



April 2008

United Nations Mission In Sudan

# In SUDAN



## Census On Track

In Need of a Harvest  
Securing the Oilfields



# A Word of Welcome



"I would like to welcome IN SUDAN as a longoverdue publication focusing on the United Nations and Sudan. It provides an excellent opportunity to illustrate through articles and photographs activities to uphold and promote the Comprehensive Peace Agreement as well as spur on development. The range of activities is wide and varied, as can be seen in this initial issue. There is much to cover and much to discuss. I look forward to future issues. Good luck!"

*Ashraf Qazi, Special Representative to the  
Secretary-General*

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Cover picture: Dinka IDPs bid farewell as a return convoy departs from Ed Daien in South Darfur to Aweil in Norethen Bahr El  
Gazal. UNMIS/Timothy McKulka

# CHRONICLE

**On 6 March**, the first group of 52 demobilized women associated with armed forces and groups (WAAFG) and 50 disabled combatants from the Sudan Armed Forces graduated from training in tailoring, food processing, micro-enterprise, tire repair and other occupations. The group took part in a pilot demobilization carried out by the North Sudan Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission (NSDDRC) and the Integrated UN DDR Unit in August 2006.

**On 8 March**, International Women's Day was celebrated throughout Sudan under the theme 'Financing Gender Equality: Investing in Women and Girls', with activities ranging from prison and orphanage visits to clean-up campaigns in local hospitals. At an event in Juba prison, the Ministry of Education supplied 123 text books for the prison's Accelerated Learning Program, while UNICEF provided exercise books as well as teacher's and student kits.



**On 10 March**, UN Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in Sudan Sima Samar stated at a Khartoum press conference that the government and rebel movements in Darfur had failed to protect civilians in areas under their control and were violating international human rights and humanitarian law. Ms. Samar, concluding a visit to



## Coming UP

### The Census on UN Radio Miraya

Miraya is gearing up to cover Sudan's population census, scheduled for 15 to 30 April. Here's what to look forward to:

**Informative dialogues:** daily broadcasts in Arabic and local languages from North and Southern Sudan on its FM network and on short wave.

**Counting for our Future and Let's Talk:** two weekly magazines devoted to the census in Simple Arabic and English.

**Good Morning Sudan:** talk-back show giving listeners a chance to call in and exchange views on the census (Monday to Friday 9:10 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.).

**Sudan Tonite:** featuring studio guests from the south's Commission for Census Statistics and Evaluation and other organizations to provide information and answer listeners' questions.

**Ground reports:** from Miraya reporters around Sudan feeding news and other programmes as census operations proceed.

For more details on news, upcoming programmes and special features, see Miraya's website: [www.mirayafm.org](http://www.mirayafm.org)

### Un Special Days in April

- **4 April:** International Mine Awareness Day

- **7 April:** World Health Day

Sudan that began on 27 February, also said government officials had provided information on steps they taken to combat violence against women in Darfur.

**On 11 March**, some 39 child soldiers were demobilized from the Sudan Peoples Liberation Army (SPLA) at a ceremony in Mapel, Western Bahr El Ghazal. SPLA Chief of Administration for the Third Division Brigadier General Ajak Yen said the young people had joined the army of their own accord, but that the division would not accept children in future.

**On 14 March**, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees said it was accelerating its programme for the voluntary repatriation of refugees to Southern Sudan from neighbouring countries. UNHCR Spokesperson

Ron Redmond told reporters in Geneva that 15,700 Sudanese refugees had returned so far this year, a number triple that of the same period last year.

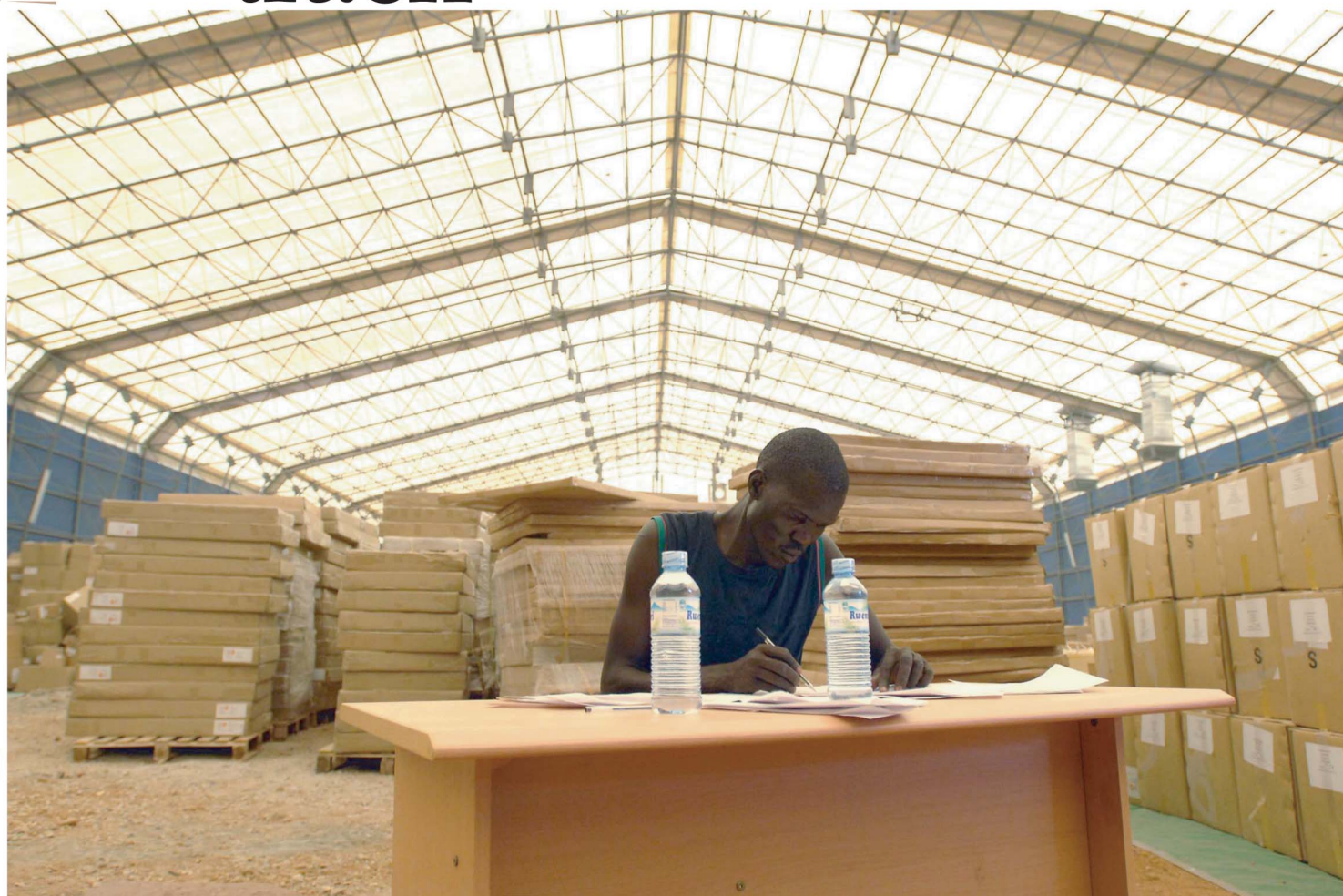
**On 18 March**, UN and AU Envoys to Darfur, Jan Eliasson and Salim Ahmed



Salim, said following two days of consultations in Geneva with key members of the international community that improving the relationship between Sudan and Chad was crucial to achieving a durable solution to Darfur. The envoys said they had received strong support from consultation participants for renewed efforts to move the political process forward.



# Census preparations on track



SSCSE worker preparing census shipments in Juba

*"All Sudanese are urged to stand up and be counted!"*

Taban Kenyi and Ashim Choudhury

PHOTO: Timothy McKulka

**M**arking a step forward in preparations for Sudan's fifth population census, scheduled to be conducted from 15 to 30 April, a special UNMIS cargo flight carrying the first batch of census materials took off from Juba for Malakal in early March.

The same day, David Gressly, UNMIS Regional Coordinator for Southern Sudan, announced at a press conference that census preparations were on track. "In general, there is satisfaction that the mapping exercise was successfully completed ... and 40 principle trainers will now carry out training in state capitals," he said.

Some five to 10 tons of census materials, mainly enumerator kits and questionnaires, are being transported to each of Southern

Sudan's 10 state capitals, assisted by UNMIS aircraft and trucks. Materials are also being transported by river to areas inaccessible by road.

Adwok Chol, Director for Census in the Government of Southern Sudan, confirmed that census mapping was indeed complete, except in a few pockets like Abyei, where activities would be jointly carried out by authorities of the north and south. "We sent two groups to do the mapping in Abyei and they are still working on it," he said, adding that UNMIS had played a major role in the exercise.

On training of trainers in state capitals, Mr. Chol said the sessions were vital in holding a successful census. "Training will ensure that the supervisors and enumerators in the field do their job correctly," he said.

A critical task for enumerators, mostly teachers, students and community leaders, will be to help households fill out questionnaires. While there will be two types of questionnaires, one having 54 questions and a shorter one with 10, most people will fill in the latter. Due to time constraints, the detailed, longer one will only be used for a randomly chosen 10 percent of households.



## Facts and Figures

- Sudan's 1981 census yielded a population figure of 21 million.
- The 1993 census was incomplete in the south, but gave a figure of about 21.3 million for the 15 northern states
- Current estimates of Sudan's population range up to 30 million, with about 22 million in the north and six million in the south (constantly shifting due to the return of displaced people)
- Khartoum (including Khartoum, Omdurman and Khartoum North) has a population of 6 to 7 million

The Interim National Constitution mandated the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) in Khartoum to take charge of the 15 states in the north. The Southern Sudan Commission for Census Statistics and Evaluation (SSCCSE) will be responsible for the ten states in the south. The CBS will oversee implementation of the census, to be conducted simultaneously in all of Sudan. In the transitional area of Abyei, the census will be carried out jointly by the CBS and SSCCSE.

According to CBS Director-General Yaseen Abdeen, Darfur was also ready for the census, although people in some rebel-controlled areas were still uneasy about being counted. "I understand why they don't want me to count them ... it's not comfortable for them that the government knows who they are, where they are."

He added, however, that both rebels and government officials were aware of the importance of the census. "I'm hoping that when it comes to counting, they (people in rebel-controlled areas) will let me go and count them ... this is not going to be used in any way as a threat to their security," Mr. Abdeen said.

The UN Population Fund (UNFPA) is leading UN census support, coordinating between the commissions of the north and south. The agency will also ensure that both sides abide by streamlined procedures and guidelines to avoid discrepancies. Alongside the UNFPA, UNMIS is helping raise awareness of the census, holding workshops in towns across the region and broadcasting public service announcements and educational programmes over UN Radio Miraya.

Lucy Kwedo, a UNFPA consultant based at the Census Commissioner's office in Juba, who oversees outreach and advocacy, maintained that even remote communities would be fully aware of the census. "We have been sensitizing people since May 2007 and we are employing all kinds of methods, from radios to town criers," she said.

Other international agencies assisting with the census include Statistics Norway, the United States Census Bureau and French Co-operation. They will provide such logistical support as GPS machines to map villages and households as well as laptops and computers to

store information. Once enumeration is complete, at least six months will be needed to process results before they can be announced.

For the first time in Southern Sudan, digitalized maps will be used and stored for future surveys. The Geographical Information System database in Rumbek will act as a store house for all census information. "It (the census) is extraordinary because it's going to be executed with scientific, technological innovations never used before in Sudan," said CBS Director-General Abdeen.

Sudan's last census in 1993 failed to cover all southern areas due to the civil war, while the next one scheduled for 2003 was postponed due to peace negotiations. The Comprehensive Peace Agreement of 2005 stipulated that a population and housing census be held before the 2009 elections and the national referendum in 2011.

Apart from the elections and referendum, the census will be a vital tool for allocating resources. It is also expected to provide credible socio-economic data, which will be used in achieving political economic, social and environmental objectives stated in the INC and CPA. ■

## Census Night

The 14 to 15 April has been set aside as census night. Any person outside Sudan's borders on that night will not be counted. As in most African countries, Sudan's census adopts the de-facto method, which counts people according to where they are at a designated time.

Enumerators will go from house to house between 15 to 30 April, asking who lived there on census night (14 to 15 April). Internally displaced persons in camps will be asked where they came from and where they will be living for the next six months.

People will be asked if they are northern or southern, giving their place of origin as one of nine regions – Northern, Eastern, Khartoum, Central, Darfur, Kordofan, Equatoria, Upper Nile and Bahr El Ghazal.

Babies born or people dying after that census night will not be counted. Similarly, Sudanese refugees living outside the country will be left out, although they will still be eligible to participate in the 2009 elections.

See a sample of the questionnaire on page 13



# In urgent need of a harvest

Ojja Bosco

**S**itting lethargically on a bed in a cramped ward at Juba Teaching Hospital, an old woman feeding a sickly child said she had not eaten for three days.

The child's mother had died of hunger a few days back, the woman said. "I'm his grandmother. You can see his health ... this is due to hunger, there is nothing to eat, no money. And food stuff in the market is too expensive ... I can't afford to buy it."

The woman and her grandson are among many in Southern Sudan facing hunger, as its 10 states suffer an acute food shortage. After 21 years of war, one would expect people to redouble their efforts to farm and produce food. But hunger has continued to plague the fertile Nile basin.

Some people have failed to plow their fields due to plain inertia and a lagging desire to work. Others have hesitated due to insecurity and tribal conflicts, fearing their farms will be raided when it comes time to harvest. And for many southerners who have returned home after a long absence, land ownership issues have remained unresolved.

As food production remains low, high market prices prohibit many from buying. Moreover, the rough conditions and sometimes complete absence of roads makes delivery of food and other commodities difficult, pushing prices even farther out of reach.

If drastic steps are not taken, experts warn, acute food shortages will worsen in most parts of Southern Sudan, causing further malnutrition, especially in rural communities. The UN's Food



Malnourished woman and child in Juba Teaching Hospital.  
PHOTO: UNMIS/Ojja Bosco

and Agricultural Organization (FAO) has called on the Government of Southern Sudan, implementing partners, and international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) to urgently provide small farmers with improved access to seeds, fertilizers and other materials to boost crop production.

"FAO aims to assist Southern Sudan in mobilizing resources to strengthen people's productive capability, market access and other measures necessary for long-term household food security," said Resom Habtegabriel, FAO Deputy Emergency Coordinator in Southern Sudan.

To date, the FAO has assisted more than 120,000 households in the region, mainly returnees and vulnerable groups, supplying them with seeds and farming tools. Over 4,000 farmers in Southern Sudan

have been trained in agriculture, animal husbandry, fishing, agro-based forestry, and vegetable growing.

This year, however, the FAO will be targeting only 91,000 households due to a shortfall in donor funding. "We are urging national governments, international institutions and other donors to replicate and expand successful interventions so that we can succeed in making Southern Sudanese self-reliant in food," Mr. Habtegabriel said.

The FAO is working closely with the World Food Programme, in coordination with 66 INGOs specialized in agriculture, seeds distribution and fisheries, to support Southern Sudan and other parts of the country. ■

Cassava flour and millet drying in the sun. PHOTO: UNMIS/Timothy McKulka





# Big boost for small businesses

Microfinance

Melody Atil and Kenyi Spencer (World Bank)

PHOTO: Timothy McKulka

**S**outhern Sudanese waiting in the wings with small business ideas and entrepreneurial skills now have a chance to realize their dreams through microfinance.

Suddenly, poor people in the region can obtain loans under a new microfinance programme begun by the Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Supply (MCTS) and the Bank of Southern Sudan (BOSS). Under the Private Sector Development initiative, assisted by the World Bank, the MCTS and BOSS have created the Southern Sudan Microfinance Development Facility (SSMDF) to expand such services in the south.

The project will empower people to start or expand enterprises vitally needed in driving the nascent economy of Southern Sudan, suffering from two decades of war. Microfinance will also allow returnees, women, ex-combatants, and youth to create an alternate source of income.

Four microfinance agencies - Sudan Microfinance Initiative (SUMI), the Bangladesh Rural Cooperative (BRAC), Finance Sudan and Sudan and Savannah Farmers' Cooperative - were recently selected to deliver microfinance services throughout the region.

Coming in equal shares from the Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) and the Government of Southern Sudan, some \$1 million will be

injected into these microfinance providers to meet the high demand for small loans. Another \$1 million will be distributed in May to reach people in under-served states. The SSMDF will soon have a revolving fund to fuel growth, competition and innovation.

Small loans, ranging from \$100 to \$1,000, will give budding entrepreneurs a chance to exploit demands in the market for goods and services. Small shops will expand and modest production as well as trading will multiply, boosting trade and various sectors of the economy.

Another scheme recently unveiled by the Private Sector Development project, focusing on larger and more ambitious entrepreneurs, is the Business Plan Competition (BPC). The plan hopes to ignite innovative, business ideas through competition.

Under the BPC, 60 entrepreneurs, including those from the Diaspora, with proposals to produce a marketable product will be selected to undergo "business plan preparation" management training. Twenty of the best proposals will be chosen to realize their plans through a maximum loan of \$20,000, accessed through a designated, commercial bank.

How will this change Southern Sudan? People will be empowered to raise the quality and quantity of goods and services, rivaling those produced in neighbouring countries. Experience elsewhere has shown that microfinance and BPC facilities have been effective tools for poverty reduction. ■



Small business tea seller in Malakal



# Photo Gallery

## Returning to Abyei

PHOTOS: Timothy McKulka

**S**o far this year, about 5,500 returnees have arrived in Abyei (including 1,000 from the north of the town, displaced due to Misseriya-Dinka tensions), joining 15,569 who came back in 2007. Expected returns for 2008 range from 10,000 to 25,000, depending on the security situation.

Organized returns to Abyei are currently on hold due to the area's lack of a civil administration, but UNMIS' Recovery, Return and Reintegration section has been working with the Southern Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (SSRRC) to monitor and assist those returning spontaneously, mostly from Southern Kordofan and around Khartoum.

Currently, nine Returnee Village Reception Teams (RVRTs) receive returnees at 'reception tukuls', where they are registered for food aid, non-food items, seeds and tools. UNMIS' plan for 2008, in conjunction with the SSRRC, the World Food Programme and the Regional Coordinator's Office, is to expand the RVRTs to 40 and call them 'Reintegration Committees'.



Recent returnees building tukuls in Romamair village



Making mud bricks for buildings in Romamair returnee village



UN official checking young Dinka returnee for malnutrition in Ameit village





# Photo Gallery

Romamair village elders discuss returnee needs with UN officials



Misseriya nomads loading water from borehole they share with Dinka returnees in Ameit village



Young and happy returnees in Romamair village





# Counting the heads of police

Surendra Sharma

**A**s one of its major success stories, UN Police has assisted the Southern Sudan Police Service (SSPS) in identifying, counting and verifying some 18,770 of its officers scattered throughout Southern Sudan.

The information now sits in a database along with training, payroll and personal details, which will help the SSPS manage its personnel and draw up future plans.

"Among other things, the database will help determine which officers should be retired, trained or promoted ... and also help in preparing suitable budgets," said SSPS Cpl. Edward Lodiong Elisa.

Begun in May 2006, the project was initially plagued by poor communications and limited access in remote areas. "Some counties and payams

(townships) were inaccessible due to bad roads or the security situation ... SSPS officers in those areas have not yet been registered," said UN Police Officer Fatai Odunewu.

The endeavour also lacked computers, digital cameras and even paper to print forms.

To ensure the exercise took off, UN team members used their personal cameras, laptops and paper donated by donor agencies.

UN Police set up a central registration unit at its Regional Headquarters in Juba and developed a form for personal and professional details as well as a database to enter information from the field. Joint SSPS-UN Police registration teams fanned out across all 10 southern

UN Police registration officer instructing SSPS, Malakal. PHOTO: UNMIS/ William Black



states, flooding the Juba unit with thousands of forms and volumes of data.

Overwhelmed, UN Police enlisted UNMIS' communications technology section to help develop a more advanced database, which became operational in June 2007. Yet another improved version with a powerful search engine was recently commissioned in Juba to cope with ever increasing entries.

To encourage SSPS 'ownership' of the project, UN Police brought six of its officers into the Juba registration unit to train them in data entry and use of the database. "We are now able to electronically file SSPS information into the database and search for recorded information,"

said SSPS Cpl. Elisa.

The registration process has continued as access in the field opens up and the SSPS actively takes part. The Service launched an elaborate vetting exercise and head count across all 10 states in January to register any missing personnel and verify earlier entries. At the end of the exercise, identity cards will be issued to SSPS personnel, so that its leadership can keep track of employees.

The project has thus far used UN Police resources, but urgently needs vital equipment like computers, stationery, cameras, ID card machines and office equipment, so that it can be handed over to the SSPS for future use. "The unit is still searching for donors ready to foot the bill," said UN Police Officer Odunewu. ■

Measuring SSPS officers in Malakal. PHOTO: UNMIS/Benedict Osegboun





# Securing the oilfields

Story and photos: Timothy McKulka

**D**riving north on a dusty road from Bentiu to the oil fields of Unity State, a convoy of Joint Integrated Units (JIUs) came to a halt as soldiers jumped from the lead pickup to detain three men hiding in the bush.

The JIUs were demonstrating for visiting donor representatives of the JIU support group how they planned to secure the oil fields in Al Regad area, with men in the bush playing the role of "attackers". Previously, the area was protected by the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF), who redeployed to the north in January.

"The challenge we are facing is the security of the oil installations ... oil in Sudan is the main resource for the country, and it is important for the JIUs to be properly trained, organized and established ...," said the JIUs commander, Major General Thomas Cirillo.

Comprising 600 soldiers equally divided between the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) and the SAF, the Al Regad JIUs currently lack both equipment and training. They have no communications gear, few vehicles, live in poor, unhygienic conditions without health services, and depend on oil companies for water. As soldiers have also brought their families with them, some 350 non-combatant children lack access to education.

"JIUs need to be supported so we are able to render our security services to the nation and oil areas," stressed General Cirillo. "The JIU units -- the army -- is an army of the country ... it is important for peace itself because we are the only army in Sudan that projects the unity of the country."

The JIU support group was set up in November 2007 following a

Grid from seismic testing for determining oil deposits and drilling areas



UN Security Council resolution calling on UNMIS "to enable the full establishment of JIUs as soon as possible". Chaired by UNMIS Force Commander Lt. General Jasbir Liddar, the group brings together donors, UNMIS representatives and the JIU commander in assessing conditions to provide logistical and training support to JIUs.

Formation of JIUs was mandated by the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), which ended Sudan's 21-year civil war, as a "symbol of national unity during the interim period". The units will form the basis of a national army should southerners opt for continued unity with the north in the 2011 referendum, or be dissolved if they vote for secession.

The delegation visiting JIU battalion headquarters and Al

JIU soldiers at their battalion headquarters



Regad's surrounding oil fields included donor representatives from

the United Kingdom, France, Ethiopia, Kenya, Italy, Norway, the Netherlands and the United States. They were obtaining first-hand information about ground and climatic conditions to work out desired support for JIUs.

The total authorized strength of JIUs is 39,600 soldiers-- 24,000 in Southern Sudan, 600 in Abyei, 6,000 in the Nuba Mountains, 6,000 in Blue Nile and 3,000 in Khartoum. As of 11 March, 33,698 JIUs (86%) had been deployed and verified by UNMIS, with the Khartoum brigade at fully authorized strength. ■



# Mapping hidden roads and villages

Story and PHOTOS: Major Shambhu Singh

Lakshmi Raghavan working on mapping application

Newly developed "dynamic" maps containing vital facts about little-known villages, roads and landmines have made humanitarian work considerably easier in Blue Nile State.

Concealing a wealth of data beneath the surface, the maps are termed "dynamic" as opposed to "static" in geographic lingo. Simply click on the name of a town or village and up pops information about population, health, education, water, sanitation, and even religious or political affiliation.

The maps were developed by Indian UN Military Observer (UNMO) and Squadron Leader Lakshmi Raghavan, who has served as Civil Military Cooperation focal point in Ed Damazin for the past year. Lakshmi says he was just fiddling around in his spare time. "I started doing this just to keep my coding skills up to date, but then discovered the maps could actually help humanitarians in the area."

Noticing that humanitarian jaunts were targeting the same villages each time, while others were missing out, Lakshmi began collecting information about roads and needy villages from UNMOs on patrol. He then combined this with landmine data from the UN Mine Action Office and plugged it all into his mapping database.

With information about roads, landmines and immediate needs ready to hand, humanitarian reach stretched from only 42 villages



near Ed Damazin to 135 in farther-flung areas of the state. And the number is rising each day, as patrols identify new settlements that are mapped for future visits.

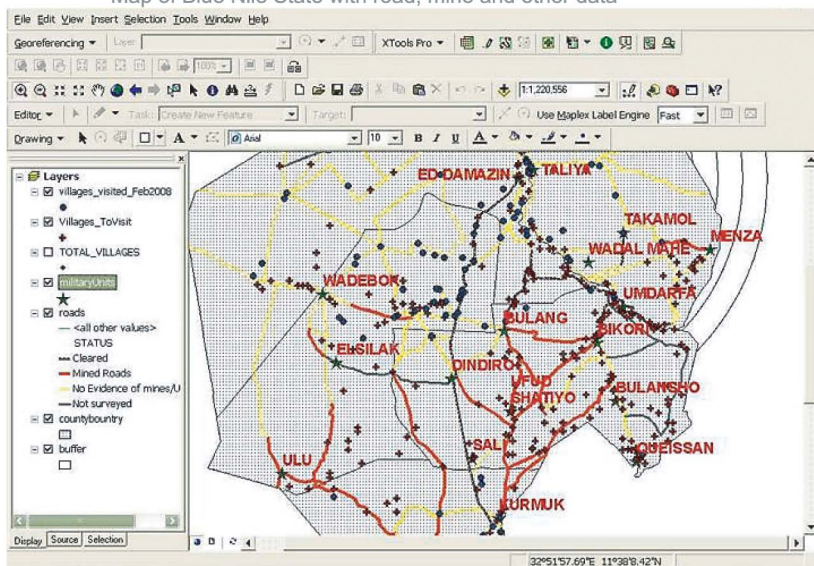
Head of the Regional Coordinator's Office in Blue Nile State Soenke Ziesche said a lack of high-scale, updated maps had previously blocked development programmes. "The new maps can be used by many agencies in Sudan, whether they are working on the census or giving timely assistance to the needy."

In one instance, the maps warned humanitarians of flooding during the rainy season from a burst dam in Bout village on the western edge of the state, and a government task force was able to arrange rapid relief for the victims. In another, the database combined population, infrastructure and disease data to identify 10 priority villages needing medical camps.

Joe Crowley, of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs' Information Management Unit, described the mapping as an "excellent example of inter-agency cooperation" in delivering crucially needed services, which could be replicated in other areas of Sudan. "We hope the early successes in Blue Nile State will serve to inspire similar collaborative efforts."

Squadron Commander Raghavan is modest but hopeful. "The mapping is in its infancy. What it has done so far is meager ... but it has the potential to do much more."

Map of Blue Nile State with road, mine and other data





# Yambio water crisis worsens, as returnees arrive

Story and photo: James Sokiri

**L**arge numbers of returnees and economic migrants in Yambio county, Western Equatoria State, have escalated a water shortage that has plagued the area for years.

For the more than 400,000 people residing in the county's five payams (townships) - Yambio, Bangasu, Gangura, Li-Rangu and Nadiangere - water is often scarce, especially in the dry season. The county has few boreholes, most of them located in the centre of Yambio town.

With the daily arrival of returnees and the growing need for water to mould bricks and build houses, added to household consumption, day-long queues are common. Sometimes, women return home without water.

Continuing peace in Sudan has also meant that trade routes, closed during the war, have now opened, and economic migrants from neighboring countries like Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Kenya are pouring in.

Water shortages have even led to tribal scuffles, especially at Hai Saura, where more than 1,500 households share a single borehole. The problem is heightened by the number of different tribes in Yambio area, which is home to the Zandes, Muru, Abukaya, Mundu, Bari and some Kakwa and Dinkas.

Even the area's soil and rock formation goes against it, as rain water penetrates deep beneath the land's surface. During the dry season, people may pump for five minutes before water starts flowing. The water table sometimes falls so low they must wait for over 30 minutes before any appears. Worst of all is when the few available boreholes break down.

"We are suffering ....water during the dry season is a dream," said Afonsina Justine, a 45-year-old woman from Hai Soura village in Yambio payam. "We have to travel more than three kilometers each

day in search of water," she adds, urging the Government of Southern Sudan (GoSS) and the UN to drill more boreholes.

Overcrowding around water points also poses a hygiene problem, as dirty water settles in the ground around the bore hole. During the wet season, tall grass growing around water sources matures and rots. When it rains, this rotten vegetation leaches directly into the water table, affecting its colour and

**"Every 20 seconds, a child dies from diseases associated with a lack of clean water. That adds up to an unconscionable 1.5 million young lives cut short each year. More than two and a half billion people in the world live in the most abysmal standards of hygiene and sanitation. Helping them would do more than reduce the death toll; it would serve to protect the environment, alleviate poverty and promote development."**

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, speaking on World Water Day, 22 March

purity.

To ease Yambio's water crisis, the Government of Southern Sudan renovated a spring called 'Kor Tenki' about a year ago, although this too can dwindle to a trickle or even dry up totally.

Relief may arrive in the form of UNICEF, which has already drilled about 140 boreholes in Western Equatoria. The agency is currently drawing up plans to construct several new water points and rehabilitate old ones in the state. ■

Water well at Hai Soura





# MISSION'S MANDATE

**T**he UN Security Council established the UN Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) with its unanimous adoption of Security Council Resolution 1590 on 24 March 2005. UNMIS was initially established for a period of six months.

According to its mandate, UNMIS is tasked with supporting the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. UNMIS is also tasked with facilitating the voluntary return of refugees and displaced persons; providing demining assistance; and contributing towards international efforts to protect and promote human rights in Sudan.

The mandate authorizes UNMIS to have up to 10,000 military personnel and an appropriate civilian component, including up to 715 civilian police personnel.

Acting under Chapter VII of the UN Charter, UNMIS is authorized to take the necessary action, in the areas of deployment of its forces, and as it deems within its capabilities, to protect United Nations personnel and to ensure their security and freedom of movement, as well as, without prejudice to the responsibility of the Sudanese Government, to protect civilians under imminent threat of physical violence.

The Security Council also requested the UN Secretary-General, through his Special Representative in Sudan "to coordinate all the

activities of the UN system in Sudan, to mobilize resources and support from the international community for both immediate assistance and the long-term economic development of Sudan, and to facilitate coordination with other international actors, in particular the African Union and Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), of activities in support of the transitional process established by the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, and to provide good offices and political support for the efforts to resolve all ongoing conflicts in Sudan."

In the resolution, the Security Council underscored the immediate need to rapidly increase the number of human rights monitors in Darfur. It urged the Secretary-General and the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to accelerate the deployment of human rights monitors to Darfur and augment their numbers and also to move forward with the formation of civilian monitoring protection teams.

In addition, the Security Council emphasized that there can be no military solution to the conflict in Darfur, and called on the Government of the Sudan and the rebel groups, particularly the Justice and Equality Movement and the Sudanese Liberation Army/Movement to resume the Abuja talks rapidly without preconditions and negotiate in good faith to speedily reach agreement. ■

To read more, check our website at [www.unmis.org](http://www.unmis.org)



PHOTOS: UNMIS/ Frederic Noy



تعداد السكان والمساكن الخامس  
5<sup>th</sup> SUDAN POPULATION & HOUSING CENSUS



كن مستعداً وعد نفسك  
STAND UP AND BE COUNTED

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Name of Enumerator	Date	Signature of Enumerator	Name of Supervisor	Date	Signature of Supervisor
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United Nations Mission In Sudan

