

IOMSOUTHSUDAN

Humanitarian Update #73

24 January 2017



Hygiene promotion session in Wau South Municipality supports communities affected by the crisis. IOM/McLaughlin 2017

Needs soared over the course of 2016 as the crisis spread to new areas of the country and deepened in Greater Upper Nile. An estimated 1.83 million people remain internally displaced and over 1.75 million have fled to neighbouring countries. The number of people in need is expected to rise over 2017 in comparison to 2016.

IOM mobile response teams are on the ground across Greater Equatoria to provide lifesaving humanitarian aid to conflictaffected populations. A Rapid Response Team for health provided more than 56,700 people with health information and conducted nearly 3,000 health consultations in Yei town from 15 December to 5 January. Nurses also tested 450 children under the age of five for malnutrition, with one child referred for moderate acute malnutrition. Populations in the area have been affected by several rounds of fighting and displacement. However, access to populations need outside of town and remote areas surrounding Yei remains limited.

To support families affected by conflict and multiple displacements in Mundri East and West, IOM teams continue efforts to distribute relief items, such as blankets, water purification tablets, buckets and dignity kits. IOM is repairing broken boreholes throughout the area to improve access to safe drinking water. The team is also training hygiene promoters in local communities to provide information on good health and hygiene practices, as well as providing refresher trainings to water management committees that will oversee upkeep of repaired boreholes.

As the dry season progresses, IOM is supporting efforts to move and pre-position humanitarian goods across the country. Through IOM's Common Transport Service, trucks moved over 662 metric tons (MT) of relief supplies on behalf of partner agencies during the first two weeks of January. These supplies will enable consistent response activities during the rainy season when over 60 per cent of the country is cut off from road access.

To decongest the overcrowded protection of civilians (PoC) site adjacent to the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) base in Wau, construction of an extension area is underway. Through the construction of communal shelters and water points, the area will host approximately 6,300 people currently living in very congested areas of the PoC site, including near drainage and latrines.

HIGHLIGHTS

Mobile response teams provide relief aid in Greater Equatoria

Dry season pre-positioning underway across the country

Wau PoC site extension will enable improved conditions for IDPs

KEY FIGURES 2 - 15 January 2017



1.83 million

displaced internally

1.17 million

displaced to neighbouring countries (Source: UNHCR)



IDPs accessed safe drinking water



health consultations conducted



3,214Ps reached with P



662.8 MT

humanitarian cargo transported for IOM & humanitarian partners









Bentiu PoC Site and Town

IOM provides multi-sector humanitarian assistance to over 120,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) at the Bentiu PoC site. As camp manager, IOM coordinates humanitarian services and maintains site infrastructure and the Humanitarian Hub.

Displacement Tracking and Monitoring (DTM) teams conducted the first-round population count for January 2017 from 13-15 January. The count indicates a slight increase from the last count at the end of December, increasing from 119,853 to 120,049 IDPs. Due to the ongoing influx of new arrivals, DTM recorded the highest number of IDPs sheltering in churches than any previous time.

947 suspected cholera cases, including nine deaths and 24 confirmed cases, have been reported in the Bentiu PoC site and Bentiu town since 29 September. As part of the response, IOM has initiated a 24-hour oral rehydration point centre to provide around-the-clock care for IDPs suffering from suspected cholera infections. Health and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) teams continue large-scale hygiene promotion campaigns to minimize the spread of the disease. In Bentiu town, hygiene promoters conduct group sessions and house-to-house visits, as well as repair boreholes to improve access to safe drinking water.

Wau

An estimated 41,785 IDPs are sheltering at displacement sites across Wau town, including the PoC site adjacent to the UNMISS base and collective centres. Thousands of displaced families outside of town have remained cutoff from aid due to access constraints since early July.

From 16 - 20 January, IOM DTM teams conducted head counts at seven displacement sites across Wau, including the PoC site and collective centres. In total, 41,321 IDPs were recorded, with the highest numbers at the PoC site (28,925) and the Cathedral (8,527). Since data collection began seven months ago, the total number of IDPs in Wau town has remained fairly consistent, between 39,000 – 41,000 individuals.

To decongest the crowded PoC site and improve IDP access to services, IOM and UNMISS are finalising development of an extension area that will shelter an estimated 6,300 IDPs currently living in the most crowded areas of the site. IOM has constructed 52 communal shelters in the extension to date.

In response to the measles outbreak in the PoC site and other areas of Wau, IOM health teams have provided measles vaccinations at the exit and entry points of the PoC site for 1,862 children since 23 December.

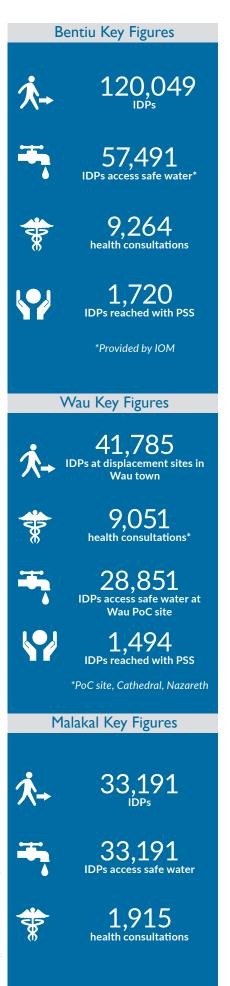
Malakal PoC Site

IOM is responding to the humanitarian needs of 33,191 IDPs at the Malakal PoC site. IOM continues to provide WASH and health care assistance, as well as conduct site improvement and maintain the Humanitarian Hub.

IOM WASH teams are providing safe drinking water, at a rate of 18.3 liters per person per day, to all IDPs sheltering at the PoC site. In addition to coordinating waste disposal and providing sanitation facilities, IOM conducts regular hygiene promotion sessions, including through house-to-house visits.

At IOM's clinic, nurses and clinicians conducted more than 1,900 primary health care consultations during the first two weeks of January. The clinics saw an increase in the number of pregnant mothers seeking ante-natal care, partially due to community mobilization efforts.

Living conditions within the site remain extremely difficult due to crowded conditions, which increase the risk of protection concerns and the spread of communicable diseases.



Melut PoC Site

IOM provides WASH services to 681 IDPs at the Melut PoC site in Upper Nile. IDPs are receiving an average of 18.9 L of safe drinking water per person per day. WASH staff continue maintenance of sanitation facilities, as well as hygiene promotion focused on prevention of water-borne diseases.

Renk

In Renk County, IOM provides clinical assistance to IDPs, returnees and host communities, conducting 2,206 consultations and delivering 40 babies from 2 - 15 January. Health officers also vaccinated 562 children under the age of five against common diseases.

Bor PoC Site

IDPs in Bor continue to participate in seven psychosocial support (PSS) mobile teams, reaching communities through community awareness campaigns and group activities. IOM continues to manage the Humanitarian Hub to shelter relief agency staff working at the site.

In Focus: Improving Access to Clean Water

IOM Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPnR) teams deploy to conflict-affected areas across the country to improve WASH conditions and increase access to safe drinking water.

EPnR teams are currently on the ground in Bentiu town, Wau South Municipality and Mundri East and West. These areas host large numbers of displaced families, which are often a strain on existing, limited resources for host community households.

In Hai Zande, in Wau South Municipality, teams recently repaired a broken borehole, which now provides clean, safe water. Before the borehole was repaired, families relied on water trucking, often delivered by donkey carts. The water was frequently unclean and required chlorination before usage. Alternatively, families walked long distances to reach the closest functioning borehole.

Since the borehole has been repaired, access to safe drinking water has become much simpler for families, many of which are overwhelmed by the increasing needs in the area and rising prices in the markets.

To complement borehole repairs, hygiene promoters conduct health and hygiene promotion sessions to share tips on best practices for water and food hygiene, hand-washing and sanitation.



Children fetch clean water from a repaired borehole in Wau South IOM/McLaughlin 2017.



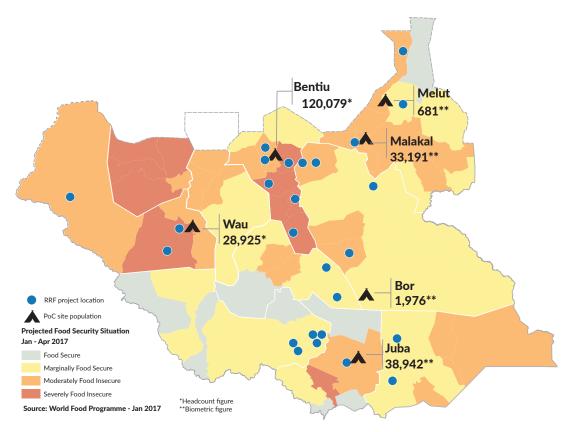
The repaired borehole means less reliance on water transported by donkey IOM/McLaughlin 2013



Hygiene promoters share messages on best practices to keep families healthy. IOM/ McLaughlin 2017.

Rapid Response Fund (RRF)

With funding from the USAID Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance, IOM manages the RRF to support relief agencies across the country to swiftly implement specific emergency interventions. The RRF is currently funding three non-governmental organizations: CARE is providing nutrition support in Bentiu and Rubkona towns; Save the Children is providing nutrition support and hygiene promotion in Lafon; and Afro-Canadian Evangelical Mission is managing a nutrition project in Mundri East and West, where food insecurity remains a key concern for displaced and conflict affected populations.



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Humanitarian Aid





