

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).

3,306

Number of new arrivals on Tuesday 20th September

3,409

Number of new arrivals on Monday 19th September

163,540

Number of new arrivals after 1st July 2016 (as per field reports)

392,630

Total number of South Sudanese refugees in Uganda

PRIORITIES

- Relocation of refugees from collection points and transit and reception centres to Yumbe.
- Provide effective services to refugees settled in Bidibidi settlement of Yumbe district.
- Increase number of health staff and means of transport for transferring refugees in Kuluba Collection Point.
- Expansion of Kuluba Collection Point.

UGANDA

EMERGENCY UPDATE ON THE SOUTH SUDAN REFUGEE SITUATION

INTER-AGENCY UPDATE #42 | 20TH – 21ST SEPTEMBER 2016

HIGHLIGHTS

- **6,715 South Sudanese people fled to Uganda on the 19th and 20th September, around 90% of whom crossed in to the country in Arua district.** Refugees are increasingly using a number of informal border crossing points, particularly in Busia, Angili and Chakulia. Refugees are reportedly using these new border crossing points to avoid confrontation with armed groups. Other refugees are arriving directly at Ocea Reception Centre. 1,419 new arrivals crossed directly in to Yumbe district.
- The operation continues to focus on ensuring particularly vulnerable refugees receive the protection and assistance they require as soon as possible. 542 vulnerable individuals were identified, the majority of whom are children arriving in Uganda either with relatives other than their parents, or with no relatives at all. Some children are acting as primary caregivers to younger siblings. All vulnerable individuals are being provided with specialist care as soon as they are identified.
- 4,003 refugees were relocated from Arua and Elegu to Bidibidi settlement in Yumbe, bringing the total refugee population in Yumbe to 93,109 refugees. Last week, the Government and UNHCR conducted an assessment to determine the suitability of locations near to current settlement areas for hosting refugees. A new settlement areas will start hosting refugees from today. It has an expected capacity of up to 80,000 refugees, bringing the total capacity of Bidibidi settlement to around 180,000. Further site assessments are set to take place in the near future to identify additional potential settlement areas.
- UNHCR's Deputy Representative met with the Yumbe Local Council Chairperson 5, where they discussed some of the challenges being faced in light of the ongoing influx of new arrivals, particularly ways in which the humanitarian response can provide support to bolster local health systems in light of the increased population they now serve.
- Additional boreholes are being drilled in Arua to increase the provision of clean water in Rhino Camp.
- In Bidibidi, blankets and sleeping mats were distributed to 2,555 people at the reception centre. Other distributions continue to take place in the settlement to provide refugees with core relief items, as some refugees failed to receive all of these items when they initially arrived as they were out of stock. More building tools, such as pangas, hoes, slashers and sickles are needed to help refugees clear their allocated plots so that they have space to construct their shelters.
- One of the key priorities for the operation in West Nile is to minimize the risk of a spread of cholera. Campaigns are ongoing to raise awareness amongst refugee communities about the importance of maintaining high hygiene standards, and measures they can take to reduce their chance of contracting the disease. New arrivals undergo medical screening and are provided with a briefing and information booklet on cholera, as well as information on how to report incidents of sexual assault. No new cases of cholera have been reported in Pagirinya or Boroli in more than a week.

UPDATE ON SITUATION

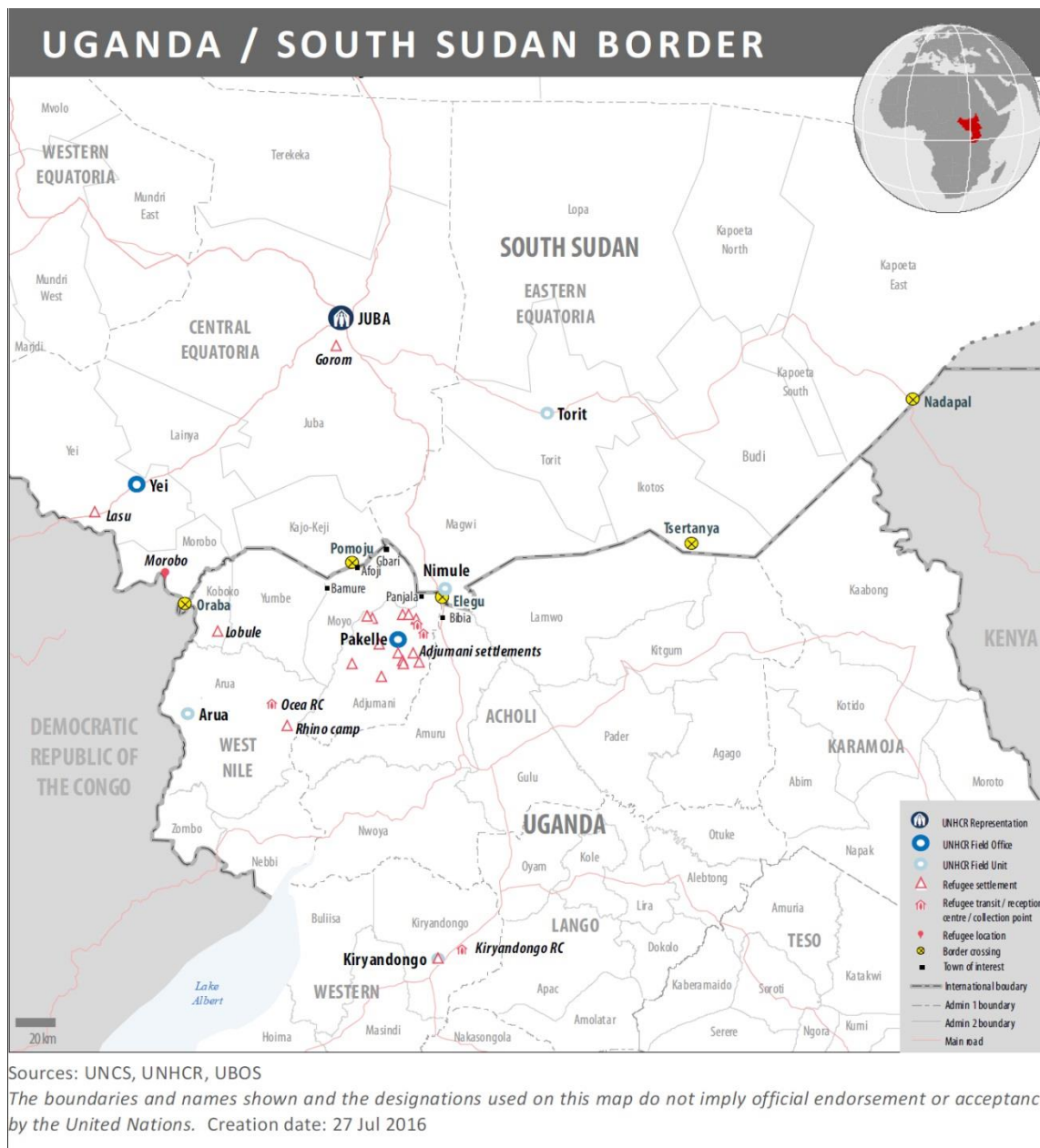
- New arrivals report that fighting broke out in Morobo, Central Equatoria, with vehicles having been ambushed and civilians killed. Heavy fighting continues to be reported across towns in Central Equatoria. Other refugees crossed in to Uganda using the Bazzi border point with the Democratic Republic of the Congo in order to avoid road checkpoints manned by armed groups on the Morobo to Oraba road. Refugees report that they expect more new arrivals to follow in the days ahead due to continued attacks in Yei and Morobo. New arrivals in Adjumani report widespread fighting across the Greater Equatoria region, with armed groups reportedly harassing civilians, extorting them for money, looting villages, burning down homes and farms and kidnapping young men and boys. Some families indicated they had been in the bush for a month, afraid to use the main roads, as they fled to safety.
- 2,172 new arrivals underwent medical screening and were provided with various treatments including deworming tablets and vaccinations. 456 children were assessed for malnutrition, of which two were found to have severe acute malnutrition and 16 were found to suffer from moderate acute malnutrition. Those suffering from malnutrition were placed on supplementary feeding programmes.
- 67 partner staff took part in a training session on Code of Conduct. More trainings are scheduled to take place as more new partner staff continue to join the operation.
- 20 new latrines are now operational and able to be used in Bidibidi settlement. An additional 15 latrines are set to be constructed in the days ahead.

OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- There is a need to replenish stocks of core relief items. Only plastic sheeting, soap and mosquito nets were distributed to new arrivals in Bidibidi as other items were out of stock.
- In Rhino Camp, Arua, the operation is focused on decongesting Ocea Reception Centre by enhancing the Office of the Prime Minister's capacity to conduct biometric registration. An additional priority is the relocation of new arrivals to Ofua, a newly opened village with the capacity to accommodate up to 6,000 families. Efforts are ongoing to increase the water supply in light of the continued influx of new arrivals, and following the breakdown of one of the motorized water systems. There is additionally a need to open access road in new villages where refugees have been settled to help enhance delivery of services to the relocated refugees.
- In Adjumani, the operation is focused on health awareness, particularly in light of last month's cholera outbreak. Campaigns continue to be carried out to raise awareness on good hygiene practices such as hand-washing and other measures that can prevent the spread of contagious diseases. Strict health, sanitation and hygiene measures are being enforced, while health monitors remain vigilant, in order to quickly identify and treat any potential cases of contagious disease.
- In Rhino Camp, there is a need to accelerate the setting up of community leadership structures among new arrivals to strengthen community protection mechanisms for persons of concern.
- Relocation of refugees to Yumbe from collection points and reception facilities will continue on a daily basis. Awareness-raising campaigns and the dissemination of information to refugees through announcements, community mobilizers, partner staff and others, is ongoing.
- In Bidibidi, the operation is focused on the reception of refugees and provision of services to those relocated. Demarcation and designation of plots together with the provision of shelter kits, basic household items and dry food rations continues to ensure refugees are settled.
- Additional wristbands and ration cards are needed to facilitate relocation from the reception centre in Bidibidi.
- Building materials, particularly pangas, slashers, sickles and hoes, are needed to assist with clearing some of the thick bush in settlement areas in Bidibidi.
- More handwashing stands are needed at Bidibidi Reception Centre.



South Sudanese refugee children at Kuluba collection point wait to be transferred to Bidibidi settlement in Yumbe. ©UNHCR/M. Farman-Farmaian

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Links:

[South Sudan Regional portal](#) - [The number of South Sudanese refugees reaches 1 million mark](#)