19. Egypt (210); South Africa (150) and Algeria (82) are the African countries with highest number of confirmed cases.

Current preparedness for the risk of COVID-19 in South Sudan

- The Government of South Sudan with support from World Health Organization, Centre for Disease Control (CDC), and partners continue to closely monitor COVID-19 situation.
- Several media briefings held to alert the public about the COVID-19 and daily radio and Television talk shows is ongoing on daily basis.
- Health alert notice issued to inform state Ministries of Health, County Health Departments, and health facility workers about the COVID-19 outbreak.
- Travel health notice issued to provide information to people traveling from all affected countries.
- Entry screening intensified in Juba International Airport and thermo
 Screening is installed in Nimule Port, to identify passengers who travelled from all affected countries in the last 14 days for follow up by contact

Epidemiological/Surveillance update

tracing teams.

- Contact tracing teams were trained on contact follow up.
- Established a COVID-19 Incident Management Structure in the PHEOC to guide the implementation of the preparedness activities and prepare for the activation of the Emergency Response System should the need arise in addition to:
- During this reporting period a total of 3 COVID-19 alerts investigated by the National Rapid Response teams. These alerts involve 3 persons who had history of travel from Europe prior to the development of symptoms related to COVID-19. All samples from 3 suspected cases tested negative by PCR

Other Epidemiological Reports

- On 2 March, reports of increased cases of acute watery diarrhea associated with fever were received from Ibba County.
- Epidemiological and Entomological findings suggest that there is high risk of possible YF transmission in Kajo-Keji due to significant presence of YF vector and therefore plans are underway to conduct Yellow Fever vaccination in Kajo-Keji county
- As of week 11, an alert of Acute Jaundice syndrome has been reported in Abyei area and Aweil East county
- In week 11, increase in number of Malaria cases were reported in Bentiu protection of Civilian site Rubkona County

Measles and Rubella Outbreaks

- Suspected measles cases reported in several counties in Western Equatoria
 State
- In 2020 measles outbreaks confirmed in four counties, Tonj East; Magwi; Bor; Kapoeta East and Tonj South. All these counties were part of phase one measles follow up campaign which ended in February 2020.
- Upsurge of measles cases in Aweil East county despite of reactive campaigns conducted in July 2019 and January 2020. Health cluster in state is coordinating response with support from National health cluster.
- Reactive vaccination campaign has just been concluded in Jebel Boma and plans are underway for post Campaign Evaluation by the National

Ministry of Health

- In week 10 of 2020, IDSR reporting completeness was 92% and timeliness was at 81% at health facility level. Both completeness and timeliness for EWARN reporting sites were 87%.
- Of the 145 alerts in week 10, 2020; Malaria (52), AWD (32), Acute Respiratory Illness (31) were the top common alerts generated through the EWARS system.
- For more details, visit: https://www.afro.who.int/publications/south-sudan-weekly-disease-surveillance-bulletin-2020

Operational gaps and challenges

- Limited resources to cover all the affected counties.
- Weak coordination mechanisms at sub-national level.
- Insecurity in conflict affected counties.
- Huge operational costs measured against available donor funds.
- Inadequate human resources for health at subnational levels.

Resource mobilization

Key donors

Name of appeal	Required funds	Funds secured	Gap
WHE Operations	22 million	2 million	20 million

WHO Country Office of South Sudan registers appreciation for the great support provided from all development and health-implementing partners to various health programs that continue to provide technical support and health operations throughout the country. It is WCO great desire to pull all the resources together with concerted efforts in protecting South Sudan population from health emergencies and provide Universal Health Care to all. Resource Mobilization is ongoing to realize this goal. We acknowledge support from all organizations. Donors are listed in alphabetical order.

- Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)
- European Union Humanitarian Aid (ECHO)
- Global Alliance for Vaccine Initiative (Gavi)
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- The Government of Japan
- The Department for International Development (DFID)
- South Sudan Humanitarian Fund (SSHF)
- World Bank

Editorial Team: Dr. Joseph Wamala, Mr. Julu Louis, Ms Sheila Baya, and Mr. John Atem

For more information, please contact

Dr Olushayo OLU WHO Country Representative Email: oluo@who.int

Email: oluo@who.int

Dr Guracha ARGATA Emergency Coordinator/WHE Email: guyoa@who.int Mr. Boniface Ambani Health Information System Team Lead Email: ambanib@who.int

Email: guyoa@who.int