



OPM-UNHCR VERIFICATION EXERCISE: Update

HIGHLIGHTS

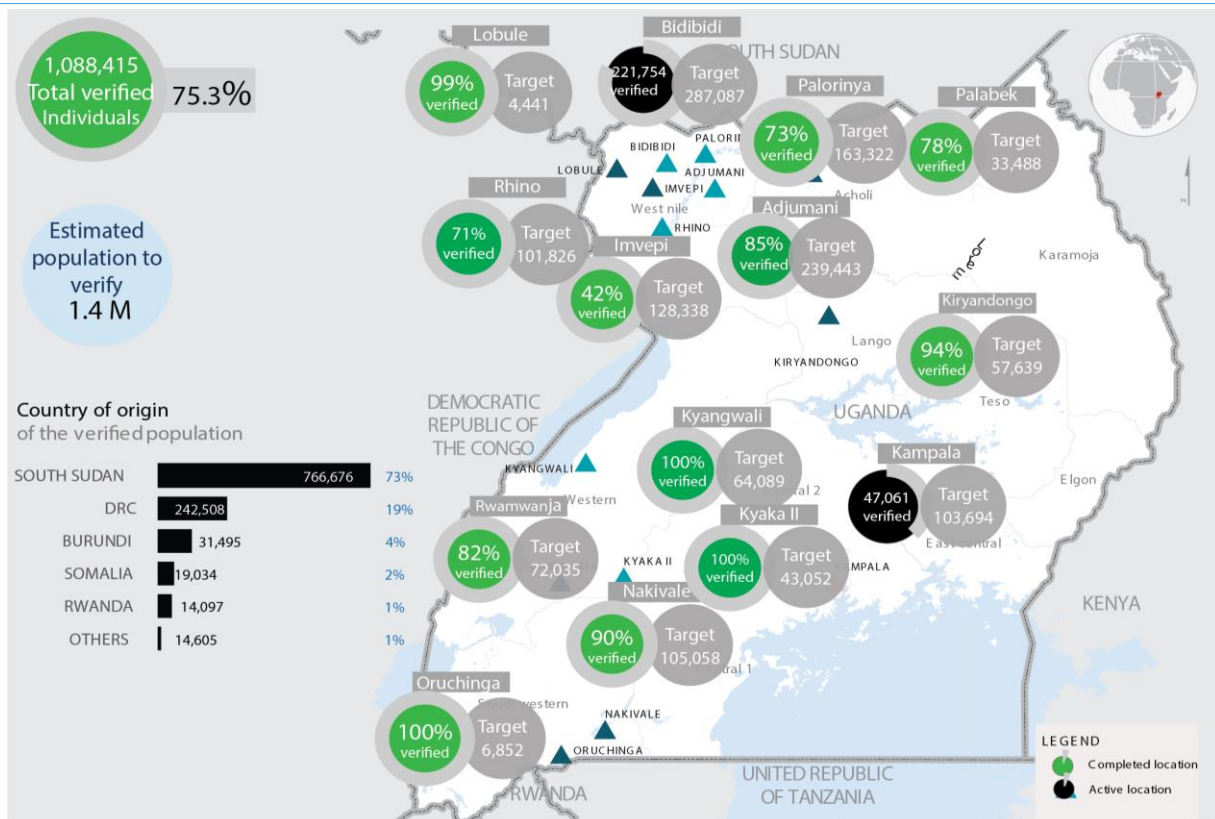
The ongoing verification of refugees in Uganda that started on **1st March 2018**, verified a total of **17,428** individuals last week bringing the total as of 20th October 2018 to **1,088,415**. This represents **75.3%** of the estimated target of 1.4 million registered refugees. The highest daily output was **5,374** individuals verified in a single day last week.

The verification exercise was concluded in Adjumani on Tuesday 16th October with a total of 203,392 individuals verified. This represents 85% of the target population of 239,443 individuals. The exercise that started on 23rd April covered all Adjumani settlements. For the remainder of the week, the team carried out mobile verification in protection houses, hospitals and prisons.

In Bidibidi, verification started in the last site in the settlement – Zone 1, FDP 3. A high turnout was noted on the first day but then started to decrease an indication that the exercise would be concluded soon. OPM and UNHCR agreed to intensify the mobilization in the last villages and Monday the final day for verification in Bidibidi will be decided. So far, 77% of the target population has been verified.

In Kampala, the daily turnout continues to be very low despite additional efforts on mobilization. The verification site remained open on Saturday to allow students and others to be verified over the weekend. However, over the period of six days, only 1,583 individuals were verified, majority being Congolese. In light of the low attendance, the verification team has operated at reduced capacity and the final day has been agreed by OPM-UNHCR as Wednesday 24th October. Meanwhile, even new arrivals are admitted for verification but they will not be counted against the verification results but will be included in the overall active population figure.

KEY FIGURES



STAFFING

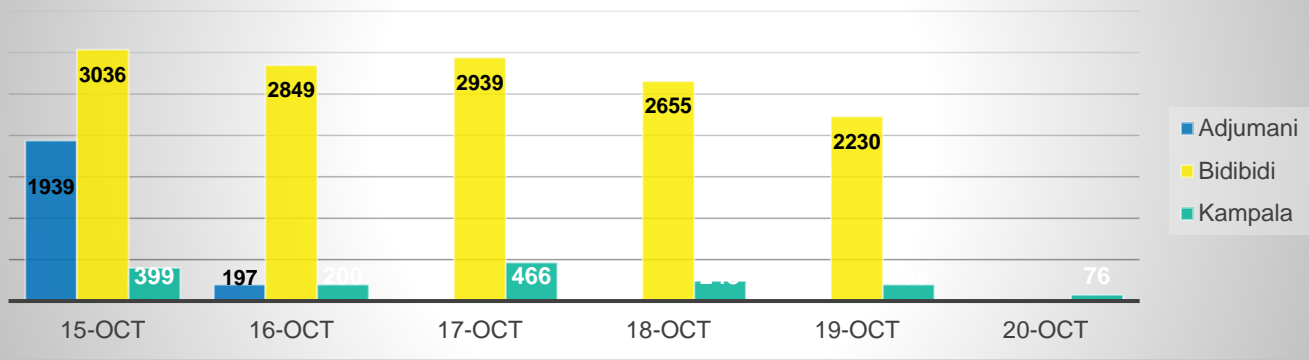
360+ staff = **6** teams of **60+** staff each (**96%** national staff)
65+ Verification sites

Daily Average
All Teams
3,486
Reporting period

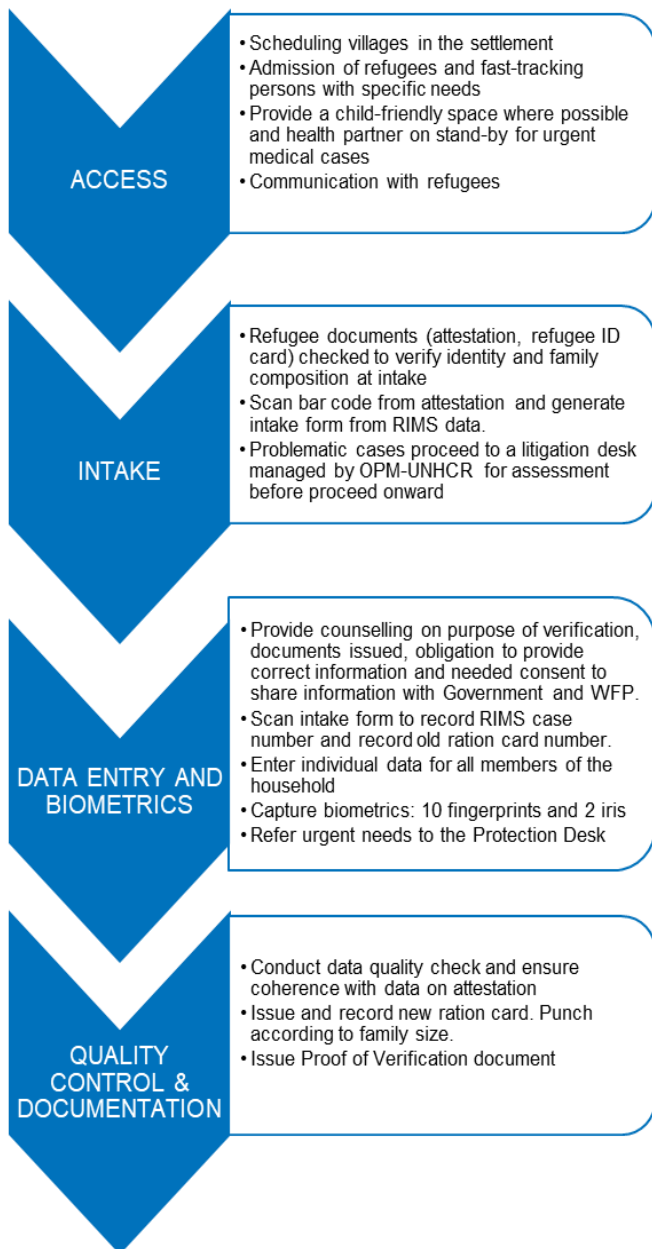
Highest
Daily Verified
5,374
Reporting period



Verification Exercise Daily Trends



VERIFICATION EXERCISE: PROCESS FLOW CHART



CHALLENGES

With the verification exercise coming to the end, fraud attempts by refugees have been on the rise and mitigation measures were strengthened. In Bidibidi alone last week, the numbers are quite staggering with 572 individuals trying to impersonate registered refugees. Further, 393 nationals attempted to be verified and 67 recyclers from Rhino and Adjumani were detected. In addition to 1,320 family reunion requests and 402 baby addition requests were denied as family links to the registered household could not be established. In Kampala, cases of impersonators and recyclers are few but presentation of fraudulent documents is common.

UPCOMING MILESTONES

With the completion of the verification in Adjumani, only two more teams remain operational out of the original six teams. By next week, it is expected that the verification exercise that started on the 1st of March 2018 will be concluded and the official results will be announced by OPM and UNHCR shortly after.

In the upcoming weeks, continuous registration with the use of proGres V4 and BIMS will start in Kiryandongo, Palorinya and Kampala. OPM staff will be trained and will receive equipment and on-site support. Connectivity upgrade is the biggest challenge due to its high cost.

Food and cash distribution with biometric verification of beneficiaries using GDT and BIMS was launched in Kyangwali last week and Kyaka will follow next week. The backlog for the registration of new arrivals is the main challenge in these 2 locations; UNHCR is supporting OPM with 10 staff, in addition to the 15 staff deployed two months ago, to ensure all beneficiaries have access to assistance.