



A team of vaccinators returning on a speed boat after conducting an outreach on an island across Lakes Shambe. Photo: WHO

South Sudan

Emergency type: Humanitarian Crisis in South Sudan



7 MILLION
NEED
HUMANITARIAN
ASSISTANCE



1.96 MILLION
INTERNALLY DISPLACED
WITH **0.2 MILLION** IN
PROTECTION OF CIVILIAN
SITES



2.47 MILLION
SOUTH
SUDANESE
REFUGEES IN
NEIGHBOURING
COUNTRIES

HIGHLIGHTS

WHO FUNDING REQUIREMENTS 2018



3.9M FUNDED
16.9M REQUESTED (UNDER 2018 HRP)

MALNUTRITION

261 424 CHILDREN ESTIMATED TO BE SEVERELY MALNOURISHED

57 FUNCTIONING STABILIZATION CENTERS ACROSS COUNTRY

CUMULATIVE VACCINATION FOR 2018



933 541 OCV DOSES DEPLOYED IN 2018
1 996 655 # OF CHILDREN (6-59mths) VACCINATED AGAINST MEASLES
1 872 971 # OF PERSONS VACCINATED AGAINST MENINGITIS

HEPATITIS E



169 TOTAL SUSPECTED CASES (18 CONFIRMED)

- The vaccination exercise against Ebola, is ongoing in Yambio and Yei and as of 8 February a total of 459 healthcare and frontline workers had taken the vaccination as a preventative measure.
- WHO conducted a training on “Psychosocial support to mothers, caretakers and children in stabilization centers”. 14 participants drawn from 11 partners organizations were trained on early childhood development and psychosocial support to mothers.
- Measles is currently the most frequent alert that constitutes 45 (42%) of alerts in 2019. Since the beginning of 2019, four (4) measles outbreaks have been confirmed in Abyei, Juba, Pibor, and Gogrial West counties. Reactive response ongoing in the different locations.
- An estimated 1,300 IDPs, mainly women and children, have been displaced to Camboni primary school in Yirol town from Rumbek North.

Overview of the Humanitarian crisis

- About 1.5 million people live in areas facing high levels of access constraints – places where armed hostilities, violence against aid workers and assets, and other access impediments render humanitarian activities severely restricted, or in some cases impossible. More than 500 aid workers were relocated due to insecurity, disrupting the provision of lifesaving assistance and protection services to people in need for prolonged periods. Communities' inability to access lifesaving support risks pushing women, men and children deeper into crisis. Many of the hardest to reach areas in Unity, Upper Nile and Western Bahr el Ghazal have alarming rates of food insecurity, malnutrition, and sexual and gender-based violence.
- Over 80 per cent of the population lives below the absolute poverty line and half the population will be severely food insecure between January and March 2019.

Event Description/ Situation update

Revenge attacks:

- An estimated 1,300 IDPs, mainly women and children, have been displaced to Camboni primary school in Yirol town from Rumbek North. The state authorities are appealing to humanitarian organizations to support, transport and provide fuel to facilitate the IDPs' return to their places of origin. The school authorities are exerting pressure and have given seven days to the state authorities to move the IDPs from the classrooms as schools have reopened. Partners are supporting the people and discussing with the authorities to find a solution.
- On 30 January, there was an armed revenge attack related to cattle rustling by youth from Pagarou. The armed youth were reported to have looted and destroyed civilian properties in Jier and Mameer IDP camps.

Intercommunal fighting:

- In Warrap state, an estimated 27,000 people were displaced due to the inter-communal fighting from 14 to 19 January. Reportedly, the cattle-related inter-communal attacks targeted several cattle camps in Laucjang North, Luacjang South, Luacjang Center, Luacjang East, Marial-Lou and Toch, all in Tonj State, which resulted in at least 146 people dead and 60 others injured. The RRC Director in Kuajok reported that the displaced people are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. Humanitarian partners are following up on the report.

Fire outbreak in Bentiu PoC site

- On 5 February, a fire gutted 95 per cent of sector 5 block 8 of Bentiu PoC site. UNDSS and UNMISS Formed Police Unit teams managed to contain the fire. A three-year-old child was burnt in one of the shelters. An emergency shelter response was carried out and an emergency meeting is scheduled to plan for the way forward.

Children released from armed groups

- According to the UNICEF press release on 12 February, 2019, one hundred and nineteen children were released by an armed group in South Sudan Tuesday 5 February, in the south-west town of Yambio. This brings the total number of children freed since the conflict began in 2016 to more than 3,100. Forty-eight girls were among the group, with the youngest child being 10-years-old.

Epidemiological Update

- In epidemiological week 5 of 2019, completeness and timeliness for Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR) reporting at county level was 46% while EWARN reporting from the Internally Displaced Population (IDP) sites was 83%. The rollout of mobile EWARS reporting to all the health facilities in South Sudan is currently underway to improve the timeliness and accuracy of reporting, verification, investigation, and prompt response to IDSR alerts including measles.
- A total of 14 alerts were reported in week 5. The teams verified 71% of the alerts, and 7% required a response.

- Measles is currently the most frequent alert that constitutes 45 (42%) of alerts in 2019. In 2018 measles was the second most frequent alert and constituted 165 (21%) of total alerts. A total of nine (9) measles outbreaks were confirmed in Bentiu PoC, Yirol West, Rumbek Center, Wau PoCAA, Aweil Center, Cuebiet, Aweil East, Rumbek East, and Bor PoC in 2018. Since the beginning of 2019, four (4) measles outbreaks have been confirmed in Abyei, Juba, Pibor, and Gogrial West counties.
- A suspected case of Ebola was reported from the Military Hospital on 9 February, 2019. The case was investigated and blood samples collected which tested negative on preliminary testing. A confirmatory test result is being awaited from UVRI laboratory in Entebbe, Uganda.
- Ongoing outbreaks as of week 5 include: Rubella in Malakal PoC and Aweil Center; Yellow Fever in Nzara county; Measles Abyei, Bentiu PoC, Juba, Pibor and Gogrial West; and Hepatitis E Virus in Bentiu PoC.
- In week 5 of 2019, malaria continues to be the leading cause of illness and death accounting for 45% of all illnesses and 38% of all deaths. At least 6 counties in two state hubs have malaria trends that are significantly higher than the expected levels.
- For more information on Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR) please click on this link: <http://www.afro.who.int/publications/south-sudan-weekly-disease-surveillance-bulletin>.

WHO Public Health response

Ebola Virus Disease preparedness and response:

- The vaccination exercise against Ebola, for frontline and healthcare workers in Yei River State was launched on 4 February with 12 HCWs vaccinated within the first 3 hours. As of 8 February, a total of 459 healthcare and frontline workers have been vaccinated in Yambio and Yei as a preventative measure. Plans are underway to roll out the exercise in the other high-risk areas.



Launching of the Ebola vaccination in Yei River State

- The national level Ebola task force continues to hold weekly meetings with the last one held on 7 February 2019 at the National Public Health Emergency Operations Center in Juba. State level Task Force meetings also were held and updates from Yei, Yambio, Jubek, Nimule and Maridi shared with the NTF.
- Screening of travelers entering South Sudan from 19 operational screening post continues with support from different partners including WHO, IOM, SCI, WVISS and CAUMM. In week 05 of 2019, 12,814 individuals were screened at the various screening points in the country. IOM, WVISS CUAMM are fast-tracking the operationalization of new extra points of entry.
- For more information on the weekly Ebola Virus Disease preparedness update access the report on this link: <https://bit.ly/2Lwkj5p>.

Nutrition

- The total number of admissions in Stabilization Centers in 2018 was 8,303 children under five with SAM and medical complications. The performance of stabilization centers in 2019 is: 91% cure rate; 5% death rate; 3% default rate; and 1% not recovered. WHO aims at reducing mortality and morbidity associated with acute malnutrition, by providing stabilization centers with essential medical supplies (over 300 treatments distributed in the first month of 2019), and implementing integrated WASH/Nutrition /Health approach in stabilization centers.
- On 7 February, 2019, WHO conducted a training on “Psychosocial support to mothers, caretakers and children in stabilization centers”. 14 participants drawn from 11 partners organizations were trained on early childhood development and psychosocial support to mothers. WHO will distribute early childhood kits in 10 targeted facilities in priority locations across the country.

Immunization:

- In the past five weeks, a total of 34 suspected measles cases, including three deaths, were reported in Amarat, Kator, Munuki and Rejaf payams in Juba city. All the deaths are among children under 5. Plans are underway to conduct a reactive measles vaccination targeting children aged 6-59 months in all payams and IDP sites in Juba from 11 February.
- The Inter coordination committee for EPI activities endorsed the Gavi Fragility, Emergencies, Refugees policy for the country and the proposal has been submitted to Gavi. It is expected that when approved by Gavi the funds received will boost immunization coverage in the country.
- WHO supported the bi-weekly EPI technical working group, with the dates of the Polio campaign finalized to occur 12-16 March 2019 targeting 2,293,006 2 under 5 children.
- A total number of 10 Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) cases have been reported in 2019 from 5 states.
- Environmental surveillance sampling for poliovirus circulation was conducted in 3 sites in week 6 from Jubek state. The results are awaited.

Prepositioning of supplies

- During the reporting week, 11 kits (4 IEHK supplementary Malaria, 4 IEHK basic unit without Malaria AM/MC kits) were released to three humanitarian response partners. This will allow the partners to provide emergency health service to an estimated 4000 population, manage sever malaria cases and treat 100 children from medical complication associated with malnutrition for three months period.

Updates from the States:

- A reactive measles campaign was conducted from 6 - 8 February, 2018 following 3 confirmed measles cases in Bor PoC, Jonglei. The campaign targeted about 433 children 6-59 months old, 540 children were vaccinated during this activity achieving a coverage of 125%. (The population in PoC is very mobile). Other areas conducting reactive measles vaccination include Juba and Gagrial West.
- In Torit, a TOT supported by WHO was conducted for 17 health workers in preparation for the roll out of EWARS in Health facilities in the state.



Dr Wani, WHO State Coordination Jonglei Hub supervising the measles vaccination campaign

- To strengthen preparedness in South Sudan, WHO and State Ministry of Health in Bentiu trained a Rapid Response Team comprising of 24 participants mainly epidemiologist, clinicians, psychosocial, Laboratory, social mobilisers drawn from Koch, Guit, Mayom and Rubkona counties.
- WHO EPI team in Malakal carried out supportive supervision to Rom PHCC, Akoka county, and provided technical on the job training to address some of the gaps identified. The facility is supported by Health link and provide basic health service. Major challenges identified included lack of functional refrigerator, inadequate space for medical consultations, ANC rooms and emergency admission are occupied by medical and pharmaceutical supplies as a result of this the rooms/space is overcrowded and lack of training for staffs working on ANC.
- WHO supported the MoH and SMOH to conduct joint Malaria Supportive Supervision in five Health Facilities, including Rumbek State Hospital, Kiir Mayardit, Cueibet Hospital, Abiriu, Matangai and Malual Bap PHCCs
- WHO supported county Health Department and CUAMM to vaccinate children among newly displaced Persons in Yirol town. A total of 224 children were vaccinated with Measles & OPV.
- WHO in collaboration with SMOH, CUAMM and UNMISS protection forces responded to suspected Measles outbreak in Shambe, Adior Payam, Yirol East County from 5 – 8 February 2019
- WHO in collaboration with SMOH, CUAMM with support from UNMISS protection forces conducted a 2 day Hit and Run Vaccination in Shambe village targeting children under five with all antigens. Total of 302 children from 6 – 59 months received measles vaccines and Vitamin A, 374 received b-OPV, 38 children received pentavalent vaccine, 22 pregnant women received Tetanus Toxoid (TT) vaccine. Solar fridge was installed and all routine vaccines were provided.

Operational gaps and challenges

- The humanitarian operations continue to persistently be hampered by insecurity limiting access, poor road network, floods, and bureaucracy at all levels.

Resource mobilization

Financial Information:

- The total recorded contributions for WHO emergency operations amounts to US\$ 3.9 million* for the financial year 2018 as of 10 February, 2019.
- The Ebola Preparedness plan for WHO has received \$2.9million (Core funds, CFE, DFID, Canada, Germany).
- WHO is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to WHO programmes with un-earmarked and broadly earmarked funds. Concerted efforts to mobilize additional resources to address the finding gap are ongoing.

FUNDING STATUS OF APPEALS US\$				
	NAME OF THE APPEAL	REQUIRED FUNDS	FUNDED	% FUNDED
WHO	Humanitarian Response Plan	\$ 16.9 million	\$ 3.9 million	23%
	Ebola Preparedness	\$ 5.5 million	\$ 2.9 million	53%

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