

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).

24,277

Number of new arrivals between 25th and 31st of January 2017

3,468

Daily average of new arrivals between 25th and 31st of January 2017

698,030

Total number of South Sudanese refugees in Uganda

PRIORITIES

- Expedite the registration and relocation exercise in Palorinya
- Ensure educational structures are in place prior to the start of the next academic year and ensure identification and registration of school aged children
- Ensure a sustainable and predictable supply of water
- Engage refugees/refugee leaders and host community members in coexistence and peace-building activities
- Promote and engage partners in livelihood interventions. Strengthen engagement of all partners, local authorities and members of the host community regarding interventions in Bidibidi.

UGANDA

EMERGENCY UPDATE ON THE SOUTH SUDAN REFUGEE SITUATION

INTER-AGENCY WEEKLY | 25TH – 31ST JANUARY 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

- The rate of new arrivals in to Uganda has increased, with a total of 24,277 South Sudanese refugees being received in Uganda between the 25th and 31st January. The influx peaked for the week on the 28th January, when more than 4,500 refugees were received. The average daily rate of new arrivals for the week was 3,468.
- According to reports from refugees, the increased influx is partly attributable to an escalation in violence between armed forces in the areas around Kajo-Keji. Refugees report having been instructed to leave the area, skirmishes between armed groups, lootings, killing of civilians and sexual assaults of women and girls. Refugees have indicated they expect more to flee from the area in the days ahead.
- New arrivals continue to be taken to Palorinya settlement in Moyo district, which is now home to 71,766 South Sudanese refugees, and is close to reaching its hosting capacity. Preparations are underway to open a new settlement in light of the ongoing mass influx.
- Refugees continue to use a number of informal border crossing points to enter Uganda as armed groups are preventing the use of major roads, forcing refugees to travel through the bush, often without access to food and water. Many are arriving tired and hungry and have been travelling for many days.
- Around 375 refugees crossed in to Uganda at Lamwo district, where they were forced to take temporary shelter at a nearby marketplace. In light of the increasing use of this border point by refugees, relocations from Lamwo will now take place daily. The availability of key items such as blankets and kitchen sets to Lamwo will be increased in order to ensure adequate provision to new arrivals.
- On 27th January, the UK High Commissioner to Uganda Peter West visited Adjumani district. The High Commissioner spoke with refugees benefiting from livelihood support, witnessed a cash distribution and spoke with partners on some of the key challenges facing the operation. The High Commissioner expressed his support for livelihood projects for their role in helping refugees to develop their own income streams and become independent.



UK High Commissioner to Uganda Peter West and UNHCR Head of Office Stanley Miseleni speak to refugees benefiting from the "Cash for Food" programme in Adjumani district. ©UNHCR/A. Kpakpo

UPDATE ON SITUATION

- A mission with the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) was hosted in Adjumani district on the 24th January to take a closer look at the humanitarian response and the impact of German support. The delegation praised Uganda for maintain open borders for South Sudanese refugees while noting challenges being faced in the provision of education, healthcare and livelihood support.

Protection

- A total of twelve unaccompanied minors and thirty separated children have been identified in Arua since the start of 2017. Those identified are undergoing best interest determination assessments to establish the next course of action to maintain their protection.
- A training was held in Arua to strengthen protection and community services knowledge of 13 partner staff (09 M / 04 F). The training focused on approaches and importance of strengthening community based interventions to ensure protection of persons of concern in a sustainable manner.
- UNHCR carried out assessments in all the 06 Zones of Rhino (33 villages) including Ocea Reception Center with the aim to improve the provision of assistance and protection to settled refugees and those newly arrived at the Centre. Findings will guide planning for the entire Settlement. To expedite interventions in the Ocea RC, recommendations included demolition of the dilapidated communal shelters, rehabilitation of some overnight shelters, washrooms and renovation the existing permanent structures at the RC.
- A total of 07 SGBV cases have been recorded in Rhino Camp, Arua in 2017. All cases were referred to the police and psychosocial support initiated.
- Mobilization for the formation of SGBV Committees and Child Protection (CP) Communities in the new villages of Eden I, Ofua I – VI in Arua was completed. These structures will enhance community participation on issues of SGBV, CP and other required protection assistance and ensure timely interventions through increased cohesion between the refugee community and service providers.
- Awareness raising activities on SGBV issues continues for new arrivals at the Kuluba Transit Centre.
- UNHCR, OPM and partners, carried out an assessment of living conditions of 18 PSN households in Ocea RC to identify those in need of emergency shelter construction with community support. With support with materials provided by UNHCR, and mobilization efforts through partners, the refugee community is constructing shelters for PSNs to live in safety and dignity.
- There continues to be a need to strengthen the capacity of the police force in Arua to ensure the continued protection of the refugees and host community.
- In Arua, foster families require greater support and foster care arrangements need to be strengthened.
- There is need for increased psychosocial support and counselling in Rhino.
- A joint community sensitization campaign was carried out on SGBV prevention and response in the settlements of Ayilo I, Alere, and Maaji II in Adjumani. Gender issues were highlighted and promotion of peaceful co-existence between refugees and host communities was emphasized.

Education

- Registration of students is ongoing ahead of the start of the new school year on 6 February however, currently the numbers enrolled remain low. Efforts are underway to reach out to communities to emphasise the importance of education, and to ensure more refugee children, particularly refugee girls, are enrolled.



Health

- Malaria and respiratory tract infections continue to be the primary motivating factor for individuals presenting at health facilities. The total number of admissions at both health centres in Rhino settlement was 36 (13 refugees/23 nationals), a slight reduction from the previous week where 44 (18 refugees / 26 nationals) were admitted. This reduction has been achieved through intensified outreach in the new refugee locations.
- In Moyo, the health status of newly arrived and relocated refugees has remained stable. The Crude Mortality Rate and Under-5 Mortality rate were 0.02 and 0 /10,000 population/per day respectively, against UNHCR thresholds of 1 and 2/10,000 population per day.
- In Arua, Antenatal Care (ANC) services were provided to 72 (17 refugees/55 nationals) pregnant mothers while 85 (17 refugees /68 nationals) received repeat ANC services. This marked a slight reduction in the number of mothers approaching the services. Intensified activities has been initiated to reach out to the villages.
- 16,181 refugees were vaccinated against meningitis A in Palorinya settlement.
- An ambulance is needed to provide greater coverage to refugees in Palorinya. An ambulance not currently in use by Moyo district has been sent for an assessment in Adjumani to ascertain whether it can be used.
- There is a need for more beds and medical equipment in Moyo. Efforts are underway to procure these items.
- HIV testing was carried out for refugees and host community members in Arua. HIV prevalence was found to be 0.9% amongst refugees.
- There is need for additional transport for staff to conduct outreach activities and ambulance services in Rhino.



Food Security and Nutrition

- In Moyo, Global Acute Malnutrition stands at 8%. 22 severely malnourished refugees and 87 moderately malnourished refugees were successfully treated. In Arua, Global Acute Malnutrition stands at 2.5%.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

- There is urgent need to further increase the supply of water to the population in Rhino. Recent improvements mean average water supply now stands at 7.8 litres per person per day following an increase in the pumping capacity from the River Enyau from 250,000 to 380,000 liters per day. Additional efforts continued to improve the water supply to the Settlement through repair of hand pumps and the motorization of high yielding boreholes.
- Water provision remained at 18.1 l/p/d (against 20l/p/d standard) in Adjumani settlements. Water trucking to Agojo settlement continues. A consultative meeting was held with the community of Agojo (host community) on possibilities /plans of drilling a production well in their community to extend water to Agojo settlement which will serve both refugees and host community. The meeting attracted 41 participants (29 males and 12 females), including local authority. The leadership and elders agreed to cooperate in ensuring the proposed system becomes successful and benefits both the host and the refugee community.
- Sanitation activities in Rhino villages continued with the distribution of 1,000 treated logs to refugees in Ofua V who had already dug pits for household latrines. Construction of 10 units of communal latrines and 10 units of bathing shelters in the new village of Olujobo is ongoing. At Ocea RC regular cleaning campaigns are ongoing.
- WASH partners distributed tippy tap jerry cans and 1,600 strips of aqua tabs to 270 families in Ofua III and Katiku III. This was aimed at ensuring hand washing at household level by PoCs. Distribution was preceded with sensitization of the community on household and environmental hygiene.
- Rocky formation of the ground in Arua makes latrine excavation difficult. Jack hammers are required to support the process.

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Links:

[South Sudan Regional portal](#)