

UGANDA

UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE FOR THE SOUTH SUDANESE EMERGENCY

30 July – 5 August 2014

HIGHLIGHTS

- 121,577 South Sudanese refugees have been assisted in Uganda since the influx began in mid-December 2014.
- In Adjumani 1,002 individuals in 191 households were transferred from Nyumanzi reception centre to Mungula refugee village on 30 and 31 July.



In Adjumani, refugee children return home after doing their wash at a nearby borehole. ©UNHCR/D.Lusweti

The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) and UNHCR, with partner support, coordinate the maintenance of Nyumanzi transit centre (TC), Ocea reception centre (RC) in the northwest and Kiryandongo reception centre in the midwest which have accommodated the majority of newly arrived South Sudanese refugees. In addition to the refugee settlements and villages which accommodate new arrivals.

121,577 South Sudanese refugees have been assisted in Uganda since the influx began in mid-December 2014.

The breakdown includes:

Adjumani District: 78,884

Arua District: 11,311

Kiryandongo District: 26,497

Kampala: 4,885

FUNDING

USD 224,303,989

requirement for the Uganda programme

31% funded

PRIORITIES

- Relocate recently arrived refugees from transit centres to settlement plots.
- Redouble efforts to ensure infrastructure implementation is on track.
- Follow up recommendations from the mid-year review.

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

- The Human Development Report was launched by the UN Resident Coordinator on 1 August. Uganda is still ranked among the worst performing countries in human development, a United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) report has revealed. Uganda is ranked 161 out of 182 countries in human development, a position the country has held for the last three years. UNDP senior economic advisor Alex Warren-Rodrigues said though Uganda's global ranking has not changed, it has made tremendous stride in education and health compared to 20 years ago.

Protection

Border monitoring

- In Adjumani and Arua, the border areas remained calm and without incident.

Relocations

- In Adjumani 1,002 individuals (191 households) were transferred from Nyumanzi reception centre to Mungula refugee village¹ on 30 and 31 July.

Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs)

- In Adjumani, LWF identified 56 PSNs among newly relocated refugees and issued them with cards to ensure easier follow up and meet their needs in a timely manner. As well, hygiene kits donated by UNICEF were distributed to 752 PSNs in Nyumanzi settlement² and in Mungula village, along with a water purification container and household items that were distributed to 11 PSNs.
- Also in Adjumani, the Danish Refugee Council-Danish Demining Group (DRC-DDG) distributed sanitary pads, mosquito nets and laundry soap to 227 household in Mungula II village. The distribution aims to improve hygiene in the community and help ensure that girls do not miss school owing to menstruation.
- In Arua, DRC-DDG completed the construction of 11 shelters for PSNs in Odoibu II. Across the settlement construction of similar accommodation and facilities continues.

Child Protection

- In Adjumani, OPM, DRC-DDG and UNHCR facilitated the elections of nine Child Protection Committees and seven Gender Task Forces in Olijji village, Alere I and II settlements. Save the Children International (SCiU) selected the caregivers and community volunteers who will operate the Child Friendly Spaces it is setting up in these settlements.
- In Arua, Child Protection Committees were reactivated in all the 13 villages, and included school-based child protection committees in all seven primary schools within the settlement. **Six Best Interest Assessments (BIAs) were conducted.**
- In Kiryandongo, follow up home visits were conducted by InterAid Uganda (IAU) for 22 separated children (SC) and 4 unaccompanied minors (UAM) to review needs and provide counselling. Transcultural Psychosocial Organization - Uganda (TPO) trained 24 community crisis response team members on child rights and responsibilities. As well, 240 children took part in sessions discussing child rights. Another 26 BIAs were conducted for separated children bringing the cumulative figure of BIAs conducted to 1,254 SC and 15 UAM since the influx began. As well, a Child Friendly Space constructed by TPO were enjoyed by 941 children, where they participated in football, volleyball, drawing therapy, singing and drama and dancing.

¹ A refugee village has a population of less than 5,000 refugees.

² A refugee settlement has a population of more than 5,000 refugees.

Gaps

- In all locations, many school-age children are missing school owing to lack of shoes and clothes. Donations of shoes and clothes are being worked out, but would require more support.

Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV)

- In Adjumani, GPS locations were mapped for 75 solar panels and lighting that will be installed as part of the recently launched *Safe from the Start* project. UNHCR conducted community dialogue on the project in Mungula and Maaji villages. *Safe from the Start* is a joint US government-UNHCR partnership to prevent and respond to sexual and gender based violence in humanitarian emergencies. The community provided lists of their watch groups, which in Maaji includes four adolescents who are very active in the community and enthusiastic about the project.
- In Arua, implementation of the *Safe from the Start* project has kicked off. DRC-DDG will implement it in the coming five months and has drawn up a work plan. It has identified 36 locations for solar lights in Agulupi, Tika, Ocea and Odobu villages in Rhino Camp settlement.
- In Kiryandongo, InterAid Uganda (IAU) organized a meeting with 19 SGBV peer support groups of 2 members each (1 male, 1 female) to discuss reporting and counselling techniques for the responsible officers and community leaders.

Community Mobilization

- In Adjumani, OPM, UNHCR and other partners worked with refugee leaders to organize two refugee welfare council elections for Alere settlement and Olijji village. A community gender task force was established in Alere and Olijji with five women and two men each. As well, UNHCR and DRC-DDG gathered 17 community development workers to review reporting, individual case management, and distribution of core relief items.
- In Arua, UNHCR and the settlement commandant attended the first meeting organized by the refugee welfare committee in Ocea village. The aim was to evaluate partner activities in particular areas as well as discuss the challenges faced by refugee leaders and make recommendations.

Education

- In Adjumani, Windle Trust Uganda (WTU) trained 144 Parent Teacher Associations / school management committees in the settlements as part of the effort to fill gaps in the education sector. WTC also monitored and verified 68 teachers in 12 integrated and 29 non-integrated schools. It also paid school fees for 40 orphans and vulnerable children in six integrated secondary schools, and delivered a consignment of 1,005 desks and tables for distribution to schools in order to reduce the present desk-to-student ratio of 1:12.
- In Arua, UNHCR, OPM, WTU and Arua District education authorities visited schools in Rhino Camp settlement to monitor ongoing end-of-term school exams and address the refugees' concerns about their children missing exams because they have defaulted on fees. Over half of the pupils 1,039 refugees and nationals in Yoro, Ocea, Olujobu and Tika primary schools were shut out of exams. UNHCR has discussed the findings with education authorities and is coordinating with OPM and the education department to resolve the matter.
- In Arua, UNHCR distributed exercise books, pens and pencils to 11 children who had been unable to go to school owing to lack of stationery. The children subsequently began attending classes. DRC-DDG supported Early Childhood Development (ECD) and Functional Adult Literacy (FAL) centres with stationery for pupils and teachers. Currently in operation are seven ECD centres and eight FAL centres.

Health

- In Arua, Ocea Health Centre (HC) II and Olujobu HC II provided 1,047 outpatient consultations, (490 refugees, 557 nationals). Another 41 cases were managed as inpatients, (10 refugees, 31 nationals) and 3 refugees and 11 nationals were referred to Arua regional hospital for treatment. Malaria remained the leading cause of morbidity with 416 cases, (209 refugees, 207 nationals). MTI is analysing the trend and has agreed to come up with strategy to reduce the malaria prevalence.

- In Kiryandongo, 323 refugees accessed reception centre (RC) health facilities. The RC health team carried out routine medical check-ups, malnutrition screenings and immunizations. The health centre III averaged 117 outpatient consultation a day (68% refugees) and 1 refugee and 16 nationals accessed ante-natal services.

Reproductive Health

- In Adjumani, ACORD/UNFPA ambulances referred 15 patients to Adjumani hospital, all of whom were expectant mothers. They also mapped 59 pregnant women in five settlements and conducted integrated sexual and reproductive health /HIV/family planning service camps in five settlements. This provided some 1,250 refugee women, men and youth access to integrated family planning and sexual reproductive health services, which included basic long-term and permanent family planning methods. They also had access to HIV/AIDS counselling and testing and other sexual and reproductive health related services.
- In Arua, health personnel assisted 16 deliveries at the health facilities, all were nationals.
- In Kiryandongo, 55 women of reproductive age took part in a sensitization session on domestic violence during which they were provided with 165 pairs of underwear and 330 sanitary pads.

Psychosocial Support

- In Kiryandongo, the Transcultural Psychosocial Organization (TPO) conducted 6 awareness raising sessions on mental health and psychosocial issues for 567 adult refugees (115 males, 452 females), and also conducted follow up home visits.

Immunization

- In Adjumani, five days of every month are being devoted to vaccination to ensure that all children have access to and benefit from immunization.
- In Arua: A total of 242 children under five were immunized against measles and chickenpox.

Food Security and Nutrition

- In Adjumani, District health workers conducted nutrition screenings for 140 children at out-patient services in Mungula HC4, Bira HC3, Lewa HC2 and Adjumani hospital. A total of 23 cases of severe acute malnutrition were identified and referred to the therapeutic feeding programme. Additionally, 12 children with severe acute malnutrition and medical complications were referred to the inpatient therapeutic feeding programme at Adjumani district hospital, while 18 cases of MAM identified are awaiting the introduction of a supplementary feeding programme.
- Also in Adjumani, working jointly with the Uganda Red Cross Society and UNHCR, Concern Worldwide screened 363 children aged between 6-59 months for malnutrition at Mungula village. This is in line with the plans to open a supplementary feeding programme in the settlement. Following this exercise, 31 children were enrolled in the outpatient therapeutic feeding programme, while seven were referred to Adjumani hospital for further nutritional support. The partners delivered 23 cartons of ready-to-use therapeutic food in Mungula, and trained 21 health care extension workers in hygiene and good feeding practices. Capacity building for 55 health workers on integrated management of acute malnutrition was also provided.
- In Arua, Medical Teams International (MTI) conducted nutrition screening for 351 children under five, 175 refugees and 176 nationals. No deaths were reported among the refugees.



Water and Sanitation

- In Adjumani, DRC-DDG completed the construction of 48 communal latrines funded by UNICEF in Ayilo II settlement. DRC-DDG also began elevating the compound of Elegu collection centre to improve drainage and ensure protection against flooding. As well, DRC-DDG secured a new water storage tank from URCS to replace the damaged tank at Elegu collection centre.

- In Arua, the average water supply in Rhino Camp settlement improved from 16.5 l per person / per day to 17.2 l after three boreholes were repaired. UNHCR-hired water trucks supplemented 29% of the water supply, while 63% came from hand-pumped boreholes (44 functional boreholes) and 8% from a piped system (1 motorized borehole). Oxfam, UNHCR and URCS monitored water quality at tap stands and households to ensure that acceptable standards were maintained. The drilling of new boreholes progressed (URCS, Malteser, Oxfam and UNICEF). Five new boreholes were drilled in Tika, Ocea and Katiku and are awaiting installation.
- In Arua, Oxfam facilitated the training of 10 community members on the construction of dome-shaped latrine concrete slabs in Ocea village. The targeted slabs will be used to assist 100 of the most vulnerable PSNs to construct latrines with side drainage and soak pits to act as bath shelters.
- Also in Arua, Oxfam concluded on a Knowledge, Attitudes and Practice (KAP) survey which indicates substantial improvement in hygiene practices, particularly hand washing with soap that rose from 42.4% to 85% in general. To improve hygiene and sanitation in the community, 47 public health/hygiene promoters supported by Oxfam, DRC-DDG/UNICEF, IAS, CARE, SCI, URCS/German Red Cross sensitized refugees on maintaining a safe water chain, personal and food hygiene, proper solid-waste disposal and management, and proper human excreta disposal. Activities included focus group discussions, child-to-child activities, door-to-door visits and school hygiene club activities. The ratio of PHP to persons is 1:241 persons while the standard is 1:500.
- In Kiryandongo, an average of 15 litres per person per day is being supplied overall. InterAid Uganda (IAU) repaired three boreholes during the reporting period. Water trucking system has been stopped and the reception centre is now connected to Bweyale Town water system. The overall person per latrine ratio in Kiryandongo is currently 1:17.



Community Empowerment, Self-Reliance and Environment

Livelihoods and self-reliance

- In Adjumani, DRC-DDG monitored the progress of farmers who received agricultural items and their recent crops. DRC-DDG distributed okra, onion, tomato and eggplant seeds and provided farmer groups in Ayilo I, Boroli and Mireyi settlements with extension support in vegetable gardening. Topics covered included seed bed preparation, nursery layout, planting depth, spacing, seed sowing and mulching of nursery beds. Participating in the demonstrations were 272 refugees, including 41 men and 231 women.
- In Arua, activities to enhance self-reliance and food security in Rhino Camp settlement included the distributed 390 kg of groundnut seed to eight farmer field schools, maize and sesame seeds to four villages, and okra seeds to farmers and PSNs in seven villages by DRC-DDG. It also distributed tools to 30 students doing vocational courses in motor vehicle maintenance, brick laying and concrete making, stenography, carpentry and joinery, and tailoring.
- In Kiryandongo, IAU provided 347 refugee farmers with assorted vegetable seeds. Additionally, 50 watering cans and 3 pesticides sprayer were distributed to 14 farmer groups.

Environment-related activities

- In Adjumani, ACORD/Oxfam distributed 775 energy-saving stoves to refugees in Nyumanzi settlement.
- In Arua, DRC-DDG assisted 75 farmers in three refugee villages with soil and water conservation techniques, pest and disease identification, and weed management.
- In Kiryandongo, IAU distributed 300 seedlings to 100 refugees. As well, IAU conducted an all-day information session that was facilitated by the District Environment and Forest Officer for 38 refugee members of the environment committee.

Working in partnership

OPM / UNHCR are supported by partners on the ground

Kiryandongo refugee settlement

Government partners: OPM, Kiryandongo District Local Government (KDLG) and the Uganda Police Force.

Humanitarian partners: Action Africa Help Uganda (AAH-U), Action Contre la Faim (ACF), AIRD, DRC-DDG, FAO, Inter-Aid Uganda (IAU), International Rescue Committee (IRC), Real Medicine Foundation (RMF), SP, Transcultural Psychosocial Organization Uganda (TPO), UNICEF, WFP and WTU.

West Nile

Government partners in all locations: OPM, Adjumani, Arua and Koboko DLG authorities, various technical departments, and Uganda Police Force.

Adjumani humanitarian partners: AAH-U, ACF, ACORD, ADRA, Welthungerhilfe (WHH)/Concern Worldwide(CWW) as Alliance 2015, Baylor, Caritas, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), DRC-DDG, HelpAge International, IOM, LWF, Marie Stopes, MSF-F, MTI, OXFAM, PLAN, SciU, UNFPA, UNICEF, URCS/ICRC, TPO, War Child Canada, WFP, WHO, WTI and WVI.

Arua humanitarian partners: ADRA, AIRD, Care International, Caritas, International Aid Services (IAS), DRC-DDG, Global Refuge International (GRI), Humedica, Malteser international, MTI, Oxfam, SciU, ZOA, UNICEF, URCS/ICRC and WFP, WTU, Touch Africa.

Coordination Meetings

In Kampala, the inter-agency coordination meeting chaired by OPM/UNHCR with UN agencies and implementing and operational partners will take place on 24 July at UNHCR. Meetings are now held on a monthly basis and there is one scheduled for 28 August.

In the field, OPM / UNHCR chair weekly inter-agency meetings that are held on Wednesdays in Adjumani, and on Thursdays in Arua.

In Adjumani, sectorial meetings chaired by UNHCR take place weekly: the Protection working group meets Tuesdays at 3pm; health coordination meets Tuesdays at 9am; livelihood coordination meets Tuesdays at 10.00am; the education working group meets Wednesdays at 3pm and, WASH coordination meets Tuesdays and Fridays at 9am respectively. The Shelter and Infrastructure working group meetings is held on a bi-weekly basis on Tuesdays at 8.30am.

In Adjumani, community meetings take place every day in Baratuku and Nyumanzi settlements.

In Arua, weekly WASH coordination meetings continue to be held on Thursdays at 2pm.

In Kiryandongo, all partners' weekly coordination meetings are held, chaired by OPM along with sectorial meetings on WASH, Health, Protection/Community service, Education and Livelihood/Environment.

UNHCR Presence in Uganda

As of May 2014



UNHCR Regional Support Hub in Nairobi

