

# South Sudan: Bi-Weekly Humanitarian Situation Report

Emergency type: Humanitarian Crises

Issue 14 | Date: 01– 15 Aug 2021

## KEY FIGURES

<b>8.3 M</b> People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance	<b>2.3 M</b> South Sudanese Refugees in neighboring countries
<b>1.6M</b> Internally Displaced People (IDP)	<b>1.4M</b> Malnourished Children
<b>125K</b> Persons living in PoC <sup>1</sup>	<b>483K</b> Malnourished Women
<b>77</b> Stabilization Centers	<b>7.2M</b> Severely Food Insecure

## COVID-19 Response

<b>11 310</b> confirmed cases	<b>120</b> deaths	<b>209 687</b> samples tested	<b>10 948</b> recoveries
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## IPC PHASE 5 Response

<b>108 000</b> People targeted	<b>6</b> Counties	<b>418 421</b> consultations conducted
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## HIGHLIGHTS

- A cumulative of 11 310 COVID-19 confirmed cases and 120 deaths (case fatality rate,1.1%) have been reported in South Sudan since 4 April 2020.
- Some 380 000 people in 20 counties across six states have been affected by flooding along the Nile, Lol and Sobat Rivers, and Sudd wetlands.
- Almost 28 500 people have been displaced as a result of worsening security situation in Tambura and surrounding counties. Some 10 200 people were displaced and 26 killed during sub-national violence in Tonj East County.
- A costed (USD 3.3 million) Hepatitis E virus outbreak response strategy for Bentiu IDP Camp has been finalized and submitted to OCHA for resource mobilization.

<b>121 066</b> (20%)	Children under one year vaccinated with oral polio vaccine
<b>962 158</b>	Initial numbers of children vaccinated against measles
<b>00</b>	Counties with confirmed measles outbreaks in 2021
<b>00</b>	PoC <sup>1</sup> s sites with confirmed measles outbreaks in 2021
<b>01</b>	Counties with malaria cases surpassing their set thresholds



*African Development Bank and WHO installed Oxygen generation Plant at Juba Teaching Hospital. Photo: @WHO South Sudan*

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

## Overview of the Humanitarian Crisis

- Insecurity, displacements and humanitarian needs:** Incidents of subnational violence and continues to recur. The insecurity situation in Tambura and neighboring counties continues to deteriorate as more are displaced by new incidents. Of the 28 489 people (4812 households) displaced in Tambura since 22 June 2021, about 21,000 have now fled and sheltered in Mupoj, Mosso, Ezo, Nzara, Yambio, Nagero and Wau. In Juba County, 10 000 people were displaced by an intercommunal violence that occurred on 5-8 August 2021, and two truck drivers were killed during an attack on Juba-Nimule road on 22 August 2021 impacting the movement of goods through the major route connecting to Uganda and Kenya. Further, some 10 200 people were displaced and 26 killed during sub-national violence in Tonj East County, one of the highly food-insecure counties in Warrap State.
- Flooding Updates:** Some 380 000 people in 20 counties across six states have been affected by flooding along the Nile, Lol and Sobat Rivers, and Sudd wetlands in 2021. The early seasonal rains caused the rivers to overflow their dykes and banks and led to the flooding of settlements. Jonglei and Unity are the two most affected states. As heavier rains are expected in the coming months, more people and areas in flood-prone locations will be affected. A coordinated intersectoral response to meet the increasing needs of the floods-affected communities has begun in the most affected states of Jonglei, Unity, Northern Bahr el Ghazal and the Warrap States. The humanitarian partners are responding in eight counties where rapid needs assessments have already been conducted while more assessments are planned for other affected locations to guide the humanitarian response. Health response strategy will involve maintaining access to primary health services, prepositioning of essential supplies, and outbreak prevention and response.

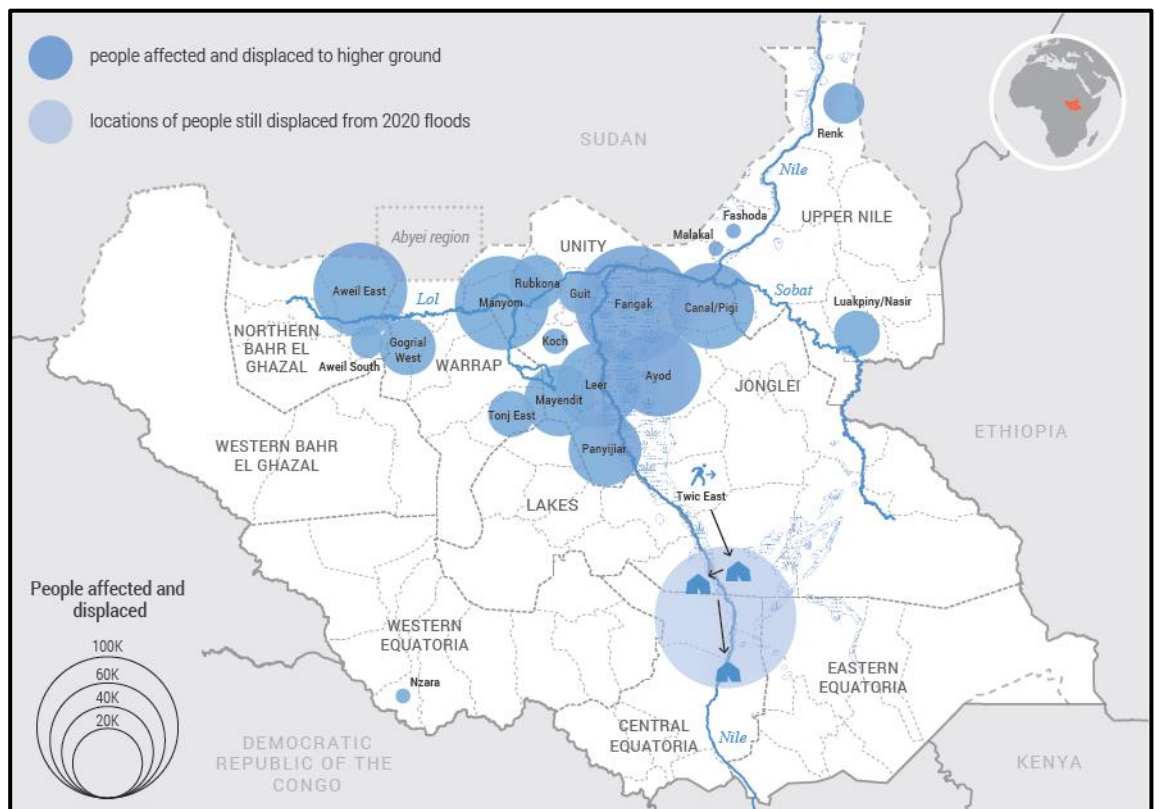


Figure 1: Flood-affected locations and populations across the states as of 31 August 2021

### Emergency Response Activities

#### • **Food Insecurity in South Sudan in 2021**

The humanitarian community continues to support the government to reach the populations living in highly food-insecure counties with life-saving services. Sixty percent (7.2 M) of south Sudanese were projected to face high levels of acute (IPC Phase 3+) food insecurity during April-July 2021. Some 108 000 people in the six most affected counties (Pibor, Akobo, Aweil South, Tonj North, Tonj South and Tonj East) were projected to be in IPC Phase 5 catastrophe during the same period and required urgent humanitarian assistance to avert famine.

The interactions between compounding shocks like food insecurity, flooding, conflict, displacement and disease outbreaks will exacerbate the needs of the affected people.

#### **Public Health Actions by Health Cluster/WHO in Prioritized Highly Food Insecurity counties**

- Health response coordination is supported through biweekly Health Cluster coordination meetings and weekly Emergency Responders meetings at the national level and state partners at sub-national levels.
- Implementing partners and WHO conducted mobile outreaches in Pibor, Akobo, Aweil South, Tonj East, Tonj North and Tonj South. Since the beginning of 2021, 418 421 consultations have been conducted in the six priority counties as at end of week 33 of 2021.
- WHO supported emergency partners operating in the six priority counties with the essential emergency supplies as the core pipeline manager. WHO has distributed 314 interagency health kits (can support 314 000 people for three months), 108 pneumonia kits, 20 severe acute malnutrition with medical complication (SAM/MC) kits, and 57 cholera investigation kits to the responding partners in the priority counties.
- Training for state and county surveillance officers, and rapid response teams are underway in Tonj South and Tonj North. WHO has so far trained 116 (31 in Pibor, 45 in Akobo East, 40 in Aweil South) health workers and rapid response teams to strengthen the Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR).
- Training to strengthen community-based surveillance is underway in Tonj South and Tonj North. Trained 40 people on community-based surveillance in Aweil South. Further, a refresher training was conducted for 78 community surveillance focal points in Pibor and Akobo East Counties.
- Weekly trends of the priority diseases and reporting via Early Warning, Alert and Response System (EWARS) are being monitored to enable timely detection and response to disease outbreaks.
- WHO trained 47 health workers on the management of severe acute malnutrition with medical complications in Tonj North, Tonj East, Tonj South and Aweil South counties to optimize care for severe acute malnutrition cases and reduce mortality.

### Surveillance, Epidemiological Update, and Response for Disease Outbreaks

#### **Confirmed and suspected Outbreaks**

##### **Hepatitis E Virus (HEV) Outbreak in Bentiu IDP Camp**

- Cumulatively, there are 1001 cases and nine (case fatality rate, 0.9%) deaths since 2019 as of end of week 33, 2021. The persistent transmission in the camp is attributed to poor WASH conditions and reducing funding for WASH partners working in the camp.
- A concerted effort towards launching a comprehensive response strategy is underway. A USD\$3.3 million HEV response strategy that involves WASH, health and camp management has been finalized and submitted to OCHA for resource mobilization.
- HEV taskforce comprising Health, WASH and CCCM clusters in Unity state formed and meeting regularly to spearhead the response.
- Joint assessment missions underway in the IDP camp to assess and address emergency WASH needs and to identify and refer cases from the community.
- A Rapid Risk Assessment is underway with support from WHO AFRO while implementing partners are enhancing surveillance to assure adequate reporting.

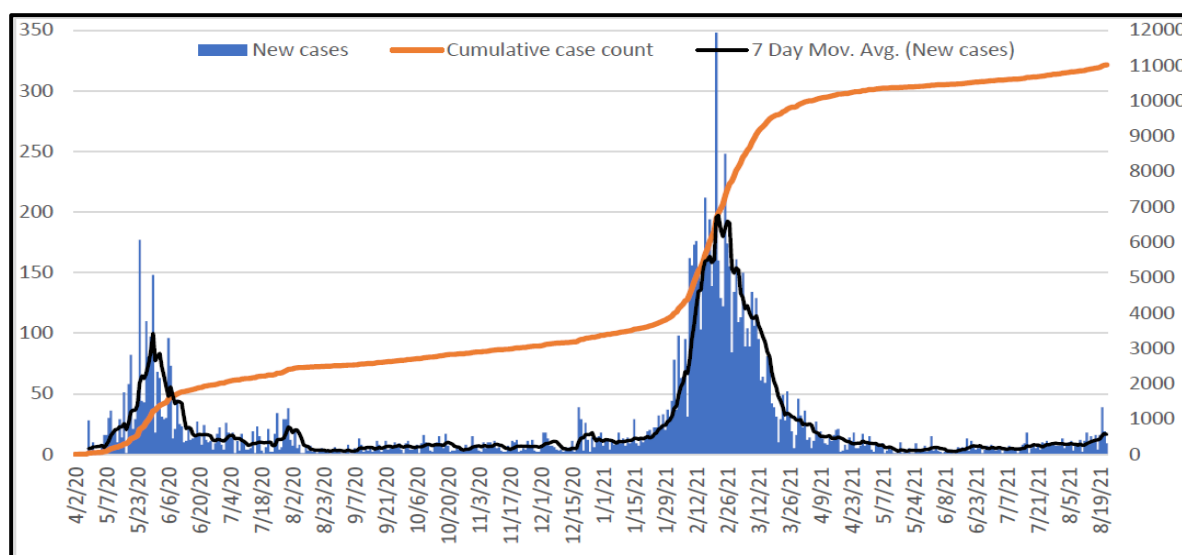
- Consultation on deployment of HEV vaccines is underway. The Ministry has formally requested Msf to deploy the vaccines and the vaccines are expected in the country by mid or end of September 2021.
- For more details, find the weekly IDSR Bulletins here:  
<https://www.afro.who.int/publications/south-sudan-weekly-disease-surveillance-bulletin-202>

### Polio Virus Outbreak

- A total of 59 circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) cases have been reported across 27 counties in 10 states since the onset of the outbreak on 17 September 2020. The confirmed cases are from AFP cases, contacts and environmental samples.
- The most recent cVDPV2 cases from AFP sample was reported from Panyijar, Unity State, with date onset of paralysis on 8 April 2021.
- Two rounds of polio vaccination campaigns (mOPV2) have been concluded as a response to the outbreak.
- The country continues to strengthen AFP surveillance through capacity building of counties, deployment of experts and consultants to support poorly performing counties and supportive supervision.

### Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) Outbreak

- Since the beginning of the outbreak, 11 310, including 388 imported cases, and 120 deaths (case fatality rate of 1.1%) have been reported as at end of week 33. Five new cases (zero deaths) were reported in Week 33 representing a 55.4% increase compared to week 32.
- Average positivity yields have been declining in recent epidemiological weeks, after peaking at 22.4% in Week 07, 2021 and declining to a low of 0.4% in Week 19 before rising to 2.7% in week 33.
- 75 samples have been sent to a regional reference laboratory for genomic sequencing to enable identification of the circulating variants in the country as the country continues to monitor for a potential third wave. Earlier, three variants of concern (Alpha [B.1.1.7], Beta [B.1.351], and Delta [B.1.617.2]) were identified on genomic sequencing.
- South Sudan received its second batch of vaccine from COVAX facility on 31 August 2021 to continue the vaccination activity.
- For more information on the COVID-19 outbreak and public health response measures, refer to the national weekly situation update: <http://moh.gov.ss/covid-19.php>



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## Operational gaps and challenges

Figure 4: Epidemiological curve of reported cases through Week 33 of 2021, showing new cases (blue bars), rolling monthly average of reported cases (black line), and total cumulative reported cases (yellow line)

- Limited funding to respond to numerous emergencies and needs
- Weak coordination mechanisms at the sub-national level.
- Disruptive insecurity incidents and inaccessibility in conflict-affected counties.
- Huge operational costs measured against available donor funds
- Inadequate human resources for health at subnational levels.

## Resource Mobilization Key Donors

Name of appeal	Required US \$\$	Secured in US \$	A gap in US \$
WHE Operations	<b>22 million</b>	<b>5 million</b>	<b>17 million</b>

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

- African Development Bank Group (AfDB)
- Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)
- Contingency Fund for Emergencies (CFE)
- European Union (EU)
- European Union Humanitarian Aid (ECHO)
- Global Alliance for Vaccine Initiative (GAVI)
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- The Government of Japan
- The Foreign, Commonwealth and Development office (FCDO)- UK
- The South Sudan Humanitarian Fund (SSHF)
- World bank

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