

Humanitarian Information Needs Community Voices Bulletin

Renk
South
Sudan

October - 2023 / Issue #1



PHOTO: Renk Community Correspondent interviewing returnees and refugees about their needs at the Transit Center in Renk, Upper Nile. © CEN

Supported by the World Food Program (WFP), Internews is working with the Community Engagement Network (CEN) to respond to community information gaps, concerns and needs at the Renk Transit centre. We provide a two-way information platform that connects community members with verified and actionable information from humanitarian responders to connect the community with services, elevate community voices, and inform decision-making. This project serves thousands of people displaced by the conflict in Sudan in Renk County, Upper Nile State in South Sudan.

Feedback Collection

The Internews humanitarian information service involves a continual process of listening and two-way communication with the community and humanitarian responders.

Community Correspondents collect feedback, questions, and concerns from community members each day through one- to-one and group discussions. We ensure a diverse range of voices is heard and provide an alternative for community members who may not feel comfortable, or may not know how, to approach humanitarian actors with their feedback directly.

11

Feedback Collected

Participants by Gender

Female Male



75% 25%

Meeting Type:
Listening Group Meeting

Location:
Renk Transit Centre

Meeting Date:
October 12, 2023

Feedback on Topics

- WASH = 01
- Health = 01
- Nutrition = 03
- Cash Assistance = 03
- Protection = 03



PHOTO: CEN Correspondent interview a refugee in Renk, Upper Nile. © CEN

If you want to contribute to this bulletin or discuss our data please contact:

Senior Humanitarian Program Manager (Ikrivchenia@internews.org), Humanitarian Media Advisor, Tusiime W. Romeo (Akiiki) (atusiime@internews.org), Program Manager, Philip James Lukudu (Philip.James@cen-ss.org), Renk, Upper Nile, South Sudan.

Feedback Highlights

At the Renk Transit Center, concerns and challenges were shared by returnees and refugees. A lactating mother among them sought cash support to prevent malnutrition. To address the immediate risk of malnutrition, providing milk is necessary. Urgent requests for restarting hot meals were made to agencies that provide nutrition, emphasizing the threat of extreme hunger. Returnees who lack essentials like footwear requested financial assistance. Community leaders were called upon to step in to address concerns about protection from disagreeable behavior. There were requests for power and lighting at transit centers to enhance safety and security. Returnees, grateful for existing support, asked for cash to access alternative safe food sources, considering the palatability and health implications of wild greens.

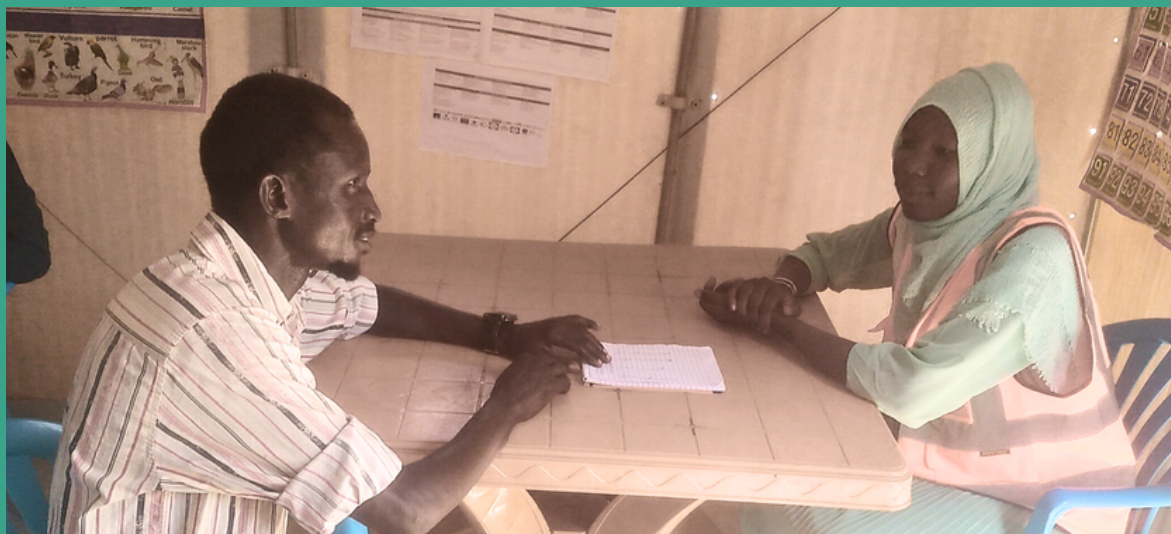


PHOTO: Renk community correspondent interviewing a WFP Officer on Educational Services in Renk, Upper Nile. © CEN

Community Feedback

The Community Correspondents record and share the community concerns with the relevant humanitarian agencies for fact-checked responses in a transparent and timely manner. We then close the feedback loop by packaging the questions and answers into the Community Voice programs, which are broadcast in local languages through speakers in places where the community gathers.

Nutrition

- *Returnees are requesting for milk to feed their children.*
Women, Renk Transit Center
- *Returnees are requesting the resumption of hot meals because their children are constantly hungry.*
Men and women, Renk Transit Center

WFP Response:

- WFP provides 50% of the normal ration. This has been necessitated by dwindling resources over the years.

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Cash Assistance

- *"I would like to be provided with cash to buy nutritious food for myself. The breast milk is insufficient for the baby, I fear we may suffer from malnourished soon."*
Lactating returnee mother, Renk Transit Center
- *Returnees at the transit center are demanding for provision of weekly cash.*
Male and Female Returnees, Renk Transit Center
- *Refugees are grateful for the weekly cash distribution from WFP.*
Refugee, Renk Transit Center
- *Returnees are requesting cash support from WFP to enable them to buy food sauce to accompany the cooked posho. The wild vegetation they collect from the bush is not palatable and could cause health problems.*
Returnees, Renk Transit Center

WFP Response:

Simultaneous cash and in-kind food distribution is normally done. However, whenever there are delays with the cash component due to operational reasons, beneficiaries are informed accordingly.

Protection

- *Returnees at the transit center say they don't have slippers for their children and are requesting for support.*
Returnees, Renk Transit Center
- *Returnees are concerned about a man at the transit Center who hunts bush animals, slaughters them in front of people, and eats the raw meat. His conduct and behavior has scared many. They are requesting community leaders to keep a close watch on the man and guide him in his social conduct.*
Returnees, Renk Transit Center
- *Returnees are requesting for power and lighting at all Transit Centers in Renk City.*
Returnees, Renk Transit Center

WASH

- *Returnees are requesting for soap to wash their clothes.*
Returnees, Renk Transit Center

HEALTH

- *A returnee has a child with deep body wounds and requests for a clean and hygienic place to stay to avoid further infections.*
Returnee, Renk Transit Center

The Community Engagement Network (CEN) has Community Correspondents in Renk who constantly engage the refugees and returnees to get feedback about their concerns.

They collaborate and coordinate with humanitarian agencies on relief aid to the affected populations.

The content is produced into broadcast of the Boda Boda Talk Talk programs.

You can share information with us and respond to community complaints, questions and concerns through the **Community Voice** program.

Contact Philip Lukudu on Philip.James@cen-ss.org, or our Community Correspondents in Malakal.

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