

Republic of South Sudan (RoSS) ETC Situation Report #73 Reporting period 28/04/15 to 11/05/15

ETC RoSS Sitreps are distributed every two weeks. The next report will be issued on or around 25/05/15.

Highlights

- The ETC is concentrating its efforts on providing emergency response data connectivity and security telecommunication services to priority locations as mandated by the Inter-Cluster Working Group (ICWG) in response to the ongoing complex crisis.
- In Old Fangak (Jonglei State), one of the prioritised locations, a front line ETC service deployment assessment mission has been carried out last week. A new ETC site will be established –reliable internet connectivity and sustainable renewable power will be available to all humanitarians responding in this area.



ETC technicians, Blessing Dzambo and Diya AlAsadi, programming radios for WFP vehicles in Juba. Photo: WFP/George Fominyem

Achievements

- The ETC continues to support 24x repeater sites for the provision of security telecommunications services. On-site as well as remote ICT support services are being provided to 8x data connectivity sites across the country.
- In Bentiu (Unity State), a two week mission to provide on-site ICT support to all humanitarians is ongoing. The ETC guarantees a constant presence in this area in order to promptly respond to the volatile security situation.
- In Malakal (Upper Nile State), a mission to determine and resolve issues with the security telecommunication equipment is ongoing. An ETC radio specialist is also providing comprehensive radio training to field staff, radio operators and drivers. The mission, originally planned for April, had to be postponed to May due to fighting in the area.
- The ETC continues to provide radio programming services to humanitarian partners in South Sudan. During the reporting period, 104x radios have been programmed for Concern Worldwide, the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), Oxfam, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), World Food Programme (WFP) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

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The ETC provides timely, predictable and effective Information Communications Technology services to support the humanitarian community in carrying-out their work efficiently, effectively and safely.



Challenges and Gaps

- In Koch (Unity State), due to the security situation, all humanitarians are being evacuated from this area. ETC partners had to leave the compound and all equipment, including the solar power system, behind.
- In Leer (Unity State), a new ETC site will be established. However, due to rising insecurity, the recentlydeployed internet connectivity and renewable power equipment had to be relocated to Rumbek (Lakes State). The operation in Leer is temporarily suspended and will be reinstated once the security situation improves.
- The ETC in South Sudan suffered from a funding shortfall in 2014. From the first allocation of the 2015 Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF), the ETC has received US\$900,000 for the first 6 months, out of a US\$4.5 million annual budget. To meet funding requirements, the ETC continues to look for other sources and potential new donors.

Planned Activities

- UNICEF will deploy the ETC Response Solution, with technologies from emergency.lu, Ericsson Response and WFP, in Pibor County (Jonglei State). The ETC will support UNICEF by installing the internet connectivity equipment as well as providing remote and on-site maintenance support. Internet connectivity in Pibor will be shared with all humanitarian organizations responding in this area.
- The ETC and the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) have agreed to collaborate on integrating environmentally friendly approaches, such as solar power, within the ETC response. In order to inaugurate this collaboration, a UNEP/OCHA visit to the ETC site in Mingkaman (Lakes State) is scheduled this week.
- The ETC is also collaborating with the NGO Forum in South Sudan to support national NGOs and civil society organisations to access internet connectivity and security telecommunication services in remote areas of the country.



The Humanitarian Internet Support Project (HISP) is a reliable, low-cost and long-term solution to meet the internet connectivity needs of humanitarian actors in remote and hard to reach locations. The ETC is supporting the response community with development and implementation of this inter-agency project.

Connected Sites

- The implementation of HISP services has been fully completed in two sites: Aweil and Malakal.
- In Bor (Jonglei State), the HISP services implementation has been fully completed for nine organisations. A total of 13 organisations will be connected in the coming weeks.

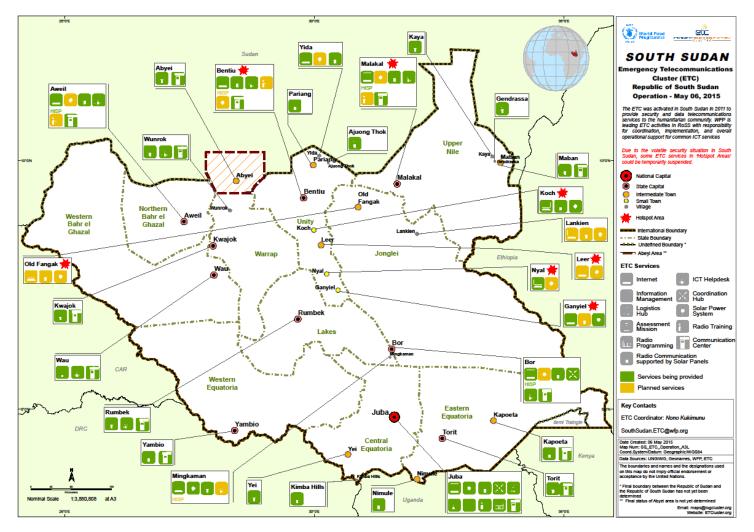
Planned Sites

• The implementation of HISP services has been finalised in Bor; the next HISP sites have been identified as Bentiu and Mingkaman.

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ETC Operation Map in South Sudan





ETC Services in South Sudan

CITY	STATE	LOCATION	PROVIDED BY	SERVICES	REPEATER CHANNELS
Abyei	Abyei	WFP	WFP	 Radio communications Communication Centre (24/7) 	3, 8, 14
Ajuong Thok	Unity	UNHCR	UNHCR	Radio communications	3
Aweil	Northern Bahr el Ghazal	WFP	WFP HISP	Internet connectivity Radio communications Communication Centre (24/7) ICT Helpdesk	3, 11, 13
Bentiu (Rubkona)	Unity	WFP	ETC, emergency.lu, Ericsson Response	 Internet connectivity Radio communications Communication Centre (24/7) ICT Helpdesk 	7, 9
Bor	Jonglei	UNMISS	ETC HISP	 Internet connectivity Radio communications Communication Centre (24/7) ICT Helpdesk Coordination Hub 	3, 10, 15
Ganyiel	Unity	IRC	ETC	Internet connectivityRenewable Power	N/A
Gendrassa	Upper Nile			Radio communication	14
Juba	Central Equatoria	UNMISS-Tomping and WFP	ETC and WFP	Internet connectivity Radio communications Communication Centre (24/7) Renewable Power ICT Helpdesk Radio Training Information Management Coordination & Logistics Hub	1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15
Kapoeta	Eastern Equatoria	WFP	WFP	Radio communicationsCommunication Centre	10, 13
Кауа	Upper Nile	UNHCR	UNHCR and WFP	Radio communications	13
Kimba Hill	Central Equatoria			Radio communications	9



Koch	Unity	World Relief	ETC	Internet connectivity Radio communications Renewable Power	14
Kwajok	Warrap	UNHCR	UNHCR	 Radio communications Communication Centre (24/7) 	3, 14
Maban	Upper Nile	UNHCR	UNHCR and WFP	 Radio communications Communication Centre (24/7) 	3, 9, 10
Malakal	Upper Nile	WFP	ETC HISP	 Internet connectivity Radio communications Communication Centre (24/7) ICT Helpdesk 	3, 6, 7, 9
Mingkaman	Lakes	1) ACTED 2) Save the Children	ETC, emergency.lu, Ericsson Response, WFP	Internet connectivity Radio communications Renewable Power	9
Nimule	Eastern Equatoria	UNHCR	UNHCR	Radio communications	3
Nyal	Unity	IRC	ETC	Internet connectivity	N/A
Pariang	Unity			Radio communications	11
Rumbek	Lakes	WFP	WFP	 Radio communications Communication Centre (24/7) ICT Helpdesk 	3, 4, 10, 11, 15
Torit	Eastern Equatoria	UNMISS	WFP	 Radio communications Communication Centre (24/7) 	10, 12
Wau	Western Bahr El Ghazal	WFP	WFP	 Radio communications Communication Centre (24/7) ICT Helpdesk 	3, 6, 11, 15
Wunrok	Warrap	WFP	WFP	 Radio communications Communication Centre (24/7) ICT Helpdesk 	8, 15
Yambio	Western Equatoria	UNICEF	UNICEF and WFP	 Radio communications Communication Centre (24/7) 	3, 6, 7, 9
Yei	Central Equatoria	UNHCR	UNHCR	Radio communications	3
Yida	Unity	UNHCR	UNHCR	Internet connectivityRadio communications	3, 13



Meetings

- Global ETC teleconferences are held monthly. The next teleconference will be held on 20/05/2015.
- Local ETC meetings are held every two weeks. The next meeting will be held on 14/05/2015.

Cluster Responsibilities

• WFP is leading the ETC activities in South Sudan with responsibility for coordination, implementation and overall operational support for common ICT services.

Useful Links

- ETC services usage Policy
- ETC South Sudan factsheet
- ETC South Sudan services map

Acronyms

CHF	Common Humanitarian Fund
ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
HISP	Humanitarian Internet Support Project
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
ICWG	Inter-Cluster Working Group
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
UN	United Nations
UNEP	United Nations Environmental Programme
VSAT	Very Small Aperture Terminal
WFP	World Food Programme

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

Background on the crisis:

Conflict broke out in Juba, the capital of South Sudan, on 15 December 2013 and quickly spread to several other states. Within weeks, thousands of people had been killed or wounded in the violence, and hundreds of thousands displaced from their homes. The crisis has led to a serious deterioration in the food security situation, and some 3.9 million people will face alarming levels of food insecurity by August 2014.

The Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) was activated in South Sudan in 2011, following the country's independence, to provide security and data telecommunications and coordination services to the humanitarian community. Since the recent conflict began, the ETC scaled up its activities and expanded to new locations in the interior of South Sudan, supporting humanitarian organizations involved in the crisis response through the provision of vital telecommunication services.

Sources: OCHA South Sudan Crisis Situation Report, Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)