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IOM Regional Response To The South Sudan Crisis

SITUATION REPORT

EXTERNAL SITREP

22 - 29 September 2014



An IOM medical staff assists a patient after her medical check up in Assosa, Ethiopia. ©IOM 2014 (Photo: Lillian Matama)

OVERVIEW

Since the civil conflict began on 15 December 2013, over 1.35 million people remain displaced in South Sudan (Source: UNOCHA, 26 September). Approximately 455,682 others have fled South Sudan and crossed into neighboring countries Ethiopia (189,343 individuals), Uganda (126,281 individuals), Sudan (96,603 individuals) and Kenya (43,455 individuals). (Source: UNHCR, 26 September)

Security in **South Sudan** remains tense with sporadic incidents of fighting reported in Jonglei, Upper Nile and Unity states. Security in Renk, Upper Nile State is of particular concern as control of the town has changed hands between the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) and Sudan People's Liberation Army-In Opposition (SPLA-IO) more than 20 times. IDPs in the area continue to seek refuge in the Malakal Protection of Civilians (PoC) and new arrivals to the PoC are being reported daily.

Peace talks resumed in Addis Ababa on 22 September. The talks have been on hold since late August when President Salva Kiir and opposition leader Riek Machar signed a ceasefire agreement, the fourth since fighting began.

Adverse weather conditions continue to constrain movement and cause flooding. IDPs residing in Bentiu PoC were once again forced to abandon their shelters in search of higher grounds in the PoC. The floods have been reported to have caused sanitation levels to sharply deteriorate.

HIGHLIGHTS

South Sudan: IOM launches a psychosocial project that aims to enhance the mental health and psychosocial well-being of individuals.

Sudan: 48,484 refugees have been tracked and registered since the beginning of the conflict.

Kenya: IOM continues to transport refugees from Nadapal border point to Kakuma Refugee Camp.

Ethiopia: In this reporting period, IOM commenced the construction of shelters in Kule refugee camp, Gambella to house 39,000 refugees.

In **Kenya**, IOM continues to transport refugees from Nadapal border point to Kakuma refugee camp. IOM provides them with water and high energy bars for the journey. In this reporting period 158 refugees were transported.

As of 26 September, a total of 126,281 South Sudanese refugees had entered **Uganda** (UNOCHA, 26 September). Amongst the total registered population, 64.6% are children and 86.3% are women.

1 During this reporting period, IOM provided transportation assistance to 496 refugees who entered **Ethiopia** from

South Sudan via the Burbiey entry point in Gambella region (365 refugees) and Abrahamu entry point in Benishangul-Gumuz region (131). Since 15 December 2013, 189,343 South Sudanese refugees have crossed Ethiopia. (Source: UNHCR Sitrep, 26 September).

To date, IOM **Sudan** has tracked and registered a total of 48,484 refugees entering the country since the beginning of the conflict. This week, IOM registered 149 refugees arriving in South Kordofan province from South Sudan. This marks the first reported movement from South Sudan into South Kordofan since the first week of August.

IOM RESPONSE

TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE

SOUTH SUDAN: IOM has provided Common Transport Service (CTS), a common humanitarian cargo transportation services in support of the Logistics Cluster, since 2010. During the reporting period, over 250 metric tonnes (MTs) of humanitarian cargo were moved to four locations. Heavy rains throughout the country continue to pose significant challenges for the transportation of humanitarian staff and cargo, as the road conditions continue to worsen and runway conditions remain poor.

ETHIOPIA: IOM has assisted 172,098 refugees in Gambella and 2,570 in Benishangul Gumuz since the conflict broke out. In the Gambella region, the daily average arrival rate of refugees has dropped to 122 from 310 due to heavy rains. The rains that have led to flooded camps have also stalled IOM's relocation process to Okugu refugee camp. UNHCR and Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA) continue to look for alternative camps that are on higher grounds to accommodate the arriving refugees.

IOM together with other humanitarian actors are maintaining a strong ground presence in Dima, Leitchour, Matar and Nip Nip camps for emergency assistance. Currently, there are 62,809 refugees who need to be relocated from Matar transit centre and Leitchour, Pamdong, Nip Nip, and Pagak refugee camps—because the camps and transit centre are flooded, and have reached their maximum holding capacity. Refugees will be relocated to other camps that will be commissioned soon in the Gambella Region. IOM is still waiting for security clearance and road inspection to start relocation activities to Okugu camp. IOM has already constructed a transit centre on the way to Okugu camp for refugees to rest on the long journey.

CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

SOUTH SUDAN: In support of on-going efforts to mitigate flooding in the Bentiu PoC, IOM is set to provide logistical support to deploy a drainage expert from the Dutch embassy.

EMERGENCY SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEM (NFI)

SOUTH SUDAN: In this reporting period, Crisis Response Plan partners have reached 150,950 households with NFI and 53,210 households with emergency shelter.

ETHIOPIA: In this reporting period, IOM commenced the construction of shelters to house 39,000 refugees in Kule refugee camp, Gambella to protect them from the harsh weather conditions. To date, IOM has constructed 171 shelters; however, construction has slowed down due to heavy rains which have made roads impassable and difficult to transport construction materials.

HEALTH

SOUTH SUDAN: Rain and flooding has elevated the risks of disease across the country, including respiratory, vector- and water-borne and other communicable diseases. Malaria remains a significant health concern countrywide. Health partners noted malaria is on the increase, with the highest incidence reported in Renk and Malakal both in Upper Nile State. Malaria transmission is expected to surge through-out the rest of the rainy season. A total of 3,160 cases have been diagnosed and treated during this reporting period.

PSYCHOSOCIAL

SOUTH SUDAN. In this reporting period, IOM launched a psychosocial project to enhance the mental health and psychosocial well-being of the conflict affected populations living in UNMISS Protection of Civilians sites in South Sudan. This week IOM's psychosocial expert travelled to Bor to start the programme.

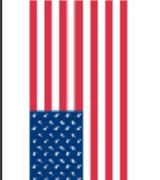
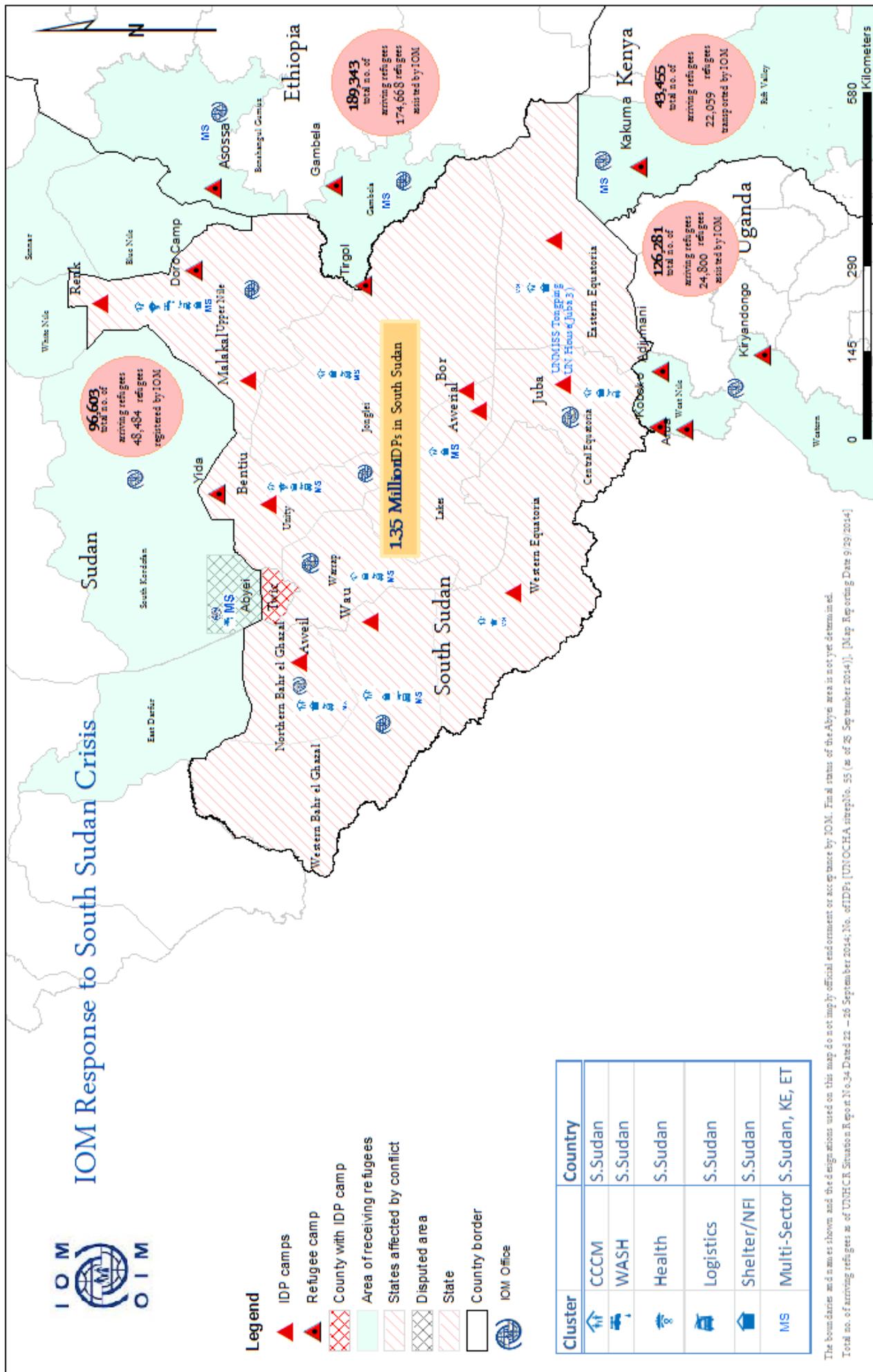
WATER SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

SOUTH SUDAN: As WASH focal point, IOM continues to lead the coordination of WASH response together with the Health Cluster in the state. IOM is also the main WASH actor in the UNMISS PoCs in Malakal and Melut collaborating with partners to ensure that IDPs have access to safe water, and sufficient sanitation facilities to have good hygiene practices.

During this reporting period, 34 hygiene promoters were trained on HIV/AIDS prevention in Malakal PoC. This training will be incorporated into regular hygiene promotion activities. Door-to-door hygiene awareness activities reached 623 households this reporting period in Malakal PoC. IDPs were also informed about waste management and personal hygiene in new PoC.

At Doro camp, IOM continues to meet the needs of the camp's refugee population. All key water, sanitation and hygiene indicators are currently above the minimum standards. However, there is a need to maintain these standards to prevent the outbreak and spread of waterborne diseases amongst the refugee population and surrounding host communities.

UGANDA: To date, IOM has supported 3,800 households with household level WASH sensitization and latrine construction in Adjumani district.



For more information on IOM's Response in South Sudan, see <http://southsudan.iom.int/crisis/>

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