Overview

- The Protection Cluster is collaborating with the Protection Adviser to the HC in identifying opportunities to ensure the implementation of the Centrality of Protection Strategy in South Sudan. An Inter-Agency mechanism, the Implementation Support Group (ISG), has been launched to provide an accountable oversight and support for the implementation of the Centrality of Protection Road Map objectives. The group is aimed to support and strengthen the capacity of the Protection Cluster and ensure better advocacy at the Humanitarian Country team level.

- The SSHF 2021 SA1 disbursed the funds to the selected partners which are starting with the implementation of projects. 23 proposals with protection component have been selected by the PC Review Committee, with a total allocation of US$10,194,502 for protection. In addition, SSHF Reserve Allocation on the amount of $20M has been announced to respond to the Hepatitis E outbreak in Bentiu IDP camp, for people impacted by the violence in Tambura, and for the flood response. Proposals are currently being reviewed.

- Over the last few months, Tambura county has witnessed an escalation on reports about conflict-related sexual violence, recruitment and forced recruitment, the targeting of civilians based on ethnicity and constraints with the provision of humanitarian assistance. The numbers of internally displaced people (IDPs) are still being verified with indications that as many as 80,000 people could have been affected. Consistent focus on the protection needs of the most vulnerable people is required to ensure the provision of life-saving support.

- The Protection Cluster Coordinators conducted its annual retreat on 20 and 21 September. The retreat provided an opportunity to reflect on the challenges facing protection actors in South Sudan. This includes reflection on the operational context as well as internal procedures and responsibility sharing across the Cluster. During the retreat the draft PC 2022-2023 Strategy has been revised and will be released in the coming weeks.

- A joint ICCG mission was conducted in September to Malakal to identify the main needs of the displaced population affected by floods, including visits to Canal/Pigi and Khorfulus where over 17,000 persons are estimated to have been displaced. A need to strengthen awareness raising and to improve community-based protection structures have been identified among priorities. Conflict sensitivity dynamics has to be taken as a priority in consideration when providing assistance.
Child Protection Sub-Cluster

Critical child protection needs - Several Inter-Agency Rapid Need Assessments were conducted in September in flood affected locations (Ayod, Fashoda, Yirol East, Twic East, Pigi Canal, and Khourflous) which indicated increased protections needs for children as result of displacement. Assessment findings reported cases of separation, need for MHPSS, and support for other vulnerabilities. In Tambura, violations of children rights were reported, including killing and miming. Access remains a major challenge in the flood and conflict-affected areas, especially in Ayod, Fangak, Canal/Pigi, Twic East, Guit, Rubkona, Gogrial, Panyijiar, Mayendit, Aweil East, Aweil South, and Tambura. Lack of adequate funding in some locations is a key gap to ensure continuity in the provision of critical child protection services and scale up of child protection responses in Greater Equatoria, Warrap, Western Bahr el Ghazal, Lakes, and Jonglei.

Support for flood-affected children

Child protection partners supported flood affected children and caregivers who have displaced in September from Ganyiel payam, Panyijiar county to higher grounds in Thoanhum payam. According to the recent IRNA report, it's estimated that 13,591 individuals were displaced due to heavy rainfall that increased water level and submerged the entire Ganyiel community. CP partners are supporting the children affected with provision of dignity kits to 250 adolescent girls and NFI for 100 children. In addition, 397 (184 girls, 213 boys) children were reached with non-focused PSS activities and 7,224 community members with child protection awareness activities.

Ending the cycles of violence dialogue - With support from the Reconciliation, Stabilization and Resilience Transfer Fund (RSRTF), Save the Children organized a three days High-Level Dialogue in Jonglei State under the theme "Ending the cycles of violence in Jonglei and the GPAA through the prevention of female and child abductions, and their successful reintegration". High level delegations from Juba attended the dialogue, which also included members of parliament, State Ministers, counties commissioners, chiefs, and women and youth leaders from Greater Bor, Twic East, Duk and Bor South. The Dialogue ended with a resolution endorsed to end abduction of children and women, and to release the abductees that are still with the abductors in Greater Bor.

Capacity building of CP actors

With support from UNICEF and UNDP through a UN Peace Building Fund (PBF) project, critical national actors involved in the justice for children work were trained on child rights and juvenile justice based on the Child Act (CA), 2008. The participants included judges, prosecutors, social workers, prison officers, police officers and customary court chiefs.

A training on the Upper Nile State Inter Agency Child Protection Information Management System Plus (CPIMS+) was conducted with the participation of 13 Agencies and the Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare in Upper Nile. The training was led by Save the Children in partnership with UNICEF and the CP Sub-cluster as part of the comprehensive CPIMS+ rollout plan.
Gender-Based Violence Sub-Cluster

GBV assessments and response - The month of September witnessed severe flooding in some parts of the country affecting the areas of Fangak, Canal/Pigi, Panyijiar, Mayandit, Rubkona, Aweil East, Renk, Maiwut, Longchuk and Gogrial East. Through the ICCG mission to Malakal, visiting Canal/Pigi and Khofulus, GBV partners identified increased risk of food insecurity due to the loss of shelter and food, congestion in households as displaced families are being hosted by relatives, and increase in Inter Partner Violence (IPV) as a result of the lack of food, congestion, amongst other factors. The Sub-cluster, through the GBV working group in Malakal, managed to dispatch 3,000 dignity kits to support the response in Canal/Pigi in this current situation of flooding.

Increased GBV risks in Tambura - The continuous conflict in Western Equatoria, especially in Tambura, has caused displacements in several payams within the state. GBV partners are responding to the needs of the displaced population, including with the provision of dignity kits and case management of GBV survivors. In a joint assessment, GBV partners identified sexual violence, physical violence and forced marriage as the main GBV concerns as the result of the conflict. In Tambura, Namutina and Nagero, there are limited options on access to services for women and children. The disparity in access to humanitarian services is particularly problematic for women and children in remote areas. Although the light response being provided to the survivors, scale up for better service provision to the affected population is needed. The displacement movements have also exposed women and girls to increased GBV and other protection risks during the journey to the places of displacement.

Enhancing GBV response

During September, the GBV Sub-cluster coordination team deployed to several locations in different states to carry out GBV Service mapping, update GBV referral pathway and develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for GBV prevention and response. The locations covered included Kapoeta, Aweil, Bor, and Yambio. The updated referral pathways support primary duty bearers and actors with information on how to respond to GBV cases and to guide the victims/survivors of GBV on where to seek assistance and what services are available at different referral points. In addition, developing SOPs boost coordination and and enhance the quality of GBV programming for both response and prevention. The Sub-cluster team will visit other locations to conduct similar activities, to enhance the GBV response across the country.
Explosive Remnant of War (ERW)-Related Accidents - No accidents from explosive ordnance were reported during the month of September.

Explosive Ordnance Risk Education - Although mine action clearance activities have been limited due to the COVID-19 pandemic until recently, mine action partners across the country have still been able to mitigate the risks of accidents through explosive ordnance risk education (EORE), which reached a total of 18,161 beneficiaries (3,607 women, 2,806 men, 5,874 girls, and 5,874 boys) in September 2021.

Clearance of land for cultivation

UNMAS launched a five-year global campaign, Safe Ground, turning minefields into playing fields to raise awareness about mine action while bringing communities together in fun and sport. In South Sudan, UNMAS held its inaugural Safe Ground event on 30 September in Ngulere, Central Equatoria. Bisected by the Juba-Torit road, the village of over 2,000 people, including approximately 460 IDPs, are eager for all land in their vicinity to be cleared from explosive ordnance so they can build homes and cultivate the land. Since March 2021, UNMAS has been clearing land in and around the village; a total 21 explosive hazards, including cluster munitions and mortars, as well as nearly 6,000 rounds of small arms ammunition were removed from the land which is now used as a football pitch.

The Safe Ground main event was a football match comprised of two teams made up from students from the Ngulere Primary School cheered on by their classmates, teachers, and community members. An explosive ordnance risk education (EORE) session was provided to the pupils, though many adults also listened closely, to learn how to identify, avoid and report explosive items they may come across.

UNMAS will continue to provide clearance and EORE in Ngulere’s surrounding vicinity. UNMAS also plans to conduct Safe Ground events in South Sudan to promote mine action’s community benefits.

prolonged sunshine that destroyed and dried up all our crops and now hunger [has] became our major threat, to the extent that, no one shares food with other neighbors,” said Jackline.

To report a suspicious object, please contact UNMAS at its 24-hour hotline (remains open during the COVID-19 crisis): 092 000 1055 or via email at report@unmas.org
Housing, Land and Property Technical Working Group (HLP TWG)

Advancing Women HLP rights - In order to facilitate implementation of the Women’s Land Rights Agenda in South Sudan, the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development (MLHUD), with support of HLP TWG members is developing an Action Plan with clear activities and estimate budgets required to deliver on proposed strategies of the Agenda. A two-days workshop on 06 and 07 September, supported by the IGAD Land Governance unit, kicked off drafting of the Action Plan. A working group is finalizing the plan, which will feed into the development of the Regional Women’s Land Rights Programme by IGAD.

Supporting Community Land Committees (CLCs) in Juba

HLP issues continue to hinder the return of several IDPs living in Juba IDP camps to their areas of origin or habitual residence. Challenges include secondary occupation, destruction of homes, lack of documents on legal ownership, amongst others. Community Land Committees (CLCs), which were established already before the conflict in 2013, are the main source for solving HLP issues amongst the IDPs and host communities. The Humanitarian Development Consortium (HDC), a national NGO, with support of the UNHCR is assisting the revitalization and continuation of the CLCs in the urban area in Juba since 2016.

In August and September, HDC has supported the IDPs in the Juba IDP camps with claims from their habitual area of residence in Khor William. Through consultations and seeking support of the local chief, HDC is assisting IDPs with their claims through informal and formal dispute resolution mechanisms to settle the cases.

The IDPs have expressed their appreciation to the support received in settling their cases. HDC will continue advocating with local authorities as well as humanitarian actors working on HLP issues to identify solutions for the disputes allowing IDPs to settle peacefully in their areas of origin or habitual residence.

Mobile Protection Coordination

Mobile protection missions were conducted in September to Ezo, Ayod Town, Raja, Kuajeina and Mundri. The missions identified as main protection concerns robberies/lootings, inter-communal violence, sexual violence, restriction of movements, cattle raiding, arbitrary killings, child recruitment into armed forces, child labor, GBV incidents including early and forced marriage and domestic violence.

The MPC also identified as priority locations for deployment in September the following locations: Ayod (with response ongoing), Canal/Pigi, Gumuruk, Magenis, Panyijar, Mayendit, Koch, Tambura
PROTECTION CLUSTER South Sudan
MONTHLY RESPONSE STATISTICAL SUMMARY
September 2021

35 Protection Cluster partners reported in September 2021
Protection cluster partners were active in all 10 states of South Sudan
51% of partners delivering Protection assistance are National NGOs.

Number of Partners delivering protection assistance in South Sudan’s states in September 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Number of Partners</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Western Equatoria</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Western Bahr el Ghazal</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warrap</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Nile</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unity</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Bahr el Ghazal</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakes</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jonglei</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Equatoria</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Equatoria</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

120,000 people were reached with protection assistances
Over 3,100 people with disabilities were reached
Highest number of reached was in Unity state with over 19,600

Reach per Protection Cluster Area of Responsibility in September 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Protection Cluster Area</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Adult Women</th>
<th>Adult Males</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mine Action</td>
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<tr>
<td>HLP</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Protection</td>
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<td>GBV</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child Protection</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

List of Protection Cluster partners active in South Sudan states in September 2021


- **Lakes**: Community in Need Aid, Nonviolent Peaceforce, Plan International, Save the Children International

- **Northern Bahr el Ghazal**: Charity and Empowerment Foundation, Save the Children International


- **Warrap**: LULU-South Sudan, Touch Africa Development Organization, United Nations Mine Action Service, Veterinaires Sans Frontieres Germany, World Vision International

- **Western Bahr el Ghazal**: Johanniter International Assistance, United Nations Mine Action Service

- **Western Equatoria**: Catholic Medical Missions Board, Child Relief and Support Fund, Nonviolent Peaceforce, World Vision International

For more information about the Protection Cluster South Sudan activities please visit [www.southsudanprotectioncluster.com](http://www.southsudanprotectioncluster.com)