

ETHIOPIA UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE

12 – 18 March 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

KEY FIGURES

197,301

UNHCR PoC for the situation

FUNDING

USD 153.2m

requested for the UNHCR operation



PRIORITIES

- Before the onset of the rainy season, UNHCR is working with the government and partners to develop the new site, Jewi and relocate refugees from Leitchuor
- Continuing relocation of refugees from Nip Nip to Pugnido

- An average of 60 South Sudanese refugees are arriving per day in Gambella through Pagak, Akobo, and Burbiey entry points. UNHCR is conducting Level 1 registration of all new arrivals before transporting them to the camp.
- The cumulative figure of new arrivals to Gambella from South Sudan from 15 December 2013 to date is 194,484 of which 57% are female and 67% are children. There are 2,817 South Sudanese new arrivals in Assosa making a total of 197,301, bringing the total number of South Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia to 261,262.
- 819 refugees were registered in Pagak (789) and Akobo (30) entry points. Of these 90 in Akobo were vulnerable: pregnant (13%), new borns (3%), elderly (3% and serious medical conditions (2%), accompanied by family members
- Those in Akobo were transferred to Pugnido camp through Burbiey. Those in Pagak were transferred to Pugnido camp. The total number of refugees relocated to Pugnido is 10,675. Level 2 registration and issuance of proof of registration completed for 98% of refugees.
- The Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (BPRM) Catherine Wiesner, arrived in Gambella together with US Embassy officials. The delegation was accompanied by the RBA Director Valentin Tapsoba, and the ARRA Deputy Director Ato Ayalew Aweke. The new Jewi refugee camp was inaugurated in on 15 March.
- Registration of refugees in Nip Nip camp for relocation to Pugnido camp started on 11 March and 462 refugees registered. The exercise was interrupted the following day by scuffles between refugees who are willing to relocate and those who do not want to do so. UNHCR has discussed the issue with ARRA and the local authorities, including the President of Gambella Regional State who may visit Nip Nip in the coming days.
- On 7 March, a joint Protection / Health Working Group mission went to Akobo to follow up on the registration of 789 new arrivals. Reception activities and resources were monitored and recommended to be upgraded. UNHCR is following up with ARRA to set up reception hangars and to include separate areas for registration and medical screening.
- Targeted solar lantern distribution to 5,576 female-headed and large family size households in Tierkidi and 5,455 in Kule out of 6,000 per camp is done.
- ARRA clarified the legal status and ownership of farmland on river banks in the Tsore site, Assosa. No legal problems have been identified. ARRA has deployed program, protection, admin/finance staff and a camp coordinator for Tsore camp. Preparation for construction has commenced. Plotting of all IP offices is complete. IRC has started ground clearance for their office.

Population of concern

A total of **197,301** 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 197, 301 individuals with a small but steady number of 60 new arrivals recorded daily in recent weeks in Gambella. The focus of the Gambella operation is the relocation of refugees from flood-prone Leitchuor and Nip Nip refugee camps before the next rainy season. The official inauguration of the Jewi Refugee Camp was held on Sunday 15 March.

Achievements

Protection

Achievements and Impact

- Protection and field staff were trained on the use of proGres which will improve quantification of protection activities. Staff were trained on how L1 and L2 information is recorded in the database and how information can be quickly retrieved for individuals or households to quickly respond to cases in the field; recording protection information (through use of protection events) and assistance delivered to refugees (through use of assistance events). Information flows to and from partners dealing with these aspects were underscored; updating special needs, for individual protection cases or household visits; and generating basic bio-data info from proGres.

SGBV

- A Focus Group Discussion was conducted on the disposal of sanitary materials and resulting high filling rate in latrines in Kule and Tierkidi camps in partnership with the WASH Working Group.

Child Protection

- A five-day Training of Trainers (TOT) from 6-10 March was supported by Plan International Ethiopia and conducted by a UNICEF-supported Information Management consultant on “Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS)” for 35 (5 female, 30 male) child protection partners, including ARRA, UNHCR, Danish Refugee Council, Save the Children and Plan International. On 12 March a consultant expert on psychosocial support arrived in Gambella to strengthen psychosocial support interventions in CFSs in all camps.
- Following the Protection mission to Akobo on 7 March, a total of 43 children with protection concerns, including 21 unaccompanied children (20 male, one female) and 20 separated children 20 (19male, one female), one mentally challenged boy and one female (orphan, were identified and registered at Akogo entry point. A summary sheet of these children was developed and shared with Save the Children at Burbiey reception point and Pugnido camp for protection assistance at reception point before and during relocation, and upon arrival at Pugnido camp.

Education

Achievements and Impact

- In Pugnido, Save the Children expanded education, child protection and youth programs at its new relocation site to address beneficiary needs. The 11th Pre-school centre is being established, enrolment of students commenced.

Health

Achievements and Impact

- One emergency drug kit (EDK) containing essential antibiotics, anti-malaria, emergency drugs and medical supplies was sent to Tierkidi Health Centre while the quarterly medical supply from Addis Ababa is en route.

- Two cases of Acute Jaundice Syndrome (AJS) were reported in Akula. This significant reduction can be related to awareness campaigns which resulted in improved hygiene practice in the community.
- Adequate medical supplies were received at entry points to improve arrival vaccination.



Food Security and Nutrition

Achievements and Impact

- Standardized Expanded Nutrition Survey (SENS) data collection was completed in Kule and Tierkidi camps. Plans for data collection in Okugu and Pugnido camps are being finalised.
- MSF-F and ACF in Leitchuor camp finalised modalities for support of non-breast fed infants in Leitchuor camp. MSF-F will provide inpatient support to cases, ACF will support community cases in liaison with Save the Children.
- Some 90 new Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) cases during the reporting period. The caseload of children under five years with SAM is 1,168 (465 Leitchuor, 346 Kule, 150 Tierkidi, 146 Pugnido camps; 13 Nip Nip and 48 Matar).
- Some 293 new cases were admitted for Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) during the week. The current caseload for Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) for children under five years is 5,210 (2,690 Leitchuor, 1,654 Kule camps; 809 Tierkidi; 57 Nip Nip, 94 Matar and 34 Pugnido).
- There were 234 children under five years and 220 pregnant and lactating women new admissions into the Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP). A total of 39,462 children under-five years are enrolled in BSFP: 8,603 Leitchuor, 13,651 Kule; 13,311 Tierkidi, 2,770 Pugnido camps; 548 Nip Nip, 579 Matar. A total of 11,645 pregnant and lactating women are enrolled (1,636 Leitchuor, 3,691 Kule, 3,095 Tierkidi camps; 133 Nip Nip and 100 Matar).
- A total of 7,436 Pregnant and lactating women received Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) information at nutrition centres (569 Leitchuor, 3,095 Tierkidi, 3,691 Kule camp; 81 Nip Nip area). A total of 373 mother to mother support Groups (MtMSG) are functional in the community blocks (62 Leitchuor, 96 Tierkidi, 203 Kule camps and 12 Nipnip area); 6 new groups were formed during the week in Leitchuor camp.
- General food distribution for March was completed in Pugnido, Okugu, and Nip Nip camps, ongoing for Kule , Tierkidi and Leitchuor camps. All nutrition partner programmes are progressing well with sufficient stock. All nutrition indicators are above Sphere standards. A total of 8,199mt, 2,111mt and 619.653mt of assorted food commodities were delivered to South Sudan by Air, road and river respectively from Gambella so far in 2015.



Water and Sanitation

Achievements and Impact

- Water supply averaged at 18 litres per person per day (LPD) in Leitchuor, 15 LPD in Kule and 17 LDP in Tierkidi. Sanitation (latrine) coverage for Leitchour was 1:43, Kule 1:27 and Kule1: 19. UNHCR and UNICEF WASH teams conducted a technical assessment for the new Jewi camp.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Achievements and Impact

- In Jewi, survey and mapping is on-going and development of map for the first 1,443 households completed.



Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

- In Jewi Refugee Camp, road clearance for the 3.7 km main entrance road was done;
- In Kule, Norwegian Refugee Council started 3km road construction and construction of office complex

- Locations for 150 street solar lights in Kule and Tierkidi camps were finalized after discussion with ARRA and UNHCR Field Coordinators. NRC commenced the construction of 6 km road at the extension site in Pugnido camp. In Kule camp, NRC started construction of the next 340 shelters, superstructure is completed for eight houses.
- The 200 constructed tukuls in Pugnido extension site are not 100% complete. Most of the tukuls were allocated to vulnerable refugees without mud-wall and provide no privacy. Refugees allocated the tukuls moved into the site with their tents and some have cut the tent to cover the walls. UNHCR Pugnido has made frequent requests to NRC to provide required materials, but NRC says it does not have funds to do so. UNHCR continues to follow up.

Logistics

Achievements and Impact

- Supply Unit delivered 48,453 pieces of laundry soap Leitchour, 46,452 to Kule and 49,348 to Tierkidi. Fuel was transported to Nying Nyang (2,000lts); Pugnido (4,000 lts); Akobo (200lts). Ninety vulnerable persons were airlifted from Akobo to Pugnido camp.

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.
- In Pugnido, the monthly inter-agency camp coordination meeting was held on 3 March and was attended by all partners and refugee representatives during which issues to do with operational achievements and challenges over the past five months were discussed. The meeting is hosted on rotational basis between ARRA and UNHCR.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total recorded contributions for the UNHCR operation amount to some **US\$ 22 million**, against **US\$ 153.2 million** requested for the situation, as at 9 March.

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



Official inauguration of the new Jewi refugee camp, Gambella, Sunday 15 March