

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).

7,984

Number of new arrivals between 4th and 10th of January 2017

1,140

Daily average of new arrivals between 4th and 10th of January 2017

498,265

Number of new arrivals since 1st January 2016

649,039

Total number of South Sudanese refugees in Uganda

PRIORITIES

- Expedite the registration and relocation exercise in Palorinya
- 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
- Promote and engage partners in livelihood interventions. Strengthen engagement of all partners, local authorities and members of the host community regarding interventions in Bidibidi.

UGANDA

EMERGENCY UPDATE ON THE SOUTH SUDAN REFUGEE SITUATION

INTER-AGENCY WEEKLY | 4TH – 10TH JANUARY 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

- **7,984 refugees were received in Uganda from South Sudan between the 4th and 10th of January. After a significant reduction in the number of new arrivals towards the end of 2016, the arrival rate has again increased, with a daily average of 1,140 new arrivals.**
- The majority of South Sudanese refugees arrive in Uganda through informal border points, with 13 refugees arriving in Uganda through the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). 5,389 South Sudanese refugees have reached Uganda through the DRC to date.
- The relocation of refugees to Palorinya Settlement continued, with 35,920 refugees being received in the settlement since 9th December 2016. To expedite the relocation of refugees from the reception centre to their allocated plots, biometric registration activities are being transferred to Palorinya Zone II.
- 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.
- On 6 January, the U.S. Ambassador to Uganda Deborah Malac, accompanied by the State Minister for Relief, Disaster Preparedness and Refugees Hon. Musa Ecweru and the UNHCR Representative to Uganda Bornwell Kantande, visited Bidibidi settlement to review the South Sudan emergency response in Yumbe. The Ambassador met with refugee families and a women's group in Bidibidi Zone 1 and listened to the refugees' concerns. She was briefed on the progress of activities and current challenges in the settlement and delivered messages of solidarity to the refugees.



Palorinya Settlement, Zone I, boreholes with hand-pumps constitute the main source of water, Jan 2017. UNHCR/K. Kabbara

UPDATE ON SITUATION

- The number of new arrivals has increased after continuously decreasing for two consecutive weeks. A total of 613 new arrival South Sudanese Refugees were reported at Elegu Collection Point in Adjumani district from 2-8 January, up from 304 refugees the previous week. Similarly, 2,734 refugees were reported in Moyo district, up from 616 new arrivals in the previous week. The arrival rate also increased in Lamwo, where 109 South Sudanese new arrivals were reported compared to 13 in the previous week.
- 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. Many refugees are also arriving via the DR Congo, spending several days trekking through the dense forests of the DRC to avoid attacks by armed groups.
- Refugees report that while traveling through the bush in South Sudan to reach Uganda, armed groups prevent them from harvesting food left in abandoned gardens and farms. They also allege that armed forces are burning the bush, including farms and gardens, in order to clear the ground of rival groups.
- A mission to Lamwo district on 5 and 6 January to analyse the refugee arrival trend assessed that, due to an increase in armed conflict in Eastern Equatoria cited by refugees and border security forces, the number of South Sudanese asylum seekers crossing into Uganda from this area may increase in the immediate future.

Protection

- **Registration:** In Moyo, a total of 12,084 refugees have been biometrically registered to date. A Legislation Desk has been established at Lefori collection point to address refugees' queries related to registration, including lack of documentation and verification of nationality.
- **Persons with Specific Needs (PSN):** In Bidibidi, 53 persons with specific needs were identified and registered in Zone 5, bringing the total identified in the settlement to 19,672. During the reporting week, 202 PSNs were supported to ensure they received their rations during general food distribution and 80 PSN shelters were constructed and allocated. Two families of persons with specific needs were relocated to Rhino settlement for family reunification. In Moyo, 356 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 166 persons (102 female and 64 male) to address their specific needs.
- **Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) Response:** In Bidibidi, 101 survivors of sexual and gender-based violence were supported, including 53 new cases, the majority of which were of physical assault. All cases were recorded up and provided with the appropriate support, including medical and psychosocial services. In Moyo, four SGBV cases were identified, all of whom were female; three were cases related to early marriage and one of physical violence. 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, 112 women and 70 youths (seventeen female, 53 male) were given life skills training as a deterrent to SGBV by providing them with opportunities to engage in economic activities through new skills. In Moyo, 322 persons (192 female and 130 male) were reached through two awareness raising sessions conducted on SGBV prevention and response at Lefori collection point and Palorinya Settlement targeting youth aged 13-25.
- **Child Protection:** In Bidibidi, 202 children at risk were identified, bringing the total number of children with specific needs identified in the settlement to 3,489. 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. 29 children were referred for medical treatment and 56 children were monitored through home visits. A total of 1,281 children are currently in foster care. In Moyo, 263 children at risk were identified, including 256 unaccompanied and separated children, and 150 best interest assessments were conducted in Palorinya settlement. In Adjumani, seven children at risk were identified and supported with home visits, material support, psychosocial counselling and family tracing as required.

- In Bidibidi, 1,606 vulnerable families, including lactating mothers with children aged 6-23 months, were supported through monthly cash grants as part of child protection prevention and response. Provision of monthly cash grants to 150 foster families has also begun in the settlement.

Education

- In Bidibidi, the registration process for school enrolment is ongoing. In Zones 3, 4 and 5, a total of 10,159 (4,714 female, 5,445 male) school age children have been registered. 3,668 desks were delivered to schools in Zone 1, and 600 lockable tables were provided to Valley View Secondary School. An upcoming educational assessment of the villages where refugees have recently been relocated will ascertain the educational needs for 2017 planning.
- In Moyo, outreach and community mobilisation activities to identify school age children continued. 2,044 children were registered for primary school, 122 for secondary school, 127 for vocational training and 451 children were registered for Early Childhood Development centres. Profiling of school-aged children with specific needs and vulnerabilities is underway at the school registration desks.



Health

- In Adjumani, 6,705 patients attended outpatient consultations across all settlement. As in previous weeks, malaria remained the leading cause of illness (43%), followed by Acute Respiratory Tract Infections (8%). Of the 277 patients who attended voluntary counseling and testing for HIV/AIDS, six tested positive and were linked to care.
- In Bidibidi, 8,621 outpatient consultations were conducted, among which 12% were members of the host population. The leading causes of illness were malaria (39%), Acute Respiratory Tract Infections (26%) and Acute Watery Diarrhea (8%). Nine cases of dysentery were reported in the settlement, as in the previous week. 74 mental health cases were registered in the settlement and are being followed up.
- In Moyo, 5,505 outpatient consultations were conducted, and the leading causes of illness were malaria (30%), Acute Respiratory Tract Infections (27%) and Acute Watery Diarrhea (4%). No new cases of Tuberculosis or HIV/AIDS were identified. 541 children were immunized against measles and 562 were immunized against polio, with 530 given vitamin A supplements. 2,689 children were dewormed.



Food Security and Nutrition

- In Adjumani, of 351 children screened for malnutrition; one was found to be malnourished and referred for treatment.
- In Bidibidi, a total of 2,450 children aged 6-59 months and 362 pregnant and lactating women have been identified and enrolled in nutrition programmes and 2,371 children 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 7.8%, within the target range of less than 15%. Efforts to follow up with defaulters and track their movements are ongoing. Improved coordination, community sensitisation and information sharing between partners and refugee leaders has successfully addressed a number of issues with general food distribution.
- In Moyo, 22 malnourished children were reported at Lefori collection center; nineteen were moderately malnourished and three were acutely malnourished.



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.
- In Bidibidi, three new boreholes are supplying water to the refugee population, and work on an additional high yield borehole is underway. A new site for the Obongi water treatment plant has been identified and opening of an access road is underway, which will increase water supply and expedite water trucking to various zones across Bidibidi Settlement.
- In Moyo, access to safe water stands at 43 l/p/d at Palorinya Reception Centre, 19/l/p/d in Palorinya Zone 1 and 16.4 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 and the Chinyi public school borehole. In Zone 1, sixteen boreholes are currently in use. Water trucking activities continue both at the reception center and in the settlement (Zone 2) as a temporary solution. In Zone 2, ten boreholes are currently in use, complemented by water trucking and 20 water storage tanks. Latrine coverage per person stands at a ratio of 1:28 at the reception centre, 1:20 in Zone 1 and 1:46 in Zone 2. 212 hand washing facilities were placed close to the communal latrines in both zones of the settlement to improve hygiene.

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.
- **Shelter/Site Planning:** In Bidibidi, 94 shelters were constructed to ensure access to basic services for persons with specific needs. A total of 102,382 plots of land have been demarcated for refugees in Bidibidi to date. In Adjumani, eighteen PSN shelters have been completed in eight settlements, with another 78 under construction.
- **Infrastructure:** A total of 402.1 km of access roads have been opened in Bidibidi refugee settlement.

OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- **Protection:** In Bidibidi, ensure water trucking is carried out during daylight hours as water collection after dark exposes women and girls to higher risk of SGBV and other security incidents. Likewise, improve lighting in all zones. Provision of employment opportunities for women in particular and engagement of youth in recreational, educational and income-generating activities. Adequate transport to address logistical challenges in reaching vulnerable children. In Palorinya, construction of child friendly spaces and playgrounds, provision of wheelchairs to persons with disabilities and deployment of female police officers to enhance SGBV response are priorities
- **Education:** Construction of additional schools, especially 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. Distribution 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 health and nutrition programmes and solar lamps at health facilities to facilitate work during evening hours.
- **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 nutrition programmes, 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. Expedite upgrade of the Kochi water supply in Bidibidi. Improved latrine coverage and decommissioning of latrines, as well as additional handwashing facilities.
- **Shelter, Infrastructure and Distribution:** Timely distribution and maintenance of an emergency stock of relief items; procurement of items available locally. Engagement of host communities on land allocation and identification of appropriate sites for community structures in Bidibidi. Additional heavy machinery to expedite roadworks.

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Links:

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