

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).

11,825

Number of new arrivals between 11th and 17th of January 2017

1,689

Daily average of new arrivals between 11th and 17th of January 2017

510,090

Number of new arrivals since 1st January 2016

660,864

Total number of South Sudanese refugees in Uganda

PRIORITIES

- Expedite the registration and relocation exercise in Palorinya
- Ensure educational structures are in place prior to the start of the next academic year and ensure identification and registration of school aged children
- 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 WEEKLY | 11TH – 17TH JANUARY 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

- **11,825 refugees were received in Uganda from South Sudan between the 11th and 17th of January. The arrival rate has continued to increase, with a daily average of 1,689 new arrivals, compared to 1,140 in the previous week.**
- The majority of South Sudanese refugees arrive in Uganda through informal border points, with 529 refugees arriving in Uganda through the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). 5,918 South Sudanese refugees have reached Uganda through the DRC to date.
- The relocation of refugees to Palorinya Settlement continued, with 43,770 refugees being received in the settlement since 9th December 2016.
- To expedite the relocation of refugees from Palorinya Reception Centre to their allocated plots, a biometric registration centre has been established in Palorinya Zone II.
- Refugees continue to cite violence and indiscriminate killing of civilians, nightly attacks on homes, sexual violence, looting of livestock and and property, unsubstantiated accusations of collaboration with opposition groups, fear of arrest and torture and lack of food and other basic necessities as reasons for leaving South Sudan.
- A delegation from Girl Up campaign, including celebrity supporter Cara Delevingne, visited primary schools in Bidibidi, Nyumanzi and Pagirinya settlements to learn about and raise awareness of the challenges in refugee girls' access to education. There is a huge gap in the education sector in the settlements due to lack of sufficient resources, and the enrolment rate at secondary level is around 6% due to a lack of scholarship opportunities. Efforts are ongoing to identify more scholarship opportunities to address this.



General Food Distribution in Palorinya Settlement; refugee households are divided into groups based on family size to facilitate the distribution process, Jan 2017. UNHCR/K. Kabbara

UPDATE ON SITUATION

- The number of new arrivals has continued to increase. A total of 927 new arrival South Sudanese Refugees were reported at Elegu Collection Point in Adjumani district from 9-15 January, up from 613 refugees the previous week. Similarly, 3,556 refugees were reported in Moyo district, up from 2,734 new arrivals in the previous week. The arrival rate in Lamwo slightly decreased, with 73 new arrivals reported compared to 109 in the previous week.
- The majority of refugees arriving in Uganda originate from the Equatoria Region of South Sudan, with many from Yei, Morobo, Lainya, Kajo-Keji and the adjacent areas. Refugees report that due to insecurity they are unable to use the main roads to the border and are forced to walk up to several days in the bush to reach Uganda, usually with few belongings and limited access to food, water and other needs. Many refugees are also arriving via the DR Congo, spending several days trekking through the dense forests of the DRC to avoid attacks by armed groups.
- Refugees report that while traveling through the bush in South Sudan to reach Uganda, armed groups prevent them from harvesting food left in abandoned gardens and farms. They also allege that armed forces are burning the bush, including farms and gardens, in order to clear the ground of rival groups.

Protection

- **Registration:** In Moyo, 5,664 refugees were registered. A Legislation Desk has been established at Lefori collection point to address refugees' queries related to registration, nationality screening and related issues. This week, a total of thirteen cases were successfully resolved.
- **Persons with Specific Needs (PSN):** In Bidibidi, 39 persons with specific needs were identified and registered in Zone 5, bringing the total identified in the settlement to 19, 702. A community dialogue session was conducted with 25 women in Zone 2 to strengthen community involvement in supporting vulnerable community members. The women expressed interest in supporting PSNs, especially the elderly, persons with serious medical conditions and persons with disabilities, as well as their need to be supported with tools to cut grass for thatching PSN shelters and materials for latrine construction. In Moyo, 558 PSNs were identified; the majority of which were unaccompanied and separated children and elderly persons in need of assistance and support. Psychosocial support and First Aid were provided to 50 persons (29 female and eleven male) to address their specific needs.
- **Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) Response:** In Bidibidi, 54 survivors of sexual and gender-based violence were identified, bringing the total SGBV cases reported in the settlement since it opened in August to 491. Based on their needs and informed consent, all cases were followed up and provided with the appropriate support, including legal, medical and psychosocial services. In Moyo, nine SGBV cases were identified, all of whom were female; four were cases of early marriage, two of physical violence, two of sexual assault and one of emotional violence. In all cases, referrals were made to ensure that the particular needs of each survivor were addressed. In Adjumani, three female SGBV survivors were identified and provided with psychosocial counselling and documentation for follow up.
- **Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) Prevention:** In Bidibidi, community outreach and focus group discussions with women and girls indicate that violence within family is often caused by lack of secure shelter and the vulnerability of female-headed households following alcohol abuse contributing to incidence of rape. 138 outreach and awareness raising activities were conducted in all zones of Bidibidi, reaching a total of 9,494 (5,773 female, 2,721 male) refugees, including 4,326 youth and adolescents (2,610 female, 1,716 male). In Moyo, 376 persons (212 female and 164 male) were reached through awareness raising sessions conducted on SGBV prevention and response in Palorinya Zone I.
- **Child Protection:** In Bidibidi, 350 children at risk were identified, bringing the total number of children with specific needs identified in the settlement to 3,657. 107 children were referred for shelter assistance and 139 children were monitored through home visits. In Moyo, 340 children at risk were identified, including 332 unaccompanied and separated children, and 153 best interest assessments were conducted in Palorinya settlement. In Adjumani, twelve unaccompanied minors in Agojo settlement were relocated from the children's shelter at which they had been living and placed with foster families. The families will be provided with material assistance and follow up visits will be made to assess the wellbeing of the children and their integration into their new families.

- **Protection Information and Counselling Desks (PICD):** In Bidibidi, an upsurge of inquiries related to family reunion has been noted at the Desks, particularly in relation to refugees seeking to join their family directly from South Sudan. Common inquiries at the Desks relate to food distribution and access to rations and health services.

Education

- In Bidibidi, a Back to school campaign is ongoing in Zones 1 and 2 to mobilise the community and ensure children are registered for the 2017 school year. The registration process for school enrolment is ongoing, with 20,066 students registered in Zones 1 and 2 and 10,089 children registered in Zones 3, 4 and 5.
- In Moyo, outreach and community mobilisation activities to identify school age children continued. 2,731 children were registered for primary School, 682 for secondary school, 500 for vocational training and 1,323 children were registered for Early Childhood Development centres. Profiling of school-aged children with specific needs and vulnerabilities is underway at the school registration desks.



Health

- In Bidibidi, 9,648 outpatient consultations were conducted, among which 12% were members of the host population. The leading causes of illness were malaria (35.5%), Acute Respiratory Tract Infections (27%) and Acute Watery Diarrhea (8%). 96 mental health cases were registered in the settlement and are being followed up. Ariwa health facility in Zone 5 was supported with bedding material and building renovations.
- In Moyo, 5,489 outpatient consultations were conducted, and the leading causes of illness were malaria (24%), Acute Respiratory Tract Infections (29%) and injuries (3%). At Lefori Collection Point, 774 children were immunized against measles and 825 were immunized against polio, with 774 given vitamin A supplements. 3,866 children were dewormed.



Food Security and Nutrition

- In Bidibidi, a total of 2,516 children aged 6-59 months and 406 pregnant and lactating women have been identified and enrolled in nutrition programmes and 2,378 children are enrolled in the nutrition centres for rehabilitation. During the week, the default rate among children aged under five in the supplementary feeding programme was estimated at 13.4%, compared to 7.8% in the previous week. The continuous movement of refugees between the zones of the settlement accounts for much of the defaulting, and efforts to follow up defaulters and track their movements are ongoing.
- In Moyo, food distribution information and dialogue sessions targeting the relocated refugee community were conducted at the Settlement (Zones I & II) to provide information on the planned General Food Distribution process and entitlements. 41 malnourished children were reported at Lefori collection point and referred for treatment.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

- In Adjumani, access to safe water increased from 17.6 to 18.1 litres per person per day (l/p/d) across the settlements due to a borehole repairs. A home improvement campaign in Agojo and Pagirinya settlements reached 2,941 people with messages on the importance of proper excreta disposal, handwashing, construction of basic sanitation facilities and environmental hygiene.
- In Bidibidi, access to safe water stands at 14.6 l/p/d in Zone 1, 10.3 l/p/d in Zone 2, 14.1 l/p/d in Zone 3, 10.8 l/p/d in Zone 4 and 14.6 l/p/d in Zone 5. There has been improvement in the supply and provision of water to the population in Bidibidi through upgrading of various boreholes and pumping of high yield ones. Congestion at boreholes has reduced as trucks have a shorter waiting time to collect water.
- In Moyo, access to safe water stands at 26 l/p/d at Palorinya Reception Centre, 18 l/p/d in Palorinya Zone 1 and 14.2 l/p/d in Zone 2. Borehole drilling and installation of a water network are ongoing, but the land structure in Palorinya has posed challenges and delayed completion, exerting pressure on existing boreholes and water trucking from Obongyi water treatment plant and the Chinyi public school borehole. In Zone 1, sixteen boreholes are currently in use, and 900 refugee households were provided with construction tools to facilitate the digging and construction of

household latrines. In Zone 2, nineteen boreholes are currently in use, complemented by water trucking and 35 water storage tanks. Latrine coverage per person stands at a ratio of 1:37 at the reception centre, 1:21 in Zone 1 and 1:37 in Zone 2. 212

Shelter, Infrastructure and Distribution

- **Distribution:** In all settlements, refugees are provided with essential relief items upon arrival on their designated plots. Shelter kits are also distributed to assist with the construction of temporary housing structures. Women and girls are provided with monthly packages of sanitary napkins, soap and underwear. In Bidibidi, upgrading of the warehouse and connection to the UNHCR global management system will be finalised shortly, which will improve tracking and management of stock.
- **Shelter/Site Planning:** In Bidibidi, 139 shelters were constructed to ensure access to basic services for persons with specific needs. A total of 102,382 plots of land have been demarcated for refugees in Bidibidi to date.
- **Infrastructure:** A total of 402.1 km of access roads have been opened in Bidibidi refugee settlement.

OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- **Protection:** In Bidibidi, prevention activities to address refugee concerns about increased alcohol and drug consumption in the settlement contributing to SGBV and crime. Provision of mobility devices such as wheelchairs and essential items to support the needs of persons with disabilities. Timely access to medical services for survivors of SGBV, and increased provision of counselling and safe spaces for male survivors. In Palorinya, construction of child friendly spaces and playgrounds, and deployment of female police officers to enhance SGBV response are priorities
- **Education:** In Bidibidi, ensure school latrines are cleaned prior to start of the new academic year as refugee communities have been using the facilities over the holidays. Monitor construction activities to ensure quality work on schools and affiliated structures. Construction of additional schools, especially permanent school structures, in preparation for the upcoming school year. Implementation of appropriate recreational activities for children during the school holidays. Recruitment and training of additional teachers and classroom assistants in Palorinya.
- **Health:** Staffing shortfalls must be addressed to increase the number of skilled health workers. Construction of permanent health infrastructure in locations with tented health facilities. Distribution of mosquito nets, particularly to vulnerable groups, to prevent malaria. In Palorinya, three additional ambulances are required for patient referrals, as well as a double cabin pickup to support health and nutrition programmes.
- **Food Security and Nutrition:** Expedite construction of a health facility for provision of nutrition services in Zone 4 and increase nutrition programme coverage in all the Zones (with greater emphasis on Zones 3, 4 and 5) to address malnutrition. Overall capacity building regarding awareness, promotion and protection of nutrition programmes, quality community outreach program and nutrition surveillance.
- **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene:** Piped water systems are required for all zones of Bidibidi. Improved latrine coverage and decommissioning of latrines, as well as additional handwashing facilities. Expedite construction of sanitation facilities in Palorinya Zone II to accommodate the needs of newly relocated refugees in the newly established blocks.
- **Shelter, Infrastructure and Distribution:** Ensure an emergency stock of relief items and procurement of items available locally. Additional staff, capacity and resources for the upgrading of Bidibidi warehouse. Engagement of host communities on land allocation and identification of appropriate sites for communal facilities in Bidibidi. Additional heavy machinery to expedite roadworks. Timely delivery of a complete stock of relief items.

Contacts:

Government of Uganda (OPM) Coordination Contacts:

David Apollo Kazungu, Commissioner for Refugees, dakazungu@gmail.com, Tel.: +256 (0) 776 411 448

Douglas Asiimwe, Principal Refugees Protection Officer, asiimwedw@yahoo.com, Tel.: +256 (0) 772 969 054

John Alinaitwe, Senior Settlement Officer, comdt2k@yahoo.co.uk, Tel.: +256 (0) 772 425 718

Titus Jogo, Refugee Desk Officer, Adjumani, Tel: +256 (0) 392 725 718

Solomon Osakana, Refugee Desk Officer Arua, Tel: +256 (0)772 854 919

Robert Baryamwesiga, Settlement Commandant Bidibidi, Yumbe, Tel: +256 (0)774 983 650

Armitage Basikania, Settlement Commandant, Rhino Camp, Arua, Tel: +256 (0)774 173 966

UNHCR Coordination Contacts:

Nasir Fernandes, Senior Emergency Coordinator, fernandn@unhcr.org, Tel.: +26 (0) 776 730 013

Jens Hesemann, Senior Field Coordinator, hesemann@unhcr.org, Tel: +256 (0) 772 701 011

Media and Reporting Contact:

Charlie Yaxley, Associate External Relations Officer, yaxley@unhcr.org, Tel: +256 (0)776 720 045

Data and Information Management Contact:

Shahzad Asghar, Information Management Officer, asghar@unhcr.org

Links:

[South Sudan Regional portal](#) - [UN Refugee Chief: World must act to end South Sudan suffering](#)