

UGANDA

UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE FOR THE SOUTH SUDANESE EMERGENCY

27 August – 2 September 2014

HIGHLIGHTS

- A total of 124,916 South Sudanese refugees have been assisted in Uganda since the influx began in mid-December 2014.
- In Arua, the *Safe from the Start* project was officially launched in Ocea Primary School in Rhino Camp settlement. The U.S. sponsored project aims to scale up community based protection and grassroots SGBV prevention. The launch was attended by refugees, UNHCR, OPM, implementing and operational partners.



Road works are underway in Nyumanzi settlement in Adjumani District. ©UNHCR/D. Lusweti

The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) and UNHCR, with partner support, coordinate the maintenance of Nyumanzi transit centre and Ocea reception centre in the northwest, and Kiryandongo reception centre in the midwest, and corresponding refugee villages and settlements where the majority of newly arrived South Sudanese refugees are being accommodated.

124,916 South Sudanese refugees have been assisted in Uganda since the influx began in mid-December 2013.

The breakdown includes:

Adjumani District: 80,173

Arua District: 11,681

Kiryandongo District: 28,018

Kampala: 5,044

FUNDING

USD 224,303,989

requirement for the Uganda
Emergency Response
(all agencies)

34% funded

PRIORITIES

- Relocate recently arrived refugees from transit centres to settlement plots.
- Redouble efforts to ensure infrastructure implementation is on track.
- Follow up recommendations from the mid-year review.

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

- In Arua, on 22 August 2014, KKT Company night bus travelling from Koboko town to Kampala was hijacked by five gunmen at a place called Masindi Port. They looted items from all passengers and beat those who resisted, and later set them free.

Protection

- In Adjumani, URCS, Save the Children (SCIU) and the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) organized four community dialogue meetings in Ayilo settlements to sensitize the communities on unaccompanied minors and separated children and establish referral path ways for persons with specific needs. With support from the URCS, refugees made 107 successful telephone calls to relatives within and outside Africa as part of activities to reconnect separated families.
- In Kiryandongo, InterAid Uganda (IAU) organized a community policing meeting for 33 refugee participants to discuss crime prevention, theft, fighting, recruitment of crime preventers and other security issues. As well, IAU attended 2 court sessions and visited two government prisons to assist persons of concerns and/or assess their needs.

Border monitoring

- In Adjumani, a total of 199 people arrived through the Elegu border during the reporting period. As well, construction work at Elegu collection centre at the South Sudan border is ongoing.
- In Arua, 13 individuals in two families were received at Kuluba transit centre in Koboko District while border crossing points were reported to be calm. The Arua District Health Office is continuing training on Ebola preparedness for the border authorities in the district.

Relocations

- In Arua, 131 refugees in 25 households were relocated to villages of Ngurua and Tika IV. Cumulatively 11,282 individuals in 2,427 families (95%) registered in ProGres have been officially relocated to various villages within Rhino camp since the beginning of influx. As well, OPM / UNHCR conducted a fact-finding assessment in the settlement and changed the addresses of 260 households of 758 individuals who were found to have relocated spontaneously.
- In Kiryandongo, 394 refugees were relocated from the reception centre to allocated plots in the settlement, giving cumulative figure of 26,350 refugees relocated since the influx begun.

Durable solutions (volreps, resettlement, etc.)

- In Arua, eight resettlement candidates travelled to Kampala for cultural orientation, pre-departure instructions and medical check-ups and were scheduled to leave for resettlement on 3 September 2014.

Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs)

- In Adjumani, LWF made follow-up home visits to six individuals who recently received wheelchairs, and through Tutapona, LWF provided group-based psychosocial counselling support to 162 people in Ayilo I settlement.
- Also in Adjumani, the Danish Refugee Council-Danish Demining Group (DRC-DDG) conducted three home visits in Mungula II to provide psychosocial support and assess the living conditions of PSNs. The families visited were found in relatively fair conditions and responded positively to counselling.
- In Arua, home visits were made to 88 PSNs in various villages where issues that were raised including lack of clothing and worn out household items. A medical assessment was done for people living with disability in Rhino Camp settlement and 32 people with eye-related problems were referred to Arua Regional Hospital for operations; 15 other were referred for follow up and 208 individuals are to be assessed for mobility appliances.

- In Kiryandongo, 10 PSN pit latrines were constructed by IAU. TPO has identified, assessed and referred 13 mentally and physically challenged children to Windle Trust Uganda (WTU) for support in Special Needs Education.

Child Protection

- In Adjumani, LWF registered and attended to seven vulnerable children and referred them to the OPM for follow-up. LWF also conducted 23 Best Interest Assessments (BIAs) for 12 separated children (SC) and 11 children at risk and provided 21 extremely vulnerable individuals with assistance. As well, DRC-DDG conducted community sensitization for 159 people in Mirieyi and Maaji villages on the safety of children and value of education for boys and girls.
- In Arua, DRC-DDG continued to monitor several UAMs and separated children in Agulupi village who were abandoned by their caregiver and are temporarily in a villager's care and counselling has been provided. One of the challenges faced is that it is difficult to monitor vulnerable children given the vast distances, Rhino Camp straddles 3 sub counties.
- Also in Arua, UNHCR organized a weeklong child protection training focussing on BIA and Best Interest Determinations (BIDs). The training targeted a total of 27 participants including the probation officer, family welfare officer as well as partner staff involved in child protection work. Additionally in collaboration with IAU and SCiU a training session was organized for 100 individuals, including child protection committees, caregivers and foster care parents. It reviewed principles of child protection as well as obligations of parents and children under alternative care arrangements.

Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV)

- In Adjumani, LWF assisted 6 SGBV cases and began identifying women at risk of SGBV who will benefit from cash support to help them establish small businesses. It has also begun forming youth groups in all 8 settlements to help disseminate SGBV messages through sports and drama. War Child Canada registered and assisted 21 new protection cases in four settlements. It also facilitated 53 telephone calls from refugees requiring assistance and offered legal advice to 115 refugees individually or through group legal counselling sessions. DRC-DDG conducted a Gender Task Force training course for 42 participants from various settlements on SGBV issues. Participants appreciated the newly acquired knowledge and vowed to use it to help bring about change in their communities.
- In Arua, the *Safe from the Start* project was officially launched on 26 August 2014 in Ocea Primary School in Rhino Camp settlement. The U.S. sponsored project aims to scale up community based protection and grassroots SGBV prevention. The launch was attended by refugees, UNHCR, OPM, implementing and operational partners. During a meeting held in 3 settlements SGBV watch groups were formed from the existing SGBV task forces. UNHCR met with OPM, CARE and CEFORD to map out partners implementing the new SGBV project.
- In Kiryandongo, UNHCR, OPM, IAU, other partners, and community members launched *Safe from the Start* project which seeks to guarantee the safety of all persons of concern in asylum as well as put the community at the centre of prevention and response to SGBV. Over 1,000 community members took part. During the launch 50 bicycles were distributed to the SGBV peer support group to facilitate outreach efforts. As well, UNHCR/IAU conducted sensitization at the youth centre on *Safe from the Start* and the refugee legal regime as well as community policing.

Psychosocial Support

- In Adjumani, DRC-DDG provided psychosocial support to 7 survivors of domestic violence from different settlements.
- In Arua, 14 PSNs with social problems were referred to a professional counsellor. Two mental health patients with threatening behaviour also received counselling and were referred to Arua Regional Referral Hospital for follow-up. Five UAM and SC benefitting from Windle Trust Uganda (WTU) sponsorship received counselling services before departing for their various schools.
- In Kiryandongo, TPO assessed 32 refugees and 5 nationals for mental health issues. Additionally, 4 community dialogue sessions on peaceful co-existence among refugees were held. As well, 3 awareness-raising sessions with 47 refugees were held. The sessions discussed the dangers and negative effects of alcohol abuse as a coping mechanism to stress faced by refugees. TPO also held 12 group psychotherapy sessions for refugees during the reporting period.

Community Mobilization

- In Arua, community mobilization was conducted by DRC-DDG, OPM and WASH partners for distribution of soap in Rhino Camp settlement. As well, OPM mobilized 87 landlords from Rigbo and Odupi sub-counties to negotiate for more land; discuss how to share the small amount of funds available for them as part of a livelihood project; and thank them for continuing to support to refugees by hosting them on their land.
- Also in Arua, OPM and DRC-DDG mobilized 851 refugees and nationals to discuss community policing. Topics included crimes and offences related to SGBV and charges for the offences. The exercise which coincided with the launch of the *Safe from Start* project was facilitated by the regional police spokesperson for Arua and attended by refugee leaders, refugees, the host community and UNHCR.
- In Kiryandongo, IAU organized sports activities for some 500 refugee youth in the settlement.

Education

- In Arua, WTU/UNHCR/DLG erected seven sign posts in seven UNHCR supported primary schools and two in WTU Yoro Base camp office for visibility. The renovation of staff accommodation is on-going at Yoro base camp
- In Kiryandongo, UNHCR/WTU prepared for enhanced secondary school assistance to select 40 students. A total of 300 applications were received and the selection process will take place in early September. UNHCR also informed refugees in the settlement of two additional university scholarship opportunities.

Health

- In Adjumani, the Rapid Cholera Outbreak Investigation report for Dufile-Moyo was shared by the Adjumani District Health Officer and discussed during the health coordination meeting. Cumulatively 13 cases have been reported in the host community at the cholera treatment centre in Dufile HC II in Moyo District. The first case was reported on 26 August 2014 and was said to have originated in Liri – Metu sub-county. No report has been received of refugees being affected by cholera. Following the MSF-F first round mass immunization campaign against pneumonia among infants and young children, the second round was started on 28 August. Medical Teams International (MTI) shared report of an eye surgery camp from Christian Mission Aid (CMA) that conducted 309 eye patient consultations; 9 cataract surgical procedures; treated 110 persons with conjunctivitis and sensitized 618 individuals on eye care.
- In Adjumani, URCS made 96 home visits in Mungula settlement, reaching 498 people with health messages related to proper food handling and hand washing. The messages were delivered on malaria and diarrheal disease prevention and management to more than 700 individuals.
- In Arua, four health facilities continued to provide primary health care services to refugees and the host community. Disease prevalence was as follows: 561 (205 refugees, 356 nationals) cases of malaria have remained the leading disease followed by 435 (153 refugees, 282 nationals) cases of upper respiratory tract infections, 122 cases (20 refugees, 102 nationals) of intestinal worms, 97 (50 refugees, 47 nationals) skin infections. In total 1,951 consultations were carried out (899 refugees, 1,052 nationals). Total consultations in 2014 72,906 (36,444 refugees, 36,462 nationals). In total, 34 patients (16 refugees and 18 nationals) were referred to Arua Regional Referral Hospital; 58 patients were admitted to IPD (23 refugees, 35 nationals). An outreach was conducted and 192 consultations conducted during the outreach (93 refugees, 99 nationals) in Ariwa village.
- In Kiryandongo, 567 (431 refugees, 136 nationals) outpatient consultations were provided at Panyadoli health centre while 22 refugees and 8 nationals were admitted for treatment. IAU provided 4 patients with transport to Panyadoli H/C III. UNFPA distributed 1 delivery bed each to Panyadoli HC III, Panyadoli HC II and Kiryandongo Hospital that are providing services to the refugees. In addition, 500 additional dignity kits will be distributed to refugee mothers following delivery in the health facilities were handed over to International Rescue Committee (IRC). The Dignity kits contain sanitary pads and baby clothes. In addition, UNHCR supported training for medical personnel of IAU, Real Medicines Foundation (RMF) and OPM on cervical cancer and medical treatment for sex workers.

Reproductive Health

- In Adjumani, LWF distributed sanitary materials to 5,701 women and girls in Nyumanzi settlement.
- In Arua, 118 antenatal consultations were conducted, 63 were first visits and 55 repeat visits. HIV/AIDS testing for mothers with 23 voluntary tests (3 refugees, 20 nationals). In addition, 35 deliveries were assisted (6 refugees, 29 nationals) and 22 women (6 refugees, 16 nationals) sought consultations on maternity issues.
- In Kiryandongo, 20 women benefitted from a distribution of 210 packets of Maka-pads, 120 pairs of underwear and 31 soap bars from IAU.

Immunization

- In Arua, 395 vaccinations carried out for refugees and nationals at health facilities in Rhino Camp settlement.
- In Kiryandongo, 101 refugees and 19 nationals were vaccinated at the health centre in Kiryandongo settlement.



Food Security and Nutrition

- In Adjumani, WFP completed food distribution in Ayilo II, Boroli and Nyumanzi settlements. They also trained 12 cash committees on their roles and responsibilities. Cash committees have now been trained in the three settlements supporting this initiative. WFP also provided technical support to the MTI nutritionist to manage the supplementary feeding programme. In total 62 children received a supplementary feeding ration of super cereal.
- In Arua, 337 nutrition screening were conducted for 129 refugees and 208 nationals.
- In Kiryandongo, refugees refused to receive the food ration owing to absence of oil and maize this month. An information campaign was conducted earlier in which refugees were informed of the pipeline challenges. In addition, WFP provided cash for 56 refugee families while an additional 14 refugee households showed interest to join the cash option rather than food. Some of the refugees were not convinced and protested the non-distribution of cooking oil and lack of maize flour.



Water and Sanitation

- In Adjumani, the average water availability is 16 litres/per person/per day (l/pp/pd). As well, LWF conducted bacteriological water quality analysis in Nyumanzi I settlement, repaired two boreholes and conducted 6 community-based hygiene sensitization sessions. LWF monitored the drilling and rehabilitation of ten boreholes, including 3 in host communities.
- In Arua, the water supply indicator within Rhino Camp settlement rose to 18.9 l/pp/pd from 17.3 l/pp/pd last week. UNHCR-hired water trucks continued to supplement 26% of water supply, while 65% is from hand pumped boreholes (46 functional boreholes) and 9% from piped system from 1 borehole (Malteser, IAS, UNICEF, Oxfam, ZOA, Arua DLG). Oxfam is carrying out water quality testing. It is planned to phase out water trucking by mid-September 2014.
- Also in Arua, drilling of new boreholes is in progress (Oxfam, URCS, Malteser and UNICEF). 13 new boreholes were successfully drilled with two already functional and the rest in the process of test pumping and installation of the hand pumps (URCS, Malteser, and UNICEF). As well, URCS helped communities install 260 tippy taps and distributed 1,527 bars of soap to 807 households. URCS was supported by UNICEF and EMO in spraying 48 blocks of latrines. It also sensitized communities on the use of local ash to control of vectors and bad smell in latrines and rubbish bins. A total of 47 public health/hygiene promoters supported by various WASH partners disseminated key hygiene messages on the safe water chain, personal and food hygiene, proper solid waste disposal and management, and proper human excreta disposal. Across Rhino Camp, WASH partners carried out massive sensitization on the importance of hand washing with soap to prevent cholera. Malteser International donated the soap.
- In Kiryandongo, an average of 15 l/pp/pd is being supplied in the settlement. Refugees relocated to land plots access water from boreholes fitted with hand pumps, while the reception centre is served from the main lines. In addition, the District Local Government/UNHCR repaired 5 boreholes.

- Also in Kiryandongo, UNHCR/IAU/DRC-DDG distributed slabs and logs to households to support construction of pit latrines. IAU carried out maintenance of drainage at the reception centre bath shelters, urinals and soak pits. UNHCR/IAU distributed 20 sets of digging kits of spades, buckets, ropes, peak axe and saws to the hygiene promoters to help scale up sanitation coverage. IAU conducted two assessments on hygiene and sanitation in all clusters in the settlement where 27 Households with 103 people participated.

Shelter and NFIs

- In Adjumani, LWF continued constructing latrines at Adjumani Hospital and in health centres in Biira, Elema, Dzaipi and Kocoa and is nearing completion of the community information centre in Ayilo I settlement. URCS carried out constructing 160 PSN shelters in Mungula settlement, and supplied building material such as bamboo sticks and poles to some 160 households.
- In Arua, DRC-DDG, UNHCR and OPM facilitated the distribution of core relief items to 25 households of 126 individuals relocated to Tika IV. Items distributed comprised of soap, blankets, nylon ropes, pangas, basins, plastic cups, jerry cans, plastic plates, plastic sheeting, sanitary pads, saucepans, sickles, slashers and sleeping mats.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

- In Adjumani, DRC-DDG continued to make progress in building classrooms, kitchens, teachers, houses and latrines in Nyumanzi, Ayilo I Alere, Mungula, Aliwara primary schools, Elegu collection centre and Nyumanzi reception centre. As well, DRC-DDG delivered firewood for hot meal preparation at the reception centre and procured and delivered 20,000 litres of water for use by new arrivals at Elegu collection centre. It also sensitized new arrivals on services offered by the different agencies at Nyumanzi reception centre. LWF continued with management and maintenance of community centres of Ayilo I, Nyumanzi and Baratuku refugee settlements.
- In Arua, construction of a safe house in Odoubo village and renovation office and staff accommodation blocks at Yoro base camp were nearing completion. The construction of post-harvest handling store at Siripi village, and that of the roads in the settlement made steady progress. DRC-DDG supervised the construction of drainable pit latrines with major progress noted in Tika, Walope, and Ocea primary school, where some of the latrines were completed. Most of the contractors commissioned to do maintenance road work in Rhino Camp settlement have practically completed the assignments, which should all be finalized in the coming week.

Community Empowerment, Self-Reliance and Environment

Livelihoods and self-reliance

- In Adjumani, LWF monitored planted seed and seedlings among 150 households in three settlements and found that grasshoppers were destroying the seedlings. LWF also mobilized and formed 10 farming groups in Ayilo II; distributed 75 goats to PSNs in Nyumanzi settlement and supplied cassava cuttings and sweet potato vines to 245 refugee and 47 local community farmers.
- In Arua, DRC-DDG conducted general preventative treatment of 214 goats against intestinal worms and mange, fleas, ticks, and lice. It provided extension support to 107 goat keepers in several villages on the use of vet drugs, good feeding, and housing, and health to control parasites in goats. It also provided training for 25 people in farming as a business. DRC-DDG monitored progress of 3 new farming groups mainly comprising women and CEFORD identified and trained 300 women and girls in Rhino Camp settlement on how to make reusable pads from local materials.

Environment-related activities

- In Arua, DLG carried out supervision and followed up farmers in three villages to supervise and ensure that the teak seedlings distributed have been planted correctly. UNHCR received reports about an individual who uprooted the seedlings of a farmer in Siripi as a result of a land dispute, and referred the case to OPM for action. Farmers who planted woodlots in 2009 and 2010 are now earning income by selling poles to UNHCR partners constructing shelter for new refugees. This has encouraged the farmers to request tree seedlings.



Logistics

Infrastructure

- In Kiryandongo, UNHCR/WTU started construction of 3 units of 3 classrooms blocks (2 block in Canrom primary school and 1 block in Arnold primary school) is ongoing with 5% completed. The construction of staff compound for UNHCR and IPs (Administration blocks and Accommodation) is ongoing with 45% completed.

Working in partnership

OPM / UNHCR are supported by partners on the ground:

Kiryandongo refugee settlement

Government partners: OPM, Kiryandongo District Local Government (KDLG) and the Uganda Police Force.

Humanitarian partners: Action Africa Help Uganda (AAH-U), Action Contre la Faim (ACF), AIRD, DRC-DDG, FAO, Inter-Aid Uganda (IAU), International Rescue Committee (IRC), Real Medicine Foundation (RMF), SP, Transcultural Psychosocial Organization Uganda (TPO), UNICEF, WFP and WTU.

West Nile

Government partners in all locations: OPM, Adjumani, Arua and Koboko DLG authorities, various technical departments, and Uganda Police Force.

Adjumani humanitarian partners: AAH-U, ACF, ACORD, ADRA, Welthungerhilfe (WHH)/Concern Worldwide(CWW) as Alliance 2015, Baylor, Caritas, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), DRC-DDG, HelpAge International, IOM, LWF, Marie Stopes, MSF-F, MTI, OXFAM, PLAN, SCiU, UNFPA, UNICEF, URCS/ICRC, TPO, War Child Canada, WFP, WHO, WTI and WVI.

Arua humanitarian partners: ADRA, AIRD, Care International, Caritas, International Aid Services (IAS), DRC-DDG, Global Refuge International (GRI), Humedica, Malteser international, MTI, Oxfam, SCiU, ZOA, UNICEF, URCS/ICRC and WFP, WTU, Touch Africa.

Coordination Meetings

In Kampala, the inter-agency coordination meeting chaired by OPM/UNHCR with UN agencies and implementing and operational partners took place on 24 July at UNHCR. Meetings are now held on a monthly basis and there is one scheduled for 28 August.

In the field, OPM / UNHCR chair weekly inter-agency meetings that are held on Wednesdays in Adjumani, and on Thursdays in Arua.

In Adjumani, sectorial meetings chaired by UNHCR take place weekly: the Protection working group meets Tuesdays at 3pm; health coordination meets Tuesdays at 9am; livelihood coordination meets Tuesdays at 10.00am; the education working group meets Wednesdays at 3pm and, WASH coordination meets Tuesdays and Fridays at 9am respectively. The Shelter and Infrastructure working group meetings is held on a bi-weekly basis on Tuesdays at 8.30am.

In Adjumani, community meetings take place every day in Baratuku and Nyumanzi settlements.

In Arua, weekly WASH coordination meetings continue to be held on Thursdays at 2pm.

In Kiryandongo, all partners' weekly coordination meetings are held, chaired by OPM along with sectorial meetings on WASH, Health, Protection/Community service, Education and Livelihood/Environment.

