

Post Distribution Monitoring Exercise for Charcoal Distribution in Bor PoC, October 29 to 30 2014





1. Introduction/ background

Since the beginning of crisis which happened in 2013 December 15, nearly 1.5 million of South Sudanese were estimated to be displaced due to internal conflict. Unfortunately, fighting between Government forces and Opposition forces has been widely conceived and associated as that of two major ethnicities (Dinka and Nuer) and after almost 11 months of the beginning of conflict, still there are IDPs who were displaced and accommodated to UNMISS Protection of Civilian (PoC) areas, feeling if they were to go out they would feel threat to become victim of ethnically-targeted violence, or for young girls/ women, Gender-Based Violence.

It is under such background that, based on South Sudan Shelter/NFI Cluster's Strategic Objective, NFI unit of INTERSOS South Sudan mission conducted charcoal distribution to residents of PoC areas in Bor, Jonglei state. As of writing there were already two round of distributions: first one on September 15 to 17 2014 (funded by Common Humanitarian Funds), and second one on October 29 to 30 (funded by Rapid Response Funds, which were US OFDA and IOM South Sudan Mission).

As this distribution was first of its kind by the cluster partners in South Sudan, it was important for INTERSOS to conduct Post Distribution Monitoring to evaluate its effect on IDPs lives.

2. Methodology

The PDM was conducted as form of Key Informant Interview (KII) and FGD (Focus Group Discussions), based on the PDM guidelines circulated by the Shelter/ NFI Cluster in South Sudan. Total 3 KIIs and 3 FGDs were conducted, while INTERSOS may conduct further information gathering to supplement data collection.

Mini-PDM instead of Full-PDM was chosen as method of this exercise because conducting house-to-house survey (requisite for full-PDM) for IDPs inside PoC may not necessarily be appropriate. It may raise unnecessary expectation. This issue is especially relevant given the fact that there are still very high needs expressed from IDPs for further distribution of charcoal in the same PoC.

3. Main findings

Focus Group Discussions (FGD)

INTERSOS staff conducted FGD for three groups: first group with 6 girls, second group with 4 women and third group with 7 men. Here are summary of main findings. They were all from different zones, so that the team can make sure the result of FGD can correctly represent the opinion of entire new PoC

- ✓ **There was no complaint of community sensitization.** One of the groups (girls' group) even commended the way the message was passed, as it was loud and clear enough so that everyone in each block get information.
- ✓ **Beneficiaries were not happy for the time they needed to wait on queue.** Some group analyzed it is due to large number of beneficiaries to be served, while another concluded it is organizer's side problem. **As lessons learnt, INTERSOS will try to increase the speed of distribution** by trying to secure more staffs and increase the distribution point and also



improving the way to verify beneficiaries, which was delaying the distribution process.

- ✓ **No serious conflict occurred during the distribution.** Some conflict during the distribution was observed by the participants, but rather temporary nature. One of FGD noted no disturbance and the distribution finished peacefully, while another group noted there was struggle among beneficiaries because everyone wanted to be the first person to receive (while this tension only exists until end of the distribution and after the distribution no grudge or any problem remain).
- ✓ **Provision of charcoal did meet the needs of beneficiaries.** No FGD reported that people went out to secure charcoal even before the distribution was done. They reasoned because it was too dangerous from them to go out. Instead of cooking fuel, all FGD reported that women use jerry cans for cooking purpose, which is serious health hazard. After they ran out of both fuel and jerry cans, FGD participants noted that people use plastic chairs, mattresses, wooden tables and buckets. One FGD also implied some women were even trying to steal jerry cans so that they can use it for fuel. Provision of charcoal thus prevented unnecessary crime and also health hazard while beneficiaries do not have to consume other NFIs as substitute of cooking fuel.
- ✓ **FGD participants complained quantity distributed,** as they wanted to receive more.
- ✓ **All people who were in need received charcoal.** One FGD noted that some people did not receive charcoal because they do not want to queue for a long time (which suggests their needs is not very much strong).

Key Informant Interviews (KII)

INTER SOS Emergency Response Team member, INTER SOS Logistic Assistant and Gender-Based Violence Sub-Cluster Lead in Bor were requested to answer to 5 questions:

- Q1. Do you think the distribution of charcoal addressed the needs of IDPs?
- Q2. Do you think all women/ girls who were at risk of GBV received charcoal?
- Q3. Do you think there is still need for charcoal distribution next month?
- Q4. Can you think of any possible improvement for future charcoal distribution?
- Q5. Do you think the distribution was 'timely' in a sense it met people's needs?

Summary of KIIs are as follows;

- ✓ **The distribution indeed met the needs of IDPs, but quantities should be increased.** There have been reports of incidence that women and girls being beaten by their family members due to lack of cooking fuel, and provision of charcoal did reduce such risk. Provision of charcoal also saved time of women/ girls so that they do not have to look for cooking fuel.
- ✓ While one of Key Informants was partly questionable in effect of intervention because of small quantity distributed comparing to needs expressed by beneficiaries, **in general all KIIs agreed that all women/ girls at risk received charcoal.**
- ✓ **All KI answered that there is needs for continued distribution of charcoal for next month.** One of KI noted the change of their location (from old PoC to new PoC) made them next to impossible to go out (because new PoC has better gate security system) and therefore needs of charcoal distribution as ONLY source of cooking fuel (except destitute IDPs start using plastic chairs etc) is even more serious than the time they were in old PoC.
- ✓ As suggestion of possible future improvement, one of KII mentioned that conducting 1 bag as 15 days ration, while highlighting this lasts 15 days and beneficiaries must not overuse them. This would double quantity of charcoal distributed while make people more aware of limited resources. Another KI noted possible training among women for fuel saving techniques. The



other KI suggested how to improve speed of distribution by changing the operational flow in verifying beneficiaries.

- ✓ Apart from concern that delay in relocation may cause some negative effect, all KI agreed that the distribution was 'timely' in a sense it met the people's needs in right timing.

4. Recommendations

For any future partners to distribute charcoal: **increase the quantity of charcoal, possibly from 1 bag (50 Kg) for 7 individuals per month to 2 bags (100 Kg).**