

UGANDA – BIDIBIDI SETTELEMENT, YUMBE

UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE

14 October 2016

KEY FIGURES

269,936

No of South Sudanese refugees in Uganda from 1 January – 14 October)

220,268

No of South Sudanese refugees in Uganda from 1 July – 14 October

481,627

No. of South Sudanese refugees in Uganda (source: Government of Uganda, Refugee Information Management System [RIMS] added to the refugee population registered manually since 1 July.)

144,701

No. of South Sudanese refugees in Yumbe (3 August – 14 October)

2,184

Average daily arrival of SSD refugee into Uganda since 7 July 2016

OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES

- Explore additional sources of water to ensure an adequate and sustainable supply of water in Bidibidi.
- Expand and develop new areas of Bidibidi to receive additional refugees from South Sudan.
- Strengthen capacity of Protection partners for a more robust response to a growing number of refugees.

HIGHLIGHTS

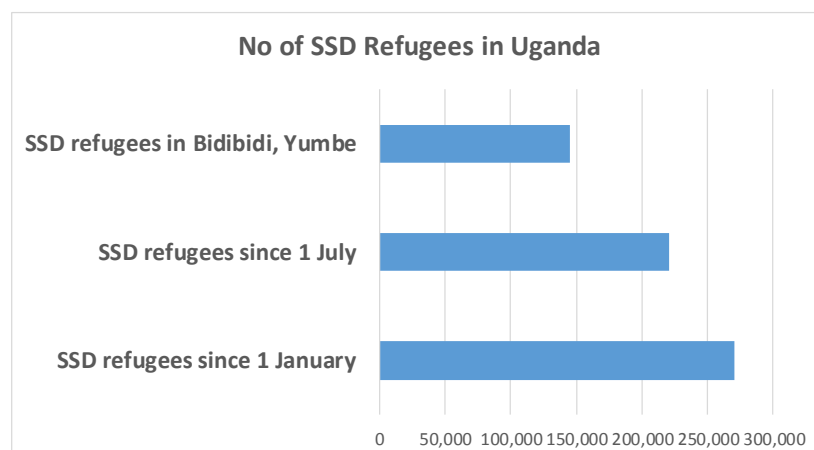
- Between 1 – 14 October 31,951 refugees from South Sudan arrived in Uganda reflecting an average daily rate of 2,282 individuals. This shows a decrease in numbers compared to the first 14 days of Sept., when 44,602 refugees arrived at an average daily rate of 3,186 individuals. A total of 218,982 refugees have arrived in Uganda between 7 July and 14 October.



UNHCR in consultations with refugee youth in Ocea RC/Rhino Settlement, Sept 2016. UNHCR/M. Farman-Farmaian

- From 1 – 14 October, 6,422 refugees arrived in Ocea Reception Center/Rhino Camp; among these 4,441 individuals were relocation by UNHCR/OPM from Oraba-Kulubo and 1,981 arrived spontaneously. During the same period in September, 12,708 refugees arrived in Ocea/Rhino; 8,364 person through UNHCR/OPM relocation and 4,344 spontaneously.
- Deterioration of the security situation in South Sudan, road blocks and continued fighting and violence against civilian populations has forced many refugees to hide in the bush as they make their way to the SSD – Uganda border often entering through unofficial border points. A small number of refugees also travel through DRC to reach safety in Uganda.

South Sudanese Refugee Population in Uganda **481,627**



UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

Refugees from SSD continue to arrive at an average rate of 2,000-2,500 per day. Many refugees have spent long periods of time walking through the bush, often without access to food, water and other needs. UNHCR working with OPM and partners, has set up collection points to receive and provide basic services (WASH, health, food) to the arriving population and to facilitate their relocation to Bidibidi Settlement. Activities aim to include local villagers who generously host and support refugees.

A number of refugees arrive from areas as far as Malakal close to the Sudan border. This group reported fighting, hunger and previous negative experiences in Sudan as the cause for their flight to Uganda. Many of these refugees have travelled by air to Juba, then by vehicle to the border entering Uganda at Nimule/Elegu.

Based on interviews with refugees, reasons for flight are: 1) indiscriminate killing of civilians often based on ethnic origin, arbitrary arrest; 2) targeted killings; 3) forced recruitment of boys and men; 4) burning of villages, property and killing of livestock, 5) looting and abduction 6) hunger and lack of adequate food, medication and basic services, 7) inflation and the soaring cost of living.

Bidibidi Settlement accommodates the majority of SSD refugees arriving in Uganda. Established on 1 August, relocation from the border and transit centers began on 3 August 2016. Today the population of Bidibidi stands at 144,701 individuals in 3 Zones. An additional Zone 4 is under preparation to receive additional refugees.

Achievement



Protection (UNHCR, OPM, UNFPA, UNICEF, Plan International, WVI, TPO, URCS, ADRA and IRC)

Achievements and Impact

- **Persons with Specific Needs (PSN)** As of 14 October, a total of 9,332 PSNs have been identified in Bidibidi Settlement representing 6.4% of the total population. The majority of PSNs are Women at Risk (pregnant/lactating and female-headed households) followed by older persons at risk and persons with disabilities. UNHCR and protection partners provide assistance including aid with the construction of PSN family shelters. To date, a total of 1,736 PSN shelters have been completed. The needs assessment for the specific needs of PSNs is ongoing in zones 1 and 2.
- **Community Services** Formation of 18 Refugee Welfare Councils (RWC), each with 20 men and women members in Zone 1 and 2 was completed. Leadership Training for members of the RWCs is ongoing to ensure better understanding of roles and responsibilities and to strengthen linkages with OPM, UNHCR and partner organizations. Neighborhood Watch Teams were formed in the 18 blocks to improve safety and security conditions. Establishment of Distribution/Food Committees, Water Management and Sanitation Committees has been completed in all blocks of Zone 1 and Zone 2. Formation of Women's Groups is ongoing with 2 groups currently formed in Zone 2 to increase women's participation in community governance structures and decision making power.
- Three recreational sites were identified; clearing of the site is in process in Zone 1. Progress was made in opening up of the roads in Zone 2 allowing refugee populations to move to their designated plots and to set up community structures to participate in management services and activities.
- Interagency coordination was established with a focus on youth; the meeting will be held regularly on a weekly basis.
- **SGBV** – Between 07-14 October, 16 new cases of SGBV were reported and support provided, bringing the total number of cases reported in Bidibidi to 68. Among the 16 new cases, 4 were cases of rape of which 2 occurred in South Sudan, and 2 occurred in Bidibidi by unknown perpetrators. The survivor of one of the rape cases was a minor.

Four cases involved physical assault, 4 was denial of resources and 3 pertained to emotional violence. The category of one case has not been reported. During the reporting period, 50 community outreach visits were conducted bringing the cumulative total of visits to 4,579 (2,807 F/ 1,772 M) out of which 550 were adolescents (233 F/ 217 M). Two orientation meetings were held for 2 SGBV women's groups (30 women in Zone 1; 68 women in Zone 2) to raise awareness on the different forms of SGBV and to facilitate identification of cases and referral mechanisms in place. Out of 5 women's centers to be constructed, 1 has been completed in Zone 1 and the site for another allocated, a women's center is also in progress in Zone 2. A 2-day training was held for 22 partner SGBV staff on 7 and 8 October on how to deal with SGBV cases.

- **Child Protection (CP)** during reporting time 112 Unaccompanied / separated children (UASC) - 42 UAM/70 SC - were identified at the Reception Centre. In addition one case of a child-headed household (CHH) and 3 children at risk (CR) were identified. Partners are following these cases to ensure their safety and protection. The accumulated number of UASC stands at 1,708, while 758 children have been identified for foster care.
- Weekly CP trainings started in Bidibidi to strengthen the capacity of staff and partners. This training will be repeated on Wednesday and Thursday so that more participants in need of capacity building can attend.
- Applying a multi-sector approach, collection of information and data from various partners/sources is ongoing to identify additional groups of children at risk (other than UASCs) and to plan a more comprehensive CP response.
- Community dialogue meetings were conducted in various blocks of Zone 1, together with the Child Protection Committees (CPC) and other community members. These meetings aim to inform and sensitize the population on child protection issues; they also serve as a forum to identify new foster care givers. Community dialogue/Child Protection meetings take place 3 times a week (up from 2/week) to speed up the establishment of committees and identification of foster care families in all blocks of Zone 1. Trainings will be conducted for Child Protection Committees (CPCs) and foster care families before moving to a similar process in Zone 2.
- **Communication with Communities** A total of 15 Protection Information Points (PIPs) are operational across the 3 zones of Bidibidi, including 2 mobile PIPs. Key issues raised at the desks include requests for support in PSN shelter construction, family tracing and reunification, lost cards and food related complaints.
- This week, a site planning visit was conducted to Zone 2 and 5 sites were identified for the construction of permanent desk structures. Outreach visits continued to some desks in Zone 3 where the highest number of family tracing requests have been registered; follow up visits are planned for next week.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- **PSN** Monitoring and follow-up of activities by partner staff to be strengthened, especially with regard to activities implemented by volunteer staff.
- **Community Services** Lack of access roads in new zones of Bidibidi to allow refugee population to move to their designated plots and to set up community structures to participate in the management of services and activities including WASH, health, distribution of relief items and food delivery.
- Need for additional support to communities in Zone 1 to elect women leaders and to increase women's participation in the community governance structures and decision making at the council level.
- **SGBV** – staff and Community Outreach Volunteers need further training to build on their knowledge and reinforce their capacity. Training must also be extended to the wider community, including the leaders of the recently established community structures.
- **Child Protection** need to strengthen partner capacity in the Reception Center especially regarding family reunification of unaccompanied/separated children with the aim to expedite the process.
- CP SOPs and referral pathways need to be updated as the situation continues to be fluid.
- To capture more accurate and detailed data on children at risk, a database is required to replace the current practice of using a manual system of verifying individual files.
- **CwC** Need for capacity building of the recently hired refugee protection volunteers working at the desks, the need to strengthen inter-agency coordination and referral pathways.



Education (UNHCR, OPM, UNICEF, Plan International, TPO, AAR and WTU)

Achievements and Impact

- **Primary school** - As of 14 Oct, 13,253 children are attending class in 10 primary schools in Zones 1 & 2. 149 teachers and classroom assistants have been recruited, trained and deployed to these Zones. Further recruitment of teachers is ongoing. Curriculum books for teachers were distributed to all operational schools as well as exercise books to 7,500 children in Zone 2. To reduce congestion in the schools, partners have provided temporary / tented classrooms. 16 Tents have been erected in 8 schools, and construction of an additional 3 blocks of temporary classrooms in 3 schools in Zone 1 is ongoing. In Zone 1, the site for an additional school has been identified; 3 classroom blocks will be constructed.
- In Zone 3, three sites out of six have been identified, with construction on the first of these sites due to begin next week.
- **Secondary schools** - Construction of a secondary school in Zone 2 is completed; composed of a structure of 3 classroom blocks with a capacity of up to 700 students, the school will be operational as of 24 October. This school will contribute to addressing the great need for post-primary education and learning in Bidibidi.
- In collaboration with the District Education Office, an assessment of existing secondary schools accessible to the population in Bidibidi settlement was carried out. Results and information on secondary as well as other post-primary and tertiary learning opportunities within Yumbe is shared with the Protection Information Points.
- **Early Childhood Development (ECD)** – There are currently 9 ECD centers operational in Zones 1 and 2, with an average enrolment of over 500 children each. Partners are planning to develop recreational equipment suited to the Bidibidi environment in all 9 of ECD centers.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Primary school and ECD construction in Zone 3 needs to begin as soon as possible.
- Accelerated learning programmes, school bridging programmes, integrated vocational skills programmes, and identification and established pathways to diploma and degree courses are needed.
- Additional school supplies including desks, blackboards and scholastic materials to deliver quality education is essential.
- Caregivers in ECD centers currently lack accommodations.



Health (UNHCR, OPM, UNFPA, IRC, RMF, UNICEF, WHO, TPO, MSF, MTI)

Achievements and Impact

- Refugees have access to primary health care through static and mobile outreach services. In Zone 1 healthcare services are provided through 3 healthcare facilities. In Zone 2, OPD services are available through a static facility. In addition, construction of two facilities in Zone 2 was completed during reporting time with primary healthcare is available in both. In Zone 3, healthcare services are provided at Yoyo Health Centre 3 and through a mobile outreach unit pending establishment of temporary structures for clinics. A temporary clinic was built and awaits installation of facilities to begin activities. Two nearby government health facilities (Barakala) Health Centre III and the district referral hospital for secondary health care services also provide health services to the refugee population in Bidibidi.
- Current health services include outpatient consultations, nutrition screening and treatment, in-patient services, immunization, referrals to the district hospital, HIV/TB services as well as mental health and psychosocial support. Access to reproductive health services include clinical management of rape, ante-natal, delivery and postnatal services.
- During the reporting period, a total of 8,178 OPD consultations were conducted, reflecting an estimated health facility utilization rate of 2.9 consultations/refugee/year (expected is 2-4). Of the total number of OPDs, an estimated

5.5% are members of the host population. The leading causes of illness (proportional morbidity) are malaria (29.4%) and Respiratory Tract Infections/RTI (19.1%) followed by Acute Watery Diarrhea/AWD (9.8%).

- Two new cases of AWD were reported during the last week. In this context, contact tracing was undertaken; no other cases were identified amongst family members and/or neighbors. A total of 60 cholera cases (57 refugees and 3 nationals) have been registered since the epidemic was declared in August. Response mechanisms include social mobilization, active case identification, surveillance, case management, infection control measures, and follow up of patients/contacts at the community level.
- The Crude Mortality Rate (CMR) and Under-5 mortality rates are estimated at 0.1 and 0.2 deaths/10,000/day which is below the emergency threshold of 1 and 2 deaths/10,000/day respectively. Community mortality surveillance remains a gap. Village Health teams (VHTs) will be operationalized soon to ensure collection of data on community mortality rate.
- Recruitment and training of 54 Village Health Team members (VHTs) was completed in Zone 2.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- While efforts are ongoing to strengthen the capacity in existing health facilities (staffing, structure and supplies), in the context of continued increase in the number of refugees arriving in Bidibidi and evolving needs, additional funding is required to ensure these activities continue.
- Establishment of 2 additional (static) healthcare facilities are needed in Zone 3.
- Lack of blood transfusion services continue to be a challenge. A new refrigerator for storage of blood was obtained; 100Ah power batteries are required to address the need for a reliable source of power
- The closure of the Yumbe District Hospital at the end of the year for a 2-year renovation project will leave a gap in referral cases. UNHCR and partners in the health sector have planned a rapid assessment in the coming week to review and recommend a way forward to address the health referral needs of the refugee and host populations in Bibidibi.
- An additional ambulance was acquired by health sector during the reporting time bringing the total number of ambulances in the settlement to 4. This leaves a gap of 2 as each Zone should have 2 dedicated ambulances. With the daily increase in the population of Bidibidi and the opening of a new Zone “4”, this gap is likely to become more pressing.
- The supply of vaccines (through District authorities) remains erratic and to ensure a functional Health Information System (HIS) required tools are needed.



Food Security and Nutrition (WFP, UNHCR, UNICEF, WVI, CWW, ACF)

Achievements and Impact

- Hot meals are provided for to refugees in the reception center on the night of their arrival and the next day following their relocation to their plots. A 15-day dry ration is distributed to all refugees who arrived in Sept/Oct. The 15-day dry food ration is at 100% ration commodity scale with the exception of vegetable oil which is being provided at a 50% scale (due to inadequate stocks). The ration provides 1,995 kcal/per person per day, slightly lower than the recommended 2,100 kcal/ per person per day. The ration consists of maize flour, beans, vegetable oil, CSB+ and salt.
- Decentralization of nutrition services to ensure access to the increasing population is ongoing. Inpatient and outpatient therapeutic care, targeted supplementary feeding care and basic IYCF is currently being provided at the 3 health posts in Zone 1. In Zone 2, both outpatient therapeutic and supplementary feeding care services are being provided at all the 3 health posts. In Zone 3, outpatient therapeutic care services are provided in one static health centre and during outreach services.
- Mass MUAC screening of all children 6-59 months was conducted in Zone 2. Field exercise for MUAC screening is ongoing in Zone 1. This will help to ascertain the nutrition situation in the two zones. In addition, active case finding of all malnourished cases continues. Identified cases of malnutrition are referred to the nutrition centers for rehabilitation. A report on the findings will be provided in the next update.
- There are currently 519 children 6-59 months (10 in ITC, 141 in OTC and 368 in SFP), 151 pregnant and lactating women and 730 >5 enrolled in the nutrition centers for rehabilitation in Bidibidi settlements.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Sorghum (seeds) in lieu of maize meal were distributed to refugees and is deemed as inappropriate in the Bidibidi context due to the lack of grinding mills and the additional milling costs for the refugees. A solution is being explored with partners in the food sector.
- Cereal flour mobilization is required for a full scale October General Food Distribution (GFD).
- Establishment of food distribution centers and a food basket/post distribution monitoring system is needed.
- Capacity building to ensure a comprehensive nutrition program that includes screening of all new arrivals, awareness, promotion and protection of infant and young child feeding, quality community outreach program, nutrition surveillance and development of a standardized monitoring and reporting framework is needed.
- Nutrition rehabilitation infrastructure at the decentralized sites should be scaled up. Out of 8 required structures, one in Zone 2 has been finalized, 6 remain.
- Provision of supplementary feeding in Zone 3 should be set up soonest.



Water and Sanitation (UNHCR, UNICEF, OXFAM, URCS, WHH, SP, WMI, DRC, MSF, ACF, WVI, NRC, Malteser International)

Achievements and Impact

- A total of 8,730 m³ of water was provided to Bidibidi Settlement during reporting time mainly through water trucking and the 33 operational hand-pumps. During reporting time (8-14 Oct), the average supply of water in the Settlement was 9.1 l/p/d.
- The Obongi water treatment unit is now operational and supplying an average of 100 m³ of water per day for trucking to Bidibidi.
- A piped water system was completed and provides water to 30 tap stands in various areas of Zone 1.
- Three additional boreholes were drilled leading to a total of 5 boreholes in Zone 2. Five further boreholes are planned for this Zone.
- A WASH strategy and operations planning meeting was facilitated by UNHCR Senior WASH Officer with the participation of partners in the sector. The meeting reviewed and recommended interventions for a longer term supply of WASH in Bidibidi Settlement. A technical 4Ws matrix for WASH activities was developed to identify gaps; partners made a commitment to address these.
- A Water Trucking Operations meeting was also held with the participation of drivers of the water bowsers (trucks) to review challenges and define the way forward. Drivers highlighted the lack of adequate water sources which leads to long hours of waiting at available sources. Drivers were informed that Obongi would soon become the main water source.
- A coordination meeting was also held with partners and District Water and Sanitation authorities in which authorities emphasized the inclusion of host populations in WASH activities.
- The total number of latrine stances in Zone 3 stands at 1,008 leading to a ratio of 1:46. In Zone 1, there are 1,222 stances (ratio 1:38) and in Zone 2, 902 latrines (ratio 1: 46).

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Lack of adequate water storage tanks (10,000 litres) has delayed WASH activities in Zone 3. More tanks on the way to ensure adequate storage and supply of water in the Zone where newly arrived refugees are settled.



Shelter and CRIs (UNHCR, WVI, URCS, AIRD, AAR)

Achievements and Impact

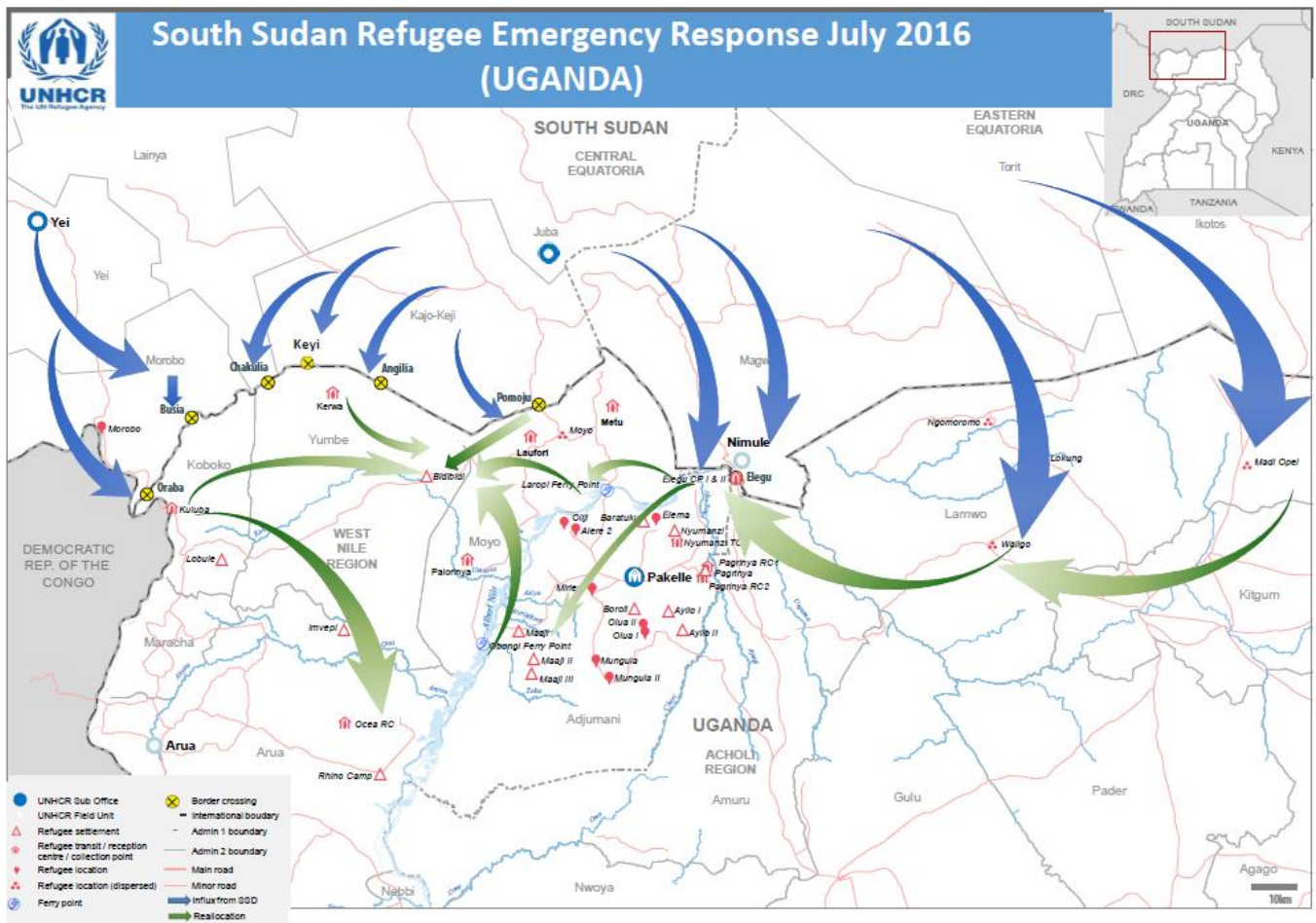
- **Core Relief Items (CRIs)** Distribution of CRIs upon arrival at the Bidibidi Reception Center and once refugees are settled in their designated plots continues. Shelter kits are also provided to assist with the construction of temporary housing structures.
- To date, a total of some 142,000 refugees have been successfully settled in Bidibidi's zones as follows:
 Bidibidi Zone1: 56,000 refugees (*as per OPM figures*)
 Bidibidi Zone2: 43,000 refugees
 Bidibidi Zone3: 43,000 refugees
- Bidibidi Settlement covers a total of 177 km² residential and agricultural areas; this includes Bidibidi Zones 1, Zone 2, and Zone 3. A new Zone 4 (Odravo and Ariwa) is under development.
 - Bidibidi Zone1:** a total of 78 km of roads have been opened, 52 km of road is graded and 26 km of roads remains ungraded.
 - Bidibidi Zone2:** a total of 31 km of roads have been opened, 1.5 km of road is graded and 29.5 km of road remains ungraded.
 - Bidibidi Zone3:** 44 km of roads have been opened.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- CRI: Replenishment of CRI stocks and the subsequent distribution of backlogs has created logistical challenges at distribution points. Available trucks for transport of CRIs are inadequate for the zones located at some distance from the warehouse.
- Limited number of heavy machinery imposes challenges on road works. Heavy rains also impede continuation of work.
- Installation of culverts for easy access over streams, ditches, rough terrain, etc. remain a gap
- Need to open access roads and ensure installation of facilities (WASH as a priority) before refugees are settled in new areas of Bidibidi.

Working in partnership

- UNHCR cooperates closely with the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) to coordinate activities in Bidibidi settlement. Separate coordination structures are established for WASH, Health and Nutrition, Child Protection, Community Services and Protection sectors chaired by UNHCR.
- In addition to Government authorities, partners engaged in Bidibidi, Yumbe include: **AAR Japan**, **ADRA** - Adventist Development and Relief Agency - **AIRD** – African Initiatives for Relief and Development, **ACF** – Action Contre la Faim/ Action Against Hunger, Association for Aid and Relief, **CEFORD** - Community Empowerment For Rural Development, **CWW** - Concern Worldwide, **DRC** – Danish Refugee Council, **IRC** – International Rescue Committee, **Malteser International**, **MSF** - Medecins sans Frontieres, **MTI** Medical Teams International, Norwegian Refugee Council - **NRC**, **OXFAM**, **Plan** - Plan International, **RMF** – Real Medicine Foundation, **SP** – Samaritan's Purse, **TPO** Transcultural Psychological Organization Uganda, **UNICEF**, **UNHCR**, **UNFPA**, **URCS** Uganda Red Cross Society, **WMI** - Water Mission International, **WHH** - Welthungerhilfe - **WFP** – World Food Programme, **WHO** – World Health Organization, **WTU** – Windle Trust Uganda, **WVI** – World Vision International.



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

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Links:

<http://data.unhcr.org/SouthSudan/regional.php>