



Republic of South Sudan (RoSS)

ETC Situation Report #34

Reporting period 11/02/14 to 17/02/14

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Highlights

- The ETC Response Solution, comprising technologies from emergency.lu and Ericsson Response, has been installed in Mingkaman (Lakes state). It has been operating since February 10 and providing internet connectivity to relief workers from the common humanitarian hub.
- The ETC has installed connectivity equipment in the UNMISS compound in Bor and is now providing the humanitarian community there with internet services.

Cluster Responsibilities

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

Achievements

- In order to meet the connectivity needs of humanitarian organisations operating outside of the hub in Mingkaman, internet access has been extended to International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), which are currently residing outside the camp. ETC plans to extend internet access further to reach organisations such as Save the Children, Oxfam and Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), which are located another 800 metres from the hub.
- ETC conducted an assessment mission in Bor (Jonglei state) on 12 February. The setup of ETC internet access, via a mobile solution provided by a local ISP, has been successfully activated in the UNMISS compound in Bor.
 - The ETC Response Solution, with technologies from emergency.lu and Ericsson Response, was successfully recovered from Bor and has been transported to Juba for redeployment to other locations based on partners' needs.
- During the reporting period, ETC provided programming cables to the ICT office in the UNMISS compound in Bor to assist with the radio programming for the humanitarian community.
- An ETC mission setup a VHF repeater in Mingkaman to enhance security telecommunications. Radio



training was also conducted for humanitarian partners to increase understanding of correct radio protocol for security in the field.

- A 30-metre communications tower was erected in the UNICEF compound in Yambio (Western Equatoria state). All equipment/antennae were relocated from the old one to the new.

Challenges and Gaps

- Security telecommunications services in Malakal (Upper Nile state), Bentiu (Unity state) and Bor continue to be non-operational due to conflict and subsequent evacuation of staff.
- Persisting insecurity in certain areas of the country continue to hamper ETC response efforts and impede the re-establishment of security communications services in key locations.
- Additional internet connectivity equipment is needed in-country to provide services at key humanitarian hubs.

Planned Activities

- Planning for ETC activities during the rainy season is ongoing. Heavy rains can impede access to certain locations, hence contingency plans are required.
- Installation of solar power solutions in certain locations. Humanitarian organisations are currently sharing generators and fuel provisions; however this system is not sustainable.
- ETC also plans to install a VSAT in the UN House in Juba 3.
- There are plans to establish data connectivity in Pibor, Ajuong Thok and one or two locations in Upper Nile state however this depends on the security situation and the outcome of assessment missions.
- VHF repeater installation in Mingkaman is planned to be completed in the coming week as well as security communications training for UN and NGO partners.

Meetings

- The next Local ETC meeting will be held on 20 February 2014.
- The next Global ETC teleconference will be held on 24 February 2014.

All information related to ETC operations can be found on the ICT Emergency website:
www.ETCluster.org

For more information, or to be added or deleted from the mailing list, please contact:
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Acronyms

ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
CITS	
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
MSF	Médecins Sans Frontières
NGO	Non-governmental organization
RoSS	Republic of South Sudan
UN	United Nations
UNHCR	UN High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	UN Children's Fund
UNMISS	UN Mission in South Sudan
VSAT	Very Small Aperture Terminal
WFP	World Food Programme