

## 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).

**9,568**

Number of new arrivals between 15<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> February 2017

**1,367**

Daily average of new arrivals between 15<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> February 2017

**755,040**

Total number of South Sudanese refugees in Uganda

## PRIORITIES

- Continue to strengthen provision of services to refugees in order to stabilise the population
- 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 WEEKLY | 15<sup>TH</sup> – 21<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY 2017

## HIGHLIGHTS

- The rate of new arrivals in to Uganda remains very high, with a total of 9,568 South Sudanese refugees received in Uganda between the 15<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of February, although this is a decrease from the 13,092 new arrivals reported in the previous week. This brings the total new arrivals in February to 56,087. The average daily rate of new arrivals this week was 1,367.
- Refugees arriving in Uganda, the majority of whom are women and children, report general insecurity, limited access to food and basic services, violence, rape and abuse of women and girls, arbitrary detention and indiscriminate killing and destruction of property by armed forces as reasons for fleeing their homes in South Sudan.
- The majority of refugees continue to arrive into Uganda through informal border points, with some arriving in Uganda through the DR Congo to avoid roadblocks that have allegedly been set up by armed groups along the main roads to the border to prevent civilians from leaving.
- Relocation of new arrivals to Imvempi settlement in Arua district commenced on 21<sup>st</sup> February, with 996 refugees relocated to the reception centre on the first day.
- Palorinya settlement has reached its capacity and is no longer receiving new arrivals. Level II registration activities have been completed across all zones of the settlement, and 43,101 individuals have been biometrically registered and issued documentation by the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM).
- In Yumbe district, maintenance, stabilisation and development of Bidibidi Settlement area are now a priority. Livelihood activities are increasing, access to safe water and health facilities has improved and efforts are underway to build more sustainable structures to replace the older emergency shelters and improve living conditions for the refugee population.
- Four mobile health clinics were dispatched to improve health outreach services in Palorinya settlement.



Registration of new arrivals in Palorinya Zone I Extension UNHCR/2017/A. Bekele

## UPDATE ON SITUATION

- 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.
- 2,455 new arrival South Sudanese Refugees were reported at Elegu Collection Point in Adjumani district from 13 to 19 February, down from 2,577 reported in the previous week. Moyo district received 1,972 refugees, a substantial decrease from 6,783 new arrivals in the previous week, and 615 refugees were reported in Lamwo district compared to 516 new arrivals in the previous week.

### Protection

- Persons with Specific Needs (PSN):** In Bidibidi, 577 persons with specific needs were identified and assessed for assistance in Zones 1-4. 135 PSNs were supported with essential household items, 521 were assisted during general food distribution and six shelters for PSNs were renovated following damage by heavy rains. In Palorinya, a comprehensive needs assessment for PSNs has commenced on 17 February across the settlement. The exercise aims to establish the physical location of all PSNs to ease follow-up on cases and assess their accessibility to services and shelter requirements in the settlements. In Adjumani, 220 PSNs were assessed and will be supported with shelter and latrine construction, while 43 particularly vulnerable families were provided with household items to improve their living conditions.
- Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) Response:** In Bidibidi, fifteen new cases of sexual and gender-based violence were reported and 22 survivors (20 female and two male) were supported. All survivors of sexual violence and physical assault received medical care and psychosocial support, with their cases reported to police. For non-sexual violence, mediations have been scheduled to rebuild relationships and prevent recurrence. In Palorinya, seven SGBV cases were reported and the survivors provided with support, including psychosocial counselling, medical and material support. In Adjumani, one defilement case was reported in Maaji II. The survivor received family counselling, medical examination and all the necessary support, and the case was referred to the police.
- Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) Prevention:** In Bidibidi, 107 community outreaches were conducted, reaching a total of 4,398 refugees, including 1,599 (835 male and 764 female) youth with SGBV prevention and response messages. Identification of male engagement groups is ongoing, with four groups of 15-20 men each formed so far. In Palorinya, sensitisation campaigns on prevention and response to SGBV were conducted across the settlement reaching 2,500 individuals (1,165 male and 1,335 female). In Zone II, fourteen refugees were elected by the community to form an SGBV Task Force group. In Adjumani, 100 adolescent girls were provided with protection and hygiene kits including solar lamps, sanitary materials and clothes, and 90 attended vocational training to learn skills such as tailoring, hairdressing and catering. An SGBV awareness campaign in Maaji III reached 137 (31 male and 106 female) refugees.
- Child Protection:** In Bidibidi, 269 children at risk were identified and referred to the appropriate services, bringing the total number identified since the opening of the settlement to 5,005. In Palorinya, 67 children at risk were identified and assisted. Family tracing and reunification was successfully conducted for five children and six cases were referred for tracing of family in different areas. In Adjumani, 50 best interests assessments were conducted for children at risk in Maaji III, Maaji II, Pagirinya, Boroli, Agojo and Nyumanzi Refugee Settlements. During assessment, it was identified that the children are in need of scholastic materials and other essential items, as well as food to supplement their insufficient rations. They will be followed up with home visits to assess their wellbeing and provide support. Six separated children were also referred for family tracing and reunification.
- Family reunification:** The need for family reunification between settlements remains constant, with refugees expressing concerns that they are unable to travel to register in other settlements due to long distances between settlements, and fear that not being part of the initial registration process may exclude them from access to resources.

## Education

- **Registration:** In Bidibidi, total enrolment of children in schools stands at 52,891 (29,177 male and 23,714 female) in Bidibidi and 28,346 in Palorinya, with 341,596 (21,967 male and 19,631 female) enrolled in Primary schools in Bidibidi and 16,501 in Palorinya; 6,511 (4,650 male and 1,861 female) enrolled in Secondary schools in Bidibidi and 9,512 in Palorinya; 4,782 (2,560 male and 2,222 female) are enrolled in Early Childhood Development (ECD) centres in Bidibidi and 9,519 in Palorinya.

## Health

- **Morbidity:** In Bidibidi, 8,576 outpatient consultations were conducted, among which 18.4% were members of the host population. The leading causes of illness were malaria (24%), respiratory tract infections (22%) and Acute Watery Diarrhea (7%). In Adjumani, the malaria incidence remained at 36%, followed by respiratory tract infections (29%) and Acute Watery Diarrhea (3%). In Palorinya, 8,977 outpatient consultations were conducted, with the leading causes of illness being malaria (22%), respiratory tract infections (24%) and Acute Watery Diarrhea (12%).
- **Malaria:** In Bidibidi, distribution of mosquito nets to children under five and pregnant women is ongoing in all zones.
- **Mental health:** In Bidibidi, 124 mental health cases were registered in the settlement and are being followed up. Community interventions of awareness raising, group therapy sessions and follow up visits are ongoing.
- **Immunisation:** In Moyo, 2,738 individuals were medically screened at Lefori and Afogi collection points. 379 children were immunized against measles, 415 were immunized against polio, 45 pregnant women were immunized against Tetanus, 397 children received Vitamin A supplements and 2,545 were given deworming tablets.

## Food Security and Nutrition

- In Bidibidi, a total of 2,530 children aged 6-59 months are in the feeding programs; 25 pregnant and lactating women have also been identified and enrolled in the nutrition program. A total of 2,312 under-fives are enrolled in the nutrition centres in Bidibidi for rehabilitation.
- During the week, the defaulter rate among under-fives in the supplementary feeding program in Bidibidi was estimated at 16.6%. This default rate can partly be attributed to the continuous movement of refugees between the zones of the settlement. Efforts to follow up with defaulters and track their movements are ongoing, and Village Health Teams continue to engage in supporting tracing and follow up of defaulters.
- In Palorinya, 39 severely malnourished and 108 moderately malnourished children were identified. This translates to a Global Acute Malnutrition rate of 8% for zone 1 (through mass screening) and 18% for all the health facilities across the settlement, with a recovery rate of 75% for severe acute malnutrition and 63% for moderate acute malnutrition.

## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

- **Water:** Access to safe water stands at an average of 16 litres per person per day (l/p/d) across the zones of Bidibidi, and 18 l/p/d in Adjumani, against the emergency standard of 15 l/p/d. In Palorinya, access to safe water stands at 7 l/p/d in Zone I, 20 l/p/d in Zone II and 11 l/p/d in Zone III. Borehole drilling and repairs are ongoing to increase the availability of safe water in all settlements.
- **Sanitation:** Latrine coverage remains at 42% in Bidibidi and 66% in Adjumani. In Bidibidi, intensive latrine digging campaigns are ongoing to move the population from communal latrines to household latrines.
- **Hygiene:** In Bidibidi, the ratio of hygiene promoters to refugees stands at 1:513 and 1:778 in Adjumani, compared to the UNHCR standard of 1:500. In Palorinya, the ratio is 1:1,788 in Zone I, 1:1,089 in Zone II and 1:4,590 in Zone III.

## Shelter, Infrastructure and Distribution

- **Distribution:** Refugees are provided with a package of essential household items upon relocation to the settlements, as well as shelter construction kits. Women and girls are also provided with monthly packages of sanitary materials, underwear and soap to promote menstrual hygiene.

## OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- **Protection:** In Palorinya, increase security personnel in Palorinya settlement and provide transport for them, enhance family tracing and reunification services, provide material support to children living in foster care and improve case management for SGBV cases. In Bidibidi, ensure a stock of construction materials for PSN shelters, address challenges in delivering food to PSNs in critical condition, and work with communities to increase reporting of Child Protection cases.
- **Education:** Expedite rehabilitation of eroded school structures and construction of additional schools, especially permanent school structures. Supply schools with handwashing facilities to ensure good hygiene for students. Construction of accommodation for teachers.
- **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. Reliable solar lighting at health facilities to ensure provision of health services at night. One ambulance and a double cabin pickup to support integrated health and nutrition programming are required in Palorinya.
- **Food Security and Nutrition:** Increase nutrition programme coverage in all Bidibidi zones (particularly Zones 3 and 5) to address malnutrition. Overall capacity building regarding awareness, promotion and protection of nutrition programmes, quality community outreach program and nutrition surveillance. Ongoing construction of nutrition units in health facilities.
- **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene:** Piped water systems are required for all zones of Bidibidi. Improved latrine coverage, provision of water storage containers and additional handwashing facilities at household level, followed up with monitoring and sensitisation on sanitation and hygiene. Decommissioning of communal latrines. Increase ratio of hygiene promoters in Palorinya.
- **Shelter, Infrastructure and Distribution:** Ensure an emergency stock of relief items and procurement of items available locally. In Palorinya, carry out road maintenance to mitigate risk in the rainy season and address inadequate signage.

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#### Links:

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