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SOUTH SUDAN

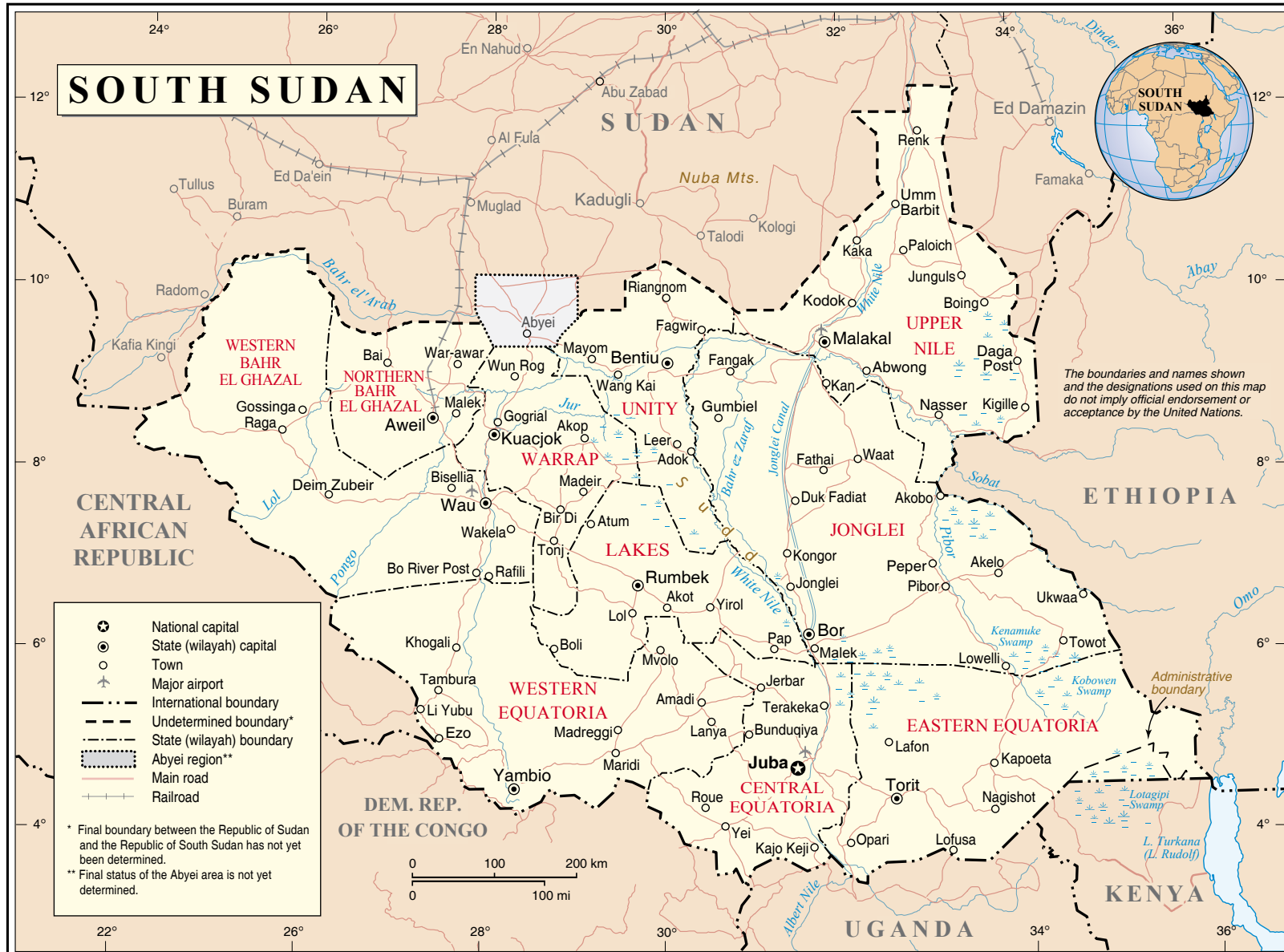
New displacement adds to critical humanitarian situation in the country since independence

After more than 50 years of civil war, the Republic of South Sudan declared independence from Sudan on 9 July 2011. Until that point, Sudan had been the largest country in Africa and as of the end of 2010 it was home to up to 5.2 million internally displaced people (IDPs) – more than any other country in the world (IDMC, 23 December 2010).

South Sudan's declaration of independence took place amid escalating violence and conflict along its northern border with Sudan, which in the town of Abyei alone led to the displacement of at least 110,000 civilians. The new country has faced enormous challenges during its first months of statehood, including disagreements with Sudan over the demarcation of their border and the water and grazing rights of nomadic groups who move across it; unresolved disputes over the sharing of oil revenues - oil fields are mostly in the south but the refining and export infrastructure is in the north; large return movements from Sudan; an internal displacement crisis caused by inter-tribal conflict and fighting between government forces and new militia groups; and widespread food insecurity.

The government is working to establish new state institutions and capacity, but South Sudan remains one of the poorest and least developed countries in the world.

Map of South Sudan



Map No. 4450 Rev.1 UNITED NATIONS
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Department of Field Support
Cartographic Section

Source: UN Cartographic Section
 More maps are available at www.internal-displacement.org

Background

Conflict between north and south

After Sudan gained independence from the British in 1956, armed conflict between the north and the south broke out almost immediately. The causes of the conflict were the concentration of power and wealth among northern elites, and the political and economic marginalisation of the south (ICG, December 2010). The conflict ended in 1972 with the signing of the Addis Ababa Peace Agreement, which accorded the south a measure of autonomy (BBC, 22 November 2011).

In 1983, the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A) took up arms against the Government of Sudan (GoS) after it rescinded the autonomy accorded to the south and imposed sharia law. Sudan is predominantly Muslim, but the South Sudanese follow traditional African religions and Christianity (BBC, 22 November 2011). The war had a devastating impact on the population in the south, causing the deaths of an estimated two million people, the internal displacement of four million and the flight of nearly 500,000 to neighbouring countries (Accord, December 2006).

The Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA)

The fighting, which lasted for more than 20 years, ended in January 2005 with the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) between GoS and SPLM/A. The CPA established a new Government of National Unity in the north and an interim Government of South Sudan (GoSS). It also envisaged the sharing of oil revenues and security arrangements, including the disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration (DDR) of former combatants (USDoS, 22 September 2011).

The CPA also set 2009 as the date for democratic elections, to be followed by a referendum on self-determination for South Sudan. The elections were eventually held in April 2010 and the referendum in January 2011, when 99 per cent of people voted in favour of independence (CSM,

30 January 2011). South Sudan's declaration of independence in July 2011 marked the end of the CPA (BBC, 22 November 2011), and following it the SPLA became the new country's army. The agreement did not address the armed conflict in Darfur or the demands of the people of eastern Sudan. Peace agreements for Darfur have been negotiated separately.

The Three Areas: Abyei, Blue Nile and South Kordofan

The CPA contained separate protocols for the resolution of conflict in three states on the border between the north and the south. Known as the Three Areas, Abyei, Blue Nile and South Kordofan witnessed some of the war's heaviest fighting. Under the CPA, Blue Nile and South Kordofan became part of Sudan but no agreement was reached on Abyei, the status of which is still disputed.

Abyei should have held a separate referendum to determine whether it would become part of the north or the south at the same time as the South Sudanese voted on their independence (AllAfrica.com, 26 May 2011). The referendum, however, has yet to be held because the two countries disagree on who is eligible to vote. This includes the question of the Misseriya, a nomadic group allied to GoS whose large numbers are likely to tip the scales in favour of the north (Accord, May 2011; UN OCHA, 3 August 2011).

Disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration

As of December 2009, around 2.7 million small arms and light weapons were estimated to be circulating in Sudan, more than two-thirds of which were outside state control (Small Arms Survey, December 2009). In April 2012, the figure for South Sudan was put at 317,200 among state forces and 9,850 among non-state militias (Small Arms Survey, April 2012). Arms proliferation has long been identified as a critical factor in the outbreak and escalation of armed violence and conflict in South Sudan (HSBA, November 2011). As such, DDR of former combatants is a crucial element of peace-building.

The country's national DDR strategy for 2012 to 2017 is currently being finalised. It envisages a government-led initiative to demobilise 80,000 SPLA soldiers and 70,000 members of other security forces, including police, and prison, wildlife and fire brigades (UNMISS, 29 November 2011). DDR operations were scheduled to start in April but have yet to secure donor support (HSBA, August 2011). An initial pilot caseload of 4,500 combatants, however, will be supported by the *UN Mission in South Sudan* (UNMISS) and the UN Development Programme (UNDP) (UN SC, 2 November 2011).

Civilian disarmament

GoSS has estimated that thousands of illegal firearms are held by civilians and in August 2011 it issued a presidential decree calling on SPLA to begin a civilian disarmament campaign in Lakes, Unity and Warrap states (Saferworld, October 2011). Organised by the governor of each state, the campaign is a community-led, voluntary effort backed up by SPLA-led enforcement as necessary (UN SC, 2 November 2011). In October, 3,200 weapons were voluntarily handed over in Lakes and 2,500 in Warrap (Saferworld, October 2011). UNMISS is also helping the South Sudan Bureau for Community Security and Small Arms Control to develop systems and infrastructure for the registration and safe storage of weapons (UN SC, 2 November 2011).

Civilian disarmament also began in Jonglei state on 12 March 2012 (Sudan Tribune, 12 March 2012), and UNMISS reported that more than 4,000 weapons were collected in the first few days (UN OCHA, 15 March 2012). There is concern that the Jonglei process may be derailed if inter-tribal conflict and cattle raids continue, as was the case in September and December 2011, because communities may be reluctant to disarm in the face of ongoing violence (UN OCHA, 22 March 2012).

Economic context

South Sudan's economy was for many years based

on subsistence agriculture, but oil revenues now account for 95 per cent of its national budget (UN OCHA, 14 July 2011). The country, however, is not able to export oil without access to Sudan's refineries and pipelines to the Red Sea (BBC, 9 November 2011). As a result of disagreements over the fees for doing so and the alleged confiscation of oil by Sudan, GoSS halted production altogether in January. The shutdown is scheduled to last for 30 months and has already put significant strains on the economy (BBC, 17 February 2012). The two governments held talks in Ethiopia in February under the mediation of the African Union (AU), but they failed to produce an agreement. They did, however, sign a non-aggression and cooperation pact, committing to respect each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity (UN OCHA, 16 February 2012).

In response to the loss of oil revenues, GoSS implemented austerity measures in February in an effort to cut government expenditure (South Sudan News Agency, 19 February 2012). The UN and humanitarian organisations have urged the government to reduce military spending rather than cutting services such as health and education, in order to minimise the impact on the country's humanitarian situation and the lives of people already suffering poverty (AllAfrica.com, 17 March 2012; UN OCHA, 23 February 2012).

Causes of displacement

Internal displacement in South Sudan has occurred in different phases and as a result of a number of causes. Internally displaced people (IDPs) can be separated into the following five groups: (1) those displaced by fighting between the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) and SPLA in Abyei in May 2011 (while Abyei remains under dispute, IDPs are included in UN figures for South Sudan); (2) those displaced by fighting between SPLA and new dissident militia groups within South Sudan; (3) those displaced by inter-tribal conflicts; (4)

those displaced by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA); and (5) those displaced by floods and the impacts of the 2011 drought and delayed onset of the rains in February 2012.

Fighting in Abyei between SAF and SPLA

In May 2011, SAF launched an offensive in Abyei in response to what it claimed were SPLA attacks which had killed dozens of northern soldiers (NYT, 22 May 2011). The fighting displaced 110,000 people and led the UN to deploy its Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA) (UN News Centre, 6 October 2011).

In June 2011, GoS and GoSS agreed to pull out their troops, leaving UNISFA as the only armed force in the area. The UN has repeatedly called on both countries to withdraw, facilitate the safe return of IDPs and enable continuous humanitarian access to the area, but neither has honoured its commitment to do so (UN News Centre, 4 November 2011 and 11 November 2011). Sudan's Armed Forces (SAF) withdrew its troops from the territory at the end of May 2012 as Sudan and South Sudan resumed talks in Addis Ababa following a series of clashes between the two countries along the disputed border (HSBA, 2 June 2012).

IDPs from Abyei fled to neighbouring states, including Warrap, Unity, Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Western Bahr el Ghazal. Humanitarian organisations launched a comprehensive emergency response, but they are still in need of food, water, sanitation and medical care. Many are out of reach because permits for humanitarian access have not been issued (UN OCHA, 1 March 2012). The food security of the local population is also at risk because the presence of IDPs has put further pressure on already stretched resources.

Dissident militias within South Sudan

Dissidents disputed the results of the country's April 2010 presidential election and launched armed insurgencies against the SPLM/A (ICG, 4

April 2011; UN GA, 22 August 2011). According to human rights organisations, the ensuing fighting has killed hundreds of people, including women and children, and displaced thousands in Upper Nile, Unity and Jonglei states (HRW and AI, 30 June 2011). Both sides have been accused of violating human rights and international humanitarian law (HSBA, July 2011). The UN has reported violations including the re-mining of transport routes, arbitrary detention, the destruction of property, gender-based violence (GBV) and forced recruitment (UN OCHA, 20 July 2011).

GoSS has made efforts to negotiate with the militias, but disarming them and integrating them into SPLA has proven difficult, given that it must also show a commitment towards inclusive governance in order to address their grievances, and at the same time reduce the size of its military and disarm the civilian population (Enough, 3 March 2011). GoS has denied accusations from GoSS that it supports and funds the militias (BBC, 22 November 2011).

Inter-tribal conflicts

In his April 2009 report to the UN Security Council, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon highlighted his serious concern at "the impact on civilian populations of the inter-tribal violence in Southern Sudan" (UN SC, 17 April 2009). Since then, such conflicts over resources and cattle have deteriorated from a common but relatively low-level security threat to an increasingly deadly and politically sensitive phenomenon.

The most recent violence took place in Jonglei and Unity states in August, September and December 2011. In Jonglei, 26,800 people were displaced and 30,000 head of cattle stolen in August, (UN OCHA, 26 August 2011), and Unity was the scene further raids the following month. The assailants in Unity were particularly violent, targeting women and children, and displacing 28,000 people (UN OCHA, 3 November 2011).

In response, GoSS deployed SPLA soldiers to the region and UNMISS sent in troops and assessment missions. The latter has also conducted daily air patrols and reconnaissance operations (UN SC, 2 November 2011). Despite these efforts, however, the security situation in Jonglei remains volatile, with tensions caused by the inter-tribal violence overlain by the presence of militias fighting SPLA (UN OCHA, 29 September 2011).

In December, violence between the Lou Nuer and Murle communities in Jonglei displaced more than 60,000 people, many of them to remote areas beyond the reach of UNMISS or humanitarian organisations (Sudan Tribune, 11 January 2012). UNMISS troops were deployed in support of SPLA soldiers trying to prevent further violence, but the UN Security Council has voiced concern that a shortage of operational helicopters limited the mission's ability to carry out its mandate (UN News Centre, 10 January 2012). It has also pressed for ethnic reconciliation between the warring communities to end a cycle of violence that has killed hundreds of civilians and displaced many thousands more. The UN estimates that inter-tribal conflicts in Jonglei have left more than 140,000 people with humanitarian needs (Small Arms Survey, November 2011; UN OCHA, 22 March 2012).

The Lord's Resistance Army

LRA took up arms against the government of Uganda in the 1980s under the leadership of Joseph Kony. After he refused to sign a final peace agreement, the Ugandan army launched Operation Lightning Thunder in December 2008 to try to eradicate the group. The operation, however, only succeeded in forcing LRA into remote areas of other countries, including the Central African Republic (CAR), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and South Sudan. Today LRA is active in all three countries, but operates in small, scattered groups that are difficult to track down (CSIS, 18 October 2011). The group has long abandoned any political agenda and its sole objective is survival. Its methods include attacking

and looting villages (and pillaging food, medicines and arms), killing civilians and abducting boys for use as child soldiers and girls for use as sex slaves. The International Criminal Court issued arrest warrants for the top LRA commanders in July 2005 on charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

LRA attacks continued in all three countries throughout 2011, and affected communities have formed self-defence militias to protect themselves. In South Sudan, the Arrow Boys and the Home Guards were established in 2010. The UN Security Council, however, has expressed concern over the long-term consequences of armed civilian groups operating outside government command and control (UN SC, 4 November 2011). LRA attacks have also hampered humanitarian access to affected communities (UN SC, 4 November 2011).

In South Sudan, LRA is active in Western Equatoria and Western Bahr el Ghazal states. Twenty-five attacks were reported in 2011, displacing nearly 7,400 people and bringing the number of people to have fled LRA violence in the country since 2008 to 70,000 (UN OCHA, 27 January 2012). In March, AU set up a 5,000-strong military force to combat LRA with troops from CAR, DRC, South Sudan and Uganda. It will have its headquarters in Yambio (South Sudan) and units based in Dungu (DRC) and Obo (CAR) (Reuters, 24 March 2012).

Floods and drought

Floods displaced thousands of people in Warrap, Lakes, Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Jonglei states in 2011. Heavy rains at the beginning of September caused serious flooding in Agok in Warrap state, affecting thousands of families, including IDPs from Abyei living the area (UN OCHA, 8 September and 22 September 2011).

Later the same month, flooding was reported in Lakes, Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Jonglei. An inter-agency assessment undertaken on 15 September estimated that 7,100 people had been

affected in Lakes (UN OCHA, 13 October 2011). A similar assessment undertaken between 10 and 14 November found that 30,000 people had been affected in Jonglei and 13,000 displaced. Food was identified as the most urgent need for the affected population, but access was restricted and food supplies cut off as a result of insecurity and flooded roads (UN OCHA, 17 November 2011; Sudan Tribune, 21 August 2011).

More recently, the late onset of the rains in February 2012 continues to affect most of the country. Key areas of concern remain most parts of Jonglei, Upper Nile, Warrap, and Northern Bahr El Gazal states, and northern parts of Unity State, where levels of food insecurity are expected to persist until September 2012, as the lean season peaks (FEWS NET, 30 April 2012). The exact number of people displaced in relation to the 2010 – 2011 drought and delayed onset of the rains in 2012 is not yet known and will be largely affected by the above mentioned security concerns.

Displacement patterns and figures

In January, the UN reported that 350,000 people had been newly displaced by conflict in South Sudan in 2011. The figure includes 110,000 people from Abyei who fled fighting between SAF and SPLA in May 2011, and those displaced by fighting between SPLA and new militia groups in Unity and Upper Nile states; inter-tribal violence in Jonglei, Lakes, Unity and Warrap states; and LRA attacks in Western Bahr el Ghazal and Western Equatoria states (UN OCHA, 9 January 2012).

Upper Nile and Unity also host 160,000 refugees from Sudan who fled fighting and bombardments in the border states of Blue Nile and South Kordofan. (UNHCR, 25 June 2012).

The UN also estimated that as many as 500,000 southerners may be living in Khartoum who were displaced before their country's independence

and whose residency status has yet to be resolved (OCHA, 1 December 2011). Following independence, however, they are no longer considered IDPs. They face significant protection problems in terms of obtaining identity documents to confirm their South Sudanese citizenship and the permits required to remain in Sudan, conduct business or own property.

GoS established a nine-month transition period for southerners in the north to clarify their status, which expired on 8 April 2012 (IOM, 15 November 2011). Given the impossibility of organising major returns over a short period of time, the UN is advocating for GoS to open more corridors between the two countries that would allow for safe returns (IOM, 4 March 2012).

The South Sudan Nationality Act of 2011 states that people with "any parents, grandparents or great-grandparents" born in South Sudan, or who belong to any of the country's "indigenous ethnic groups", are eligible for nationality. The act, which was amended after independence, states that Sudanese citizens automatically lose their nationality when they acquire "de jure or de facto" the "nationality of South Sudan" (HRW, 2 March 2012). There is considerable confusion and concern as to how the act will be implemented (OCHA, 1 December 2011). There are also a few ethnic groups that South Sudan may not consider to be indigenous, such as the nomadic communities who regularly cross national borders, and who may eventually risk being left stateless.

Return movements

Ahead of the January 2011 referendum on self-determination, GoSS launched the Come Home to Choose campaign. Starting in September 2010, it was designed to encourage and facilitate the return of 1.5 million southerners living in the north. The Southern Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (SSRRC) was tasked with imple-

menting the return process, but in the absence of sufficient capacity and funding it was quickly overwhelmed, despite financial and technical support from the UN (RI, 16 March 2011).

Since October 2010, more than 390,000 South Sudanese have returned (UN OCHA, June 2012). Around half have received help from GoSS and the humanitarian community, in particular the *International Organization for Migration (IOM)*, the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and their NGO partners. In addition, people return spontaneously and by their own means.

Given the ongoing fighting and insecurity in the Sudanese border states of Blue Nile and South Kordofan, the South Sudanese state of Upper Nile remains the only fully open transit corridor. The main transit site in Upper Nile is the town of Renk (UN SC, 2 November 2011). In some cases, special security measures have been put in place along other transit routes, including the military escort of trains passing through South Kordofan (UN OCHA, 13 October 2011).

Humanitarian agencies have faced serious logistical challenges that have created bottlenecks both at points of departure in the north (UN DPI, 2 November 2011) and at transit sites in the south. In addition to the above-mentioned insecurity, these include a shortage of river barges, the large amounts of luggage and personal property returnees bring with them, limitations in onward travel south overland during the rainy season, a lack of information as to where returnees wish to settle and confusion over the allocation of land for them (IRIN, 5 December 2011; UN OCHA, 25 August 2011; UN SC, 2 November 2011). Some returnees have stayed at transit sites because of delays in allocating land on which they can settle permanently, or because there are no services or livelihood opportunities in their villages of origin (IDMC, 30 May 2011). Others have been stranded at departure points or transit stations in Sudan, where they face long waiting periods and a lack of services.

Protection and assistance needs

Physical security

Inter-tribal conflicts and ongoing fighting between SPLA and militia groups are the main sources of insecurity in South Sudan, according to the UN Secretary-General (UN SC, 2 November 2011).

The extensive re-mining of transport routes in Unity and Jonglei states has also been reported by the UN Mine Action Office and is a serious concern. IDPs and returnees are particularly vulnerable as they are less familiar than local communities with their surroundings and the location of mines. Nearly half of all recent returnees have arrived in areas where landmines are a renewed threat (UN OCHA, 20 July 2011). In Western Equatoria state, LRA attacks are the main source of insecurity.

Gender-based violence

According to the UN, incidents of GBV are on the rise in the context of ongoing violence and armed conflict (UN OCHA, 20 July 2011; UN SC, 2 November 2011). There is, however, little information available. One reason may be that victims are reluctant to come forward because of the associated stigma and shame (Miraya FM, 7 December 2011). Another is that cases of violence against women are handled almost exclusively through the customary justice system, which often applies discriminatory norms focused more on reconciliation than on holding perpetrators accountable (UN GA, 22 August 2011).

Alleged perpetrators include SPLA, militia groups such as the South Sudan Liberation Army (SSLA) and members of Lou Nuer and Murle communities, who have committed GBV during inter-tribal clashes in Jonglei state (South Sudan Protection Cluster, 22 January 2011; UN OCHA, 25 August 2011; UN SC, 2 November 2011). Reported cases include rape and sexual violence, forced marriage and abduction.

The GBV sub-cluster, which is part of the South Sudan Protection Cluster and is currently led by

the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), has established support and referral mechanisms for victims whether conflict-related or not, and has organised awareness programmes for SPLA (UN SC, 2 November 2011). It has also identified GBV risks for returnees in transit areas, particularly for unmarried women and in areas where there are no separate sanitation facilities for men and women. Domestic violence cases have also been reported, and linked to men's increasing frustration at being unable to provide for their families (UNHCR, 2 February 2011).

Threats to children

SPLA was in the past listed in the UN Secretary-General's annual reports on children and armed conflict in Sudan as a party that recruited child combatants. In November 2009, it signed a 12-month action plan with the UN to release all of the children in its ranks, establish child protection units and improve its officers' capacity on child protection issues. This was a first step to SPLA becoming South Sudan's army after independence (Norcap, 23 September 2011).

Since 2009, SPLA/M has made significant efforts to demobilise children and has passed legal reforms forbidding their recruitment. Children are, however, still present in their ranks. They return to barracks voluntarily after demobilisation because they have access to food and assistance there, a situation which raises concern about their reintegration (Watchlist, December 2011).

Since independence, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), the child protection sub-cluster (under the protection cluster), UNMISS and the South Sudan Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration Commission have been actively involved in the release of child combatants. More than 50 from SPLA (UN News Centre, 17 November 2011) and 44 from SSLA have been demobilised and reunited them their families (UN SC, 2 November 2011). In March, SPLA signed another action plan with the UN which renewed its

commitment to release all children from its ranks (OSRSG-CAAC, 12 March 2012).

Children also face other serious threats to their physical security. These include: (1) inter-tribal violence, which has resulted in the deaths and abduction of children; (2) fighting between SPLA and dissident militias, which has led to forced recruitment and sexual violence; and (3) LRA attacks, which have resulted in the forced recruitment of boys for use as child soldiers and girls as sex slaves. Inter-tribal violence is the main cause of child abductions, with victims often used as combatants in conflict situations (IPS, 22 September 2011). The UN has also reported attacks against schools and their occupation in Jonglei, Warrap, Lakes and Western Equatoria states.

Food security

IDPs and returnees need help with basic necessities, including food, water, sanitation, shelter and medical care, while the country as a whole is facing a severe food crisis. Some 4.7 million people, or around half the population, will require food aid in 2012 (FAO and WFP, 8 February 2012). Jonglei, Warrap, Upper Nile, Unity and Western Bahr el Ghazal states all have extremely high levels of global and acute malnutrition (UN SC, 2 November 2011). Factors that have contributed to food insecurity include the return of more than 390,000 South Sudanese from the north since October 2010, the new displacement of at least 350,000 people in 2011 due to conflict and crop failures, border closures that have prevented food imports and the resulting escalation in food prices. Inflation has reportedly escalated up to 200% in some areas.

National and international responses

National response

Since independence, the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MHADM) has

been in charge of coordinating national and international responses to displacement (HPG, December 2011).

GoSS has developed its first national development plan covering economic growth, governance, social and human development and security from 2011 to 2013. It suffers, however, one of the largest capacity gaps on the continent and while it is building state institutions it has been unable to provide social services directly. Most are currently provided by international organisations and GoSS has estimated that it will take a generation before it is in a position to offer them itself (UN OCHA, 20 July 2011).

The Humanitarian Coordination Forum, which is run by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA), is the main interface between MHADM, UN agencies, international NGOs and humanitarian donors.

International response

In order to coordinate humanitarian operations, the UN established a Humanitarian Country Team and implemented the cluster system with nine clusters: education, emergency telecommunications, food security and livelihoods, health, logistics, non-food items and emergency shelter, nutrition, protection and water, sanitation and hygiene.

The international response to the multiple emergencies facing South Sudan has, however, been limited by insecurity. Many areas affected by displacement remain difficult to access, preventing vulnerable groups from obtaining urgently-needed assistance and making its delivery extremely expensive.

The 2011 emergency appeal for humanitarian funds (CAP) for South Sudan was launched on 18 July, shortly after the declaration of independence (UN OCHA, 20 July 2011). It included revisions to the original 2011 CAP for pre-independence Sudan, and new projects to address the humani-

tarian situation in the south. By December, 56 per cent of the \$620 million requested had been pledged or donated. The food security and emergency shelter sectors were funded at 85 and 77 per cent respectively, but health and water and sanitation (both at 53 per cent) and protection (20 per cent) were seriously underfunded (UN OCHA, 22 February 2012). The 2012 CAP for South Sudan was launched on 14 December (UN OCHA, 14 December 2011) and as of June, 65 per cent of the \$776 million requested had been pledged or donated (UN OCHA, Financial Tracking Service, 25 June 2012).

In response to such funding gaps, the UN's Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) allocated \$11 million for rapid response in July 2011 and \$11.5 million for underfunded activities in September. The allocations were for assistance to people displaced by violence in Abyei and along the border with Sudan, and to returnees coming home after independence (CERF, 1 August and 13 October 2011). In February 2012, CERF allocated an additional \$20 million for underfunded emergencies (CERF, 1 March 2012).

In 2011, the UN Security Council established UNMISS with a mandate to consolidate peace and security (UN SC, 8 July 2011) and UNISFA in response to fighting between SAF and SPLA in Abyei.

Humanitarian access

Improving access remains a key priority for the humanitarian community (UN SC, 2 November 2011). Ongoing insecurity hampered access in 2011, exposing vulnerable populations and humanitarian workers to violence and the destruction of property (UN OCHA, 20 July 2011). The government has also imposed access restrictions. As of September 2011, humanitarian organisations had reported 97 incidents in which SPLA or other state bodies interfered with relief operations, looted supplies, harassed humanitarian workers or otherwise restricted their ability to reach communities affected by conflict. Another

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19 incidents involving unknown perpetrators were also reported (UN OCHA, 14 December 2011).

Landmines have been a significant factor in limiting humanitarian access, particularly in Western Equatoria, Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria, Jonglei and Unity states. They have been laid along main roads, in villages, in wells and on land used for grazing and agriculture (UN OCHA, 17 October 2011). In Unity state, for example, dissident militias attacked the town of Mayom on 20 October 2011 and laid a large number of landmines (VOA, 22 November 2011). The UN Department of Safety and Security declared all roads in the area off limits to UN staff, leaving air transport as the only option for the delivery of humanitarian assistance (UN OCHA, 3 November 2011).

Some areas of the country are also inaccessible during the rainy season because of a lack of roads.

Note: This is a summary of IDMC's internal displacement profile on South Sudan. The full profile is available online [here](#).

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About the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre

The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) was established by the Norwegian Refugee Council in 1998, upon the request of the United Nations, to set up a global database on internal displacement. A decade later, IDMC remains the leading source of information and analysis on internal displacement caused by conflict and violence worldwide.

IDMC aims to support better international and national responses to situations of internal displacement and respect for the rights of internally displaced people (IDPs), who are often among the world's most vulnerable people. It also aims to promote durable solutions for IDPs, through return, local integration or settlement elsewhere in the country.

IDMC's main activities include:

- Monitoring and reporting on internal displacement caused by conflict, generalised violence and violations of human rights;
- Researching, analysing and advocating for the rights of IDPs;
- Training and strengthening capacities on the protection of IDPs;
- Contributing to the development of standards and guidance on protecting and assisting IDPs.

For more information, visit the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre website and the database at www.internal-displacement.org

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