

# **Initial Rapid Needs Assessment Amongpiny, Rumbek Centre Payam Lakes State - South Sudan 10<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> June 2014**



**Situation Overview**

Lakes State has been hosting over 100,000 IDPs from Jonglei State in Mingkaman (Awerial County) following the national political conflict that erupted in Juba on the 15<sup>th</sup> December 2013 and escalated into Jongolei, Unity and Upper Nile States. Other Counties have also been affected including Rumbek Centre, Yirol East and Yirol West. Inter and intra-ethnic violence mainly resulting from cattle raids and successive revenge attacks have also resulted in displacement in areas such as Yirol East, Yirol West, Rumbek East, Cueibet and Rumbek Centre. The current unfolding situation is that the Lakes State is receiving more IDPs from Panyinjiar County of Unity State (*Nuer ethnic group*) into Amongpiny Payam of Rumbek Centre County of Lakes State (*Dinka ethnic group*). Amongpiny is situated at Northern part of Lakes State bordering Panyinjiar County on the Southern part of Unity State. According to the local authorities, Amongpiny has an approximate population of 2,000 people. However, of late some Dinka Agar originally from Amongpiny who had settled in Rumbek East have also return after some serious intra-clan clashes with the Rumbek East Dinka Agar.

According to the IDPs leaders, Panyinjiar County has 10 Payams (Ganyiel, Nyal, Tieb, Pachar, Pachak, Pachienjok, Saahnom, Mayom, Kol and Panyinjiar Centre). Reportedly, the County Head Quarters is located in Panyinjiar Centre.

An IRNA was done on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2014 following a letter from the local authorities on ground to the State RRC Director that 262 households had arrived Amongpiny. The Humanitarian workers responded with assorted food and NFIs. In less than two weeks, more IDPs were reported to have arrived into the location and in dire conditions. The protection cluster made two visits to Amongpiny and confirmed that more IDPs continued to arrive and that there were already 441 households sitting in Amongpiny, waiting for assistance. This prompted the State RRC and OCHA to call for yet another inter-agency assessment and verification mission to Amongpiny on the 10<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> June 2014.

The purpose of the assessment was to:

1. Confirm that the IDPs were genuine and to understand the reasons why they opted to leave their County and State for Amongpiny.
2. Verify and register the IDPs to enable partners determine the required humanitarian needs on the ground

**Drivers of Crisis and underlying factors**

*The national conflict did not directly affect the County. However, Panyinjiar County has been directly affected by the broken down commercial pipe line. Traders from and outside Panyinjiar County used to supply the small towns with food and other commercial goods from Bor, Bentiu and Juba. This exercise has since stopped following the destruction of the major towns, insecurity and broken down road network. One of the IDP said that before the national crises, he has experienced an increase in food consumed at his home because he sold firewood and used the money for buying food. But now there is no little food in Panyinjiar and quite often they went without food.*

*Reportedly, the county has had yearly floods in the last six years resulting into poor harvest at the end of the season. Panyinjiar County has been surviving on commercial goods as supplement to*

**Map**

*Place map of affected area if available*

**Affected population:**

928 household (5,568 individual IDPs have seriously affected.

**Displaced population:**

During the assessment, 928 households (5,568 individuals) IDPs were verified and registered.

*the little food they harvest. With the broken down commercial pipeline, the communities have nowhere to get food to supplement the little they harvested last year.*

*Accessibility is viewed as another major factor leading to the current crisis in the County. Accordingly, the only accessible locations from outside are Nyal and Ganyiel. The rest of the County is not accessible due to poor road network and floods. Currently Ganyiel and Nyal are not internally accessible by many community members - thus most people opted to walk to Amongpiny to get basic services.*

*Therefore, the above mentioned factors have led to famine in the County thus the movement of the local population into Amongpiny in search of food.*

*The IDPs reported that most of them are coming mainly from Panyinjiar Centre, Pachak, Pachar, Pachienjok, Saahnom, Mayom and Kol Payams.*

**Scope of crisis and humanitarian profile**

*The IDPs situation on ground is relatively bad. In total WFP registered 928 HH translating to 5,568 individuals in dire need of basic services. The IDPs reported that they walked for two to three days before they reached Amongpiny. Reportedly, they walked because there was nothing for them to eat in Panyinjiar and that many more people were on their way yet. Through observations one could tell that the IDPs looked very hungry and dehydrated despite the long walk through the bushes. Most of the IDPs registered were women and children aged 9 – 16 years. Some youth and old men were also registered. It is worth noting that at least 100 pregnant women were counted and a number of lactating mothers were also seen.*

*Some children were noted to have no parents around. However, when interviewed, they said that their parents/guardians told them to follow the people who were already heading to Amongpiny. Therefore, they joined the groups and will return home with food when they receive it. Some of them added that their parents were too weak to walk all the way because others have just delivered and were taking care of their siblings.*

*The health situation among the IDPs deteriorated on the second day of this assessment. At least 15 IDPs presented with headache, shivering, fainting and convulsions. Out of 15 cases 3 had convulsions, 5 fainting, and 7 with shivering and headache. Other unaccounted IDPs were reported by the team to have fainted on the registration queues. It was unclear if the symptoms presented were as a result of malaria, epilepsy, fatigue or hypoglycemia, or something else. At least two cases presenting with headache and shivering were given panadol and some tea, after a while their condition changed. This help was not extended to the other cases because the team members had nothing to give anymore. The convulsion cases were watched helplessly by the team members because they could not swallow anything and more so there was no IV fluid to be given to them.*

*The health team had not carried any emergency drugs to help the situation. During the first IRNA, the team reported lack of health facility and workers at Amongpiny Payam and were not able to leave the drugs they had carried then. Having no assistance on the ground, the IRNA team resolved that the health team in the company of FAO staff leave for Rumbek at once to mobilize resources at the State level to assist suffering IDPs.*

*The nearest PHCC is 30 km away from Amongpiny on Rumbek Road.*

*Allegedly, an approximate 500 – 700 individual IDPs were not registered following exhaustion of the token cards though some IDPs were seen queuing to be re-registered. UNMISS who were on*

**Key Priorities**

*Provide bullet points summary of key priorities*

**Food Security**

- WFP to distribution of assorted food rations to 5,568 individuals immediately.
- Targeted distribution of seeds and tools immediately.

**NFIs**

- Plan International and NFIs cluster to distribute full NFIs kit to 928 HHs immediately.

**Health & Nutrition**

- WHO, SMoH and cluster to deliver emergency drugs, personnel and a tents.

**WASH:**

- SoH, DRWS and cluster to deliver water containers, and promote hygiene and sanitation immediately.

**Protection:**

- To continue monitoring the situation on ground and report on any new case load and make referral of any protection issues.

**Education:**

- No emergency required at the moment

*ground at the time the IRNA team left reported on their arrival to Rumbek that more IDPs continued to arrive after the IRNA team had left Amongpiny for Rumbek.*

**Trends and Scenarios**

*Being at the border, Panyinjar (Nuer ethnic group) and Amongpiny (Dinka Agar ethnic group) have had cordial relationships despite the cattle raiding and sometimes revenge attacks among them. The two communities do intermarry. The advisor to the Governor reported that during the 1998 famine in Bahr el Ghazal, some people from Lakes State had crossed over to Panyinjar and were warmly welcomed. The Panyinjar communities had shared their food with the Dinka people. Now that things have turned the other way round, the Dinka community has to welcome the Nuer community from Unity State.*

*The IDPs reported that they have been warmly welcomed by the host community and that they have been sharing the little food the community members had. The others who do not have any relations at all are surviving on palm fruits and other wild fruits. Some IDPs have expressed that they would stay in Amongpiny until December, and that they will be willing to cultivate if they have tools and seeds. They went on to say that the host community is willing to give them land to dig. Meanwhile, others including two teachers said that they will return as soon as they receive food because the situation back at home is not good and have left some people who could not walk the distance.*

**Humanitarian Access**

*A section of the road between in Rumbek East County (before and after Bahar Naam river is likely to cut off the road network if rains continue. The road from the junction after Aduel the Headquarters of Rumbek East County to Amongpiny is in good state (all weather).*

*There are no cases of presence of mines or UXO reported that could affect humanitarian response along the road and in Amongpiny.*

**Findings**

(use the information gathered under the cluster specific sections of the IRNA questionnaire)

**FSL**

**Findings:**

- A total of 928 households an equivalent of 5,586 individuals (new case load) were registered and issued with WFP token cards. However, it was alleged that an estimated 500 to 700 IDPs were not registered because the team ran out of token cards, though some of the people registered queued to re-register.
- WFP distributed 130 cartons of High Energy Biscuits (HEB) to keep the IDPs going for another three days before the food is delivered on the ground.
- The host community cultivated relatively large household farms of grand nuts but no maize or sorghum farms seen on ground.
- The IDPs did not come with livestock but others came with one or two goats – probably meant for barter trade.

**Recommendations:**

Short term

**Photos**

*Insert photos from the community level assessment that provides in-depth view of situation.*

**Photos**

*Insert photos from the community level assessment that provides in-depth view of situation.*



*Leader addressing IDPs to remain seated as they wait to be registered.*

- Immediate distribution of assorted food ration for a period of one month to the IDPs.

Medium term

- FAO and State Ministry of Agriculture (SMoA) to distribute agricultural inputs for the IDPs who will opt to stay for the period of cultivation.

**Health & Nutrition**

- At least seven IDPs presented with headache and shivering, and sweating while three had convulsions. It was not very clear whether they were suffering from malaria, hypoglycemia or something else.
- The health team recorded 24 other medical cases with different health condition (15 malaria cases, 5 cases observed with fainting, other 4 cases were of STIs related with pregnancy, RTIs).
- There are no existing health facility and health workers in Amongpiny and no private clinic either.

**Recommendations:**

Short term

- SMOH selected health workers (1 Clinical Officer, 2 nurses) and posted to Amongpiny for a period of two week.
- WHO provided Emergency drugs (anti-malarial drugs and diarrheal kits plus other antibiotics immediately) for Amongpiny
- In addition, WHO provide two bags of maize flour to the health workers as their food to take along to Amongpiny
- The State RRC Director donated a tent for the accommodation of health workers on the site
- The County Health Department (CHD) of Rumbek Centre contributed 1000 SSP for the health workers to buy some food while on ground
- Save the children will provide incentive for the health workers for the two week.
- The State RRC Director is in discussions with Sign of Hope to provide food assistance to the health workers.

Long term

- SMOH to put up a PHCU in Amongpiny Payam in order to assist the IDPs and the host community.
- Trained salaried health staff including vaccinators to be deployed in the area permanently.

**NFI & ES**

Findings:

- Some IDPs sleep under the trees and others sleep at the veranda of the Payam Administration building.
- The IDPs had no sleeping materials even a blanket to cover with.
- The IDPs do not have any cooking pots and a few were seen eating palm fruits.
- The IDPs were seen collecting water for drinking in water bottles (1 liter and 500 ml sizes). Others were seen collecting water in one to three liter jerry cans.



*IDPs desperately waiting to be registered*



*Two cases of convulsions*



*IDPs boiling some little grains in a small pot.*

- A woman was seen feeding her child with milk in a water bottle. Another was observed extracting juice from palm fruit into a small can in order to give to her child.

**Recommendations:**Short term

- Immediate distribution of complete NFIs (sleeping mats, blankets, plastic sheets, soap, kanga, mosquito nets, water containers, and cooking sets).

**WASH****Findings:**

- There is only one functional bore hole installed with a hand pump at the Payam Administration Office, which serves both the host and the IDPs in Amongpiny center.
- There is stagnant water at the end of the borehole platform, which cattle drink from. There is a cattle camp 30 – 40 meters away from the water point – posing threat to underground water contamination.
- There is no drainage to channel the water way. The surrounding of the borehole is dirty and muddy where there is no grass.
- The borehole is busy throughout. It is possible that it might take people 1-2hrs to collect water if the IDPs had water containers.
- The IDPs do not have water containers for collection and storage of water. They collected water for drinking in water bottles (500ml and 1 liter) while others had three liters jerry cans.
- There are only two pit latrines seen in the area. One belonging to the Payam Administration Office and another one at the proposed market compound constructed by VISTA/AECOM. Therefore, both the IDPS and the host community practice open defecation.
- The general hygiene practices are poor. Cases of eye infections (conjunctivitis) were seen among the IDPs – thus can easily spread to others if not controlled.
- The chances of water related disease outbreak is very high given the limited water points coupled with poor sanitation and hygiene practices.

**Recommendations**Short term

- Distribution of water containers (buckets and jerry cans) to the IDPs.
- Protection (fencing) of the water point and clearing of the drainage system.
- Distribution of water purification tablets to both the IDPs and host community who collect surface water from the ponds.
- Hygiene Promotion campaigns among the IDPS and host community.
- Bacteriological water testing required for the existing borehole to ensure water quality.

Long-term

- Drilling of more boreholes should the IDPs opt to stay to avoid

conflict between the two communities in Amongpiny Payam

- Construction of communal pit latrines for the IDPs. Meanwhile the hygiene promotional activities should aim at encouraging the host community to construct household pit latrines.

## Protection

### Findings

- During the two days of registration 9 cases of unaccompanied children ages 9-15 were identified, but all of them said they have their parents back in Panyinjar County, and would go back as soon as they receive food. They said their parent told them to join the other people heading to Amongpiny
- During the registration children were used by either their parents or relatives to double register - as child headed family, and at the same time same children coming for registration with his or her parent.
- Health / distress related cases were referred to Sign of Hope, WHO by the protection actors for medical attention.
- Some IDP households sleep under the trees, others at the veranda of the Payam Administration while others joined their relatives in the host community.
- The IDPs arrived without any house hold utensils but only with sacks in their hands.
- The IDP women reported that sexual harassment, particularly at night, is occurring from within the IDP community itself in Amongpiny. According to the women, this includes harassment against pregnant women.

### Recommendations:

#### Short term:

- Inter-Agency assessment should be conducted at Panyinjar County to ascertain the humanitarian situation and possible intervention to curb the current influx of the IDPs into Amongpiny Payam.
- A consistent protective presence in Amongpiny, as well as along the road towards Panyinjar, is recommended by protection actors in order to provide immediate referrals and assistance to the most vulnerable groups of people.
- Sexual violence prevention programming is strongly recommended.
- GBV sub cluster should make a specific assessment regarding sexual harassment trends.
- Protection actors to continuously monitor the situation throughout to ascertain the number of people staying and those returning to Panyinjar.

#### Long term:

- Mainstreaming of Child Protection (CP) activities into Education and other sectors.
- UNICEF through the State Ministry of Social Development to deliver recreational kits, this will support in opening up recreational activities for the children, especially behind Amongpiny Payam head quarter which the children cited as a play ground
- Identification and deployment of Child Protection partner

<p>Community Based Organization (CBO) to conduct activities on child protection in Amongpiny Payam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small Scale Funding Agreement (SSFA) agreement with a CP partner and conduct identification, registration, documentation of unaccompanied, separated, missing children, and respond to cases of vulnerable children affected by abuse, neglect in Amongpiny Payam</li> <li>• Together with the State Ministry of Social Development (SMoSD), conduct family tracing, and reunification for unaccompanied, separated and missing boys and girls as well as coordinating for foster care arrangement for unaccompanied, and separated children</li> <li>• There is need to set up Child Friendly Space using UNICEF tents. This will support children activities since there is no existing structures like schools in Amongpiny Payam</li> <li>• SMoSD Social workers to conduct massive awareness on child protection concerns. CP partners will coordinate with the Ministry’s Social Workers to have their presence on ground</li> </ul> <p><b>Education</b></p> <p><u>Findings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is only one under a tree primary school in Amongpiny</li> <li>• There are Seven teacher (two on payroll and five volunteers) were also no teaching materials including blackboards</li> <li>• At least 300 (258 boys and 42 girls) host community children have been registered in the under the tree school while 29 IDPs children (24 boys and 5 girls) were seen but were not enrolled at the school because they would return to Panyinjar soon.</li> <li>• Two teachers from Panyinjar were seen among the IDPs (one school inspector and a teacher). However the two teachers clearly said that they would return to Panyinjar soonest.</li> <li>• There are no WASH facilities near the school.</li> </ul> <p><b>Recommendations:</b></p> <p><u>Long term:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of recreational kit and temporary learning spaces.</li> <li>• Provision of teaching and learning materials.</li> </ul>	
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**Next steps**

*Agreed initial response:  
Who will do what and by when?*

<i>Cluster</i>	<i>Priority actions</i>	<i>Human and material resources required</i>	<i>Responsible Entity</i>	<i>By when</i>
<b>FSL</b>	<b>Immediate provision of a one month’s food ration</b>	<b>Food, Human Resources and Logistics.</b>	<b>WFP/FAO/SmoA</b>	<b>Immediately (effective 16<sup>th</sup> June 2014).</b>  <b>Seeds and tools (latest 30<sup>th</sup> June 2014) to those who will opt to stay until Dec.</b>
<b>NFIs &amp; ES</b>	<b>Immediate provision of</b>	<b>Assorted NFIs, Human Resources</b>	<b>Plan International,</b>	<b>Immediately (effective 16<sup>th</sup></b>

	sleeping mats, blankets, cooking sets, soap, water containers and Mosquito nets.	and Logistics.	IOM, UNHCR, Sign of Hope, SSRC, RRC.	June 2014).		
Health	Provision of drugs, health facility (tent), health personnel and incentives for health workers	Drugs, Tents, Human Resources and logistics.	SMOH, SoH, WHO and Plan International.	WHO and SmoH sent three Health Workers and drugs this morning. WHO provided initial food and SmoH donated 1000 ssp for the three health workers.  SCI to provide incentives and SoH to arrange for two weeks food for the health workers (latest 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2014) Plant International to provide Nutritional services (effective 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2014)		
WASH	Provision of Water Containers and health Promotion. Provision of Chlorine.	Buckets and or jerry cans, Chlorine/pure sachets	SoH, SmoPI-DRWS, RUWASSA	Immediately (effective 16 <sup>th</sup> June 2014)		
Protection Cluster	Continuous Monitoring of cluster needs and IDPs movements	Personnel and logistics	UNHCR, NvPF and UNICEF	Continuously (effective 16 <sup>th</sup> June 2014)		
<p><i>Cluster specific assessments recommended. Who will do what by when?</i></p>						
<p><i>Protection Cluster to continue monitoring the situation on ground including IDPs movement.</i></p>						
<b>Assessment information</b>						
- <i>Assessment Teams details</i>						
	<i>S/No</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>AGENCY</i>	<i>TITLE</i>	<i>EMAIL</i>	<i>PHONE</i>
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18.	Abraham Lual Bawuor	SMoA	Extension Supervisor		0926886410

**Geographical area visited (incl. GPS)**

Amongpiny-Rumbek Centre, **N 07°02'28.4"**  
**E030°04'27.7"**

**Assessment itinerary (incl. GPS)**

Rumbek town to Amongpiny (10<sup>th</sup> June 2014).  
Amongpiny to Rumbek (11<sup>th</sup> June 2014).

**Type of key informants interviewed (male/female, boys/girls)**

- 1) Local Leaders (IDPs Chiefs, Teachers, Opinion Leaders and Host Community Leaders)
- 2) Youth
- 3) Women
- 4) Men