

## KEY FIGURES

<b>7.5M</b> People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance	<b>2.24M</b> South Sudanese Refugees
<b>1.67M</b> Internally Displaced	<b>1.4M</b> Malnourished Children
<b>188K</b> Persons living in PoC <sup>1</sup>	<b>483K</b> Malnourished Women
<b>73</b> Stabilization Centers	<b>5.82M</b> Severely Food Insecure
<b>121 066 (20%)</b>	Children under one year vaccinated with oral polio vaccine
<b>962 158</b>	Initial numbers of children vaccinated against measles
<b>10</b>	Counties with confirmed measles outbreaks in 2020
<b>1</b>	PoC <sup>1</sup> s sites with confirmed measles outbreaks in 2020
<b>00</b>	Counties with malaria cases surpassing their set thresholds

## COVID-19

<b>3612</b> confirmed cases	<b>63</b> deaths	<b>78156</b> Tests performed	<b>3158</b> recoveries
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## FLOODS

<b>1,034,000</b> people affected	<b>485,000</b> Displaced	<b>4</b> Deaths
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## HIGHLIGHTS

- A cumulative total of 3 612 COVID-19 confirmed cases and 63 deaths (case fatality rate of 1.7%) have been reported in the country as of 6 January 2021.
- An immediate scale-up of multi-sectoral humanitarian assistance has been recommended to save lives and avert total collapse of livelihoods in the severely food insecure (IPC Phase 5) populations in Aweil South, Tonj North, Tonj East, Tonj South, Pibor and Akobo.
- To prevent flood affected communities from cholera, over 63 000 (88% coverage) individuals aged one year and above vaccinated against cholera in Bor South County of Jonglei state during the first round of the campaign that ended on 20 December 2020. The second round of the campaign will begin on 10 January 2021.
- Out of 22 samples collected from suspected human cases in Yirol West and Yirol East, 12 samples have tested negative for Rift valley fever, Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever, Ebola virus, and Marburg. Results for the other samples are pending.



WHO handed over the renovated buildings in Juba Teaching Hospital to the Deputy Director of the Hospital. Photo: WHO

<sup>1</sup> UN Protection of Civilians'

### Overview of the Humanitarian Crisis

- **Food Insecurity in South Sudan in 2021**

The Government of South Sudan, on 18 December 2020, released the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) report which projected that between December 2020 and March 2021, an estimated 5.82 million people (48.3% of the population) will likely face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse acute food insecurity, with 11 000 people likely to be in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) acute food insecurity in Pibor County in Pibor Administrative Area. In the second projection period of April to July 2021, an estimated 7.24 million people (60% of the population) are likely to face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse acute food insecurity with 31 000 people likely to be in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) acute food insecurity in Akobo County (11 000), Aweil South County (7 000), and Tonj North County (13 000). Around 1.4 million children below five years of age, the highest in three years, are expected to be acutely malnourished in 2021. The severe food insecurity is driven and exacerbated by combinations of shocks including insecurity, the effects of COVID-19, persistent poor macroeconomic conditions, and the impact of flooding on livelihoods.

After earlier contentions on the populations in IPC Phase 5 acute food insecurity in Akobo, Aweil South, Tonj East, Tonj North, Tonj South and Pibor counties by the IPC country team, the IPC Global Support Unit and famine review committee (that examined data from Pibor County) has identified the six counties as having populations likely to be in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) acute food insecurity. The report by the famine Review Committee in Pibor has indicated that several payams in Pibor, Lekuagule, Verteth and Gumuruk are likely to face famine in 2021.

An immediate scale-up of multi-sectoral humanitarian assistance has been recommended to save lives and avert total collapse of livelihoods in the affected counties, particularly those with populations in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Further, urgent actions are required for populations in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) to protect livelihoods and reduce food consumption gaps.

The humanitarian country team in South Sudan has since recommended immediate humanitarian response scale in the following counties: Aweil South, Tonj North, Tonj East, Tonj South, Pibor and Akobo, and allocated US 13 million to support life-saving frontline activities and procurement of core pipeline in the counties in IPC Phase 5 acute food insecurity. The health response in the food insecure counties will include provision of the essential primary health services, management of acute malnutrition, equipping of the health facilities with essential commodities including severe acute malnutrition kits, and prevention and response to outbreaks. WHO and partners have already conducted a reactive measles vaccination campaign in Pibor, and readied to commence a pre-emptive oral cholera campaign on 16 January 2021 in Pibor.

- **A standoff between the youth forum in Bentiu and humanitarian partners regarding employment:**

The standoff between the youth forum in Bentiu PoC and the Humanitarian partners over employment-related issues remain unresolved. The youth groups are yet to withdraw a threat letter that they had issued targeting workers from the equatorial region in the country. Owing to this, health and WASH services are not operating to full capacity and food distribution has been delayed as agencies are forced to depend on the workers who are residents of the PoC site.

- **Upsurges in sub-national violence in Tonj North County:** Community leaders have reported rising tensions owing to cattle theft and revenge attacks in Tonj North County. The recent incidents include an attack by armed groups on a commercial vehicle in Awul village and intermittent livestock theft and revenge attacks between the Ajak Leer section and the Kuanythee sections. The rising tension in the county will further deteriorate the humanitarian crisis in Warrap, where 26 000 flood-affected people are food insecure. Humanitarian partners are concerned that delivering emergency food and other essential relief items to the county under the current security situation

### Emergency Response Activities

is unsafe and have called on the state authorities and community leaders to take immediate action to defuse the tension.

- **25 000 people displaced by sub-national violence in Terekeka:** A rapid initial needs assessment (IRNA) conducted on 10 December 2020 in Terekeka has indicated that around 25 000 people, mainly women, children, elderly and disabled persons, were displaced to various centres in the periphery of Juba City. The displaced people are sheltering in primary schools in Gureri centre, Jangeli, and Mauna in Juba County.

### Floods Preparedness and Response Activities in 2020

- The population affected by floods remains at slightly over one million (1 034 000) people across 47 flood-affected counties.
- Cholera preparedness and readiness along with improvement of quality of drinking water, sanitation and hygiene condition, and risk communication have been stepped up as a component of flood response. Given the congestion of flood-displaced populations in high ground areas and heavy contamination of the safe water sources, pre-emptive oral cholera vaccination campaigns were planned for Bor and Pibor targeting individuals aged one year and above.
- The oral cholera campaign is underway in Bor where over 63 000 (88% coverage) people were vaccinated out of the targeted 71 852 people during the first round of the campaign that ended on 20 December 2020. The second round of the campaign will begin on 10 January 2021 to ensure that every beneficiary receives two doses of the vaccine for better and sustained immunity. In Pibor, the campaign is expected to take off on 16 January 2021 and targets 93 250 people in Pibor, Lekuangule, Verteth and Gumuruk. The internally displaced people residing in Mangala in Central Equatoria will benefit from the campaign as well. An earlier risk assessment done in Mangala recommended a preventive oral cholera campaign owing to the poor WASH conditions and weak existing capacities in WASH and health partners. Additional cholera risk assessments will be carried for at-risk locations on a needs basis.
- Emergency health partners continue providing mobile outreaches and repositioning of essential supplies in efforts to reach the flood-affected populations.
- Depletion of the essential core pipeline across several clusters likely to impede the ongoing humanitarian efforts.

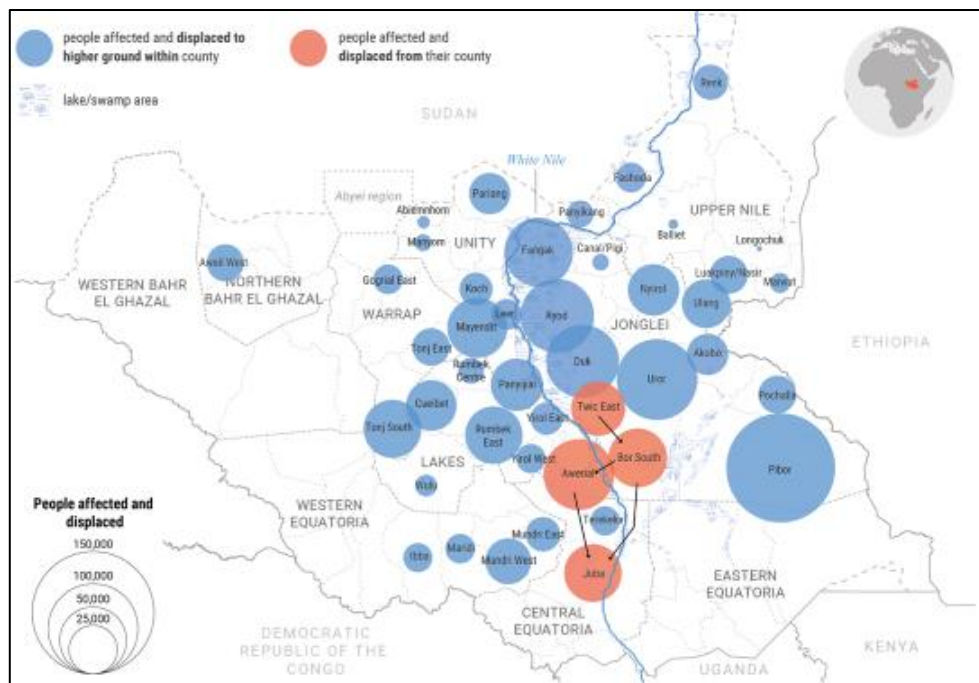


Figure 1: Counties affected floods and infectious disease outbreaks in South Sudan as of 8 December 2020

### Performance of the Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR)

- In week 51, 2020 IDSR reporting completeness and timeliness were both 78% at the health facility level. EWARN reporting completeness and timeliness were both 83%.
- Acute watery diarrhea (29 alerts), malaria (24 alerts), acute respiratory infections (19 alerts), and bloody diarrhea (18 alerts) accounted for the majority of the 95 alerts generated through EWARS in week 51, 2020. 80 percent of the alerts have been verified.

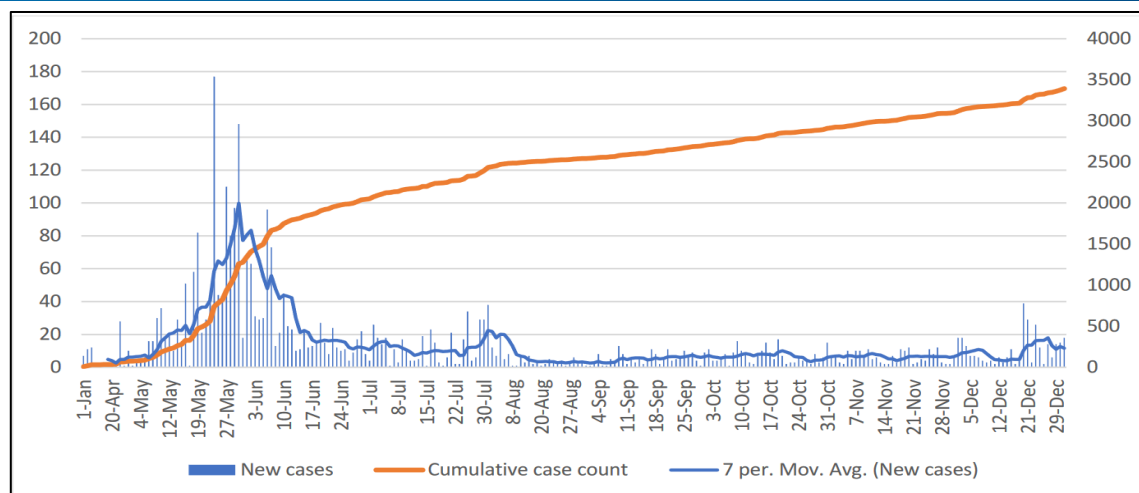
### Confirmed and suspected Outbreaks

#### Polio Virus Outbreak

- The country confirmed a circulating Vaccine Derived Polio Virus type 2 (cVDPV2) outbreak on the 18 September 2020. A total of 37 cVDPV2 cases have been confirmed as of the current reporting week.
- The country continues to conduct timely investigation and risk assessment of the outbreak, where the result of risk analysis was used to determine scope and extent of outbreak responses. Two rounds of mOPV2 vaccination campaigns have since been conducted. The first round of campaign was conducted on 10 November 2020 where 1 489 826 (96% coverage) under-five children in 44 counties were vaccinated. The second round was conducted from 8 through 11 December 2020 in 34 counties not covered in the first round where 540 000 (88% coverage) were vaccinated.

#### Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) Outbreak in South Sudan

- A cumulative total of 3 612 confirmed cases, 3 158 recoveries and 63 deaths (case fatality rate (CFR) of 1.7%) have been recorded as of 6 January 2021.
- 141 healthcare workers have been infected with one death since the beginning of the outbreak
- Cumulatively, 78 156 laboratory tests have been performed with a 5% positivity rate.
- There were a cumulative total of 1 732 alerts of which 94% (n=1 627) were verified and 88% (n=1 545) sampled; most of the alerts came from Central Equatorial (75%).
- As of end of the year 2020, 25 (31%) counties out of 80 counties in the 10 states have been affected.



For more information on the COVID-19 outbreak and public health response measures, please refer to the national weekly situation update. <http://moh.gov.ss/covid-19.php>

### Measles Outbreaks in Pibor, Ibba and Wau Counties

- Greater Pibor Administrative Area:** A reactive vaccination campaign has been completed where 22 184 (123% coverage) children were vaccinated. The population movement into the area or difficulties with establishing the estimates for the targeted may have resulted in more children reached than targeted. There are 403 cases as at the end of the reporting period.
- Ibba, Western Equatoria:** A measles campaign will be conducted starting from 14 January 2021 supported by the state ministry, WHO and MSF-Spain. There are a total caseload of 52 cases as per the last line-Isit shared by the state.
- Wau, Western Western Bahr Ghazal:** There are no new suspected or confirmed cases reported during the reporting period. Enhanced surveillance and sample collection from identified suspected cases is advised. A sample has been collected from a suspected case from Yur River and awaiting shipment to Juba for laboratory testing.

### Birds die-offs in Yirol, Lakes

- All the samples collected during a multidisciplinary investigation into bird die-offs in Yirol tested negative for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) virus and Newcastle Disease virus. Tests results for avian coronavirus are still pending. The deaths of wild birds (Great White Egrets) were reported on 19 October 2020 and a joint investigation was conducted from 29 October 2020 through 5 November 2020.

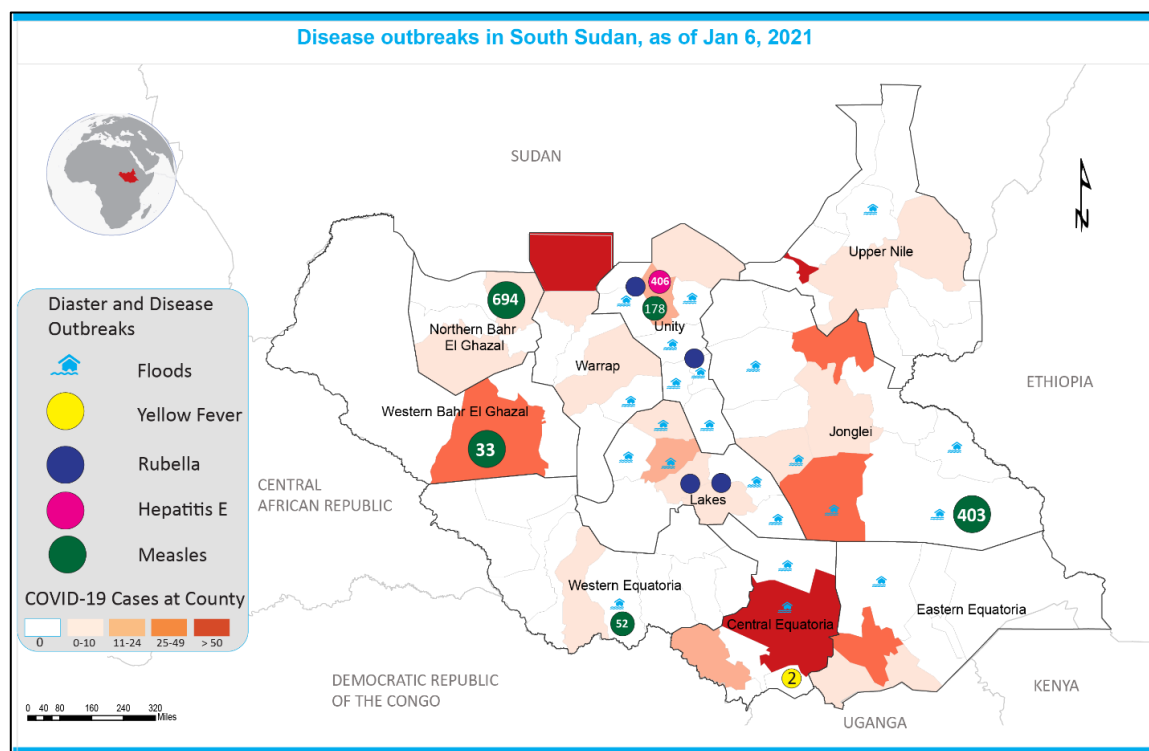
### Suspected Rift Valley Fever (RVF) in Yirol, Lakes

- After some samples from the bird die-offs investigation tested positive for RVF antibodies, a number of multi-disciplinary investigation has been conducted with the aim of assessing for spillover to animals and humans. Follow up investigations were conducted from 3 to 10 December 2020, and from 21 to 24 December 2020.
- 165 samples were collected from cattle and goats and shipped to National Veterinary laboratory in Juba for laboratory testing.
- 22 individuals including two deaths were investigated and managed at the designated health facilities.
- 22 samples were collected from suspected human cases in Yirol East and Yirol West, out of which 12 tested negative for Rift valley fever, Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever, Ebola virus, and Marburg. Results for the other samples are pending.

- Distribution of viral hemorrhagic fever case definition to health facilities, orientation of health workers on VHF cases definition, updating on VHF contingency and response plan, intensification of surveillance and risk communication have been done.
- Identification of the causative agent through laboratory testing required to inform public health response in the affected locations.

### Suspected Hepatitis Disease (HEV) in Agok, Abyei

- A suspected outbreak of acute jaundice syndrome was investigated by WHO state and national experts after an alert of gradually increasing yellow discoloration among persons in Agok, Abyei in November 2020.
- 26 suspected cases were line listed and two deaths reported. On the initial rapid test, the cases tested positive for hepatitis E virus.
- Six blood samples and 32 water samples were collected and tested to determine the cause and propagation of the disease. Nine out of 32 water samples had evidence of fecal contamination. Treatment of drinking water at source and point of use, improving water storage practices, community sensitization and education with regular water quality testing and analysis were recommended.



For more details, visit: <https://www.afro.who.int/publications/south-sudan-weekly-disease-surveillance-bulletin-2020>

### Operational gaps and challenges

- Limited resources to cover all the affected counties.
- Weak coordination mechanisms at the sub-national level.
- Insecurity and inaccessibility in conflict-affected counties.
- Huge operational costs measured against available donor funds
- Inadequate human resources for health at subnational levels

# South Sudan: Bi-Weekly Humanitarian Situation Report

Emergency type: Humanitarian Crises

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## Resource Mobilization

### Key Donors

Name of appeal	Required US \$\$	Secured in US \$	A gap in US \$
WHE Operations	<b>22 million</b>	<b>2 million</b>	<b>20 million</b>

WHO Country Office of South Sudan registers appreciation for the great support provided by all our donors. The donors are listed in alphabetical order.

- Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)
- European Union Humanitarian Aid (ECHO)
- Global Alliance for Vaccine Initiative (GAVI)
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- The Government of Japan
- The Department for International Development (DFID)
- The South Sudan Humanitarian Fund (SSHF)
- World bank

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