

South Sudan: Bi-Weekly Humanitarian Situation Report

Emergency type: Humanitarian Crises

Issue 13 | Date: 16– 31 July 2021

KEY FIGURES

8.3 M People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance	2.3 M South Sudanese Refugees in neighboring countries
1.6M Internally Displaced	1.4M Malnourished Children
125K Persons living in PoC ¹	483K Malnourished Women
77 Stabilization Centers	7.2M Severely Food Insecure
121 066 (20%)	Children under one year vaccinated with oral polio vaccine
962 158	Initial numbers of children vaccinated against measles
00	Counties with confirmed measles outbreaks in 2021
00	PoC ¹ s sites with confirmed measles outbreaks in 2021
01	Counties with malaria cases surpassing their set thresholds

COVID-19 Response

11 063 confirmed cases	120 deaths	197 291 Tests performed	10 799 recoveries
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IPC PHASE 5 Response

108 000 People targeted	6 Counties	312 153 consultations conducted
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HIGHLIGHTS

- A cumulative of 11 063 COVID-19 confirmed cases and 120 deaths (case fatality rate 1.1%) have been reported in South Sudan since 4 April 2020.
- Some 90 000 people have been affected by flooding across 11 counties as early flooding season ensues as predicted.
- WHO trained 42 health workers on the management of severe acute malnutrition with medical complications in food-insecure counties as part of its technical support and capacity building to emergency partners.
- Poor WASH conditions and limited funding for partners attributed to the continued surge in Hepatitis E virus and acute watery diarrhea cases in Bentiu IDP Camp.
- Malaria remains the top cause of morbidity accounting for 65% of all out patient department cases as malaria upsurges are observed in several counties and IDP camps.



Ministry of Health in collaboration with WHO convenes health sector leadership and governance conference in Juba to improve capacities for effective health governance and leadership. Photo: @WHO South Sudan

¹ UN Protection of Civilians'

Overview of the Humanitarian Crisis

- Updates on insecurity and humanitarian needs:** Recurring sub-national violence continue to be the main driver of humanitarian needs in the country. The recent violence in Western Equatoria has displaced some 15 500 people in Tambura, 4 400 in Ezo and 1 600 in Mosso as per a recent assessment. In addition, more than 4 000 people have been displaced to Yambio and Nzara where assessments are yet to be conducted. In Central Equatoria State, a renewed fighting displaced 13 300 people in Yei County on 3 August 2021. Some 5 000 people were displaced by sub-national violence in Nyirol County in Jonglei State on 3 August 2021. Furthermore, security remains tense in Tonj North in Warrap State where over 5 000 people were displaced by violence that occurred on 8-9 July 2021. The humanitarians are conducting assessments and responding to needs.
- Early flooding season ensues:** Early flooding that has started in several states has affected an estimated 90 000 across 11 counties (Ayod, Fangak, Renk, Guit, Gogrial West, Aweil South, Mayendit, Koch, Nhaildu-Rubkona and Malakal from Fangak). A high-level humanitarian and government mission visited Ayod and Canal Counties on 4 August 2021 to witness the impact of the flooding in the counties. The heavy rains have caused displacement, damaged homes and agricultural fields, and limited access to health and other essential services. The clusters have begun responding through existing programming in the affected locations. The intercluster working group and needs analysis working group is guiding the humanitarian response by analysing assessments reports from the affected counties and recommending need-based response by different clusters.
- Food Insecurity in South Sudan in 2021**
 Food insecurity remains a major concern in South Sudan where 7.2 million people are projected to face high levels of acute (IPC Phase 3+) food insecurity during April-July 2021 as per the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) report released in December 2020. In the six most affected counties (Pibor, Akobo, Aweil South, Tonj North, Tonj South and Tonj East), some 820 000 people were projected to face a crisis or worse levels of food insecurity while over 108 000 people were projected to be in IPC Phase 5 catastrophe during the lean season. The humanitarian community and the government have been responding in the affected counties since December 2020. WHO and Health Cluster partners are supporting the counties to scale up access to basic health and nutrition services, and prevention and detection of disease outbreaks.

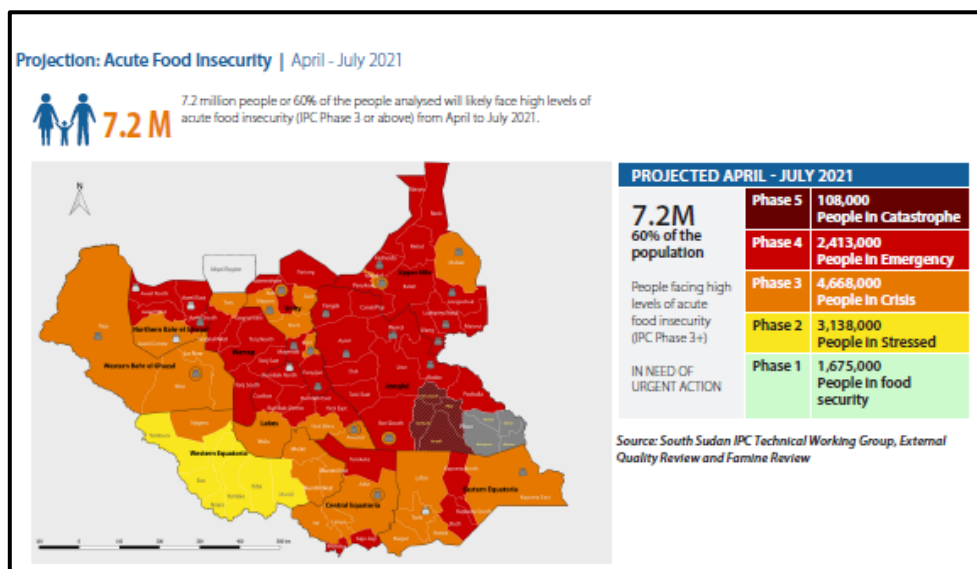


Figure 1: population estimates by IPC Phase and State based on the the South Sudan IPC Technical Working Group

Emergency Response Activities

Public Health Actions by Health Cluster/WHO in Prioritized Highly Food Insecurity counties

- Health response coordinated through biweekly Health Cluster coordination meetings at national and sub-national levels. WHO deployed technical support to Akobo West to provide partner coordination and capacity building.
- Emergency partners conducted mobile outreaches in six priority locations to assure access to primary health and nutrition care in locations without function health facilities. As an emergency responder, WHO deployed mobile teams to Pibor and Akobo to provide health services as well provide capacity building for the partners and counties. Since the beginning of 2021, 363 143 consultations have been conducted in the six priority counties as at end of week 30 of 2021.
- WHO supported emergency partners operating in the six priority counties with the essential emergency supplies as the core pipeline manager. WHO has distributed 249 interagency health kits (can support 249 000 people for three months), 106 pneumonia kits, 20 severe acute malnutrition with medical complication (SAM/MC) kits, and 45 cholera investigation kits to the responding partners in the priority counties.
- WHO trained 42 health workers on management of severe acute malnutrition with medical complications in Tonj North, Tonj East, Tonj South and Aweil South counties to optimize care for severe acute malnutrition cases and reduce mortality.
- Weekly trends of the priority diseases and reporting via Early Warning, Alert and Response System (EWARS) are being monitored to enable timely detection and response to disease outbreaks.
- WHO supported the counties to train 116 (31 in Pibor, 45 in Akobo East, 40 in Aweil South) health workers and rapid response teams to strengthen the Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR). Three more training have been planned for the three Tonj counties.
- Trained 40 people on community-based surveillance in Aweil South. Further, a refresher training was conducted for 78 community surveillance focal points in Pibor and Akobo East Counties.

Surveillance, Epidemiological Update, and Response for Disease Outbreaks

Confirmed and suspected Outbreaks

Hepatitis E Virus Outbreak in Bentiu IDP Camp

- Hepatitis E virus (HEV) transmission in Bentiu IDP Camp continues unabated with a surge in cases reported in the past five weeks. The upsurge is attributed to a declining WASH condition in the IDP camp as the daily workers and hygiene promoters stopped working owing to a lack of payments by partners who are facing reduced funding for WASH activities in the IDP camp.
- An HEV Taskforce has been activated and mandated to implement comprehensive HEV control interventions to interrupt transmission.
- The feasibility of deploying HEV vaccines is also being explored through discussion with the ministry and partners.
- For more details, find the weekly IDSR Bulletins here: <https://www.afro.who.int/publications/south-sudan-weekly-disease-surveillance-bulletin-2021>

Polio Virus Outbreak

- A total of 59 circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) cases have been reported across 27 counties in 10 states since the onset of the outbreak on 17 September 2020. The confirmed cases are from AFP cases, contacts and environmental samples.
- The country has concluded two rounds of polio vaccination campaigns (mOPV2) with a mop-up campaign covering 18 counties in 9 states conducted from 25 -27 May 2021.
- The country continues to strengthen AFP surveillance through capacity building of counties, deployment of experts and consultants to support poorly performing counties and supportive supervision.

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) Outbreak

- Since the beginning of the outbreak, 11 063, including 388 imported cases, and 120 deaths (case

fatality rate of 1.1%) have been reported as at end of week 30. Forty-nine new cases and two deaths were reported in Week 30 of 2021.

- Average positivity yields have been declining in recent epidemiological weeks, after peaking at 22.4% in Week 07, 2021 and declining to a low of 0.4% in Week 19 before rising to 1.4% in week 30.
- Three variants of concern (Alpha [B.1.1.7], Beta [B.1.351], and Delta [B.1.617.2]) have been identified in the country to date. Further, 75 samples have been sent to a regional reference laboratory for genomic sequencing to enable identify the circulating variants in the country.
- South Sudan is expecting it's second batch of vaccine from COVAX facility as from mid-August 2021
- For more information on the COVID-19 outbreak and public health response measures, refer to the national weekly situation update: <http://moh.gov.ss/covid-19.php>

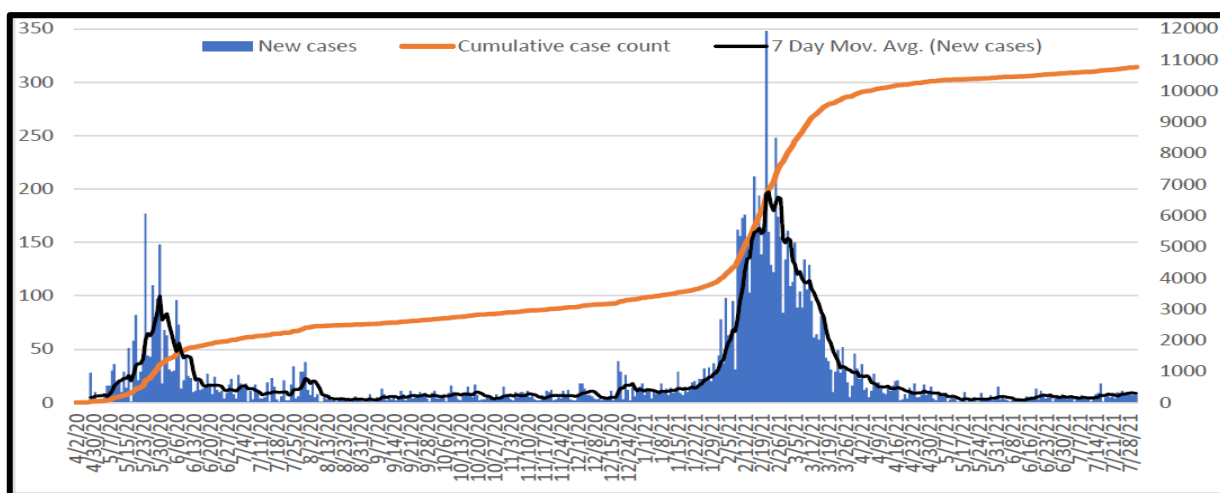


Figure 4: Epidemiological curve of reported cases through Week 30 2021, showing new cases (blue bars), rolling monthly average of reported cases (black line), and total cumulative reported cases (yellow line)

- Limited funding to respond to numerous emergencies and needs
- Weak coordination mechanisms at the sub-national level.
- Disruptive insecurity incidents and inaccessibility in conflict-affected counties.
- Huge operational costs measured against available donor funds
- Inadequate human resources for health at subnational levels.

Operational gaps and challenges

Resource Mobilization Key Donors

Name of appeal	Required US \$\$	Secured in US \$	A gap in US \$
WHE Operations	22 million	5 million	17 million

WHO Country Office of South Sudan registers appreciation for the support provided by all our donors. The donors are listed in alphabetical order.

- African Development Bank Group (AfDB)
- Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)
- Contingency Fund for Emergencies (CFE)
- European Union (EU)
- European Union Humanitarian Aid (ECHO)
- Global Alliance for Vaccine Initiative (GAVI)
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- The Government of Japan
- The Foreign, Commonwealth and Development office (FCDO)- UK
- The South Sudan Humanitarian Fund (SSHF)
- World bank

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