

*“Providing emergency telecommunications services to the humanitarian community”*

Republic of South Sudan

Situation Report #15

Reporting period 15/09/12 to 13/10/12

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**Summary:**

- The Emergency Telecommunications Cluster continues providing data connectivity services to the Humanitarian Community in Maban and Yida while preparing the implementation of the Humanitarian Internet Service Provider (HISP) project in key identified locations (Bentiu, Wau, Aweil, Bor, and Malakal).

**Cluster Responsibilities:**

- WFP is leading ETC activities in RoSS with responsibility for coordination, implementation, and overall operational support for common ICT services.

**Achievements:**

- The ETC has submitted all required documentation to UNOCHA to include ETC activities into the Consolidated Appeal Process (CAP) 2013. The emergency response solution in Renk, Upper Nile, has been dismantled.
- The HISP is currently under procurement process. WFP FITTEST is currently looking into complimentary technology to fit the solution and proposed project. ETC will liaise with the MoTPS for licensing the microwave link with the correct frequencies.
- A physical site assessment of the HISP operational sites has been conducted and interested organizations in each field location have been informed and consulted regarding the process for installation once equipment procured.
- The ETC Services Feedback Survey was completed and results are posted on the ICT HEP South Sudan page.
- The humanitarian community has prepared a draft Abyei response plan to operate during the dry season, including the numbers expected to return on those displaced from Abyei. ETC is part of the process to be ready to respond if required.

ETC Emergency Response Solution deployment status:

Location	Deployed on	Expected to be needed until	Hosted by
Bentiu	07 January 2012	Dismantled	WFP
Maban	16 January 2012	15 December 2012	UNHCR
Pibor	05 February 2012	Dismantled	InterSOS

Renk	11 February 2012	Dismantled	IOM
Yida	26 July 2012	15 December 2012	UNHCR

### **Challenges and Gaps:**

- A recent development concerning the halting of tax exemptions on all cargo coming into South Sudan is expected to impact NGOs, UN agencies and Foreign Missions. As such, procurement may be delayed or have a significant increase in costs associated.
- ETC is facing logistical challenges with retrieving the dismantled equipment from Renk to be transported to Juba for refurbishment and stock. ETC is working with a number of organizations to find an adequate solution.
- ETC may experience a budget shortfall to implement the full five sites as proposed for HISP. The anticipated shortfall will depend on the quotations received by bidding agencies to implement HISP.
- The Ministry of Telecommunications first Ministerial Order (2012/01) and the newly passed Telecommunications Act are still unclear in the implementation.

### **Planned Activities:**

- The VSAT equipment in Renk will be brought back to Juba for technical refurbishment.
- ETC will continue to meet regularly with the MoTPS and act as a Focal Point to relay messages on behalf of humanitarian organizations, especially with regards to frequency allocation and the implementation of the bylaws of the National Telecommunications Act. The Local ETC Working Group members will continue to be updated regularly.

### **Meetings:**

The Global ETC Teleconferences on RoSS will be held on a monthly basis. Operational updates continue to be shared via monthly ETC SitReps.

### **Acronyms:**

CAP	Consolidated Appeals Process
ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
FITTEST	Fast Information Technology and Telecommunications Emergency and Support Team
HEP	Humanitarian Emergency Platform
HISP	Humanitarian Internet Service Provider
HF/VHF	High Frequency/Very High Frequency
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
MoTPS	Ministry of Telecommunications and Postal Service
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
RoSS	The Republic of South Sudan
UNOCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
VSAT	Very Small Aperture Terminal (Satellite ground station)
WFP	UN World Food Programme

WG            Working Group

**ICT Emergency website (HEP) links:**

Humanitarian Emergency Platform:

<http://ictemergency.wfp.org>

FORUM: Republic of South Sudan:

[http://ictemergency.wfp.org/group/ictepr/forum/-/message\\_boards/category/287645](http://ictemergency.wfp.org/group/ictepr/forum/-/message_boards/category/287645)

### Status Matrix:

LOCATION	STATE	AGENCY	REPEATER CH.	TEL. LINES	RADIO ROOM	ICT SUPPORT	CONNECTIVITY	STAFF TRAINED
Aweil	Northern Bahr El Ghazal	WFP	11, 13	No	24/7	Yes		Yes
Bentiu (Rubkona)	Unity	WFP	6, 7, 9	No	24/7	Yes	VSAT	Yes
Juba	Central Equatoria	WFP	1,2,6,7,8,9,13,14,15	No	24/7	Yes	VSAT	Yes
Malakal	Upper Nile	WFP	6,7,9	No	24/7	Yes	VSAT	
Maban	Upper Nile	UNHCR	3, 9	No	n/a	Yes	VSAT	Yes
Pibor	Jonglei	UNMISS	9	No	n/a	Yes	VSAT	Yes
Renk	Upper Nile	IOM	n/a	No	n/a	Yes	VSAT	Yes
Rumbek	Lakes	WFP	10, 11, 13	No	24/7	No	VSAT	Yes
Torit	Eastern Equatoria	UNHCR	10, 12	No	24/7		VSAT	Yes
Wau	Western Bahr El Ghazal	WFP	6, 11, 15	No	24/7	Yes	VSAT	Yes
Yambio	Western Equatoria	UNICEF	6, 7, 9	No	24/7		VSAT	Yes

### Staff in the Operation:

This list below shows the key people involved in providing and supporting inter-agency ICT services.

LOCATION	STATE	AGENCY	NAME	EMOP MOBILE
Aweil	Northern Bahr El Ghazal	WFP	Malek Ring	+211 955 928 008
Bentiu	Unity	WFP	Supported by Juba team	
Bor	Jonglei	WFP	Rida Shaba	+211 922 465 434
Juba	Central Equatoria	WFP	Haidar Baqir	+211 922 465 540
			Diya Alasadi	+211 922465600
Maban	Upper Nile	WFP	Supported by Juba team	
Malakal	Upper Nile	WFP	Anywar Nicholas	+211 923 819 778
Pibor	Jonglei	WFP	Supported by Juba team	
Renk	Upper Nile	WFP	Supported by Malakal team	
Wau	Western Bahr El Ghazal	WFP	Paulos Negassi	+211 956378711

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