

Uganda Flash Update

South Sudanese Influx

8 - 11 January 2014

For internal and external use

Highlights

- As at 11 January, a total of **38,738 South Sudanese refugees had arrived in Uganda since 16 December** according to manual registration by the Ugandan Government. On average 2,000 to 2,500 persons are arriving daily. Some 30,000 of the refugees are in Adjumani District.
- Water availability, health services and lack of shelter remain major challenges at Dzaipi transit centre (TC) in Adjumani. WFP has provided high-energy biscuits at Elegu border where most refugees have been crossing and food rations for new arrivals, though food distribution continues to be a challenge. At Ocea reception centre (RC) services are also lacking. Dzaipi TC and Ocea RC were designed to accommodate 400 individuals each.
- Refugees are arriving in relatively good health. Many are carrying a significant quantity of personal belongings which is further increasing transport needs. The majority of arrivals are women and children from Jonglei and Unity states. Most arrivals are from the Nuer and Dinka ethnic groups though some Murle and Ocholi have also been registered. The vast majority are under 18 years of age. Biometric registration began in Kiryandongo refugee settlement on 8 January and is expected to begin in Adjumani and Arua in the next days.



Newly arrived children at the Kiryandongo reception centre. ©UNHCR/G.Katende

UNHCR, together with the Office of the Prime Minister and partner agencies is maintaining Dzaipi TC and Adjumani clusters in Adjumani District; Ocea reception centre (RC) and Rhino Camp settlement in Arua District, and Kiryandongo refugee settlement in Kiryandongo District. Refugees arriving through Nimule/Elegu border point and collection centre are transferred to Dzaipi TC while those arriving at Keri collection point near Oraba border crossing in Koboko District are transferred to Ocea reception centre situated inside Rhino camp settlement. Refugees continue to arrive at Kiryandongo refugee settlement by their own means.

Major Developments

As at 11 January, Adjumani has received a total of 29,460 individuals with 2,310 new arrivals registered at Dziapi TC that day. In Arua, a total of 6,488 individuals have been received and in Kiryandongo refugee settlement a total of 2,790 individuals. Most arrivals are Nuers and Dinkas though some Murles and Ocholi have also been registered.

At Kiryandongo settlement 1,013 individuals have been entered into the biometric registration, which is expected to commence in Arua and Adjumani in the coming days.

Relocations and transfers have been ongoing in Adjumani District with 1,639 individuals relocated from Dziapi TC to Nyumanzi settlement. The aim is to increase numbers to around 500 households transferred per day. In Kiryandongo refugee settlement relocation is set to begin on 13 January, the most prevalent gaps there are in water and sanitation and shelter.

Despite the challenges faced by the increasing number of arrivals, partners have been active in improving services at each site/centre during the course of the last week. A multi-sectoral assessment 6-8 January identified gaps and areas of intervention and new partners have come on board. An update on gaps, as well as implemented and planned activities, will be shared in the coming days.



At Dzaipi TC refugees check lists indicating relocation to Adjumani settlements. ©UNHCR/L.Beck

Overall statistics

At the end of October 2013, Uganda was hosting 250,392 registered refugees and asylum seekers, the large majority of whom originate from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). More than 45,000 refugees and asylum seekers have arrived in Uganda in the last months and biometric registration is ongoing in several locations for new arrivals.