



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

FOURTH QUARTER REPORT (January 1 – March 31, 2016)

Reporting Organization Name: Mercy Corps

Program Summary

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OVERVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD

During this reporting period, the population of Bentiu PoC swelled to 120,000 people; more than all combined populations of the six UN bases where people have been sheltering across South Sudan. As contrasting examples, in November 2014 there were 102,265 internally displaced people sheltering across the sites. In November/December 2015 there were approximately 115,000 displaced people sheltering in Bentiu alone, ballooning to over 120,000 in the Q4 reporting period of 2016.

The outstanding cause of the latest influx is food insecurity, particularly from Mayom county from where most of the displaced are originating; land has dried up, cows are observed to be extremely thin and dying, and water lily roots that people were eating have dried up since January. Further, insecurity and violence continues unabated despite the peace agreement signing last August and the hopes for the formation of the transitional government with the return of i/O leader-former Vice President Machar to Juba.

The UNFPA IDP intention surveys carried out in the PoC sites in South Sudan indicated that return to their communities would only be feasible with the implementation of the peace agreement, transitional government, and assurances of security. With a possible return to place of origin in 2016/17, partners are keen to expand work outside the Bentiu PoC and decrease the pull of the site in terms of its attractiveness in providing food security. In this reporting period, Mercy Corps has continued to deliver ELACAP interventions to high standards, while at the same time working with partners to strengthen the response beyond the PoC.

Sector 1: WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

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

1.1: Water Supply Infrastructure

Mercy Corps continues to maintain the water supply network built by UNICEF in Sector 1 former PoC 1. Mercy Corps works in close coordination with UNICEF to ensure the water network system is maintained and that water is supplied to beneficiaries on daily basis. UNICEF has not yet handed over the network system hence the need for close coordination. Mercy Corps staff continue to play a vital and pivotal role in WASH activities by systematically carrying out checks to ensure the network is maintained, in terms of both technical upkeep and daily water quality monitoring.

1.1.1: Treatment and distribution of potable water

In this reporting period, Mercy Corps treated and distributed potable water to over 20,627 displaced people in the Bentiu PoC site. With the installation of a bigger submersible pump (from SPQ-570 to SPA-8-15), T95 storage tank, and 2 x 20000 liter bladder tanks, this increased daily water supply to 15 litres per person per day, in Sector 1.

1.2: Sanitation Infrastructure

With the increase of people into the PoC, UNMISS could not provide additional space for construction of shelters, this led to some of the already set up sectors being congested with more people than previously designed. Two blocks in Sector 1 were effected, leading to more demand on sanitary facilities than what was planned for.

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

In this reporting period, Mercy Corps built 188 semi-permanent latrines, bringing the cumulative total to 491 latrines built.

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

In this reporting period, Mercy Corps built 30 bathing spaces, bringing the cumulative total to 106 bathing spaces built.

1.2.3: Construction and maintenance of 50 communal hand washing facilities

In this reporting period, Mercy Corps built 40 communal hand washing stands, bringing the cumulative total to 92.

1.2.4: Construction and maintenance 12 communal laundry spaces

In this reporting period, Mercy Corps built 8 communal laundry spaces, bringing the cumulative total to 11 laundry spaces built.

1.2.5: Cleaning of latrines

Mercy Corps continues to implement latrine cleaning 7 days a week, and hires 51 latrine cleaners in total.

1.3: Hygiene Promotion

As WASH partners in Bentiu PoC and Bentiu town, Mercy Corps works closely with other WASH partners and RCC (Relief and Rehabilitation Commission) in conducting different hygiene sessions both in the PoC and Bentiu town. In this reporting period as we have added Sector 4 (five blocks) and Bentiu town HP activities to ELACAP, due to end of UNICEF project, we have covered more locations in addition to the Sector 1 population. By working closely with Concern Worldwide, RCC and other stakeholders we controlled the increase number of Hep-E cases in Bentiu town.

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

In this reporting period, Mercy Corps reached 4,100 households through door-to-door hygiene promotion. The number of households increased because UNICEF funded activities that focused on five blocks of Sector 4 and Bentiu town ended on December 31, 2015. Hence, during this reporting period both locations in addition to Sector 1 were covered by ELACAP. Mercy Corps continues to conduct door-to-door visits to create awareness on the importance of using a safe water supply, hand washing with soap or ash, and safe disposal of human faeces, to prevent disease like Hep E and Cholera. Based on information Mercy Corps receives from health partner tracking (for cases of Hep E etc), targeted hygiene promotion is carried out. Mercy Corps was the leading agency in prevention and controlling the increased number of Hep-E cases in Bentiu town, working closely with RCC, Concern Worldwide, UNICEF and other stakeholders.



Refreshment training of Bentiu town Hygiene Promoters on cholera and Hep-E prevention and control

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

Mercy Corps continues to provide 3+ hygiene promotion sessions per month, reaching a cumulative 5,234 individuals. Mass hygiene education campaigns are mobilized in high-density areas (market places, registrations) and during general food distributions.

1.3.3: Distribution of hygiene related NFI kits

Mercy Corps distributes hygiene related NFIs both inside and outside the PoC. Distribution of soap takes place every month. As open defecation is highly practiced in Bentiu town due to unavailability of sanitation facilities, Mercy Corps' hygiene promoters disseminate messages on importance of using latrines, and some households started digging a latrine pits. After the completion of pit digging, Mercy Corps will provide them with a slab and plastic sheeting.

1.4: Environmental Health

1.4.1: Construction and maintenance of 100 communal garbage bins

In this reporting period, Mercy Corps built and maintained 15 communal garbage bins, bringing the cumulative total to 43 bins.

1.4.2: Daily collection of waste

Mercy Corps continues to collect waste 6 days a week inside the PoC, employing 36 garbage collectors.

SECTOR 1 DASHBOARD

Activity	Activity no:	Target	Q1:	Q2:	Q3:	Q4:	Cumulative total
Treatment and distribution of potable water	1.1.1	8,000	14,744	11,728	12,318	20,627	20,627
Construction and maintenance of 400 semi-permanent communal latrines	1.2.1	400	242	242	303	188	491
Construction and maintenance of 80 semi-permanent communal bathing spaces	1.2.2	80	0	60	76	30	106
Construction and maintenance of 50 communal hand washing facilities	1.2.3	50	36	0	52	40	92
Construction and maintenance of 12 communal laundry spaces	1.2.4	12	0	0	3	8	11
Cleaning of latrines	1.2.5	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	1,120 HH	4,100 HH
Provision of at least 3 hygiene promotions sessions per month	1.3.2	3 per month	Weekly	Weekly	Weekly	Weekly	Weekly
Distribution of hygiene related NFI kits	1.3.3	Monthly soap rations	Monthly soap distribution				
Construction and maintenance of 100 communal garbage bins	1.4.1	100	18	23	28	15	43

Daily collection of waste	1.4.2	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily
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Sector 2: AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

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-2, 6 females and 44 males were trained.

2.1.4: Support vegetable production among 25 groups

This activity was able to be re-started. 20 groups have now been formed and trained in vegetable production methods.

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 section has been completed.

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

This section has been completed.

3.2: Microfinance

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

In this reporting period, 10 VSLA groups are active (composed of 115 males and 162 females). All groups have now received training.

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.

SECTOR 2-3 DASHBOARD

Activity	Activity no:	Target individuals	Q1 Individuals	Q2 Individuals	Q3 Individuals	Q4 individuals	Cumulative individuals
Selection, Identification and Registration of 1,250 HHs in AAA	2.1.1	1,875	1,875	0	1,875	0	1,875
Rebuilding of agricultural assets via seed fair	2.1.2	1,000	1,000	0	1,000	0	1,000
Twelve days of field crop training for 50 lead farmers in AAA	2.1.3	50	50	50	50	0	50
Support vegetable production among 25 groups	2.1.4	150	0	0	0	20 groups	20 groups
Cash transfer	3.1.2	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	1,500
Cash for work	3.1.3	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	0	1,800
Microfinance	3.2.1	1,000	250	625 (142 M/483 F)	875	0	925

3.2.3: Data collection and follow up

The VSLA database was updated on a regular basis by the VSLA officer with supervision from the MEL Officer. Follow up was done in person by the VLSA officer who visited the locations to support the groups (for example on share-out days). However the groups have been trained so that they are self-functioning and can sustain themselves and their constitution after ELACAP is completed (for example, making sure the group has some literate people who can support the processes, and ensuring the groups are essentially self-forming at the beginning (not forced into specific VSLA groups) so that trust is well-established). In Mercy Corps' experience, if these factors are not ensured in VSLAs they will not be sustained once the NGO withdraws support.

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 that 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.

ELACAP implementation has been consistent, with time invested in familiarizing local authorities, community leaders and representatives of the RRC (Relief and Rehabilitation Commission) in AAA. This adds to the overall quality of ELACAP implementation, as a high level of community acceptance and engagement with local authorities has been established early on in the program.