Bidi Bidi settlement was established in September 2016 to host the rapid influx of South Sudanese refugees, primarily arriving from the Equatoria region. The settlement population increased rapidly to over 280,000 people, making it one of the largest refugee settlements in the world. As of December 2016, Bidi Bidi reached maximum capacity and stopped accepting new arrivals.

**Gaps & Challenges**

There are only few clean water sources available to the population in Bidi Bidi. Long distance to the water points, long waiting lines and high congestion are issues facing refugees collecting water. The few existing boreholes are of poor quality, nationals reported repairs of the boreholes are continuously delayed. The water supplied is insufficient, which is exacerbated by the dry season. As sources dry up, both refugees and nationals are forced to collect water from unprotected water sources. Furthermore, the poor latrine coverage in the settlement has led to increased open defecation, which further deteriorates the hygiene and sanitation in Bidi Bidi.

Access to quality education is limited for both refugees and the surrounding host community. Schools are few with insufficient classrooms and insufficient teachers leading to low teacher per student ratios. This was reported to severely inhibit the students' learning environment. This is further deteriorated by the lack of school materials and lack of training for teachers. Moreover, the absence of vocational training institutions limits the opportunities available for students unable to access secondary school or those unable to access tertiary education. This significantly reduces their chances to access livelihoods opportunities in the future.

Refugees were provided with non-food items (NFIs), such as saucepans, solar lamps, mattresses and jerry cans, upon arrival to the settlement. These have, however not been re-distributed since the refugees’ arrival, which therefore means they are for the most part worn out or broken. This forces refugees to share with their neighbors and take it in turns to cook. The lack of access to functional NFIs reduces the living standards of refugees.

Both refugees and nationals face important challenges in accessing livelihoods opportunities. Refugees, in particular, struggle to access land for agricultural activities. The land provided to them upon arrival is insufficient to cultivate crops and the cost of hiring land is expensive. Moreover, those that do have access to land struggle to harvest their crops as the land is infertile and they have not received improved seeds adapted to the harsh climate conditions. Nationals highlighted they also struggle to access livelihoods training opportunities preventing them from acquiring the skills needed for employment.

Child protection was reported as a significant gap in Bidi Bidi settlement. Refugees highlighted child-headed households are not provided with the appropriate services they need. Moreover, children, particularly young girls, are often sent to collect firewood for their families far from the settlement, which has led to cases of rape and sexual and gender based violence (SGBV). Additionally, theft was reported to be an issue in the settlement where food items are often stolen at night.

**Strengths & Opportunities**

There is an existing cooperation effort between the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), the UNHCR and the district local government. This has led to a strengthened response to the needs of refugees as a result of the increased coordination efforts. The UNHCR and OPM co-chair monthly coordination meetings as well as working groups, which has played an essential role in the improvement of information sharing and resulted in better informed programs implemented by partners operating in the settlement.

Relations between the host community and refugees are good due to the shared historical ties. Refugees and nationals are occasionally brought together for dialogues on pressing issues informing the response, which has also improved the delivery of services.

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1. Demographic data used is valid as of June 2018
2. Indicator standards to measure gaps were determined by global humanitarian standards, Ugandan national standards, or sector experts for each settlement. Data was from collected from 7 June to 29 June, 2018.
3. The gaps and challenges were collected through Focus Group Discussions with both refugees and host communities separately undertaken on 5-6 March 2018 with the host community and on 10 and 12 June 2018 with the refugees.
4,605 metric tonnes of food were distributed during the latest distribution in the settlement.

4,387 eligible refugees have not received 100% in-kind or Cash Based Intervention (CBI) food assistance in the latest distribution.

283,154 eligible refugees have received 100% in-kind or CBI food assistance in the latest distribution.

0 cash for food was distributed during the latest distribution for the settlement.

Livelihoods and environment

46,710 households still need to receive improved cooking stoves and efficient energy for cooking.

20,170 households have received improved cooking stoves and efficient energy for cooking.

37,049 cases of livelihoods support through: 4,878 cash/vouchers for livelihood provisioning, 8,836 villages savings and loan associations, 0 savings and cooperative societies, 555 production kits or inputs for agricultural activities, 22,230 productive assets or cash grants to start or improve a business.

555 productive assets or cash grants to start or improve a business.

1,308 refugees received vocational training in the past three months.

209,000 trees planted.

Health and nutrition

0% of refugees with HIV are not receiving ART.

100% of refugees with HIV are receiving ART.

12% of children suffering from global acute malnutrition.

57% children suffering from anemia.

28% non-pregnant women suffering from anemia.

Vaccinations recorded:

1,576 Measles (Children aged 15 and under), 6,626 Polio (Children aged 5 and under).

Number of cases identified in the past three months:

44,916 Malaria, 4,365 Acute watery diarrhoea or cholera.

Shelter, site, and non-food items (NFIs)

No arrivals in the past three months provided with household NFI kits.

No households in total have been provided with NFI kits.

No arrivals in the past three months received shelter materials and toolkits/cash.

932 PSN shelters have been constructed, 14,068 additional PSN shelters needed.

4. Antiretroviral Therapy (ART).
5. Food Security and Nutrition Assessment (FSNA), October 2017, UNHCR.
6. Bidi Bidi has not received any new arrivals.