



## OPM-UNHCR VERIFICATION EXERCISE: Update

### HIGHLIGHTS

The ongoing verification of refugees in Uganda that started on **1<sup>st</sup> March 2018**, has verified a total of **30,060** individuals last week bringing the total as of 14<sup>th</sup> September 2018 to **930,530**. This represents **64.4%** of the estimated target of 1.4 million registered refugees. The highest daily output was **7,924** individuals verified in a single day last week.

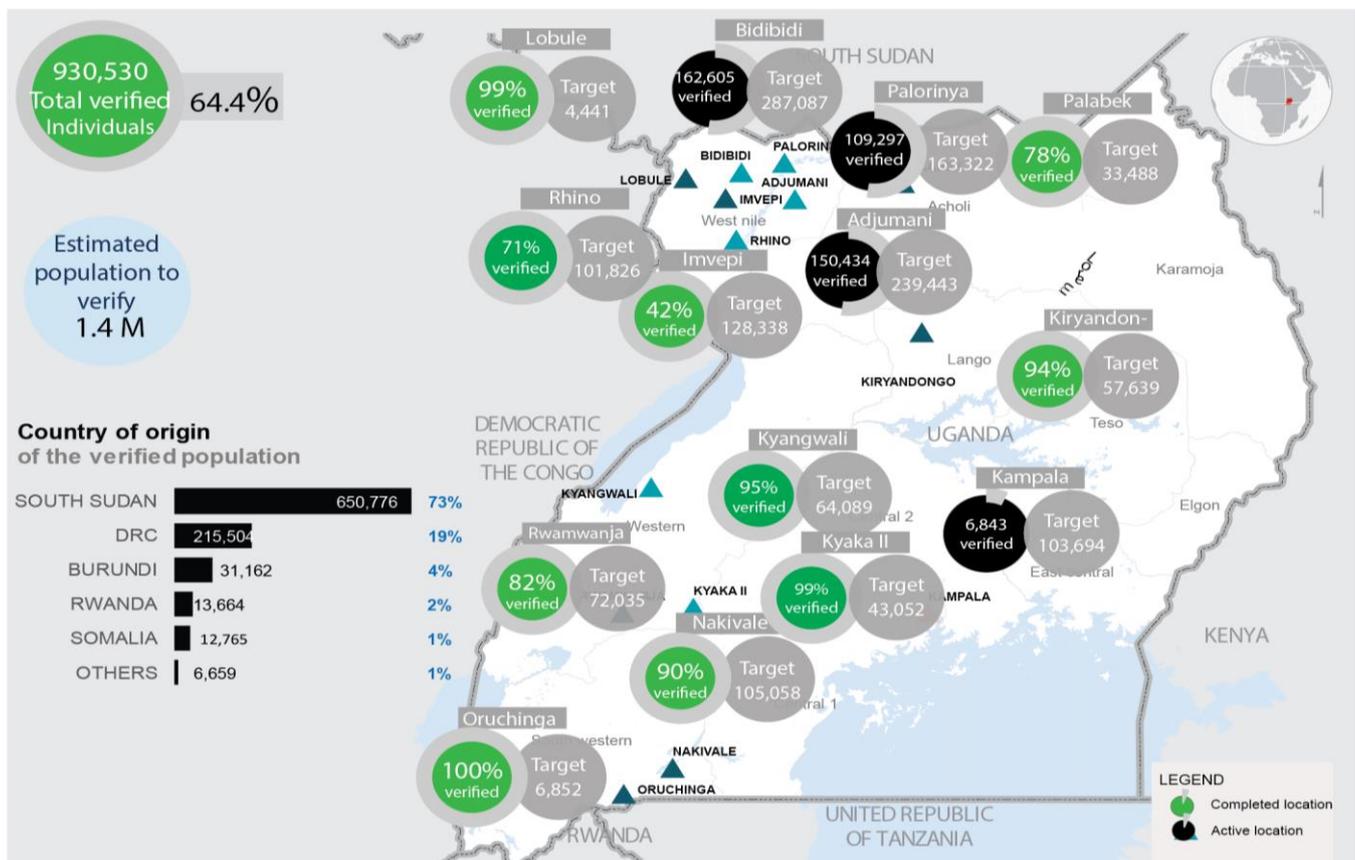
Verification was completed in all the southwest settlements on 14<sup>th</sup> September, following the conclusion of the exercise in Kyaka II. While the initial target population was 43,052 individuals, the verification team also processed new arrivals (1<sup>st</sup> March – 13<sup>th</sup> July 2018) in order to maximize resources and ensure all residents of the settlement receive food assistance. As a result, the total population of Kyaka II currently stands at 55,852 persons. OPM will continue the registration of all new arrivals in proGres V4 and BIMS.

Meanwhile verification started in Kampala, and during the first week, a mix of nationalities that are small in numbers were scheduled. As the turnout has been relatively low, the information campaign will be scaled up and the daily schedule revised upwards. Six experienced staff will join the team from Arua as of next week to boost processing capacity. Additional information is captured on the stage of the refugee status determination process for asylum-seekers.

In Adjumani, the verification was completed in Boroli on 12<sup>th</sup> September where nearly 94% of the target population was verified. The team then finalized the setup of the upcoming verification site in Pagirinya. Refugee interpreters and ushers were recruited and trained. The exercise will be launched on Monday the 17<sup>th</sup> September.

In Bidibidi, a large turnout was observed at FDP 1 (Zone 2) throughout the week creating crowd management challenges as it was difficult to enforce the verification schedule per village despite seeking the support of community leaders. This affected the planned movement to FDP 2 on 14<sup>th</sup> September. As a result, OPM and UNHCR agreed to carry out the verification of the remaining villages in FDP 1 given its close proximity and 30% of the refugees in FDP2 had already been processed. A high turnout in Dongo West – Palorinya was reported. However, since a number of verification staff are on annual leave, processing bottlenecks were experienced hence a few families were rescheduled.

### KEY FIGURES



### STAFFING

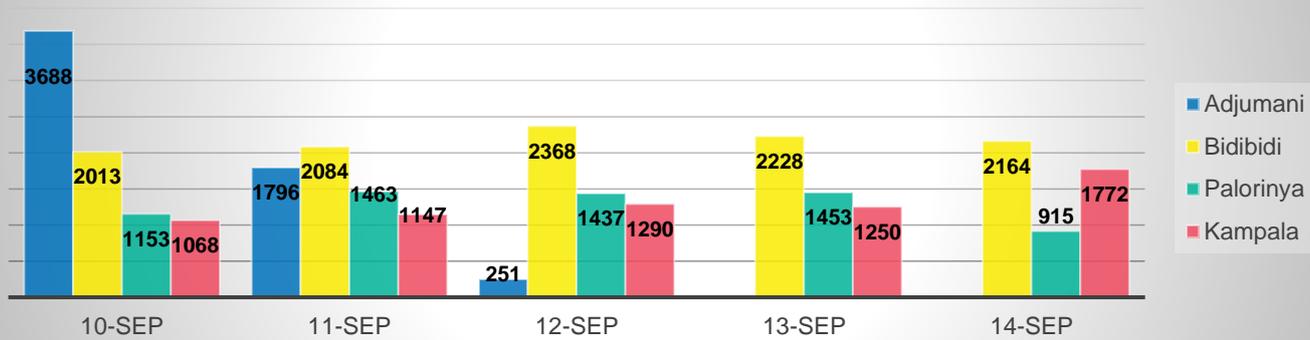
**360+** staff = **6** teams of **60+** staff each (**96%** national staff)  
**65+** Verification sites

Daily Average All Teams  
**7,515**  
Reporting period

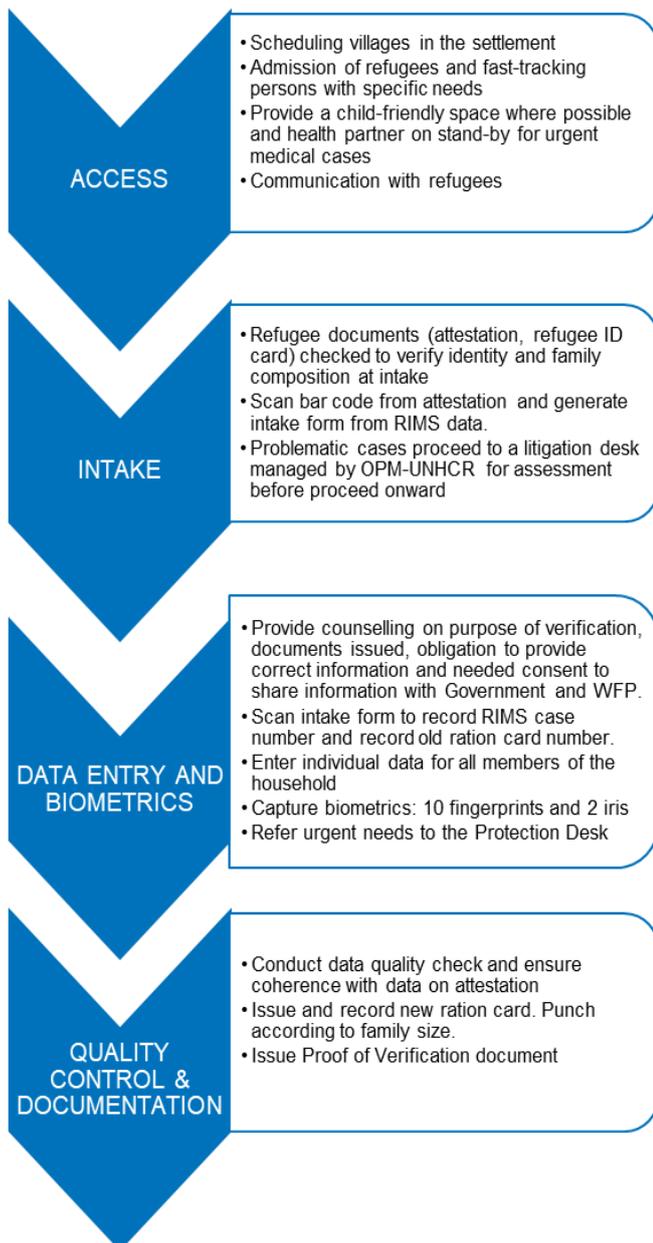
Highest Daily Verified  
**7,924**  
Reporting period



### Verification Exercise Daily Trends



### VERIFICATION EXERCISE: PROCESS FLOW CHART



### CHALLENGES

Fraud attempts by beneficiaries continue to be identified and addressed but often require lengthy assessments at litigation. In Bidibidi, 298 individuals were denied their requests for family reunion as they were deemed to be nationals. Impersonation of registered refugees (mainly by nationals) have also been detected, including 37 in Bidibidi, 28 in Adjumani and 20 in Palorinya. Though nationality screening and assessment of family linkage have been reinforced, it is particularly difficult to assess these in settlements in the north hosting South Sudanese refugees.

The rainy season is impacting the verification negatively often leading to interruption of activities and flooding of sites, sometimes requiring rehabilitation works. Heavy rainfall also renders roads in the settlements very difficult to navigate. Last week In Kyaka II, the team could not reach their accommodation since other vehicles were stuck in the mud blocking all the three main roads.

### UPCOMING MILESTONES

Two verification teams have now completed the exercise in the Southwest and Arua settlements. Staff, equipment and materials have been redeployed when possible to support the remaining teams and ensure timelines are met.

During the month of September, it is expected that the verification team in Palorinya will also complete the exercise. In October, only three teams in Bidibidi, Adjumani and Kampala will remain operational.

On 20-21 September, OPM and UNHCR staff from Kyangwali and Kiryandongo in the Midwest will receive training on the registration module of proGres V4 and BIMS. This will be followed by the launch of continuous registration activities in Kyangwali, including provision of equipment, connectivity upgrade and on-site support. Training on the Child Protection and Gender Based Violence modules will be provided to Protection staff.

The new food/cash collection procedures using the Global Distribution Tool (GDT) will be deployed in Rhino next week ensuring that all beneficiaries are biometrically verified prior to receiving assistance.

\*Where Individuals or families present issues that need resolving such as a new family composition, a case that has been closed in RIMS and needs to be re-activated, they proceed to the Litigation desk.