



OPM-UNHCR VERIFICATION EXERCISE: Update

HIGHLIGHTS

The ongoing verification of refugees in Uganda that started on **1st March 2018**, verified a total of **44,241** individuals last week bringing the total as of 28th September 2018 to **1,019,987**. This represents **70.6%** of the estimated target of 1.4 million registered refugees. The highest daily output was **10,344** individuals verified in a single day last week.

On Wednesday 26th September, verification by OPM and UNHCR teams crossed the one million mark confirming this exercise as the largest undertaken in the region.

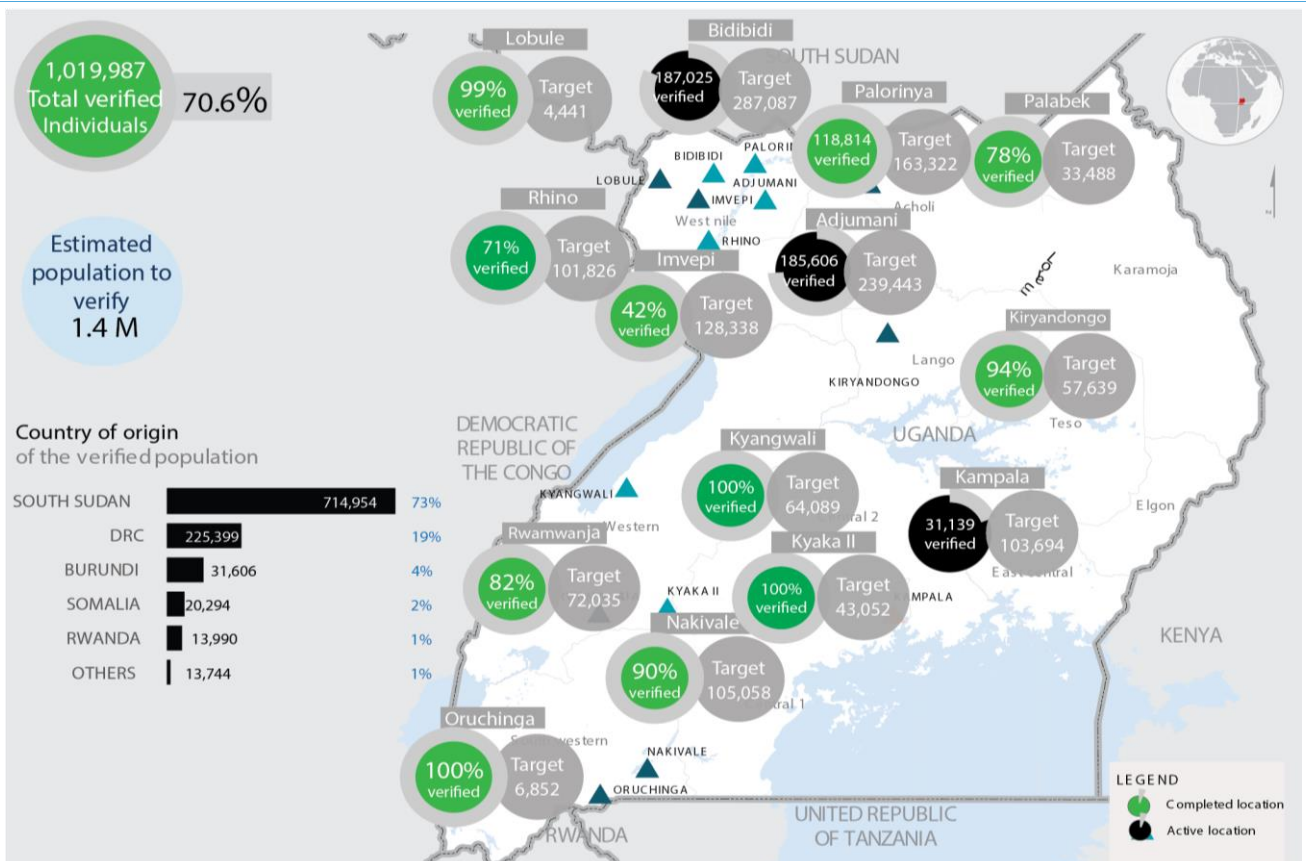
By Friday 28th September, the verification was completed in Palorinya hence the team will be focusing next week on mobile verification in prisons and hospitals in Moyo. The highest turnout was noted in Zone 1 with 97% of residents verified while the lowest was in Zone 3 – Dongo West where only 56% were verified out of the initial target. In total, 118,809 individuals were verified representing 73% of the target. Data migration will be initiated in preparation for the roll-out of proGres V4 for continuous registration. The new food collection procedures will come into effect during the next distribution cycle after rollout of proGres v4 from the 8th of October.

In Bidibidi, verification was completed in Zone 2 on 25th September where 47,939 individuals were verified, slightly exceeding the initial target. The exercise started in Zone 1 the following day with a low turnout due to the ongoing food distribution for the scheduled villages. A large turnout is anticipated for the week of 1st October as a result of intensified mobilization and the end of the distribution cycle.

Verification in the Pagirinya settlement of Adjumani is nearly completed. However, a major storm on Friday night resulted in significant damage to the four rubble halls, furniture and equipment. As only one day is remaining for absentee verification the processes will be moved to the Base Camp. So far, 97% of the target population of Pagirinya has been verified. The team will move to the upcoming site of Agojo next week.

Urban verification in Kampala is ongoing. The main nationalities that have been verified during the week are Somali, South-Sudanese and Congolese. The schedule for the remainder of the exercise was communicated and mobilization has been intensified with the involvement of community leaders resulting in an increased turnout. Litigation continued to be the main bottleneck due to limited number of data entry staff. OPM will be deploying 3 staff to address the challenge in the coming week.

KEY FIGURES



STAFFING

360+ staff = **6** teams of **60+** staff each (**96%** national staff)

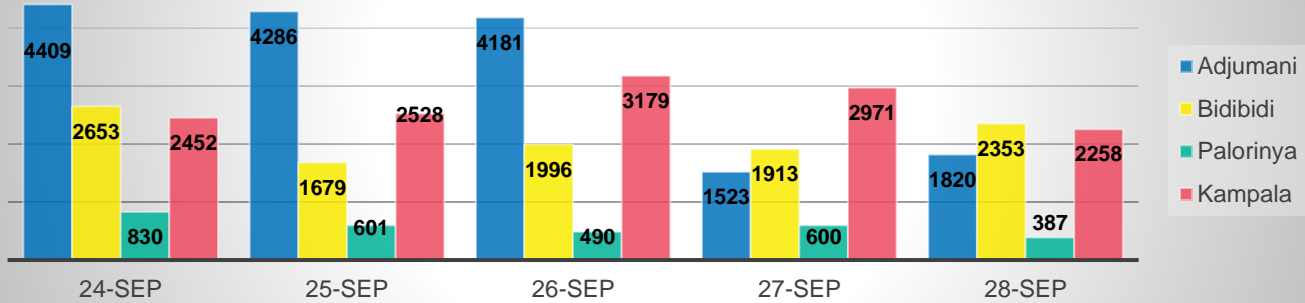
65+ Verification sites

Daily Average
All Teams
8,848
Reporting period

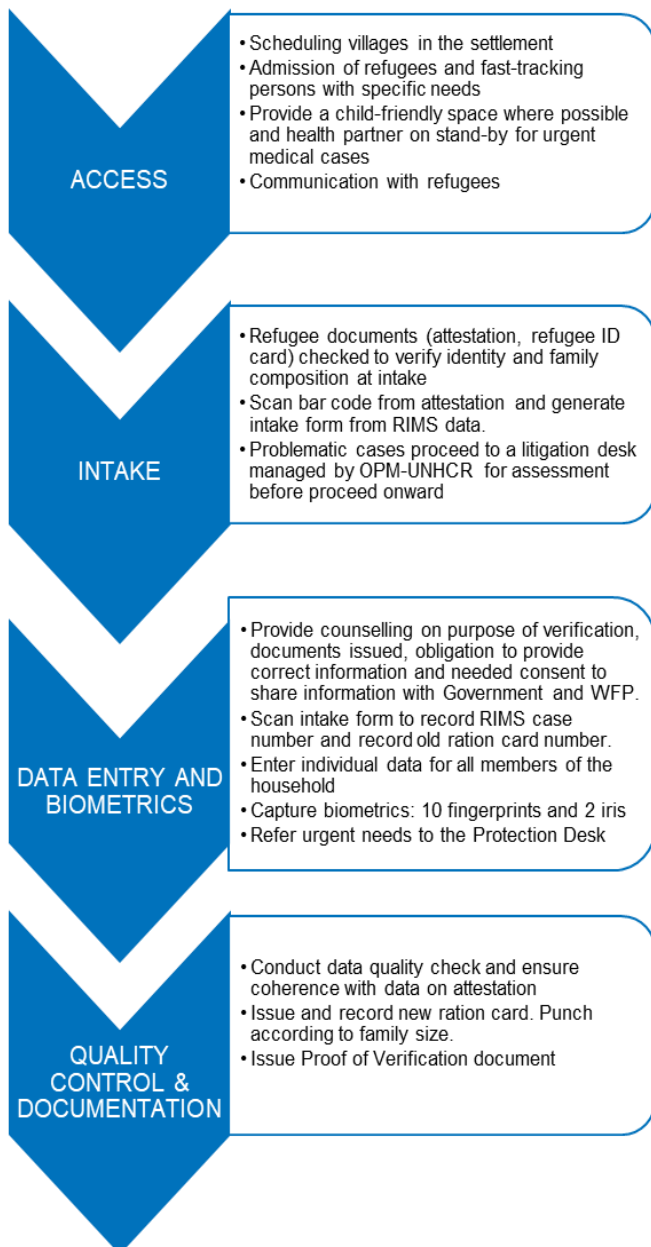
Highest
Daily Verified
10,344
Reporting period



Verification Exercise Daily Trends



VERIFICATION EXERCISE: PROCESS FLOW CHART



CHALLENGES

Fraud attempts by refugees continued to be identified. These were addressed by the verification teams with a noted increase in Palorinya during the last week of the exercise. During biometric screening, 47 recyclers were identified in Palorinya, 98 in Adjumani and 32 in Kampala. Individuals impersonating registered refugees were also detected, including 56 in Palorinya, 147 in Bidibidi, 39 in Adjumani and 5 in Kampala. A large number among them were confirmed to be nationals. Out of the 3,243 requests for family reunion received in Bidibidi, 830 individuals were rejected as they were identified as Ugandan nationals following screening. A number of fraudulent certificates and refugee ID cards were identified in Kampala. A refugee interpreter was dismissed in Bidibidi for attempting to commit fraud.

Weather conditions often cause substantive damage to verification sites resulting into delays. In Adjumani, four rubb halls were destroyed by strong winds rendering the site unusable. Some telecommunication equipment were also spoiled.

UPCOMING MILESTONES

With the completion of the verification in Palorinya, only three more teams remain operational out of the original six teams. Resources have been redirected to support the exercise ongoing in Bidibidi, Adjumani and Kampala to ensure timelines are met.

Following the successful roll-out of continuous registration using V4 and BIMS in Kyangwali, Kiryandongo will be targeted in the coming week after connectivity is in place. OPM staff have been trained and will receive equipment and on-site support in the upcoming week.

Food and cash distribution with biometric verification of beneficiaries using GDT and BIMS will be launched in Kyangwali and Kyaka during the month of October following completion of the verification exercise and processing of new arrival backlogs.