Malakal town, Upper Nile State, was deserted amid reports of violations and abuses, especially against girls and women. The UN base, sheltering over 20,000 people, continued to receive new arrivals amid fears of further attacks.

Humanitarian partners focused on pre-positioning vital aid supplies ahead of the rainy season, when 60 per cent of the roads across the country become impassable. The Crisis Response Plan is 21 per cent funded. $748 million of the $1.27 billion total requirement by June is urgently needed to enable pre-positioning of lifesaving supplies to assist 3.2 million people.

An oral cholera vaccination campaign commenced in both UN bases in Juba on 27 February, targeting 43,000 people. Another oral cholera vaccination campaign reached 38,321 people in Awerial County, Lakes State.

Partners are advocating for resources to support the resumption of food production and livelihood system for displaced and host communities to avert malnutrition, disease and destitution. An assessment in Pochala, Jonglei State already shows a global acute malnutrition rate of 6.2 per cent.

**Highlight**

- 695,200 Estimated number of internally displaced people since 15 Dec*
- 361,700 Internally displaced people reached with some assistance**
- 75,600 Estimated number of displaced people in UN bases
- 190,000 People displaced into neighbouring countries***

* Figures of displacement outside UN bases have in several cases not been independently verified by humanitarian partners.
** This figure does not indicate that needs have been comprehensively met.
*** The figure for Sudan refers to new arrivals since the start of the crisis, whose refugee status has not been verified.

**Situation overview**

Humanitarian partners remain concerned about the some 3.7 million people in acute and emergency food insecure categories. Food assistance has so far reached 290,743 people. While providing food assistance remains an immediate priority to save lives, increasing food production by displaced and food insecure families across the country is vital to combating

![Internal displacement by state between 23 Dec and 27 Feb (in 1000s). Source: OCHA](image-url)
malnutrition, disease and destitution. Partners have asked for $748 million for prepositioning lifesaving supplies (for all sectors) including the provision of agriculture inputs ahead of the rainy season. Unless adequate funding for prepositioning of stocks in strategic hubs across the country is secured before the rainy season when 60 per cent of the country becomes inaccessible by road, delivery of lifesaving aid will be costly, as relief organizations will rely on expensive air assets to deliver assistance.

Humanitarian needs and response

Fighting was reported approximately 35km southeast of the Adar oil fields in Guel Guk, Upper Nile. Malakal town was deserted with high presence of opposition forces observed near the airport and around the hospital area, up to the southern part of the town. Destruction of infrastructure and of looting at Malakal Teaching Hospital was also reported. Dead bodies were found in the hospital and in the streets after fighting broke out on 18 February. Humanitarians have relocated 45 patients from Malakal Teaching Hospital and 14 from a local church to the hospital in the UN base. The UN base continued to receive new arrivals from some displacement sites amid fears of further attacks. Humanitarians relocated displaced about 130 people camping at a local church after reports of abuse including rape and abduction of more than ten young girls. Some people reportedly crossed into Sudan from Renk town in Upper Nile, while new arrivals into the Melut UN base increased to over 1,000 people, amid fears of a possible attack on Paloich. Humanitarians are mobilizing additional resources in anticipation of an increase in new arrivals into or near the UN base in Melut.

In Jonglei State, Bor South remained calm but unpredictable after attacks in Gadiang - about 80 km north of the Jonglei State capital Bor - on 23 February. Response to people sheltering at the UN base in Bor continued unhindered, with partners reviewing needs in anticipation of the number of displaced people increasing to 10,000 in the next three months. People continued to move from Duk and Twic East Counties, Jonglei to Minkamman in Awerial County, Lakes State due to insecurity. Eight sites of displacement were observed between Bor Port and Panpandiar with an estimated 2,000 people mostly women and children.

Lakes State remained generally calm with some unverified incidents of inter-communal attacks reported in various locations. People continued to return to Minkaman from Bor after the attack in Gadiang, Jonglei. Registration of new arrivals is ongoing. In Warrap State, local authorities reported that more than 3,000 people, mainly women and children, were displaced in Alabek and Aliet in Tonj North County after an attack early February. Some 2,000 people were also reportedly displaced in Akop Payam by a cattle raid attack on 18 February. An inter-agency assessment is planned for 28 February to 2 March 2014.

Some 20,000 people living with HIV (PLHIV) are estimated to be affected by the current crisis; about 1,500 of these are potentially at risk of treatment interruption. Disruption of PMTCT increases the risk of babies born with HIV, while sexual violence may expose women to the risk of HIV infection. Lack of access to basic social services, family separation, negative coping mechanism and lack of knowledge/access to HIV prevention services may expose displaced people to further risk of HIV infection. Partners are leading an HIV response to the current crisis. About US$350,000 was raised to support activities aimed at tracing PLHIV on treatment and women enrolled on PMTCT. Referral services are being provided in Awerial, Bentiu, Nimule and other sites. Some 105 field and community workers will be trained to conduct HIV education in crisis affected locations. Multi-sector ‘One Stop Centers’ will be set up in and outside UN bases to provide HIV counseling and testing, GBV counseling and support, trauma counseling and HIV prevention.

Prepositioning of the nine pipeline supplies is ongoing. Apart from Emergency Education, the other pipelines are below 50 per cent of the pre-positioning target. In country stock is also below 50 per cent. However, pre-positioning is expected to scale up with additional supplies expected to arrive in the country in the next four weeks. The lack of funding and safety and security concerns for warehouses are key challenge for pre-positioning, as well as the increased cost transport from Juba to state hubs. Timeliness of funding for the pipelines that are currently below 50 per cent of their revised Crisis Response Plan requirements is critical to ensure supplies can procured and pre-positioned in time ahead of rains.
Camp Coordination and Management

Response:

- Contingency planning is ongoing ahead of the rainy season, taking into account possibilities of influxes to UN bases in Bentiu, Juba and Malakal.
- Expansion of sites in UN bases in Bor, Juba and Malakal is ongoing but is challenged by delays in securing equipment and qualified staff.
- Partners are scaling up efforts to accommodate new arrivals in Minkaman, Lakes State who are fleeing renewed insecurity in Bor, Jonglei.
- In Bentiu, Unity State partners are expanding the displacement site to minimize congestion and in anticipation of new arrivals from surrounding areas.

Needs, gaps and constraints:

- Site planning remains a priority and cluster capacity needs to be strengthened through collaborating with WASH and Shelter/NFI and maximize use of available expertise.
- Over-congestion continues to be a concern in many displacement sites. In areas where alternative sites are identified, qualified staff and equipment are required to expedite the process before the rainy season.
- Relocation of displaced people from UN base in Tongping to UN House was put on hold to clear space in the transit areas at UN House.

Education

Response:

- Construction of up to five classrooms began in Mingkaman, Lakes State for primary schools, with construction of three learning centers completed and two child friendly centers ready to be used also as training centers.
- 458 children were registered in Jonglei’s Bor UN base for class one.
- Partners are monitoring school occupation, school resumption and attendance country wide. Partners continued to advocacy with local authorities for the vacation of 45 schools occupied by displaced people in different locations to ensure learners can access the facilities.
- Partners successfully vacated displaced communities from Mahad Primary school classrooms for learners to use the facilities.

Needs, gaps and constraints:

- Education needs assessments were challenged by insecurity in Bentiu and Malakal.
- Congestion in places of displacement is limiting availability of emergency protective learning space.
- Increased presence of education partners with strong logistical and surge capacity to reach the most vulnerable people is required in all sites. In Minkaman, for example there are only two education partners to provide education services to 31,500 children.

Food Security and Livelihoods

Response:

- Food partners have reached 290,743 people with food assistance since the start of the crisis, including about 71,300 in Jonglei; 84,300 in Lakes; 17,600 in Eastern Equatoria; 43,000 in Central Equatoria; 34,100 in Upper Nile; 22,100 in Unity; 16,200 in Warrap; 2,100 in Western Bar el Ghazal; and, 100 in Western Equatoria.
- Veterinary supplies and equipment were delivered to local authorities in Eastern
Equatoria State for livestock vaccination in Torit County and other areas.

- Two solar refrigerators were installed in Torit for prepositioning of vaccines to respond to livestock disease outbreaks and conduct routine vaccinations for displaced and host communities in Eastern Equatoria State.

**Needs, gaps and constraints:**

- The resumption of food production by displaced communities is vital to improve food security.
- Support to protein-rich food production - vegetables, livestock and fish - is key to containing malnutrition among displaced communities.
- The crisis has increased insecurity along commercial supply corridors causing private sector actors to flee the country, market fragmentation, and food and fuel price inflation making availability and affordability a challenge.

**Needs, gaps and constraints:**

- Distribution of basic food and nutrition supplies continued but more is needed to meet new needs for both displaced and host communities.
- The resumption of food production by displaced communities is vital to avert famine, disease and destitution.
- Support to protein-rich food production - vegetables, livestock and fish - is key to containing malnutrition among displaced communities. The livelihood component is currently 7 per cent funded and agriculture inputs are needed before planting begins in March.
- The crisis has increased insecurity along commercial supply corridors causing private sector actors to flee the country, market fragmentation, and food and fuel price inflation making availability and affordability a challenge.

### Health

**Response:**

- 7,897 consultations were recorded in health facilities in all sites of displacement since 16 February.
- In Tomping UN base, 4,205 individuals received Oral Cholera Vaccination on 27 February. The campaign is targeting 43,000 people in both UN bases in Juba. Another oral cholera vaccination campaign reached 38,321 people in Awerial County, Lakes State.
- 5,606 conflict wounded individuals in 25 facilities across the country received medical attention since the beginning of the crisis.

**Needs, gaps and constraints:**

- Mental health services is still lacking across the country. Partners are advocating for more specialists in psychosocial counselling and clinical mental management. Partners scaled down due to insecurity and destruction of facilities across Upper Nile State. Critical medical staff remain in Malakal to provide health care service in the UN bases. Plans are underway to redeploy once the security situation improves.
- Surgical services are not yet fully operational in Bentiu and Bor and partners are advocating for surgeons, equipment and specialist staff.
Multi-Sector Response to Refugees

Response:

- Access to water in Yida refugee settlement in Unity is meeting SPHERE standards of 15 liters per person per day.
- Access to water in Ajoung Thok has reached UNHCR standard of 20 liters per person per day.
- Latrine construction and hygiene promotion activities are ongoing in Yida.
- Trained community supervisors and volunteers are carrying out hygiene promotion activities in Yida.
- Partners are rehabilitating the Operating Theatre (OT), securing equipment, medical supplies, including human resources.

Needs, gaps and constraints:

- Referrals remain a major challenge in the absence of a functioning referral unit in Unity State.
- Partners are working to ensure Pariang Health Facility functions as a referral unit, providing surgical capacity and emergency obstetric and newborn care.

Nutrition

Response:

- Mass screening and case management of acute malnutrition was conducted in Aweil, Bor, Bentiu and Juba reaching 1,200 children. Screening did not take place in Malakal due to insecurity.
- Screening of malnourished children was launched on 27 February to coincide with general food distribution in the UN base in Bentiu.
- More than 30 patients were enrolled on Outpatient Treatment of malnutrition at Bentiu State Hospital, focusing on <5 SAM.
- Partners are rehabilitating the stabilization center for malnourished children with medical complications.
- Preliminary results of an anthropometric and mortality survey in Pochala, Jonglei shows a global acute malnutrition rate of 6.2%. The full report will be shared shortly.

Needs, gaps and constraints:

- The only stabilization center in Malakal was destroyed during fighting, affecting delivery of nutrition services in the town.
- Storage/warehousing facilities destroyed by fighting should be replaced in locations such as Bentiu, Bor and Malakal to enable prepositioning of nutrition stocks ahead of the rainy season.

Protection

Response:

- Home visits were conducted to raise awareness on Gender Based Violence (GBV) to displaced and host communities in Eastern Equatoria.
- In Central Equatoria the GBV Working Group deployed social workers to provide psychosocial services to displaced communities outside the UN bases.
- Collective healing and spiritual support sessions were held in Mahad in Juba.
- Guidelines and position paper for care and protection of children in emergencies for South Sudan was endorsed by 12 organizations responding to the current crisis.
- The standard operating procedures for working with unaccompanied and separated children in South Sudan was finalized.
- Regular child protection training and orientation of community volunteers and social workers is increasing the quality of foster family monitoring in UN bases in Bentiu and Juba.
• 1,066 children received psychosocial support in child friendly centers in UN bases in Bentiu and Juba.
• Mobile response teams and mainstreaming tools were established to support remote distribution.
• Partners extended presence in Unity state, establishing operations in Panyijar.
• Partners engaged in advocacy and lobby activities on protection issues in Europe and the United States.

Needs, gaps and constraints:
• Recruiting qualified staff to carry out GBV activities remains a challenge. GBV surge support is required.
• Gender disaggregated data in areas of displacement is required to improve planning for dignity kits and other gender activities.
• The current child protection grant can only reach less than 70,000 children targeted in the Crisis Response Plan. There is an urgent need to increase funding.
• An assessment established that many crisis affected children don’t have access to basic services due to different constraints including physical accessibility, security and lack of humanitarian capacity to respond to identified needs.
• Partners continue to advocate for deployment of qualified staff on protection issues.

Shelter and Non-Food Items

Response:
• In Lakes State’s Minkaman, shelter distribution reached 2,477 families, with 1,400 families receiving non-food assistance
• Distributions are ongoing in Waat, Jonglei State reaching 960 families with non-food items
• 3,000 families received non-food items in Pariang, Unity State.
• 3,000 NFI kits were pre-positioned in Akobo, Jonglei State
• In Upper Nile’s Malakal an assessment of the UN base site confirmed the need for shelter and site planning ahead of the rains. Partners are mobilizing to address the identified needs.
• Non-food items were delivered to Melut for immediate distribution
• In Juba, ad hoc emergency shelter materials were provided to people transferred from Bentiu UN base.
• Response planning is underway to deliver NFI to over 3,500 households in Katigiri, Central Equatoria State this week.

Needs, gaps and constraints:
• Security of aid assets continues to be a concern in some areas. Partners continue to engage with all parties to ensure safety of humanitarian assets.
• Lack of logistical capacity challenges aid distribution in deep field areas, especially where boats are needed.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Response:
• About 35 WASH partners are now operational across 21 sites to ensure access to emergency WASH services.
• In Melut, Upper Nile, SPHERE standards on water supply are being met for the current number of displaced people. Partners are mobilizing to respond to the needs of new arrivals.
• In other locations were WASH is present, SPHERE standards have been met with most people accessing 15 liters of water per person per day and one latrine for every 50 people.

Needs, gaps and constraints:
• Insecurity in Upper Nile resulted in major gaps across four key sites and increased needs.
In Upper Nile, water supply to Malakal UN base is extremely strained due to capacity issues, an increase in new arrivals and disruption of water supply by fighting.

Partners are advocating for the return of aid workers to Upper Nile State to restore water supply services for up to 30,000 people in Malakal UN base and at least 60,000 displaced people across the state.

WASH partners are advocating for funding for the core pipeline to be fully maintained through procurement and pre-positioning efforts.

A survey was initiated by the Global WASH Cluster Rapid Assessment Team to assess the capacity response of the WASH partners as well as to identify gaps and needs of the WASH partners to improve effectiveness in their WASH field response.

**Funding**

Aid organizations require US$1.27 billion by June 2014 to provide lifesaving assistance to 3.2 million people who are in acute and emergency food insecure categories, $748 million of which is urgently needed to preposition supplies before the rainy season. Of this amount, donors have so far contributed $147 million leaving a balance of $601 million urgently needed before 60 per cent of the country becomes inaccessible by road. The humanitarian situation is likely to deteriorate further if prepositioning is not finalized before the rains, when aid agencies will have to rely on air transport to deliver humanitarian assistance – which is extremely costly and will slow down the response. So far, donors have contributed a total of $264 million to the Crisis Response Plan, which is 21 per cent of total requirements. An additional $9.4 million has been pledged. For example, unless funding is secured, 400,000 children of school going age will be out of school and about 900,000 children under fifteen will not be immunized against measles putting them at increased risk of death.

For further information, please contact:
Tapiwa Gomo, Head of Communications, gomo@un.org, mobile +211922406079

Websites www.unocha.org/south-sudan | http://southsudan.humanitarianresponse.info/
Facebook UNOCHA South Sudan | Twitter @OCHASouthSudan