



EMERGENCY LIFE-SAVING ASSISTANCE FOR
CONFLICT AFFECTED POPULATIONS (ELACAP)

THIRD QUARTER REPORT (October – December 2015)

Reporting Organization Name: Mercy Corps

Program Summary

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OVERVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD

The third quarter reporting period was marked by progression in top level peace discussions with the arrival of the i/O delegation in Juba. However, the formation of 28 states has deepened the divide between ethnicities, with the Shilluk tribes claiming the new geographic divides are essentially land grabs. The Bentiu PoC site continued as the site with the largest number of displaced people in the country, with a population of 106,000 in Q3.

Food insecurity typically begins to increase annually in May. However, with the depreciation of the South Sudanese Pound and limited access to hard currency, trade flows and access to markets have been disrupted. This has led to an increase in staple food prices across the country in October and November — a period typically associated with decreased prices for local food commodities due to the harvest season.¹

In discussions with OFDA-Juba in August 2015 concerning the Abyei Administrative area, due to a huge influx of IDPs in the Bentiu area with critical immediate needs, Mercy Corps decided to close the Agok compound and shift the remaining ELACAP funds to the Mercy Corps Bentiu office in order to respond to the influx of IDPs in the PoC. Between August and November 2015, Mercy Corps closed offices in Maluakon, Wunrok, and handed over the Agok compound for management by Samaritan's Purse starting November 1, 2015. MC staff in Agok were all provided with termination notices and terminal benefits. Further, the remaining team received support on close-out of the final activities and capacity building on data entry and database creation and analysis. Mercy Corps wanted to build the capacity of national staff whenever possible and recognizes this as being imperative for national staff development.

During this period, the exchange rate became very favorable and additional funding became available in Bentiu, no longer requiring the additional funding from Agok to cover needs in the PoC. Because Mercy Corps is committed to our beneficiaries in the Abyei Administrative Area and believe there are still critical needs in the area, the team decided that it was important to complete our program activities in Agok under ELACAP since funds were available again for the aforementioned reasons. Therefore, some staff were rehired in early December 2015 to complete ELACAP activities in AAA. In addition to these former staff being rehired, it was determined that a community mobilizer would also be required to finalize the grant.

Sector 1: WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

To provide emergency water and sanitation for 8,000 conflict affected people in Bentiu Protection of Civilian (PoC) site

1.1: Water Supply Infrastructure

1.1.1: Treatment and distribution of potable water

The team treats and distributes 137,000 liters of water daily to a population of approximately 12,318 people (as of December registration) – about 11 liters per person per day. The population figure had increased from the last reporting period of 11,728 people. The borehole operated by Mercy Corps is producing 87,000 liters per day, which is not enough for the population size; the other 50,000 liters has

¹ USAID/OCHA Crisis Factsheet December 2015

been supplied from another borehole operated by MSF. Because of low rains during the season, the water yield of the boreholes has reduced. Because of the reduced water yield and the increase in population of the POC, Mercy Corps has not been able to reach the sphere standards of 15 liters per person per day. All efforts are being made to ensure the standard is met.

The IOM site development team is still in the process of developing the area, so by the end of the reporting period, only seven blocks were developed out of the nine that are supposed to be developed in the MC operating area. UNICEF managed to complete the water distribution network system in the seven developed blocks and a tap stand was installed in each block with six taps at each tap stand. Water is pumped into the storage tank twice at night and in the afternoon, and batch chlorination is done in the storage tank (T95). Water is pumped from the storage tank into elevated tanks (10,000liters) using a booster pump and then distributed to tap stands from elevated tanks through gravity. Distribution to the tap stands is done twice daily, once in the morning and once in the late afternoon.

1.2: Sanitation Infrastructure

1.2.1: Construction and maintenance of 400 semi-permanent communal latrines

Due to the rains, the IOM site development team could not continue to develop the area because the soil was too wet for heavy machines to operate. Therefore, no construction was done from October to mid-December. In mid-December, part of block 4 was developed and 33 stances of latrines were constructed. There is still a significant portion of individuals living on the land in what will be Block 7 and part of block 4, and, due to this, the land has not been developed to build the new semi-permanent latrines. According to the IOM site development team, the land should be ready in early February. To date, a cumulative 303 semi-permanent latrines have been constructed.

1.2.2: Construction and maintenance of 80 semi-permanent communal bathing spaces

Seventy-six of 80 bathing spaces have been completed inside Sector 1. Construction of the final bathing spaces should be completed once the area is developed. This is due to the delay in site development.

1.2.3: Construction and maintenance of 50 communal hand washing facilities

Mercy Corps has installed 52 hand-washing stands in the seven finalized blocks within Sector 1.²

1.2.4: Construction and maintenance of 12 communal laundry spaces

Laundry spaces have not been constructed yet in Sector 1. The WASH Cluster has been in negotiations with the Site Development team from IOM to finalize spaces within each block to construct the laundry spaces. These negotiations were finalized and laundry space construction will commence the first week of February.

1.2.5: Cleaning of latrines

Latrines are being cleaned twice daily by community laborers. The latrines are cleaned with a chlorine solution which serves three purposes: 1) the obvious need to sanitize the latrine space used by the community members; 2) the sterilization of the liquid waste in the semi-permanent pit which will help to contain any potentially contaminated waste; 3) the water used to clean the latrines helps to loosen

² *Though it is more than the committed units (50) Mercy Corps will eventually install 86 handwashing stands (82 in community, 4 in school) once we are able to complete the construction of the remaining latrines in Sector 1. This is due to a very strong need in the community of available hand washing stands to fight outbreaks of Hep E in the PoC and to ensure that proper hygiene is available to all as conveniently as possible.*

the waste in the pit which allows for smoother de-sludging of the communal latrines. The team planned for 27 latrine cleaners on staff and currently all of them are working; however, since blocks 4 and 7 are not developed yet, the cleaners are cleaning the temporary latrines. Effective January 20th, latrine cleaners are paid 60 Ssp. Effective February 1st, Hygiene Promoters payments will go up to 80 Ssp, in harmony with other NGOs agreed incentive payments. The latrine cleaners are provided with Mercy Corps visibility clothing, gloves and breathing masks for safety and sanitation purposes.

1.3: Hygiene Promotion

1.3.1: Door-to-Door hygiene promotion instruction for 1,000 HHs

The Mercy Corps team carried out daily hygiene promotion messaging for approximately 2,500 households. The door-to-door messaging is done on a daily basis six days per week by 70 Hygiene Promoters.

1.3.2: Provision of at least 3 hygiene promotion sessions per month

Mercy Corps' Hygiene Promoters use many participatory approaches to disseminate hygiene messages. One of the approaches is through focus group sessions in blocks after identifying hygiene issues during their routine door-to-door promotion. In these focus groups, problems will be discussed and solutions identified, then follow up of the implementation of solutions is done before discussing another issue. During the reporting period, topics discussed were proper disposal of children's feces, especially in areas where they have not been relocated, household management of water supply, hand washing, and food hygiene.

1.3.3: Distribution of hygiene related NFI kits

At present, the Mercy Corps team is distributing monthly soap rations to each household alongside the general food distributions in the PoC. Conducting the hygiene-related distributions during food distributions ensures that no households are omitted from the distribution.

1.4: Environmental Health

1.4.1: Construction and maintenance of 100 communal garbage bins

The Mercy Corps team constructed a cumulative 28 communal garbage bins in the community. This is reduction is due to the design of blocks whereby in each block only 4 to 6 garbage bins will be installed.

1.4.2: Daily collection of waste

Mercy Corps employed 18 garbage collectors within Sector 1 of PoC. The responsibilities of these garbage collectors is to remove discarded waste in the general area of the PoC and collect waste from the garbage boxes area to the temporary disposal site waiting for final collection to the dumping site. These garbage collectors are provided with Mercy Corps visibility, including t-shirts and caps to allow them to be recognized by the communities and also protective clothing like gloves and breathing masks for sanitation purposes.



Child explains importance of hygiene to Mercy Corps staff in Bentiu PoC

SECTOR 1 DASHBOARD

Activity	Activity no	Target	Q1	Q2	Q3
Treatment and distribution of potable water	1.1.1	8,000	14,744	11,728	12,318
Construction and maintenance of 400 semi-permanent communal latrines	1.2.1	400	242	242	303
Construction and maintenance of 80 semi-permanent communal bathing spaces	1.2.2	80	0	60	76
Construction and maintenance of 50 communal handwashing facilities	1.2.3	50	36	0	52
Construction and maintenance of 12 communal laundry spaces	1.2.4	12	0	0	0
Cleaning of latrines	1.2.5	Twice daily	Twice daily	Twice daily	Twice daily
Door to door hygiene promotion instruction for 1,000 HH	1.3.1	1,000 HH	1,400 HH	1,400 HH	2,500 HH
Provision of at least 3 hygiene promotions sessions per month	1.3.2	3 per month	Weekly	Weekly	Weekly
Distribution of hygiene related NFI	1.3.3	Monthly	Monthly	Monthly	Monthly

kits		soap rations	soap rations	soap rations	soap rations
Construction and maintenance of 100 communal garbage bins	1.4.1	100	18	23	28
Daily collection of waste	1.4.2	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily

Sector 2: AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

To improve food security amongst conflict affected 8,750 people (includes 4,812 IDPs) through improved purchasing power and increased crop production

2.1: Improving Agriculture Production/Food Security

2.1.1: Selection, Identification and Registration of 1,250 HHs in AAA

This component has been completed.

2.1.2: Re-building of agricultural assets (staple seeds & tools) for 1,000 HHs through Seed Fairs in AAA

The seed fair component has been completed. Follow up will take place on the beneficiaries of the seed fair and reported on in the final report.

2.1.3: Twelve days of field crop training for 50 lead farmers in AAA

This component completed during quarter two, 6 females and 44 males were trained.

2.1.4: Support vegetable production among 25 groups

This activity has re-started. 13 groups have been formed across the areas around AAA. In this regard, awareness and registration is ongoing in these locations for those who meet the criteria of selection being: pregnant mothers, lactating mothers, households with malnourished children, access to land, availability of water source etc.

Sector 3: ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND MARKET SYSTEMS

Stabilized markets and conflict affected and vulnerable 12,250 individuals (including 6,737 IDPs) have increased purchasing power and access to immediate needs

3.1: Temporary Employment

This activity has now been completed.

3.1.3: 300 households participate in 5 cash for work projects in AAA

This activity has now been completed.

3.2: Microfinance

3.2.1: Mobilize the formation of 40 VSLA groups each with 25 members in AAA

During the review period, two new VSLAs (Village Saving and Loan Associations) were formed. Disbursement of funds is yet to take place. The project team is organizing the beneficiaries who want to actively participate in this activity formed into groups of 25 members each. This means some groups will be split because they are too large. These VSLA groups are disbursed widely across AAA throughout

a number of key source markets (for example, Annet market) and smaller, feeder markets. The group locations range from southern AAA all the way to Abyei Town in central/northern AAA, along a key trading route. The vegetable gardening activities complement the VSLA intervention as vegetables being brought from groups along the river Kiir (East AAA) to markets are allowing VSLA members to restock faster and purchase more stock for their businesses. These activities are highly complementary and are providing much needed sources of income for vulnerable individuals in both accessible and harder-to-reach locations across the region.

3.2.2: Provide an initial 3-day training per group and VSLA materials

Followed by the formation of the groups, the members are to be oriented on saving and loan processing. Training on the share-out process and group constitution will also take place in the next two weeks.

3.2.3: Data collection and follow up

The VSLA database is updated on a regular basis, with supervision from the Deputy Program Manager and MEL Officer.

4.1 Humanitarian Coordination and Information Sharing

4.1.1: Fortnightly Cluster Coordination meetings held in Juba

Mercy Corps engages in the Cluster Co-ordination meetings held in Juba to collect and disseminate information on the wider contextual issues which may impact program implementation. Mercy Corps engages a wide range of actors participating in humanitarian co-ordination mechanisms ranging from UNMISS to local government bodies and other civil society actors and traditional governance structures. This includes village and county chiefs and committees, with whom Mercy Corps has developed a high level of community acceptance. This has been due to previously successful programs such as INSPIRE, which involved a high level of community engagement as direct implementers.

SECTOR 2-4 DASHBOARD

Activity	Activity no:	Target HH:	Target individuals	Q1 HH	Q1 Individuals	Q2 HH	Q2 Individuals	Q3 Individuals	Cumulative individuals
Selection, Identification and Registration of 1,250 HHs in AAA	2.1.1	N/A	1,875	N/A	1,875	N/A	0	1,875	1,875
Rebuilding of agricultural assets via seed fair	2.1.2	N/A	1,000	6,000	1,000	6,000	0	1,000	1,000
Twelve days of field Crop training for 50 lead	2.1.3	N/A	50	300	50	300	50	50	50

*Emergency Life Saving Assistance for Conflict Affected Populations (ELACAP)
Q3 Report (October 2015 – December 2015)*

farmers in AAA									
Support vegetable production among 25 groups	2.1.4	0	150	0	0	0	0	0	13
Cash transfer	3.1.2	250	1,500	250	1,500	250	1,500	1,500	1,500
Cash for work	3.1.3	300	1,800	300	1,800	300	1,800	1,800	1,800
Microfinance	3.2.1	40	1,000	10	250	25	625 (142 M/483 F)	875	925