

KEY FIGURES

Daily arrival figures from July 2016 are based on manual emergency registration or head-counts/wrist-banding. Confirmed figures will be available as the new arrivals undergo biometric registration. Figures prior to July are from the Government's Refugee Information Management System (RIMS).

2,103

Number of new arrivals between 28th December 2016 and 3rd December 2017

300

Daily average of new arrivals between 28th December 2016 and 3rd December 2017

572,568

Number of new arrivals in 2016

724,389

Total number of South Sudanese refugees in Uganda

PRIORITIES

- Expedite the registration and relocation process
- Continue to mainstream protection in all other sectors ensuring focus on child protection and sexual and gender-based violence interventions
- Ensure educational structures are in place prior to the start of the next academic year and ensure identification and registration of school aged children
- Ensure a sustainable and predictable supply of water
- Engage refugees/refugee leaders and host community members and in dialogue and peace-building activities

UGANDA

EMERGENCY UPDATE ON THE SOUTH SUDAN REFUGEE SITUATION

INTER-AGENCY WEEKLY | 28TH DECEMBER 2016 – 3RD JANUARY 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

- **2,103 refugees were received in Uganda from South Sudan between the 28th of December and the 3rd of January. The arrival rate has decreased significantly, with a daily average of 300 new arrivals.**
- The majority of refugees arriving in Uganda originate from the Equatoria Region of South Sudan, with many from Yei, Morobo, Lainya, Kajo-Keji and the adjacent areas. Refugees report that due to insecurity they are unable to use the main roads to the border and are forced to walk up to several days in the bush to reach Uganda, usually with few belongings and limited access to food, water and other needs.
- The majority of South Sudanese refugees arrive in Uganda through informal border points, with 27 refugees arriving in Uganda through the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). 5,376 South Sudanese refugees have reached Uganda through the DRC to date.
- The relocation of refugees to newly opened Palorinya Settlement continued, with 1,067 refugees being relocated to the settlement from different collection and entry points between the 24th and 30th of December. The refugee population of Palorinya now stands at 27,167.
- Refugees cite violence and indiscriminate killing of civilians, nightly attacks on homes, looting of livestock and property, unsubstantiated accusations of collaboration with opposition groups, fear of arrest and torture and lack of food and basic necessities as reasons for leaving South Sudan.
- According to refugees interviewed, they were informed by authorities in South Sudan that the Ugandan government, humanitarian agencies and partners would not be available to receive and provide them with assistance during the holiday season.



Busia border entry point, refugees carrying their luggage arrive from South Sudan, December 2016. UNHCR/M. Guma.

UPDATE ON SITUATION

- The number of new arrivals in Adjumani and Moyo districts decreased significantly. A total of 304 new arrival South Sudanese Refugees were reported at Elegu Collection Point in Adjumani district between 26 December 2016 and 1 January 2017, down from 1,029 refugees the previous week. Similarly, 616 refugees were reported in Moyo district, down from 1,064 new arrivals in the previous week. The arrival rate also decreased in Lamwo, with 13 South Sudanese new arrivals reported compared to 91 in the previous week.
- The majority of refugees arriving in Uganda originate from the Equatoria region of South Sudan, particularly Yei, Morobo, Lainya, Kajo-Keji and adjacent areas. Refugees report that due to insecurity they are unable to use the main roads to the border and are forced to walk for up to seven days through the bush to reach Uganda, usually in groups with relatives or neighbors and often with few belongings and limited access to food, water and other basic needs.
- Refugees continue to mention allegations of illegal detention and torture, particularly of men in the villages of Equatoria region, although none of the refugees interviewed at the collection and entry points had personally experienced such incidents. Refugees report that while traveling through the bush, armed groups prevented them from harvesting food from abandoned gardens and farms as they have reserved them for their own use.

Protection

- **Registration:** In Moyo, a second biometric registration centre commenced its activities in Palorinya Settlement; a total 4,848 refugees have been biometrically registered. A litigation desk was set up at the biometric registration centre to follow up on cases of family reunification, separated children and other issues related to registration.
- **Persons with Specific Needs (PSN):** In Bidibidi, eleven persons with specific needs were identified and registered, bringing the total identified in the settlement to 19,618. During the reporting week, 202 PSNs were supported to ensure they received their rations during general food distribution and 146 PSNs were provided with basic relief items through targeted assistance. 190 shelters were constructed and allocated to PSNs across the zones. 135 PSNs in Zone 3 were identified for nutritional support and followed up with supplementary food interventions. In Moyo, 205 PSNs were identified; the majority of which were unaccompanied and separated children, persons with disabilities and elderly persons in need of assistance and support. Psychosocial support and First Aid were provided to 60 persons (38 female and 22 male) to address mental health challenges, general health problems and family separation.
- **Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) Response:** In Bidibidi, 43 cases of sexual and gender-based violence were reported, bringing the total reported cases since August to 384. All cases are being followed up using a multi-sectoral approach, including medical and psychosocial support, and all cases of sexual violence were reported to the police. In Moyo, four SGBV cases were identified, all of whom were female. In all cases, referrals were made to ensure that the particular needs of each survivor were addressed.
- **Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) Prevention:** In Bidibidi, 13,505 (7,787 female 5,698 male) refugees were reached through various outreach activities across all zones. Activities were also initiated engaging men and adolescents through sports, and identifying men interested in establishing men's groups. It was agreed that new community centres will not be referred to as 'Women Centres' but given a gender neutral name to ensure participation and activities by all segments of the community. In Moyo, 641 persons (435 female and 206 male) were reached with daily awareness raising sessions conducted on SGBV prevention and response at Lefori collection point and Palorinya Settlement. A briefing session was carried for the bus and truck drivers responsible for the relocation of refugees to inform them on prevention and of and response to sexual exploitation and abuse in a refugee operation.
- **Child Protection:** In Bidibidi, 168 children at risk were identified, bringing the total number of children with specific needs identified in the settlement to 3,196. Case management, reporting, follow up and monitoring have been reinforced to ensure timely response and assistance, which may account for the increase in the number of cases being reported. 107 children were referred for shelter assistance and 44 children were monitored through home visits. A total of 1,270 children are currently in foster care. 48 children with disabilities are registered for activities in child friendly spaces. In Moyo, 56 children at risk were identified, including 46 unaccompanied and separated children, and 154 best interest assessments were conducted in Palorinya settlement. In Adjumani, five children at risk were

provided some material support including soap, clothes and shoes and one unaccompanied boy was referred for family tracing. 27 mothers were provided with cash support to in different settlements.

Education

- In Bidibidi, the registration process for school enrolment is ongoing. In Zones 3, 4 and 5, a total of 9,476 (4,354 female, 5,122 male) school age children were registered, while registration in Zones 1 and 2 was temporarily halted during the festive season and will resume in the coming week. To further enhance student enrolment in school, particularly for girls, an induction training was held for the Parent Teacher Association and School Management Committees of ten primary schools in Zones 1 and 2.
- In Moyo, identification of school age children continued. 1,977 children (1,038 female, 939 male) have been registered for Primary School, 122 (69 male, 53 female) for Secondary school, 127 (57 male, 70 female) for vocational training and 404 children (199 male, 205 female) were registered for Early Childhood Care and Development. Profiling of school-aged children with specific needs and vulnerabilities is underway at the school registration desks; a total of 777 particularly vulnerable children were identified.

Health

- In Adjumani, 41 children were immunized against measles and 41 children received vitamin A supplements. 3,691 patients attended outpatient consultations across all settlements of Adjumani district. As in previous weeks, malaria remained the leading cause of illness (48%), followed by Acute Respiratory Tract Infections (12%).
- In Bidibidi, 8,100 outpatient consultations were conducted, among which 11% were members of the host population. The leading causes of illness were malaria (41%), Acute Respiratory Tract Infections (26%) and Acute Watery Diarrhea (14%). Nine cases of dysentery were reported in the settlement; a decrease compared to 32 cases reported in the previous week. 55 mental health cases were registered in the settlement and are being followed up.
- In Moyo, 4,505 outpatient consultations were conducted, and the leading causes of illness were malaria (30%), Acute Respiratory Tract Infections (31%) and Watery Diarrhea (7%). A total of 270 children were immunized against measles and polio and 133 were given vitamin A supplements. 2,963 refugees were dewormed.

Food Security and Nutrition

- In Adjumani, 41 children were screened for malnutrition; one was malnourished and referred for treatment.
- In Bidibidi, a total of 2,418 children aged 6-59 months and 352 pregnant and lactating women have been identified and enrolled in nutrition programmes and 2,361 persons are enrolled in the nutrition centres for rehabilitation. During the week, the default rate among children aged under five in the supplementary feeding programme was estimated at 12.8%, within the target range of less than 15%. Efforts to follow up with defaulters and track their movements are ongoing. A community sensitization meeting was held prior to food distribution and monitoring during the exercise.
- In Moyo, refugees receive a 30 day food ration upon relocation to their plots, including 11.7 kg of maize meal, 2.1 kg of pulses, 0.9 kg of cooking oil and 1.5 kg of corn soya blend. The food distribution point is established within close proximity to the settlement blocks to ensure access for the refugee population, and a complaints desk has been established to capture and address concerns related to food distribution.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

- In Adjumani, access to safe water remained at 17.6 litres per person per day (l/p/d) across the settlements. The ratio of hygiene promoters to community members is 1:622, compared to the UNHCR standard of 1:500. Efforts are ongoing to recruit more hygiene promoters to maintain the standard. 6,432 (4,031 female and 2,401 male) refugees were reached by home to home visits with the objective of improving hygiene in the settlements.
- In Bidibidi, the completion of two additional boreholes and installation of water storage tanks in thirteen new locations is anticipated to increase the supply of water to refugees in the settlement. The road to Obongi water treatment plant is under construction and improvements were made to the plant, including two new water filling points, which will reduce waiting time and expedite water trucking to various zones across Bidibidi Settlement.

- In Moyo, access to safe water stands at 57 l/p/d at Palorinya Reception Centre, 19/l/p/d in Palorinya Zone 1 and 23 l/p/d in Zone 2. Borehole drilling and installation of a water network are ongoing, but the land structure in Palorinya has posed challenges and delayed completion, exerting pressure on existing boreholes and water trucking from Obongyi water treatment plant. In Zone 1, sixteen boreholes are currently in use. Water trucking activities continue both at the reception center and in the Settlement (Zone II) as a temporary solution. In Zone 2, six boreholes are currently in use, complemented by water trucking and fifteen water storage tanks.

Shelter, Infrastructure and Distribution

- **Distribution:** In all settlements, refugees are provided with essential relief items upon arrival on their designated plots. Shelter kits are also distributed to assist with the construction of temporary housing structures. Women and girls are provided with monthly packages of sanitary napkins, soap and underwear. In Moyo, challenges with the delivery of relief items was resolved through a third airlift on 28 December.
- **Shelter/Site Planning:** In Bidibidi, 34 new plots were allocated and 190 shelters constructed for PSNs. A total of 102,382 plots of land have been demarcated for refugees in Bidibidi to date.
- **Infrastructure:** A total of 400 km of access roads have been opened in Bidibidi refugee settlement.

OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- **Protection:** Regularization of documentation and registration. Mitigate risk of fire outbreak and ensure protection of refugees in case of fire. Provision of employment opportunities for women in particular and engagement of youth in recreational, educational and income-generating activities. Increase Child Protection structures in Bidibidi including Child Friendly Spaces and the pool of trained foster families. Capacity building to reinforce monitoring and case management of children at risk, including identification of at the border entry points. Targeted assistance and support to PSNs in the settlement. Deployment of female police officers to police posts in Palorinya Settlement in order to enhance preparedness and response to SGBV cases and other gender-sensitive matters, as well as provision of shelter for SGBV survivors. Increase availability of transport for family reunification.
- **Education:** Construction of registration centres and permanent school structures in preparation for the upcoming school year. Implementation of appropriate recreational activities for children during the school holidays.
- **Health:** Staffing shortfalls must be addressed to increase the number of skilled health workers. Construction of permanent health infrastructure in locations with tented health facilities. Provision of mosquito nets, particularly to vulnerable groups, to prevent malaria. Additional vehicles to ensure provision of mobile healthcare services. In Palorinya, three additional ambulances are required for patient referrals, as well as a double cabin pickup to support the integrated health and nutrition programs.
- **Food Security and Nutrition:** Establishment of a health facility for provision of nutrition services in Zone 4 and increase nutrition programme coverage in all the Zones (with greater emphasis on Zones 3, 4 and 5). Overall capacity building regarding awareness, promotion and protection of Infant and Young Child Feeding practices (IYCF), quality community outreach program and nutrition surveillance. Intensification of efforts to address high defaulter rates.
- **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene:** More water supply points are required across the settlements to reduce the number of water trucks in use. There is need to upgrade the Kochi water supply. Improved latrine coverage and decommissioning of latrines, as well as additional handwashing facilities.
- **Shelter, Infrastructure and Distribution:** Maintenance of an emergency stock of relief items and procurement of items available locally, in the event of an influx. More heavy machinery is required to expedite the opening of access roads.

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Links:

[South Sudan Regional portal](#) - [UN Refugee Chief: World must act to end South Sudan suffering](#)