

UGANDA

UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE FOR THE SOUTH SUDANESE EMERGENCY

8 - 14 January 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

- A total of 137,992 South Sudanese refugees have been assisted in Uganda since the influx began in mid-December 2013, including 87,492 in Adjumani, 12,450 in Arua, 30,755 in Kiryandongo and 7,295 in Kampala.
- In Adjumani UNHCR, OPM and Partners are planning to reopen an old refugee settlement, Maaji, in order to accommodate new arrivals, since in other recently created settlements, such as Ayilo, no more land is available. Relocations to Maaji are due to commence in the coming weeks. The new site will have a maximum capacity of approximately 17,000 persons, to be possibly extended up to 25,000.
- The World Food Programme announced planned ration cuts across Uganda, commencing in February due to funding issues in the second part of the year and in order to preserve existing stock. Ration cuts will only affect South Sudanese refugees who arrived before mid-July 2013 and excludes PSNs, EVIs and cash beneficiaries.



A young south Sudanese refugee boy in Nyumanzi watches a Nigerian 'Nollywood' film in a video hall set up in the settlement by a fellow South Sudanese refugee. ©UNHCR/F.Noy

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. The registration of new arrivals in Kampala continues on a weekly basis.

FUNDING

USD 220,607,768

Requirement for the Uganda programme – under 2015 South Sudan Regional Response plan

0% funded

PRIORITIES

- Provide emergency, lifesaving support to new arrivals.
- Provide quality services (protection/ community services, health, education, WASH).
- Enhance self-reliance opportunities and peaceful coexistence between refugees and host community.

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

In Adjumani refugees, including from Eastern Equatoria and of Madi ethnicity, continued to arrive at Elegu border point at the rate of 87 per day on average. They report ongoing military operation, following deployment of soldiers from Juba to Eastern Equatoria also reportedly targeting civilians. In Arua 26 families in 150 individual refugees in of SSD origin were received at Ocea RC. In Kiryandongo 497 individuals arrived and were biometrically registered. The majority of the new arrivals are reportedly from Unity, Upper Nile and Eastern Equatorial States. There were no new arrivals to Kampala this week.



Achievements and Impacts

- Within the Adjumani District, a number of protection cases were reported to the police, following awareness campaigns conducted at the end of 2014 for refugees. These include legal advice, protection messages on radios, toll free hotline, community sensitization of refugees and their leaders, and dialogue with the host community on mutual coexistence. WCC is following up with police reported cases of defilement and kidnap to ensure effective justice.
- In Adjumani, following a joint visit last November (2014), UNHCR and OPM supported Openzinzi Government Prison with assorted non-food items (soap, blankets, jerry cans and mosquito nets) to assist 255 inmates (including refugees). As part of the Maaji reopening plan, UNHCR and OPM agreed to establish a police post and to set up a reception area to accommodate refugees upon arrival and pending shelter construction (two communal shelters will be erected accordingly). UNICEF and partners have also been discussing with UNHCR the creation of a Child Friendly Space within Maaji relocation area.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

Efforts are being made to avoid refugees having to spend the night at the Elegu Collection Centre on the South Sudan border while renovation of the communal shelters are underway as the existing shelter is in poor condition. The structure is being renovated and fencing of the collection area will begin once the Immigration Department – who own the land - resolve the boundary issue with the former landlord.

Border Monitoring

- In Adjumani OPM, UNHCR and LWF continue with border monitoring and reception of new arrivals at Elegu Collection Centre on a daily basis. New arrivals continue to arrive at Elegu border point on a daily basis and are manually registered before being transported to Nyumanzi Reception Centre. During the reporting period, 609 new arrivals were received from South Sudan. The majority are women and children. 73 families were Dinka and 41 Madi, as well as 10 families of other ethnicities. The main reasons given for flight were hunger and, for the Dinka, attacks in Bentiu, Jonglei and Bor. It was also reported that there is limited humanitarian access to those areas and as a result, problems in delivering assistance. According to newly arrived Madi refugees, there has been heavy deployment of SPLA troops in the Equatorial area. They also noted that 56 youth who were arrested and transported to Juba are still being detained and suspected to be rebel allies.
- In Arua, a team composing of UNHCR and OPM conducted border monitoring along Oraba-Kaya borders. Koboko district security agents, together with the Resident District Commissioner (RDC), provided briefings on the security situation. The security situation along Oraba-Kaya border with South Sudan remained calm, with no major security related incidents reported. However, South Sudanese officials advised Koboko district Officials to remain vigilant and prepare for a possible influx from South Sudan.

Relocations

- In Adjumani, weekly relocations from Nyumanzi Reception Centre to refugee settlements were put on hold this week while the new settlement site of Maaji is prepared for relocations in the coming weeks.
- In Kiryandongo 133 households of 581 individuals were relocated from the reception centre to the settlement. Of the total there were 69 (32 males and 37 females) separated children. All the separated children were relocated with their guardians.

Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs)

- In Adjumani LWF continued to support Extremely Vulnerable Individuals (EVIs). Among these, 26 children (15 separated and 11 unaccompanied) were given financial support to meet their basic needs. LWF excavated 53 latrines for PSNs in Nyumanzi settlement and 29 in Olua II settlement. At Elegu Collection Centre, among 609 individuals manually registered and transported to Nyumanzi Reception Centre, 19 were PSNs.
- In Arua 389 female-headed PSN households received building material (poles and ropes) for the construction of houses.
- In Kiryandongo IAU construction of 25 PSN houses is ongoing with 44% of houses now completed. The roofs 45 old PSN houses are also being replaced with iron sheeting with 3 so far completed.

Child Protection

- In Adjumani, among the 609 new arrivals within the reporting period, 61 were children at risk; separated children and unaccompanied minors. UNHCR held the first coordination meeting with all Child Protection Partners to chart the way for 2015. Achievements and lessons-learnt from 2014 were flagged to guide the 2015 leg of operation. A joint plan of action will be developed to lead the stakeholders. LWF provided cash support to foster parents in all settlements in Zone 1. A total of 52 foster parents have so far received support and more will receive next week. Training of foster parents in Ayilo II was conducted and 26 foster parents and caregivers were trained by LWF. LWF has continued to provide psychosocial support to the children hosted at the UAM shelter. A meeting was also held with caretakers at the UAM shelter in Boroli aimed at putting in place mechanisms to improve service delivery to children.
- In Arua DRC-DDG identified 21 UASCs at Ocea Reception Centre among the new arrivals. Rapid BIAs will be conducted for all for further assessments of their needs. DRC-DDG provided 13 youth football groups with footballs to allow them to practice.
- In Kiryandongo the four CFS/ECCDs received 693 children. They were engaged in co-curriculum activities, outdoor playing materials such as swings and other learning sessions. 25 separated children were registered in the Rapid FTR. The total number of Separated Children registered is 213 (127 males and 86 females) and are all willing to undergo tracing. 476 UASCs benefitted from a distribution of NFIs including plastic shoes, clothes, soap, blankets and sanitary towels.

Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV)

- In Adjumani Community Watch Groups in Ayilo I and Ayilo II have been given bicycles to help them when carrying out GBV prevention and response activities. LWF began the translation of GBV messages in three major languages (Dinka, Kuku and Madi).
- In Arua two youth performance groups were assisted with assorted performance materials to help them spread information on SGBV through dance, drama and songs.
- In Kiryandongo three SGBV cases were reported including two cases of domestic violence and one attempted rape. A perpetrator was arrested and home visits were conducted and counselling of survivors carried out.

Community mobilisation

In Adjumani LWF held a mobilization meeting with community leaders to discuss hut construction for PSNs under cash for work projects. Leaders were encouraged to mobilize youth to participate in hut construction and other activities that will be operating under cash voucher system. They were also encouraged to participate in selection of most vulnerable PSNs to benefit especially in hut construction.

Education

Achievements and Impacts

- Schools in Uganda continue to be on recess and are due to reopen in February.
- In Adjumani the Education Working Group conducted a site assessment of Zoka Primary School placed within the new relocation area of Maaji settlement. The school is composed of 8 classrooms, plus a staff room and library. The team drew up a plan of action involving a number of Partners: WTU will recruit teachers and provide scholastic materials, including desks, DRC will renovate the structure ad build new latrines, LWF will provide temporary latrines and UNHCR will provide temporary shelters for staff accommodation. DRC is clearing the surrounding area to serve as playgrounds. UNICEF and NRC are also willing to contribute.
- In Kiryandongo 15 primary school teacher positions were advertised to fill positions in refugee schools.

THE Health

Achievements and Impacts

- In Adjumani, health partners prepared a medical assistance plan for health services in the new refugee settlement of Maaji that is expected to open next week. The health centre placed within the new Maaji relocation area will be run by MSF-F through a mobile clinic for the initial period of re-opening of Maaji. UNHCR implementing partner (Medical Teams International) will also cover evening and night hours for emergency cases and set up a maternity ward through UNFPA/ACORD support. The District Health Officer (DHO) will provide an ambulance on call from the neighbouring health centre. UNHCR will provide temporary shelters to accommodate MTI staff.
- In Kiryandongo a planning meeting with stakeholders was held at the Kiryandongo District health offices. This was to seek logistical support towards the mass polio campaign as directed by the Ministry of Health. From the 17th -19th January 2015 all children under-five years old in the district are to be immunized.

Immunization

Following the recommendation by the 9th meeting of the Technical Advisory Group on Polio Eradication for the Horn of Africa (HoA TAG) in 2013, Uganda is organising a nationwide Polio campaign that will benefit refugees and nationals scheduled for 17th-19th January 2014. UNHCR, UNICEF, WHO and health partners are part of the preparatory activities at national and district level.



Food Security and Nutrition

Achievements and Impacts

In Adjumani 197 children below five years were screened for malnutrition using MUAC of which 14 were found to be acutely malnourished. No oedema cases were registered. The Infant and Young Child Feeding programme supported 21 newly delivered mothers to initiate breastfeeding within an hour to their new born babies. The nutrition programme is working with 107 women to support them in the introduction of solid, semi-solid and soft foods. The programme also provides nutrition messages on the importance of providing animal proteins to children aged 6 to 23 months. The growth monitoring coverage for children aged 6 to 59 months was 70.1%. The outpatient therapeutic

- feeding programme provided nutritional support to 54 children, of them 73% were cured, and the remaining are still being rehabilitated.
- In Arua ArDLG carried out nutrition screening for 542 (177 refugees, 365 nationals) children aged between 6-59 months with no cases of severe malnutrition identified.
- In Adjumani a Food Coordination Working-group was established which will meet on a monthly basis. Among issues discussed was the improvement of PSNs access to food and to introduce a complaints desk at each food distribution point, to be jointly managed by WFP and their implementing partner World Vision International (WVi), OPM and UNHCR, with a view to timely addressing complaints; in particular cases of missing food.



Water and Sanitation

Achievements and Impacts

- In Adjumani the average water availability is 18 litres/person/day this week. At Nyumanzi transit centre MSF is providing 30,000 litres of water per day to cater to needs occasioned by the sharp increase in the number of new arrivals. The filled up latrines and dilapidated bath shelters at Nyumanzi Reception Centre are being demolished and covered to improve hygiene. Four stance latrines have been completed and are ready to use. In order to prepare the new relocation site of Maaji for relocations next week LWF has drilled a borehole in block 2 and the drilling process of a new borehole between the primary school and the health centre have been initiated. Water trucking continues in Baratuku and Ayilo I and II settlements to supplement water from different boreholes.
- In Arua the average water supply indicator was 14 l/p/d. This is due to the start of the dry season, which has caused the water table in some of the boreholes to drop and an increase in the rate of hand pump breakdown. UNICEF has procured and delivered spares for hand pump repairs. Through UNICEF's support, Royal Techno contractor is progressing with the 13km pipeline motorization project. Oxfam, with funding support from UNHCR, is constructing a motorized water supply project in Ocea village, which UNICEF is ready to support to extend to Katiku. Water Missions Uganda (WMU), supported by UNICEF, is also constructing a motorized water supply project in Odobu II village, Odobu HC II and Odobu Primary School. Malteser International plans to focus on the post emergency support in the WASH and environment sectors in Rhino camp. IOM has secured CERF funding and will support the WASH sector with two new boreholes, the rehabilitation of 10 existing boreholes and will assist 300 PSN families with latrine construction and four blocks of VIP latrines in three primary schools.
- In Arua there is a latrine to person ratio of 1:9 with 1,344 latrines completed to date in the settlement.
- In Kiryandongo the per capita water availability overall stood at 14.5 litres. Activities are under way to raise the per capita to above 20 litres with motorization projects funded by UNICEF which is expected to be completed by February 2015. Pipeline trenching and laying for the project are ongoing. Latrine coverage stood at 16 people per latrine.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

In Adjumani Ayilo II has also had water challenges, as 3 boreholes have dried up. In the new settlement of Maaji construction of temporary communal latrines is needed and preparation is underway.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

• In Adjumani, since the beginning of January 2014 six new settlements (Nyumanzi, Boroli, Baratuku, Ayilo-I & II and Mungula) have been opened and fully occupied over a total area of approximately 1,596 hectares of residential land. In January 2015 work began on opening a new site in Maaji to accommodate approximately 8,500 in the first phase. Within the reporting period, plot demarcation of this new area by an OPM surveyor began on the first three blocks of the settlement. Road opening, under DRC, is proceeding and is expected to cover a total of 10 KM by the end of next week.

Infrastructure

- In Adjumani the construction work of communal shelters, registration offices and interview rooms at Elegu Collection Centre on the South Sudan border is ongoing. The fencing of Nyumanzi Reception Centre is complete. This has greatly improved internal security since movements in and out of the Reception Centre are now easily monitored. The construction of semi-permanent communal shelters and drainable latrines is ongoing and at roofing level. Additional funding is required to improve the overall road conditions of the new site of Maaji.
- In Adjumani construction activities are at 70% completion and include the construction of educational, health and protection facilities as well as road and bridge construction works at different locations within and in the periphery of the different refugee settlements. It is assumed that many of these activities will be completed within the stipulated time frame of 31 March 2015. However, approximately 30 % of the projects envisaged may require extension beyond the deadline.



Community Empowerment, Self-reliance and Environment

Achievements and Impacts

- In Adjumani LWF visited 15 farmers (all females) and 33 beneficiaries of goats supply project in order to monitor progress of activities in the dry season. Four tailoring groups comprising 25 women were supported by LWF with sewing machines and other materials for starting the businesses. In coordination with OPM and the Adjumani District Environmental Officer plans are underway to mark trees within the new refugee site of Maaji identified to not be cut down by refugees as building material for homes in order to avoid deforestation of the area.
- In Arua, DRC-DDG mobilized and selected 10 individuals (seven refugees, three nationals) for intensive sim-sim production in six villages of the settlement. Three youth groups in three villages were selected for income generating activities.
- In Kiryandongo household poultry were vaccinated in 25 households. DRC also distributed poultry houses to nine foster parents.

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 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, Samaritan Purse, Windle Trust Uganda (WTU) and Save the Children International (SCiU).

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, Pentecostal Assemblies of God (PAG), SCIU, Touch Africa, UNICEF, URCS/ICRC, WFP, WTU and ZOA.

Coordination Meetings

In <u>Kampala</u>, the inter-agency coordination meeting chaired by OPM/UNHCR with UN agencies and implementing and operational partners are held on a monthly basis on the last Thursday of the month from 10:00 at UNHCR.

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

In <u>Adjumani</u>, sectorial meetings chaired by UNHCR take place fortnightly: the Protection working group meets Tuesdays at 2:30pm; Livelihood coordination meets Tuesdays at 10am; Education working group meets Wednesdays at 3pm; Child Protection and SGBV working groups have been also established. WASH coordination meets weekly on Thursday at 2:30pm. Shelter and Infrastructure working group meetings are held monthly on Tuesdays at 8:30am. Health coordination meets Tuesdays at 9am and is chaired by the Adjumani District Health Officer (DHO).

In Adjumani Settlement coordination meetings take place every few months and are chaired by OPM.

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

In <u>Kiryandongo</u>, a settlement Inter-agency coordination meeting and sectoral coordination meeting such as for Protection/ Community services and WASH takes place on a bi-weekly basis.

