

Uganda Emergency Update

Covering the southwest, midwest and northwest

22 - 28 January 2013

For internal and external distribution

Highlights

- In the northwest, a total of **61,573 South Sudanese refugees** have arrived in Uganda since 16 December. An intensive relocation operation has been underway in the last week to decongest the dangerously overcrowded transit / reception centres.
- In the midwest, thousands of Congolese staying in the Bundibugyo community and border area have been relocated to Bubukwanga transit centre. Following the recent fighting in nearby DRC, the Ugandan Government intensified its campaign to have refugees living in the local community and border areas register and move to Bubukwanga transit centre.
- In the southwest, the situation remains stable with some 1,750 Congolese refugees being accommodated at Nyakabande transit centre near Kisoro.



In Adjumani newly settled refugees prepare to construct their homes using thatch.
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Regional dynamics:

Despite recent clashes and FARDC offensive against the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) rebel group in the Kamango area of eastern DRC, as well as the deployment of the Intervention Brigade to the area, the situation has remained calm the last week. Meanwhile, the Bundibugyo District Security Council intensified its campaign to move refugees from the host communities and border areas to Bubukwanga transit centre (TC) for their own safety. As a result, more than 4,000 refugees were relocated this last week to the TC, which was established in July 2013 following an attack on the village of Kamango that saw an estimated 66,000 Congolese refugees flood into the area.

In the northwest, the security situation remained stable and the number of refugee arrivals from South Sudan fell significantly, presumably as a result of the ceasefire agreement. There were also unconfirmed reports that some people along the Juba and Yei axis were prevented from crossing into Uganda.

OPM / UNHCR and partners have been working hard to relocate newly arrived South Sudanese refugees to settlements from the seriously overcrowded Dzaipi transit centre (TC) in Adjumani and Ocea reception centre in Arua, as well as from Kiryandongo reception centre. In Adjumani, recently opened Nyumanzi settlement had already largely reached its capacity and other settlements are being established. The intensive relocation exercise is expected to largely decongest all receiving sites in the next ten days.

Preparedness & Response:

The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) and UNHCR, with the support of partners, are coordinating the maintenance of Dzaipi transit centre (TC), Nyumanzi TC, Ocea reception centre (RC) and Waju II TC in the northwest; Bubukwanga transit centre (TC) in the midwest, and Nyakabande TC and Matanda TC in the southwest.

Contingency Planning: The Contingency Plan for a refugee influx from South Sudan has been overtaken by events and the planning figure are being raised to 100,000 individuals. Emergency response strategy for both South Sudanese and Congolese remain the same as outlined in the recently revised and circulated DRC contingency plan.

Statistics:

Northwest/Midwest South Sudanese

A total of **61,573 South Sudanese refugees** have arrived in Uganda since 16 December as a result of the conflict in that country. OPM/UNHCR are recording refugees in the proGres database using biometric registration before moving to settlements for longer-term assistance.

Arua has received **8,864 refugees** since 16 December. Out of this number Ocea reception centre (RC) is accommodating **4,273** South Sudanese refugees. All new arrivals at the RC are being recorded with biometric registration which to date has captured 8,637 individuals.

Adjumani has received a total of **44,937** refugees since 16 December. Out of this number Dzaipi transit centre (TC) is accommodating about **11,100** South Sudanese refugees. Nyumanzi RC is accommodating about **5,350** South Sudanese refugees and the remaining refugees have moved to other settlements.

At Nyumanzi RC, a biometric registration site was established and the exercise began on 25 January. So far, **5,012** individuals have been recorded using biometric registration.

Kiryandongo has received a total of **7,772** individuals in 1,580 households since 16 December. Out of this number, Kiryandongo reception centre is accommodating **5,065** South Sudanese refugees. To date **5,155** individuals in 1,064 households of the new arrivals have been captured in the biometric registration database.

Northwest: Congolese

Koboko District, the total population of refugees captured in the biometric registration is **2,821** individuals in 728 households. There are also refugees still living with relatives in the host community and refugee children attending school and not currently registered.

In Waju II TC, the population is **1,074** individuals in 135 households. Refugees have been relocated to recently established Lobule, Andologo and Andranga settlements.

Midwest: Congolese

In Bubukwanga TC the population is 5,624 individuals in 1,720 households. The cumulative population assisted at the TC since July 2013 is 36,865 individuals.

The total number of refugees relocated from Bubukwanga TC to Kyangwali since 14 August is 14,693 individuals in 4,051 households, relocated in 18 convoys.

In Kyangwali refugee settlement the population is 36,371 individuals.

Southwest: Congolese

In Nyakabande TC the population is 2,091 individuals. A total of 162 individuals were received this last week.

In Rwamwanja refugee settlement the population is 51,032 individuals. The maximum capacity for the settlement is 55,000 individuals.

Northwest

**Dzaipi TC,
Nyumanzi RC /
settlement and
Adjumani
settlements**

and

**Ocea RC and
Rhino Camp
settlement**

Arua

**(South
Sudanese)**



A view of the rapidly expanding Nyumanzi refugee settlement in Adjumani District where more than 22,000 refugees have been relocated recently. ©UNHCR/L.Beck

Protection Issues:

Border monitoring: Security situation at Oraba-Kaya border point with South Sudan remains calm with reduced daily arrivals registered by the migration authorities. There have been unconfirmed reports from refugees that some people are being prevented from coming to Uganda on the Juba to Yei axis.

Refugees are being moved from the border way stations at Keri (Koboko) and Elegu (Adjumani) by truck or they arrive by their own means Ocea RC, Dzaipi TC and Kiryandongo reception centre.

Land allocation: In Adjumani, as Nyumanzi settlement filled up, Baratuku RC/settlement was opened up and preparation work also began on other sites.

OPM Arua has been locating vacant plots in the old clusters and a number of plots have been confirmed to be available in Agulupi, Tika and Odobu. Apparently landlords are willing to provide more land for settling new arrivals at Rhino Camp settlement.

Community Services: In Adjumani information sessions were organized to raise refugees' awareness of the laws of Uganda. The sessions focused on the need to respect the rights of women and children, and on the protection of children.

Persons with specific needs (PSNs): In Adjumani and Arua districts, PSNs are

being identified and where possible provided family tents and blankets in transit, and also being assisted with construction of shelters in the settlement.

Also in Adjumani UNHCR is working to improve transport conditions for PSNs during the relocation, including hiring minibuses or taxis to move people with special needs.

Child protection: In Adjumani and Arua districts, unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SC) are being registered by URCS, and URCS/ ICRC family tracing is fully operational. URCS is identifying foster families for UAMs for whom URCS/UNHCR are ensuring basic needs such as water, shelter and food. Best Interest Determinations and Best International Assessments (BIAs) are being conducted at receiving sites. Nyumanzi TC has a tracing centre for UAMs and SC.

In Adjumani UNHCR has initiated a protection sectoral level working group for the community and other stakeholders to ensure that child protection priorities are addressed in a timely manner.

In Rhino Camp settlement, UNHCR is supporting OPM in the management of activities. Save the Children (SCiU) is conducting child assessments with support of the child protection refugee committee that was previously established at Ocea RC by UNHCR and OPM. A BID panel is to be established after the completion of the relocation exercise.

In Ocea RC, SCiU has deployed a child protection specialist to conduct BIAs. To date, 104 separated children and 24 unaccompanied minors have been screened. UNHCR / SCiU are working on a strategy to tackle child protection risks at the RC.

Also in Ocea RC, SCiU is expected to establish early childhood development structures, provide NFIs for children in need, and create Child Friendly Spaces. SCiU will also organize trainings and refreshments for child protection committees and help integrate new child protection focal points identified among South Sudanese new arrivals, into the existing structures.

Gender-based violence (GBV): In Adjumani, UNFPA's implementing partner, ACCORD, is deploying and will conduct reproductive health and SGBV preventive activities.

Also in Adjumani, during monitoring the relocation of refugees to Boroli, Alere and Mireiyi settlements (existing settlements) UNHCR used the opportunity to provide information to refugees on SGBV issues.

Community mobilization: At Ocea RC, six refugee committees have been set up tasked with supporting OPM and UNHCR in tackling health, WASH, child protection, GBV, youth issues and welcoming the new arrivals. Committees provide orientation on the code of conduct, registration procedures, medical screening, and information on food and NFI distribution prior to relocation to land plots.

Shelter / infrastructure: DRC-DDG is doing shelter construction in Arua and road works in Nyumanzi settlement in Adjumani.

Though some unallocated plots have been identified, Nyumanzi settlement is reaching capacity and the new site of Baratuku in Adjumani District has been opened and construction of infrastructure has begun.

NFIs: In Adjumani/Arua districts a standard non-food items package is being distributed to refugees during relocation to land plots. There has been a particular shortage in shelter construction poles, which constitute part of the shelter kit.

Food: Two hot meals are being served a day at Ocea RC and Dzaipi TC / Nyumanzi TC (Adjumani). WFP is also providing food rations for the new arrivals and has also been providing high-energy biscuits at entry points. Refugees will be provided with dry food rations once they move to their land plots in the settlement.

Sectoral Highlights:

In Ocea RC, AAH-U is transporting firewood for food preparation.

Water and sanitation: In Adjumani, there were 12.06 litres of water available per person per day at Dzaipi TC, 11.6 litres per person per day at Nyumanzi TC and 13.9 litres at Nyumanzi settlement, and at Baratuku settlement 3.3 litres.

In all locations, the scarcity of water remains a serious issue and some people have resorted to using water from unprotected sources. As well, there are refugees who have returned to transit centres from their allocated plots citing lack of available water, while some women are waiting long into the night to collect water, which raises protection concerns.

Nevertheless the water situation is improving with more water trucking and tank installation and partners drilling or repairing boreholes at each location.

In Adjumani two boreholes were completed by Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and started operating on 27 January and they have begun work on four more. UNHCR is increasing the number of taps at distribution points but there is a need to drill more boreholes for water supply rather than relying on water trucking.

In Adjumani there is 1 latrine for every 201 people at Dzaipi TC, 1 for every 138 people at Nyumanzi RC and 1 for every 838 people at the settlement. There is 1 bath shelter for every 305 people at Dzaipi TC, 1 for every 138 at Nyumanzi RC and 1 for every 838 at the settlement.

Health: The Ugandan Ministry of Health (MoH) confirmed a measles outbreak last week and has been leading a mass vaccination campaign since 24/25 January in Arua and Adjumani districts. MoH is working with various partners to conduct the campaign, including UNICEF, Medecins Sans Frontieres-France (MSF-F), Medical Teams International (MTI) and UNHCR. The immunization campaign is covering all refugee and Ugandan children less than 15 years of age in the two districts. Generally, refugee children are vaccinated following MoH/WHO standards when they arrive in Uganda.

In Adjumani/Arua districts MSF-F is working in Dzaipi TC and in Ocea reception centre. The District is providing health services in Dzaipi TC and Ocea RC, and immunization, nutrition screening, and curative services. UNICEF assisted Koboko District through provision of nutrition supplies and is exploring supplying vaccines for the expanded programme on immunization. Medical Teams International (MTI) is deploying a medical team to Nyumanzi TC.

Ocea health center continues to provide services to refugees at Ocea RC. Health care was strengthened by the arrival of MSF-F which is supporting daily out-patient services from Monday to Saturday. Refugees relocated to settlements have access to Siripi, Odubo and Olujobo primary health care centers.

Refugees in Ocea RC also have access to antenatal, delivery and post natal care in Ocea primary health center. With initial awareness of refugees on critical health related areas such as antenatal care, available health services and accessibility, health facility utilization of refugee pregnant women remains high. Even prior to the recent arrivals the centre had been carrying out an average of 20-25 deliveries a month. With sudden increase of population Ocea RC is now critically understaffed and lacking maternal and child health care resources.

Education: In response to the emergency, an inter-agency assessment on education was conducted in Koboko, Arua, Adjumani and Kiryandongo between 20 -24 January. The team comprised MoE, UNHCR, UNICEF, ADRA, OPM, JRS, WTU and UNESCO. The assessment revealed that to enrol additional learners it will be necessary to invest in more teachers, increase the number of reference materials, carry-out significant renovation and expand the existing school infrastructure. Findings also highlighted a very low Early Childhood Education and Development (ECD) coverage and post primary education opportunities. It was noted that a substantial number of youths had been enrolled at various levels

of post primary education institutes in South Sudan prior to displacement. The new school year begins 3 February and parents are being encouraged to enrol their children in the closest school. Meanwhile, the team is working on a joint intervention plan. The final report is expected to be made available in the coming days.

Northwest

Midia Youth Centre, Waju II transit centre and Lobule settlement in Koboko District

(Congolese Refugees)



UNHCR staff monitor distribution at Lobule settlement in northwest Uganda.
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Protection Issues:

PSNs: In Waju II and Koboko settlements PSNs are being identified and where possible assisted with construction of shelters.

Sectoral Highlights:

NFIs and Shelter: In Waju II and Koboko settlements, refugees are provided with a standard NFI package that includes household items when moving to their land plots.

Food: At Waju II, WFP has continued supplying food rations to the refugees, while DRC-DDG ensures preparation of three hot meals a day. When refugees move to settlements they are supplied with dry food rations by WFP.

Water: In Waju II TC, given the reduced population, the water supply has been reduced from 45,000 litres daily to 30,000 litres.

Hygiene and sanitation: Latrine coverage is 1:35 persons and bath shelter coverage is 1:42 persons at Waju II TC, in Waju II cluster 1:20 persons, Adranga cluster 1:20 persons and Adologo cluster 1:16 persons. Household sanitation tools such as wheelbarrows, metallic buckets, hand saws, pick axes, and spades are out of stock and there is need to be replenished.

**Mid-West
Emergency**

**Kiryandongo
refugee
settlement
(South
Sudanese)**

and

**Bubukwanga
transit centre
and
Kyangwali
refugee
settlement
(Congolese)**



**Children play in the sun of Kiryandongo settlement while the laundry of newly arrived South Sudanese hangs to dry in a nearby tree
©UNHCR/P.Sacher**

**Protection
Issues:**

Community Services: In Kyangwali, seven sensitizations were conducted for newly arrived Congolese refugees at Kagoma reception centre. The info sessions were held during meal times and also at communal shelters and shared information regarding prevention and response to SGBV and child protection, the importance of education as well as respect for human rights and Ugandan laws.

Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs): In Kiryandongo, identification of South Sudanese PSNs is being conducted and these individuals are being provided assistance, including shelter construction. Overall, 81 PSNs have been registered at Kiryandongo RC since the beginning of the South Sudanese emergency. There are potential risks of women exploitation and child labour among the new arrivals due to a large number of women-headed households with mainly dependent children.

In Kyangwali, AAH-U / UNHCR are following up extremely vulnerable families who have been identified and relocated and ensuring shelters are constructed for them.

Child Protection: In Kiryandongo, a volunteer has been assigned to oversee South Sudanese refugee children playing at Panyadoli playground. Given that the majority of new arrivals are children, there is a crucial need for Child Friendly Spaces at the RC.

In Kyangwali, AAH-U embarked on compiling and entering the details of 123 BIAs conducted for Congolese UAMs / SC in the seventeen convoys so far received in Kyangwali. 77 cases still require follow-up out of 94 cases assessed. Meanwhile,

Family tracing: In Kiryandongo, following consultation with UNHCR and AAH-U, the ICRC has installed an office at the RC for family tracing and family reunification-related matters.

GBV: In Kiryandongo, sensitization on the causes of GBV and the way forward are being conducted by AAH-U.

Sectoral Highlights:

In Kyangwali, AAH-U and UNHCR continue to follow up and provide support to GBV cases that are identified.

Transfer to settlement: In Kiryandongo an intensive relocation effort from the reception centre of South Sudanese refugees to land plots in the settlement has been ongoing in order to decongest the reception centre. An awareness campaign about the relocation process is being carried out in the RC with the support of refugee volunteers and AAH-U.

OPM /UNHCR have been relocating newly arrived South Sudanese families from the reception centre to Ranch 37 where they are being allocated 50 x 100 m plots per family.

From Bubukwanga TC 623 individuals in 129 families were transferred to Kyangwali refugee settlement in the 18th convoy on 23 January.

Non-food items (NFIs) and Shelter: In Kiryandongo, NFI distribution of the standard NFI kits continued to newly arrived South Sudanese refugees.

In Kyangwali, NFIs were distributed to refugees who arrived on the recent convoy during relocation to land plots.

Food: In Kiryandongo, three hot meals a day are being provided at the reception centre for South Sudanese with WFP food rations. UNHCR is facilitating kitchen management by supplying fuel wood, cooking utensils and assisting with organizing the communal cooks. In general, upon relocation to land plots refugees are provided a month of WFP food rations.

In Bubukwanga TC, three meals a day are being served with WFP food rations.

In Kyangwali, upon relocation refugees are served three hot meals a day at the reception centre. When they move to allocated plots they are provided a monthly food ration.

Drying of maize harvested in the second season of 2013 was observed among many refugee households in Kyangwali settlement as was land opening for 2014 first season cultivation. Women supplemented food rations with green vegetables gathered from family plots and from nearby markets.

Health and nutrition: In Kiryandongo settlement, the District is providing health services and immunization, nutrition screening, and curative services. A 3-member medical team and mobile clinic supported by AAH-U has been established and is providing medical services at the reception centre. They will work in close collaboration with the District medical team. Serious medical cases are being referred to Payadoli Health Clinic III for management.

In Kyangwali, AAH-U conducted outreaches in Mukunyu and home based care for PLWHA's in Kirokole among the new arrivals. A total of 145 patients received integrated health care services at Mukunyu health post.

The main ailments are respiratory tract infections, malaria and skin diseases. Screening and growth monitoring continued, as did immunization following MoH and WHO standards. As well, routine health services continued to be provided at Malembo health post.

Maternal health: In Kyangwali, five women benefited from ANC services and 10 mothers had post-natal examinations and were taught about family planning methods.

Immunization: In Kiryandongo, immunization activities continued in the RC at a steady pace, and on 27 and 28 January 150 children under the age of five were vaccinated.

Water: In Kiryandongo, 30,000 litre trucks continued to transport water to the reception centre and to where newly-arrived South Sudanese refugees are being settled.

Also at Kiryandongo settlement, the water availability indicator dropped further

from 13.31 per person per day on 26 January to 11.7 l/c/d as a result of more families having been relocated. UNICEF has announced it will rehabilitate some boreholes. Two new locations have been identified for a third and a fourth community tank of 10,000-litre capacity each and construction of the tank platform and tap-stand commenced. One of the water tanks is out of use due to leakage.

In Kyangwali, The AAH-U repaired one hand dug shallow well in Malembo and monitored the Water User Committee at eight boreholes. AAH-U/UNHCR water bowser delivered 240,000 litres of water to Malembo village which still experiences water shortages. The estimated water availability in the settlement increased to 20.8 litres per person per day for the new arrivals and 27.9 litres for previously established refugees.

Hygiene & Sanitation: In Kiryandongo, excavation of four soak away pits and the related drainage channels begun for waste water drainage for the bath shelters and water collection points at the RC. Relatedly, the latrine and bath shelter ratios were 1:114 and 1:84, respectively.

In Kyangwali, AAH-U / UNHCR monitored the progress of construction of 50 PSN latrines in Malembo village. Most structures have reached the super structure level, and construction is proceeding well. Latrine usage coverage stands at approximately 79%. The availability of hand washing facilities near latrines remains almost non-existent. There is a need for increased sensitization on hygiene issues among new arrivals. Seven bicycles were distributed to 7 community-based hygiene promoters out of the 10 promoters.

Livelihoods and environment: At Kiryandongo, sensitization by AAH-U environment staff are to commence in order to mitigate risks from uncontrolled burning.

In Kyangwali, AAH-U mobilized 15 families to take part in a tree marking exercise in Kitooro village which led to successful marking of 55 trees. The environment team also made home visits to assess the progress of Artemisia (mosquito repellent) trees that were planted and found most surviving in homesteads.

Settlement infrastructure: In Kiryandongo a second access road opening was completed with a total road length distance of 2.7km. The related grading and compaction is on-going. The opening of a third access road through the thickets of the new villages is also underway.

Working in partnership

OPM / UNHCR are being supported by partners on the ground:

Bundibugyo District:

Governmental partners: Bundibugyo District Local Government (DLG) authorities and various technical departments, the Uganda Police Force (UPF), and the Uganda Prisons Unit.

Humanitarian partners include: Agency for Cooperation and Research in Development (ACORD), Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), African Initiative for Relief and Development (AIRD), Danish Refugee Council (DRC-DDG), Emesco Development Foundation, Global Refuge International (GRI), Humedica, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Lutheran World Federation (LWF), Malteser, Medical Teams International (MTI), International Organisation for Migration (IOM), Marie Stopes Uganda (MSU), Oxfam, Pentecostal Church of Uganda/fida International (PCU/fida), Save the Children in Uganda (SCiU), UNFPA, UNICEF, Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS), WFP, World Harvest Mission (WHM), World Vision (WV) and WHO.

Kyangwali Settlement and the movement:

Governmental partners: Hoima DLG authorities and various technical departments and the Uganda Police Force.

Humanitarian partners: Action Africa Help Uganda (AAH-U), ADRA/ FAO, AIRD, American Refugee Council (ARC), ICRC, IOM, PCU/fida, Finnish Refugee Council (FRC), Médecins Sans Frontières France (MSF-F), Samaritan's Purse (SP), SCiU, UNFPA, UNICEF, URCS, Welthungerhilfe (WHH), WHO and WFP.

Rwamwanja settlement, Nyakabande TC and Matanda TC:

Government partners: OPM, Kisoro, Kanungu and Kyenjojo DLG authorities and various technical departments.

Humanitarian partners: ACORD, ADRA, AHA, AIRD, FAO, Feed the Hungry, GOAL Uganda (GOAL), HIJRA, ICRC, LWF, MTI, IOM, PCU/fida, SP, SCiU, UNFPA, UNICEF, URCS, Water Missions, WFP, WHO, Windle Trust Uganda (WTU).

West Nile:

Governmental partners: OPM, Adjumani, Arua and Koboko DLG authorities, various technical departments and Uganda police force.

Koboko humanitarian partners include: AIRD, Associazione Centro Aiuti Volontari (ACAV), ACORD, AAH-U, AIRD, DRC-DDG, FAO, ICRC, Kids in Uganda (KIDS), LWF, MSF-F, MTI, UNFPA, UNICEF, URCS, WFP, WHO and World Renewal Ministries (WRM) and ZOA.

Working in Partnership:

Adjumani humanitarian partners include: MSF-F, LWF, DRC, UNFPA, ICRC, URCS, WFP, AIRD, Care International, World Vision International, UNICEF and MTI, Plan.

Arua humanitarian partners include: MSF-F, DRC-DDG, UNICEF and AIRD.

Coordination Meetings:

Coordination meetings take place every day in Baratuku and Nyumanzi settlements.

Protection working group meetings take place every Tuesday at 3pm in Adjumani.

In Adjumani health coordination meetings are held on Tuesdays at 9am and WASH coordination meetings are at 9am on Tuesday and Friday at 9am.