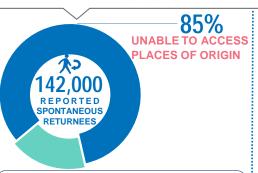


Overview of Spontaneous Refugee Returns to South Sudan

31st January 2019



Context

- About 2.3 million South Sudanese have sought refuge in one of the neighbouring countries of Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda.
- Although there is neither facilitation nor promotion of refugee returns to South Sudan, as the current conditions is not yet conducive for durable, safe and dignified returns, reports on spontaneous refugee returns continue to be received.
- UNHCR recognizes the refugees' right to return and has protection mandate for monitoring refugee returns, including those that return in a self-organized manner.

Sources of information on Spontaneous Refugee Returns Movement

• Government authorities, NGOs, Media, UN Agencies, Humanitarian Actors.

Information Validation process

- In collaboration with the Office of the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC), UNHCR and its partners triangulate received reports at community level with local government authorities, religious groups, traditional leaders, civil society and community members.
- UNHCR South Sudan maintains coordination with neighbouring countries to corroborate information through refugee camp level structures including food assistance, school attendance, health care utilization and enhanced monitoring of crossborder movements

JANUARY SPONTANEOUS REFUGEE RETURNS

In the month of January, **5,000 returnees** were reported from **Ethiopia** and **1,000** from **Sudan**.

Breakdown By Country of Asylum

