



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE 24/2016

15-31 December 2016

HIGHLIGHTS

KEY FIGURES

INSIDE SOUTH SUDAN

261,541

Refugees in South Sudan

1.8 M

IDPs in South Sudan, including
204,370 people in UNMISS
Protection of Civilians site

US \$276 million

Funding requested for comprehensive
needs in 2016

US \$132 million

Funding requested for priority needs
in 2016

OUTSIDE SOUTH SUDAN

1,383,447

South Sudanese refugees in
neighboring countries (as of 12
December, 2016):

- Uganda: 591,301
- Ethiopia: 338,821
- Sudan: 289,527
- Kenya: 92,194
- DRC: 66,672
- CAR: 4,932

US \$649 million

Funding requested by UNHCR for
South Sudanese refugees in the region

US \$166 million

Funding received by UNHCR for
South Sudanese refugees in the region

- **UNHCR provides assistance in Maban after inter-community conflict:** in the aftermath of conflict which broke out between 25 and 28 December in Doro refugee camp between refugees and host community, UNHCR and its partners have now been able to undertake assessments in all four camps of Maban, home to over 137,000 refugees from Sudan's Blue Nile State. Initial findings suggest over 8,000 local community members have been displaced locally. Approximately 10,000 refugees in Doro, one fifth of the camp, have relocated themselves to alternative nearby locations. Partners have already begun distribution of food and aid packages to IDPs, with assistance to displaced refugees and overall General Food Distribution for January scheduled to take place over the course of the next week. Provision of additional water supply, sanitation facilities and shelter are currently being assessed and scaled up.
- **Access hinders assistance to displaced refugees around Yei:** UNHCR and its partner UMCOR continue to remotely monitor the situation of refugees living in five locations in the bushes of Lasu payam as a result of the outbreak violence in July and ongoing conflict that continues to prevent refugees from returning to the settlement. Lack of humanitarian services in the five locations remains a major concern among the refugee population in the Lasu area, as UNHCR has no access to the Lasu refugee settlement and its environs due to insecurity. UNHCR was able to relocate 61 Nuba refugees to Ajuong Thok refugee camp. These refugees were displaced into urban Yei as a result of the renewed violence in July.
- **UNHCR participates in an Inter-Agency Rapid Assessment in Kajo Keji:** During the reporting period, UNHCR participated in the OCHA-led Inter-Agency Rapid Needs Assessment (IRNA) to Kajo Keji County. The team met with IDPs, Church leaders and county commissioners. The team also visited three IDP locations of Ajio, Kerwa and Igo. Approximately 30,000 IDPs were reported in the county and the assessment's findings have been shared with the respective clusters for review and humanitarian response.
- **UNHCR equips refugee students with computers and internet in Juba:** UNHCR partner Humanitarian Development Consortium (HDC) established a space at HDC's premises with six computers fully equipped with the internet for the 27 refugee students being supported by DAFI scholarships. These computers will facilitate their coursework and easy access to reading materials online and enhance their academic performance.

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

- **On 25 December 2016, conflict broke out between refugees from Doro camp and the host community in Bunj, Maban County. The conflict which was triggered by the detention and death of one male refugee from the camp in custody on 23 December 2016.** Sporadic yet heavy shooting continued through to Tuesday 27 December, which rendered the airstrip inaccessible. By the 28 December fighting had subsided and flights resumed shortly afterwards. The Deputy Governor of East Nile State spearheaded a fact finding and reconciliation mission from Malakal, with a resolution endorsed on 29 December. The resolution included, inter alia, the immediate withdrawal of all troops, re-opening of free movement corridors to allow return of people and access for humanitarian workers, and formation of a joint security committee to assist in return and community cohesion.
- **President Kiir calls on citizens to embrace peace:** The President of South Sudan Salva Kiir in his Christmas message called on the people of South Sudan to work for peace and reconciliation in the country. In his Christmas Eve message broadcast on the state-run media, Kiir reiterated his government's commitment to peace and national dialogue. "We should work together for peace not just because God has commanded us, but because we also know deep in our hearts that our happiness and good life depend on it," said Kiir. The South Sudanese leader emphasized the need to bring an end to the ongoing war across the country in 2017.
- **Sudan and South Sudan extend oil deal:** Sudan and South Sudan agreed to extend the transitional financial arrangements deal regarding oil field and adjust some provisions to allow South Sudan to pay its financial obligation of \$3,028 billion within three years. The 2012 oil deal between the two countries stipulates that Juba would pay three billion dollars as assistance to Sudan in a period of three years. Sudan's Minister of Petroleum Mohamed Zayed Awad said that they agreed to extend the agreement for another three years. He pointed out that South Sudan's oil transit fees through Sudan's territories would remain as it is. For his part, South Sudan's Minister of Petroleum Ezekiel Gatkuoth, expressed his happiness over the two countries' agreement to extend the oil financial arrangements deal for three years. Gatkuoth reiterated his country's commitment to implementing all items of the agreement. He said that the agreement will open a new chapter of cooperation between the two countries for the coming three years.
- **Juba lauds UN Security Council's failure to impose arms embargo:** The government of South Sudan lauded the position of countries that rejected a US-drafted resolution on imposing an arms embargo and more sanctions on South Sudan. The measure garnered only seven votes in favour in the UN Security Council on Friday, while eight countries including Russia, China and Japan abstained. Nine votes and no veto are required for resolutions to be adopted by the council. Media reports quoted Ateny Wek Ateny, South Sudan's presidential spokesman as describing the proposed resolution to impose an arms embargo on South Sudan as "double standards", while denying reports on atrocities being committed in South Sudan. The government official pointed out that the arms embargo will weaken the country's defense abilities.

REFUGEE RESPONSE



Achievements and impact

Western Equatoria

- In Makpandu refugee settlement, UNHCR recorded six cases of Sexual Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) reportedly by refugees; including physical violence. UNHCR referred all cases for psychosocial counseling.

Central Equatoria

- UNHCR and its partner UMCOR continue to remotely monitor the situation of refugees living five locations in the bushes of Lasu payam as a result of the outbreak violence in July, and ongoing conflict that continues to prevent refugees from returning to the settlement. Lack of humanitarian services in the five locations remains a major concern

among the refugee population in the Lasu areas, as UNHCR has no access to the Lasu refugee settlement and its environs due to insecurity.

- In Yei, UNHCR relocated 61 Nuba refugees to Ajuong Thok refugee camp. These refugees were displaced into urban as a result of the renewed violence in July.
- In Juba, the active population figure stands at 4,915 individuals, of which 1,703 are asylum seekers and 3,212 are refugees. 94% of the refugees are from Sudan, while 47% of asylum seekers are from Eritrea. The overall population comprises of 26% female and 74% male; 269 persons have special needs.
- In Juba, UNHCR in collaboration with the South Sudan Commissioner of Refugee Affairs (CRA) registered 68 refugees and asylum seekers, bringing the total number of persons of concern in Juba to 4,823.
- In Juba, UNHCR printed and issued 36 refugee ID cards to refugees, bringing the total number of ID cards issued to 3,164 including 967 ID card renewals in 2016.

Upper Nile

- In Maban, investigations of those missing, injured and deceased from both communities due to intra-community fighting is ongoing, with exact numbers not yet available. Health clinics, schools and other facilities managed by UNHCR and INGOs in Doro refugee camp were vandalized and looted. While some humanitarian staff from different organizations relocated from Maban, critical life-saving activities continued throughout the crisis. UNHCR and its partners have now been able to undertake assessments in all four camps of Maban, home to over 137,000 refugees from Sudan's Blue Nile State. Initial findings suggest over 8,000 local community members have been displaced locally. Approximately 10,000 refugees in Doro, one fifth of the camp, have relocated themselves to alternative nearby locations. Partners have already begun distribution of food and aid packages to IDPs, with assistance to displaced refugees and overall General Food Distribution for January scheduled to take place over the course of the next week. Provision of additional water supply, sanitation facilities and shelter are currently being assessed and scaled up. The situation in Maban remains calm but tense; while the three other camps of Gendrassa, Kaya and Yusuf Batil were not directly affected, anxiety in both refugee and host communities has increased across Maban County.
- In Yusuf Batil camp, UNHCR and its partner Lutheran World Federation (LWF) in collaboration with the Batil Child Rights Club Gamak Primary school conducted a two-day training to 30 participants as phase one commencement of the children Innovation project implementation. Participants learned topics on early marriage and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) that include the definitions, consequences, and solutions to address the effects of the early marriage and FGM.

Identified needs and remaining gaps

Western Equatoria

- During the reporting period, sporadic attacks by armed groups close to the Makpandu refugee settlement caused fear among refugees; forcing some refugee households to relocate their wives and children to Yambio and to the border of the Democratic Republic of Congo border areas where there is relative calm.

Education

Achievements and impact

Upper Nile

- In Maban camps, pupils completed writing the National Primary Leaving Examinations (PLE). 706 candidates including 108 from the host community schools and 598 - both refugees and host community pupils.

Central Equatoria

- In Juba, UNHCR partner Humanitarian Development Consortium (HDC) established a space at HDC's premises with six computers fully equipped with the internet for 27 DAFI refugees' students. These computers will facilitate their coursework and easy access to reading materials online and enhance their academic performance.

Food Security and Nutrition

Achievements and impact

Western Equatoria

- In Makpandu refugee settlement, UNHCR screened 71 children from the age of 6 – 9 months for Mid Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC). Children included both refugees and host community respectively - out of which seven refugee children were found with Acute Malnourishment.

Upper Nile

- In Maban camps, UNHCR partner World Food Programme (WFP) and partners conducted General Food Distribution for December. The food items included; cereals at 350g, pulses 35g, and cooking oil 21g per person per day at a reduced ratio of 70%).

Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

Western Equatoria

- In Makpandu refugee settlement, UNHCR partner World Vision International (WVI) UNHCR distributed second-hand clothes to 3,024 individuals.

Water and Sanitation

Achievements and impact

Upper Nile

- Across the four Maban camps, the water supply coverage stood at 20 liters per person per day during the reporting period. In Kaya camp, the borehole water sources resumed at 100% with five boreholes operational, an improvement, from 80% of four boreholes. In Gendrassa camp, UNHCR constructed a new water storage tank with the capacity of 45,000 liters.
- In Doro camp, UNHCR constructed 39 new household latrines. Cumulatively, UNHCR constructed 459 house latrines in 2016, improving on sanitation at household level in the Doro camp where the current coverage stands at 22 persons per latrine against the minimum standard of 20 persons per latrine. Other three camps (Yusif Batil, Gendrassa and Kaya) have maintained the coverage of 12 persons per latrine during the reporting period. With the outbreak of conflict and self-relocation of refugees to other parts of Doro camp, additional latrines will be built based on assessment of needs.
- In Doro camp, water supply coverage reduced to 20 liters per person per day due to the fighting which erupted between the Doro refugee community and Bunj host community. Still a significant amount of water from hand pumps and solar powered water sources was available especially for drinking and critical domestic use.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

Achievements and impact

Western Equatoria

- In Makpandu, UNHCR partner World Vision International (WVI) distributed chickens to 50 households of vulnerable refugees comprising of 17 females and 33 males.

Central Equatoria

- In Yei, during the reporting period, the movement of refugees in their hideouts have slightly improved as a result of minimum freedom of movement within Lasu Payam. UNHCR partner UMCOR's extension workers inspected ten fedans of maize and groundnuts that belong to four refugee farmers.
- In Lasu, UNHCR partner UMCOR trained 39 refugee farmers on good post-harvest practices and techniques. Participants were drawn from rural areas such as Lomi, Jabara and Kukuyi. The training equipped the farmers with good post-harvest handling techniques such as drying and storage to minimize losses since the farmers have limited facilities for drying and storing of their farm produce in their hideouts.

IDP RESPONSE

Protection

COORDINATION

Achievements and impact

Central Equatorial

- During the reporting period, UNHCR participated in the OCHA-led Inter- Agency Rapid Needs Assessment (IRNA) to Kajo Keji County. The team met with IDPs and church leaders, as well as county commissioners. The team also visited the three IDP locations of Ajio, Kerwa and Igo. Approximately 30,000 IDPs were reported in the county and assessment findings have been shared with the respective clusters for review and humanitarian response.

OPERATIONS

Lakes

- In Rumbek, UNHCR facilitated protection training for 30 social workers of the state Ministry of Education and Social Development, Police, and Prison service department. The training module covered topics on general protection, Human rights, SGBV, Child protection and roles of social workers in emergency response.



Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and impact

Central Equatoria

- In Yei, UNHCR and its partners conducted targeted distribution of non-food items (NFIs) to 320 IDPs of most vulnerable persons (PSNs) with special. Items included kitchen sets, buckets, dignity kits, sleeping mats, blankets, mosquito nets and soap. The targeted distribution aims at improving the conditions of the PSNs.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

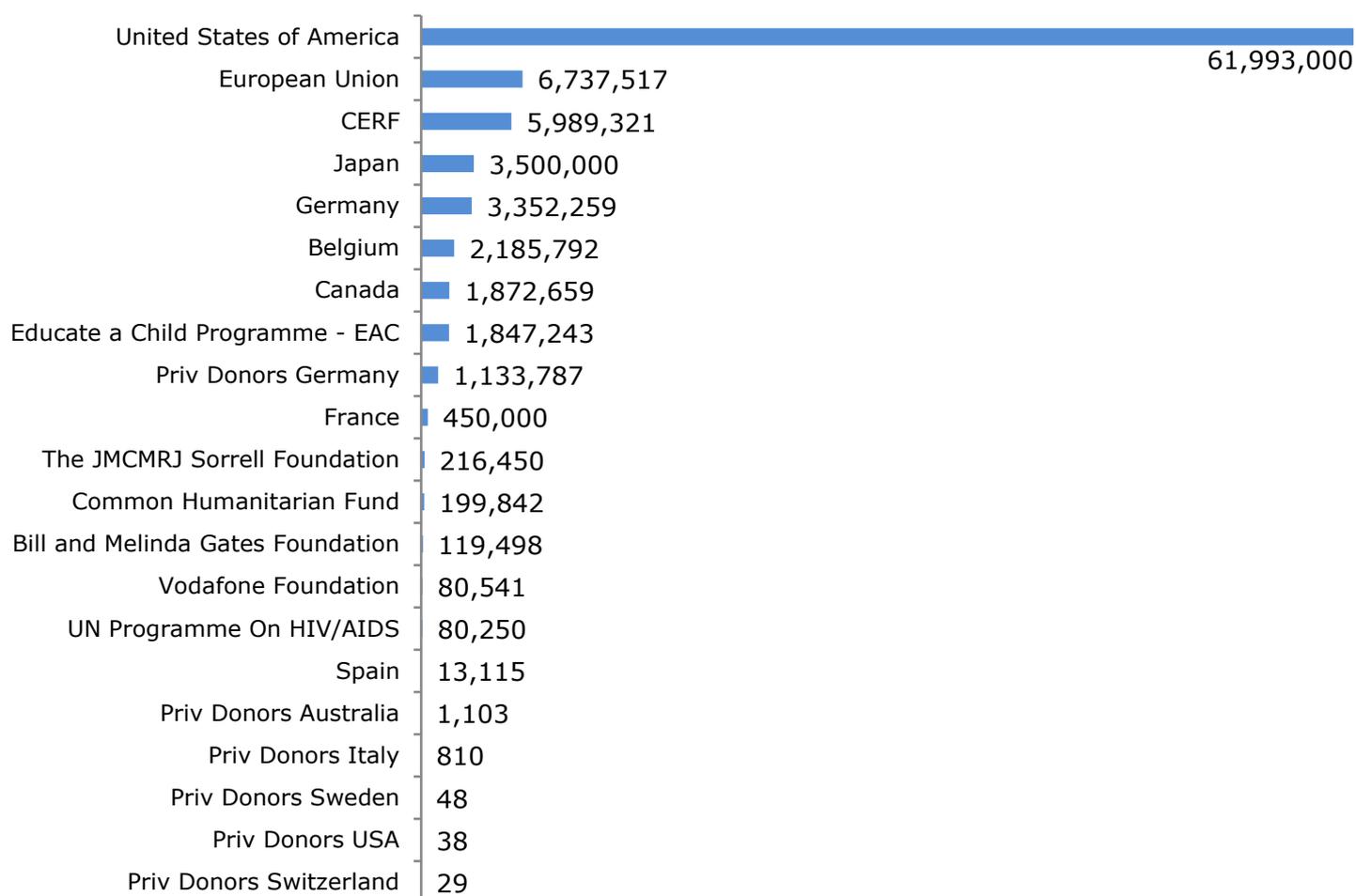
Achievements and Impact

Central Equatoria

- In Yei town, UNHCR partner, UMCOR identified and registered 3,674 IDP farmers in the nine IDP sites for the upcoming distribution of assorted vegetable seeds and tools supplied by FAO targeting 8,000 families including 5,600 families of IDPs and 2,400 families from the host community to enhance their coping mechanisms and promote peaceful coexistence between the IDPs and the host community.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to USD 89,773,301 as of 20 December 2016. UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programs with earmarked and broadly earmarked funds



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Links:

[South Sudan Situation Regional Portal](#)

[UNHCR South Sudan Facebook page](#)

[Einstein scholarships bring hope to refugee students in South Sudan](#)

[UNHCR News Story: New 'Protection Desks' give expert help to South Sudan's vulnerable](#)

[UNHCR News Story: 100,000 fearful civilians trapped in South Sudan town](#)

[UNHCR Briefing Note: UNHCR sounds warning alarms over situation in South Sudan's Yei](#)