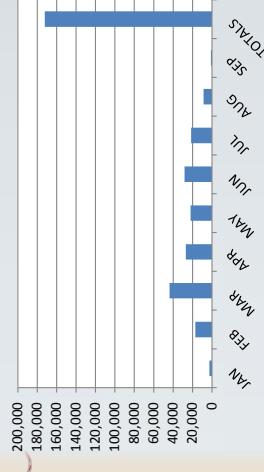


IOM'S South Sudan Refugee Relocation 14 October, 2014



- IOM assigned 40 buses and 10 boats to relocate the refugees from entry points to camps. IOM has assigned doctors and nurses to conduct Pre-Departure Medical Screening (PDMS)

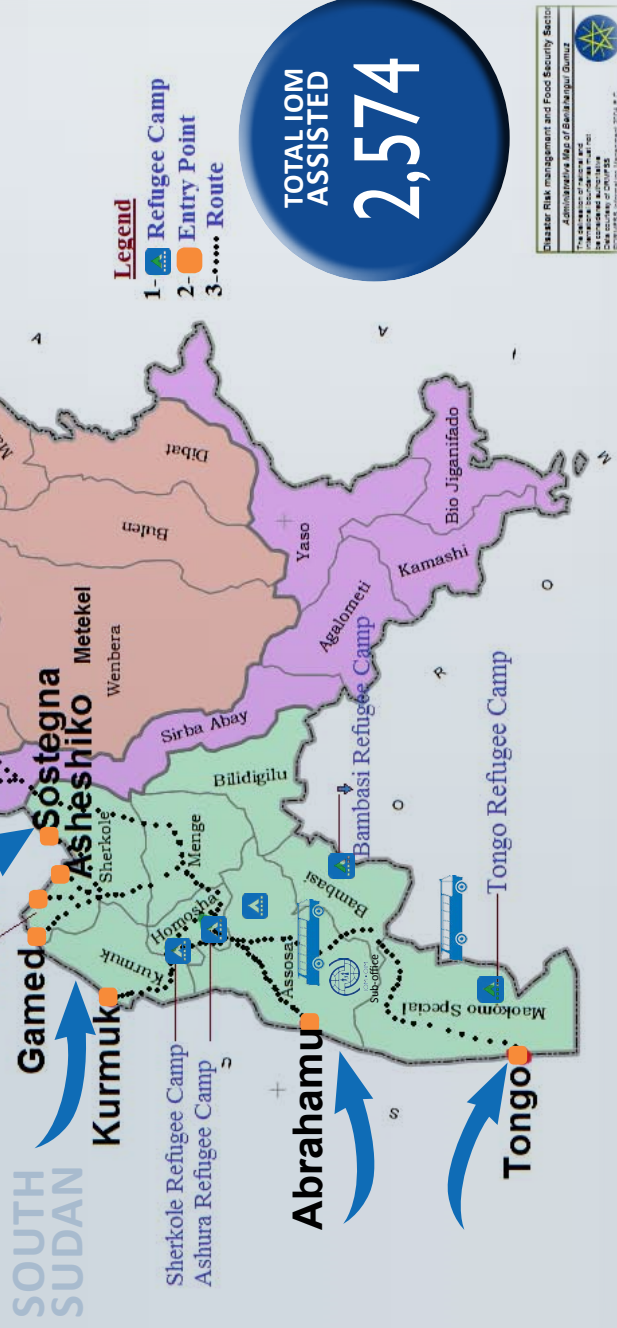
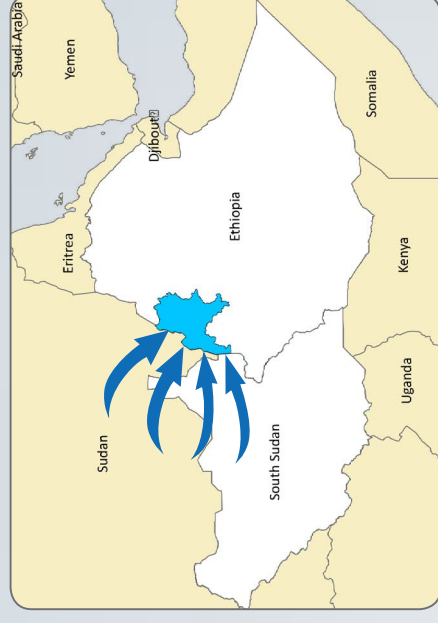
A total of 189,539 South Sudanese asylum-seekers have arrived in Ethiopia mainly through the Pagak and Akobo-Tergol border points since the influx began on 11 December, according to UNHCR. IOM has relocated a total of 172,696 refugees to Pugnido, Leitchuor, Bonga, Kule and Nip Nip camps as of 14 October, 2014. Children make up 70% of new arrivals; of the adult arrivals, women make up more than three-quarters. New arrivals are relocated from the Burbiey border entry points to Matar way station by rental vehicles. The IOM medical team is conducting the PDMS at the entry points.



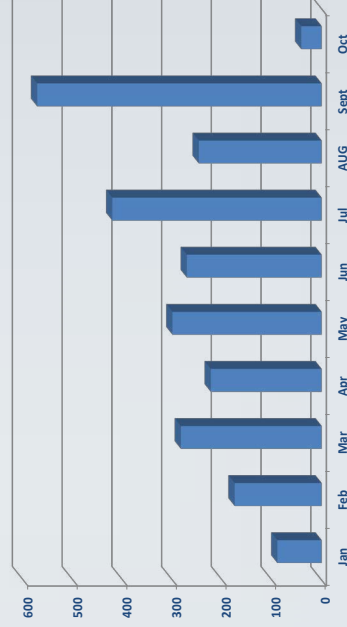
TRAVEL ROUTES																																			
DATES	GWB- FGN	GWB- BNG	GMB- KLE	GMB- litang	AKB- BRB- LITR	AKB- BRB- FGN	AKB- KLE	AKB- FGN	AKB- KLE	AKB- FGN	AKB- KLE	GWB- DIM	GWB- DIM	KUL- DIM	LITR- FGN	LITR- KLE	WAN- AKU	APT- GMB	BNC- litang	BNC- GMB	BNC- ABOB	BNC- ABOL/ JOR	BNC- FGN	BRB- MTR	MTR- LITR	MTR- NIP	PCK- LITR	PCK- ITN	PGK- GMB	PGK - LAR	PGK - FGN	PGK- PAM	PGK- KLE	TOTALBY MONTH	
JAN	108	30	-																						2,279		140				-		-		2,557
FEB	-	-	2,157			425																		3,080		11,466				76		-		17,204	
MAR	-	50	10,856			35																		-		8,038				96		24,675	43,750		
APR	-	227	8,500			4	1,572	340		2				10					33				178		-				-	14,869	27,002	1,267		6,032	22,059
MAY	41	164		44		5	4,664	247						6				1,252					179									8	10,738	28,329	
JUN							1,476	24											28	6	60	21	76											21,444	
JUL	23			32	40		182		17	59	97	1	7														419	14	1					8,650	
AUG									53									128						2,854								2	2,452	26	1,292
SEP									24																										404
OCT																																			
TOTALS	172	471	21,513	76	40	3,038	474	7,894	611	94	2	59	218	1	7	10	6	1,252	128	61	6	60	21	433	5,359	2,854	19,644	419	14	1	1,449	2,452	64,480		172,696

# INFO-GRAPHICS BENISHANGUL-GUMUZ REGION:

IOM's South Sudan Refugee Relocation 14 October, 2014



TOTAL ARRIVALS/ REGISTERED/ RELOCATED



Month	Transported from Abrahmu Entry Point to camps within Benishangul	Transported from Tongo Entry Point to the camps within Benishangul	Transported from Assosa Entry Point to camps within Benishangul	Transported from Kush-megani Entry Point to camps within Benishangul	Transported from Amoma (3rd camp) Entry Point to camps within Benishangul	Transported from Kurmuk (Dilashe) Entry Point to camps within Benishangul	Total Number of Individuals Moved
January	7	0	17	0	0	64	88
February	32	89	0	51	0	0	172
March	65	52	54	112	0	0	283
April	11	15	0	11	177	0	214
May	252	49	0	0	0	0	301
June	152	29	72	0	0	0	253
July	388	28	0	0	0	0	416
Aug	229	5	0	0	0	0	234
Sep	572	0	0	0	0	0	572
Oct	41	0	0	0	0	0	41
TOTAL	1749	267	143	174	177	64	2574

BACKGROUND

IOM has facilitated refugee movement in the Regional State of Benishangul-Gumuz. Requested by Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA), IOM has, since January 2014, facilitated transportation for 2,574 refugees from South Sudan. Since the beginning of the South Sudan crisis, there has been an influx of refugees through nine entry points, namely: Kurmuk, Gesan, Gamed, Asheshiko, Tongo, Almahal, Abrahamu, Sostegna camp and Bamaza. IOM is also providing pre-departure medical screening to identify refugees who may need medical attention and/or referral on arrival at the camp.





IOM · OIM

# IOM SLO Response to South Sudan Crisis in Ethiopia

EXTERNAL SITUATION REPORT

03-14 October 2014



IOM staff conducting pre-departure medical check before a helicopter deportation at Burbiey.  
©IOM 2014 (Alemayehu Seifeselessie)

## GENERAL OVERVIEW

Since the conflict broke out in December 2013, the total number of South Sudanese refugees who crossed borders to neighbouring countries, has surpassed 455,682 individuals. Ethiopia has continued to receive the highest number of refugees with a total of 189,343 individuals crossing its border. The Ethiopian borders remain open to asylum seekers. The South Sudanese refugee population has now become the largest refugee group in Ethiopia, surpassing the Somali refugee population according to UNHCR.

IOM has assisted 172,696 refugees in Gambella and 2,574 in Benishangul-Gumuz since the conflict broke out. Since the last update, IOM has evacuated a total of 445 refugees from South Sudan from two border entry points namely: - 404 - Burbiey in Gambella Region and 41 - Abrahamu in Benishangul-Gumuz Region. The number of arrival into the Gambella Region has dropped since the beginning of September due to inaccessible roads because of the heavy rain and flooding including rising water level of the Baro River in various locations in the Region. Over all, the number of South Sudanese refugees that IOM has evacuated in October has declined due to the persistent rain, camp flooding, stalled relocations to Okugu camp in Dima and an ongoing search for alternative camp sites.

Only 1,696 South Sudanese refugees have been evacuated from the entry points, since the beginning of September in comparison to 8,650 refugees evacuated in the month of August thus the total movement trend shows significant decline.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- During this reporting period, IOM has evacuated a total of 445 refugees who have entered from South Sudan to Ethiopia (404 - Burbiey entry point in Gambella Region and 41 - Abrahamu in Benishangul-Gumuz Region)
- Relocation to Okugu camp has continued to pose a challenge as vehicles are stuck in the muddy road and refugees continue to show concerns fearing close proximity to clashing tribes.
- More than 62,800 refugees still need to be relocated to new camps.
- Total number of refugees evacuated by IOM: 172,696 from Gambella and 2,574 from Benishangul-Gumuz.



IOM staff inspecting shelter construction at Kule camp ©IOM 2014  
(Punneyasinga Armstrong Parajasingam)

IOM and partners have been advised by Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA) to maintain a strong presence in Dima, Leitchour, Matar and Nip Nip for continuous emergency service delivery. However, permanent investment in Leitchour has been discouraged.

It is difficult to identify the number of new arrivals from Pagak as well as the current caseload of refugees since there has been no registration in the beginning of October 2014. However registration started on 12 October to prepare for rapid response and WHO has opened up an Ebola centre at the entry points.

Only 54 kms is currently accessible by road from Gambella to Leitchour with the remaining part of the road completely inundated including the surrounding grassland.

Since the road to Leitchour is still impassable, IOM is facing challenges to continue its normal operations in Matar. All partners are depending on the lone helicopter for all movements to and from Matar and Leitchour. Movement of supplies such as fuel and other essential commodities are not possible on the helicopter; this has forced IOM to use rental vehicles as an alternative to transport refugees from Burbiey to Matar since the road is not accessible by buses.

Since mid-September 2014, there have been more than 62,800 refugees in need of relocation from various camps and transit centres within Gambella region. ARRA and UNHCR have requested that all new arrivals from the three entry points of Burbiey, Akobo and Pagak be moved to Okugu camp

IOM has devised an action plan to start the relocation of refugees from flooded camps to Okugu camp and has also constructed a transit station at Geder around Macha. IOM is on standby as we await the relocation to Okugu. Currently; there are a number of challenges for the relocation to Okugu to happen such as: 40km of muddy road from Gambella to Macha ; .Unwillingness of the refugees to move to Okugu due to security concerns; and the capacity of Okugu to accommodate the refugee caseload to be relocated. Okugu can only accommodate 29,000 refugees in addition to the 6,000 already on ground. . Therefore, the search for a new site with higher ground in the Gambella Region is on top of the agenda. The only ongoing relocation is between Akobo to Matar as all

other movements are restricted.

IOM has started constructing shelters to assist 39,000 refugees (7,800 households) in Kule refugee camp in Gambella to enhance protection of refugees from harsh weather conditions and environment.

To date, IOM has constructed 65 shelters. However, due to heavy rain around and in the camp, access to the camp has paused a major challenge to move construction materials.

IOM is also facilitating refugee movements in Assosa in the Regional State of Benishangul-Gumuz. As of 14th October, 2,574 refugees have been relocated from various entry points in the Region.

During this reporting period, there has been refugee relocation from Abrahamu entry point to different camps. IOM has continued to provide pre-departure medical screening to identify refugees who may need medical attention and/or referral on arrival at the camp.

On request by UNHCR, IOM is also facilitating camp-to-camp transportation for refugees who may want to relocate to a different camp for one reason or another.

### Partnerships and Coordination

IOM closely collaborates with the Government of Ethiopia's ARRA, UNHCR and humanitarian partners on the ground to respond to this emergency. IOM is also coordinating health referrals and care with the Ministry of Health, WHO, UNHCR, UNFPA, IFRC, UNICEF, WFP, IMC, ARRA, ACF, MSF-F as well as regional hospitals.

### Challenges

- Limited reception capacity resulting in limited movement.
- Heavy rains flooding rivers make the stay at camps and Burbiey, Pagak and Matar challenging. The rain has also made roads inaccessible.
- Security threats have made some camps in Benishangul-Gumuz inaccessible.
- Refugees' concerns about relocation to Okugu.

**IOM appreciates the invaluable support from the following donors and partners whose support has enabled us reach out to those most in need:**

