Republic of South Sudan

HISP Roll Out Situation Report #2

Reporting period 20/01/12 to 26/01/12

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Summary:

- An ETC assessment mission was conducted by WFP in December 2011 to assess the voice and data connectivity situation and identify gaps to be addressed to meet the requirements of the humanitarian community. The mission visited both existing and new locations.
- Based on the findings, it was decided to deploy an emergency connectivity system in three new locations: Maban, Renk and Yida.
- The emergency deployment team involves multiple ETC partners including, Ericsson Response, Government of Luxembourg (LUX), IOM, OCHA, UNHCR and WFP.

Cluster Responsibilities:

- WFP is leading ETC activities in the Republic of South Sudan with responsibility for coordination, implementation and overall operation support for common ICT services.

Achievements:

- Bentiu/Yida[1]:

An emergency.lu rapid kit and an Ericsson Response WIDER are in place at the WFP Bentiu office since 8 January. WFP staff Michael Ngisiro flew on 19 February to replace Martin Falebrand from Ericsson Response and support the installation for the next two months.

- Maban:

The emergency.lu and the Ericsson Response WIDER solutions are installed at the UNHCR office since 16 January. Whitney Mutowo flew on 19 February to replace Prado Paz from Ericsson Response and support the installation for the next two months.

- Services:

Both sites are operational and 31different organisations have to date used the Maban and Bentiu Internet Cafes. Some 27 users were registered in Maban and 35 in Bentiu.

The deployed equipment is split into two complementary solutions:
- the "emergency.lu" composed of an antenna and either a Satellite dish (regular VSAT terminal) or an inflated balloon (rapid kit); and
- the Ericsson Response WIDER, a wireless solution to extend connectivity.

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[1] For security reason, humanitarian organisations cannot access Yida for the time being and most of the staff therefore moved to Bentiu. Therefore it was decided to set up connectivity initially in Bentiu and then relocate the system to Yida when security permits.

- Assembled, the equipment is able to provide Internet Connectivity and Voice telephony services to the humanitarian community.

For security reasons a one-time, online registration is required to access the Internet Café. To register users must show their ID cards to confirm they work for a humanitarian organization. Additional equipment such as printers and scanners will be provided for the three sites in the coming weeks.

Challenges and Gaps:

- Equipment:
  In order to set up Internet connectivity in Renk and replace the rapid deployment kit in Bentiu, two additional regular VSAT terminals were sent from Luxembourg but were stocked in Nairobi waiting for clearance. The equipment was released on 26 January in Juba.

Planned Activities:

- Pibor
  More organisations are operating in Pibor and OCHA has requested the team to install the emergency.lu and Ericsson Response WIDER solutions there. The team is revising its plan accordingly and the decision should be taken in the coming days.

- Renk
  The team is planning to deploy the emergency.lu and the Ericsson Response WIDER solutions in Renk at the IOM office. The deployment may happen after the installation in Pibor if confirmed.

Meetings:

- **Global ETC Information Sharing teleconferences for the Republic of South Sudan are held every <u>two</u> weeks.**

  The next Global ETC teleconference will be held on **Wednesday 1 February** at**:**
  0900 New York
  1400 UTC
  1500 Rome/Geneva
  1700 Juba/Nairobi

  Dial-in instructions:
  1) Call +39 066513 3344
  2) Enter the personal code 267200 followed by #
  3) If you are the first caller, a message will notify you. Please remain on the line.

Acronyms:

BGAN	Broadband Global Area Network
COMCEN	Communications Centre
ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
HEP	ICT Humanitarian Emergency Platform
HISP	Humanitarian Internet Service Provider
IFRC	International Federation of the Red Cross
ISP	Internet Service Provider
LAN	Local Area Network
MoFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
UNDSS	UN Department of Safety and Security
UNHCR	UN High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	UN Children's Fund
UNMISS	UN Mission in the Republic of South Sudan
VSAT	Very Small Aperture Terminal (Satellite ground station)
WFP	UN World Food Programme
WVI	World Vision International

ICT Emergency website (HEP) links:

- Humanitarian Emergency Platform:
  http://ictemergency.wfp.org