

SOUTH SUDAN - Regional RRP 2018 Mid Year Report

June 2018



2018 PLANNED RESPONSE

2.68M

DEC 2018
REFUGEE PROJECTION

US\$ 1.38B

REQUIREMENTS IN 2018

15%

FUNDING RECEIVED
(17 JULY 2018)

70

RRRP PARTNERS
INVOLVED

REGIONAL SITUATION OVERVIEW

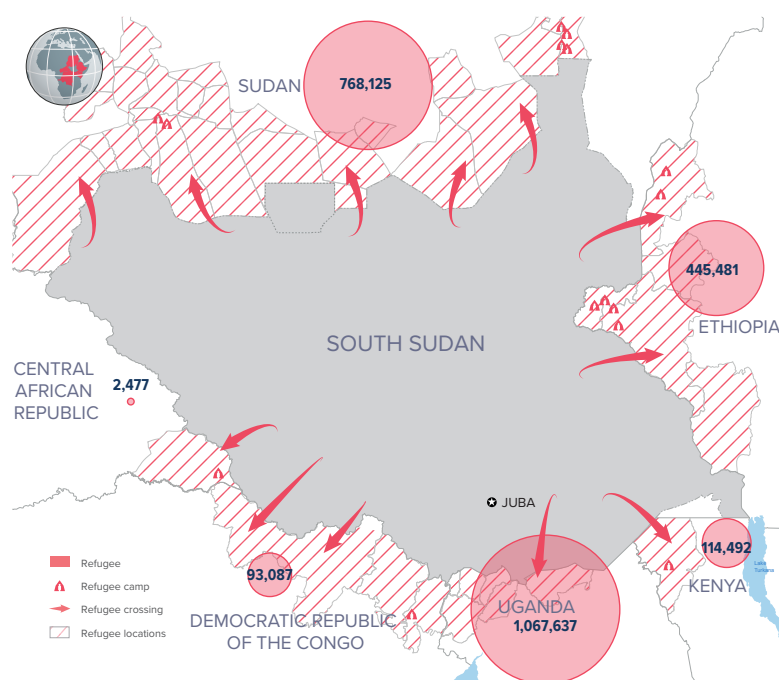
The ongoing conflict and violence in South Sudan in the first half of 2018 further contributed to the continued internal displacement and outflow of refugees, further exacerbating the humanitarian situation.

There are 1.84 million IDPs as of end of June, including some 211,000 civilians seeking safety in six protection of civilians sites located on United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) bases. Extreme food insecurity continued as the lean season progressed and the conflict further disrupted livelihood opportunities. 6.3 million people (57% of the population) were under Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Phase 3 and above (signifying crisis or worse) and projections indicate an increase to 7.1 million (63% of the population) by mid-year 2018, as families have already depleted food stocks and face extremely high food prices with limited income generating opportunities. Humanitarian access and trade flows remained inconsistent throughout the reporting period. Up to 2.4 million children in South Sudan are not receiving education. People on the move remain extremely vulnerable to contracting vaccine preventable diseases, as the destruction of health facilities and disruption of services has prevented routine immunization and planned vaccination campaigns.

After the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) led High Level Revitalization Forum (HLRF) was not successful in providing consensus towards contentious issues in the South Sudan peace talks, the negotiations were moved to Khartoum, Sudan where the Government would be the lead mediator. On 27 June, South Sudan the Transitional Government of National Unity (TGoNU) and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement in Opposition (SPLM – IO) signed the 'Khartoum Declaration of Agreement between the parties of the conflict in South Sudan.' The parties agreed to a permanent ceasefire; the launch of a pre-transition period of 4 months and a transition period of 36 months; and the revitalization of the oil sector in cooperation with the Government of Sudan. Regrettably, occurrences of continued fighting and violence are expected in part because the new power sharing arrangement remains to be tested on the ground in South Sudan. It is worth mentioning that a similar power sharing deal brokered by IGAD in July 2016 not only failed but also triggered the largest-scale South Sudanese refugee outflow to date.

As of 30 June, there are 2,488,756 South Sudanese refugees in the six refugee hosting countries (Central African Republic (CAR), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda). 82,949 new refugee arrivals were registered in the first half of the year, with an average 76 new arrivals a day, compared to 1,831 new arrivals per day in 2017. As in 2017, Uganda (30,954) and Sudan (24,107) received the vast majority of new arrivals (66.3%) in the first half of 2018, followed by Ethiopia (19,195), Kenya (4,582), DRC (3,948) and CAR (163).

The refugee influx remained lower than anticipated in the 2018 Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP), prompting partners to revise downwards the planning figures for the number of new refugees expected to arrive from South Sudan to Uganda and Sudan by year-end 2018, from 300,000 to 100,000 and from 200,000 to 50,000 respectively. This downward trend could be caused in part by political actors engaging in peace negotiations and the adherence to the Khartoum declaration and calls for the cessation of hostilities.

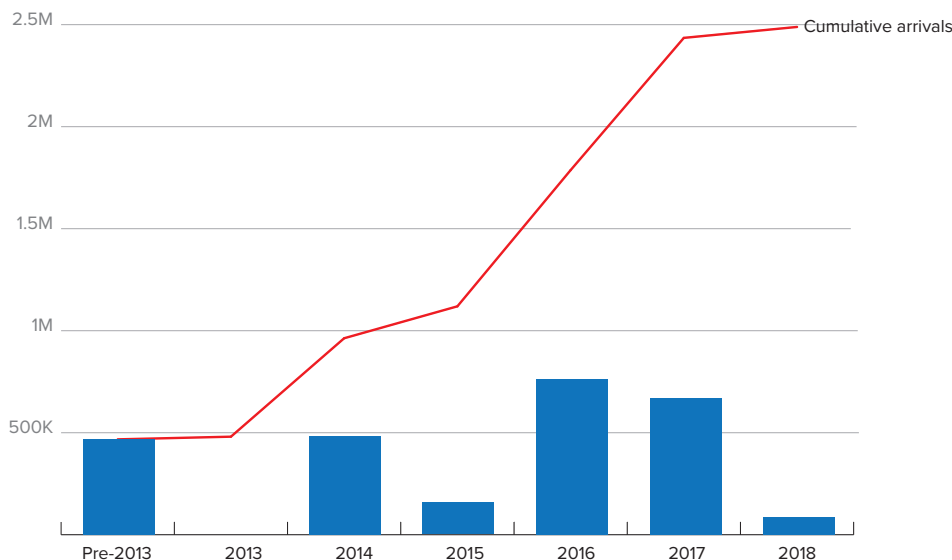


It is expected that IGAD and Sudan led peace negotiations could ease fighting on the ground as political leaders engage to end the conflict. With the situation in South Sudan remaining highly unpredictable, an interagency contingency plan was also developed to respond to a worst-case scenario. Humanitarian access remained one of the key challenges in delivery of the humanitarian aid in CAR, DRC and Sudan, mostly due to the volatile security situation, presence of armed groups, and poor road and weather conditions.

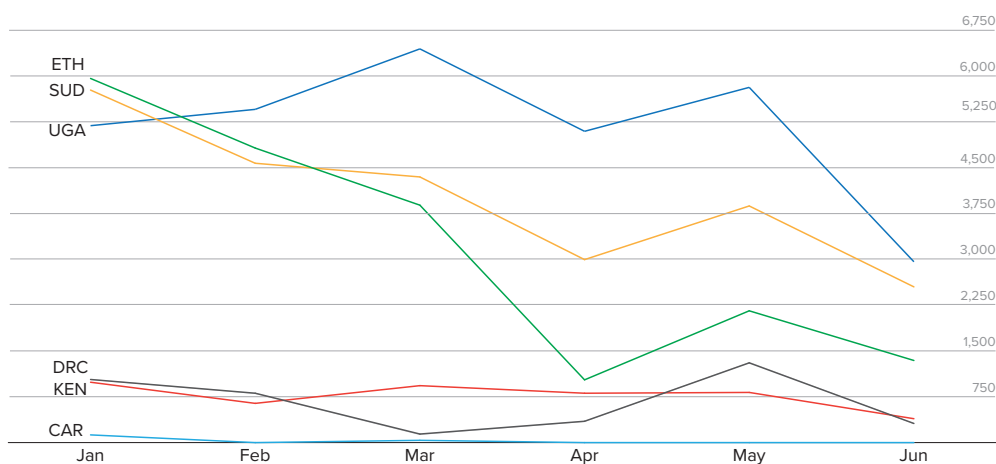
As of 17 July 2018, the RRRP remains only 15 percent funded, posing enormous challenges in meeting minimum standards of service provision, let alone investing in long-term and more sustainable interventions.

Protection: Refugee registration continued in the first half of 2018, aiming at ensuring basic protection against arbitrary arrest,

MONTHLY NEW ARRIVAL TRENDS SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE CRISIS



2018 MONTHLY NEW ARRIVAL TRENDS



forcible recruitment, detention and refoulement, and on the identification of persons with specific needs and corresponding referrals to appropriate specialized services. 78 percent of South Sudanese refugees are registered on an individual basis (while 100 percent are registered on an individual basis in CAR, Ethiopia and Kenya, 99 percent in Uganda, only 42 percent in DRC and 37 percent in Sudan). The roll-out of the biometric systems, such as Biometric Identity Management System (BIMS) is a regional priority.

RRP partners are working with the six host countries to promote the issuance of documentations to refugees, including refugee identifications (such as birth certificates) in order to better enable them to access social services such as: education and health care; and the right to employment.

With 63 percent of South Sudanese refugees being children, child protection is among the priorities. Vulnerable children with specific needs and children at risk are identified during the registration exercises and via community-based mechanisms. As of June 2018, there

were 34,747 unaccompanied and/or separated children (UASC) identified among South Sudanese refugees, 82 percent of whom were placed in appropriate interim or long-term alternative care. The major gap in assistance to UASC is most critical in DRC, where only 21 percent of the identified UASC were assisted. Out of 57,062 children with specific needs, regionally only 50 percent received appropriate protection assistance (In Kenya 12 percent received assistance, 19 percent in DRC, 27 percent in Sudan and 47 percent in Ethiopia).

100 percent of 2,175 SGBV survivors received appropriate support, which included psychosocial, legal, medical and safety assistance. More focus needs to be placed on prevention as opposed to solely response, but limited funding constricts the ability for country operations to achieve this. Another challenge to SGBV response is the lack of reporting of cases and lack of effective mainstreaming of SGBV activities in other sectors. Community-based awareness raising and identification mechanisms are being promoted among refugee communities. In Kenya, partners have introduced new innovative tools that led to the increase in the identification of SGBV incidents.

Education: Refugee children have the right to access government-provided primary and secondary education facilities in all the RRP countries. Primary school enrollment rates at the regional level is 59 percent (the lowest: 42 percent in Sudan and highest: 76 percent in DRC. Secondary school enrollment rates are very low in the region at 11 percent. This included 12 percent in Uganda, 11 percent in Ethiopia, 8 percent in Sudan, 7 percent in CAR and 5 percent in Kenya. Gender disparity is observed at upper levels of schooling, with noticeable numbers of girls not attending secondary school.

Although refugee children are legally entitled to attend school, the reality of access is disturbingly low across the entire region. RRP partners have supported access to education by constructing temporary schools and teacher capacity development. Student to teacher ratio remain above the minimum standard in most of the RRP countries, especially in Kenya (1:84) and Uganda (1:80).

Refugee children in Kenya and Sudan have participated in national examinations, which reveals a positive trend of increased integration. At the same time, language continues to be a barrier to education, especially in DRC and CAR, where due to funding limitations preparatory French classes were suspended, which is expected to have a severe impact on the enrollment rates of refugee children, given that the language of instruction is French.

Food: RRP partners provided food assistance to 86 percent of refugees in need of food in all of the hosting countries. However, due to underfunding, refugees in most of the operations received reduced food rations. For example, refugees in Kenya received approximately 1500 kcal/p/d, which amounts to 70 percent of ration. In Sudan, refugees in some of the areas received reduced ration of 1,500 Kcal (71 percent of the standard food ration) and 1,151 Kcal/p/d (55 percent of the standard food ration). In Ethiopia, due to funding shortages, from January to April, South Sudanese refugees were receiving 1,773 Kcal (84 percent) out of the recommended 2,100 Kcal/p/d. From May to June, further ration cuts were implemented with only 1,272 Kcal (60 percent) food ration distributed. In DRC, refugee households were provided with either in-kind food rations or a cash transfer equivalent monthly food assistance, however, due to budget constraints, the amount of the cash vouchers for food purchase was reduced by 20 percent in March 2018.

Availability of certain food items (i.e. pulses, oil and salt in Sudan; salt, corn and flour in CAR; corn soya blend in Kenya) was limited, which further constrained the nutritional diversity of the supplied food. RRP partners are working in countries to find solutions for local procurement and also monetisation of food assistance, where possible. Self-reliance of refugee households and ability to generate income to buy food is critical. In Ethiopia refugee households are constructing backyard gardens to produce some food on their own. However, in Uganda, the vast majority of refugees are unable to produce their own food due to lack of seeds and unfertile land this constraints their self-reliance. In light of extremely limited livelihood opportunities, this limitation further forces refugees to become highly dependent on humanitarian assistance.

Health and Nutrition: Across the region, 89 percent of pregnant refugee women delivered their infants with assistance from qualified personnel. The lowest rates are in CAR (42 percent) and Sudan (68 percent). Response and prevention for HIV/AIDS are a priority for RRP partners in all countries of the region, but remain limited particularly with regard to testing and prevention of mother-to-child transmission.

Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) prevalence among children of 6 to 59 months remained within the acceptable threshold of below 5 percent only in CAR where it was 3 percent among South Sudanese refugees. The prevalence in Sudan (19 percent weighted), Ethiopia (13 percent weighted), Uganda (10 percent weighted) and Kenya (8 percent weighted) are still above the emergency thresholds. Prevalence of anemia among children aged 6 to 59 months is classified as high public health significance (meaning critical) in Kenya (58.5 percent weighted), Uganda (47 percent weighted), in Sudan (41 percent weighted) and Ethiopia (41 percent weighted), while the prevalence of anemia among non-pregnant women 15 to 49 years is classified as moderate public health significance in the same countries Ethiopia (30 percent weighted), Kenya (36 percent weighted), Sudan (34 percent weighted) and Uganda (31 percent weighted) above the acceptable standard of <20 percent.

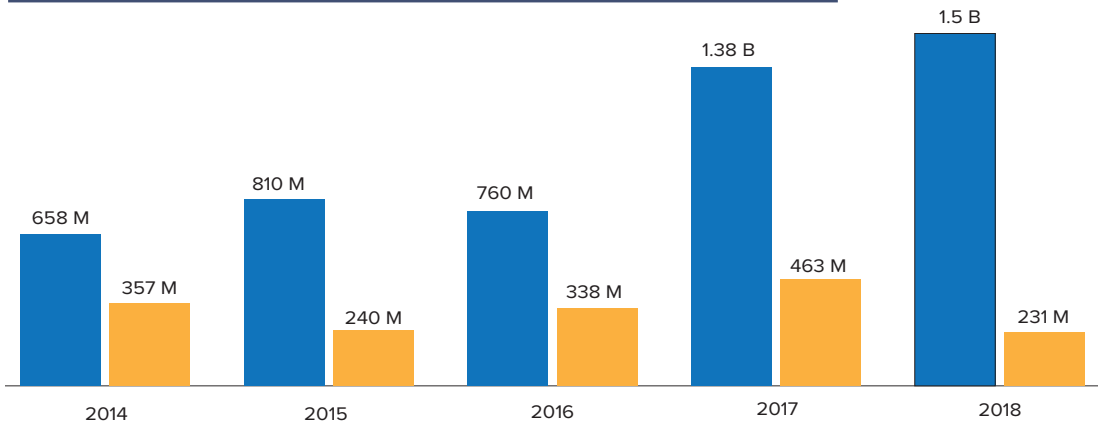
Key gaps and challenges related to underfunding include an insufficient number of health facilities relative to the population size, lack of professional health care workers, and limited capacity of referral facilities for provision of secondary and tertiary health care.

Livelihood and Environment: Livelihoods activities are aimed at promoting self-reliance of South Sudanese refugees in host countries, building resilience, and reducing over-reliance on humanitarian assistance. Most of the livelihoods response is focused on agriculture, with limited business development, micro credit and vocational skills training programmes, mainly due to inadequate funding. RRP partners have recognized the need for more evidence-based research related to livelihoods programming. Several studies have already taken place in Uganda. Economic opportunities for women remain a priority, while severely underfunded. RRP partners are advocating with the hosting Governments for the refugees to be able to work and realise their potential.

Environmental protection is a key issue for host communities and governments but there has been limited environmental activities in 2018 due to underfunding. Overreliance on firewood for cooking is a common problem in refugee settings and it leads to significant environmental degradation of the area (which in turn requires greater investment).

Shelter: Some 12 percent of South Sudanese refugees live in semi-permanent shelters in the region. The highest levels are in Kenya (99 percent), CAR (41 percent) and Ethiopia (38 percent). In 2018, RRP partners strived to provide relevant emergency support to new arrivals (e.g., in Uganda newly arrived refugees receive communal temporary shelter in transit/relocation centres, followed by a plot of land, NFI and emergency shelter kit) and to improve the living conditions of the refugees that arrived in the previous years. Shelter upgrades and repairs were limited due to insufficient funding. Access to adequate NFIs is 52 percent regionally, with 66 percent access in Uganda compared with 30 percent in DRC and Ethiopia.

RRRP FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS TRENDS FROM 2014 TO 2018



WASH: All countries in the region set a target of achieving 20 litres of water per person per day (l/p/d) in 2018. RRRP partners have achieved this in Kenya (23 l/p/d) and CAR (25 l/p/d) only, while Uganda and DRC achieved 15 l/p/d per day, Ethiopia 16 l/p/d, and Sudan 10 l/p/d. RRP partners are aiming at linking the water supply to sustainable sources such as solarized boreholes.

In addition, to build a peaceful coexistence where host communities live in proximity to refugee camps, they also have access to the supplied water. In Uganda the plan to switch from emergency water supply and water trucking to more sustainable sources was hampered by lack of funding.

100% of refugees in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda have access to an acceptable 450 grams per person per month (g/p/m) of soap. In CAR, 71 percent of households had access to sufficient soap. In Kenya refugees only have access to a reduced amount of 250g which poses risks to hygiene and sanitation conditions. Gaps remain in terms of latrine access for refugees. 87 percent of refugees in DRC have no access to latrines, as do 69 percent in Ethiopia, 60 percent in Uganda and 33 percent in Kenya.

Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF)

RRP partners, government, development actors and others worked to plan and implement the 2018 RRP response in line with the CRRF approach in the region. Two out of six governments in the region have formally rolled out CRRF: Uganda in March 2017 and Ethiopia in November 2017.

In Uganda, the CRRF seeks to advance Uganda's Settlement Transformative Agenda (STA), embedded into the National Development Plan II (2016-2021), including through the implementation of the humanitarian refugee response (emergencies and protracted situations) and development-oriented interventions like the Refugee and Host Populations Framework (ReHoPE), under United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF). In January 2018, the CRRF Steering Group adopted a roadmap, with milestones and priority interventions for refugee stakeholders between 2018 and 2020 bridging the gap between NDP II and NDP III. Creating entry points for non-traditional refugee responders in Uganda, the roadmap highlights the following priority focus areas: adaptation and standardization of refugee response and protection based on lessons learned; access to quality education for refugee and host communities; water delivery and infrastructure; environment and energy; health care; and livelihoods, resilience and self-reliance.

Ethiopia made nine pledges to comprehensively respond to refugee needs and is formulating a National Comprehensive Refugee Response Strategy (NCRRS). This approach combines wider support to host communities, fostering peaceful coexistence, and greater inclusion of refugees in national development plans. The government of Ethiopia has prepared a roadmap detailing the implementation of each pledge, outlining key opportunities and partnerships that must be put in place, and is incorporating some of the pledges into a revised Refugee Proclamation due to be in force in the second half of 2018. Additional legislative reforms to Proclamation 760/2012 permitting civil documentation for refugees was passed in July 2017, and the first birth certificates for refugees were issued in October 2017.

While CAR, DRC and Sudan are yet to fully operationalize the CRRF, the response and strategy of the RRP partners is in line with CRRF pillars. Three out of the six asylum countries, namely Ethiopia, Uganda and Kenya, have adhered to the CRRF.

RRRP partners are working with the governments to promote the inclusion of refugees in the national systems and are able to access basic services alongside host communities. Partnerships with local authorities, civil society and private sector are key in bridging the gap between humanitarian response and development, and especially in building the self-reliance and resilience of both refugee and host communities. Best practices in this regard have been developed in Kakuma and Kalobeyei settlement and can be replicated in the other five response countries.

REGIONAL COORDINATION

The 2018 South Sudan Regional RRP brings together 70 partners across the six countries of asylum. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees appointed Arnauld Akodjenou as the Regional Refugee Coordinator (RRC) for the South Sudan situation to work with UNHCR Representatives in CAR, the DRC, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda to ensure an overarching vision and coherent inter-agency engagement across the region. In so doing the RRC works at the regional level to facilitate strategic, planning, and operational synergies and collaboration with Governmental, UN system, Non-Governmental Organizations, donors, civil society partners, private sector, and other stakeholders.

At the country level, the Refugee Coordination Model remains the main tool to coordinate the refugee response. The South Sudan RRRP 2018 which is the main inter-agency advocacy and fundraising document was launched in Nairobi by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr. Filippo Grandi, together with OCHA's Emergency Relief Coordinator Mark Lowcock. Since it's the RRRP launch the RRC has worked tirelessly to support reporting officers in the field through: information management training to ensure accurate reporting; support to public information officers to ensure coherence on the South Sudan narrative particularly with respect to gaps created by underfunding; media engagements to make the South Sudan situation more visible particularly within the leadership in donor countries; resource mobilization missions which included engaging donors to increase funds disbursed for the situation; and promoting the peaceful co-existence between refugees and host communities through numerous field missions and the engagement of host and refugee community to better understand and respond to their needs.

A complete list of the 70 partners involved in the 2018 South Sudan Regional RRP is provided on the following page.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

South Sudan Situation Data Portal - <https://data.unhcr.org/southsudan>

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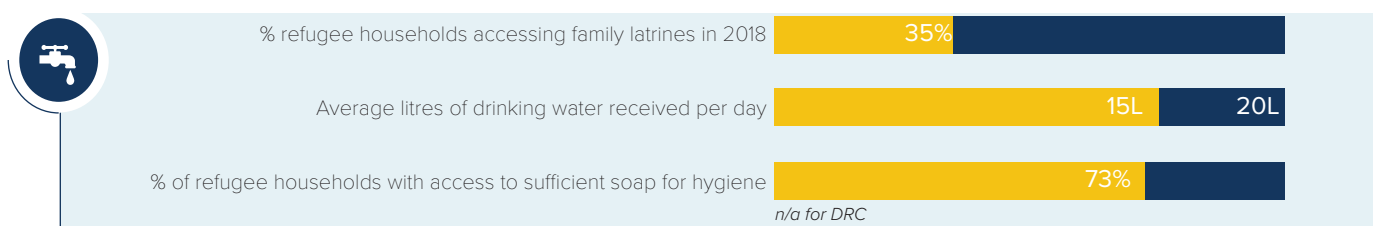
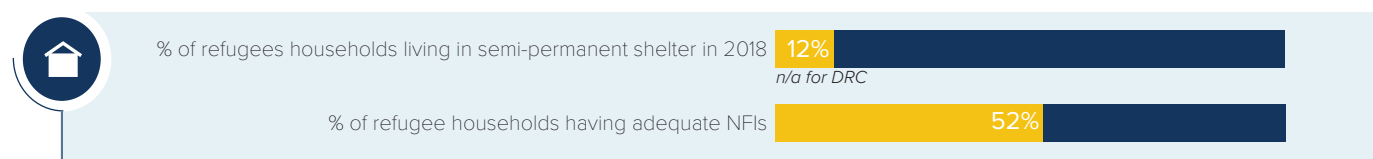
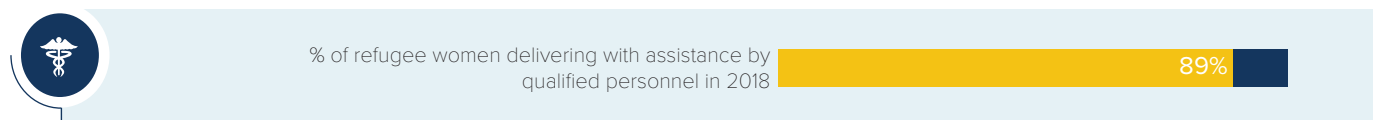
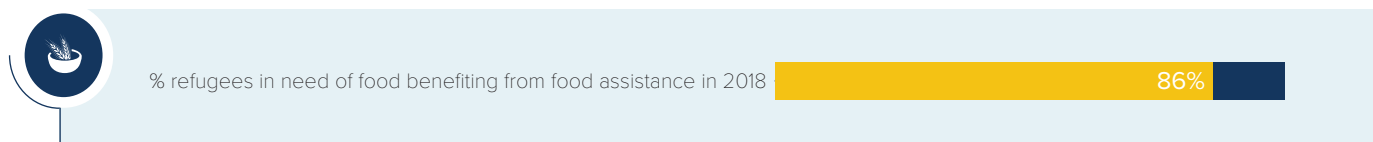
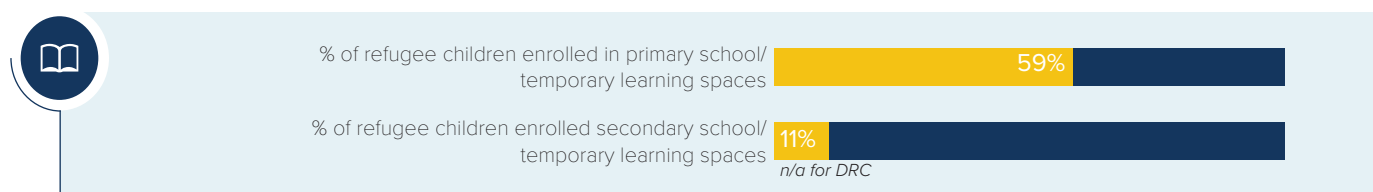
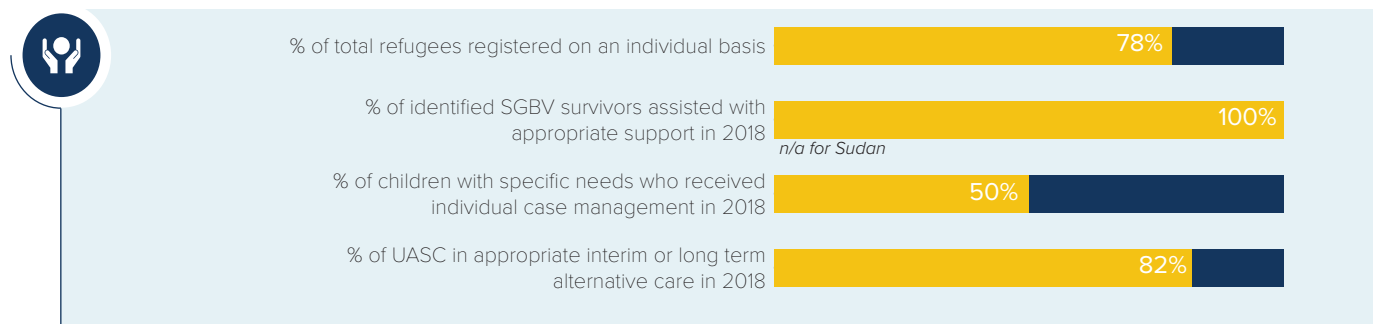
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REGIONAL RRP PARTNERS

- Action Against Hunger
- Adventist Development and Relief Agency
- Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development
- Almanar
- American Refugee Committee
- ASSIST
- Association for Aid and Relief Japan
- AVSI Foundation
- CARE International
- Caritas
- Catholic Relief Services
- Concern WorldWide
- Cooperazione e Sviluppo
- Cooperazione internazionale
- Cordaid
- Danish Church Aid
- Danish Refugee Council
- El Ruhama
- Finn Church Aid
- Food and Agriculture Organisation
- Food For the Hungry
- Friends of Peace & Development Organization
- Global Aid Hand
- GOAL
- Handicap International
- HelpAge International
- International Aid Services
- International Medical Corps
- International Organisation for Migration
- International Rescue Committee
- Islamic Relief
- IsraAID Uganda
- Jesuit Refugee Services
- Kenya Red Cross Society
- Lutheran World Federation
- Malteser International
- Maternity Foundation
- Medical Teams International
- Mercy Corps
- Mothers And Children Multisectoral Development Organization
- NADA Elazhar Organization for Disaster Prevention and Sustainable Development
- National Council of Churches of Kenya
- Norwegian Church Aid
- Norwegian Refugee Council
- Worldwide Council
- OXFAM
- Partner for Refugee Service
- Peace Winds Japan
- Plan International
- Qatar Red Crescent
- Refugee Consortium of Kenya
- Rehabilitation and Development Organization
- Right to Play
- Samaritan's Purse
- Save the Children International
- Sudanese Help Organization
- Swiss Contact
- Transcultural Psychosocial Organisation
- Tutapona
- Uganda Red Cross Society
- UN Women
- United Methodist Committee on Relief
- United Nations Children's Fund
- United Nations Development Programme
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- United Nations Population Fund
- War Child Canada
- Water Mission Uganda
- Windle Trust International
- Welyhungerhilfe
- World Food Programme
- World Health Organisation
- World Vision International
- ZOA International

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