



## Treatment and Prevention of Acute Malnutrition in Jonglei State & Greater Pibor Administrative Area, Republic of South Sudan

Date:  
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Prepared by:  
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### I. Demographic Information

1. City & State:

Bor, Jonglei State, and Greater Pibor Administrative Area, Republic of South Sudan

2. Organization:

Real Medicine Foundation, South Sudan ([www.realmedicinefoundation.org](http://www.realmedicinefoundation.org))

World Children's Fund ([www.worldchildrensfund.net](http://www.worldchildrensfund.net))

United Nations Children's Fund ([www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org))

United Nations World Food Programme ([www.wfp.org](http://www.wfp.org))

3. Project Title:

Treatment and Prevention of Acute Malnutrition

4. Reporting Period:

April 1, 2019 – June 30, 2019

5. Project Location (region & city/town/village):

RMF provides nutrition services in Pajiek, Wau, and Mogok payams in Ayod County of Jonglei State and Guggu, Marua, Churi, and Kessingor payams in Boma County of Greater Pibor Administrative Area. The table below shows the **15 sites** where RMF is currently operating nutrition centers as of the second quarter of 2019.

Table 1: RMF nutrition centers

County	Location		Programs		
	Payam	Boma	Outpatient Therapeutic Program (OTP)	Targeted Supplementary Feeding Program (TSFP)	Stabilization Center (SC)
Ayod	Wau	Jiech	Jiech	Jiech	Jiech ( <i>currently nonfunctional due to wind damage</i> )
		Wai	Wai	Wai	-
		Nyanapal	Nyanapal	Nyanapal	-
		Padek	Padek	Padek	-
		Karmoun	Karmoun	Karmoun	-
		Longoro	Longoro	Longoro	-
	Mogok	Thuop	Mogok	Mogok	Mogok
	Pajiek	Nyayian	Gorwai	Gorwai	Gorwai
Keer		Kuotyang	Kuotyang	-	
Pibor	Guggu	Itti	Boma Hospital	Boma Hospital	Boma Hospital
	Churi	Nyat	Nyat	Nyat	-
	Marua	Labarab	Marua	Marua	-
	Marua	Labarab	Labarab	Labarab	-
	Kessingor	Naoyapuru	Naoyapuru	Naoyapuru	-
		Kordep	Kordep	Kordep	-

6. Target Population:

Direct project beneficiaries for the year 2019 tabulated below,<sup>1</sup> along with beneficiaries reached during the second quarter:

Table 2: SAM children directly targeted and reached

County	Annual Target	Q2 Results	Annual Target	Q2 Results	Annual Target	Q2 Results
	SAM Children to Benefit from OTP	SAM Children Benefitted from OTP	SAM Children to Benefit from SC	SAM Children Benefitted from SC	Total SAM Children to Benefit	Total SAM Children Benefitted
Ayod	1,228	418	122	82	1,350	500
Boma	1,663	323	165	55	1,828	378
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,891</b>	<b>741</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>3,178</b>	<b>878</b>

The project's outpatient therapeutic programs (OTPs) and stabilization centers (SCs) in both counties made steady progress towards achieving the set annual targets, improving the nutrition status and saving the lives of **878** severely malnourished children in the second quarter of 2019.

Table 3: MAM children and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) directly targeted and reached

County	Annual Target	Q2 Results	Annual Target	Q2 Results	Annual Target	Q2 Results
	MAM Children to Benefit from TSFP	MAM Children Benefitted from TSFP	PLW to Benefit from TSFP	PLW Benefitted from TSFP	Total Children and PLW to Benefit from TSFP	Total Children and PLW to Benefitted from TSFP
Ayod	7,037	967	1,535	715	8,572	1,682
Boma	3,788	623	3,023	446	6,811	1,069
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,825</b>	<b>1,590</b>	<b>4,558</b>	<b>1,161</b>	<b>15,383</b>	<b>2,751</b>

The project's targeted supplementary feeding programs (TSFPs) in both counties made good progress towards achieving the set annual targets, improving the nutrition status of **2,751** moderately malnourished children and pregnant and lactating women in the second quarter of 2019 alone.

Indirect project beneficiaries include the whole population of Ayod and Boma counties, estimated to be 196,224 and 238,458, respectively, based on the 2015 South Sudan UNOCHA/UNICEF and humanitarian projections. The nutrition service centers also receive beneficiaries from the neighboring counties and internally displaced persons from various areas of Jonglei and neighboring states.

## II. Project Information

### 7. Project Goals:

The overall goal of this project is to reduce the global acute malnutrition (GAM) rate to an acceptable level of less than 15% in each of the payams assigned to RMF. This will be in line with standards set by the South Sudan National Nutrition Program.

### 8. Project Objectives:

- To provide lifesaving nutrition services for acutely malnourished children (boys and girls) under 5 years of age and pregnant and lactating women (PLW).
- To prevent malnutrition in early childhood through promotion of improved infant and young child feeding, caregiving, and care seeking practices at the facility, community, and family level.
- To strengthen the capacity of the County Health Department (CHD) and provide appropriate resources for the initiation and integration of nutrition services into existing primary health care, as well as linking nutrition interventions in the health system in the targeted counties.
- To strengthen the maternal, infant, and young child nutrition program in the two counties, so as to prevent chronic malnutrition, particularly cases of children who are underweight or experience wasting and stunting.

<sup>1</sup> South Sudan Nutrition Cluster, HNO, and UNICEF

9. Summary of RMF-sponsored activities carried out during the reporting period under each project objective (note any changes from original plans):

Implemented activities in line with RMF-sponsored activities and project objectives:

- In Pibor County, additional funding from Common Humanitarian Funds (CHF) strengthened WCF, WFP, UNICEF, and RMF's support and maintenance of the existing 6 Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) centers and 1 stabilization center. All locations continue to provide quality, lifesaving nutrition interventions in Pibor County.
- In Ayod County, the existing 9 CMAM centers and 2 stabilization centers were maintained. We also began work to reestablish 1 additional stabilization center in Jiech, which had been damaged by strong winds.
- With support from RMF headquarters, all our CMAM sites in both Ayod and Pibor were fully funded in terms of operating costs throughout the reporting quarter.
- A perimeter fence was constructed with iron sheets for the Gorwai stabilization center and staff compound.
- In both Ayod and Pibor, RMF procured and supplied all malnutrition treatment and prevention centers with adequate stationery and other items to facilitate effective operations.
- Continued to support satellite phone services for all 15 centers through payment of monthly subscription fees in those hard to reach areas where RMF works and where regular phone services are not available. This enhances communication and coordination of RMF's programs and program sites.
- Procured and delivered an adequate amount of essential foodstuffs for RMF's relocated staff members (those recruited from Juba and deployed in Ayod and Boma) where basic commodities are not available.
- Supported the welfare of relocated nutrition staff members in Ayod and Boma.
- Procured and provided in-kind support (soaps, salt, and sitting mats) to the infant and young child feeding (IYCF) mother-to-mother support groups at all our sites in both Ayod and Boma.
- Facilitated routine in-country travel of nutrition staff between Juba and different nutrition centers in Ayod and Boma with UNHAS flights.
- Continued support of high-speed Wi-Fi internet service in the Juba office, as well as field sites in Jiech, Gorwai, Boma, and Mogok, to enable easy communication, coordination, and reporting through monthly subscription and maintenance. This was done through maintenance of the equipment and payment of monthly subscription fees.
- Continued facilitation of RMF's team to actively participate in nutrition cluster activities and meetings at national and state levels.
- RMF supported the installation of UN/WFP Rubb halls in all its TSFP sites.

10. Results and/or accomplishments achieved during this reporting period:

- In Pibor County, the existing 6 OTP/TSFPs and 1 stabilization center were maintained and continued to provide lifesaving nutrition services with support from WCF, WFP, UNICEF, CHF, and RMF headquarters.
- In Ayod County, the existing 9 OTP/TSFPs and 2 stabilization centers were maintained and continued to provide lifesaving nutrition services with support from WCF, WFP, UNICEF, CHF, and RMF headquarters. An additional stabilization center was previously established in Jiech, but the structure was badly damaged by strong winds, and we are working to reestablish it.
- The RMF M&E Coordinator and program managers visited all field sites to offer supportive supervision and on-the-job training to field staff. These visits help ensure that RMF's projects continue to provide quality services and achieve the set targets.
- Program reporting and coordination continued to function at a high level, thanks to the high-speed Wi-Fi internet service installed and maintained by RMF at Gorwai, Boma and Mogok, as well as continued maintenance of high-speed Wi-Fi internet service in Jiech provided in coordination with CMD.
- Project development and staffing were strengthened, as in the previous quarter, RMF South Sudan **extended our funding period** under CHF/UNDP/UNOCHA to implement the emergency nutrition intervention for another 6 months in Pibor County, effective from March 1, 2019 to August 31, 2019. More than 50 staff members were retained to continue delivering quality services under this project.
- RMF, in collaboration with WFP, installed **Rubb halls in 10 of our OTP/TSFP treatment centers**.
- **16,251** and **5,589 children under 5** were screened for signs of acute malnutrition during the second quarter of 2019 in Ayod and Boma counties, respectively. Screening data were shared with the nutrition cluster for further analysis.

- **418** and **323 severely acute malnourished (SAM) children** were identified and admitted to OTPs in Ayod and Boma, respectively, for therapeutic management during this reporting quarter.
- **82** and **55 SAM children with medical complications** were referred to and treated at RMF's 2 SCs in Ayod and 1 SC in Pibor, respectively.
- **967** and **623 moderately acute malnourished (MAM) children** in Ayod and Boma counties, respectively, were enrolled in a supplementary feeding program during this quarter.
- **9,720** and **3,287 pregnant and lactating women (PLW)** were screened for signs of acute malnutrition in Ayod and Boma, respectively.
- **715** and **446 PLW** were enrolled in a supplementary feeding program in Ayod and Boma, respectively, during the reporting quarter.
- MIYCN results/performance:
  - **2,156** and **1,867 primary caregivers** of children aged 0–23 months received MIYCN counseling in Ayod and Pibor, respectively.
  - **2,589** and **2,004 PLW** received basic MIYCN individual counseling on special needs and the prevention of acute malnutrition in Ayod and Pibor, respectively.
  - **4,372** and **1,719 pregnant women** received iron/folate supplements to prevent anemia and other complications in Ayod and Pibor, respectively.
  - **9,075** and **3,987 children** aged 6–59 months received vitamin A supplements to prevent micronutrient deficiency and other complications in Ayod and Pibor, respectively.
  - **7,212** and **2,801 children** aged 12–59 months received deworming regimens in Ayod and Pibor, respectively.
- **38** and **13 MIYCN mother-to-mother support groups** in Ayod and Boma, respectively, were supported (with knowledge and in-kind materials) and continued to deliver MIYCN services.
- Solar power was maintained to provide easy nighttime ward management in Jiech, Mogok, Boma, and Gorwai. This has greatly benefitted the wellbeing and care of stabilization center clients.

The treatment outcomes at the end of the reporting quarter (Q2) are summarized in the tables below:

Table 4: Treatment outcomes for SAM

S/N	SPHERE Indicator	Ayod	Boma
1	Recovery rate	93.0%	95.0%
2	Defaulter rate	7.0%	5.0%
3	Mortality rate	0.0%	0.0%
4	Non-respondent	0.0%	0.0%

*Note: The rate of defaulters was caused mainly by three factors: 1) population movement far from the center to the riverside in search of pasture and water for animals, 2) stock-outs of OTP supplies in some sites of both counties, and 3) intertribal conflict hindering the operation of some centers, especially in Pibor County.*

Table 5: Treatment outcomes at TSFPs

S/N	SPHERE Indicator	Ayod	Boma
1	Recovery rate	95.0%	95.0%
2	Defaulter rate	5.0%	5.0%
3	Mortality rate	0.0%	0.0%
4	Non-respondent	0.0%	0.0%

11. Impact this project has on the community (who is benefiting and how):

- The communities in Boma and Ayod in particular continue to benefit from our services. During the reporting quarter, a total of **878 SAM children** were treated, and **1,590 MAM children** and **1,161 PLW** were enrolled in our feeding program, hence improving the quality of life of children and pregnant and lactating women.
- The populations in our catchment areas are benefiting from regular educational information on nutrition, health, and sanitation.

- Through continuous nutrition education and IYCF messages, the communities in these areas are now learning more about appropriate feeding behaviors and valuable local food sources that they were previously unaware of; communities are no longer solely dependent on the traditional food sources of milk, meat, and sorghum.
- The capacity of the County Health Departments (CHDs) and the staff recruited from Ayod and Boma is continuously built through training and mentorship.
- The limited resources of the State Ministry of Health and County Health Departments of the two counties are now channeled to cover other areas, since RMF is providing nutrition services in the whole area.
- The nutrition project offers employment opportunities for South Sudanese nationals at national, state, county, and village levels.
- The high-speed Wi-Fi internet access enables easy coordination for RMF's teams based in Juba, Jiech, Gorwai, Mogok, and Boma. The internet installed at field operation centers has also strengthened our friendship with local leaders, as they benefit from internet access as well.
- RMF supported the construction of Mogok stabilization center using local materials, which benefitted local suppliers and workers.

12. Number served/number of direct project beneficiaries:

The project aims to directly serve the following vulnerable populations in Ayod and Boma counties of Jonglei State and Greater Pibor:

- **1,350** and **1,828 SAM** children in Ayod and Boma, respectively
- **7,037** and **3,788 MAM** children in Ayod and Boma, respectively
- **1,535** and **3,023 PLW** in Ayod and Boma, respectively

13. Number of indirect project beneficiaries (geographic coverage):

- The project indirectly targets the whole population of Ayod and Boma counties, estimated to be **196,224** and **238,458**, respectively, based on the 2015 UNOCHA/UNICEF projection.
- The **1,936,638** people living in Jonglei State and Greater Pibor also benefit from the project indirectly, as there is frequent movement of people across counties.
- The nutrition service centers also receive beneficiaries from neighboring counties, as well as internally displaced persons (IDPs) from various areas of Jonglei State and other states in South Sudan.

14. If applicable, please list the medical services provided:

RMF's stabilization centers (SCs) in Ayod and Boma provide a range of medical services for children suffering from acute malnutrition with medical complications. All of our outpatient therapeutic program (OTP) sites screen acutely malnourished children for malaria and provide appropriate treatment based on the South Sudan Ministry of Health's policies.

RMF procured and delivered the following medications for our respective stabilization centers:

- IV Normal Saline
- Parenteral Broad-Spectrum Antibiotics
- Anti-Fungal Regimens
- Anti-Parasitic Skin Regimens
- Antimalarials (Injectable and Oral)
- Anti-Histamine Regimens
- Anti-Spasm Regimens
- Multivitamin Supplements
- Hematinic/Mineral Supplements

We provide many other consumables as well, including midwifery kits, to support in case of emergency.

15. Please list the most common health problems treated through this project.

This project mainly targets the management of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) in children under 5 and pregnant and lactating women (PLW). However, some of the children and adults come to our units due to health-related problems, since there are no healthcare services in most of our areas of operation.

Some of the conditions our team sees:

- Malaria
- Respiratory Tract Infections
- Urinary Tract Infections
- Diarrheal Diseases
- Intestinal Worm Infestation
- Skin Infection
- Gunshot Wounds
- Enteric Fever
- Sexually Transmitted Infections
- Eye Infections

16. Notable project challenges and obstacles:

- In Pibor, high rates of cattle raiding among tribal communities posed a security threat to most project sites within the area, and repeated intertribal fighting almost throughout this reporting quarter greatly affected beneficiaries' access to services in Pibor.
- Lack of quality healthcare services in most parts of Ayod and some parts of Boma made it difficult to effectively link/refer clients health-related issues.
- Most of RMF's locations are not accessible by road and are not on the UNHAS schedule, which makes it difficult and costly to deliver items and passengers, especially through charter flights. In addition, transportation and logistics are often delayed due to bad weather.
- Record inflation of South Sudanese Pounds (SSPs) has made it difficult to provide sufficient staff housing and procure program materials, since the prices of basic commodities have increased more than tenfold.
- Delays in approval of the in-country quarterly activity plan (implementation plan) affected the processes aimed at achieving the desired deliverables.
- Operational costs remain high due to poor communication networks and transportation systems in our areas of operation. Calls must be made through Thuraya satellite phones and people and supplies transported by air, which are both very expensive.
- Natural hazards, especially strong winds and heavy rain have sometimes destroyed temporary structures, including those in Jiech, Mogok, Gorwai and other sites in Ayod County.

17. If applicable, plans for next reporting period:

- **Sourcing additional funding:** RMF South Sudan's team is working to find funding from sources including the World Bank Health Project, CHF/UNOCHA Nutrition Project, and many others. We will continue to pursue additional funding to cover remaining gaps.
- Procure, ship, and install stronger storage facilities that can resist strong winds and floods.
- Hire additional program teams so that on-site project monitoring is at the forefront.
- Lobby for health projects to integrate into our existing malnutrition treatment project centers.
- Establish one additional OTP/TSFP treatment center in Kessingor.

18. If applicable, summary of RMF-sponsored medical supply distribution and use:

- Essential medicines, drugs, and other pediatric medical consumables were procured and distributed to all SCs across the two counties.
- LifeStraw water purifiers were procured and supplied to all 4 stabilization centers (SCs) across the two counties.

19. Success story(s) highlighting project impact:

In the second quarter of 2019, a total of **137** severely malnourished children with medical complications, who were facing death, were saved by RMFs quality inpatient management of severe acute malnutrition (SAM). In addition,



a total of **741** severely malnourished children without medical complications were enrolled in outpatient treatment programs to prevent their condition from worsening and to restore them to health. It is our hope that these children will contribute to a better future for South Sudan.

### III. Financial Information

20. Detailed summary of expenditures within each budget category as presented in your funded proposal (file attachment is fine). Please note any changes from plans.

Detailed financial reports are sent separately on a monthly basis.

## Project Photos



Ms. Jane, an RMF MIYCN counselor, conducting health and nutrition education for mothers on a routine clinic day



RMF M&E Coordinator training mother-to-mother support group members in Gorwai



Mother-to-mother support groups in Boma with RMF technical staff after a training session





RMF's senior nutrition field officers training mother-to-mother support groups in Boma



Mother-to-mother support group members carrying nutrition supplies to the CMAM center on a clinic day



Mr. Felix, an RMF senior nutrition nurse, taking a child's MUAC measurement during screening on a CMAM day



RMF nutrition team member screening a young child for malnutrition and malaria





A mother and her twins happy after RMF's medical and nutrition interventions saved their lives



Gorwai Stabilization Center remains busy, offering 24-hour services



Boma Stabilization Center filled with children receiving treatment for SAM with medical complications and their caregivers



High numbers of beneficiaries seeking services





RMF M&E Coordinator Odongo Bonny Oryem conducting refresher training for CMAM field staff



RMF field staff members completing a posttest after CMAM training in Boma



Mr. Thomas, an RMF nutrition officer, conducting a refresher training for Nyanapal field staff members



RMF's Gorwai team poses for a group photo after a training session





UN/WFP supported RMF's nutrition centers with Rubb halls to store supplies



RMF's nutrition supplies stored in one of the newly installed Rubb halls



Ms. Stella, RMF's logistics assistant, with field team members after installing a Rubb hall