

UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE SOUTH SUDAN 12/2017

15 -30 June 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

KEY FIGURES

INSIDE SOUTH SUDAN

272,935

Refugees in South Sudan (31 May)

2 million

IDPs in South Sudan, including
216,956 people in UNMISS
Protection of Civilians site

US \$172 million

Funding requested for
comprehensive needs in 2017

US \$126 million

Funding requested for priority
needs in 2017

OUTSIDE SOUTH SUDAN

1,930,469

South Sudanese refugees in
neighboring countries (as of 15
June, 2017):

- Uganda: 962,799
- Ethiopia: 379,383
- Sudan: 403,084
- Kenya: 103,077
- DRC: 80,214
- CAR: 1,912

US \$883.5 million

Funding requested by UNHCR for
the South Sudan Situation in 2017

US \$141.2 million

Funding received by UNHCR for
the South Sudan Situation in 2017

- **UNHCR distributes seeds and tools to refugees in Unity:** In Doro Refugee camp, UNHCR and its partner Relief International (RI) distributed seed kits and tools to 3,776 refugees. Seeds and tools comprised vegetable seeds, and hoes. Cumulatively, 5, 212 refugees and vulnerable host community members have been provided with seeds and tool since the beginning of the year.
- **UNHCR conducts verification mission to Western Equatoria's Ezo County:** In Ezo County, UNHCR verified 385 households (911 individuals) present during a verification exercise which targeted 918 households (2,380 individuals) population of refugees. Among the cases verified, UNHCR activated those of 232 individuals who have returned to Ezo. UNHCR recorded 44 cases of deaths and closed these. 173 cases were inactivated. Since fighting broke out in Ezo County in 2015, this is the first time UNHCR has had access to the refugee camp in Ezo due to insecurity. This camp had officially closed in February 2016.
- **UNHCR provides Relief Items to over 8,000 IDPs in Northern and Western Bahr el Ghazal:** In Aweil, UNHCR distributed non-food items (NFIs) to 516 IDPs who fled from Raja following multiples crisis earlier this year. Items included kitchen sets, plastic sheets, mosquito nets, and soap. Also, UNHCR distributed sanitary kits to 387 women and girls of reproductive age. In Wau, UNHCR distributed Core Relief Items (CRIs) 7,264 individuals at IDP Collective Sites, through joint efforts with other actors and the Protection Desk. CRIs included second-hand clothes; hygiene clothes; underwear; buckets; plastic sheets; soaps; 30 sleeping mats, and household solar lamps.
- **UNHCR participates in a join humanitarian mission to Melut:** During the reporting period, humanitarian actors conducted a joint humanitarian mission to Melut co-led by UNMISS and UNHCR with the participation of OCHA, UNMISS (HRD, Civil Affairs, POC Advisor), IOM, Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and World Vision International (WVI). They communicated to the IDPs seeking protection within the Melut UNMISS Base and to the local authorities that the PoC site will be closed soon based on the IDPs' choice for relocation from the PoC site. They also aimed at developing an exit strategy that will ensure smooth and ensure a dignified relocation of the IDPs and validate areas of relocation indicated in the Intention Survey for IDPs in the UNMISS base. Key recommendations included development of an exit strategy led by UNHCR as Protection cluster co-lead, and partners comprising five working groups which will establish a feasible timeline for the relocation of the IDPs.
- **UNHCR registers new arrivals from Sudan:** In Yusuf Batil UNHCR registered 220 new arrivals from Sudan's Blue Nile region. Refugees reportedly fled as a result of misunderstanding the SPLM-North opposition forces. UNHCR provided refugees with documentation, plot allocation and core relief items such as family tents, mats, blankets and jerry cans.

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

- **South Sudan independence celebration cancelled due to the economic crisis** — On 27 June, the Government of South Sudan announced that it cancelled a plan to hold a celebration of the country's independence on the 9 July anniversary this year due to the economic crisis. South Sudan used to commemorate the day every year on 9 July when it gained its independence from Sudan in 2011. The government resolved not to celebrate the sixth anniversary of the independence due to lack of money. However, the government urged the public to observe the day as a public holiday. The government cited the current economic situation, which does not require celebration at a time when there are people who are in need of these funds meant for the celebration. This will be the second time South Sudan will fail to celebrate its independence. In the run-up to the independence celebration in the same period in 2016, heavy fighting erupted between the presidential guards of President Kiir and former First Vice President Dr. Riek Machar, resulting in the renewal of the ongoing conflict in the Equatorias, which continues to send thousands of refugees into neighboring countries. However, the security situation in Juba is relatively calm in contrast to the same period last year.
- **South Sudan Commemorates World Refugee Day** — In Juba, UNHCR and the Commission for Refugee Affairs (CRA) led the celebration of World Refugee day at Nyakuron Cultural Centre on Tuesday 20 June 2017. The occasion was well attended by government officials, some donors, partners, some UN agencies as well as refugees and members of the public. Highlights of the event included a speech by the UNHCR Acting Representative in South Sudan, Vincent Kwesi Parker, and Deputy Commissioner for Refugee Affairs (CRA) and the Deputy Minister of Interior. The celebrations at Nyakuron Cultural Centre included speeches, music, and dancing. Also, the celebrations provided an opportunity for refugees to showcase their handicrafts for sale to the general public. Separate celebrations also took place in the various refugee camps and settlements in the country.
- **UN High Commissioner for Refugees Visits South Sudan** — The United Nations High commissioner for Refugees, Mr. Filippo Grandi visited South Sudan from 17 to 19 June. On Sunday, 18 June he undertook a visit to Bentiu, which is hosting IDPs inside the UNMISS base including IDPs from the famine-hit areas of Leer and Mayendit in Southern Unity. In Juba, the High Commissioner met Government officials including the First Vice President Taban Deng Gai and President Salva Kiir. Following the release of the UNHCR's Global Trends Report 2016 on June 19, the High Commissioner said that it speaks louder than ever to the need for solidarity and common purpose in preventing and resolving crises, and ensuring together that the world's refugees, internally displaced and asylum-seekers are properly protected and cared for while solutions are pursued. Also on the occasion of this high-level visit to South Sudan, the Minister of Interior signed the Refugee Status Eligibility Regulations on 17 June 2017 marking codification of the State's refugee status determination procedures. It is hoped that national authorities including through the Commission for Refugee Affairs will undertake systematic implementation of these regulations as a next step.

REFUGEE RESPONSE



Achievements and impact

Central Equatoria

- In Gorom refugee settlement, UNHCR in collaboration with the Commission of Refugee Affairs (CRA) commenced verification of refugees. The exercise targets over 2,200 refugees in the settlement to update their bio-data, biometric information (in Biometric Identity Management System) and issuing/renewing the Proof of Registration (POR) document and the Refugee ID card for eligible refugees.
- During the reporting period, UNHCR verified 652 refugees consisting of 199 households. Biometrics Identity Management System (BIMS) enrollments were done for all refugees who were verified while 27 refugees were inactivated as spontaneous departures. Also, 22 were activated (including the registration of 17 newborn babies) bringing the total active population to 2,245 individuals. All the 199 families were issued with the POR document while 117 ID cards were issued/renewed for a person aged 16 years and above.
- In Juba, UNHCR registered 53 asylum-seekers comprising of 42 from Eritrea and 11 from Ethiopia. Also, UNHCR registered seven newly arrived refugees from Sudan.
- In Juba, UNHCR issued 14 refugee IDs. Cumulatively, 2,472 IDs including 1,014 renewals have been issued in 2017.
- In Yei, UNHCR in coordination with CRA registered 175 Congolese refugees including 84 pupils for primary and five for secondary schools. It is expected that this will enhance their protection, especially for the children, and access to services.

- In Yei, UNHCR conducted a two-day training for 31 partners and CRA staff on Best Interest processes to enhance their knowledge in Child protection. The trainees were from UMCOR, ACROSS, CRA, RRC and other NGOs undertaking child protection services in the region.
- During the reporting period, UNHCR transferred 115 refugees to Juba and Yida (114 to Juba and 01 to Yida).

Unity

- In Pamir refugee camp, UNHCR distributed refugee identification cards to (IDs) 240 individuals. So far, 729 IDs have been distributed since the launch of the exercise in April 2017.
- In Yida, UNHCR registered 209 new arrivals. Cumulatively, 8,218 new arrivals have been registered since the beginning of 2017. There is a decrease in the number of new arrivals; this decrease is partly attributed to deteriorated road conditions Sudan to Yida, South Sudan.
- During the reporting period, UNHCR relocated 291 refugees including 66 to Ajuong Thok refugee camp and 225 to Pamir refugee camp. Relocated refugees included 84 previously settled in Yida and 207 new arrivals. Cumulatively, 9,609 refugees have relocated since the beginning of the year, including 1,463 previously settled in Yida. The Pamir refugee camp population now stands at 14,067 individuals since opening in September 2016.
- During the reporting period, UNHCR relocated 26 (11 girls, 15 boys) including 11 new arrivals unaccompanied children from Yida to Pamir and Ajuong Thok refugee camps. UNHCR and partners supported them with non-food items, foster parent arrangement and follow-up on shelter.
- In Yida, UNHCR identified and relocated six children for family unification with family members in Ajuong Thok and Pamir.
- In Pamir refugee camp, UNHCR partner Lutheran World Federation (LWF) provided support to 92 (49 girls, 43 boys) children cases relating to various protection concerns including parenting, food, and assistance.
- In Ajuong Thok refugee camp, UNHCR identified and supported 29 (6M, 23F) extremely vulnerable persons with soap, sandals, powder milk a month other non-food items.
- In Pamir refugee camp, UNHCR partner International Rescue Committee (IRC) identified and supported 24 (7M, 17F) PSNs with sugar, soap and coffee beans. Related 293 (104M, 189F) PSNs were provided awareness on human rights, protection principles and referral pathway.

Western Equatoria

- In Ezo County, UNHCR verified 385 households (911 individuals) present during a verification exercise which targeted 918 households (2,380 individuals) population of refugees. Among the cases, UNHCR activated included 232 individuals who have returned to Ezo. UNHCR recorded 44 cases of death and closed and 173 cases inactivated. Since fighting broke out in Ezo County in 2015, this is the first time UNHCR has had access to the refugee camp in Ezo due to insecurity, in the camp which had officially closed in February 2016.
- In Makpandu refugee settlement, UNHCR in collaboration with the Commission for Refugee Affairs (CRA) renewed 666 refugee IDs cards and issued 52 asylum seekers certificate.

Upper Nile

- Following the incident of 22 May 2017 in Kaya Camp, between the Ingassana tribe on one hand and the Uduk & other minorities on the other hand, all Ingassana tribe were relocated to three camps i.e. Kaya, Yusuf Batil and Gendrassa with the Uduks and other minority tribes relocated to Doro Camp. Relocation was both organised and spontaneous. Organised relocation across camps was concluded on the 8th of June 2017 and support for the families to settle down is on-going. Cumulatively, 12,614 refugees in 2,557 households were relocated across the four camps. The overall situation is calm and gradually stabilizing with service delivery on going in all camps in a harmonised manner. This is to ensure the neutrality of the humanitarian community. However tensions are still high within the two tribal groups. Some minority tribes who refused to relocate and decided to remain in the camps where the Ingassana reside are currently facing harassment and threats of abduction of their children. These families are relocated on case by case bases and as and when they communicate to UNHCR and CRA of their intention to relocate to Doro camp. UNHCR and partners are yet to receive feedback from the County Commissioners on the letter submitted to the latter in early June to follow-up further and address specific protection, law and order and other related concerns in the camps which have already been raised before.
- In Yusuf Batif refugee camp, UNHCR registered 220 new arrivals from Sudan's Blue Nile region. Refugees fled as a result of misunderstanding between factions of the SPLM-North rebels. UNHCR provided refugees with documentation, plot allocation and Core relief items such as family tents, mats, blankets and jerry cans.

- In Kaya and Gendrassa refugee camps, UNHCR trained 133 teachers on child protection and child safeguarding principles as part of mainstreaming child protection. This training will enhance the protection environment of the children in the camps.
- In Maban, UNHCR in collaboration with its partner Save the Children International (SCI) organized a three-day training for 20 data managers on Child Protection Information Management Systems (CPIMS).



Education

Achievements and Impact

Central Equatoria

- In Gorom refugee settlement, UNHCR provided two school tents for temporary learning space to 450 Pre-school children. Due to a rain storm, the school's semi-permanent classroom was destroyed.
- In Juba, UNHCR partner ACROSS installed a recreational facility at refugee students' accommodation. The facility installed include tennis equipment, volley-ball cord and football pitch which will enable students to obtain sports skills and also improve their health and social welfare.

Unity

- In Ajuong Thok refugee camp, UNHCR delivered 100 mats to Napata, Makuria, Merowe, and Bankee Primary Schools for sitting in classrooms.
- In Ajuong Thok refugee camp, UNHCR renovated 16 temporary structures in three primary schools to enhance learning space.
- In Pamir refugee camp, UNHCR recruited and deployed 29 (5 females, 24 males) teachers to three Primary Schools and two Secondary Schools.

Upper Nile

- In Kaya refugee camp, UNHCR completed upgrade works of four classrooms at Kayuk Primary School. Also, UNHCR completed the minor upgrade works of 30 classrooms planned in Kaya and Gendrassa. The improved classrooms provide a conducive learning environment for pupils.



Food Security and Nutrition

Achievements and Impact

Western Equatoria

- In Makpandu refugee camp, UNHCR partner World Vision International (WVI) distributed 1.062 metric tons of Nutrition supplies to 177 beneficiaries of Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP) targeting children of 6 – 23 months, Pregnant and Lactating Mothers.

Upper Nile

- In the Maban refugee camps, UNHCR and its operational partners World Food Programme (WFP), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), ACTED and Samaritan's Purse (SP) carried out General Food Distribution (GFD) for 136, 492 refugees. The 70% food basket comprised of three items; cereals, pulses, and vegetable cooking oil.



Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

Central Equatoria

- In Juba, UNHCR and its partner Humanitarian Development Consortium (HDC) distributed second-hand clothes to 1, 246 urban refugees. The ongoing distribution is expected to reach 2,208 urban refugees.

Upper Nile

- In Yusuf Batil and Doro refugee camps, the construction of mud brick transitional shelters is ongoing for persons with specific needs (PSNs).
- In Yusuf Batil and Doro refugee camp, UNHCR completed the construction of 130 out 800 transition shelters.
- In Kaya Refugee Camp, the upgrade of transitions shelters is ongoing. So far, 15 out of 325 have been completed.

Unity

- In Pamir refugee camp, the construction of 1,000 transition shelters is ongoing.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

Central Equatoria

- In Yei, UNHCR partner UMCOR conducted a needs assessment for former Lasu refugees. The assessment identified 387 individuals in 55 households (176 M and 211 F) in need of assistance of core relief items. UNHCR and UMCOR will organize for distribution of the NFI assistance to the verified refugees.



Water and Sanitation

Achievements and impact

Upper Nile

- During the reporting period, the water supply coverage stood at 20 liters per person per day in Maban camps. The ongoing rainfall in Maban has positively impacted on water supply by reducing water collection pressure at water collection points.



Health

Achievements and Impact

Unity

- In Pamir and Ajuong Thok refugee camps, UNHCR promoted blood donation and screening of blood donors during the commemoration of the World Refugee Day (WRD). As a result, 71 potential donors screened. Also, UNHCR in collaboration with Internews and Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA) conducted Radio messages and talk shows on the topic.



Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

Achievements and impact

Upper Nile

- In Doro refugee camp, UNHCR and its partner Relief International (RI) distributed seed kits and tools 3,776 refugees. Seeds and tools comprised of the crop, vegetable seeds, and hoes. Cumulatively, 5, 212 refugees and vulnerable host community member have been provided with seeds and tool since the beginning of the year.
- In Doro and Yusuf Batil camps, UNHCR and its partner RI supported 18 Village Saving Loans Association groups each comprising on average 15 to 20 members to start their savings and loans activities. Cumulatively, 295 members have been supported in these camps. The Village Saving Loans Associations seek to address challenges in accessing formal financial services by increasing access to informal financial and social capital.
- In Gendrassa refugee camp, UNHCR and its partner ACTED facilitated the ploughing of 60 acres for seed multiplication. Cumulatively, 280 acres have been ploughed against a target of 300 acres in 2017.
- In Kaya refugee camp, UNHCR and its partner ACTED distributed seeds to 1,214 refugee households. Cumulatively, 3,992 households of refugees and host community have been reached with crop and vegetable kit to 3992 in Gendrassa and Kaya camps.

Unity

- In Pamir refugee camp, UNHCR officiated the launch of Leather Craft Program. Approximately, 23 trainees (16M, 7F) participated, including two members of the host community.
- In Ajuong Thok refugee camp, UNHCR organized a two-days training for 20 beneficiaries of the bee-keeping project.

Central Equatoria

- In Yei, UNHCR partner UMCOR through Community-Based Agricultural Extension Workers conducted a business management training for 133 (76 male and 57 female) to increase profits for improved livelihoods in refugee hideout locations in Kukuyi and Yago villages.

- In Yei, UNHCR partner UMCOR trained 83 (51 male and 32 female) farmers from refugee locations in Kukuyi, Lomi and Yego in good agronomic practices in the areas of field management for planted crops. The training is expected to increase refugee farmers output and livelihoods.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Achievements and Impact

Upper Nile

- In Maban, UNHCR commenced major road constructions and maintenance from the airstrip to Kaya camp. So far, 8.8 km has been achieved which exceeds 40% of year target. The road constructions and maintenance give access for service delivery to the persons of concern at this peak of rainy season.



Logistics

Achievements and Impact

Unity

- In Ajuong Thok refugee camp, the expansion of the airstrip is ongoing; of which, 48% works completion to date.
- In Yida, UNHCR completed 20% of the ongoing reconstruction of the Reception Centre.
- In Pamir and Ajuong Thok refugee camp, UNHCR completed 45% of the ongoing construction of 10 Child-Friendly Spaces
- The construction and maintenance of 3.6 km Jamjang-Pamir road are ongoing, including maintenance work on 15 km camp roads; works completion stands at 35%.
- In Ajuong Thok refugee camp, UNHCR completed 55% of the construction of Nutrition Centre

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

Unity

- Heavy rain is disrupting construction works in the region.

IDP RESPONSE



Protection

COORDINATION

Achievements and impact

Upper Nile

- During the reporting period, humanitarian actors conducted a joint humanitarian mission to Melut co-led by UNMISS and UNHCR 1 with the participation of OCHA, UNMISS (HRD, Civil Affairs, POC Advisor), IOM, Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and World Vision International (WVI). They communicated to the IDPs seeking protection within the Melut UNMISS Base and to the local authorities that the PoC site will be closed soon based on the full term IDPs' choice for relocation from the PoC site. They also aimed at developing an exit strategy that will ensure smooth and ensure a dignified relocation of the IDPs and validate areas of relocation indicated in the Intention Survey for IDPs in the UNMISS base. Key recommendations included: development of an exit strategy led by UNHCR as Protection cluster co-lead with DRC, UNMISS, IOM, and OCHA comprising of five working groups, which will establish a feasible timeline for the relocation of the IDPs.

OPERATIONS

Achievements and impact.



Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and impact

Upper Nile

- In Maban, UNHCR teamed up with World Food Programme (WFP), Humanitarian Development Consortium (HDC) and Samaritan's Purse (SP) in collaboration with government counterpart Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC) and distributed a "one-time" food and non-food items (NFIs) to 1,082 IDPs verified. NFIs included plastic sheet, mosquito nets, blankets and sleeping mats. Food items included sorghum, cooking oil and pulses. IDPs were displaced from the border areas of Jabir Dida, Kango and Old Guffa following the ongoing conflict in-fighting and splits within the SPLM-N and SPLA-N cadres at the border areas of Old Guffa, North East Maban County in the former Upper Nile State.

Unity

- In Bentiu, UNHCR distributed protection-based non-food items to 200 most vulnerable individuals. NFIs included plastic sheets, sleeping mats, kitchen sets, solar lamps, blankets and mosquito nets.
- In Nhialdiu, UNHCR and its partner Danish Refugee Council (DRC) distributed protection based NFIs to 1,764 most vulnerable individuals. NFIs included plastic sheets, sleeping mats, kitchen sets, solar lamps, blankets and mosquito nets. Also, solar lamp and dignity kits were provided to girls and women of reproductive age.

Central Equatoria

- In Yei, UNHCR partner UMCOR distributed tools to 362 IDPs farmers (216males and 146 females) at eight IDP sites. These tools would enable IDP households to plant food crop during the second planting season.

Jonglei

- In Bor town, UNHCR partner INTERSOS distributed protection based NFIs for 124 vulnerable persons identified during the daily monitoring and Gender Based Violence (GBV) survivors who attended women-friendly space. NFIs included; plastic sheets, kitchen set, sleeping mat, soaps, mosquitoes net, bucket, and blanket.
- In Mingkaman, UNHCR partner Humanitarian Development Consortium (HDC) rehabilitated 15 shelters for vulnerable individuals at IDP site. Cumulatively, 50 of these shelters have been renovated since the beginning of 2017.
- In Akobo, UNHCR partner Nile Hope completed the construction of a women centre for carrying out psychosocial support activities for both women and girls.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps:

Jonglei

- Enormous need for NFIs remains a major challenge for IDPs
- Some of the project sites become inaccessible when rain due to flooding.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Achievements and Impact

Unity

- In Bentiu, UNHCR and its partner Danish Refugee Council (DRC) in collaboration with Town Mayor conducted a training for 27 participants of the newly elected community leadership committee on community mobilization and participation and complaint/feedback mechanisms.
- In Bentiu, UNHCR and humanitarian actors held an initial meeting with the community leadership Humanitarian Hub, where the community leadership expressed some of their issues and humanitarian organizations shared their current/ongoing activities with them.

Jonglei/Lakes

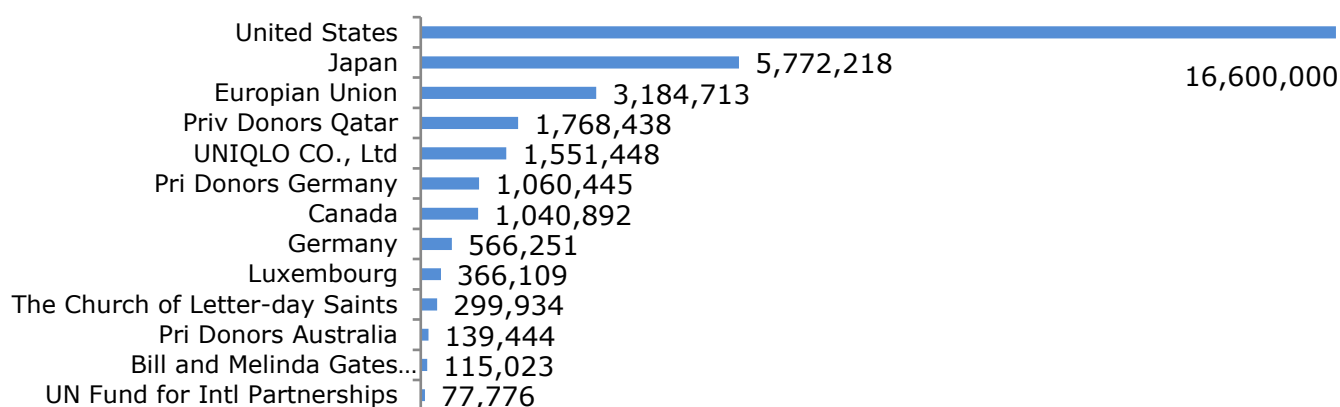
- In Twic East, Duk and Awerial counties, UNHCR partner Humanitarian Development Consortium (HDC) completed the establishment of three Agro-pastoralist Field schools.
- During the period, UNHCR partner HDC distributed seeds and tools to 5,000 vulnerable households in the three locations of (Mingkaman IDPs camp- 1,000 households, Twic East- 2,000 households and 2,000 households in Duk) as part of 2017/18 project for comprehensive Solutions Strategy Development.

Northern/Western Bahr el Ghazal

- In Aweil, UNHCR distributed NFIs to 516 IDPs who fled from Raja following multiples crisis earlier this year. Items included kitchen sets, plastic sheets, mosquito nets, and soap. Also, UNHCR distributed sanitary kits to 387 women and girls of reproductive age.
- In Wau, UNHCR distributed Core Relief Items (CRIs) 7,264 individuals at IDP Collective Sites, through joint efforts with other actors and the Protection Desk. CRIs included second-hand clothes; hygiene clothes; underwear; buckets; plastic sheets; soaps; 30 sleeping mats, and household solar lamps.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to USD 32,559,652 for the financial year 2017 as of 3 July 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 programs with earmarked and broadly earmarked funds. UNHCR's comprehensive needs for 2017 amount to \$172 million, with most priority needs of \$126 million.



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Links:

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