Initial Rapid Needs Assessment:
IDP camp at UNMISS Compound
Bentiu, Rubkona County, Unity State

5 - 6 January 2014

Executive summary

An inter-agency assessment mission representing the clusters health, protection, shelter/NFI and WASH visited the displaced population inside the UNMISS compound in Bentiu, Unity State, to assess current humanitarian needs and gaps. Main focal point on the ground was the OCHA staff based in Bentiu.

The local administration and OCHA estimated that between 7,000 and 8,000 civilians, mostly Dinka, are currently living inside UNMISS compound in Bentiu. Another 300, mostly Nuer, are reportedly in UNMISS Pariang camp.

Priority humanitarian needs identified include: health, protection, shelter/NFI and WASH.

This IRNA Report is a product of Inter-Agency Assessment mission conducted and information compiled based on the inputs provided by partners on the ground including; government authorities, affected communities/IDPs and agencies.
Situation Overview:
An estimated 7,000 to 8,000 displaced people are living in the UNMISS camp in Bentiu. The majority of them are Dinka, followed by Equatorians, Sudanese, Nubians and people from Abyei. Another 300 displaced people are staying at UNMISS compound in Pariang, and most of them are Nuer and foreigners (Kenyan, Ugandan, Eritreans, etc). Many civilians were displaced from Mayom due to recurrent clashes between government and opposition groups, but they are scattered at surrounding villages. OCHA and UNMISS are in contact with both, the government and opposition groups. Recruitment of civilians, mostly youth, has been reported across all counties in Unity state, and each county was tasked to recruit hundreds of youth. Vehicles belonging to NGOs were confiscated by the local government in Bentiu. All water trucks operating in Bentiu town were also confiscated by the local government, resulting in a shortage of water trucks. Basic services for displaced people and host community are limited in Bentiu town. The market in Bentiu was looted, and there is shortage of food and other supplies.

Description of UNMISS Base:
The UNMISS base is approximately 154.45 ha (1.5 km x 1 km), situated 3km north of the airport at Rubkona, 3.6km north of the town Rubkona and 9.6km north of the town of Bentiu by road. At the time of the assessment, protocol for movement along the road is a convoy of two vehicles, with a 6pm curfew in place. There is a bridge separating Rubkona and Bentiu. The site has been well established with a significant berm along most of the perimeter observed along the north and west perimeter. The south and east perimeter were not surveyed due to security concern and lack of time. However, observation of the satellite imagery has identified a distinctive line around the base. The topography is very level, the accommodation blocks to the south have apparently been raised approximately 1m above the surrounding area to minimize standing water during the rains. The entire area is thought to consist of black cotton soil, but site improvements to roads and the compound are of murram.

Staff accommodation and site infrastructure: UNMISS have a large compound of a variety of containers. Of these, three offices previously occupied by UNHCR can be made available for humanitarian accommodation, as well as the availability of shared cafeteria and ablutions. In addition, there is potentially storage available in the form of a large rub hall, rough dimensions 450m2, which also has a raised concrete base of an area of approximately 100m2, and containers are also potentially available. Allocation of existing storage facilities to the humanitarian response requires further discussion with UNMISS Bentiu.
Drivers of Crisis and underlying factors
The IDPs started coming to the UNMISS compound in Bentiu from 18 December 2013. This is linked to the outbreak of violence in South Sudan, which started on 15 December 2013.

Scope of crisis and humanitarian profile
The local administration and OCHA estimated that between 7,000 and 8,000 civilians, mostly Dinka, are currently living inside UNMISS compound in Bentiu. Another 300, mostly Nuer, are reportedly in UNMISS Pariang camp.

A civilian administration is currently in place in Bentiu, while the acting governor is also the commander of SPLA division 4. The displaced camp has community leaders which are managing the affairs of the camp, and there is no camp management agency so far.

Site population
Between 7,000 and 8,000 displaced are living inside UNMISS camps.

Key Response Priorities
Health: Provision of primary health care in the IDP camps and host community through the Bentiu hospital with all essential drugs and health workers.

Protection: Undertake protection activities within the base as an issue of absolute priority. Community engagement strategies, including on CP and GBV are critical.

Shelter/NFI:
- Site planning advice is needed in order to decongest site and ensure maximum dignity and safety
- Shelter strategy required to define
the shelter response and what NFIs are needed
• Distribute of emergency assistance NFIs are needed
• Implement contingency flood mitigation planning for prolonged displacement into the rainy season

WASH:
• Provide additional water points, improve drainage at all new and existing water points
• Construct a minimum of 160 latrines, with hand washing stations
• Distribute soap
• Institute solid waste collection, with deposit in existing burn pit

Humanitarian Access

Bentiu can be only accessed by air. Flight permission has to be obtained from the government and opposition groups and this may delay the process. Also Pariang can only be accessed by air from Juba and not via Bentiu. Mayom County, which has experienced heavy fighting in past few days, is not accessible, and there are thousands of displaced people scattered in surrounding villages.

Some humanitarian actors are already operating and providing services in Bentiu such as UNMISS, UNICEF, WHO, WFP, ICRC, MSF, Mercy Corps. More partners are expected if access and security improve. The mission participants with the support of OCHA and UNMISS were able to see the IDP camp and host community in Bentiu with no restriction, but could not travel outside Bentiu. OCHA reported difficulties to access Pariang by road due to security, and an assessment mission that was supposed to travel to Pariang was returned by the security few days back.

Findings

Health

Key findings:
• One mobile clinic with limited capacity is currently serving the IDP camp inside UNMISS supported by WHO and UNICEF.

• Displaced health workers are working in the clinic.

• Respiratory tract infection, malaria and diarrhoea are the leading causes of morbidity in the last two weeks.

• Four suspected measles cases with one death were reported last week, and all cases were
children under five years of age.

- One child died of diarrhoea last week.
- Three acute jaundice syndrome cases were reported last week.
- ICRC is currently providing surgical services, while MSF-Holland is providing post-operation care in Bentiu Hospital. MSF-Holland is planning to start a mobile clinic to serve the IDP camp.
- Wounded patients are brought to the Bentiu hospital on daily basis as there is on-going fighting in Mayom. So far over 80 wounded patients were treated in Bentiu hospital. MSF-Holland deployed a new surgical team to Leer hospital, and they are already receiving wounded patients from different locations.
- WHO still has medical supplies in a warehouse within the Ministry of Health compound in Bentiu, and some of these drugs were donated to the hospital and IDP clinic.

**Priorities for humanitarian response:**

**Immediate response:**

- Provide integrated primary health care reproductive health services to the IDP camp and host community in Bentiu town.
- Implement measles vaccination together with polio, vitamin A and de-worming to prevent full-blown measles outbreak and other vaccines for preventable diseases.
- Preposition more trauma and essential medical supplies to UNMISS compound for easy access and monitoring.

**Long term:**

- Maintain effective disease surveillance and scale up the trauma management and primary health care services.
- Train of health workers on trauma management, case management and disease surveillance.
**Protection**

**Key findings:**

- The most significant protection risk facing the population in the UNMISS Base in Bentiu, like in all other parts of the country, is the potential of death or injury due to a direct attack on the base. The patrolling by Mombat/UNMISS in the base, including a visible deterrence strategies, confiscation of contrabands such as weapons and independent efforts to improve the Protection of Civilians (PoC) area are welcome examples of proactive PoC.

- Civilians reported as feeling safe within the base- due to the active patrolling of UNMISS (which is reportedly 24-7) but feel insecure from threats outside. The overall population profile within the base is mixed, and includes persons from outside the Bentiu-Rubkona area. Many of those who were in the area, indicated that they were living in Bentiu and Rubkona in order to work. Initial impressions suggest there are a significant number of men due to Nubian and Darfuri traders, as well as persons from the Equitorias, Bahr El-Ghazals and Upper Nile to work in the area. There was also a significant caseload of people who were ‘passing through’ Bentiu and caught up in conflict. Almost all populations wished to move onwards, either to their home destination or to an alternative location. Given the non-local population present in the camp, decongestion of the camp should be considered possible- with appropriate security provided during onward transport. Consideration though must be given to all persons born in South Sudan or Sudan, with the Four Freedoms (freedom of residence, freedom of movement, freedom to undertake economic activity and freedom to acquire and dispose property) applying throughout e.g. for Darfuri and Nuba traders who may wish to remain in South Sudan. Persons should not be returned to their country or location of origin against their wishes.

- All persons interviewed expressed a high level of fear to exit the base, feeling that they were surrounded by Nuer. Nuba and Darfuri traders report that there was direct targeting of foreigners and traders by the opposition forces- this includes the reported killings of large numbers of traders in Rubkona and destruction of the market infrastructure. The team observed heavy destruction and looting of the market. Traders reported also being beaten and arrested by the opposition SPLA/SSNPS when they left the base- and the team met with individuals who had sustained physical injuries. Persons are also reporting that the opposition armed actors have been sending in messages into the bases threatening to attack everyone within the base, or if they leave. As with other locations, the perception of threat is as important as actual threat in understanding the potential for protracted displacement.

- Women are leaving the base to travel to the market to collect food. They have reported that they are often stopped and harassed by the opposition armed forces, and have goods confiscated. There were also reports of women being raped traveling on the road from the base to the market. Many of the men also reported having individual property confiscated en route to the UNMISS base. Given that the current base and operations do not allow communities to be entirely sustainable, it is likely that women will continue to exit the base to collect food and other market goods- UNMISS and other actors should consider patrolling along the main road when women are traveling to and from the market.
While communities report within the base that they are secure, the population density and population composition, protection issues are likely to arise within the base- including familial violence and inter-communal violence. UNPOL do not have an executive policing mandate.

Child Protection: There are a large number of young children, including babies and women who are pregnant. Protection actors report family separation during displacement and children whose parents have been killed. There is also reporting of a large number of female headed households, as husbands have been killed or joined the fighting.

GBV: Reports of women being raped en route during the displacement by the opposition forces, and again during the travels to the market.

Priorities for humanitarian response

Undertake protection activities within the base as an issue of absolute priority. Community engagement strategies, including on CP and GBV are critical.

Continue PoC strategy by Mombat/UNMISS as a good example of engagement.

Explore potential to increase patrolling to and from market areas

Register and profile populations to explore potential for decongestion of the basis

Shelter + NFI

Key findings:

Severe overcrowding with lack of basic infrastructures
Settlement is ‘organic’ and unplanned, little space between shelters, no fire breaks
Inadequate shelters mostly self-built using local materials
Site has been levelled, all black cotton soil

The IDP population is separated into two POC sites within the UNMISS base:
1. Vulnerable and Non-South Sudanese Site (Named KATYA)

Informal partially fenced area approximately 1.1 ha (144 x 79m) located directly to the north of the MONBAT compound. This houses two rub halls, only one is currently occupied with approximately 76 displaced people, predominantly foreign nationals. This site has been used to facilitate the extraction of foreign nationals and vulnerable individuals for airlift.

IDPs are sharing this open space with no separation or privacy screens. Latrines are provided outside but washing, changing and laundry facilities are not clear. Cooking is taking place outside the entrance, waste is burnt and an apparent spontaneous communal ‘kitchen’ is near the entrance, inside.
The current accommodation provided in this site is only meant for 72 hours stay while people are prepared for relocation. It is not suitable for any other purpose in its current form.

The site could potentially be developed for a contingency influx. By sphere standards, this would accommodate 263 people.

2. IDP Site (Names SOLOMON 1 & 2)

Site area 7.24 ha (rough perimeter approximately 204m x 354m) in total, within the site boundary which is formed out of large berm approximately 2m high. A water-filled moat lines the north and west boundaries. Newly created trenches line the east and south boundaries, the soil taken for berms.

The site has been levelled. A perimeter road runs on the inside of the bunds, a main intersecting road divides the site almost at mid point.

The NORTH sector (named SOLOMON 1 = 4.15 ha) of the site is occupied by all the IDPs, approximately 7,500 IDPs (UNMISS estimate). Current density is 5.5m² / person.

The SOUTH sector of the site (named SOLOMON 2 = 3.08 ha) has just been completed with levelling. Two interim roads run laterally. Some spontaneous settlement has already begun in this section.

The defensive berms are almost completed around the site perimeter.

The site is due to be decongested by relocating some IDPs to Solomon 2. The density of the site will reduce to 9.6m²/person. While this is severely below Sphere standards it should be noted that:

1. The size of the inhabited site is constrained by the protection capacity of the Mongolian Battalion
2. Services for the site in the form of communal and administrative infrastructure can potentially be located to the south and east of Solomon site, outside the primary berms, but still within the UNMISS base and within evacuation distance to the protected zone. More consultation with UNMISS is needed.
3. Sphere standards of 45m² / person are also intended to incorporate areas of communal structures and administration. (Occupancy of the 7.4ha site to Sphere standard would be 1,609 people).

Other infrastructure and services:
- 3 no. double pit latrines have been constructed out of Hesco materials.
- One UNICEF health clinic
- Site management tent
- One site light
• Informal markets
• 5 water points

Site Coordinates Solomon 1 & 2

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Latitude</th>
<th>Longitude</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NW Corner</td>
<td>9°20'13.86&quot;N</td>
<td>29°46'59.61&quot;E</td>
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<tr>
<td>NE Corner</td>
<td>9°20'15.82&quot;N</td>
<td>29°47'5.77&quot;E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW Corner</td>
<td>9°20'3.29&quot;N</td>
<td>29°47'2.99&quot;E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE Corner</td>
<td>9°20'4.98&quot;N</td>
<td>29°47'9.48&quot;E</td>
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</table>

Shelter:
The shelters in the site are predominantly self-built using a combination of local materials salvaged from the area, namely small timber poles and long grasses, and what people had carried in, such as sheets. 600 plastic sheets have been distributed, allowing beneficiaries to construct traditional shelters that mirror the local vernacular. However, this represents approximately one third of the households.

Shelter sizes vary, some are as little as 4m2, average 12m2. Occupancy could not be established on this mission. Spacing between shelters is as little as 10cm in some cases, but average 1.5 m in Solomon1.

IDPs have brought a limited range of NFI with them. The mission was not able to establish the extent of damage and looting of people’s homes, though it is clear Rubkona market has been the worst hit for looting, and physical damage to residential areas appears to be limited. Some people indicated they were able to leave the site to access local markets. A market for grass was observed on the roadside just outside the base. Better understanding of local markets and access to those markets by the people in the site is required.

Priorities for humanitarian response:
• Comprehensive site planning is needed to ensure that all sectors are adequately provided for and that the density of the site does not compromise the safety and dignity of the IDPs.

• Spacing between shelters must be increased to meet minimum fire safety requirements with appropriate fire breaks established.

• Sanitation lines and refuse pits are required.

• Comprehensive camp management advocacy must be conducted to minimize open defecation, waste around the camp, fire awareness and preparedness and other fundamental safety practices.

• Firewood will be a significant issue for the site and could lead to conflicts with the surrounding populations as well as protection risks for anyone leaving the site to gather materials.

• The site will take on standing water during the rainy season. Contingency planning for prolonged displacement should include drainage channels dug, raised internal floor levels in the shelters and raised levels around latrines. Resurfacing of the access roads with murram should also be investigated.
A comprehensive shelter strategy is required to ensure adequate shelter for the displaced people. This should take into account the local vernacular and available materials, while also planning for the possibility of protracted displacement into the rainy season. The local market of readily available materials (grasses) should be encouraged with advocacy for the provision shelter construction and a robust environmental management campaign to protect the areas resources.

- Additional materials may be required to enhance the durability of the traditional shelters.
- Household items are needed, including blankets and nets. The temperature was noted to drop severely at night and the presence of the water-filled berms increases the mosquito presence and malarial risk.

**WASH**

**Key findings:**

**Water**

- Water tankering, 110,000 L/day (60,000 by ICRC; 50,000 by MONBATT), comes from treatment plant
- Three water tanks for storage, plus a bladder site; approx. 47,500 L storage capacity
- All points along two sides of camp
- Six tapstands, with six taps each; total of 36 taps
- Poor drainage at water points
- Surface water (canal) along one edge of site, people gathered and using for bathing, cleaning
- Surface water site about 500 m from site (outside perimeter), used for drinking
- Jerry cans and buckets observed in ample quantities
- People note that there is sufficient water, though more is needed

**Sanitation**

- 16 latrines; poor condition, danger of collapsing or falling in
- Soil is black cotton soil, very collapsible
- People defecating and urinating along perimeter of camp
- Garbage collection point along perimeter, but not being disposed of (burned or buried, or transported off-site)
- No space for latrines inside interior of camp

**Hygiene**

- People do not access soap
**Priorities for humanitarian response**

**Water**
- Provide additional water points along two sides of camp
- Provide drainage improvements to all water points

**Sanitation**
- Provide minimum of 160 latrines immediately; then work to reach 400 as target
- Construct defecation trenches as immediate solution
- Burn, bury, or relocate collected garbage
- Intensify health education campaigns to sensitize the displaced people for better sanitation

**Hygiene**
- Distribute soap, 250g per person for one month (2,000 kg of soap)
- Intensify health education campaigns to sensitize the displaced people for better hygiene

### Next steps

Based on the Humanitarian priorities identified, the following Cluster Responses are committed:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cluster</th>
<th>Priority actions</th>
<th>Human and material resources required</th>
<th>Responsible Entity</th>
<th>By when</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Health | Provision of integrated PHC and RH services in IDP camp and host community
Measles vaccination campaign targeting children aged between 6th – 15 years
Trauma management at Bentiu and Leer hospitals | Health care workers, essential drugs, reporting tools
Vaccines, Vit A and financial resources
Health personnel and medical supplies | WHO, SMoH, UNICEF, MSF-Holland
UNICEF, WHO and MSF-H | Immediate
Immediate
Immediate
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Protection</th>
<th>GBV and Child Protection Activities</th>
<th>Storage space at UNMISS Surveillance officers</th>
<th>WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Community based protection</td>
<td></td>
<td>SMoH, WHO</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Profiling of populations</td>
<td></td>
<td>SMoH and health cluster</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Support UNMISS PoC strategy and planning</td>
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<td>In the next 4 weeks</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>SHELTER / CCCM</th>
<th>Engaging partners to undertake camp management, including the appropriate measure to</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Capacity: Camp Manager, Site planner (for initial planning and then sporadic supervision) technical support / field officer</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Agencies</td>
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<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td>Provide additional water points</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Construct defecation trenches</td>
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<td>Conduct soap distribution, in conjunction w/ NFI Cluster</td>
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</table>
**distribution**

Send Pipeline Supplies

| 400 latrine slabs | 400 plastic sheets | 200 boxes of soap | 2,000 buckets | 2,000 jerry cans |

| Unicef | Immediate |

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**Assessment information**

*The assessment was conducted by the following team:*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Org.</th>
<th>Names</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Cluster</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
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