

Key figures

7.5 M	Humanitarian Assistance
1.47 M	Internally Displaced Persons with 190K living in PoCs
2.22 M	South Sudanese refugees in other countries
4.54 M	Severely Food Insecure
1.3 M	Malnourished Children
597K	Malnourished Women
93	Stabilization centres

Cumulative vaccination

121 066 (20%)	Children under one year vaccinated with oral polio vaccine
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962, 158	Initial numbers of children vaccinated against measles in the follow up campaign phase one
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Public Health Threats

24	Counties with confirmed measles outbreaks in 2019 and Jan 2020
4	Protection of Civilians (PoC) sites with confirmed measles outbreaks in 2019
30	Counties affected by floods
4	Counties with malaria cases surpassing their set thresholds in week 5
119	Cumulative EVD alerts received since August 2018 to 30 th Jan-2020



On 25 February 2020, WHO and partners conducted health needs assessment in Malak, Rumbek, following inter-tribal fight that displaced residence. Photo: WHO

Key Bi-Weekly Highlights

- First phase of the nationwide Measles Follow up Campaign has been concluded in 53 counties with initial coverage of 47%. Second phase will start in March
- As part of COM D-19 preparedness activities, a team of contact tracers have been trained
- Upsurge of Measles cases in Aweil East county
- Increased cases of Hepatitis E in the Benti u POC site Rubkona County
- High risk of occurrence of Yellow Fever outbreak in Kaj-o-Keji County
- Over 200 000 beneficiaries have been reached with medical supplies in floods affected areas.

- Overall humanitarian access in the country improved in 2019, according to a new publication by OCHA, partly due to the signing of the revitalized peace agreement in late 2018. A total of 535 access incidents were reported, compared to 760 in 2018.
- Estimated 6.5 million South Sudanese will face severe food insecurity between May and July, according to a joint report issued by the government of South Sudan and three UN agencies (WFP, FAO and UNICEF)
- Mature swarms of desert locusts have reportedly entered several villages in Magwi and Ikotos Counties from neighbouring Uganda mid-February, according to Eastern Equatoria state authorities reported.
- On 21 February, a total of 49 aid workers from 10 NGOs were relocated from PiBOR to Juba as a precautionary measure following unconfirmed reports of possible attack on PiBOR town by armed groups
- On 26 February 2020, WHO and partners with support from South Sudan Humanitarian Fund (SSHF) have conducted inter-agency rapid assessment in Malek village in Rumbek to identify key urgent medical needs of the population following recent inter-communal fighting that resulted in the closure of a Malek PHCU, destruction of medical supplies and displacement of health workers.
- There has been reported increase in the number of IDPs in Jonglei and Upper Nile State, with over 2 000 in Duk Padet, and, 380 at PiBOR UNMISS (AA) site and, 8 137 individuals in Aburac IDP site in Fashoda County Upper Nile.
- Over 2 000 internally displaced persons have returned home in Thor Gwang, Manyo county in Upper Nile State
- Internally displaced persons in Khor Adar in Upper Nile are in need of humanitarian assistance particularly health and WASH
- Incidents of rape reported in Lasui in Yei County, the perpetrators are soldiers. Survivors have received services with support of a GBV Sub-Custer partner in Yei.
- Sudan people's liberation Army in Opposition (SPLA-IO) forces released 47 women and 26 children to United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) in Li-Rangu, Yambio County.

Overview of the humanitarian crises

Emergency Response Activities

Flood response

- On 26 February 2020, The WHO Emergency Mobile Medical Team

(EMMT) offered OPD consultations to 58 beneficiaries all children and women in Malak and Apat Rumbek county

- Collectively, over 200 000 beneficiaries have been reached through the medical supplies that have been distributed since the beginning of the flood response.
- Installation of additional cold chain system at Flor county has been completed. The OCV campaign has been put on hold as the current insecurity situation in Flor is unpredictable.

Emergency Mobile Medical Team (EMMT) Mission in Mbrobo County, 3 to 19 February 2020

- The team conducted medical consultations and reached 1 445 outpatients, trained 49 health care workers on case management, Integrated Disease Surveillance (IDS) and Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) and donated 48 boxes medical supplies to serve 3 770 people.

Nutrition Response

- WHO trained health workers on the national guideline on severe acute malnutrition to ensure quality management of severe acute malnutrition among children between 0-59 months in the stabilization centers.

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) as of 16 February 2020

- As of 1 March 2020, a total of 87 137 laboratory confirmed and 1 739 new cases have been reported globally. In China 79 968 laboratory-confirmed (579 new confirmed and 2 873 deaths (35 new deaths) have been reported.
- Outside of China 7 169 laboratory confirmed (1 160 new) cases and 104 deaths have been reported in 58 countries.
- As of 1 March 2020, Egypt; Algeria and Nigeria are the African countries which reported a confirmed case.

Current preparedness for the risk of COVID-19 in South Sudan

- The Government of South Sudan with support from WHO, Centre for Disease Control (CDC), and partners continue to closely monitor COVID-

19 situations in China and other countries.

- Three media briefings held to alert the public about the COVID-19 and the measures instituted by Government and partners to mitigate the risk.
- Health alert notice issued to inform state Ministries of Health, County Health Departments, and health facility workers about the COVID-19 outbreak.
- Travel health notice issued to provide information to people traveling from China and other affected countries.
- Entry screening intensified in Juba International Airport and the mobile screening is installed in Nile Port, to identify passengers who traveled from China and other affected countries in the last 14 days for follow up by contact tracing teams.
- Contact tracing teams were trained on contact follow up.
- Established a COVID-19 Incident Management Structure in the PHEOC to guide the implementation of the preparedness activities and prepare for the activation of the Emergency Response System should the need arise in addition to:
 - Assessing the national capacities for detecting and responding to COVID-19 to identify main gaps; perform risk assessments; and
 - Develop, implement and monitor time-limited national preparedness plans to enhance capacities for COVID-19 response;
 - Develop the requisite guidelines to support the implementation of the COVID-19 preparedness plans.

Hepatitis E in Benti u POC

- On 18 February, health partners have reported increased cases of Hepatitis E in the Benti u POC site Rubkona County. A total of 44 cases and one death reported in the first six weeks of the year 2020.
- Health and WASH coordinating response to the rising HEV cases in Benti u PoC. However, the Emergency Preparedness and Response (EP&R) department in the PHEOC is following up with HEV task force meeting in Benti u PoC for prompt intervention.

Yellow Fever Investigation in Kaj-o-Keji County

- On 22 January 2020, Uganda issued press release on confirmed yellow fever outbreaks in 2 districts of Moyo and Bulisa. The two confirmed cases in Moyo district were South Sudanese refugees dealing in trading timber between Uganda and Kaj-o-Keji in South Sudan.
- On 12 to 18 February, National Rapid Response Team conducted investigations in Kaj-o-Keji including Entomological investigations. All 41 samples collected randomly from the areas tested negative for Yellow Fever with PCR. Entomological findings suggest that there is high risk of possible YF transmission in Kaj-o-Keji due to significant presence of YF vector and therefore recommended *Yellow Fever* vaccination in Kaj-o-Keji county
- Reports of unusual death of large number of fish in Sakure, Tambura county. WHO, MoH and Ministry of Animal Resources and Fisheries is investigating

Measles and Rubella Outbreaks

- Phase one of the Country wide measles follow up campaign ended with 962 158 children have been vaccinated in 53 counties. Remaining 27 counties are to be part of phase 2 which will commence on 10 March
- In 2020 measles outbreaks confirmed in four counties, Torj East; Magwi; Bor; Kapoeta East and Torj South. All these counties are part of phase one measles follow up campaign which started on 4 February 2020.
- Upsurge of measles cases in Aweil East county in spite of reactive campaigns conducted in July 2019 and January 2020. Health cluster in states is coordinating response with support from National health cluster.
- As of Week, 7, Rubella outbreaks was confirmed in four counties in Lakes state: Wily, Rumbek Centre; Rumbek East and Yird West and in Leer and Kapoeta East Counties
- Jebel Boma in Ribor county reported 96 measles cases with 11 community deaths. Reactive vaccination campaign started on 26 February 2020 as Jebel Boma is part of the second phase measles follow up campaign on 10 March 2020.
- In week 08, 2020 I DSR reporting completeness was 87% and timeliness was 84% at health facility level. Both completeness and timeliness for E-WARN reporting sites were 85%

- Of the 135 alerts in week 08, 2020; Malaria (30), AWD (38), measles (12) and bloody diarrhoea (28) were the top common alerts generated through the EWARS system
- To strengthen capacities to detect, report, investigate & respond to outbreaks & other public health threats in South Sudan, WHO with support from USAID distributed integrated diseases surveillance & response (IDSR) guidelines & tools in Nzara, Ezq, Nagero & Tambura
- For more details, visit: <https://www.afro.who.int/publications/south-sudan-weekly-disease-surveillance-bulletin-2020>

Operational gaps and challenges

- Limited resources to cover all the affected counties.
- Weak coordination mechanisms at sub-national level.
- Insecurity in conflict affected counties.
- Huge operational costs measured against available donor funds.
- Inadequate human resources for health at subnational levels.

Resource mobilization

Name of appeal	Required funds	Funds secured	Gap
WHE Operations	22 million	2 million	20 million

Key donors

WHO Country Office of South Sudan registers appreciation for the great support provided from all development and health-implementing partners to various health programs that continue to provide technical support and health operations throughout the country. It is WHO's great desire to pull all the resources together with concerted efforts in protecting South Sudan population from health emergencies and provide Universal Health Care to all. Resource Mobilization is ongoing to realize this goal. We acknowledge support from all organizations. Donors are listed in alphabetical order.

- Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)
- European Union Humanitarian Aid (ECHO)
- Global Alliance for Vaccine Initiative (Gavi)
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- The Government of Japan
- The Department for International Development (DFID)
- South Sudan Humanitarian Fund (SSHF)
- World Bank

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