

Highlights

- The number of South Sudanese refugees who have crossed into Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda increased to 202,368.
- The Government of Sudan gave UNHCR permission to visit White Nile State, currently hosting nearly 30,000 South Sudanese. Distribution of relief items to resume.
- Due to the ongoing fighting and insecurity in Upper Nile state, more than 7,000 persons arrived in Sudan in only a week.
- South Sudanese asylum seekers continue to arrive in the Gambella Region in Ethiopia (over 65,000), 95% of new arrivals comprise women and children.



A government official showed refugees to the places where they will set up their shelters in Adjumani District, Uganda. ©UNHCR/F.Noy

- A total of 74,472 South Sudanese refugees have arrived in Uganda (Adjumani, Arua and Kiryandongo) since the influx began on 16 December.
- Kakuma camp in Kenya has now surpassed its capacity threshold and new land is needed urgently.

234,304

Refugees in South Sudan

204,469

South Sudanese refugees

705,800

(Including 75,000 in UN Protection of Civilians sites)

IDPs since 15 Dec. 2013

POPULATIONS OF CONCERN

SOUTH SUDAN

Refugees from	
Central African Republic	1,634
Ethiopia	6,052
DRC	14,064
Sudan	212,554
Total refugees	234,304
IDPs	705,800

SOUTH SUDANESE REFUGEES

(AS OF 07 MARCH)

Ethiopia	65,389
Kenya	22,597
Sudan	42,011 ¹
Uganda	74,472
Total	204,469

For more information please visit: <http://data.unhcr.org/SouthSudan/regional.php>

¹ This figure does not include new arrivals in Abyei PCA Box.

South Sudan

POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

Despite the signing of the 23 January cessation of hostilities, regular fighting continued between government forces and SPLA In Opposition (I/O) in various parts of the country, most notably Unity State (South Eastern) and Upper Nile around Malakal and towards Palloch. Fighting has affected other areas including Warrap State where there were reported attacks, including in the context of inter-communal cattle raiding (Nuer/Dinka). In Abyei clashes between Dinka and Misseriya continued, reportedly with the use of heavy weapons. During the most recent clash in Maker on 1 March, 15 were reported injured and 1 killed. The Market in Abyei town is reported empty.

- FAO is warning that disruptions in livelihood and food production could lead to famine conditions in several conflict-affected areas.
- In the main military barracks in Juba, five soldiers were killed in an hours-long shoot out over a pay dispute.
- A high-level mission comprising UNMISS, UNICEF, WHO and NRC representatives travelled to Bor, Jonglei State on 27 February. They visited mass graves and met with IDP representatives in the UNMISS Protection of Civilians area. The key demand from IDPs community leaders was for relocation to another country.

IDPs

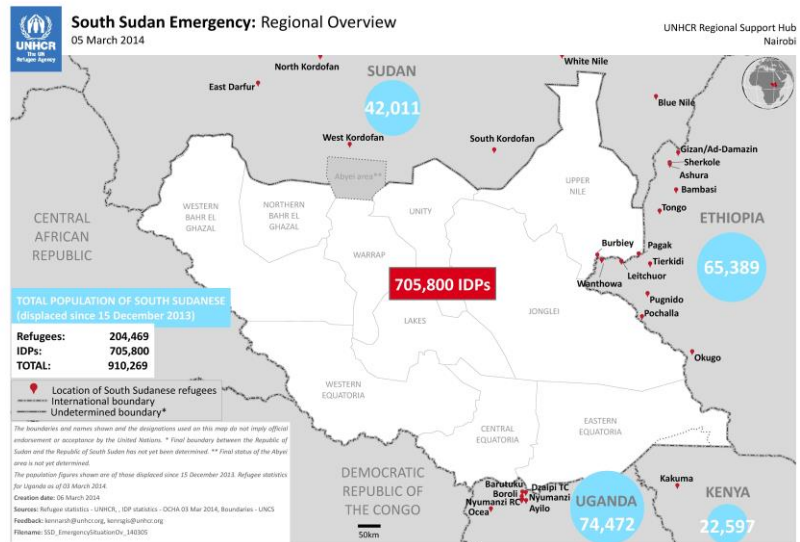
According to UN OCHA, there remain over 705,800 IDPs including some 75,000 still in 8 UN bases. IDP estimates could be revised downwards because of increased access to the displaced population for the verification of estimated numbers. UNMISS escorted people from Malakal town who wished to relocate to the UNMISS guarded protection of civilian (PoC) site. Additional movements were postponed owing to deteriorating security conditions. UNHCR conducted a mission to Torit to, inter alia, discuss with State officials concerns related to the organization of voluntary movements of IDPs from Nimule to Torit. Meanwhile, an inter-state meeting was held on 1 March between government officials from Jonglei and Eastern Equatoria State to discuss the matter. No conclusions have been reached.

OVERALL HUMANITARIAN COORDINATION

In the inter-agency relief effort, under the overall coordination of the Humanitarian Coordinator, UNHCR leads the Protection Cluster, co-leads with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster and provides support to the Shelter/Non-Food Items (NFI) Cluster.

PROTECTION, CCCM AND SHELTER/NFIs

- The Protection Cluster and UNHCR continue to discuss with UNMISS and others on finding solutions for IDPs and the decongestion of the UN Bases. Protection actors emphasize the need for expansion of the UN House Protection of Civilians Area to assist in the decongestion of UNMISS Topping. The Government has signed an agreement allowing the expansion of the UN House protection of civilian area which will contribute to decongest the site and improve conditions before the start of the rainy season.



REFUGEES

- UNHCR, together with the Commission for Refugees Affairs started to fly Ethiopian refugees from the UNMISS Malakal protection of civilians area to Juba for onward voluntary repatriation. The entire movement was not completed due to security constraints, but is expected to finish as soon as security conditions allow.
- In Unity state, the number of voluntary movements from Yida to Ajoung Thok increased with over 400 refugees relocating. New arrivals in Unity state continued to be modest with only 122 during the reporting period.

SHELTER, WASH AND NUTRITION

- In Doro, a two week food ration was distributed which would take the refugees until the end of February. If conditions do not improve, however, that food can be distributed in March.
- Soap making has been one of the key activities to implement. Also Relief International (RI) will increase the amount of money per beneficiary. Lack of soap for hygiene program in Maban camps caused access and security limitations is a major gap.
- Household visit in Doro to trace the severe acute malnutrition (SAM) cases with UNICEF and MSFB Hygiene promoters. All cases visited were released from stabilization centres. They are currently being treated at Outpatient Therapeutic Programme (OTP). The mothers were informed about best food practices and reminded that the severe malnutrition status of their children was due to food imbalance, early weaning and other inadequate food practices.
- Lack of shelter in Maban camps was observed due to lack of access and limitation by security concerns.
- Provision of health services in Yida is on-going while the main morbidities reported were Acute Respiratory Infection-ARTI, Acute Diarrhea, Urinary tract Infections, malaria and skin infections and trauma/wounds/burns. In general, disease trend remains within the seasonal expectations (with the exception of current measles outbreak).

Ethiopia

More than 65,000 South Sudanese refugees have arrived since 15 December through six different border entry points, but mostly through Pagak and Akobo Tergol. New arrivals report that men are prevented from leaving South Sudan and forced to join the fighting, which would explain the fact that the majority of new arrivals are women and children (95%), with children making up 70% of this group.

- New arrivals are relocated from the border entry points Pagak and Akobo to Leitchuor Camp, by boat and bus with support from IOM for transport. However, with a population of over 19,000 people, Leitchuor is fast reaching its capacity of 20,000 people.
- To date, Pugnido camp is being extended and three camps have been opened: Okugo in December 2013, Leitchuor in January 2014 and Tierkidi was opened on 26 February.
- Currently refugees in Pagak need to wait 19 days before being relocated, while receiving limited assistance in the border area. Given the increase in malnutrition rates among new arrivals, ACF has established a Blanket Supplementary Feeding programme for children under the age of 5 and pregnant and lactating women with support from WFP, UNICEF and UNHCR. In addition, a protection ration for fifteen days of dry food will be distributed to all refugees in Pagak.

NUTRITION

- In Ethiopia, a rise in malnutrition rates among new arrivals has been reported. The most recent screening in Pagak showed a proxy GAM rate of 38% and 10% SAM. Refugees are walking long distances and arrive with very few possessions and no food. An important element of the response strategy in Gambella is the prioritized relocation of malnourished children and their families to the camps. So far, 182 malnourished children and their families have been relocated to Leitchuor and 200 to Tierkidi where interventions are in place.

- In Tierkidi, UNHCR provides hot porridge to children under 5 years as well as pregnant and lactating women. Following an inter-agency technical visit to Leitchuor, UNHCR and its partners agreed to conduct a mass MUAC screening between 8-10 March to determine the nutritional status of children in the camp and ensure follow-up action for any child identified as malnourished. The results of this exercise will also help determine whether or not Blanket Supplementary Feeding will begin in Leitchuor.

HEALTH

- The second mass measles vaccination campaign was completed in Pagak and Leitchuor on 3 March. Permanent teams of vaccinators have been stationed at Pagak, Leitchuor and Tierkidi to continue to screen and vaccinate all new arrivals and relocated refugees who do not have a vaccination card.
- A referral system to Lare Health Centre is in place and UNHCR's ambulance is providing transport for medical referrals from Lare Health Centre to Gambella Hospital and will now also serve Tierkidi Camp and Itang Health Centre referrals as well.

WASH

- Refugees in Pagak are accessing potable water from the UNICEF-provided Emergency Water Treatment (EMWAT) kit as well as sharing water points used by the host community and using emergency latrines. However, the emergency services are becoming overwhelmed by the large number of people requiring access to them. The priority of UNHCR and its partners remained the accelerated relocation of refugees to the camps where services are stabilizing. Hygiene and sanitary conditions remained a concern in Pagak, with cases of diarrhoea commonly reported.

Kenya

In the past week, Kakuma camp has received a total of 2,441 new arrivals from Nadapal border. The total estimated camp population is about 151, 800. It has now surpassed its maximum capacity and additional land for a new camp is needed urgently.

PROTECTION

- UNHCR maintained a presence at Nadapal border entry point to ensure that asylum-seekers have access to Kenya.
- Specific protection concerns, particularly blood feud related claims were received from several South Sudanese asylum seekers. Counselling on existing security mechanisms in the camp, inter-camp relocation and placement in safe shelters were among the protection interventions engaged in managing these cases. Identification and assessment of potential foster parents is ongoing along with monitoring of the old cases and situation of children.

Sudan

As a result of the resumption of hostilities in Upper Nile and Unity States in South Sudan, Sudan began receiving significantly larger numbers of arrivals from 21 February. The current arrival rate is approximately 1,000 people per day. Between 21 February and 5 March, the number of arrivals in White Nile State rose from 18,570 to 29,344.

PROTECTION

- High-level discussions on the status of new arrivals from South Sudan continued this week. The Commissioner for the Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) stated that South Sudanese individuals would be afforded work and residence rights; however it is unclear whether this refers to new arrivals, South Sudanese previously residing in Sudan, or both.
- Registration of South Sudanese arrivals at Joda border crossing and Al Alagaya relocation site in El Jabalain locality, White Nile State, are being carried out by the Sudanese Passport and Immigration authorities. The procedures are different from those used for general registration of foreigners, as well as those for refugees and asylum seekers. The legal basis of the registration remains unclear, and UNHCR is aiming to meet with immigration authorities to seek further details.

WASH AND NUTRITION

- Water needs in Kilo 10 relocation site are reaching critical levels. The present water supply storage of 40,000 litres is far below the needs for the population of almost 16,000 that at least require 30,000 litres per day for drinking water only. At present water is being pumped from the canal, currently being used by animals as well as people, on the edge of the site, with no chlorination. . As a result of the poor quality water, cases of Hepatitis E have been reported. Plan Sudan has hired two trucks, and an additional truck has been made available by SRCS to increase supply.
- As of 3 March 17,174 South Sudanese arrivals have received food assistance, of which 15,513 are in White Nile State and 1,634 in South Kordofan. School feeding options are being explored in collaboration with UNICEF.

COORDINATION

- UNHCR agreed with humanitarian partners present in Sudan Minimum Operating Standards for the provision of protection and humanitarian assistance in the country. It specifically addresses the provision of humanitarian assistance to people fleeing the South Sudan conflict into Sudan. These will ensure an effective coordinated response in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable people in accordance with humanitarian principles.

Uganda

A total of 74,472 South Sudanese refugees have arrived in Adjumani, Arua and Kiryandongo since the influx began on 15 December. With some 24,000 South Sudanese who had arrived in Uganda prior to that date, the total number of South Sudanese refugees in the country stood at nearly 100,000.

PROTECTION

- Protection: In Adjumani, OPM/UNHCR with partners Lutheran World Federation (LWF), Save the Children Uganda (SCiU) and the Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) are carrying out protection and community services activities in Nyumanzi settlement. Also in Adjumani, UNHCR and LWF carried out joint field activities. In Ayilo, UNHCR held group discussions with men and women of different ages to gather more information to ensure protection priorities are addressed accordingly. In Kiryandongo a significant number of refugees have self-relocated to surrounding villages, including Bweyale and Kiryandongo. UNHCR/ Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) plan an outreach into the surrounding villages to establish the number of refugees there and monitor their situation and needs.
- Child protection: In Arua and Adjumani districts, unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SC) are registered by URCS, and family tracing is ongoing with URCS / ICRC. In Adjumani, it has been observed that in many families, adults leave children alone at home while they go out to look for services and other essentials. In Arua, along with UNHCR, SCiU conducted interviews and selected child protection volunteers from the refugee community and local community who have child related knowledge. This is to ensure that child protection activities will be increased, in particular follow-up of identified children.

EDUCATION

- In Adjumani, the Ayilo community requested to locate the school far from the market to ensure children are protected. Children in Ayilo told UNHCR that they have no access to education and there is no place for them to play.
- In Kiryandongo RC, sensitization of refugees was carried out regarding the importance of enrolling children to. During a visit to the Panyadoli Primary School, it was observed that classrooms intended for 50 students, currently host up to 200 students – under one teacher. In many classes, the refugee students now outnumber local students.

SHELTER, WASH AND NUTRITION

- In Adjumani, a donation of some 500 shelter kits was received from Samaritan's Purse. In Kiryandongo an additional communal shelter was re-opened at the RC. In Nyakabande TC there are 154 family tents in use with none of the 13 communal shelters currently in use. Ten communal shelters are in good condition while three will require repairs. In Bubukwanga TC there are currently 17 shelters in use. In Koboko there is an issue with lack of grass for thatching of houses and an increase in the incidences of houses burning down due to strong winds.
- In Adjumani, water availability varied significantly according to relocations from the RC to settlements. Water trucking is ongoing and 4 to 5 boreholes are being drilled a day by various WASH actors. On average, 12.8 litres of water available per person per day (pp/pd) at Nyumanzi TC, 16.2 at Nyumanzi settlement, 19.6 at Baratuku settlement and 7.6 at Ayilo settlement.
- In Adjumani / Arua two hot meals are being served to refugees at reception centres with food provided by the World Food Programme (WFP). In all settlements the District provides health services including immunization, nutrition screening and curative services. UNHCR provides support to health services such as additional drugs, staff and equipment, while UNICEF/WHO are supporting the immunization and nutrition programmes. In all settlements nutrition screening is carried out at reception / transit centres and vitamin A, deworming and therapeutic feeding is also available.

FUNDING UPDATE (IN USD)

Below are UNHCR's financial needs for providing protection and assistance to South Sudanese refugees in the neighbouring countries, as well as discharging its responsibilities in the inter-agency framework to provide humanitarian assistance to IDPs in South Sudan. Total revised requirements amount to USD 371 million for 2014 with targeted figure of 350,000 refugees and 750,000 (IDPs). These requirements are currently funded at 4 percent.

	Situation	South Sudan	Ethiopia	Kenya	Sudan	Uganda	Total
Financial requirements total:		194,080,347	40,795,480	27,846,439	9,596,226	92,278,166	371,130,432
Funding received/confirmed:							
Canada	895,255						895,255
CERF		754,320		1,719,372		2,033,625	4,507,317
Japan		6,800,000		2,116,973		130,512	9,047,485
Switzerland		275,634					275,634
<i>Total</i>	895,255	7,829,954		3,836,345		2,164,137	14,725,691
Funding gap:		186,250,393	40,795,480	24,010,094	9,596,226	90,114,029	350,766,222