SOUTH SUDAN

The ETC in the South Sudan is providing vital IT and telecommunications services to support the humanitarian community's response to the conflict emergency.

The Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) is a network of organizations that work together to provide shared communications services in humanitarian emergencies. UN agencies and programmes, NGOs, Stand-by Partners, government and other humanitarian organizations partner with the ETC to fulfil its mandate and objectives.

The ETC has been activated in South Sudan since 2011, providing security communications, internet connectivity and coordination services to the humanitarian community. Following the beginning of the humanitarian crisis in December 2013, the ETC scaled up its activities and expanded to new locations in the interior of South Sudan.

Achievements

- Provision of shared internet connectivity to the humanitarian community at 9 ETC hubs and 6 partner sites across South Sudan, with equipment contributed by emergency.lu, Ericsson Response and the World Food Programme (WFP) and support from a number of partners including the ACTED, International Rescue Committee (IRC), Logistics Cluster, Save the Children, UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) and UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR).

The cluster approach strengthens response effectiveness through ensuring predictable and sufficient capacity, leadership, partners, accountability and coordination.

In emergencies, members exchange information and expertise and provide personnel, equipment and solutions.

Planned Activities

- The ETC is requesting additional funding to service further common operational sites by the end of 2014 to ensure stable and reliable ICT services for the humanitarian community.

- Following the established of Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) as the ETC standard for Digital Radio, an assessment is being carried out across the country to determine the most suitable technology for the South Sudan operation. Digital radio technology has a number of beneficial features including GPS tracking, private calls, group calls, SMS alerting and broadcasting between sites.

ETC Services

CITY	STATE	LOCATION	📶	📻	💬	🧑‍🏫	✴	PROVIDED BY
Abyei	Abyei	WFP	✔	✔				WFP
Aweil	Northern Bahr el Ghazal	WFP	✔	✔	✔			WFP
Bentiu (Rubkona)	Unity	WFP	✔	✔				ETC
Bor	Jonglei	1) Humanitarian hub 2) WFP	✔	✔				ETC
Ganyiel	Unity	IRC	✔					ETC
Juba	Central Equatoria	1) UNMISS - Tomping 2) UN House	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	ETC
Kapoeta	Eastern Equatoria	WFP	✔	✔	✔			WFP
Kaya	Upper Nile	UNHCR		✔				UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP
Kwajok	Warrap	UNHCR		✔				UNHCR
Maban	Upper Nile	UNHCR	✔	✔				UNHCR, WFP
Malakal	Upper Nile	Humanitarian hub	✔	✔	✔			ETC, WFP
Mingkaman	Lakes	ACTED, Save the Children	✔	✔				ETC, emergency.lu, Ericsson Response, WFP
Nimule	Eastern Equatoria	UNHCR	✔	✔				ETC
Rumbek	Lakes	WFP	✔	✔				WFP
Torit	Eastern Equatoria	UNMISS	✔	✔				WFP
Wau	Eastern Bahr el Ghazal	WFP	✔	✔				WFP
Wunrok	Warrap	WFP	✔	✔				WFP
Yambio	Western Equatoria	UNICEF		✔				UNICEF, WFP
Yida	Unity	UNHCR		✔				UNHCR

Staff from all humanitarian organizations can use ETC services, regardless of membership.

Representatives from humanitarian organizations interested in participating in inter-agency ICT services and information-sharing are encouraged to attend local working group meetings.

📶 Internet connectivity

📻 Radio communications

💬 ICT help desk

🧑‍🏫 Radio training

✴ Coordination, Logistics

For more information about the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) in the South Sudan, visit: www.ETCluster.org or contact: SouthSudan.ETC@wfp.org

On behalf of the ETC, WFP thanks key partners for their contribution to this response, including ACTED, emergency.lu, Ericsson Response, Save the Children, UNHCR, UNICEF and UNMISS.