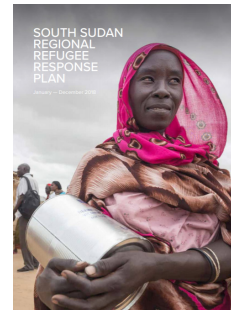


# SOUTH SUDAN - Regional RRP

## 2018 End Year Report

January - December 2018



### 2018 KEY FIGURES

**2.27M**

SOUTH SUDANESE REFUGEES  
(DEC 2018)

**US\$ 1.38B**

REQUIREMENTS IN 2018

**50%**

FUNDING RECEIVED (DEC  
2018)

**70**

RRRP PARTNERS INVOLVED

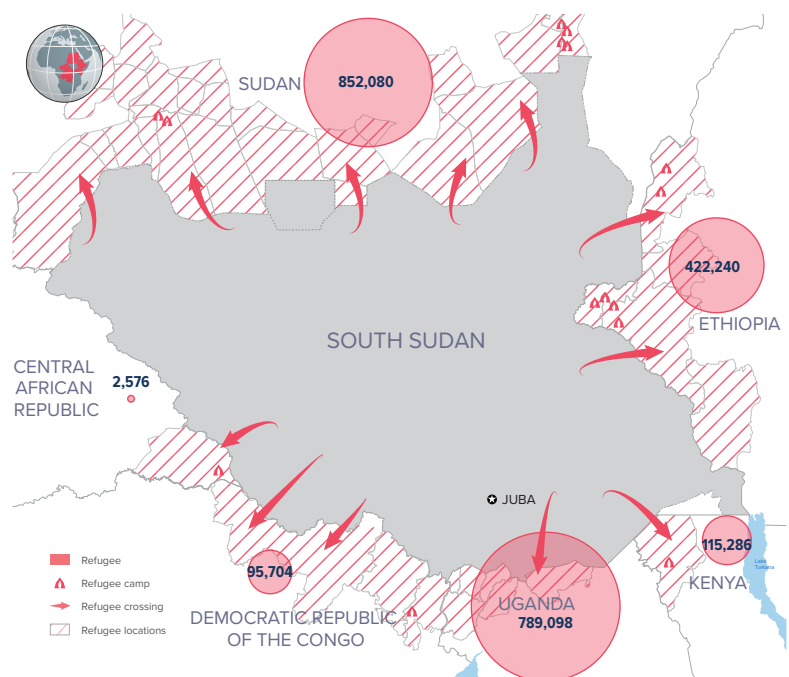
### REGIONAL RRP OVERVIEW

With 2018 marking the fifth year of the South Sudanese refugee response, neighbouring countries continued to generously host over 2.27 million South Sudanese refugees, and humanitarian agencies provided ongoing support for the refugees' live-saving and resilience needs. The 2018 South Sudan Regional Refugee Response plan brought together 70 partners requesting a total of USD 1.38 billion across the six main asylum countries: Central African Republic (CAR), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda. By the end of 2018, 50 per cent of the required funding had been received.

Across the region, RRP partners achieved a number of tangible results for South Sudanese refugees, including: the provision of food assistance to 1.23 million people, assisted deliveries for 23,000 South Sudanese mothers, support and care provided to 100 per cent of identified survivors of sexual and gender-based violence and the provision of core relief items for 165,000 refugee families.

Significant gains were also made in refugee inclusion by host governments. In Uganda, for example, the Ministry of Education and Sports, Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Water and Environment each initiated sector response plans to include refugees into the current (development) national sector plans. In Ethiopia, the revised Refugee Proclamation, which allows refugees to obtain work permits, access primary education, legally register births and marriages and access national financial services, was unanimously passed by the Council of Ministers in June 2018 and adopted by Parliament in the early weeks of 2019.

However, the situation for many South Sudanese refugees remained particularly challenging in 2018. Some 300,000 refugees who fled in 2013 and 2014 have now been displaced for over four years; at the same time, a further 107,000 new refugees fled South Sudan in 2018. In Sudan, the country now hosting the most South Sudanese refugees, an estimated 90 per cent of refugee families live below the poverty line. Across the region, prolonged displacement and chronic funding shortages have shocking long-term consequences for vulnerable South Sudanese girls and boys, 31 per cent of whom remain out of primary school and over 54,000 who remain separated from their families. In Uganda, there are simply not enough funds to hire enough protection caseworkers, with the child-to-caseworker ratio as a staggering 150:1, far beyond the international standard of 25:1. Just 13.5 per cent of refugee families live in semi-permanent shelter and in many locations, refugees struggle to access the daily minimum 20 litres of water per person, with average supply at 11 L per person per day in Sudan, 17 L in Ethiopia and 17.7 L in Kenya. The ability of humanitarian actors to even access refugee families remained a major challenge in CAR, DRC and Sudan, mostly due to the volatile security situation, presence of armed groups, bad road and weather conditions.



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## 2018 REFUGEE POPULATION TRENDS

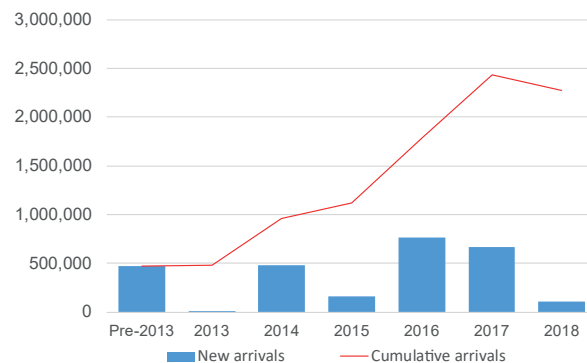
In June 2018, the refugee influx remained lower than initially anticipated, prompting RRP partners to revise downwards the planning figures for the number of new refugees expected to arrive from South Sudan to Uganda and Sudan. The regional planning figure by year-end 2018 was revised down from initial 3.14 million people to 2.68 million. The financial requirements were also revised downward from USD 1.5 billion to USD 1.38 billion.

As of 31 December 2018, there were 2,276,984 South Sudanese refugees in the six main refugee hosting countries. This figure is lower than originally anticipated, due to lower rates of arrivals and refugee verifications, however it continues to represent the largest refugee situation on the African continent.

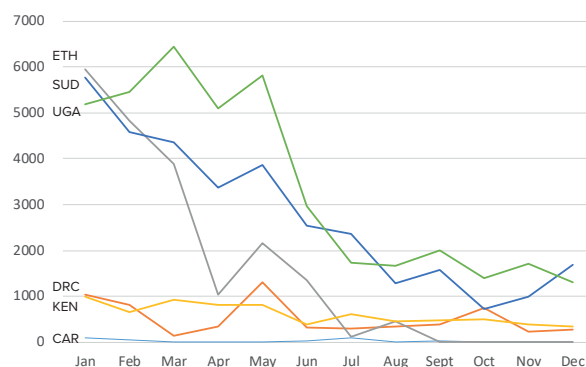
Over 107,000 new refugees fled South Sudan in 2018, compared to over 665,000 in 2017, with an average of approximately 8,900 arrivals per month. The majority (78 per cent) arrived in the first half of the year. As in 2017, Uganda and Sudan received the most arrivals, at approximately 41,000 and 33,000 respectively, followed by Ethiopia (25,000), Kenya (6,800), the DRC (5,900) and CAR (300).

In March 2018, the Government of Uganda and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) jointly launched a biometric verification of all refugees, to address growing concerns about the accuracy and reliability of refugee data. As a result, the population of South Sudanese refugees in Uganda was revised downward to 785,000 in October 2018.

## ANNUAL NEW ARRIVAL TRENDS SINCE 2013



## MONTHLY ARRIVALS IN 2018



## THE SITUATION INSIDE SOUTH SUDAN

Instability in South Sudan in 2018 contributed to the continued internal displacement and outflow of refugees, and further exacerbated the humanitarian situation. By the end of 2018, there were 1.97 million IDPs, including some 194,916 civilians seeking safety in six protection of civilians sites located on United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) bases. Some seven million people required humanitarian or protection assistance, with years of conflict disrupting or destroying people's livelihoods and extreme food insecurity continuing across the lean season. Basic services, including health facilities and schools, are severely lacking due to the conflict and underdevelopment, with each primary health centre serving an average of 50,000 people and an estimated 2.2 million children out of school (Source: OCHA).

There were promising signs towards peace in South Sudan in the latter half of 2018, with the cessation of hostilities and power-sharing agreement signed in August, and the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS) signed by parties to the conflict in September in Addis Ababa. There was a marked reduction in violent conflict and displacement in the period following the signing of the R-ARCSS, with exceptions in the Equatoria region.

## 2018 TIMELINE OF KEY EVENTS IN SOUTH SUDAN AND COUNTRIES OF ASYLUM

**January 2018:** The highest monthly arrivals of South Sudanese refugees recorded in 2018, with over 19,000 fleeing to neighbouring countries

**March 2018:** The country-wide biometric verification of refugees was launched in Uganda and biometric registration of refugees began in Ethiopia

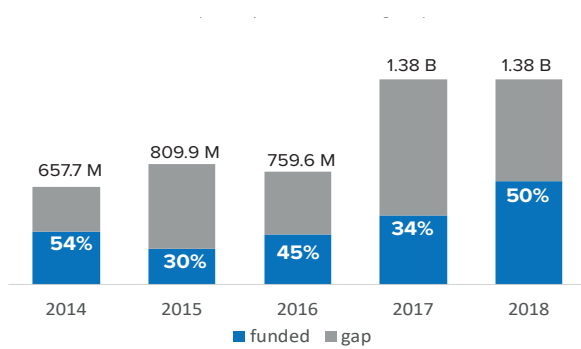
**June 2018:** In Ethiopia, the Refugee Proclamation was unanimously passed by the Council of Ministers

**June 2018:** Mid-year funding of the 2018 RRP stood at 15 per cent

**February 2018:** IPC analysis estimated 6.3 million people, or 57 per cent of the population of South Sudan, would be severely food insecure from February to April 2018 (OCHA). South Sudan declares an end to the cholera epidemic that began in 2016

**May 2018:** The Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) led High Level Revitalisation Forum Phase II was held in Ethiopia, with participation from nine South Sudanese refugee representatives from the countries of asylum

## RRP FUNDING TRENDS



The 2018 South Sudan Regional RRP was 50 per cent funded by 31 December, with a total USD 694.6 million received to meet South Sudanese refugees' humanitarian and resilience needs. RRP partners would like to thank the many donors who contributed in 2018, resulting in the highest dollar value funded for South Sudanese refugees since the crisis began in late 2013, and the second highest percentage funding level since 2014, when the RRP was 54 per cent funded.

However, the remaining USD 684.8 million funding gap in 2018 had significant and tangible consequences for South Sudanese refugees, particularly as RRP partners struggled to stabilize existing programmes and meet minimum standards, let alone invest in long-term and more sustainable interventions.

## 2018 ACHIEVEMENTS AND GAPS

### Protection

Refugee registration continued in 2018, aiming at ensuring basic protection against arbitrary arrest, forcible recruitment, detention and refoulement, identification of persons with specific protection needs and referrals to appropriate specialised services. By December 2018, 76 per cent of South Sudanese refugees are registered on an individual basis, down slightly from 78 per cent in June, with 100 per cent are registered on individual basis in CAR, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda, but only 45 per cent in Sudan and 44 per cent in DRC. The roll out of the Biometric identity Management System (BIMS) was a priority for the region.

RRP partners worked with host Governments to promote the issuance of the documentation to refugees, including refugee IDs, birth certificates etc. as the documentation provides refugees with protection and enables them to exercise basic rights, i.e. to education, health care, employment.

All 100 percent of the 3,923 reported SGBV survivors received appropriate support, which included psychosocial, legal, medical and safety assistance. However, lack of reporting remains a challenge across the region. Community based awareness-raising and identification mechanisms (*continued on next page*)

### A CHILDREN'S CATASTROPHE

Regionally, over 1.4 million South Sudanese refugees are children, representing 65 per cent of the refugee population. Protecting these children and responding to their basic needs remained a critical priority for RRP partners in 2018. By the end of December 2018, there were close to 63,000 children with specific protection needs, of which 63 per cent received appropriate protection assistance. This included a remaining 54,000 unaccompanied and separated children, of whom 72 per cent were in suitable interim or long-term alternative care.

Some 69 per cent of registered South Sudanese primary school children were enrolled in primary education by the end of 2018, an increase from 59 per cent in June 2018, however this does not include the majority of refugee children in Sudan, where 65 per cent of refugee children are estimated to be out of school, most living in out-of-camp settlements, including Khartoum's 'open areas'.

At the same time, many South Sudanese refugee children went to bed hungry in 2018. The prevalence of Global Acute Malnutrition among children six months to five years old was 15.4 per cent in Sudan, 13 per cent in Ethiopia, 10 per cent in Uganda and 9 per cent in Kenya. The prevalence of anaemia among the same age group was consider of critical public health significance in Kenya (56 per cent), Uganda (48 per cent), Sudan (44 per cent) and Ethiopia (40.5 per cent), with serious implications for these children's growth and mental development.

#### July 2018:

Revision of the 2018 RRP in light of lower than anticipated new arrivals

#### September 2018:

In Uganda, the Ministry of Education and Sports launched the Education Response Plan for Refugees and Host Communities to ensure refugee student inclusion in national systems

#### October 2018:

Results of the biometric verification in Uganda released

#### December 2018:

In Kenya, the Kalobeyei Integrated Social & Economic Development Programme (KISEDIP) was launched in Kalobeyei settlement to improve socio-economic conditions for refugees and host communities.

**August 2018:** The cessation of hostilities and power-sharing agreement was signed by all parties to the conflict.

**September 2018:** The Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan was signed in Addis Ababa by the main parties to the conflict.

**November 2018:** The lowest monthly arrivals recorded in 2018, with some 3,300 fleeing into neighbouring countries

**December 2018:** Year-end funding of the 2018 RRP reached 50 per cent

are being promoted among refugee communities. In Kenya, for example, the partners have rolled new innovative tools that led to the increase in the identification of SGBV incidents. Nevertheless, funding constraints limit much of the SGBV programming to response activities rather than prevention.

## **Education**

While South Sudanese refugee children have the right to access government-provided education in all RRP countries, a significant number remain out of school and unable to access the education they deserve. The primary school enrollment rate of registered refugee children is 69 percent at the regional level (the lowest: 44 per cent in DRC and highest: 81 per cent in Kenya), however an estimate 65 per cent of children, many who are not yet registered, are out of school in Sudan. The regional secondary school enrollment rate is extremely low at 13 per cent, frustrating the efforts of many bright, young South Sudanese youth who desperately want an education. South Sudanese refugee girls are significantly under-represented in secondary schooling.

In 2018, RRP partners supported the construction of temporary schools, teacher capacity development, incentives for teachers to build the capacity of the existing structures and ensure access to education for both refugee and host community children. Student-to-teacher ratio remains above the standard in most of the countries, especially in Kenya (1:103) and Uganda (1:154).

In Uganda, the Ministry of Education and Sports and key education partners launched the Education Response Plan for Refugees and Host Communities in Uganda (ERP), a four-year plan (2018-2021) aiming at providing access to and quality of education for more than 567,000 refugee and host community children. In countries like Kenya and Sudan, refugee children took part in the national examinations, which shows an increasing level of integration. At the same time, South Sudanese children in the DRC and CAR face language barriers, with preparatory French language classes suspended due to insufficient funding.

## **Food**

Some 70 per cent of South Sudanese in need of food received food assistance in 2018. However, due to underfunding, most of the operations provided reduced food rations, as low as 1,151Kcal per person per day (55 per cent of the recommended 2,100Kcal) at times in some locations in Sudan. Where possible and appropriate, RRP partners worked to monetize food assistance (e.g. cash transfers in the DRC) and provide the opportunity for refugee families to grow some of their own food (e.g. backyard gardens in Ethiopia and Kalobeyei in Kenya, plots in Uganda), encouraging greater choice and reduced reliance on humanitarian aid. However, limited and/or unfertile land, as well as lack of funding for seeds and tools constrained efforts in most locations. Availability of some food items (i.e. pulses, oil and salt in Sudan; salt, corn and flour in CAR; corn soya blend in Kenya) was limited at different times of the year, which further constrained the nutritious diversity of the supplied food.

Health and Nutrition: Across the region, 86 per cent of pregnant South Sudanese refugee women gave birth with assistance from qualified personnel (the lowest: 63 per cent in Sudan and highest: 96 per cent in Ethiopia). South Sudanese refugees continued to access primary health care, with many services also accessible by host community members. Almost 607,000 health consultations were provided in health clinics in refugee camps and large out-of-camp settlements in Sudan, including an estimated 16 per cent of consultations provided to host communities. In Uganda, 1,568,445 consultations were provided, with 22 per cent for the host community.

Response and prevention for HIV/AIDS remained a priority for RRP partners in all countries of the region, however activities were limited, particularly with regard to testing and prevention of mother-to-child transmission.

In response to cholera, meningitis and hemorrhagic fever outbreaks in South Sudan in 2018, RRP partners in Uganda deployed resources to strengthen traditional and community-based disease surveillance systems and all new arrivals received a screening package, including vaccination, nutrition assessment, deworming, vitamin A administration and screening for chronic diseases. During the reporting period, no outbreak of notifiable diseases was reported among South Sudanese refugees in Uganda.

Key gaps and challenges across the region included an insufficient number of health facilities relative to the population size, lack of professional health care workers, as well as limited capacity of referral facilities for provision of secondary and tertiary health care.

## **Livelihood and Environment**

Many South Sudanese refugees wish to be self-reliant and partners expanded planned livelihood activities in the 2018 RRP. Most of the livelihoods response focused on agriculture, with some support for business development, micro credit and vocational skills training programmes. In the DRC, over 2,000 households received farming tools and seedlings. Over 4,300 refugees in Kenya and approximately 44,000 refugees in Sudan received some form of livelihood assistance. In Ethiopia, RRP partners worked to improve linkages with local authority plans and policies and undertook labour market assessments to facilitate gainful employment of refugees over the longer term. However, lack of funding continued to hamper the livelihoods response, with life-saving interventions and basic services often prioritized over livelihood activities.

Environmental protection remains a key issue for host communities and governments, particularly as overreliance on firewood for cooking leads to significant environmental degradation in refugee hosting areas. In an effort to address this, over 13,000 refugee families received energy saving stoves in 2018.

## Shelter

By the end of 2018, 13.5 per cent of South Sudanese refugees lived in semi-permanent shelter, up from 12 per cent in June. The highest rates of semi-permanent shelter coverage are in Kenya (99 per cent), the DRC (49 per cent) and Ethiopia (44 per cent). In 2018, RRP partners aimed at providing the relevant emergency support to the new arrivals (i.e. in Uganda newly arrived refugees received communal temporary shelter in transit/relocation centres and then a plot of land, NFI and emergency shelter kits) and improving the living conditions of the refugees that arrived in the previous years. Shelter upgrades and repairs were limited mostly due to the insufficient funding. Regionally, 49 per cent of refugee households had access to adequate NFIs, with 64 per cent access in Uganda, 54 per cent in Ethiopia and 42 per cent in Sudan (among registered refugees).

## WASH

South Sudanese refugees' access to clean water and adequate sanitation varied across the region. All hosting countries set a target of an average 20 litres of water per person per day in 2018. RRP partners achieved this in Uganda (21.2 L) while the standard was not met in DRC (18.6 L), Kenya (17.7), Ethiopia (17 L) and Sudan (11.3 L). However, progress was made in linking the water supply to sustainable sources, such as solarized boreholes, and in various locations, host communities also received access to supplied water in efforts to enhance peaceful coexistence.

Over 133,000 South Sudanese households gained access to family latrines in 2018. Nonetheless, an estimated 47 per cent of registered households continue to survive without any latrine access.

South Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia are the only ones to have access to an acceptable 450 grams per person per month (g/p/m) of soap. In Kenya refugees only have access to a reduced amount of 250g which poses risks to hygiene and sanitation conditions. In DRC, an estimated 47 per cent received adequate soap.

## 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, while Kenya has also recently become a CRRF country.

RRP partners worked with the Governments to promote the inclusion of refugees in the national systems and ensure access basic services alongside the host communities. Partnerships with local authorities, civil society and private sector were further developed in 2018 to bridge the gap between the humanitarian response and development, with a particular focus on building the self-reliance and resilience of both refugee and host communities.

## REGIONAL COORDINATION

The 2018 South Sudan Regional RRP brought together 70 partners across the six countries of asylum, including UN agencies, international NGOs and national NGO partners. At the country level, the Refugee Coordination Model remained the main tool to coordinate the refugee response, with various sector working groups and coordination forums adapted to the specific country contexts. Regionally, the response was coordinated by the Regional Refugee Coordinator (RRC), Arnauld Akodjenou, who was appointed by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to ensure an overarching vision and coherent inter-agency engagement across the region.

The 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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## 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
- 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