

## UGANDA

# EMERGENCY UPDATE ON THE SOUTH SUDAN REFUGEE SITUATION

INTER-AGENCY DAILY #8 | 20<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2016

## HIGHLIGHTS

- **The number of South Sudanese refugees fleeing to Uganda escalated rapidly yesterday**, as more than 7,225 crossed the border in search of safety. This is the highest number to arrive in a single day in the last two years.
- By 1900, more than 6,000 refugees arrived in Elegu (Adjumani axis), while 545 arrived in Oraba district (Arua axis), 217 in Moyo and 115 in Lamwo. 346 individuals were also received at Kiryandongo Reception Centre.
- Many new arrivals came to Elegu alongside the convoy of Uganda People's Defense Force military trucks that were evacuating Ugandan nationals. This simultaneous mass influx severely stretched the capacities of Elegu collection point.
- Heavy rains hampered the registration but nevertheless, 1,171 refugees at Elegu were registered and transferred to Nyumanzi Transit Centre. The mass influx meant that more than 7,000 people remained at the collection point overnight, far beyond the collection point's capacity of 1,000 people. Many new arrivals had to sleep outside of tents despite the night's rain.
- In line with previous days, more than 90% of new arrivals continue to be women and children. Many have reported violent clashes taking place in South Sudan between forces loyal to President Kiir and those loyal to First Vice-President Machar. New arrivals from Magwi report unknown gunmen murdering civilians and looting houses. Others indicated that men are being prevented from crossing the border and are being forcibly recruited in to armed groups. In Arua, new arrivals from Yei report that an armed group has given residents one week to leave the area.
- Preparations are underway to open Aggojo settlement in Adjumani. The new settlement area will have capacity to host 15,000 refugees.
- Ten additional temporary shelters are being constructed by UNHCR and Lutheran World Federation at the reception centres in Pagirinya settlement to accommodate new arrivals.

## KEY FIGURES

**7,225+**

Number of new arrivals Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July (as per field reports)

**14,887**

Number of new arrivals since 7<sup>th</sup> July 2016 (as per field reports)

**33,838\***

Number of new arrivals registered since 1<sup>st</sup> January in Uganda (RIMS) (as of end of June)

**229,176\***

Total number of South Sudanese refugees registered in Uganda (RIMS) (as of end of June)

\*Figures (not updated daily) according to Uganda Government Refugee Information Management System (RIMS)

## PRIORITIES

- All collection points, transit centres and reception centres are severely over capacity and are in need of decongestion, and new centres need to be opened.
- Opening of new settlement sites and related site preparations.



*New arrivals receiving life-saving aid at Elegu collection point. Once registered, they will be taken to Pagirinya settlement in Adjumani. ©UNHCR/W. Swanson*

## UPDATE ON SITUATION

### Transit and Reception Centres

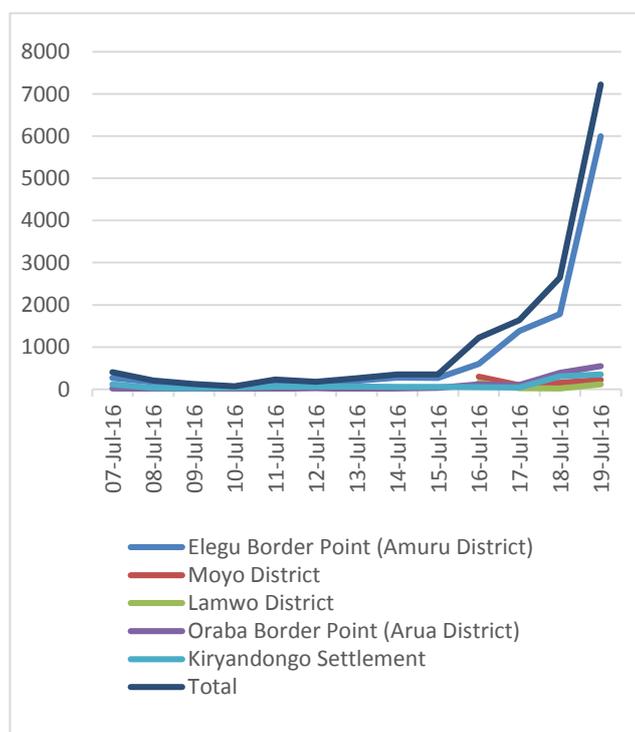
- Nyumanzi Transit Centre is currently host to 2,773 people as is now accommodating more than its 2,000-person capacity.
- 769 new arrivals are currently being hosted at Kuluba collection point (Arua axis), far in excess of its 300-person capacity, while Ocea Reception Centre is currently hosting 664 refugees, compared to its 200-person capacity. Two communal tents have been set up at Ocea Reception Centre in Arua to accommodate the increasing number of new arrivals while an additional three tents will be put up by UNHCR, together with the Danish Refugee Council. This will provide facilities for an additional 300 people. Two more temporary shelters are also being put to increase capacity at Kuluba collection point.
- Kiryandongo Reception Centre is currently host to 1,718 people, in excess of its 1,000-person capacity. 1,372 have already been registered in the Refugee Information Management System (RIMS) are awaiting relocation to settlement areas.

### Operational Update

- The majority of people who arrived in Kiryandongo yesterday are from Juba, with smaller numbers from Eastern Equatoria, Magwi, Mundri, Central Equatoria, Western Equatoria and Malakal. The new arrivals included 109 separated children, 28 single mothers, three elderly individuals and four unaccompanied minors. New arrivals report increasing tensions in Juba, Magwi and Bentiu.
- Medical Teams International (MTI) and the District Health Office have increased the number of health professionals working at Elegu collection point. This brings the total number of health workers mobilized by MTI to fifteen. The current contingent is able to perform medical screenings for up to 3,000 individuals per day.
- An Office of the Prime Minister/UNHCR team visited Moyo district to provide new arrivals living there with support including high-energy biscuits and other food items.

### Critical Needs

- Collection points, transit centres and reception centres are in urgent need of expansion. Site preparations need to take place in new settlement areas.
- Additional funding is required to cope with the fast-evolving emergency response, especially in light of the significantly higher number of new arrivals in recent days.
- A new settlement will need to be opened to host new arrivals once Aggojo is full. If the current trends continue, Aggojo is likely to reach its 15,000 capacity within a few days.
- There is a need for more buses and trucks to transport new arrivals from collection points to transit and reception centres. UNHCR will be providing additional vehicles over the coming days. The World Food Programme have also agreed to provide five trucks and Lutheran World Federation have agreed to provide two trucks and a mini-bus.
- There is a need for additional relief items to be delivered to Kiryandongo so that relocations to settlement areas may resume. A delivery is expected later today.



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#### Links:

[South Sudan Regional portal](#)- [Twitter](#)- [Thousands flee to Uganda from South Sudan following latest violence](#)