

Inter-Agency Coordination Meeting – 15 November 2019

UNHCR Kampala Conference Room

Notes for the Record:

Operational Update

- Global refugee forum meeting was held in Addis Ababa and the Assistant Representative Operations. Key issues deliberated upon to be shared
- REC currently on-going in the south West and the final decisions shall be shared with stakeholders.
- Commissioner from Ministry of local Government informed of on-going budget framework paper and requested aligning this with the UNHCR calendar during planning and implementation.
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Total South Sudan and DRC influx are still within the RRP projections for 2019 and with 1 month left to the end of the year, there are no indicators that the projected figures will be surpassed for now except in a situation where we get sudden mass influx.

- Ebola response and vigilance at the border entry points is maintained by stakeholders
- Increasing trend of security incidents reported. Civilian character of the settlements and the entire Uganda operation to be maintained.

Discussion

Question raised on whether there is a business contingency plan to counter any unforeseen emergency during the festive seasons given that a number of staffs will be away on holidays and vacation and whether or not the planning figures will need to be revised. In response, it was noted that a number of initiatives are underway including increased border monitoring. There is also an updated HALEP for the Uganda Operation and that there is no need at the moment to increase the projections.

- Request for Joint mission report on absorption capacities of Kyaka II and Kyangwali to be conducted since available space can absorb new arrivals until April. The possibility of expanding Rwamwanja to be taken into consideration as well.

WFP

WFP not in position to distribute pulse and salt for November due to logistical challenges caused by rain in the neighboring countries from which the items are purchased.

WFP is aiming to speed up food distribution for November and start December distributions in time so that by 24th, all refugees would have received food.

WFR also reported that the food pipeline situation for December and January is good.

Sebagoro Update

- Only 17 people were not screened owing to logistical challenges that affected related activities to be sorted between OPM and UNHCR
- UNHCR and OPM are working to resolve the issue of fuel and transport management so that the OPM team can be facilitated to travel to the sites.
- REC activities currently going on in the South West. Members requested to know when the REC shall extend its activities to Kyangwali and what should be done for the 206 rejected cases.
- Business contingency plans to be maintained as we are moving towards the festive X-mas season with possibility of increased arrival trend.

Presentation of findings of an assessment by Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine on health service coverage in refugee and host communities in West Nile and Northern Uganda

The key findings highlighted major unmet gaps in family planning services with contraception use below national average.

- Colleagues wondered if high cases of epilepsy is linked to increased fever incidents. UNICEF explained that this was not part of the study.

Details in the presentation

Reporting

It was highlighted by the commissioner that OPM is establishing a system of monitoring and evaluation which could be linked to Activity Info for reporting. However, UNHCR and OPM need to harmonize the reporting so that there is no duplication of efforts.

Update on Palorinya Security Incident

It was highlighted that the police officer who was involved in a security incident with a refugee in Palorinya settlement is out of danger and is recovering well.

Sim Card Registration for Refugees

The update from UNHCR connectivity coordinator pointed that as of 14th November, UCC has lifted the suspension imposed on sim registration and sim swapping for refugees.

There is an ongoing investigation for already registered refugee sims to find out which lines have miss matching information or those that lack identity information. These would be subject to SMS warning and if no action is taken, would be switched off.

UNHCR identity management section is developing a solution for validating information of refugees to make their sim registration easier. The system would interface with the refugee database to validate the information.

To date, there are about 350,000 refugee registered sim cards.

- Members requested that UNHCR should share the official written communication from UCC with all the refugee stakeholders.

Data Protection and Data Sharing

The registration colleagues are developing a FAQ document to be shared IPs and Ops

There needs to be a special session to take partners through the data protection protocols and data sharing agreements

- It was announced that the Humanitarian Platform forum meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday, 18 November 2019