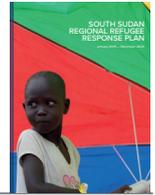


Sudan: 2019 Mid Year Report SOUTH SUDAN REGIONAL RRP

January - June 2019



855,962

SOUTH SUDANESE REFUGEES HOSTED
(JUNE 2019)

US\$ 326 M

REQUIRED IN SUDAN IN 2019

28

RRP PARTNERS IN SUDAN
IN 2019

SITUATION OVERVIEW

A slower, although steady rate of new arrivals was observed in 2019. As of 30 June, a total of 13,875 South Sudanese refugees arrived in Sudan, with East Darfur and West Kordofan States receiving the largest flows. The roll-out of biometric registration across the response has allowed for increasingly precise population figures. The total number of refugees as of mid-year stands at 855,962 individuals, with over 49 per cent registered, of which 44 per cent are biometrically registered. The largest number of unregistered South Sudanese refugees are in Khartoum.

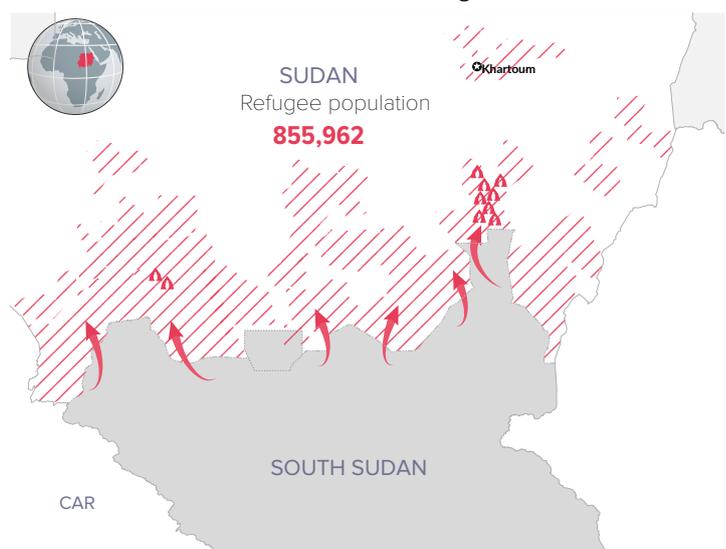
Inter-agency partners' capacity to respond to refugee needs in Sudan continues to be stretched by a critical funding gap of over 90 per cent. The situation is further aggravated by Sudan's ongoing economic challenges, including fuel and cash shortages, which have slowed response implementation and the delivery of goods and services. The already weak purchasing power of refugees has increased their reliance on humanitarian assistance, with over 90 per cent of South Sudanese refugees unable to afford the local food basket.¹

Sudan's overall security situation deteriorated in June, with reports of increased violence and criminality, including sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), particularly in Khartoum but also in other States hosting refugees. A five-week nationwide internet shutdown also began on 3 June, with nearly 50 per cent of response partners without internet access. Distribution activities were also delayed in May and June in many locations due to the security situation.

Rising tensions with host communities has introduced new protection concerns, with an increased risk of violence targeting refugee communities. In June, several host community attacks on South Sudanese refugees in Khartoum led to a new displacement of an estimated 7,000 refugees who fled to Bantiu 'Open Area' settlement in Khartoum and to Um Sangour camp in White Nile State. Refugees in other 'Open Areas' in Khartoum also reported tensions with the host communities. Newly displaced refugees in Bantiu 'Open Area' were supported with NFIs, registration, and protection assistance. More than 1,500 refugees who fled to White Nile State were registered and received emergency food and NFI assistance.

Host communities are also struggling under Sudan's economic situation and there have been instances where they have disrupted response activities and requested compensation for access to refugee areas. For example, refugee relocations from Khor Al Waral camp to the new camp at Al Jamey'a in White Nile State have been blocked by the host community since May over requests for compensation for land usage and camp access. Host communities have also blocked latrine construction and desludging activities in Um Sangour, Al Redis and Al Jamey'a camps witnessed an increase in robberies in refugee camps targeting lighting and water supply equipment. The

host community in El Amira, in El Leri locality, have stopped the Government of Sudan's Commission for Refugees (COR) from accessing the reception centre demanding support in rehabilitating their water supply system. UNHCR and COR are engaged with local authorities and stakeholders to mitigate these tensions.



¹ WFP Food Security Monitoring Report, January 2019.

Despite some progress made in 2019, significant gaps remain. Over 50 per cent of children remain out of school; water availability and latrine coverage are below standards; inconsistent access to health services and critical medicines shortages persist. Refugees continue to suffer chronic and acute food insecurity, with critical malnutrition rates in many camps and settlements. These issues are compounded by a limited access to livelihoods with knock-on effects including high rates of child labour, early marriage, and other protection risks.

Protection



36

community-based groups are working on SGBV prevention and response.

76%

of the UASC were placed in appropriate **interim and long term alternative care.**

Child-to-caseworker ratio is 108:1 (standard is 25:1).



Refugee registration has faced challenges due to general insecurity in the country in the first half of 2019. A total of 33,105 South Sudanese refugees were newly registered and 86,011 verified. Biometric Identity Management Systems (BIMS) registration stands at 44 per cent of the total number of refugees. Another 5 per cent are registered at the household level.

South Sudanese refugees in Khartoum began receiving ID cards in 2019. As of 30 June, 1,786 South Sudanese refugees were issued ID cards in Khartoum. Discussions are underway with Immigration and Passport Police (IPP) and the Commission of Refugees (COR) to speed up the process. Moreover, in the beginning of 2019, the Central Bank of Sudan issued a circular recognizing ID cards issued by COR, thus allowing refugees to open bank accounts. In February 2019, the Ministry of Human Development and Labour issued a decree allowing the Labour Secretariat in Khartoum State to issue work permits for South Sudanese and other refugees in Khartoum, however no significant numbers of refugees are reported to have benefitted thus far.

Targeted programmes for refugee adolescents exceeded 2019 targets, with 1,754 adolescents benefitting from programmes focused on life skills training, vocational training, hygiene and health education, and active participation in community-based protection and psychosocial activities that support resilience and positive coping mechanisms. Partners placed 76 per cent of UASCs in appropriate alternative care; however, regular monitoring of their situations is challenging due to the limited number of caseworkers deployed by the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA).

During the reporting period, legal assistance was provided to 512 South Sudanese refugees by legal aid partners who provided counselling and assistance on legal issues, as well as court representation.

Complaint and feedback mechanisms were established in out-of-camp settlements in South Kordofan and West Kordofan following a series of consultations with partners through Refugee Working Groups, and consultations with refugees.

Education

55,821



South Sudanese basic-school aged refugee children and **2,212** secondary school children enrolled in school.

48

primary school teachers and **72** Parent Teacher Association (PTA) members were trained.

Lack of secondary and tertiary education opportunities is **increasing school drop out rates** at primary and secondary schools.

The economic situation had a significant impact on education programming, with delays to activity implementation, partners and schools were unable to secure cash, higher dropout rates, and a delayed start to the 2019/2020 school year. However, response partners continued to support refugee education in Khartoum (including in ‘Open Area’ settlements), White Nile, West and South Kordofan, East Darfur, North Darfur and South Darfur States, with the objectives of ensuring safe access to education, increasing school enrollment and decreasing school dropouts.

In White Nile State, ten classes and four offices were constructed in various camps, over 400 teachers were recruited, and 10,000 school uniforms provided. About 400 primary students, and 357 secondary students were supported with examination costs, including transportation, accommodation and meals for the secondary students. Moreover, a training programme targeting school assistants, PTA members, line ministries and partners was initiated in June.

In East Darfur 4,030 uniforms were distributed, along with 600 desk sets, subsequently increasing the enrolment from 5,727 to 7,090 in basic schools. Four enrolment campaigns through community mobilization and awareness raising were conducted, resulting in 2,500 first grade children enrolled in primary education. In East and North Darfur, education supplies and recreational materials were provided to 2,203 students, out of which 1,907 accessed safe learning spaces.

A lack of secondary and tertiary education opportunities continues to drive school retention and dropout issues at the higher grades. While approximately 13 per cent of eligible refugees are enrolled in secondary school, only a small per cent of these students will have access to tertiary education. Limited funding also continues to limit targeted school retention support and other assistance. Moreover, data gaps exist for refugee students in out-of-camp locations, pending data transfers by the Ministry of Education to the Education Management Information System at the national and state levels.



Food



338,696

South Sudanese Refugees received assistance (in-kind and cash assistance).

17,000

refugees in Al Nimir and El Ferdous settlement benefitted from the cash and food assistance programme.



153,160

refugees targeted for food assistance have not yet been reached.

A total of 338,696 South Sudanese refugees received assistance during the reporting period with in-kind and cash assistance; in-kind support included a full ration of sorghum, pulses, oil and salt. In February, a new blended cash assistance programme was initiated for 17,000 South Sudanese refugees in Al Nimir camp and El Ferdous settlement in East Darfur, and was delivered alongside a ration of sorghum. The expansion of assistance continued in April 2019 to include 17,346 South Sudanese Refugees in 10 new locations in West Kordofan.

Due to security concerns and logistical problems as a result of the rainy season, gaps in coverage occurred as assistance could not be delivered in some locations in West Kordofan in May and June. Release of commodities by the authorities and suppliers did not always come in time for the distributions. As a result, reduced salt rations had to be provided in some months.



Health & Nutrition

283,081



consultations were held in refugee health facilities in the camps and settlements

11,278



malnourished children (6-59 months) recovered after completing treatment

Over **33%** of deliveries had no assistance from skilled health personnel



Over 283,000 primary consultations were provided to South Sudanese refugees in refugee health facilities in camps and collective settlements, including 13 per cent provided to host community members. The main illnesses among refugees included: respiratory tract infection (31 per cent), malaria (7 per cent) and acute diarrhea (4 per cent). In addition, 2,169 individuals were provided with secondary and tertiary healthcare. Approximately 67 per cent of refugee births were conducted in a health facility and attended by skilled health personnel. In Khartoum, partners supported 15,206 refugees living in the 'Open Areas' to access primary, secondary or tertiary health care services.

Funding gaps have led to shortages of medicines, medical supplies and equipment in health facilities across the response, undermining the quality of available services. Tertiary health service referrals are limited to emergency lifesaving interventions, leaving a significant number of refugees with chronic medical conditions unable to access referrals to tertiary health facilities. Refugees are increasingly unable to afford health services in underserved out-of-camp locations and urban areas where they rely on public health facilities. This is compounded by a lack of livelihood opportunities and rising inflation and fees.

The nutrition response was challenged by the overall situation in Sudan. The implementation of the Standardized Expanded Nutrition Survey (SENS) in South Darfur State was planned for the second quarter of 2019, however, these activities were suspended due to security challenges. Procurement and distribution of nutrition products was also delayed due to fuel and cash shortages.

Partners provided nutrition assistance to refugees through the Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) model. This includes routine Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) screening in reception centres, camps, and rural out-of-camp settlements, and referral of malnourished children to nutrition centres for severe and moderate acute malnutrition (SAM and MAM) treatment. A key priority for the nutrition response is to increase CMAM coverage across all States, with a target of 31,500 malnourished children in 2019. By mid-year, the overall achievement of the annual target was 36 percent in new admissions to CMAM programmes. In total, 11,278 malnourished children aged 6-59 months (or 72 per cent of the mid-year target of 15,700 children) recovered from malnutrition after receiving comprehensive treatment and support services in White Nile, West and South Kordofan, and Darfur States. Partners also strengthened programming links between Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) activities and broader CMAM programming. The response will continue to expand CMAM programme coverage in out-of-camp areas, and will seek to increase coverage of targeted nutrition support for pregnant and lactating women.



Livelihoods & Environment

Over **10,000** refugees accessed livelihood or environment interventions.

2,250 households received fuel efficient stoves and alternative cooking fuel.



Less than **30%** of refugees have access to livelihood, energy and environment interventions.

A lack of livelihoods and employment opportunities remain among the most pressing concerns reported by South Sudanese refugees in Sudan.

Comprehensive livelihood assessments are ongoing, covering socio-economic factors and agricultural value-chains in East Darfur, South Darfur, West Kordofan and South Kordofan States. The findings will be used to inform the development of targeted livelihoods interventions to further increase the quality and sustainability of the livelihoods response.

An increased number of partners are working to deliver refugee livelihood interventions in White Nile, West Kordofan and Khartoum States. Interventions were strengthened, and results included more favorable policies, stronger

markets (through ensuring refugees access to markets through small business support), technical skills training and support with livestock, seeds and agricultural tools. Agricultural extensions and innovative development of value chains, such as peanuts, honey, fruits and vegetables were also pursued.

Over 2,250 refugee households were provided with Fuel Efficient Stoves (FES) and alternative cooking fuel. Additionally, solar systems were installed in five healthcare units, and 45 solar street lights were installed in White Nile. Due to limited quantities of alternative cooking fuel, reforestation is essential. In East Darfur, 210 forest hectares were planted with seeds, including 4,000 various seedlings in community forests planted by the host community and refugees (supporting peaceful co-existence), and 3,000 fruit seedlings were planted in refugee camps. In White Nile, 840 forest hectares and more than 7,000 seedlings were planted by the refugees and the host community to support peaceful co-existence.

Shelter & NFIs

More than **63%** of all new refugee arrivals received full NFI kits.



Rainy season prepositioning of NFI stocks in key locations completed

Lack of land for site expansion in East Darfur and White Nile State camps.

As of June 2019, 55,000 South Sudanese refugees (11,000 households) received NFIs and shelter support. NFI distributions prioritized new arrivals and newly accessed refugees particularly in main hosting States (East Darfur and White Nile). This was followed by NFI replenishments for protracted and extremely vulnerable households. Distributions also targeted disaster-affected households.

In East Darfur, some 1,308 individuals (344 HH), of which 126 individuals or 66 HH were new arrivals in Al Nimir Camp in Assalaya locality, received assistance. For shelter, a total of 2,620 individuals (700 HH) received support in Kario and Al Nimir Camps, and El Ferdous settlement, of which 831 Individuals (284 HH) were new arrivals, and 1,789 individuals (416 HH) received full or partial shelter rehabilitation (53 per cent were damaged by fire).

In South Darfur, 22,150 individuals (4,430 HH) received full replenishment kits in Buram, Beilel and Abu Ajora out-of-camp settlements. In North Darfur, 4,790 individuals (958 HH) new arrivals received full NFI kits in Al Lait Locality (across 11 different locations) and Dinka Camp in El Fasher.

In West Kordofan, 13,507 refugees (6,889 HH) were reached, of which 11,399 individuals (6,472 HH) were new arrivals in El Debab, El Meriam and Keilak localities. About 239 refugees (45 fire affected HH) and 1,869 individuals (372 HH) from the host community received full NFI kits in Alodaya, Abeyi/Muglad, and Babanosa localities. In South Kordofan, 702 individuals (139 HH) received replenishment in Abu Jubeha, and 571 individuals (113 HH) from the fire affected host community received replenishments in ElLeri and Abu Jubeha localities.

In White Nile State, 41,135 individuals (8,227 HH) received full NFI kits, of which 2,175 individuals (435 HH) were new arrivals in Um Sangour Camp, as well as 7,680 individuals (1,536 HH) across all ten camps in Al Salam and Al Jablain localities. Lastly, 31,280 individuals (6,256 HH) received full or partial NFI replenishments in Al Jabalian and Al Salam localities. Some 915 durable shelters were constructed by implementing partners in coordination with UNHCR; the Sudanese Red Crescent Society constructed 615 shelters and COR constructed 300.

A key challenge for the shelter/NFI response is sustained access to remote refugee locations to assess needs, particularly during the rainy season. Other challenges to the response include procurement delays for shelter materials due to the security and economic situation, the lack of land for site expansions in East Darfur and White Nile State camps, funding gaps, delayed camp decongestion, and stalled durable shelter construction.



WASH

15 litres

of water per
person
per day met



Tripartite MoU signed between COR, Governmental Water, Environment and Sanitation Department (WES) and UNHCR

Only **6%**
refugee
households
have access to
household latrines



Providing timely WASH services was very challenging due to underfunding, high inflation, and cash and fuel shortages. This was compounded by vandalism of water supply facilities in several key refugee locations in June. Despite this, the construction, rehabilitation, operation, and maintenance of water facilities continued. Per capita water consumption increased from 10 to 15 litres per person per day. While this represents a significant improvement, more water supply facilities are needed to ensure that refugees have access to the minimum standard of 20 litres per person per day.

The signing of a Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding between COR, WES and UNHCR will provide a framework for collaborative partnerships at the federal level to strengthen and promote an effective WASH response. This will ensure timely support to both refugees and WASH partners through smoother implementation procedures, and enable partners to advocate for the mainstreaming of refugee WASH services within national systems.

Host community tensions in White Nile State have resulted in the suspension of household latrine construction in several camps, driving widespread open defecation and an increase in latrine usage ratios to above 100 persons per latrine. This is compounded by inconsistent soap distributions, which increases water and vector borne disease risk. Furthermore, communal latrines do not provide sufficient privacy, are poorly managed, and aggravate protection risks especially at night. Partners provided WASH support to host communities as part of peaceful coexistence efforts through investments in water supply infrastructure accessible to both refugees and host communities.

Fuel shortages have hindered the operation and maintenance of water facilities. Partners have worked to insulate refugee water supply from the fuel crisis by solarizing six boreholes in South and East Darfur to reduce dependency on fuel.

Insufficient access to safe water means refugees still must rely on unprotected water sources to meet household water needs, which exposes them to water borne diseases and protection risks. A key response priority is the procurement and distribution of household water purification tablets to mitigate the impacts of the water consumption gap.

CRRF

While Sudan is not a roll-out country for the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF), the strategic approach to out-of-camp assistance follows a similar strategy, with an aim towards improved humanitarian-development nexus to address the additional demand on existing services in refugee hosting areas. This approach is guided by UNHCR's country-level inter-agency 'out-of-camp' paper, finalized in October 2017, which emphasizes the need to avoid establishing parallel systems, and instead working to enhance the capacity of local services and existing public facilities to expand service provision to refugees. This in turn will support refugee resilience and self-reliance through livelihoods and other income generating initiatives. The response also seeks to integrate cash-based interventions (CBIs) where feasible in order to support the stabilization of existing assistance programmes, and to complement self-reliance initiatives and support local host community economies where possible.

RRP PARTNERS

- Adventist Development and Relief Agency
- Al Manar Voluntary Organization
- American Refugee Committee
- CARE International
- Catholic Agency for Overseas Development
- Concern WorldWide
- Cooperazione Internazionale
- Food and Agriculture Organization
- Global Aid Hand
- International Organization for Migration
- Islamic Relief Worldwide
- Mercy Corps
- Nada El-Azahar Organization
- Norwegian Church Aid
- Oxfam
- Plan International
- Relief International
- Save the Children International
- UMCOR
- United Nations Development Programme
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- United Nations Children's Fund
- United Nations Population Fund
- United Peace Organization
- Welthungerhilfe
- World Food Programme
- World Health Organization
- World Vision International

FOR MORE INFORMATION

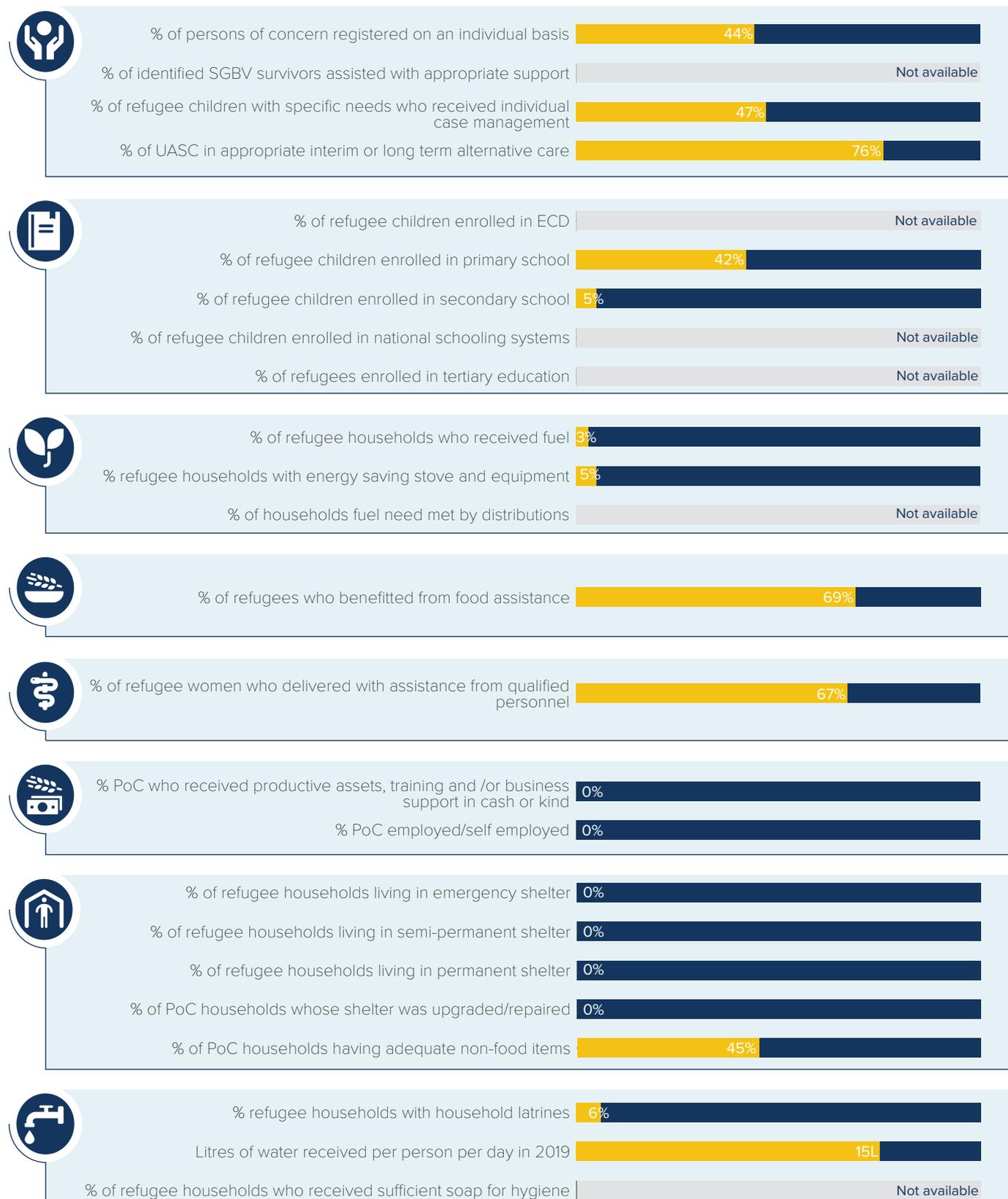
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