

## KEY FIGURES

Daily arrival figures from July 2016 are based on manual emergency registration or head-counts/wrist-banding. Confirmed figures will be available as the new arrivals undergo biometric registration. Figures prior to July are from the Government's Refugee Information Management System (RIMS).

**23,796**

Number of new arrivals between the 7<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> December 2016

**2,307**

Daily average of new arrivals since 7<sup>th</sup> July 2016

**441,258**

Number of new arrivals in 2016

**558,462**

Total number of South Sudanese refugees in Uganda

## PRIORITIES

- Establish and expand services across all sectors in newly opened Palorinya Settlement.
- Explore new sources of water to ensure a predictable and sustainable supply to the refugee population.
- Expedite opening and rehabilitation of access roads to ensure provision of basic services to refugees
- Strengthen engagement of newly-arrived organizations, local authorities and members of the host community regarding interventions in Bidibidi.

## UGANDA

# EMERGENCY UPDATE ON THE SOUTH SUDAN REFUGEE SITUATION

INTER-AGENCY WEEKLY | 7<sup>TH</sup> – 13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2016

## HIGHLIGHTS

- **23,796 refugees fled to Uganda from South Sudan between the 7<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of December. The arrival rate is increasing, with 7,046 new arrivals recorded on the 13<sup>th</sup> of December.**
- The majority of South Sudanese refugees arrive in Uganda through informal border points. A number have also begun to reach the country having travelled through the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) – in total, 4,091 refugees from South Sudan have arrived in Uganda through DRC so far.
- Relocation of refugees to the newly opened Palorinya Settlement of Moyo district commenced on 9 December. A total of 5,480 refugees have been relocated to the settlement from different collection and entry points. The settlement has the capacity to accommodate up to 100 thousand refugees.
- In Bidibidi settlement, biometric registration by the government is ongoing in Zone 3. The exercise has been completed in Village 1, and the next registration cycle will target 6 villages. Refugee Welfare Council chairpersons are closely involved in the work to promote and ensure registration of the population.
- The Irish government announced new funding of €2.314 million in humanitarian assistance for victims of the ongoing crisis in South Sudan on 9 December, which will support South Sudanese Refugees in the West Nile region of Northern Uganda. €1.4 million will be allocated for emergency food assistance and €914,000 will for the provision of water and sanitation and non-food items in the newly-opened refugee settlements, as well as overall coordination and logistical support to the response.



*Bidibidi Settlement, Zone 4, mass MUAC nutrition screening of children aged 6-59 months, Nov 2016. UNHCR/J. Kosaka*

## UPDATE ON SITUATION

- With reports of the deteriorating security situation in South Sudan, including allegations of increasing ethnically motivated violence in Yei and the surrounding area, the number of new arrivals increased significantly in Adjumani, Moyo and Lamwo districts. A total of 1,290 new arrival South Sudanese refugees were reported at Elegu Collection Point from 5-11 December, up from 690 refugees the previous week. Similarly, 3,640 refugees were reported in Moyo district, up from 938 new arrivals in the previous week, and 111 refugees were reported in Lamwo district, up from 22 new arrivals in the previous week.
- Many refugees interviewed at the Elegu Collection Point and other border entry points reported that they left the country due to the deteriorating security situation and rumours of upcoming attacks by armed forces in Equatoria. They reported that armed groups have been fighting each other in Yei and Onduruba areas, near Juba, and that incidents of looting of properties by unknown gunmen have been taking place, causing them to flee the country. It was also reported that youth in particular are being targeted in the violence.
- In Moyo, all refugees are undergoing household manual registration upon arrival at Palorinya settlement before moving to their allocated plots. A biometric registration centre in close proximity to the settlement site is being established to facilitate the flow of new arrivals and their relocation to the settlement.

### Protection

- **Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs):** In Adjumani, 109 persons with specific needs (49 male and 60 female) were assessed in Agojo refugee settlement. The majority were single elderly persons with no caretakers or family support who are unable to take care for themselves. Outreach and assessment was conducted for 134 PSNs (85 female and 49 male) and 99 PSNs received non-cash support with another 99 referred for livelihood opportunities. In Bidibidi, 629 PSNs (546 female and 83 male) were identified and registered, the majority of which were elderly persons and women at risk (single parents and pregnant women). 288 shelters were constructed and allocated to PSNs across the zones, and 756 (503 female and 221 male) PSNs received assistance at the food distribution sites in Zone 3, with eighteen PSNs supported with targeted assistance in the form of relief items such as jerry cans, mats and tools.
- **Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV):** In Adjumani, six cases of sexual and gender-based violence were identified, all of which were of cases of physical assault against female refugees. The survivors were provided with psychosocial counselling. SGBV awareness raising activities are ongoing in all nineteen settlements. In Bidibidi, the construction of an additional Women's Centre in Zone 2 was completed, and two sites for additional Women's Centres were identified in Zones 1 and 4. By the end of December, a total of eleven Women's Centres across Zones 1-4 will be completed. Activities conducted in the centres include basic livelihood skills training, sports activities to empower women, outreach on SGBV to peers within the community and SGBV counselling. 130 outreach activities across all zones was 16,347 (10,158 female and 7,996 male), of which 3,402 were adolescents and youth.
- **Child Protection:** In Adjumani, three boys and six girls were underwent best interest assessments in Boroli and Pagirinya settlements. Of these, six were unaccompanied minors and three were separated children. All the children were provided with material assistance and unaccompanied children were placed under foster care arrangement. In Bidibidi, 156 children at risk were identified: 74 were unaccompanied minors, 79 separated children and three cases of children at other types of risk. This brings the total number of children with specific needs in Bidibidi to 2,842 since August. A total of 1,235 children have been identified for foster care. During the week, 49 children were referred for shelter provision and 33 were monitored through home visits.
- In Moyo, PSN screening, awareness raising about SGBV and provision of psychosocial support is ongoing for newly arrived refugees at Palorinya settlement.

### Education

- In Adjumani, 189 refugee children from South Sudan are attending their final Primary Level Eight examination in Meliaderi Primary School of Adjumani. The students were supported to prepare for the exam, which is taking place

from 12-16 December. 757 Primary Eight pupils were transported from Bidibidi settlement to Aringa Secondary School for a briefing on the examination.

- In Bidibidi, there are a total of 27,780 students enrolled in eleven schools in Zones 1, 2 and 3 of the settlement.
- **Primary:** 20,656 (9,779 female 10,877 male) pupils are enrolled in Primary School in Bidibidi. The end of term assessment (Primary levels 1-6) was completed in all primary schools in Zones 1-3 to determine student levels. Students will receive their report cards by the end of next week. Primary schools are now closed and will reopen for the next term and new academic year on 6 February 2017. 300 desks were delivered to Kejjebere primary school in Bidibidi Zone 2. 6,000 bags and 2,500 sanitary pads were distributed to three schools in Bidibidi Zone 2.
- **Secondary:** 2,066 (1,635 male and 431 female) pupils are enrolled in Secondary School in Bidibidi. End of term assessments were completed in the two secondary schools of the settlement. A public awareness campaign about the significance of going back to school was held with the participation of 35 community leaders from Lyete Parish, eighteen community leaders from Onoko Parish, and fourteen community leaders from Bidibidi Zone 1. Radio messages to encourage girls who have dropped out of schools to re-enrol were formulated.
- **Early Childhood Development (ECD):** 5,058 (2447 female and 2611 male) children are enrolled in Early Childhood Development centres in Bidibidi. The third school term officially closed on 9 December and 3,612 children (1,852 male and 1,760 female) were provided with a progress assessment report. Eight of nine ECD Centre Management Committees are in place; they were present to witness parents collecting their children's progress card. The second phase of training for the certification of caregivers from Lodonga was concluded on 9 December. The commissioner for ECD attended the closure ceremony of the training and emphasized the Ministry of Education's stand on supporting quality provision of integrated ECD services.



## Health

- In Bidibidi, 9,700 medical consultations were conducted compared to 9,809 in the previous week (a reduction of 1.1%). The leading causes of illness were malaria (33.1%), respiratory tract infections (22.6%) and Acute Watery Diarrhea (9.4%). A total of 20 mental health cases (nine male and eleven female) were registered in the settlement, a reduction of 45.9% in comparison to 37 cases registered in the previous week; nine of these were new cases and eleven were re-visits.
- In Adjumani, the overall health status of the refugee population remained stable and mortality rates remained within UNHCR thresholds. The crude mortality rate was 0.03/10,000/day compared to the UNHCR threshold of 1/10,000/day and under-five mortality rate was 0.07/10,000/day compared to the UNHCR threshold of 2/10,000/day. 7,198 people attended medical consultations across the settlements in Adjumani district. As in previous weeks, the leading cause of illness was malaria (44%), followed by respiratory tract infection (22%) and Acute Watery Diarrhea (2%). The consultation per clinician rate remained at 48 persons per day. Of these patients, 89% were refugees and 11% Ugandan nationals.
- In Moyo, medical screening, deworming, vaccination and nutrition screening activities continued at Lefori collection point. A temporary health facility at Palorinya Reception Centre and Belemeling commenced activities on 11 December.



## Food Security and Nutrition

- In Adjumani, 203 children were screened for malnutrition, and thirteen were placed on a supplementary feeding and care programme.
- In Bidibidi, 1,707 children aged 6-59 months and 276 pregnant and lactating women are enrolled in nutrition programmes, and a total of 1,365 refugees over five years of age are enrolled in the nutrition centers for rehabilitation. The supplementary feeding programme has a relatively high rate of defaulters (estimated at 44% this week). Among the reasons provided is the continuous movement and self-relocation of refugees within zones. Efforts to identify defaulters and where they have moved to are in process. Additionally, Village Health Teams will be engaged to support tracing and follow up of defaulters. A review of service access and quality is also undertaken in order to address inherent gaps that may discourage clients to return for their due rations.



## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

- In Bidibidi, the average supply of water stood at 9.48 litres per person per day (l/p/d). A new borehole currently under construction is anticipated to provide water to Zone 4, giving a population of over 35,000 refugees access to 20 l/p/d. Water trucking will commence in the coming days pending completion of the structures.
- In Bidibidi, a new de-sludging site for managing human waste was completed for use. Fencing of the area will begin shortly.
- In Adjumani, The availability of safe water is 17.7 l/p/d across the settlements. The ratio increased from 17 l/p/d in the previous week due to repair of existing boreholes. The ratio of water is 16.9 l/p/d in Pagirinya and 44.2 l/p/d in Agojo settlement. The water supply increased in Pagirinya and Agojo with drilling of new boreholes. However, water is being trucked in Agojo settlement as the yield of drilled boreholes of Agojo are not sufficient.
- In Adjumani, the ratio of hygiene promoters per person is 1:342 in Pagirinya settlement and 1:317 in Agojo settlement, both within the UNHCR standard of 1:500 persons. A home improvement campaign focusing on the importance of effective disposal of excreta, environmental and personal hygiene and handwashing reached 3,735 households through home visits.
- 624 water samples were collected from settlements in Adjumani district in order to test water quality. According to test results, 583 (93.4%) samples were of satisfactory quality and 41 (6.6%) samples were unsatisfactory. Affected households were given advice on how to improve their water management practices by maintaining a safe water chain.
- In Moyo, rehabilitation of existing boreholes is ongoing at Palorinya Zone 1 and four boreholes have been rehabilitated so far. Three new boreholes were drilled and will be ready for use by this week. Drilling of more boreholes is underway to expedite access to safe water for the population of the settlement.



## Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- In Bidibidi settlement, a market assessment, in conjunction with needs assessments conducted from September to November, found that 80% of refugees interviewed expressed a desire to receive their assistance in cash rather than in kind. Distribution of unconditional cash grants has been demonstrated to improve the dignity, freedom of choice, and purchasing power of the refugee population, as well as fostering self-reliance.
- Unconditional cash grants were provided to 1,868 pregnant and lactating women and elderly refugees in Bidibidi Zone 2, to enable them to supplement their basic food rations with fresh and nutritious food. This distribution was accompanied by cooking demonstrations, in which 259 pregnant and lactating women, elderly refugees and mothers of children aged 6-23 months participated.
- In Bidibidi, 432 particularly vulnerable households were supported with plowing, planting and other farming activities using a cash-for-work system whereby about 860 youth benefited were given cash in exchange for work.
- In Bidibidi, space has been allocated for construction of a Youth ICT Centre that will train youths from both refugee and host communities.



## Shelter, Infrastructure and Distribution

- **Shelter/Site Planning:** 338 new plots were allocated to PSNs and 340 shelters constructed. To date, a total of 97,248 plots of land have been demarcated for South Sudanese refugees in Bidibidi Settlement.
- **Infrastructure:** A total of 346.35 km of access roads have been opened to ensure provision of services to the population in Bidibidi.
- **Distribution:** In Bidibidi, refugees are provided with essential relief items upon arrival on their designated plots. Shelter kits are also distributed to assist with the construction of temporary housing structures. Women and girls are also provided with monthly packages of sanitary napkins, soap and underwear. In order to maintain security during distribution, eight Police Officers have been deployed to the reception center and supported with motorcycles.

## OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- **Protection:** Accurate data and statistics for provision of targeted assistance. Enhanced security through Police and Neighbourhood Watch Committees to prevent theft.
- **Education:** Durable school structures and emergency education for teaching staff. Skill-based training and vocational training programmes for out-of-school youth.
- **Health:** Resources to upgrade inadequate laboratory facilities at health centres. Continued effort to address a shortfall in skilled health workers. Delivery of two ambulances allocated to Bidibidi should be expedited.
- **Food Security and Nutrition:** Comprehensive nutrition programming, screening and referral of newly-arrived refugees; awareness, promotion and protection of infant and young child feeding practices; quality community outreach program and nutrition surveillance.
- **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene:** Additional boreholes across all zones of Bidibidi to boost local supply and reduce the cost of ongoing water trucking. Latrine construction should be expedited and a latrine GPS coordinator is required to map facilities. Construction of an access road to Obongi to reduce the distance from water source to population.
- **Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance:** Implementation of more livelihood and self-reliance projects; more information sharing and coordination in activities targeting both refugees and host populations.
- **Infrastructure:** Additional heavy machinery for swift opening of access roads to ensure access to services for the population of Bidibidi settlement.
- In Moyo, resources are required to maintain services across all sectors at the newly opened Palorinya settlement.

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#### Links:

[South Sudan Regional portal](#) - [UN Refugee Chief: World must act to end South Sudan suffering](#)