



World Health Organization

Humanitarian Situation Report Issue # 9

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Vaccinators being trained by the WHO technical officer ready for the upcoming reactive measles vaccination campaign in Mayom county. Photo: WHO

South Sudan

Emergency type: Humanitarian Crisis in South Sudan



7.1 MILLION
NEED
HUMANITARIAN
ASSISTANCE



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



2.27 MILLION
SOUTH
SUDANESE
REFUGEES IN
NEIGHBOURING
COUNTRIES

WHO FUNDING REQUIREMENTS- 2019



1.7 M FUNDED
23.4M REQUESTED (UNDER 2019 HRP)

ACUTE MALNUTRITION -2019

860 000 CHILDREN 6-59 MONTHS
(260 000 SAM, 600 000 MAM)
ESTIMATED TO BE ACUTELY
MALNOURISHED IN NEED OF
TREATMENT

57 FUNCTIONING STABILIZATION
CENTERS ACROSS COUNTRY

CUMULATIVE VACCINATION - 2019



3 980 ORAL POLIO VACCINATION
20 501* # OF CHILDREN (6-59mths)
VACCINATED AGAINST MEASLES
*DATA INCOMPLETE
7 783 # OF PERSONS VACCINATED
AGAINST MENINGITIS
1138 EBOLA VACCINATION

PUBLIC HEALTH THREAT - 2019



20 TOTAL CASES HEPATITIS E
06 EVD ALERTS
00 CONFIRMED EVD CASES

HIGHLIGHTS

- South Sudan is faced with a shortage of emergency measles vaccines required to respond to the current and projected measles outbreaks. At least five measles outbreaks have been confirmed in 2019. An estimated 1.5million doses of measles vaccine will be required to support emergency response activities in 2019.
- The two alerts of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) suspected cases that were reported from Yambio between 25-26 February 2019 tested negative. The two samples also tested negative for Marburg, CCHF and RVF on PCR. Active surveillance continues.
- At least 17 measles cases with no deaths have been reported in Mayom county with nearly 90% of the cases aged less than 5 years and originating from Pup and Mankien Payams. A reactive vaccination campaign is underway.
- An increase in the diarrheal cases has been registered in Kuerdeang with a cumulative total of 290 Acute Watery Diarrhoea and Acute Bloody Diarrhoea cases including two deaths among adults reported since week 4, of 2019. A response is underway.

- In 2018, a total of 760 humanitarian access incidents were reported. Over half (52 per cent) involved violence against humanitarian personnel and assets. Nearly three quarters (73 per cent) of all incidents occurred in Unity (23 per cent), Central Equatoria (20 per cent), Jonglei (18 per cent) and Upper Nile (13 per cent). Forty-three per cent of the incidents were attributed to State security and civilian authorities, while criminals or unknown perpetrators were responsible for a further 39 per cent. International NGOs experienced nearly half (48 per cent) of all incidents.
- In 2018, the conflict in South Sudan continued to destroy homes, disrupt lives and ruin livelihoods. Fifteen aid workers were killed in 13 incidents, over 575 were relocated in 28 incidents, and at least 117 were detained for prolonged periods in 21 incidents. Attacks on aid workers and assets and insecurity affecting operations accounted for 61 per cent of all incidents. These involved killing and assault of aid workers; harassment and detention; robbery and ambush; conflict forcing the relocation of staff and suspension of operations; looting; and confiscation of assets. The majority occurred in Unity (25 per cent) and Central Equatoria (20 per cent). Criminals or unknown perpetrators were responsible for all of these incidents. Local NGOs were disproportionately affected (40 per cent), followed by the UN (33 per cent) and INGOs (27 per cent).
- Humanitarian organizations delivered assistance and protection to more than 5.3 million people. The 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan was 68 per cent funded, with US\$1.17 billion received.

Acute shortage of measles vaccines to support emergency response

- South Sudan is faced with an acute shortage of emergency measles vaccines required to respond to the current and projected measles outbreaks. At least five measles outbreaks have been confirmed in 2019. Moreover, as the situation slowly returns to normality, there increasing numbers of returnee populations that require measles vaccination as part of the initial service package of health services,
- Since the last countrywide measles follow up campaign was implemented from May 2017, the next countrywide follow up measles campaign is due this year and will be undertaken from October, at the onset of the dry season. Measles outbreaks will therefore continue to be reported until this campaign is initiated later on in the year. Given the current transmission rates and the need to meet the emergency needs for returnee populations its estimated that at least 1.5 million doses of will be required to support emergency response activities in 2019.

Humanitarian WASH services suspended

- On 19 February, 2019, it was reported that funding for WASH activities in Mangateen expired leaving about 5,000 individuals who have been dependent on humanitarian assistance without access to WASH services with potential disease outbreak if a solution is not found soon. While efforts are ongoing to respond to immediate WASH needs in Mangateen, concerned humanitarian organizations are also exploring realistic options for a more sustainable/long-term solution including local integration of Mangateen IDPs with local community.

Emergency Call Center opened

- In Wau town, Western Bahr el Ghazal an emergency call centre was opened by the Minister of Interior, Inspector General of Police, Country Director of UNDP and State government officials led by the Deputy/Acting Governor. IDPs from the PoC site and other IDP settlements have continued to face threats of criminal activities and armed attacks on their homes at night. The call centre, equipped with vehicles and motorbikes, will facilitate the movement of security personnel to respond in real time to crime and other emergencies in the community.

Fighting and insecurity

- On 23 February 2019, partners reported fighting between in Thaker of Mayendit North following the arrest of a local chief from SPLA-iO controlled area in Mirnyal by the County Commissioner of Thaker in the Government controlled areas. Around 3 people were reported killed. Partners were temporarily relocated to Dabluab. The timely intervention of UNMISS in Leer resulted into the release of the chief and the situation is reported to have returned to normal.

Increased number of returnees

- According to the operational partners in Magwi, Eastern Equatoria, the returnees from neighbouring countries are struggling to reintegrate, with access to food reported as a key gap. However, other essential services, such as WASH and health, are available as the respective organizations are scaling-up the repair of water points and resupplying health facilities with drugs.

Epidemiological Update

- In epidemiological week 8 of 2019, completeness and timeliness for Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR) reporting at county level was 63% while EWARD reporting from the Internally Displaced Population (IDP) sites was 82%.
- A total of 25 alerts were reported in week 8. The teams verified 79% of the alerts, and 4% required a response.
- In epidemiological week 8 of 2019, Measles, bloody, Acute Watery Diarrhoea and Malaria were the three most frequently reported infectious diseases.
- Two alerts of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) suspected cases were reported from Yambio on 25 and 26 February, 2019. The two cases were both Congolese, (an 18-year-old girl and a male child aged 1 year and 6 months old respectively). The State Rapid Response Team (RRT) investigated, collected blood samples, listed all contacts, and advised the community on the preventive measures. The GeneXpert and Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) laboratory test results for all the two suspected cases were negative for Ebola. The two samples also tested negative for Marburg, CCHF and RVF on PCR.
- A total of 20 suspected HEV cases have been reported in Bentiu PoC since the beginning of 2019. Two (2) new cases reported in week 8.
- A cumulative total of 290 Acute Watery Diarrhoea and Acute Bloody Diarrhoea cases including two deaths among adults have been reported from Kuerdeng since week 4, of 2019. An initial attempt by a multidisciplinary team led by MoH to travel to Fangak to conduct an investigation and provide the initial response was cancelled last minute following technical challenges by UNHAS to land in Kuerdeng. An alternative plan to deliver supplies to the facilities and transport samples back for laboratory testing is underway.
- Malaria continues to be the leading cause of morbidity and mortality accounting for 48% of all morbidities and 22% of all mortalities in week 08, 2019. The trend analyses showed at least 5 counties in three state hubs having malaria trends that are significantly higher than the expected levels. Counties with malaria trends that exceeded the threshold (third quartile of trends for the period 2013-2017) include: Kwajok hub (Twic, Tonj South, Tonj East), Aweil hub (Aweil East) and Rumbek hub (Rumbek East).
- 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>.

Ebola Virus Disease preparedness and response:

- Ebola vaccination exercise: As of 3 March, 2019, a total of 1,138 healthcare and frontline workers have been vaccinated. These include Yambio and Nzara counties in Gbudue state, and Yei township in Yei River state. New locations in the coming week include Ezo County, Tambura State, and Morobo County.
- The national level Ebola task force continues to hold weekly meetings with the last one held on 28 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 National Task Force.
- Screening of travelers entering South Sudan continues in 23 screening sites with support from different partners including WHO, IOM, SCI, WVISS, CORAID, World Vision and CUAMM. In week 8 of 2019, a total of 59,853 individuals were screened at the various screening points in the country.
- The Joint monitoring mission for Ebola preparedness assessment is scheduled for 4 to 8 March 2019 with the objective of assessing the progress made towards enhancing Ebola virus disease operational readiness in South Sudan. The assessment mission team comprises of experts from WHO-HQ, WHO-AFRO, DFID, USAID, OCHA, UNDP, WFP, and UNICEF.
- For more information on the weekly Ebola Virus Disease preparedness update access the report on this link: <https://bit.ly/2Lwkj5p>.

Immunization

- On Monday 6 March 2019, the Ministry of Health of South Sudan with support from the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF, the UN's Children Fund, with partners will kick off a measles vaccination campaign targeting 37,193 children between the ages of 6 months and 5 years in Mayom county, South Sudan. A measles outbreak was recently confirmed in Mayom, Unity, with the first case reported in late January, 2019. The nine-day campaign, will target children in 10 Bomas, namely Kuerbona, Mankien, Riak, Ruathnyibol, Kueryiek, Ngop, Pub, Bieh, Wangbour and Wangkei. Similar campaigns are due to start on 4 March 2019 in Pibor County and on 6 March 2019 in Gogrial West County.



*Measles vaccines, deep freezers and other supplies
being received in Mayom*

Emergency supplies and Logistics

- To improve management of emergency kits, WHO conducted the second round of Core Pipeline Kits training in Juba for 31 participants drawn from various partners. This is aimed at improving the management of emergency kits.

- WHO continues to provide life-saving emergency health kits to implementing partners to support the humanitarian response. During the reporting week, WHO hub office in Bentiu supplied UNIDOR in Mayendit with 2 IEHK Basic kit without antimalarial, 1 complete kit of IEHK Supplementary Malaria module and 2 cholera investigation kits which will enable provision of basic emergency health service to 4000 population for estimated period of 3 months, serve an estimated population of 10,000 with drugs to treat severe malaria and investigate 200 suspected cholera cases respectively.

Updates from the States

- Biosafety training was conducted in Yei from 21 and 23 February 2019 for 16 laboratory technicians drawn from the state's various counties.
- Health Cluster comprising of representatives from WHO, SMOH, CUAMM & IRC conducted an Interagency Rapid Needs Assessment in Maper town from 26 – 27 February 2019 to establish the health needs of the returnees settled in Makuac, Aloor Payam, and Rumbek North County. The assessment found the unverified estimated total of 50,275 individuals in 10,055 households (Acting Payam Administrator update) were in need of different package of health intervention. Plans are underway by various partners to address the gaps identified.
- WHO supported the Lakes State Ministry of Health technically and financially to train 15 TOT participants on EWARS Mobile Reporting rolling out at the state level from 1 – 2 March, 2019. County Trainers were equipped with knowledge and skill to further conduct EWARS Mobile Reporting Rolling out training at the health facility level. It is envisaged that through the EWARS Mobile Reporting Roll out, IDRS data collection and alert management using mobile phones will be decentralized further down to health facility level.



EWARs training in Lakes State

- In Malakal, WHO in collaboration with UNFPA reactivated the reproductive Health sub cluster meetings and held a one-day session on importance of monitoring and strengthening maternal death surveillance system at all functional Health facilities, this will establish epidemiological references of causes maternal deaths and therefore initiating suitable prevention methods to control maternal mortality in Upper Nile State.
- The Ministry of Health, Unity State Ministry of Health with support from WHO and UNICEF have planned a reactive measles campaign in Mayom from 4 – 12 March, the campaign in other parts will involve five other implementing partners: IOM, ARC, MSF, Nile hope social mobilization and CARE for nutrition.

- There were alerts of suspected Cholera cases reported in Kiirdam, Aweil North where 3 deaths were reported. The response team comprising of representatives from SMOH Lol, Community Health Department and IP (HNTPO) visited the area to verify the case on 25 February 2019 but did not find active patients with diarrhoea. The team recommended that a qualified nurse be deployed to the nearby PHCU to monitor the situation and to collect samples if more patients are reported; Intensify health education on hygiene and sanitation, and Lobby WASH cluster to support clean water for the population.



Case management training in Nimule

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.
- There is a reported shortage of measles vaccines for emergency campaigns in the country.

Resource mobilization

Financial Information:

- The total recorded contributions for WHO emergency operations as of 3 March, 2019 amounts to US\$ 1.7 million*(ECHO, SSHF) for the 2019 financial year with a funding gap of 22 million.
- The Ebola Preparedness plan for WHO has received \$4.6 million (WHO Core, WHO/CFE, DFID, Canada, Germany, CERF).
- 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 funding gap are ongoing.

FUNDING STATUS OF APPEALS US\$

	NAME OF THE APPEAL	REQUIRED FUNDS	FUNDED	% FUNDED
WHO	Humanitarian Response Plan (WHO)	\$ 23.4 million	\$ 1.7 million	7.3%
	Ebola Preparedness	\$ 5.5 million	\$ 4.6 million	84%

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