

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).

9,286

Number of new arrivals between 22nd and 28th February 2017

1,327

Daily average of new arrivals between 22nd and 28th February 2017

764,326

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 | 22ND – 28TH FEBRUARY 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

- The rate of new arrivals in to Uganda remains very high, with a total of 9,286 South Sudanese refugees received in Uganda between the 22nd and 28th of February. This brings the total new arrivals in February to 65,373. The average daily rate of new arrivals this week was 1,327.
- Refugees arriving in Uganda, the majority of whom are women and children, continue to 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.
- Since 21st February, new arrivals continue to be relocated to Imvepi settlement in Arua district, which is now home to 5,257 South Sudanese refugees.
- The UK Minister for International Development, James Wharton, visited Imvepi settlement on 23 February accompanied by the UNHCR Representative to Uganda Bornwell Kantande. Wharton reaffirmed the British government's support to Uganda, and called upon the international community to do more to ensure stability in South Sudan and the region.
- The launch of the European Union Emergency Trust Fund in Adjumani on 21 February was attended by the Head of Cooperation, EU Delegation in Uganda Michelle Labeuu, as well as representatives from government, humanitarian agencies and the diplomatic community. The project aims to support 29,935 refugees and host community members in maintaining peaceful co-existence, and will be implemented in Adjumani, Arua, and Kiryandongo districts.



Sexual and gender-based violence awareness raising session in Bidibidi settlement

UPDATE ON SITUATION

- Refugees report that due to lack of security on the main roads to the border they are forced to walk up to seven days through the bush to reach Uganda, usually in groups with relatives or neighbours, with few belongings and limited access to food, water and other needs. Many refugees are also arriving via the DR Congo, spending several days taking uncharted routes through the dense forests of the DRC to avoid attacks by armed groups.
- 2,207 new arrival South Sudanese Refugees were reported at Elegu Collection Point in Adjumani district from 20 to 26 February, down from 2,455 reported in the previous week. Moyo district received 828 refugees, a decrease from 1,972 new arrivals in the previous week, and 445 refugees were reported in Lamwo district compared to 615 new arrivals in the previous week.

Protection

- Persons with Specific Needs (PSN):** In Bidibidi, 167 PSNs were supported with essential household items, 770 were assisted during general food distribution and 36 shelters were constructed and allocated to PSNs in Zones 3 and 4. In Adjumani, 50 caretakers of PSNs were trained on providing quality care across the settlements.
- Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) Response:** In Bidibidi, eighteen new cases of sexual and gender-based violence were reported and the survivors supported with the appropriate services. In Adjumani, one case of rape and one of physical assault were followed up with medical and counselling services. Appropriate action is being pursued against the perpetrators.
- Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) Prevention:** In Bidibidi, 54 community outreaches were conducted, reaching a total of 3,149 refugees and nationals with SGBV prevention and response messages. A police post was established in Bidibidi Zone 2 and thirteen police staff, including two women, have been assigned to enhance security in the zone. In Palorinya, sensitisation campaigns on prevention and response to SGBV were conducted across the settlement reaching 603 individuals (290 male and 313 female). In Adjumani, community sensitisation campaigns in Boroli and Nyumanzi settlements reached 300 (87 male and 213 female) refugees.
- Child Protection:** In Palorinya, 74 children at risk were identified and assisted, and community awareness raising sessions on topics including child marriage, education and child neglect reached 542 persons (210 male and 332 female). As the situation stabilises in Adjumani, verification of unaccompanied minors and separated children is ongoing in the newly opened Pagirinya, Agojo and Maaji settlements to better understand the caseload so that targeted assistance can be provided to children.

Education

- In Bidibidi, total enrolment of children in schools stands at 54,144 (30,203 male and 23,941 female), with 42,655 (22,873 male and 19,786 female) enrolled in primary education, 6,621 (4,720 male and 1,901 female) in secondary education and 4,864 (2,610 male and 2,254 female) enrolled in Early Childhood Development.
- In Palorinya, outreach and community mobilization activities aimed at identifying school-aged children and providing information on the registration process are ongoing in the settlement. 5,180 children have been registered for Early Childhood Development (ECD) classes and recruitment of 66 caregivers is in progress. 21,342 children (10,792 male and 10,550 female) have been registered for primary education; 113 teachers, six headteachers and 50 classroom assistants have been recruited. 4,673 children (2,770 male and 1,903 female) children have been enrolled in Itula Secondary School and seven graduate teachers will be posted there next week.

Health

- Morbidity:** The leading causes of illness across the settlements were malaria, which accounted for 21% of all outpatient consultation in Bidibidi, 25% in Adjumani settlements and 20% in Palorinya; respiratory tract infections, which accounted for 29% of all outpatient consultations in Bidibidi, 29% in Adjumani and 21% in Palorinya, and Acute Watery Diarrhea, which accounted for 11% in Bidibidi, 5% in Adjumani and 17% in Palorinya.

- **Immunisation:** In Moyo, 603 refugees were medically screened at Lefori and Afogi collection points. 75 children were immunized against measles, 80 were immunized against polio, five pregnant women were immunized against Tetanus, 75 children received Vitamin A supplements and 592 were given deworming tablets. At Elegu Reception Centre, 358 children aged between six months and five years were immunized against measles and screened for malnutrition and 388 children aged 0-59 months were immunized against polio.
- **HIV/AIDS:** In Adjumani, 694 refugees were screened for HIV, of which eleven (1.6%) tested positive and were linked to treatment.

Food Security and Nutrition

- In Bidibidi, a total of 2,453 children aged 6-59 months are in the feeding programs; 33 pregnant and lactating women have also been identified and enrolled in the nutrition program. A total of 2,210 under-fives are enrolled in the nutrition centres in Bidibidi for rehabilitation.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

- **Water:** Access to safe water stands at an average of 15 litres per person per day (l/p/d) across the zones of Bidibidi, 15 l/p/d in Palorinya and 17.9 l/p/d in Adjumani, against the emergency standard of 15 l/p/d. Borehole drilling and repairs are ongoing to increase the availability of safe water in all settlements.
- **Sanitation:** Latrine coverage stands at 47% in Bidibidi and 66% in Adjumani. In Imvepi, 50 communal latrines have been completed and another 140 are in progress.
- **Hygiene:** In Bidibidi, the ratio of hygiene promoters to refugees stands at 1:513 and 1:655 in Adjumani, compared to the UNHCR standard of 1:500. Agencies are working to hire more hygiene workers to improve the ratio. In Palorinya, the ratio is 1:4,841 in Zone I, 1:1,340 in Zone II and 1:4,841 in Zone III. In Lamwo, an assessment was conducted to identify needs, gaps and capacities in the water, sanitation and hygiene.

Shelter, Infrastructure and Distribution

- **Shelter:** In newly opened Imvepi settlement, a total of 2,066 plots have been allocated to 1,946 families.
- **Infrastructure:** In Palorinya, road clearing and formation is almost complete across the settlement. Drainage structures, gravelling, road blocks are yet to be installed in some areas, with works ongoing in Zone I Extension.
- **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, particularly female officers and provide transport for them, enhance family tracing and reunification services, and deliver training for SGBV case management. 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. Additional teachers are required to improve pupil to teacher ratios. Assessment and placement of children with special educational needs in both integrated and specialised schools.
- **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. In Adjumani, additional stocks of anti-malarial drugs and other medical supplies. One ambulance and additional human resources for enhanced community sensitization on the location and availability of health services 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. Additional borehole drilling and hiring of hygiene promoters in Palorinya.
- **Shelter, Infrastructure and Distribution:** Ensure an emergency stock of relief items and procurement of items available locally. In Palorinya, improve signage and mapping of the settlement, support shelter construction for persons with specific needs and deliver community sensitisation on environmental protection.

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:

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

Media and Reporting Contacts:

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

Katherine Wainwright, External Relations Intern, wainwrig@unhcr.org

Data and Information Management Contact:

Fredrick Juma Hanga, Information Management Officer, hanga@unhcr.org

Links:

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