



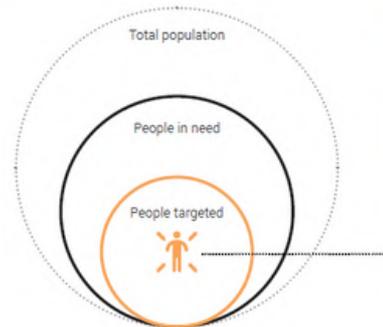
Photo: Protection Cluster.

Overview

- The 2021 HRP South Sudan has been launched on 16 March. Of the 8.3M identified to be in need in the HNO, 6.6M people will be targeted in the HRP with 1,68B USD required for the response. The Protection Cluster aims to target over 2.6M people with a financial requirement of 99M USD. 78 partners have been selected by the PC, with 109 recommended projects. The PC will ensure the provision of protection related services through an integrated approach, preventing and mitigating protection risks and enabling durable solutions for displaced people and other populations.

People Targeted

Total population
12.1M
People in Need
8.3M
People targeted
6.6M



Women targeted
24%
Men targeted
22%
Girls targeted
27%
Boys targeted
27%

Protection



2.6M targeted



99M USD
required



109 projects

General Protection



849K



23M USD



29

Child Protection



800K



29M USD



36

Gender-Based Violence



917K



30M USD



42

Housing, Land and Property



609K



6.3M USD



14

Mine Action



209K



10M USD



11

Child Protection Sub-Cluster

Child Protection needs and response - the various humanitarian situations affecting the country including conflict, displacement and climatic shocks continue to demand strengthened provision of life saving child protection. The CPWG in Pibor coordinated the support for documentation, family tracing and reunification (FTR) services for more than 250 released children. All children and adult abductees were provided with PSS support which will continue throughout the reunification process expected to be finalized during April and May. In Yei, following recent violent clashes and subsequent displacement, CP partners have identified 45 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) cases and are currently providing FTR services. In Greater Tonjs, CP partners identified critical child protection needs on the grounds in preparation to the implementation of a integrated project to be implemented through a SSHF reserve allocation. Gaps in services were reported in Akobo, Ayod, and Pibor, following the termination of child protection projects in these locations.

Response scale-up

The Sub-cluster is closely coordinating with child protection partners the response scale-up in the 10 highly food insecure counties. More than 8,000 people were reached with child protection services in March. CP partners are receiving support from the Sub-cluster to continue identifying the needs and scale-up the response, coordinate with the state level CPWGs and the technical reference working groups and address the challenges for the response. Critical gaps in child protection services, including case management and referral networks for protection services, is foreseen as funding for many interventions finishes at the end of March.



Strengthening the capacity of government officials on justice for children - child protection partners (WCH and Unicef) and Jonglei State Ministry of Justice conducted a four days training and consultative workshop on justice for children. A total of 30 government staffs (22 men, 8 women) from police, judicial courts, prison administration, Ministry of Gender, Child and Social-welfare, Ministries of Education and Health, and National Defence Force participated in the workshop. The four days' workshop aimed to improve children's access to justice services, strengthen coordination among stakeholders on children in contact with the law and enable the enforcement of the Child Act, 2008 at local level.

Capacity Building on Child Protection

Training school teachers on psychosocial support and wellbeing - IRC facilitated three days of training on Positive Behavior Management and Stress Reduction to 520 teachers (125 women, 395 men) in Panyijiar county as part of preparations to the schools re-opening. Children who have been away from schools for almost one year following schools closure due to COVID-19 prevention measures have passed through multiple difficulties and may return to school with various psychological distress and behavioral challenges. The training supported teachers in preparing to focus on positive behavioral management and stress reduction during school re-opening to ensure a supportive and safe school environment that can reduce violence against children and other child protection concerns.



Building skills of frontline workers - as part of the Sub-cluster efforts to strengthen the capacity of frontline child protection staff, 41 case workers and child protection officers (28 women, 13 men) were trained in Bor. The training focused on case management, community-based child protection mechanisms, referral pathways, and child protection in emergencies. The Sub-cluster aims to strengthen child protection response across the country through the capacity building trainings.

Gender-Based Violence Sub-Cluster

GBV needs and response - the Sub-cluster continues supporting partners for the response scale-up in the highly food insecure counties. Responding to the acute needs, 9,000 dignity kits were prepositioned to be distributed in the affected counties during the month of March. GBV partners are working with health partners and the Ministry of Health to identify health facilities for GBV survivors, training health workers on the Clinical Management of Rape (CMR) and establishing critical referral of services for GBV partners. The Sub-cluster has also participated in a joint safety audit in the Juba IDP Camp 1 and 3. The preliminary findings demonstrate an increase on GBV incidents in the camps over the past months. Women and girls reported fear of suffering rape or sexual assault and lack of timely resolutions of GBV cases in the community-based traditional mechanisms.

Key gaps and recommendations

- Strengthened security services for women and girls in Juba IDP camps.
- Provision of basic services for women and girls in IDP camps to minimize the movement outside of camps.
- Clinical management of rape cases and training for health service providers in highly food insecure areas.



International Women's Day 8 March

The GBV Sub-Cluster joined several women organizations to celebrate the International Women's Day under the theme "Women Stand for Peace and Security: Challenge conflict and violence for Equality". A radio talk show was conducted with the participation of the GBV partners from Kapoeta South and Mundri, who highlighted the current GBV concerns reported across the country and discussed the nature and prevalence of violence against women and girls during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Radio talk show "Our Women, Our Leaders, for Equal Future".

Women in Kapoeta South also participated of the celebrations, promoting an exhibition and sale of skill building product made by Women at ARC Women and Girls Friendly Spaces (WGFS). The activities at the WGFS aim to enable women to use the skills learnt for economic well-being of their households. During the celebrations, all actors including women and Women Led Organizations in South Sudan were encouraged to embark on initiatives that challenge conflict and violence at home, community and nationally for the achievement of gender equality.



Mine Action Sub-Cluster

Explosive Remnant of War (ERW)-Related Accidents - on 22 March, a front-loaded tractor drove over an anti-tank mine during its operation and triggered an explosion in Juba, Central Equatoria. The operator sustained minor injuries and the machine was damaged. UNMAS investigated the accident, and removed and destroyed another anti-personnel mine in the vicinity of the accident site upon receiving the report.

Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) - 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 19,731 beneficiaries (4,461 women, 4,203 men, 5,125 girls, and 5,942 boys) in March 2021.

Explosive Ordnance Clearance Operations Improve Livelihoods in Kerepi, Pageri Payam, Magwi County

Mrs. Marthina Juruwa and her eight children have returned to their home in Kerepi, Pageri Payam after residing in a refugee settlement in Uganda. In 2016, Marthina and her family fled to Uganda due to armed conflict in the area. While they fled for safety reasons, the living conditions became increasingly challenging for them in Uganda, as the food ratio was limited and they did not have farmland to cultivate.

DanChurchAid's (DCA) humanitarian mine action team has been clearing the land in Kerepi and its surrounding areas for unexploded ordnance (UXOs) and other ERW. Marthina has acquired farmland that was previously unavailable in her village due to the presence of ERW.



Marthina Juruwa interviewed by DCA staff in Kerepi.

However, before the family started cultivating their land, they participated in explosive ordnance risk education (EORE) sessions provided by DCA. The sessions taught them what to do if they found suspicious objects and have ultimately reduced the family's risk of EO-related incidents. The continuous presence of DCA working in the area, doing clearance as well as EORE, has given Marthina hope for the future. Marthina explained that since there is land for them to cultivate, their suffering will decrease and she looks forward to a safer and more sustainable future for her and her family.



MDCA in BAC area in Pageri Payam



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)

The HLP TWG identified several HLP issues reported in the 10 highly food insecure counties considered for the response scale-up. Conflicts over land may arise due to food insecurity, especially those over the farmable lands. Given the linkages between land and property and agriculture and livelihoods, food security is also closely linked with land and as land is also a significant conflict driver in South Sudan, land and property disputes have the potential to be both caused by and to cause food insecurity. The issues are aggravated with the several return movements, increasing the competition over resources in several areas. The HLP TWG members are supporting the response scale-up, providing legal counselling and promoting awareness raising in the affected counties.

Capacity building on HLP in Magwi

Community In Need Aid-South Sudan (CINA) is implementing several HLP activities in Magwi, Eastern Equatoria through a Multi-Cluster project funded by the South Sudan Humanitarian Fund (SSHF). In March, CINA conducted a capacity building training on HLP rights, HLP dispute resolution mechanisms, mitigation measures and peace building approaches which was attended by community members and local chiefs. Chief of Labato Boma, who participated of the training highlighted the impact of the activity to his community and himself in particular “When I came to the training, I didn’t have full knowledge of the land laws, women’s land rights and disputes resolution mechanisms. But now, the training has added more knowledge and well equipped to handle land disputes in my Boma”.

The training also had positive results on the resolution of HLP disputes in the county. After the training, a land claim dispute was brought for Chief Lotara and the council of elders consideration. Two returnees claimed a piece of land which was grabbed by a person, who constructed two concrete structures on it. The Chief and the council of elders resolved that the land originally belonged to the returnee. However, the committee went to win-win solution, stating that the person, settled on the land as a bonafide occupant, should be allowed to occupy the portion of the land in which she constructed the structures. The verdict was accepted by both parties. The decision demonstrates the positive impacts of HLP interventions to the local authorities and community members conducted by CINA, implementing the realization of women’s HLP rights.



CINA team conducting a capacity building training in Magwi

Mobile Protection Coordination

Mobile protection missions were conducted in March to Akobo and Tonj South, as well as upcoming missions planned for Pibor, Aweil South, and Yei. Members participated in the Interagency Assessment to Bungu, Ganji, Lainya, Bereka, Wonduruba, and Ketegiri, as well as an assessment to Kwerijiik. Actions were flagged for follow-up by the CES ICCG; however, due to increase in fighting and access concerns, the situation requires continued close monitoring.

MPCF held a introductory/training session for new members of the MPCF on 19 March. The session served to provide an overview of the role of the MPCF and best practices for mobile teams carrying out protection response. This will be further supported with mini-capacity building sessions in upcoming meetings.