

KEY FIGURES

195,547

UNHCR PoC for the situation

FUNDING

USD 210m

requested for the operation



PRIORITIES

- Approval and development of new site, Koben, to accommodate refugees
- Refugee relocation to Pugnido refugee camp

ETHIOPIA

UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE

8-12 February 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

- The total number of South Sudanese refugees who have entered Ethiopia since the outbreak of the conflict in mid-December 2013 is now over 195,547 individuals, comprising 192,828 individuals who entered through Gambella and 2,719 who entered through the Assosa region. Of the total figure, 57% are female and 67% are children.
- Newly arriving refugees continue to be transferred from the different border entry points to Pugnido Camp with support from IOM for transport. Over the last week, 51 new arrivals were received in Pugnido Camp. UNHCR, ARRA and partners conducted an information campaign in NipNip in preparation for the relocation of 6,000 refugees to the remaining space in Pugnido.
- Level II Registration, comprising collection of more detailed biodata and taking of photographs and biometrics, commenced in Akula village, approximately 17 kilometres from Tierkidi camp. UNHCR is undertaking this exercise together with ARRA and following consultations with the local *Woreda* officials and refugees. Over the last week, 446 people were registered.
- Registration of newborn babies resumed in Leitchuor camp after a period of five months during which registration was not undertaken. This was due to the flooding in Leitchuor camp as well as the relocation of refugees from Matar to Pugnido camp. Over the last week, 392 newborn babies were registered. Furthermore, 202 newborn babies were registered in Kule, Tierkidi and Pugnido camps in time for the February cycle of general food distribution.
- The second round of the Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV) campaign started in the refugee camps as part of a nationwide polio eradication strategy organised by the Ethiopian Federal Ministry of Health.
- UNHCR is awaiting feedback from the Regional Authorities regarding the request for additional suitable land.

Population of concern

A total of **195,547** people of concern

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

The total number of South Sudanese refugees who have entered Ethiopia since the outbreak of the conflict in mid-December 2013 is now over 195,000 individuals, with the number continuing to increase daily. The asylum seekers continue to arrive in Ethiopia into the Gambella Regional State, mainly through Burbiey, Raad and Akobo border-entry points, citing fighting and food insecurity as the main reasons for their flight. The Ethiopian borders remain open to asylum seekers. The South Sudanese refugee population is the largest refugee group in Ethiopia, surpassing the Somali refugee population. The rainy season caused damage in Leitchuor and NipNip Camps and refugees in these camps moved to higher ground within the camps and the surrounding villages.

Achievements



Protection

Achievements and Impact

- Level II registration and issuance of Proof of Registration documents was completed for 9,125 refugees who have been relocated to Pugnido from different transit centres and entry points.
- In Pugnido, UNHCR field staff in collaboration with the Agnuak site Refugee Central Committee and Women's Association facilitated the distribution of sanitary materials, comprising sanitary pads, laundry soap and underwear, to a group of 286 newly arriving women of reproductive age who are living in the Agnuak site of the camp. In addition to the sanitary materials, the women were provided with 10-litre collapsible jerrycans. The distribution was undertaken smoothly and female UNHCR staff also demonstrated how to use and dispose of the sanitary pads. Furthermore, in Leitchuor camp, 2,080 pieces of female underwear and 1,920 pieces of reusable sanitary pads were distributed to over 2,000 refugees.
- Also in Leitchuor camp, group discussions and dialogues were conducted with women, men, boys and girls on early marriage and its consequences. A total of 439 refugees participated in these sessions, comprising 371 females and 68 males.
- An overview of SGBV interventions was presented to the Health Working Group at Gambella level in order to strengthen joint efforts on inter-linked issues, such as alcohol abuse and increased SGBV incidents, as well as ways to address negative practices and behaviour.
- An SGBV sensitisation and awareness training workshop was conducted for 45 teachers working in the school in Kule camp run by Plan International. Training and awareness on Prevention of Sexual Abuse and Exploitation (PSEA) was also provided to the teachers. SGBV sensitisation has now been provided for teachers working in Kule, Terkidi and Pugnido camps.

Health

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR, ARRA and health partners have been working together on the outbreak response to Acute Jaundice Syndrome in Akula village. Health partners are carrying out active case searching while also providing health education talks with the community to reduce misconceptions and improve hygienic practices. UNHCR's partner MSF-F identified 19 individuals with Acute Jaundice Syndrome, with over 80% of cases testing positive in the rapid tests undertaken by MSF-F.



Food Security and Nutrition

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR discussed and finalized the 2015 Standardised Expanded Nutrition Survey (SENS) protocol with health partners. Seven modules will be covered in the survey, including mortality, food security, women between 15-49 years, children between 6-59 months, infants between 0-23 months, water, sanitation and hygiene and mosquito net availability. The survey is scheduled to take place between 16 February and 16 March.
- There are currently 7,715 children assessed under the Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) programme, including 2,386 in Leitchuor, 816 in Tierkidi, 1,701 in Kule, 2,661 in Pugnido, 4 in Okugo, 67 in Matar and 80 in NipNip. A total of 373 children were recently admitted to the Targeted Supplementary Feeding Program (TSFP). The number of children assessed as having Severe Acute Malnutrition is 1,206, including 382 in Leitchuor, 158 in Tierkidi, 461 in Kule, 135 in Pugnido, 50 in Matar and 20 in NipNip. A total of 68 new SAM cases were recently admitted to the Outpatient Therapeutic Feeding Program (OTP).
- A total of 36,131 children under five years are enrolled in Blanket Supplementary Feeding programmes, including 8,653 Leitchuor, 12,907 in Tierkidi, 13,366 in Kule, 114 in Okugo, 579 in Matar and 512 in NipNip. A total of 227 new cases were admitted to the Blanket Supplementary Feeding programmes during the week. A total of 11,711 pregnant and lactating women are also enrolled in the programmes, including 1,760 in Leitchuor, 2,957 in Tierkidi, 3,492 in Kule, 3,125 in Pugnido, 96 in Okugo, 100 in Matar and 181 in NipNip. 355 new cases were admitted to the programme over the last week.

Water and Sanitation

Achievements and Impact

- In Leitchuor camp, 3,163 10 litre jerrycans were distributed to 2,101 households, based on the standard of 1 jerrycan per family of 1-4 people and 2 jerrycans for families comprising more than 4 family members. This activity was undertaken as part of fulfilling the objective of maintaining and increasing the supply of safe water to refugees.
- An Environmental Cleaning Campaign was conducted in Leitchuor camp, in which a total of 508 individuals participated, including 160 females, 121 males and 227 children.
- A hand-washing campaign was undertaken in Leitchuor camp, in which 768 individuals participated, including 128 males, 230 females and 410 children.



Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

- The thematic maps for educational facilities in Kule and Tierkidi camps were developed and submitted to Education experts for feedback.
- UNHCR and its shelter partners are discussing the issue of water to be used for construction purposes in the camps, to avoid using treated water intended for drinking.

Working in partnership

- UNHCR continues to coordinate the refugee response in Gambella and a number of donors and partners continue to visit the operation. In Addis Ababa, the Refugee Task Force remains an important coordination body while several consultative meetings have been held with partners, donors and UN agencies on the flooding response.
- The Emergency Response Task Forces in Gambella have continued to convene regularly to address challenges and to strategize the response in both Leitchuor and Gambella.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to some **US\$ 111.9 million**, against **US\$ 210.9 million** requested for the situation, as of end-December 2014.

UNHCR is grateful for the vital support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to partners and UNHCR programmes with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

