

KEY FIGURES

7.5M People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance	2.24M South Sudanese Refugees
1.67M Internally Displaced	1.3M Malnourished Children
188K Persons living in PoC ¹	352K Malnourished Women
73 Stabilization Centers	6.48M Severely Food Insecure

COVID-19

3109 confirmed cases	61 deaths	58576 Tests performed to date	2954 recoveries
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FLOODS

1,034,000 people affected	481,000 Displaced	4 Deaths
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HIGHLIGHTS

- A total of 3 019 COVID-19 cases have been confirmed and 61 deaths reported (case fatality rate (CFR) of 2.0%) in the country since the beginning of the outbreak.
- The ongoing humanitarian response for over one million people affected by the flooding is considerably constrained by infrastructure damage, reduced physical accessibility, insecurity and limited resources.
- The Ministry of Health, WHO and partners are preparing to implement preventive oral cholera campaigns in flooding affected locations of Bor South and GPAA Pibor targeting 168 096 people in the second half of December 2020.
- Following the declaration of the circulating vaccine-Derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) outbreak by the Ministry of Health on 18 September 2020, a polio campaign has been conducted with 1,367,526 children vaccinated to date. The vaccination activity achieved an administrative coverage of 92% while the post-campaign evaluation indicated a coverage of 89%.

121 066 (20%)	Children under one year vaccinated with oral polio vaccine
962 158	Initial numbers of children vaccinated against measles
8	Counties with confirmed measles outbreaks in 2020
1	PoC ¹ s sites with confirmed measles outbreaks in 2020
05	Counties with malaria cases surpassing their set thresholds



WHO Nutrition Officer Dr Lucy Meseka providing lifesaving preventive nutrition services for children in Pibor. Photo: WHO

¹ UN Protection of Civilians'

Overview of the Humanitarian Crisis

- **Flooding situation in South Sudan:** Over one million people have been affected by flooding in South Sudan since July 2020. Jonglei (over 400 000 people), the Greater Pibor Administrative Area (over 125 000 people) and the Lakes State (147 000 people) are the most affected locations in the country. The flooding has caused a large-scale displacement of about 481 000 people, destruction of crops, properties and loss of life. The flood response is considerably constrained by persistent heavy rains, infrastructure damage, reduced physical accessibility, insecurity and limited resources. There is an urgent need for additional logistic support such as air assets and riverine transport to move cargo to the priority locations.
- **Over 4 000 new IDPs arrive in Mangalla in November:** Some 4 000 new IDPs have arrived in Mangalla in Central Equatoria from Jonglei State in the first two weeks of November 2020 as per a report on 19 November 2020. More IDPs are expected as water levels remain high in Jonglei although receding in some locations. Some IDPs are yet to be registered. WASH cluster partners have reached 4250 households with WASH NFI kits and 120 households benefited from the distribution of fishing kits. In addition to conducting mobile outreaches, the health partners have conducted cholera risk assessment with support from WHO and the State Ministry of Health.
- **State Ministry of Labor in Malakal issue a circular impeding humanitarian response:** The state Ministry of Labor in Malakal has issued a letter instructing the humanitarian partners to allocate 80 percent of the employment opportunities to local people at the state level, citing the 2017 Labor Act as the legal basis. The Ministry of Labor indicated that jobs such as drivers, cooks, cleaners and security guards are meant to be for people from the state and that officials from the ministry must be part of the recruitment and interview process. UN OCHA Office is expected to follow up on this emerging concern from Malakal.
- **Critical need for improvement of services in the PoC site to meet minimal humanitarian standards highlighted by Juba ICCG field mission to Malakal:** A joint ICCG mission, between 18 and 20 November 2020, to the Malakal IDP Camp has identified critical gaps in service delivery in the PoC site. Some key issues highlighted included construction of shelters along fire lanes, blocking of WASH corridors by shelters posing a public health hazard, and lack of privacy and communal space inside the PoC. Also, the recent influx of an estimated 4 000 IDPs had affected service delivery. Meanwhile, the transition of the PoC site to an IDP camp has been put on hold as the position of the Governor for Upper Nile State has not yet been filled.

Emergency Response Activities

Floods Preparedness and Response Activities in 2020

- Jonglei, GPAA Pibor and Lakes are the most affected locations. Despite the reported receding water levels in some counties in these locations, the consequences of the flooding continue to be felt for the coming weeks. Furthermore, as water levels continue to recede, the resultant mud will impede humanitarian movement. The priority counties where the response is ongoing in Jonglei include Bor South, Ayod, Nyirol, Duk, Twic East and GPAA Pibor. In Lakes, a recent assessment in Rumbek North indicated that 2930 HHs (14650 individuals) have been displaced. The displaced population has been integrated into the host community. New affected locations that reported flooding episodes in the past two weeks include Panyagor in Twic East, Labarab (about 30,000 people) in GPAA Pibor, Aweil West (2 422 HHs), Aweil North (2 500 HHs), Akobo East (13,500 people) and Uror (69 000 people).
- Health cluster partners have reached 56 754 people out of 617 000 people in need of health response. The low coverage is attributed to limited resources available to the partners. WHO mobile medical teams in Pibor continue to provide mobile services in flood-affected locations in Pibor.
- WHO and implementing partners are in the final stage of preparation for the oral cholera campaign

in Pibor and Bor South. In Bor South, WHO will support the state to implement the campaign along with other health partners and the first round of the campaign is expected to begin on 14 December 2020. In Pibor, the county health department will be implementing the preventive cholera vaccination campaign from 15 December 2020. WHO technical officers in Pibor will work along with the implementing partner to provide the required technical and operational support for the campaign. The OCV campaign in Pibor will target 93,250 people while in Bor County 74,846 individuals are being targeted. Oral cholera campaigns are carried out as a preventive measure and implemented to complement water, hygiene and sanitation improvement measures.

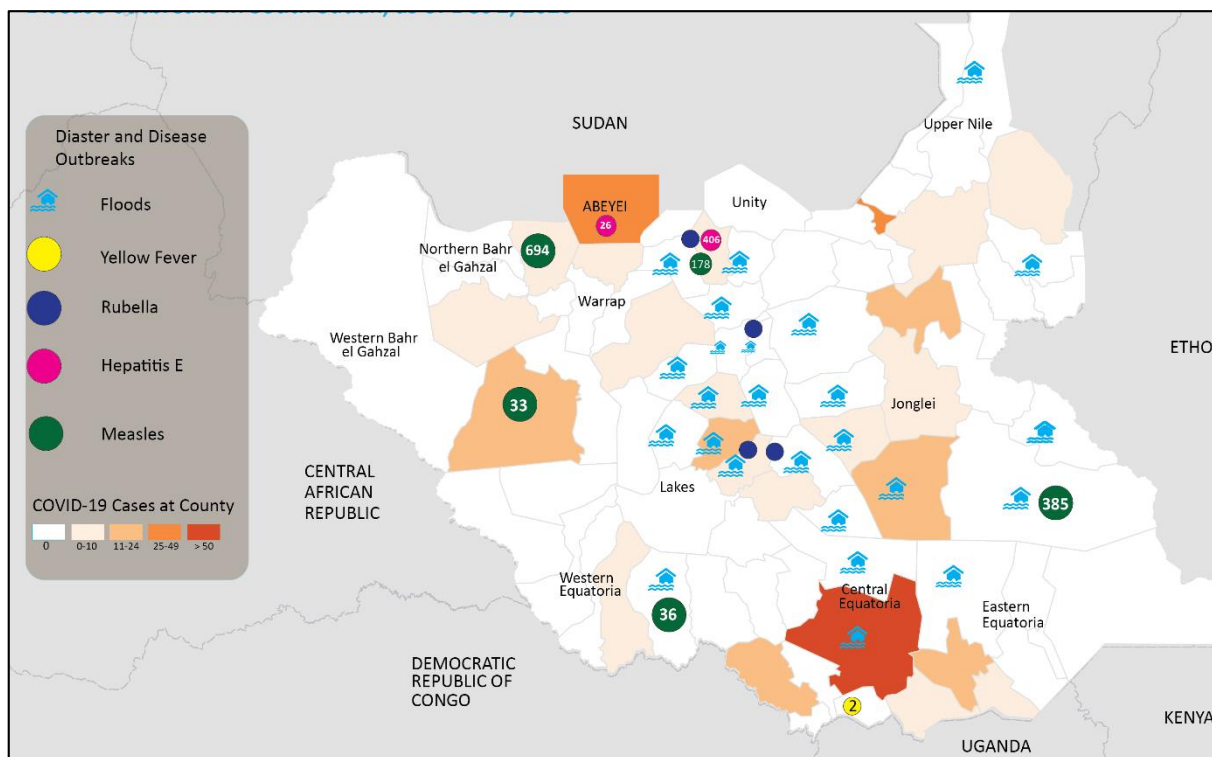


Figure 1: Counties affected floods and infectious disease outbreaks in South Sudan as of 30 November 2020

Surveillance, Epidemiological Update, and Response for Disease Outbreaks

Emergency Nutrition Updates

- WHO has conducted training for 83 health care workers from Verteth, Gumuruk, Lekuangle, Pibor payams on Maternal Infant and Young Child Nutrition (MIYCN), inpatient Management of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) with medical complications, stabilization center reporting tools and nutrition sentinel surveillance to support Pibor County Health Department to improve the quality delivery of life-saving nutrition services.

Performance of the Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR)

- In week 48, 2020 IDSR reporting completeness and timeliness were 80% at the health facility level. EWARN reporting completeness and timeliness were 71%.
- Of the 150 alerts in week 48, 2020; 65 percent were verified, 1 percent was risk assessed while zero required a response. Malaria (36%), acute watery diarrhea (30), bloody diarrhea (17%) and acute bloody diarrhea (9%) were the most frequent alerts during the reporting period.

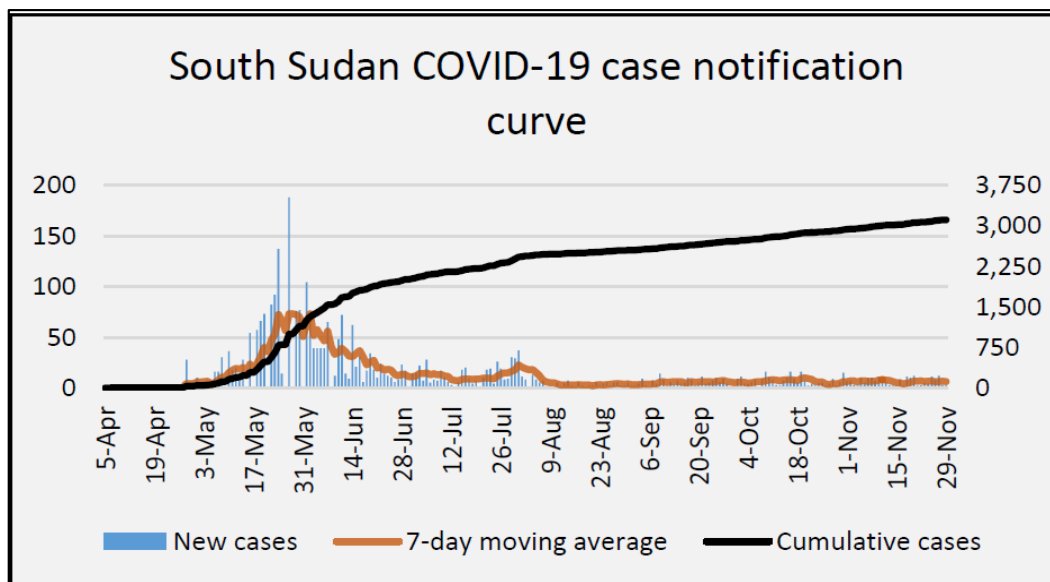
Confirmed and suspected Outbreaks

Polio Virus Outbreak

- Following the declaration of the cVDPV2 outbreak by the Ministry of Health on 18 September 2020, a polio campaign has been conducted with 1,367,526 children vaccinated to date. The administrative coverage was 92% while the post-campaign evaluation indicated coverage of 89%.
- The country continues to report more cVDPV2 from AFP cases and 21 cases have been confirmed. Recent environmental surveillance has identified cVDPV2 showing the extent of the spread of the outbreak.
- The new cases being identified highlight the gaps in immunization and the need for strengthening routine immunization particularly the IPV.
- The country has commenced plans for the second round of mOPV2 campaign targeting over 2.9 million children planned to kick off on 8 December 2020, with the readiness assessment at the national level at 90% and 65-90% at the states as of 3 December 2020. During the campaign, caregivers must allow their children to be vaccinated irrespective of previous immunization status.

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) Outbreak in South Sudan

- A cumulative total of 3 109 cases have been confirmed and 61 deaths (case fatality rate (CFR) of 2.0%) reported since the beginning of the outbreak as of the end of week 48, 2020. One severe COVID-19 case is currently admitted to the Infectious Disease Unit in Juba.
- 138 health care workers (one death) have been infected since the beginning of the outbreak
- Of the 9394 cumulative contacts registered, 8,989 have completed the 14-day quarantine while 243 contacts are being followed up. Only 20% (n=607) cases reported symptoms.
- Cumulatively, 58 576 laboratory tests have been performed with a 5.3% positivity rate.
- There was a cumulative total of 1, 592 alerts of which 93% were verified and sampled; most of the alerts came from Central Equatorial (75%), Eastern Equatorial (4%) and Upper Nile State (3%).
- As of 29 November 2020, 24 (30%) counties out of 80 counties in the 10 states have been affected.



For more information on the COVID-19 outbreak and public health response measures, please refer to the national weekly situation update. <http://moh.gov.ss/covid-19.php>

Measles Outbreaks in Pibor, Ibba and Wau Counties

- **GPAAs Pibor:** The ongoing reactive measles campaign targeting 19 979 children is expected to wind up soon. The vaccinators have already completed in Pibor, Verteth and Lekuangule and currently vaccinating in Gumuruk which started later than the other locations. The campaign began on 11

November 2020 in Gumuruk. There are 385 line-listed measles cases including 4 deaths (all under-fives and due to pneumonia) as of week 48, 2020.

- **Ibba, Western Equatoria:** There are no new cases reported in the county since the confirmation of the outbreak in week 45, 2020. There are 36 cases (four laboratory-confirmed cases) and zero deaths. The implementing NGOs are conducting enhanced routine vaccination outreaches to affected and at-risk villages as per the outbreak investigation recommendations.
- **Wau, Western Western Bahr Ghazal:** There are no new suspected or confirmed cases reported since epidemiological week 46, 2020. The total caseload stands at 33 cases (three IgM+) since the beginning of the outbreak. The state ministry and the partners have resolved to conduct a focused response through enhanced routine immunization in the affected locations.

Suspected Hepatitis E Virus Outbreak in Abyei

- A total of 26 suspected cases have been line-listed from the suspected outbreak Hepatitis E virus outbreak that was reported in Abyei in week 47 2020. The cases began in epidemiological week 4 of 2020 and sporadically appeared throughout the year. Two deaths (CFR of 8%), male patients aged 24 and 32 years of age, were reported during the period. None of the affected females are pregnant. The suspected cases reside in Rumammer (15 cases), Turalei (3 cases), Abienmhom (1 case), Abyie (2 cases), Twic (3 cases) and Gogrial (2 cases).
- All the suspected cases tested positive on a rapid test but test results for blood four samples sent to a regional reference laboratory are pending. Water samples have been collected for water quality testing and WASH assessment done to inform water, sanitation and hygiene improvement measures.

Suspected Viral Hemorrhagic Fever cases in Leer, Unity

- Three suspected viral hemorrhagic fever cases (one died) were reported in week 47, 2020 from Leer county were investigated, sampled and tested negative for Ebola virus, Marburg, Crimean-Congo, Rift valley fever and yellow fever virus. The three samples have been sent to a regional reference laboratory for further differential testing.

Birds die-offs in Yirol, Lakes

- Following the deaths of wild birds (Great White Egrets) on 19 October 2020, a joint investigation has been conducted by the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Ministry of Wildlife, and FAO from 29 October 2020 through 5 November 2020. The dead birds were estimated at 448 with no specific syndromic signs. A total of 24 samples from Great White Egrets were collected and are to be sent to EU/OIE reference laboratory for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) and Newcastle disease testing in Italy PADOVA by 5 Dec 2020.

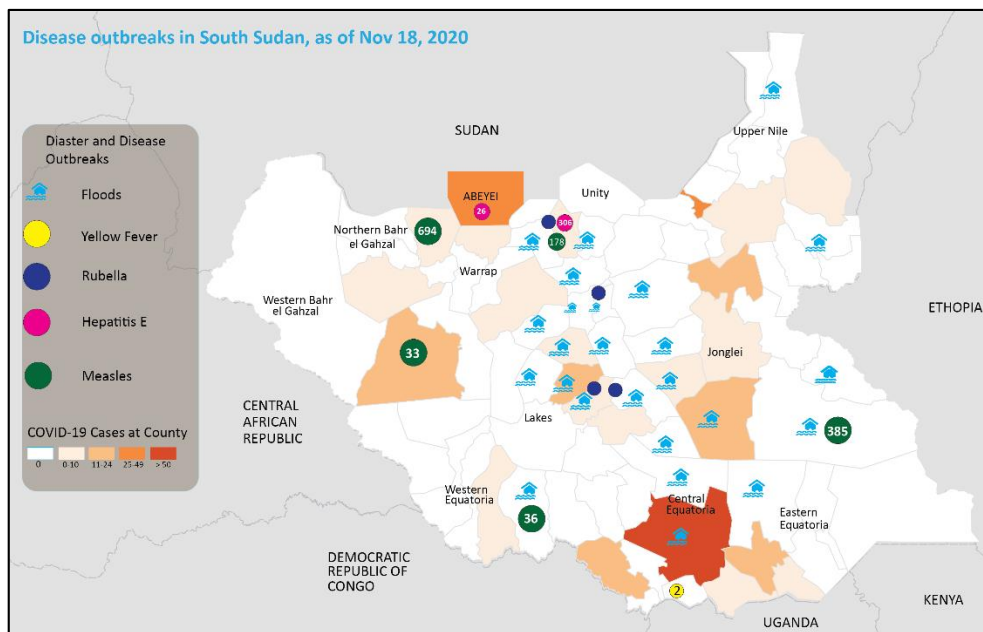
Rift Valley Fever (RVF) in Yirol, Lakes

- Following reports of 175 abortions and 15 deaths in cattle in Yirol in August 2020; joint investigations were conducted into the reports alongside the above investigations into bird die-offs. A total of 53 animal samples were collected (48 cattle and 5 small animal ruminants) with preliminary testing showing that 20 samples were positive for brucellosis; 4 were positive for RVF IgG; 6 were positive for RVF IgM. The samples are to be shipped to a reference laboratory in South Africa. A joint (One Health partners) team to be sent to Yirol to conduct further investigations, strengthen surveillance, build community awareness on RVF and collect more animal and human samples.

South Sudan: Bi-Weekly Humanitarian Situation Report

Emergency type: Humanitarian Crises

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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 the sub-national level.
- Insecurity and inaccessibility 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 US \$\$	Secured in US \$	A gap in US \$
WHE Operations	22 million	2 million	20 million

WHO Country Office of South Sudan registers appreciation for the great support provided by all our donors. The 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

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