

ETHIOPIA UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE

16 – 23 April 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

KEY FIGURES

201,301

UNHCR PoC for the situation

FUNDING

USD 153.2m

requested for the UNHCR operation



PRIORITIES

- The enlisting of refugees for relocation from Nip Nip and Leitchuor refugee camps to Pugnido camp and Jewi camp respectively, an exercise that has been beset by challenges.
- The development of Tsore camp, Assosa

- The total new arrivals from South Sudan from 15 December 2013 to date is 201,301 of which 71% are female and 67% are children. The total number of new arrivals in Gambella Region is now 198,484, brings the overall refugee population in Gambella to 256,279 with an increase in the number of new arrivals recorded over the past few weeks. The focus of the Gambella operation is the relocation of refugees from flood-prone Leitchuor and Nip Nip refugee camps to Jewi camp before the rainy season begins in earnest. An average of 212 South Sudanese refugees arrived per day in Gambella during the week through Pagak and Akobo entry points.
- During the reporting period, 1,048 South Sudanese refugees who had arrived in Gambella since 8 April were registered at Akobo Tiergol entry point by a joint team of nine staff from UNHCR, ARRA and IOM. Further, during the reporting period, 60 vulnerable refugees were transferred using helicopter and the remainder of the registered refugees were moved by IOM using boats from Matar to Burbiey entry point and were further moved using buses to Tierkidi camp.
- During the reporting period, 324 refugees were registered at Pagak entry point; all of whom were subsequently relocated to Tierkidi camp.
- In Assosa, there are 2,817 new arrivals, 6,161 pre December 2013 refugees, making a total of 8,978. The total number of South Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia stands at 265,257.
- The Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA) stopped the registration of the intentions of refugees to relocate from Nip Nip to Jewi camp as a security measure that had to be put in place to ensure the safety of all relevant stakeholders in the relocation exercise. The registration started on 23 April but was stopped on 24 April at 11.30am after a group of local youths criticized locals working with ARRA and other organizations involved in the relocation exercise. The listing of refugees resumed again on 25 April. Despite this challenge, during the reporting week, a team comprising staff from AARA, UNHCR and IOM registered and screened half of the population in Nip Nip camp. Out of a population of about 2,500 refugees, 1,259 expressed the willingness to relocate from Nip Nip to Jewi Refugee camp. The refugees remained enthusiastic to relocate in spite of these difficulties.
- In a separate incident, earlier in the day, in Nyine Nyang town, some youths reportedly stoned IOM buses relocating refugees from Burbiey who were on their way to Tierkidi camp. The two situations were quickly brought under control by government security forces and no human casualty or material damage occurred. In addition ARRA reinforced registration team convoys and some agencies compounds' external perimeters including that of UNHCR with the deployment of police forces.

Population of concern

A total of **201,301** people of concern

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

- The total new arrivals from South Sudan from 15 December 2013 to date is 201,301 of which 71% are female and 67% are children. The total number of new arrivals in Gambella Region is now 198,484, brings the refugee population in Gambella to 256,279 with an increase in the number of new arrivals recorded over the past few weeks. The focus of the Gambella operation is the relocation of refugees from flood-prone Leitchuor and Nip Nip refugee camps to Jewi camp before the rainy season begins in earnest. In Assosa, there are 2,817 new arrivals, 6,161 pre December 2013 refugees, making a total of 8,978. The total number of South Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia stands at 265,257.

Achievements

Protection

Achievements and Impact

- In line with the resumption of relocation activities for refugees in Nip Nip camp, preparatory planning was done taking into consideration the thematic areas of Child Protection and Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV). UNHCR Protection and Registration teams, in collaboration with the relevant implementing partners, namely Save the Children International (SCI) and International Medical Corps (IMC) went through the various stages of the exercise and the partners were briefed on their roles in registration, safety and security, child protection and the treatment of unaccompanied and separated children.
- In Nyine Nyang, many refugees who were living far from the two camps are returning to register for relocation.
- A total of 63 new births were registered in Kule refugee camp. A total of 20 lost ration cards were re-issued in Tierkidi camp and 40 were re-issued in Kule camp.

Education

Achievements and Impact

- In Pugnido camp, during the reporting week, UNHCR had a brief discussion with DICAC on the issue of opening the newly constructed vocational training centre. The partner was urged to accelerate procurement of machines and staff recruitment for the centre to start operating soon.
- In Tierkidi camp, a teacher training programme was organized. Trainers are from the Gambella Teacher Training College; 102 incentive teachers from both the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and Save the Children (SCI) schools are taking part in a six-day training course supervised by ARRA and the Regional Education Bureau.
- In Leitchuor camp, preparation for movement of students from to Jewi camp has begun. Save the Children (SCI) has developed the movement plan with contingencies in place in the event that movement is protracted

Health

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR and ARRA Health Units prepared essential drugs list with an estimated cost of 1.6 million birr (20 birr =1 US\$). The prepared drug list was sent to Addis Ababa for the necessary procurement processes.
- The arrival vaccination was provided for all children less than 15 years of age at Pagak, Akobo and Burbiey entry points to prevent the outbreak of vaccine preventable diseases. Accordingly, 759 children between 6 months and 14 years of age received measles vaccine and 829 children less than 15 years of age received Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV). Similarly, 349 children 6-59months of age were reached for Vitamin A supplementation during the reporting period.

- UNHCR Health Unit attended the 2015/16 Disaster Risk Management (DRM) planning workshop which was organized by Gambella Region Disaster Risk Management and Food Security Office and UNICEF from 23-24 April. Important inputs in the planning for risk, disaster and anticipated outbreaks were provided.

Challenges

- The Health Unit provided Rapid Hepatitis E test kits during supportive supervision to Pugnido camp where cases of Acute Jaundice Syndrome (AJS) were continuously reported. The number of Hepatitis E cases in Pugnido camp reached 29 during the reporting period. Most of the cases are children under 14 years of age. To date, 20 cases have been tested and 11 cases were positive. UNHCR and partner organizations put more emphasis on WASH activities while considering social mobilization to improve on hygiene and sanitation practice in the camp.
-  Food Security and Nutrition

Achievements and Impact

- April GFD was completed in all locations except Leitchuor and Akula village due to late deliveries.
- All nutrition partners (GOAL and ACF) reported that all programmes (TSFP and BSFP) were progressing well since sufficient nutrition food was prepositioned in the respective camps.
- ACF has also received prepositioning rations for Jewi camp for both BSF and TSF programmes.
- Jewi camp development continues with partners setting up service facilities. The site for WFP mobile storage units (MSUs) was cleared in Jewi camp and erection is planned to take place early next week.



Water and Sanitation

Achievements and Impact

- One of the risk factors for Hepatitis E is the poor conditions of water collection and storage containers. A consignment of soap and water treatment chemicals was mobilized from UNICEF and delivered to Pugnido camp, where the number of cases continues to rise. A task force is in place with regional technical backstopping from UNHCR WASH and Public Health teams which meet twice a week to closely monitor response, progress, and better understand better the trend of the outbreak.
- Construction of the permanent water system to provide water to Kule and Tierkidi camps is on-going by UNHCR, UNICEF and partners. The total cost of the water scheme is estimated at USD7.7million. In October 2014, UNICEF contracted a company to produce a comprehensive design of the scheme and by mid-December 2014 the designs were completed following multiple reviews and alterations requested by the WASH partners. UNICEF is responsible for the construction of the master storage facility with generators and pumps in Itang and the approximately 13km pumping mains to the storage tanks in Kule and Tierkidi camps. World Vision and IRC will construct the tanks and the distribution systems within Kule and Tierkidi camps respectively. Works on the UNICEF part of the project have commenced and are expected to be completed by the end of May 2015. This project is expected to provide access to clean water in a sustainable manner to an estimated 120,000 people, both refugees and host community.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Achievements and Impact

- In Jewi camp, site demarcation was completed for Zone A and B, which can accommodate approximately 12,000 refugees, construction of two hangars was completed and the third is in progress out of five planned. Site demarcation, detailed survey continued. To create integrated site development and environmental protection activities in all partners' compounds, existing trees were recorded using GPS and shared with concerned partners.
- In Kule camp, the Norwegian Refugee Council resumed the office complex construction which reached 60 % completion and 75% of the road construction is complete.
- In Teirkidi camp, the planned expansion zone demarcation and tent pitching for the new arrivals was continued by NRC and the site survey was commenced by the UNHCR team for the possible additional expansion site which ARRA had scheduled for further negotiation at Zone level.

Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

- In Pugnido camp, the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) completed super structure for 300 transitional shelters and bamboo walling for a further 129. In Jewi camp, NRC continued pitching tents. Total number of tents pitched is 247.
- In Jewi camp, Danish Refugee Council started construction of 194 transitional shelters of which roof frames were fixed for 41, bamboo walling completed for 10, pole erecting completed for 16 and excavation completed for 99.
- In Terkidi camp, NRC continued demarcation and tent pitching. In the reporting week, 477 tents were pitched to accommodate new arrivals. Rehabilitation of collapsed transitional shelters is in progress. In Okugo camp, NRC collected 3,902 bundles of grass for roof thatching, and thatching of 163 transitional shelters was completed.
- As part of the response to the Hepatitis-E outbreak, 9,000 buckets, 200 bottles of water guard and 20,000 pieces of soap were delivered to Pugnido camp during the week. This is part of a UNICEF donation and will be distributed to affected households in the coming week by International Rescue Committee (IRC).

Logistics

Achievements and Impact

- As of 24 April, a total of 11,309mt, 2,500mt and 619.65mt of assorted food commodities were dispatched to South Sudan through air, road and river respectively by WFP.

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.
- A meeting with partners was held in Jewi camp on 23 April to discuss the ongoing development of the new camp. All protection partners affirmed readiness to receive refugees who would be relocated from Leitchuor camp.
- As part of the collaboration and support to the host community in Pugnido, UNHCR donated five new tyres to the Woreda Administrative Council to facilitate transportation of patients using the Woreda ambulance.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total recorded contributions for the UNHCR operation amount to some **US\$ 22 million**, against **US\$ 153.2 million** requested for the situation, which is **14% funded** as at 28 April. UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

UNHCR is grateful for the direct contributions to the UNHCR Ethiopia Operation from:
DFID | JAPAN | IKEA FOUNDATION | IOM | PRIVATE DONORS | SWITZERLAND
UNITED NATIONS CENTRAL EMERGENCY RESPOND FUND | UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



Major donors of unrestricted and regional contributions to UNHCR in 2015 (USD): Sweden (80M) | Netherlands (45M) | Norway (44M) | Denmark (28M) | Australia (24M) | Switzerland (16M) | France (14M) | Japan (10M) | Finland (1M)