Cooperative Approaches to Return Management

SUDAN RETURNS OPERATIONS
Operational Context

- Conflict resulted in more than 4 million IDPs and over 500,000 refugees in 7 neighboring countries and beyond

- The Nivesha Peace Process resulted in the signing of the CPA in January 2005

- Within the context of International support to the CPA, repatriation program launched in December 2005
FRAMEWORK for Inter-agency COOPERATION on Returns

- The Joint Humanitarian Aid Commission and Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission Policy Framework for the return of displaced persons in post-conflict Sudan 2004

- UNMIS Mandate – RRR coordination role (Security Council Resolution 1590)

- United Nations Return and Reintegration Policy for Southern Sudan and the Three Areas, October 2006 (UN Internal document)

- UNHCR and Agency specific agreements e.g. IOM – UNHCR Annual LOU, UNHCR – WFP Operational Agreements

Ground coordination, including with Authorities:

- Policy Committee on returns

- Steering Committee on returns

- State-level Return Working Groups (regular interaction fora)
### All Returns (IDPs and Refugees) 2004 - 2007

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total 3 Protocol / Transition Areas</strong></td>
<td>383,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(South Kordofan, Abyei &amp; Blue Nile States)</em></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total South Sudan</strong></td>
<td>1,614,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GRAND TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>1,999,700</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: UNMIS RRR
Cumulative Refugee return Totals (2005 till date):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Organized and Assisted Self-Repatriation</td>
<td>114,283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total including Spontaneous Repatriation</td>
<td>280,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Organized Refugee Yearly returns to South Sudan and Blue Nile State

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>As of March 2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20,996</td>
<td>45,795</td>
<td>over 40,000</td>
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</table>
Mobilization of Air and Road Transport Assets

Organization of cargo & passenger movement

Pre-departure Medical Screening
UNHCR & IOM FACILITATING AIR RETURNS FROM:

Ethiopia
1,248 persons

Democratic Republic of Congo
470 persons
(Returns Completed in August 2007)

Kenya
4,878 persons

Central African Republic
5,154 persons
(Returns Completed in April 2007)
15,000 refugees returned from Ethiopia to South Sudan and BNS

15 Hino Trucks donated by the SSRRC to facilitate repatriation of refugees to South Sudan
ONWARD TRANSPORT

Where UNHCR has no presence, IOM assists UNHCR with onward transport to final destinations

Refugees dancing on arrival in Yambio, Western Equatoria in 2006
## Areas for Inter-Agency Collaboration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Partners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National policy development and operations planning for return and reintegration of refugees &amp; IDPs</td>
<td>Government (GNU &amp; GoSS), UN and Other Partners.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation (Road and Air)</td>
<td>IOM, BMZ/GTZ, UNHCR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food and non-food-items</td>
<td>WFP, UNHCR, UNJLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livelihood (agricultural – seeds and plants)</td>
<td>FAO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mine awareness / road clearance</td>
<td>MAG, UNMAO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic infrastructure development and Community Based Rehabilitation Projects (CBRPs) – <em>schools, health centers, Teacher’s Training Institute, water and sanitation</em></td>
<td>JICA, UNICEF, BMGF, CIDA, SIDA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training of police and material support to judiciary</td>
<td>UNDP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family tracing and reunification</td>
<td>ICRC, UNHCR, UNICEF</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WATER PROJECTS
Bore-hole constructed through Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Bore-hole in Kuda village, South Sudan
Key Achievements

- 280,000 refugees have returned in safety and dignity to date (organized, assisted self-repatriation and spontaneous returns)

- Closure of CAR & DRC refugee operations in April and August 2007

- Closure of Yarenja camp in Ethiopia in December 2007

- Continued series of Tripartite Meetings with main asylum countries

- Enhanced involvement of agencies, donors and development actors in reintegration efforts to facilitate community based rehabilitation projects and other sustainable reintegration efforts
Key Achievements (cont..)

- 51 Health facilities established in areas of return
- 56 Education facilities
- 43 Sanitation facilities
- 254 Water facilities
- Medical supplies delivered to four hospitals, including 5 ambulances
- 3 National NGOs working with UNHCR
- Regular returning monitoring conducted
- Over 600 Village assessment forms entered into database and shared with countries of asylum
SUCCESS factors

- Good working relationship and close coordination between UNHCR, GoSS, IOM and other interlocutors to repatriate refugees in safety and dignity
- Participation of IOM in Tripartite Commission Meetings with countries of asylum and Sudan
- Cost-sharing between IOM and UNHCR (50 – 50 basis)
- Clear and shared humanitarian vision between agencies
- Commitment towards sustainable reintegration
CHALLENGES

- Continued limited capacity of GoSS and NGOs
- Funding shortfalls
- Logistical constraints and difficulties to reach remote villages and often impassable areas
- Mines and Security (LRA factor, CPA implementation, localized tensions)
- Absorption capacity in areas of return (land disputes, inadequate basic services)
- Transition from humanitarian assistance to development
Difficult and impassable road conditions
Collapsed bridge hinders repatriation through the Ethiopian corridor (Pagak bridge)
Demining efforts and Mine Awareness campaigns continue
Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

- UNHCR is part of the joint efforts of HAC, SSRC, UN and IOM on Framework for voluntary organised IDP returns.

- UNHCR way stations in South Sudan available for IOM organised IDP returnee movements.

- In 2007 joint organised movement of 2,900 IDPs returning within Blue Nile State.

- Early reintegration support has a community approach in which refugees, IDPs and communities are benefiting together.

- Participation and dialogue in inter-agency coordination fora (Protection and Return Working Groups)
TOTAL NUMBER OF PLANNED REFUGEE RETURNS FROM EGYPT, ETHIOPIA, KENYA AND UGANDA IN 2008

Total number of planned refugee returns from Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda in 2008:

80,000 Total

2,000 Egypt

16,000 Ethiopia

17,000 Kenya

45,000 Uganda

Return Targets Asylum Country
WAY FORWARD

- Continue to strengthen and advocate for multilevel cooperation and coordination between UN agencies, NGOs, Government, Donors, Private Sector and Local Organizations

- Advocate for aligned, reliable and secure donor funding

- Implementation of Protection and other support programs to create conditions that support and augment sustainable returns

- Enhanced capacity building with:
  - National and State authorities in Sudan
  - Civil society, returnees and communities
Sustainable Reintegration: The Shared Vision
THANK YOU

Inter-Agency Collaboration and Coordination