

KEY FIGURES

195,217

UNHCR PoC for the
situation

PRIORITIES

_ Approval and development of
new site, Koben, to
accommodate refugees

_ Refugee relocation to
Pugnido refugee camp

ETHIOPIA UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE

23 - 29 January 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

- The total number of South Sudanese refugees who have entered Ethiopia since the outbreak of the conflict in mid-December 2013 is 195,217, including 192,315 who entered through Gambella.
- An average of 75 South Sudanese refugees arrived per day in Gambella during the week through Pagak and Akobo entry points.
- UNHCR Protection team undertook a one-day rapid assessment to promote the relocation of refugees from Pamdong transit site to Pugnido; 416 individuals were found. All refugees who are willing to relocate will be moved in the coming days.
- Level II registration of refugees relocated to Pugnido has been completed. As of 23 January, 8,764 refugees had been registered and issued with the Proof of Registration in collaboration with ARRA; 52% of the registered refugees are female while 67% are children.
- Four cases of South Sudanese refugees with Acute Jaundice Syndrome (AJS) were reported in Akula village on 20 January. AJS is affecting both refugees and local community. The four refugee cases were registered during case search by health workers. In responding to the situation, multiple actions were put in place to stop the spread of the disease, including raising awareness to improve hygiene and sanitation, as well as drinking from safe water and distribution of soap.
- On 20 January, UNHCR, ARRA and the Refugee Central Committee in Kule Refugee Camp organised a meeting with all refugees in their respective zones to advocate for meaningful ways of peaceful co-existence and to curb crime and alcohol abuse. Meanwhile, the Development and Inter Church Aid Commission (DICAC) is undertaking training of trainers for the youth in camp. The training will equip youth with basic skills in self-awareness in order to live purposeful, productive and peaceful lives.
- WFP completed the January general food distribution in all Gambella camps except Leitchour.
- The total number of South Sudanese refugees who entered Ethiopia through Assosa is 2,602. There were 33 new arrivals during the reporting period, not all South Sudanese. The clearing of the proposed new camp site in Tshore has started. However, the local leadership is concerned over non-involvement of the local community. Efforts shall be made to ensure that members of the local community are involved in site preparations.

Population of concern

A total of **195,217** new arrivals

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

- The total number of South Sudanese refugees who have entered Ethiopia since the outbreak of the conflict in mid-December 2013 is 195,217, including 192,315 who entered through Gambella.
- The focus of the Gambella operation remains the approval of site for the relocation of refugees from flood-affected areas before the next rainy season in a couple of months.

Protection

Achievements and Impact

- “Self-relocations” whereby refugees have left one camp for another camp for the purpose of reuniting with family, or due to personal preferences, remain a registration and protection monitoring challenge. UNHCR will increase messaging to refugees to discourage self-relocations and that they consult UNHCR and ARRA.
- The distribution of dignity kits (two pieces of soap, two underwear pants, two packets of sanitary pads) is ongoing in Kule Refugee Camp. Over 8,000 women of reproductive age (15-49 years) have received the kit. IMC and its distribution team plan to reach 12,000 women in total in Kule camp by end January.
- Non-food Items were distributed to 115 people with special needs. Beneficiaries included 45 elderly with disabilities who received 25L jerrycans. Thirty mothers of children with cerebral palsy received thermal flasks. Eighty refugees with severe disabilities that limit their mobility received pillows, bed sheets and plastic mats.

SGBV

- The Women Friendly Space at Tierkidi is completed. Focus Group Discussions were held with women and girls to consult them on types of WFS programming most relevant and useful to them.
- On 22 January, multisectoral partners took part in a “Youth Engagement Strategizing Forum” which offered the chance for partners to discuss the specific needs, concerns and opportunities for refugee youth, including both young women and young men. It became obvious through the discussion that while youth concerns are different for women and men, very little gender analysis or targeted interventions were being applied. Need for income generation, and vocational training were highlighted. Partners agreed that learning and education for both young women and men are a priority. A small Task Force of Partners was established to further deliberate.
- In Leitchuor Camp, 4,306 women of reproductive age were given reusable sanitary pads (three per person) and underwear (two per person).

Education

- In Pugnido Camp, ARRA started the construction of a four-classroom school structure at the new arrivals site for the lower primary pupils.
- Development and Inter Church-Aid Commission (DICAC) administered first semester final examination to students enrolled in the high school in Pugnido. A total of 337 (73 female) ninth graders, 240 (47 female) tenth graders and 60 (seven female) eleventh graders sat for the exam.

Health

Achievements and Impact

- On 23 January, UNHCR dispatched 4,000 pieces of soap to ARRA in Tierkidi Camp to be distributed in Akula village.
- UNHCR Public Health Unit facilitated the release and transportation of program drugs (anti-TB and ART) from Jimma Pharmaceutical Fund and Supply Agency Hub and Gambella Regional Health Bureau.

Achievements and Impact

- January's general food distribution was completed in all Gambella camps except that of Leitchuor. Logistical challenges delayed food distributions in all sites. Shortage of distribution chutes and scooping materials also contributed to longer duration distributions. UNHCR, WFP and ARRA are jointly monitoring scooped distribution in Kule and Tierkidi, where it commenced recently.
- A total of 305 new cases were admitted in the Targeted Supplementary Feeding Program (TSFP). The current caseload for Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) for children under-five years is 4,845; 2,187 Leitchuor, 802 Tierkidi, 1699 Kule camps; 57 Nip Nip and 4 Pamdong, 62 in Matar and 34 in Pagak).
- A total of 120 new Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) cases were admitted in the Outpatient Therapeutic Feeding Program (OTP). The population of children under five with SAM is 1,087 (393 Leitchuor, 147 Tierkidi, 479 Kule; 17 Nip Nip and 0 Pamdong, 43 Matar, 8 Pagak). A total of 35,633 children under-five years are enrolled in blanket supplementary feeding (BSFP): 8,746 Leitchuor, 12,762 Tierkidi, 13,319 Kule; 85 Nip Nip, 109 Pamdong, 580 Matar, and 32 Pagak. WFP and ARRA will commence targeted and blanket supplementary feeding in Okugu camp next month.
- 360 new cases were admitted in the BSFP during the week. A total 8,236 pregnant and lactating women are enrolled (1769 Leitchuor, 2,799 Tierkidi, 3,441 Kule; 86 Nipnip, 15 Pamdong, 111 Matar and 15 Pagak); 152 new cases were admitted in the BSFP
- WFP dispatch of food for February distribution is in progress. However, delays are expected of its distribution as transportation from Djibouti Port is very slow. Commodities like salt may be missing from the next food basket.
- WFP continued providing high energy biscuits to new arrivals at Gambella entry points and during relocation
- WFP reports no change in their funding situation. The food pipeline expected to remain healthy for the first half of 2015 with the current funding level.

WASH

- WASH indicators meet minimum Sphere standards in all Gambella camps except Tierkidi on water supply (13l/p/d). Danish Refugee Council (DRC) is working towards this by constructing three additional water points.
- In Itang, Oxfam completed installation of two additional boreholes with submersible pumps, increasing daily water production at Itang water treatment facility to 1.5 million litres.
- In Leitchuor Camp, Lutheran World Federation (LWF) distributed hygiene dignity kits to over 2,000 women and girls of reproductive age. LWF also distributed 867 sanitation tools including rakes, hand hoes and shovels.
- World Vision's contractor started pipeline digging and installation of pipes in Kule Camp; work is expected to be completed by mid-April 2015.
- In Okugu Camp, an awareness campaign was conducted on sanitation and hygiene for 391 individuals.
- In Kule Camp, the prevailing hot and dry spell, coupled with construction activities, has increased water consumption and demand. UNHCR, ARRA and OXFAM partner are working to increase water supply.

Coordination

- In Kule Camp, ARRA supported by UNHCR is working to control hooliganism by youth gangs in the camps. Camp security has been beefed up with patrols at night.

Logistics

Achievements and Impact

- Air based cross-border operations continue. A total of 1,464 MT from Gambella, 850 MT from Jimma and 412.78 MT from Assosa were dropped by air by WFP so far in 2015.

Working in partnership

_ UNHCR continues to coordinate the refugee response in Gambella and a number of donors and partners continue to visit the operation. In Addis Ababa, the Refugee Task Force remains an important coordination body while several consultative meetings have been held with partners, donors and UN agencies on the flooding response. The Emergency Response Task Forces in Gambella have continued to convene regularly to address challenges and to strategize the response in both Leitchuor and Gambella.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to some **US\$ 111.9 million**, against **US\$ 210.9 million** requested for the situation, as of end-December 2014. The 2015 South Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan has been launched, through which USD 344.9 million has been requested for Ethiopia. UNHCR is grateful for the vital support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to partners and UNHCR programmes with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.
