

UGANDA

UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE FOR THE SOUTH SUDANESE EMERGENCY

16 - 23 September 2014

HIGHLIGHTS

- A total of **126,281** South Sudanese refugees have been assisted in Uganda since the influx began on 16 December.
- In Moyo District ongoing tensions have reportedly prompted the arrival of some 8,000 internally displaced persons into neighbouring Adjumani District.
- In Adjumani, Dzaipi transit centre hosted the national celebration of the International Day of Peace attended by ministers and humanitarian partners.
- In Kampala, the Uganda chapter of the Inter-agency Appeal for South Sudanese refugees was launched on 16 September.



Refugees access energy-saving stoves at Ocea reception centre in Rhino Camp settlements. ©CEFORD/D.Angualia

The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) and UNHCR, with partner support, coordinate the maintenance of Nyumanzi transit centre (TC), Ocea reception centre (RC) Kiryandongo RC in the midwest which have accommodated the majority of newly arrived South Sudanese refugees.

Overall **126,281** South Sudanese refugees have been assisted in the West Nile since the influx began in mid-December 2013.

The breakdown includes:

Adjumani District: 80,756
Arua District: 11,787
Kiryandongo District: 28,614
Kampala: 5,124

FUNDING

USD 224,303,989

requirement for the Uganda
Emergency Response
(all agencies)

39% funded

PRIORITIES

- Relocate recently arrived refugees from transit centres to settlement plots.
- Redouble efforts to ensure infrastructure implementation is on track.
- Follow up recommendations from the mid-year review.

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

- In Kampala, on 16 September, the Uganda chapter of the Regional Interagency Appeal was launched by the Minister for Relief, Disaster Preparedness, and Refugees, Honourable Eng. Hilary Onek and UNHCR Representative, Ms Neimah Warsame. With a planning figure of 150,000 refugees, the appeal totals USD 224,303,989 and incorporates the needs of various UN agencies and NGOs working on the South Sudanese refugee response. The Uganda chapter provides complimentary details to the regional appeal that was launched on 11 July 2014. Uganda is hosting some 148,000 South Sudanese refugees and in total more than 400,000 refugees and asylum seekers.
- In Adjumani, UNHCR continued monitoring the situation in neighbouring Moyo District. Authorities estimate that 8,000 people have been internally displaced in Adjumani as a result of recent clashes between the Madi community of Uganda and the Kuku community of South Sudan over border issues.

The District says it is overwhelmed by arrivals and authorities fear the number will continue to rise with some 600 IDPs registered in Adjumani town on 23 September. According to preliminary assessments conducted by the District in conjunction with partners, the IDPs are most in need of food, shelter, non-food items and social services.

The host community in Moyo at the moment seems hostile towards the South Sudanese Kuku community in the border region, though not to other South Sudanese. Frustrations could cause the hostility to be extended to other South Sudanese communities. While Adjumani remained calm, OPM and the police department remain on alert.

- In Adjumani, Dzaipi transit centre was the site of the national celebration of the International Day of Peace. The event was attended by retired General Moses Ali, 3rd Deputy Prime Minister, and Honourable Musa Ecweru, Minister of State for Relief, Disaster Preparedness and Refugees, host and refugee communities, as well as a delegation coordinated by NPI-Africa - a peace resource organization in Nairobi representing 13 African countries.

General Ali emphasized the need for UNHCR and its partners to plant trees on a massive scale to protect the environment. Honourable Ecweru informed the gathering that his Ministry had procured equipment for *Salama Radio Station*, which will be used to convey messages of peace in Adjumani District.

<http://www.newvision.co.ug/news/660020-don-t-fight-south-sudanese-moses-ali.html>

Protection

- In Kiryandongo, UNHCR/Inter Aid Uganda conducted coordination meeting to inform the community about protection activities in the settlement. A total of 41 members of the Refugee Welfare Council and the leaders of the host community surrounding the settlement took part.

Border monitoring

- In Adjumani, 206 refugees arrived through Elegu border in Amuru District and we transported to Nyumanzi RC.
- In Arua, 10 refugees in 3 households were received at Kuluba collection point in Koboko District.
- Also in Arua, UNHCR monitored border regions and received reports about the increasing number of South Sudanese and Congolese registered refugees crossing back and forth between Uganda and their countries of origin. Border authorities collect ID cards and refugee family attestations at immigration points.
- In Kiryandongo, 153 new South Sudanese refugees were registered during the reporting period.

Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs)

- In Adjumani, 3,750 PSNs have been documented in 2014. To date, 176 shelters have been completed and occupied by PSNs and assessment of needs is ongoing. DRC-DDG selected 150 PSNs who will each receive two goats to help generate income.
- In Arua, UNHCR partners visited 147 PSNs across Rhino Camp settlement to assess their living conditions. They also conducted a fresh PSN assessment of 21 separated children who had missed the general PSN verification in Odoibu II and Ngurua villages. The children are in need of clothes, school uniforms and materials as assistance with shelter.
- In Kiryandongo, an inter-agency PSN assessment visited households where 1,442 PSNs were identified and 559 referral forms filled for follow up on registration, child protection, and medical issues.



An inter-agency team visits with PSNs to assess their needs in Kiryandongo refugee settlement. ©UNHCR/B.Aryal

Child Protection

- In Adjumani, Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and Danish Refugee Council – Danish Demining Group (DRC-DDG) conducted 8 Best Interest Assessments (BIAs) bringing to 525 the total number of BIAs for 2014. UNHCR and UNICEF conducted training for members of the Child Protection Working Group which included capacity building to help assess children and determine applications of national and international law.
- Also in Adjumani, LWF met with youth in two settlements to determine their preferred recreational activities; the majority requested football and netball. War Child Canada (WCC) set up youth clubs in four settlements.
- In Arua, 3 BIAs were conducted for separated children (SC) whose needs include clothing and school materials. In Siripi two unaccompanied boys received uniforms and stationery. Ariwa and Katiku villages established child protection committees to help address child protection issues.
- Also in Arua, SCiU made home visits to 28 children, notably unaccompanied minors (UAM), SC and children at risk in three villages to orient caregivers and children on their roles and responsibilities at child friendly spaces and early childhood development centres and engage children in psycho-social activities.
- In Kiryandongo, Transcultural Psychosocial Organization Uganda (TPO) conducted awareness raising regarding child psychosocial care and good parenting techniques to 48 and 77 parents respectively.

Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV)

- In Adjumani, community representatives from 13 settlements participated the *Safe from the Start* project launch in Boroli settlement. The Resident District Commissioner was the guest of honour at the event that attracted over 2,000 refugees and members of host communities. OPM expressed its appreciation for the 30 solar lights that have so far been installed in settlements and for the bicycles that were handed over to support the work of watch groups.
- Also in Adjumani, WCC conducted a legal panel discussion on Radio Amani aiming to discourage SGBV in refugee and host communities. DRC-DDG conducted a refresher training course for eight community development workers in Masindi as a part of the wider capacity building programme.
- In Arua, two refugee village watch groups received 10 bicycles as part of the support to the *Safe from the Start Project*.
- In Kiryandongo, IAU/UNHCR is collecting refugee phone numbers for dissemination of information regarding SGBV.

Community Mobilization

- In Adjumani, UNHCR is working out modalities for community peace dialogue between refugee and host community leaders to ensure the conflict in Moyo town does not spill over into Adjumani. On 22 September, OPM and ACORD also initiated community peace dialogue meetings. As well, DRC-DDG facilitated a sensitization meeting on peaceful co-existence among refugees and nationals in Mungula settlement for some 200 participants with OPM, UNHCR and police representatives also taking part. Refugees were reminded of their obligation to respect Ugandan law, encouraged to participate in community meetings and keep the peace.
- In Arua, youths in Tika have formed a night watch patrol to help discourage robberies and ensure security in the village.

Education

- In Arua, 14 people were mobilized to attend a nursery teachers' training course at Lodonga Teachers' Training College. The five-day course was organized by UNICEF for nursery teachers in Rhino Camp settlement. As well, SCiU and DRC-DDG sponsored 42 caregivers to attend training in Lodonga. The training was conducted by Ministry of Education with support from UNICEF. Training involved management and learning framework of early childhood development for children aged 3-6 years. As well, 36 caregivers and centre management committees were trained at Odoibu village by SCiU with technical support from the district education department.

Health

- In Adjumani, stakeholders met to discuss the handover of activities to prepare for the departure of *Medicines Sans Frontiers* (MSF-F) from Dzaipi HC III and the District Health Office is liaising with them to review human resource gaps. MSF-F agreed to donate medical supplies and referrals to Nyumanzi and Ayilo health centres will be ensured by Medical Teams International (MTI) ambulance.
- In Adjumani, the District Health Office and MTI recruited staff for Alere HC and Mungula health centres who are to begin in early October. The increased staffing is expected to significantly improve services.
- In Arua, a seven-month-old Ugandan baby from Tika village was diagnosed with measles. A mass campaign against measles is planned for Tika and surrounding villages to prevent an outbreak.
- In Arua, stray dogs have bitten 28 individuals in Rhino Camp settlement, with three of them dying as a result. One victim, a refugee woman received her first dose of anti-rabies vaccine. However when she went back for the second dose, the vaccine was out of stock. She shows symptoms of rabies and has been referred to Arua Regional hospital.
- In Arua, the District and MTI provided 1,970 health consultations (679 refugees, 1,291 nationals), the total number of consultations in 2014 is 78,331 (38,531 refugees, 39,800 nationals). In addition, 17 patients (7 refugees, 10 nationals) were referred to the regional hospital. Siripi and Olujobo health centres III admitted 41 patients (26 refugees, 15 nationals). Voluntary HIV counselling / testing services was provided to 410 individuals (122 refugees, 288 nationals). Essential drugs remained woefully inadequate with lack of Erythromycin, Ampiclox, Ibuprofen and Coartem.

- In Kiryandongo, out-patient consultations at health centres included 464 visits (328 refugees, 132 nationals).

Reproductive Health

- In Adjumani, UNFPA and ACORD conducted integrated service outreach camps in 4 settlements reaching 1,421 people during 110 couples expressed interest in family planning.
- Also in Adjumani, UNFPA supplied Emergency Reproductive Health Kits to seven health facilities and medical tents to Elema HC II to serve as a postnatal ward and an inpatient department. Overall, 159 pregnant women were mapped and 57 patients were referred by ambulance to health centres. The American Refugee Council (ARC) and UNFPA trained 30 volunteers to support SGBV and reproductive health response in six refugee-hosting sites.
- In Arua, 84 antenatal consultations were conducted and there were 28 successful deliveries at four facilities (3 refugees, 25 nationals). CARE provided 34 boxes of emergency delivery kits to two health centres through the local health authorities. Kits contain items for post-natal care, operations, normal deliveries, and outreach services. CARE also provided 175 dignity kits to four health facilities. A total of 35 expectant mothers were tested for HIV/AIDS (9 refugees, 26 nationals).
- In Kiryandongo, 10 (6 refugees, 4 nationals) accessed antenatal consultations and 8 births were assisted (3 refugees, 5 nationals). The International Rescue Committee (IRC) supports Panyadoli Hill HC II, Nyakadoti HC II and Panyadoli HC III as well as reproductive health intervention in the settlement. IRC mapped 129 pregnant mothers (119 refugees, 10 nationals). It also trained 35 village health teams on reproductive health issues, 45 youths as peer educators on adolescent sexual reproductive health services, and 28 health workers on youth friendly services. IRC conducted three community mobilizations and outreaches on youth sexual reproductive services.

Psychosocial Support

- In Adjumani, Tutapona provided group-based psychosocial counselling to 58 refugees.
- In Arua, Save the Children, MTI and other partners provided the psychosocial support and counselling services to 29 refugees in various sites.
- In Kiryandongo, Transcultural Psychosocial Organization Uganda (TPO) assessed 9 refugees for psycho-social counselling and treatment and conducted skills training on cognitive counselling for 88 primary school teachers.

Immunization

- In Adjumani, MSF-F started its third round of mass vaccination in eight settlements on 18 September. Including pneumococcal vaccine (PCV), oral polio vaccine (OPV) and a booster for other relevant antigens administered within the national expanded immunization plan. The vaccination targeted children 6 weeks to 23 months of age. A final round will be followed up by a vaccination coverage survey among the refugee and host populations.
- In Arua, 344 (78 refugees, 266 nationals) children benefited from a vaccination exercise according to the extended programme of immunization. Siripi HC III is in need of a new refrigerator as it cannot store vaccines and the issue is being addressed.



Food Security and Nutrition

- In Adjumani and Arua, DRC-DDG continues to receive new arrivals at Nyumanzi TC and Ocea reception centres and provide them with 2 to 3 hot meals per day using WFP food rations.
- In Adjumani, the supplementary feeding programme (SFP) was successfully rolled out in Nyumanzi settlement and 100 beneficiaries have so far been enrolled. It is being expanded to Ayilo I and II. The programme is being run by MTI and integrated in MSF-F health facilities with WFP supplying the food. In Ayilo, Concern Worldwide continues with nutrition screening and referral. SCIU also began an Infant and Young Child Feeding programme in Boroli settlement.
- In Adjumani and Arua, WFP is in the final stages of bringing partners on board to manage food distributions in West Nile refugee settlements.

- In Arua, plans are under way to start 9th cycle of general food distribution (GFD) in Rhino Camp. WFP conducted training for 100 new food management committees in the settlement to review roles and responsibilities during and after GFD. The nutrition team took part in an orientation training on the SFP rollout in Rhino Camp. As well, a total of 233 children (86 refugees, 147 nationals) were screened for nutrition. Twenty-two mothers participated in a session on healthy cooking that aimed to encourage healthier cooking habits.
- At Kiryandongo RC, UNHCR/Inter Aid Uganda prepared three hot meals per day for the 243 refugees.

Water and Sanitation

- In Adjumani, the average water availability stood at 16 litres/per person/per day (l pp/pd).
- In Arua, the average water availability stood at 19.7 l/p/d. Malteser opened two boreholes fitted with hand pumps for use to beneficiaries at Tika II and Katiku II villages and motorization of five others is progressing well. UNICEF is casting aprons and installing hand pumps for the 11 new boreholes. URCS completed drilling the third borehole near Odoibu I village. Water trucking is expected to cease by 30 September.
- In Kiryandongo, the average water availability stood at 13 l/pp/pd in the settlement. The reception centre is served by the national main lines and PoC are receiving adequate amount of water. Feed the hungry is drilling three boreholes, one at Canrom Primary School and 2 at child friendly spaces. The District Local Government (KDLG) and UNHCR/IAU repaired two boreholes.

Community Empowerment, Self-Reliance and Environment

Livelihoods and self-reliance

- In Adjumani, DRC-DDG: monitored the performance of poultry recently provided to farmers. It also distributed seed and seedlings to 13 farmers and made arrangements to have 154 goats verified and treated by district veterinary personnel before delivery to beneficiaries.
- In Arua, DRC-DDG: provided extension support services for crop production to 100 farmers in 4 refugee villages; conducted needs assessments with Cinlonyo farmer field school in Odoibu village to help identify training needs; mobilized two farmer field schools (25 refugees, 25 nationals) for the construction of maize cribs in two villages; and demonstrated planting of Callindra and Napier grass for beneficiaries in four villages.
- In Kiryandongo, UNHCR/IAU distributed 25 sacks of cassava cuttings to 150 families receiving 200 cassava saplings each. Ten farmer groups were sensitized on enterprise selection for income generation activities, of which 10 opted for grocery and general merchandise shop and 20 for goat rearing. They will be granted revolving funds.

Environment-related activities

- In Arua, the District monitored the survival rate of recently planted trees in Ocea, Katiku and Eden villages found it to be at 80%. It also assessed forestry practices among the farmers and provided technical advice.
- In Kiryandongo, 200 seedlings were distributed to the refugee community by InterAid.

Access to Energy

- In Adjumani, ACORD conducted post-distribution monitoring of energy stoves to monitor usage and a report will be shared with partners.
- In Arua, UGA-STOVE, the supplier of energy-saving stoves, conducted a training of trainers' course for 26 refugees from 13 villages. Through CEFORD Oxfam distributed 393 energy-saving stoves to PSN families and new arrivals in three villages. Cumulatively 1,295 stoves have been distributed in the last two weeks to all the 13 villages targeted PSNs and recently registered new arrivals. UNHCR's partner CEFORD will continue demonstrating and supervising their usage (cover photo).
- In Kiryandongo, IAU trained 40 refugees on energy saving stove construction and provided materials.

Working in partnership

OPM / UNHCR are supported by partners on the ground:

Kiryandongo refugee settlement

Government partners: OPM, Kiryandongo District Local Government (KDLG) and the Uganda Police Force.

Humanitarian partners: Action Africa Help Uganda (AAH-U), Action Contre la Faim (ACF), AIRD, DRC-DDG, FAO, Inter-Aid Uganda (IAU), International Rescue Committee (IRC), Real Medicine Foundation (RMF), SP, Transcultural Psychosocial Organization Uganda (TPO), UNICEF, WFP and WTU.

West Nile

Government partners in all locations: OPM, Adjumani, Arua and Koboko DLG authorities, various technical departments, and Uganda Police Force.

Adjumani humanitarian partners: AAH-U, ACF, ACORD, ADRA, Welthungerhilfe (WHH)/Concern Worldwide(CWW) as Alliance 2015, Baylor, Caritas, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), DRC-DDG, HelpAge International, IOM, LWF, Marie Stopes, MSF-F, MTI, OXFAM, PLAN, SCiU, UNFPA, UNICEF, URCS/ICRC, TPO, War Child Canada, WFP, WHO, WTI and WVI.

Arua humanitarian partners: ADRA, AIRD, Care International, Caritas, International Aid Services (IAS), DRC-DDG, Global Refuge International (GRI), Humedica, Malteser international, MTI, Oxfam, SCiU, ZOA, UNICEF, URCS/ICRC and WFP, WTU, Touch Africa.

Coordination Meetings

In Kampala, the inter-agency coordination meeting chaired by OPM/UNHCR with UN agencies and implementing and operational partners took place on 24 July at UNHCR. Meetings are now held on a monthly basis and there is one scheduled for 18 August.

In the field, OPM / UNHCR chair weekly inter-agency meetings that are held on Wednesdays in Adjumani, and on Thursdays in Arua.

In Adjumani, sectorial meetings chaired by UNHCR take place weekly: the Protection working group meets Tuesdays at 3pm; health coordination meets Tuesdays at 9am; livelihood coordination meets Tuesdays at 10.00am; the education working group meets Wednesdays at 3pm and, WASH coordination meets Tuesdays and Fridays at 9am respectively. The Shelter and Infrastructure working group meetings is held on a bi-weekly basis on Tuesdays at 8.30am.

In Adjumani, community meetings take place every day in Baratuku and Nyumanzi settlements.

In Arua, weekly WASH coordination meetings continue to be held on Thursdays at 2pm.

In Kiryandongo, all partners' weekly coordination meetings are held, chaired by OPM along with sectorial meetings on WASH, Health, Protection/Community service, Education and Livelihood/Environment.

