

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

EMERGENCY UPDATE ON THE SOUTH SOUDAN REFUGEE SITUATION

20 – 26 March 2017

KEY FIGURES

72,832

South Soudan Refugees registered in DRC (as of 19 March 2017)

17,696

Of these refugees registered at Meri site (as of 19 March 2017)

1,716

Of these refugees living at Biringi site (as of 19 March 2017)

FUNDING

USD 31 mio.

requested for the operation



PRIORITIES

- Provide additional family shelters.
- Transfer refugees to sites and identify new sites.
- Support self-reliance and access to basic services at refugee sites.
- Maintain the humanitarian and civilian character of asylum.
- Integrate refugee children into DRC's national education system.
- Find solutions for unaccompanied children.

HIGHLIGHTS

- During the reporting period, 117 households of 405 people arrived at Meri site in Faradje Territory, Haut-Uélé province, according to pre-screening of the National Commission for Refugees (CNR). They were hosted in community shelters and assisted with hot meals and WFP high-energy biscuits.
- On 16 March, 1,399 people at Biringi site (Aru territory, Ituri province) received a WFP Cash Grant of a value of 14,500 Congolese Francs per person to purchase food.
- At Meri site, UNHCR's partner ADSSE gave bikes to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) focal points, in order to enable them to collect information and raise awareness.
- WFP distributed cash grants of a value of 14,500 Congolese Francs per person in Meri to 4,846 households of 15,081 people.
- Some 4,700 additional family shelters are needed to cover the needs of refugees at Meri site and evacuate collective shelters.



Refugees arriving in Faradje territory from the border with South Sudan ©UNHCR/A. Savadogo

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Protection

Achievements and Impact

- Social partner ADSSE ensured the follow-up of 15 pregnant women, 13 sick people and 9 elder people at Biringi site.
- During the reporting period, two new cases of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) were reported by medical partner ADES in Biringi site. Survivors received medical and psychological support from ADES staff who also continue to provide psychological support to old cases. Since the beginning of the year, a total of 48 cases of SGBV were documented in Biringi, Ituri province.
- In Meri site, social partner ADSSE donates bikes to SGBV focal points in order to enable them to better play their role in the collection of information and awareness.

Education

Achievements and Impact

- **Meri site** - During the reporting period, 1,222 children attended schools out of 1,347 enrolled. Some expulsions from school because of non-payment of school fees were reported.
- 475 out of 480 enrolled children attended French classes during the reporting period, in order to enable them to visit local schools.

Health

Achievements and Impact

- **Aru territory** – During the reporting period, 46 new arrivals underwent screening at the transit center of ARU and 21 sick people received appropriate medical care from ADES.
- 18 children aged between 0 and 59 months received Vitamin A and anti-worms treatment at the transit center of Aru during the reporting period.
- The medical partner ADES ensured the medical follow-up of 15 patients hospitalized at Biringi and Aru General Hospitals and at the Anglican health center of Aru.
- **Faradje territory** – Medical partner ADES undertook 1,122 medical consultation at the newly built Health Center of Meri Site. 431 patients benefitted from more specific healthcare and at the General Hospital of Aba and at the health center of Nyalanya. The most frequent diseases were malaria and respiratory infections.
- Since the beginning of 2017, 98 deliveries were carried out in Aba General Hospital and in Nyalanya Health Center.

Food Security and Nutrition

Achievements and Impact

- **Biringi site** – During the reporting period, 2,099 hot meals were distributed to 222 new arrivals, sick people, vulnerable people and prisoners detained in nearby city of Aba.
- 18 children aged under 5 years underwent nutritional screening at the transit center of Aru during the relocation to Biringi. One case of moderate malnutrition was detected. In total, 80 malnourished people benefit from nutritional program since December 2016.
- **Meri site** – During the reporting period, 36 children underwent nutritional screening and 11 cases of malnutrition were detected. They have been enrolled in the nutritional program. 13 children and 4 pregnant and lactating women

completed successfully the nutritional program. Since the beginning of 2017, 180 children successfully completed the program during the reporting period and other 46 improved their status from acute malnutrition to moderate malnutrition.

- 1,469 packages of WFP high-energy biscuits were distributed to 606 new arrivals at Meri site.
- During the reporting period, WFP distributed the Cash Grant of a value of 14,500 Congolese Francs per person in Meri to 4,846 households of 15,081 people. 1,075 refugees resulted absent from distribution.

Water and Sanitation

Achievements and Impact

- **Biringi site** – During the reporting period, some 18 liters of water per person and per day were distributed to refugees and the host community.
- 126 latrines and community showers were functional at the site.
- **Meri site** – During the reporting period, some 17 liters of water per person and per day were distributed to 18,237 refugees currently presents at the site. 15 water sources built by ADES and 8 built by Malteser were functional.
- 1,357 latrines were operational on the site during the reporting period.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Refugees have difficulties to obtain straws, stick and reed for the construction of family latrines at Meri.
- Need of additional 75 latrines to cover the need of 300 shelters under construction on the site of Meri.

Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

- Construction kits were distributed to 31 households at Meri and 24 shelters for people with specific needs were under construction. Construction of 200 shelters for people with specific needs was planned.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Some 4,700 additional family shelters are needed to cover the needs of refugees at Meri site and evacuate collective shelters.

Working in partnership

- UNHCR coordinates its assistance with a variety of humanitarian actors, working together to ensure refugees benefit from dignified and efficient protection mechanisms.
- For this operation, UNHCR partners are: AIRD, CNR, ADES, ADSSE and INTERSOS. Other partners include FAO, WFP MALTESER, TROCAIRE and WFP (with its partner TSF).

Donors for the South Sudanese refugee response in DRC in 2017

United States of America (3.1 M) | Belgium (0.3 M)

Donors for UNHCR's programmes in DRC operations in 2017

Japan (2.5 M) | Sweden (1.1 M) | UN Fund for Intl Partnerships (0.2 M) | Vodafone Foundation (0.05 M) | Private Donors Spain (0.06 M)

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