

Republic of South Sudan (RoSS)

ETC Situation Report #32

Reporting period 25/01/14 to 02/02/14

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Highlights

- The ETC is providing connectivity to the humanitarian community operating in Malakal (Upper Nile state), one of the areas worst affected by the current conflict crisis. Technical equipment has been upgraded to meet communications demands of the 100+ humanitarians operating in this area.

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 Response Solution, comprising equipment from emergency.lu and Ericsson Response, was successfully retrieved from Ajoung Thok (Unity state).
- ETC internet connectivity equipment in Malakal was upgraded to cater for the increasing number of humanitarian workers (over 100).
- The ETC carried out an assessment mission to Mingkaman (Rumbek state) to determine IT and telecommunications needs of the humanitarian community operating there.
- Communications equipment and radios were programmed in Juba for humanitarian partners including Jhpiego, Terre des homes (TDH), Tearfund, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), UN Population Fund (UNFPA), UN Development Programme (UNDP), World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Food Programme (WFP).

Challenges and Gaps

- Security telecommunications infrastructure in Bor (Jonglei state), Malakal and Bentiu (Unity state) has been damaged during the conflict. Due to persisting insecurity, the ETC has been unable to reenter these sites and as such these locations are not currently covered by security communications.
- Due to the current conflict situation, radiorooms across RoSS are understaffed. Recruitment of radio operator is currently underway.



Planned Activities

- The ETC has procured additional internet connectivity equipment to support increasing humanitarian activities in the country. Surge staff have also been requested to support operations and installation of equipment.
- After discussing partners' needs during the Local ETC Working Group Meeting conducted on 23/01/2014, the ETC is planning to carry out needs assessments in Bor and Nimule (Eastern Equatoria state).
- The ETC Response Solution, with equipment from emergency.lu and Ericsson Response, that was successfully retrieved from Ajoung Thok will be redeployed in Mingkaman to support the humanitarian community operating there.
- Large numbers of the RoSS population are reported to be moving across the country to escape the current conflict. Humanitarian partners have identified a number of areas where these communities are congregating and IT and telecommunications services are required to support relief operations. The ETC is working with partners to deploy services in these new locations.

Meetings

- The next Local ETC meeting will be held on 06 February 2014.
- The next Global ETC teleconference will be held 10 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:
SouthSudan.ETC@wfp.org



Status Matrix

** Services unavailable due to security constraints.

LOCATION	STATE	AGENCY	REPEATER CH.	TEL. LINES	RADIO ROOM	ICT SUPPORT	CONNECTIVITY	STAFF TRAINED
Abyei	Abyei	WFP	14	No	Working hours	From Juba	VSAT	Yes
Aweil	Northern Bahr El Ghazal	WFP	11, 13	No	24/7	Yes	VSAT	Yes
Bentiu (Rubkona)	Unity	WFP	6, 7, 9	No	n/a**	n/a**	n/a**	n/a
Bor	Jonglei	WFP	3, 10, 15	No	n/a**	n/a**	n/a**	n/a
Juba	Central Equatoria	WFP	1,2,6,7,8,9,12,13,14,15	No	24/7	Yes	VSAT	Yes
Malakal	Upper Nile	WFP	6,7,9	No	n/a**	Yes	n/a**	n/a
Mingkaman	Lakes			No	n/a	From Juba	VSAT	n/a
Kaya	Upper Nile	UNHCR	13	No	n/a	From Juba	VSAT	Yes
Pibor	Jonglei	UNMISS	9	No	n/a	Yes	VSAT	Yes
Rumbek	Lakes	WFP	10, 11, 13	No	24/7	No	VSAT	Yes
Torit	Eastern Equatoria	WFP	10, 12	No	Working hours	From Juba	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	From Juba	VSAT	Yes
Yida	Unity State	UNHCR	3, 13	No	n/a	From Juba	VSAT	Yes



Acronyms

ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
IT	Information Technology
NGO	Non governmental organization
RoSS	Republic of South Sudan
UN	United Nations
WFP	World Food Programme