Millions of people suffer from the lack of clean water in South Sudan. Coupled with the unsanitary environment that accompanies the rainy season, the lack of clean water leads to outbreaks of water-borne diseases, such as cholera, which remains endemic in South Sudan.

When fighting broke out in Kodok late April, thousands of people were forced to flee. Many sought refuge inland in the small village of Aburoc, while others went further crossing the borders into Sudan. In Aburoc access to food, water and healthcare remains extremely limited and living conditions in makeshift settlements are difficult especially for the women, children and the elderly.

The conflict forced the ICRC to leave its base and the hospital it supported in Kodok and concentrate its efforts in favor of the people displaced in Aburoc. “The needs were huge. People were sheltered under trees after fleeing their homes with very little”, says Mario Zuazua, an ICRC water engineer.

The internally displaced people were left without shelter and access to food and water. The ICRC organized the distribution of tarpaulins, mosquito nets, jerry cans and soap to more than 25,000 people, while at the same time improving access to safe chlorinated water.

The ICRC dug 11 wells to increase the quantity of water and installed three water treatment facilities to bring the quality to drinking standards. This contributed significantly to bringing the cholera outbreak in the area under control.

The ICRC dug 11 wells to increase the quantity of water and installed three water treatment facilities.

Since the beginning of 2017, more than 105,000 people have benefitted from improved access to clean water in areas of Jonglei, Unity, Warrap, Central Equatoria and Upper Nile through the ICRC’s assistance.
FACTS & FIGURES, JANUARY-JUNE 2017

To respond to people's most urgent needs and to help them build resilience, the ICRC together with the South Sudan Red Cross (SSRC) have:

- Distributed over 43,000 monthly household food rations, equivalent to more than 4,450 metric tons of food, to almost 340,000 people in need;
- Provided essential household items to over 115,000 people;
- Provided over 218,000 people with seeds and tools for farming, and some 61,000 people with fishing kits;
- Vaccinated more than 168,000 heads of livestock and treated 10,000 animals, benefitting over 86,000 people.

Improved access to safe drinking water for some 50,000 people through the implementation of two new water points and rehabilitation of seven water facilities and 32 hand pumps.

Maintained two emergency surface water treatment units benefitting more than 55,000 people in Juba and Aburoc.

To help improve access to health and provision of surgical care the ICRC has:

- Performed nearly 2,200 surgical interventions;
- Provided more than 34,629 outpatient consultations and treated 760 in-patients;
- Evacuated 468 weapon wounded people and treated 761;
- Carried out renovation and extension works in three health facilities, including one Physical Rehabilitation Center.
- Provided antenatal consultations for 4,086 women, safe deliveries for 718 women and vaccinated 10,326 women and children;
- Assisted 1,620 people with disabilities with mobility devices and physiotherapy.

To help improve conditions for detainees the ICRC has:

- Visited some 4,300 detainees throughout the country;
- Improved living conditions and implemented preventive measures against malnutrition for 3000 detainees in six Central Prisons.
- Facilitated the repatriation of 125 released detainees.

To help reconnect family members separated by the conflict the ICRC and SSRC have:

- Facilitated more than 34,000 phone calls between family members separated by the conflict;
- Helped exchange 2,518 Red Cross messages with family news;
- Reunited 41 vulnerable people, including children, with their families.

To promote knowledge and respect for International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and the International Human Rights Law (IHRL) the ICRC has:

- Trained over 1,000 military on IHL and nearly 700 police personnel on IHRL;
- Raised awareness among almost 650 weapon bearers, health staff and community members on safe access to health care, and over 8,000 beneficiaries and community members.