

KEY FIGURES

Daily arrival figures from July 2016 are based on manual emergency registration or head-counts/wrist-banding. Confirmed figures will be available as the new arrivals undergo biometric registration. Figures prior to July are from the Government's Refugee Information Management System (RIMS).

14,358

Number of new arrivals between 15 and 21 May 2017

2,051

Daily average of new arrivals between 15 and 21 May 2017

613,398

Number of South Sudanese new arrivals after 7th July 2016

931,142

Total number of South Sudanese refugees in Uganda

PRIORITIES

- Ensure basic services for new arrivals as well support to persons with specific needs
- Accelerate biometric registration
- Identify new sites for refugee settlement
- Community outreach and protection monitoring in the settlements
- Expedite rehabilitation and construction of school structures to ensure access to education
- Ensure a sustainable and predictable supply of water
- Engage refugees/refugee leaders and host community members in coexistence and peace-building activities
- Promote and engage partners in livelihood interventions. Strengthen engagement of all partners, local authorities and members of the host community regarding interventions in Bidibidi.

UGANDA

EMERGENCY UPDATE ON THE SOUTH SUDAN REFUGEE SITUATION

INTER-AGENCY UPDATE | 15–21 MAY 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

- A total of 14,358 South Sudanese refugees arrived to Uganda between 15 and 21 May, making a daily cross-border average of 2,051 refugees. Refugees arriving from Yei, in South Sudan's Greater Equatoria region, reported an escalation of violence in the town. Uganda hosted 931,142 South Sudanese refugees by May 29, including 272,206 in Bidibidi, 148,381 in Palorinya, 86,770 in Rhino Camp, 81,597 in Imvepi and 21,275 in Palabek. The number of refugees in Uganda stands at 1.25 million.
- UNHCR inaugurated a primary school and a community centre in Palabek settlement, Uganda's Lamwo district, in the presence of refugees, representatives of the host community, local authorities and partners. "Children must go to school. It is critical that refugees acquire the knowledge and skills to rebuild their nations once peace return in their countries," said Bornwell Kantande, UNHCR's Representative in Uganda. At a public ceremony in Palabek, Kantande highlighted that the new facilities are for both refugees and locals. "Host communities are on the frontline of refugee response and under immense pressure. We work with the government of Uganda at a central and local level to ensure that local communities benefit from our interventions, but we need more partners to come on board and help."



©UNHCR/Rocco Nuri. UNHCR's Representative Bornwell Kantande cuts the ribbon to mark the official inauguration of a primary school in Palabek settlement, Uganda's Lamwo district.

UPDATE ON SITUATION

- Uganda continues to receive South Sudanese new arrivals. Reasons of flight remains consistent, such as fear of indiscriminate killings, looting of property, burning of houses, torture, rape, arrest by both government and opposition forces, lack of basic services and hunger.
- President of Uganda Yoweri Museveni attended the launch of South Sudan's National dialogue in Juba on 22 May to lend his support to the effort to promote dialogue for peace. President Museveni, who was chief guest, called on the people of South Sudan to support the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) as a platform unifying all the different communities of South Sudan and highlighted that a credible dialogue requires the genuine participation of opposition constituencies.

Protection

Achievements and Impact

- **Child Protection:** UNHCR and partners continued to identify and assist unaccompanied minors and separated children in all refugee settlements. Some 26 children underwent best interest assessment, including 14 in Adjumani and 12 in Palorinya. As a result, children were found in need of food, shelter, clothes, sandals and education materials. UNHCR referred them to relevant partners for assistance. In Imvepi, UNHCR and partners established foster banks to strengthen foster care arrangements and provide guidance to future foster parents. Across Uganda, nearly 30,000 South Sudanese children are separated or unaccompanied.
- **Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV):** UNHCR and partners continued to document SGBV incidents and provide support to survivors, including referral for medical examination, legal and psychosocial counselling, and material assistance. In Adjumani, three SGBV survivors were identified and assisted by UNHCR partner Lutheran World Federation (LWF). Seven others were reported in Palorinya and referred to relevant partners for support.
- **Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs):** UNHCR and partners identified 73 PSNs (34 males and 39 females) at Lefori entry point, including separated children and unaccompanied minors, child-headed households, chronically ill and elderly persons. Upon arrival in Palorinya, they were fast-tracked for assistance. In Imvepi, through protection networks and ongoing community mobilization, UNHCR partners International Rescue Committee (IRC), World Vision International (WV) and Save the Children International (SCI) have so far recorded 7,615 PSNs -79 per cent girls and women- and helped 1,294 of them build their shelter.

Identified needs and remaining gaps

- **Child Protection:** In Imvepi, several shelters for PSNs were damaged by strong winds. As a result, several refugees were forced to share the same shelter. Among them were seventeen children who were found living under the same roof. UNHCR referred the matter to CARE for a follow-up.
- **SGBV:** In Imvepi, humanitarian partners recommended the installation of security lights around all water points to reduce the risk of assaults against women and girls after dusk.
- **Refugee-host relations:** In Arua, there is a need to invest more in joint refugee-host community activities as a way to promote dialogue and peaceful coexistence.
- **PSN:** In Imvepi, PSNs continue to face challenges in accessing food distribution due to the far location of food distribution sites in the settlement. Some have to walk as far as five kilometers to reach the distribution centres and are forced to sell part of their rations to arrange for collection and delivery. UNHCR is in discussion with IRC, Samaritan's Purse and WFP regarding the establishment of additional distribution points closer to PSN shelters.

Education

Achievements and Impact

- In Bidibidi, UNHCR and partners completed three Early Child Development (ECD) centres at Ombechi and Kiranga and two others are still under construction. Thirteen schools were selected to receive 2,000 desks.

- In Adjumani, UNHCR partners Israaid and Windle Trust Uganda (WTU) carried out a training on psychosocial support and child protection for 30 teachers in Maaji settlement, with a view to strengthen the capacity of teachers in identifying and addressing psychosocial needs of children.

Identified needs and remaining gaps

- In Imvepi, UNHCR and Uganda's Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) have noted an increasing number of South Sudanese children arriving with no educational documents. They reported that the documents were left behind or destroyed upon fleeing. UNHCR partner WTU is looking into ways to determine the education level of these children and help them access school. There is also a need to scale up construction in all the five government schools to improve the learning environment.



Food Security and Nutrition

Achievements and Impact

- In northern Uganda, UNHCR and partners continued supporting feeding programmes for children 6-59 months old and pregnant and lactating mothers in all settlements. In Palorinya, 998 children under 5 years were screened for malnutrition. Some 150 (15 per cent) were found to be suffering from moderate acute malnutrition and 33 (3.3 per cent) from severe acute malnutrition. They have been all enrolled in relevant nutrition programmes.

Identified needs and remaining gaps

- In Bidibidi, there is a need for more advanced screening tools, especially weighing scales and height boards, and to invest more in promoting and complying with Infant and Young Child Feeding (YCF) practices as well as Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) guidelines. Low participation of men in the IYCF community sensitization sessions remains a challenge.



Health

Achievements and Impact

- In Bidibidi, six deaths were registered during the reporting period. The Crude Mortality Rate (CMR) and under-five mortality rates are estimated at 0.03 and 0.05 deaths/10,000/day, which is below the emergency threshold of 1 and 2 deaths/10,000/day respectively.
- In Palorinya, 86 live births were reported across the health centers in the settlement, including six by caesarean section.
- In Palorinya, 345 refugees were counseled and tested for HIV. Among them 17 (4.9 per cent) tested positive and were referred to relevant partners for care and treatment.

Identified needs and remaining gaps

- In Bidibidi and Imvepi, there is shortage of some essentials drugs and medical supplies. UNHCR is in discussion with health partners to address this matter. Furthermore, health partners in Imvepi are working to review the recruitment system for health professionals in order to improve provision of health services.



Water and Sanitation

Achievements and Impact

- In Adjumani, the average access to safe water across the settlements was maintained at 17.5 liters per person per day (l/p/d,) which is below the UNHCR standard of 20 l/p/d.
- In Palorinya, the average access to safe water across the settlements was maintained at 18 l/p/d during the reporting period. Five new boreholes were commissioned and two others were successfully drilled in Zone 3, as water trucking continues.

- In Adjumani, UNHCR and partners carried out campaigns on hygiene awareness and promotion through home-to-home visits, reaching 2,377 people in Nyumanzi, Boroli, Nyumanzi, Baratuku, Elema and Pagirinya settlements.
- In Bidibidi, Malteser International completed the construction of two sun-powered motorized high-yielding boreholes in Zones 3 and Zone 4 and one motorized borehole is pending construction in Zone 3. The sun-powered boreholes have so far produced a maximum of 40 m³ /day in Zone 3 and a maximum of 86 m³ /day in Zone 4.
- In Imvepi, UNHCR and partners have so far constructed 675 blocks of communal latrines, in addition to 471 hand wash stands. Some 325 digging kits were distributed in Zone 1 and Zone 2 to help refugees build family latrines.

Identified needs and remaining gaps

- In Bidibidi and Imvepi, some roads have become impassable due to rain, posing challenges to water trucking. Furthermore, water turbidity has adversely affected water delivery and quality.
- In Bidibidi, humanitarian partners concluded a WASH gap analysis and found that 16 additional motorized piped water systems and 70 new boreholes are needed to address the daily unmet water demand of 3,890 m³, in addition to the construction of 28,330 family latrine and 500 hand wash stands.



Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

Achievements and Impact

- In Adjumani, UNHCR partner LWF distributed vegetable seeds to 30 farmers groups and 750 families in the settlements of Boroli, Pagirinya, Nyumanzi, Ayilo, Elema and Agojo, including onions, okra, amaranthus, collard and egg plants.
- In Adjumani, UNHCR and partners planted 5,730 trees of eucalyptus and teak in Liria village and Nyumanzi to help address deforestation and environmental degradation. Furthermore, 4,014 fruit tree seedlings were distributed to both the refugees and host community in Nyumanzi and Ayilo I settlements.
- In Rhino, UNHCR and partners supplied goats to 50 foster-care parents to help them improve their livelihood and be in a better position to look after their foster children.

The South Sudan Emergency Response in Uganda is coordinated jointly by the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

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Links:

[Uganda Refugee Response Portal](#)
[UNHCR Uganda Facebook Page](#)
[South Sudan Regional Portal](#)
[News story: Burundian nurse cares, and is cared for, in Uganda](#)