South Sudan Crisis—Regional Impact

Situation Report #69  24 May 2016

Highlights

- Food stocks are stretched and WFP requires USD 117 million for the next six months to meet the needs of new arrivals and existing refugees, particularly in Kenya, Sudan and Uganda.

- Deteriorating food and nutrition security, driven by high food prices and the declining economic situation is affecting South Sudanese across the country.

- In Sudan, the rate of new arrivals has slowed in May compared to previous months. It remains to be seen whether the numbers will increase given the deteriorating food security conditions in South Sudan.

Overview

Despite the formation of the Transitional Government of National Unity and the resolve to end the conflict, the security situation remains volatile in most parts of the country. Fighting between government and opposition forces was reported in Unity State in mid-May. Reports further indicate that deteriorating economic conditions coupled with rising prices of essential commodities is contributing to rising criminality in most parts of the country.

Security conditions coupled with poor road conditions continue to hamper humanitarian access leading to delays in the delivery of critical food assistance. Humanitarian agencies, including WFP have continued to provide immediate life-saving assistance through mobile teams and air operations.

The protracted conflict continues to severely limit food access and availability for the majority of the South Sudanese as food prices escalate, livelihoods remain inaccessible, markets are disrupted, and the delivery of critical food assistance is hampered. Eastern Equatoria, Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Western Bahr el Ghazal are exhibiting the most rapid decline in the food security situation. WFP is allocating additional resources to scale up food assistance through the lean season, supporting households to meet their basic food needs until the next harvest period.

In addition to providing food assistance inside South Sudan, WFP provides food assistance for refugees at border crossings, during transit, at reception centres and upon settlement in the camps. In addition, WFP provides specialized nutrition products for treatment and prevention of malnutrition for children below 5 years, pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers.

In numbers

- 2.3 million people displaced within South Sudan and in neighbouring countries

- 714,000 refugees arrived in Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda

- 1,000 new arrivals weekly

USD 117 million needed for 6 months based on current project numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resourcing</th>
<th>6-month* Shortfall US$</th>
<th>6-month Shortfall %</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia PRRO</td>
<td>USD 6 million</td>
<td>9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kenya PRRO</td>
<td>USD 18 million</td>
<td>33%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Uganda PRRO</td>
<td>USD 20 million</td>
<td>44%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sudan PRRO</td>
<td>USD 73 million</td>
<td>31%</td>
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</tbody>
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*May-October 2016
**Regional Update**

**Ethiopia.** As of 20 May, more than 229,000 South Sudanese refugees had arrived in Ethiopia, since fighting started in South Sudan in mid-December 2013.

The situation in Gambella region is calm following inter-communal clashes between ethnic Murle and Nuer groups in mid-April.

WFP continues to provide food assistance to new arrivals at the border entry points, reception centers and those settled in the camps. In addition, nutrition activities targeting children 6-59 months, pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers are ongoing, to treat moderate acute malnutrition and prevent further deterioration of malnutrition levels.

The 2016 South Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan projects by the end of December 2016, there will be a total of 326,938 South Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia.

**Kenya.** As of 14 May, more than 56,000 South Sudanese refugees had arrived in Kenya since mid-December 2013.

The Government of Kenya announced plans to close Dadaab refugee complex and repatriate the Somali refugees citing security concerns. The closure would affect close to 350,000 refugees.

WFP continues to provide a combination of cash-based and in-kind food assistance to refugees in Kakuma and Dadaab, but the refugee operation is facing a substantial funding shortfall. Each month, WFP requires USD 9 million to feed nearly 500,000 refugees living in the camps. With the current level of funding, resources for both in-kind food and cash-based transfers will start running out from September 2016.

Treatment of moderate acute malnutrition is provided to children under five years, pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers. To prevent acute malnutrition, WFP continues to provide specialized nutrition products to all children aged 6-23 months, pregnant women and breast feeding mothers.

The 2016 South Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan projects by the end of December 2016, there will be a total of 102,239 South Sudanese refugees in Kenya.

**Sudan.** As of 12 May, more than 226,000 South Sudanese refugees had crossed the border into Sudan’s White Nile, West Kordofan, North Kordofan, South Kordofan, East Darfur and South Darfur States. The majority of the new arrivals are in East Darfur.

New arrivals are mostly coming from South Sudan’s Northern Bahr El Ghazal and Warrap States, and continue to report hunger, fighting and economic hardships, as the reasons for fleeing South Sudan. Since late January 2016, there has been a surge in the number of South Sudanese fleeing into Sudan. However, this has slowed in May compared to previous months. It remains to be seen whether the numbers will increase, given the deteriorating food security conditions in South Sudan.

So far, WFP has provided food assistance to more than 200,000 refugees in White Nile, West Kordofan, North Kordofan, South Kordofan States and East Darfur.

The resource situation is critical. In particular, food stocks for nutrition interventions are low, which will most likely compromise WFP’s ability to sustain prevention and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition activities. Additional funding is required urgently to avert possible pipeline breaks, which are expected to start as early as July.

Despite these challenging circumstances, WFP continues to provide critical food assistance to newly arrived refugees at the reception centers and to those settled in the camps. In addition, WFP is providing specialized nutrition products for treatment and prevention of moderate acute malnutrition targeting children aged 6-59 months, pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers.

The South Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan projects by the end of December 2016, there will be a total of 270,375 South Sudanese refugees in Sudan.

**Uganda.** As of 26 April, more than 202,000 South Sudanese refugees have fled to Uganda since mid-December 2013. The majority of the new arrivals are from Eastern and Central Equatoria with a few from Jonglei and Unity States, and continue to cite armed conflict between rebel groups and government forces, hunger and economic hardships as the reasons for fleeing South Sudan.

The operation which also supports refugees from Burundi and the DRC is facing serious resourcing constraints. If additional funding is not available, the operation risks significant pipeline breaks in July, and may need to reduce rations to stretch available resources further.

New arrivals continue to receive hot meals at transit and reception centers and monthly general rations, when settled in the camps. In addition, WFP continues to support prevention and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition targeting children 6-59 months, pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers.

The South Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan projects by the end of December 2016, there will be a total of 238,855 South Sudanese refugees in Uganda.

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