



ETHIOPIA

UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE

26 October – 5 November 2014

KEY FIGURES

190,965

UNHCR PoC for the situation

FUNDING

USD 210m

requested for the operation



PRIORITIES

- Emergency response to flooding in Leitchuor, Nipnip and Matar
- Search for additional land in view of continued influx
- Implement mitigation measures related to rainy season by strengthening WASH and nutrition interventions and encouraging positive behavioral change

HIGHLIGHTS

- The total number of South Sudanese refugees who have entered Ethiopia since the outbreak of the conflict in mid-December 2013 is now over 190,965 individuals.
- The average arrival rate of South Sudanese refugees to the Gambella region has remained low during the rainy season, with an average of 90 South Sudanese refugees arriving daily in Gambella during the week through Burbiey. New arrivals from Burbiey were relocated to Matar way station with assistance from IOM for transport.
- The “Master Plan Mission” from UNHCR HQs visited Gambella and Assosa between 20-29 October. The purpose of mission was to test the newly developed master plan tool kit in the Gambella Operation, as well as assisting ARRA in the identification of new sites for camp establishment.
- The flood water from the Baro River has gradually started receding; however, over the last week the water level within Nyinyang and its surroundings rose and is threatening to cut off the road between Leitchuor and Nyinyang. Most of the refugees are remaining where they self-settled in different parts of Nyinyang, and along the NipNip and Jikawo corridor and Gambella - Matar highway.
- On 29 October in Kule refugee camp, a group of refugees grew agitated during a regular HIV/AIDs Awareness Raising Campaign which was accompanied by a musical band from Gambella. When the band unknowingly played music normally associated with the Dinka ethnicity, the refugees became angry, suspecting the organisers of the event of supporting the Dinka ethnicity. The situation was brought under control with the assistance of ARRA.
- The President of Ireland, H.E. Michael D. Higgins, visited Gambella last week. During his visit, the President met South Sudanese refugees and urged for more assistance to South Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia.
- UNHCR’s new Representative for Ethiopia, Mr Valentin Tapsoba, arrived and has taken up his functions.

Population of concern

A total of **190,965** people of concern

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

The total number of South Sudanese refugees who have entered Ethiopia since the outbreak of the conflict in mid-December 2013 is now almost 191,000 individuals, with the number continuing to increase daily. The asylum seekers continue to arrive in Ethiopia into the Gambella Regional State, mainly through Burbiey, Pagak and Akobo border-entry points, citing fighting and food insecurity as the main reasons for their flight. The Ethiopian borders remain open to asylum seekers. The South Sudanese refugee population is the largest refugee group in Ethiopia, surpassing the Somali refugee population. The rainy season has caused damage in Leitchuor and NipNip Camps and refugees in these camps have moved to higher ground within the camps and the surrounding villages. Emergency response activities are being undertaken in these locations.

Achievements

Protection

Achievements and Impact

- The nationality screening exercise is on-going in Tierkidi Refugee Camp, where 1,001 persons have been targeted to attend the exercise. UNHCR's registration team is also providing support for the nationality screening exercise in Leitchuor Refugee Camp.
- Harmonization of data related to unaccompanied minors and separated children is being captured by UNHCR's implementing partners Save the Children and Plan International in Kule, Tierkidi and Leitchuor refugee camps in coordination with UNHCR. Thus far, 78% of the data has been harmonised.
- UNHCR and ARRA have agreed upon issuing Proof of Registration documents in Kule and Tierkidi refugee camps. Preparations are now underway to commence issuing the documents from next week, while Standard Operating Procedures to guide the process have also been finalised.
- An awareness-raising activity on Peace-Making, as part of a conflict prevention and resolution strategy, was provided for a total of 153 refugees and members of the host community in the vicinity of Leitchuor camp. Through this activity, participants acquired a better understanding of the causes, nature and outcomes of conflict as well as skills for peaceful conflict prevention and resolution. The activity also presented the participants with the opportunity to relate what they had learnt from the circumstances in their communities and discussed ways to address emerging conflicts, particularly in the context of the current flood emergency and competition for limited resources.
- As part of the UNHCR – UNICEF partnership in supporting implementation of child protection activities, UNICEF has deployed to UNHCR a Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS) expert to support partners in using CPIMS, including the provision of training and coaching.

Education

Achievements and Impact

- In Leitchuor camp, Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) teacher training was conducted between 30th October and 1st November. 30 teachers, comprising 1 male and 29 females participated. The training focused on major pedagogical and teaching methodologies.
- All Implementing Partners (IPs) have noticed a very significant increase in enrolment rates in schools during September and early October due to several mobilizing campaigns.
- Statistical evidence shows a correlation between school attendance and food distribution in refugee camps. Partners estimate that the education process is disrupted for a period of between 10-15 days a month. The World

Food Programme (WFP) is currently working on a new distribution method, while WFP, UNHCR, ARRA and relevant partners will continue the discussion on how to mitigate this situation.

- Two new schools in Tierkidi have commenced in Zones B and D.

Health

Achievements and Impact

- 186 Long Lasting Insecticide-treated Nets (LLINs) were distributed to vulnerable groups at Pagak entry points as a response to the high incidence of malaria in the area.
- To prevent neonatal tetanus, ARRA has finalized preparations to provide tetanus vaccinations for all women of reproductive age (15-49 years).
- There is an overall decreasing trend of Hepatitis E cases reported from all camps.
- In the reporting period sanitary materials to be used for the next 3 months were distributed by UNHCR. A total of 1,580 females between the ages of 12-49 years were identified as the target group for the distribution. During the distribution, awareness messages on the prevention of HIV were also disseminated.



Food Security and Nutrition

Achievements and Impact

- Concern Worldwide has established a second mobile nutrition centre in Nipnip to improve access to nutrition services for refugees.
- In Matar, food distribution is on-going with support from WFP, with 7,000 refugees receiving the full ration basket.
- WFP, UNHCR and ARRA are conducting on-going sensitisation with the refugees to accept maize meal as the available cereal in the food basket for the November 2014 cycle in Tierkidi and Kule refugee camps.



Water and Sanitation

Achievements and Impact

- The average daily quantity of water supplied during the last week dropped slightly due to the flooding of the road between Leitchuor and Nyinyang. However, an assessment undertaken within the week revealed that many households were correctly using water purifiers.
- In Kule the water access level is at 12 litres per person per day (lpppd), while the ratio of latrines to people is 1:38. In Tierkidi, the water access level is at 11 lpppd and the ratio of latrines to people 1:40.
- UNHCR and its WASH partners reviewed the indicator improvement plan that was developed some weeks ago to assess the extent of implementation. All emergency indicators have been achieved except the quantity of water delivered to the camps, which has not been met due to the conditions of the access roads and problems related to flooding.
- At Itang, IRC completed the installation of two additional emergency pipelines to feed the water treatment facility. Installation of submersible pump will follow. At present, an average of 1,065,000 litres of water is produced on a daily basis in Itang.



Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

- In Kule, the tukul construction is on-going, with 71% commenced construction, and 12% completed and occupied. In Tierkidi, 90% have commenced construction and 70% are completed and occupied.



Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR's partner NRC is currently working on the road improvement of 6.8 kilometres of roads in Kule and Tierkidi camps.
- **Mapping** for Tierkidi and Kule has been undertaken with updated plans now available to partners, while capacity building on the use of GIS technology has also been held.
- Updated occupancy mapping has been undertaken for Leitchuor, with detailed maps produced of the areas of higher ground to which refugees have relocated. In addition, higher ground areas have been assessed as being safe areas for refugees to relocate. The map was presented at the Task Force in Gambella.

Working in partnership

- UNHCR continues to coordinate the refugee response in Gambella and a number of donors and partners continue to visit the operation. In Addis Ababa, the Refugee Task Force remains an important coordination body while several consultative meetings have been held with partners, donors and UN agencies on the flooding response.
- The Emergency Response Task Forces in Gambella have continued to convene regularly to address challenges and to strategize the response in both Leitchuor and Gambella. In both Addis Ababa and Gambella, discussions on the Regional Response Plan for 2015 were completed and a draft version was shared with partners.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to some **US\$ 104.5 million**, of which **48.6 million** were given to **UNHCR and US\$ 55.9 million to partners**, against **US\$ 210.9 million** requested for the situation.

UNHCR is grateful for the vital support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to partners and UNHCR programmes with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.