



# SOUTH SUDAN SITUATION

## REGIONAL UPDATE

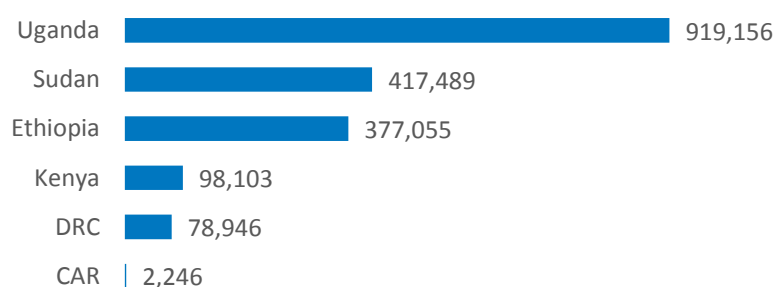
1 – 15 May 2017

## HIGHLIGHTS

- **The revised South Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan was launched in Geneva on 15 May.** The inter-agency plan brings together 58 humanitarian agencies requesting a total of USD 1.4 billion to respond to the needs of an anticipated 2.13 million South Sudanese refugees by 31 December 2017.
- **Over one million children have fled South Sudan, including over 75,000 refugee children who have crossed South Sudan's borders either unaccompanied or separated from their families,** according to a UNHCR and UNICEF joint press release on 8 May. Inside South Sudan, an estimated 1.14 million children have been internally displaced.
- **In Uganda,** the Prime Minister of Uganda Ruhakana Rugunda announced at a joint press conference with UNHCR and the Office of the Resident Coordinator on 9 May, that President Yoweri Museveni and UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres will host a Solidarity Summit on Refugees in Kampala from 22 to 23 June 2017 to galvanize international support for refugees.
- **In Sudan,** over 28,000 South Sudanese refugees have arrived in the first half of May. Since late April, nearly 20,000 refugees have arrived in White Nile and Kordofan states as a result of ongoing hostilities in Kodok, Upper Nile State of South Sudan. New arrivals have reported to humanitarian actors that as many as 40,000 – 50,000 refugees may also be on their way to White Nile, Sudan.

### Population of concern

A total of **1,892,995** South Sudanese refugees as of 15 May 2017



	New arrivals in 2016	New arrivals in 2017 (as of 15 May)
Ethiopia	53,661	34,594
Sudan	134,370	136,962
Uganda	489,234	247,516
Kenya	22,501	8,802
DRC	61,125	12,274
CAR	659	317
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>761,550</b>	<b>440,465</b>

## KEY FIGURES

**440,465\***

South Sudanese arrivals in 2017, based on field reports as of 15 May

**1,892,995\***

Total South Sudanese refugees as of 15 May 2017 (pre and post Dec 2013 caseload and new arrivals)

**268,286**

Refugees in South Sudan (30 April)

**1.93 M**

Internally Displaced People (IDPs) in South Sudan, including 230,482 people in UNMISS Protection of Civilians site

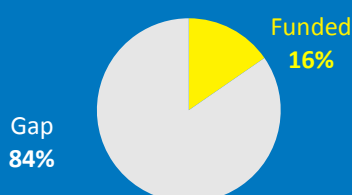
## FUNDING

**USD 883.5 M**

Requested by UNHCR in 2017 for the South Sudan situation

**USD 139.1 M**

Received by UNHCR as of 9 May 2017



\*The population and arrival figures are based on best available information at the time of production. UNHCR continues to verify the numbers in all countries and future updates may vary as new information becomes available. The arrivals into Uganda since July 1 are based on manual emergency registration or head-counts/wrist-banding. Actual population to be confirmed upon biometric registration by the Government.

# UPDATE ON THE SITUATION

For more detailed information on the South Sudan situation response in specific country operations, kindly refer to the latest county updates, hyperlinked below and available on the portal: [data.unhcr.org/southsudan](http://data.unhcr.org/southsudan)



[DRC](#)



[Ethiopia](#)



[Kenya](#)



[South Sudan](#)



[Sudan](#)



[Uganda](#)

## SOUTH SUDAN

### Latest developments

- **The United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres discussed the ongoing situation in South Sudan** with the Chairperson of the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn of Ethiopia, President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda and the Chairperson of the African Union (AU) Commission, Moussa Faki Mahamat on the margins of the London Conference on Somalia held on 10 and 11 May. He reiterated the United Nations' deep concern at the prevailing security and humanitarian situation in South Sudan, highlighting the untold suffering being inflicted on the civilian population, and underlined the imperative of renewed regional and international efforts to bring to an end the unfolding tragedy in the country.
- **The Famine Early Warning Systems Network Food Security Outlook update, published 6 May, noted ongoing extreme food insecurity in the country coming into the lean season.** Famine is likely ongoing in Leer, and Koch is in Emergency Phase 4 with an elevated risk of famine. Mayendit will be in Emergency Phase 4 and Panyijar in Phase 3 until May even with large scale assistance. Famine is likely in Leer, Koch and Mayendit, Unity State, at the peak of the lean season in June/July, in the absence of humanitarian assistance. The cultivation season is disrupted in Greater Equatoria, and conflict will likely interfere with the upcoming main cultivation season in Jonglei, Western Bahr El Ghazal, Unity and Upper Nile, with Phase 4 outcomes expected from June to September. Northern Bahr el Ghazal is expected to be in Phase 4 from June, due to high food prices and limited income options.

### Achievements and Impact

- **UNHCR registered 1,159 new arrivals from Sudan through Yida settlement in the first half of May.** Cumulatively, 6,311 new arrivals have been registered since the beginning of the year 2017. During the reporting period, UNHCR relocated 1,178 refugees to Pamir, including 158 refugees previously settled in Yida and 1,020 new arrivals to Ajuong Thok and Pamir. Pamir camp is now home to 11,654 refugees.
- **In Doro refugee camp, UNHCR and its partners, in coordination with the Commission for Refugee Affairs (CRA), relocated 1,035 displaced refugees to the new extension site.** Cumulatively 5,664 refugees have been relocated, representing 70 per cent of the targeted 8,000 refugees who were affected by the December 2016 conflict between refugees and host communities, triggered by the death of a male refugee in custody.
- **In Maban County, Upper Nile, UNHCR conducted two trainings for 76 primary teachers on psychosocial support and reproductive health issues and 50 women community leaders on child rights and child protection.**
- **In Juba, Central Equatoria, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNMISS and International Medical Corps (IMC) facilitated a one-day training on the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuses (PSEA) for 50 staff of their partner agencies.**
- **In Ajuong Thok refugee camp, Unity, UNHCR organized training on detention monitoring and human rights for 12 Community Outreach Volunteers.** UNHCR in collaboration with Lutheran World Federation (LWF) assessed 20 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) and matched them with new foster families. UNHCR also identified 150 unaccompanied vulnerable children (110 boys and 40 girls) and supported them with solar lamps to deter protection incidents and to support their studies at night. UNHCR also distributed dignity kits to 3,959 people including 1,786 in Ajuong Thok and 2,173 in Pamir women and girls of childbearing age.

- **In Makpandu refugee settlement, Western Equatoria,** UNHCR and its partner identified nine cases of Sexual Gender-Based Violence (SGBV); all received psychosocial counseling. UNHCR organized a workshop for 35 couples to discuss SGBV prevention and response. UNHCR partner World Vision International (WVI) commenced a 10-day Intensive English Course for 80 students and provided an eight-day computer training for 28 teachers. WVI also provided additional food to 133 persons with specific needs (PSNs). With the 30 per cent reduction in general food distribution, PSNs are identified for targeted assistance to meet their nutritional needs.
- **IDP Response:** In Juba, UNHCR identified 120 new arrivals to the POC, who reported that the deteriorating security situation in their areas forced them to flee to Juba. UNHCR continues to screen new arrivals to identify PSNs. In Bor, Jonglei, UNHCR conducted a two-day refresher training sessions on Community Based Protection to 54 Community Based Protection Network (CBPN) members. As a result of UNHCR and the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) advocacy for land to IDPs/returnees in Bentiu, Unity, the Ministry of Land and Infrastructure allocated 127 plots of land to vulnerable IDPs living in the collective centers in Bentiu town. The process is ongoing, with a total of 320 plots to be allocated by the government.

## Countries of Asylum

### CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

#### Latest developments

- **UNHCR has notified the authorities following reports from South Sudanese refugees of having been allegedly defrauded by Central African Armed Forces (FACA) troops on their trip to Bambouti** at the beginning of May. The authorities have confirmed that they are looking into the matter.
- **UNHCR has been advocating for the inclusion of refugees in the second operation of the Londo project, an initiative providing cash-for-work to pave a new road for the city of Obo.** They were initially excluded despite their admission following a random draw organized on 6 May 2017. The National Commission for Refugees (CNR) has also supported the effort to ensure their inclusion.
- **Preparations are underway for the departure of the Uganda People's Defense Force (UPDF) troops** who have been stationed in Obo, where the South Sudanese refugees are currently located, for approximately eight years as part of the efforts to defeat the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) in the area. Plans are in place to ensure the continuity of security in the area following the withdrawal.

#### Achievements and Impact

- **During the reporting period, UNHCR worked with partner *Jeunesse Unie pour la Protection de l'Environnement et le Développement Communautaire* (JUPEDEC) to divide parcels of land for agriculture.** The refugees had previously received seeds and farming equipment and have now started to sow crops as the rainy season begins.

### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

#### Latest developments

- **During the reporting period, 1,092 South Sudanese refugees arrived in Meri site** (Faradje territory, Haut-Uele province), according to pre-screening conducted by the National Commission for Refugees (CNR).
- **New arrivals reported growing tensions and referred to arbitrary executions, rape, burning of houses and looting against civilians as their main reason for flight.** High numbers of women and children have been observed in the convoys from the border to Biringi site, as many families are reuniting in Biringi with the men who moved to the site earlier. Refugees report they feel Biringi is safer than the border areas.

#### Achievements and Impact

- **Protection:** Social workers provided mediation for two cases of physical aggression reported at Meri site. Since the beginning of the year, 44 cases of SGBV have been reported in Meri and followed by dedicated services; close to half of them were physical aggressions. A total of 1,282 refugees at Meri site were sensitized on the consequences, prevention and risks of SGBV and on forced marriage.
- **Health:** In Biringi site, pregnant women were sensitized on importance of pre-natal care, signs of danger during pregnancy, prevention of sexually-transmitted diseases and HIV/AIDS.

- **Shelter and NFIs:** A total of 60 individual shelters were completed at Meri site, with the construction of a further 143 shelters still ongoing. Some 88 newly arrived households received non-food items (blankets, mats, jerry cans, kitchen sets and buckets) in the way station of Aru and in Biringi site.
- **Livelihoods and self-reliance:** Refugees planted corn, beans and peanuts in the fields assigned to them at Biringi site. In Meri site, eight hectares of land assigned to three groups of refugees were being prepared for planting and another five hectares were distributed to 20 households.

## ETHIOPIA

### Latest developments

- **A total of 838 new South Sudanese refugees arrived in Ethiopia in the first half of May, including 799 in Gambella and 39 in Assosa.** This is down from 4,722 new arrivals in the second half of April. All of the new arrivals were Level-1 registered.
- **Of the new arrivals registered since September 2016, when the current influx began, 65 per cent are children, including 19,436 unaccompanied and separated children, and 24 per cent are youth (15 to 24 years old).** Some 85 per cent of the new arrivals originated from Upper Nile (Nasir, Longechuk or Mathiang, Ulang and Maiwut Counties), while 14 per cent came from Jonglei (Uror, Akobo and Ayod Counties). The remaining 1 per cent were registered to have fled from Unity. Conflict, compounded by food insecurity were cited as the main reasons for flight.

### Achievements and Impact

- **A total of 1,116 refugees were successfully relocated from Pagak in Gambella to the new Gure Shembola Camp in the Benishangul-Gumuz region, covering a distance of over 800km.** This followed inter-agency road assessment missions which also identified and established two way stations at Metu and Gimbi. Two hot meals were provided to the relocating refugees in addition to 300g/p/day of high energy biscuits to ensure the recommended daily dietary intake of 2,100 kcals. Some 119 individuals, who were medically screened as unfit to travel for such a long distance, were relocated to Nguenyyiel Camp.
- **A further 3,168 South Sudanese refugees are awaiting relocation to the new camp at Gure Shembola.** An information campaign is still ongoing in Pagak to inform new arrivals about the planned relocation, as remaining in Gambella will no longer be an option. Gure Shembola Camp will have an initial reception capacity of 15,000 people. 600 shelters will be completed on a weekly basis, complemented by the installation of WASH facilities and other basic services.
- **During the two relocation convoys to Gure Shembola, government health workers were selected and supported to provide emergency health services at Metu and Gimbi way stations.** A total of 156 refugees received medical treatment during both relocation convoys. The Ethiopian Red Cross Ambulance, fully equipped with emergency medical supplies and logistics, escorted the convoys from Pagak to Gimbi way station.
- **At Pagak entry point, primary health services including antenatal care service continue to be provided.** Malaria remains the main cause of morbidity followed by upper respiratory tract infections.
- **The annual Standardized Expanded Nutrition Survey (SENS) is ongoing in the Gambella camps** with a planned completion date of end of May. The preliminary report is scheduled to be released in the first week of June 2017.
- **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene:** A total of 240 household latrines were constructed in Jewi, Kule, Tierkidi Refugee Camps, while 277 shared family latrines were constructed in Nguenyyiel Camp where maintenance was done to 18 emergency latrines. The water supply per capita in Jewi, Kule, Tierkidi camps and the Pagak reception centre has reached the minimum emergency standard of 15 l/p/d, whilst refugees in Nguenyyiel Camp receive 13 l/p/d. Two additional water points were installed in the latter camp to improve the distribution.
- **381 transitional shelters were constructed in Nguenyyiel Camp,** bringing the total number constructed since March to 878. Some 262 emergency shelters damaged by rains have also been repaired. In Jewi and Tierkidi camps, respectively 112 and 40 transitional shelters have been constructed during the reporting period. In Okugo Camp, 200 of the planned 500 emergency shelters have been completed.

## KENYA

### Latest developments

- **There was a significant increase in the number of new South Sudanese refugees arriving into Kenya during the first half of May,** with 2,042 new arrivals received at Nadapal and transported to the reception centre in Kakuma,

representing a daily average of 134 individuals. In comparison, between January and April, 2017, the daily average arrival was 56 individuals.

### Achievements and Impact

- **SGBV prevention and response activities were ongoing throughout the reporting period in Kakuma refugee camp and Kalobeyei settlement.** A total of 10 SGBV cases were reported among the South Sudanese refugee population. Comprehensive medical and psychosocial support was offered to survivors, and referrals were conducted for appropriate comprehensive services, including legal and material support
- **During the reporting period, 1,078 children aged six to 59 months were screened for malnutrition at the Kakuma reception centre.** A total of 30 children (2.8 per cent) were found to have Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and 79 children (7.3 per cent) to have Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM), giving the proportion found with Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) at 10.1 per cent. All the children identified with acute malnutrition were admitted to respective nutrition rehabilitation programs.

## SUDAN

### Latest developments

- **The total number of South Sudanese refugees in Sudan has surpassed 400,000 with the arrival of over 28,000 refugees in the first two weeks of May.** Nearly 137,000 refugees have arrived in 2017 to date.
- **Since the end of April, nearly 20,000 refugees have arrived in White Nile and South Kordofan states as a result of the ongoing hostilities in Kodok, Upper Nile State of South Sudan.** The influx of 13,645 refugees in White Nile, and 5,261 in South Kordofan has put additional pressure on service provision in camps and settlement sites, prompting UNHCR and partners to step efforts to achieve minimum emergency standards as quickly as possible. In the interim, some of the most critical gaps in reception centres, WASH, health, and non-food items are being immediately addressed. Contingency plans have also been developed to respond to possible further influxes. New arrivals have reported to humanitarian actors that as many as 40,000 – 50,000 refugees may also be on their way to White Nile from Attara, Fashouda, and Kaka, Upper Nile, South Sudan.
- **With the continuing influx of South Sudanese refugees from Western Bahr el Gazal, South Sudan, into South Darfur, the population in the state is now estimated at just over 29,000.** New arrivals have primarily settled in Nyala town. New arrivals have also been reported in the border areas, particularly in Kafaai Kingi (70km from El Radom), where 3,000 refugees arrived over a five day period. Authorities have also reported the presence of approximately 1,500 refugees in Al Salam locality, including a mix of new arrivals and arrivals from 2016.
- **The current South Sudanese refugee population in East Darfur is now estimated at over 94,000 individuals.** There is an urgent need to establish additional reception facilities in the border areas, and UNHCR is currently working with Commission of Refugees (COR) to do this. Efforts to expand both Al Nimir and Kario sites are under discussion with authorities.

### Achievements and Impact

- **UNHCR has established additional reception facilities adjacent to the existing one in El Ferdous reception centre in order to accommodate newly arrived refugees.** Biometric registration of new arrivals will begin in El Ferdous at the end of May to get a better picture of the exact numbers, refugee profiles and vulnerability, and needs.
- **On 1 May, UNHCR and COR began biometric registration of the estimated 53,415 refugees in South Kordofan, starting with the largest settlement in El Leri.** A UNHCR and COR team was also deployed to El Meriam settlement in West Kordofan, where information campaigns began last week for the start of biometric registration. The population in West Kordofan is estimated at 33,641 refugees, with many more still to be verified. Completion of biometric registration is key component of refugee protection response by enabling the identification of vulnerable populations and improving the quality and targeting of assistance across sectors.
- **UNHCR is conducting a rapid vulnerability assessment of refugees and host community in El Meriam to facilitate NFI distribution for 5,000 new arrivals,** including to some of the most vulnerable members of the host community.
- **UNHCR, WFP, COR, Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) and NGO partners have begun distribution of NFIs and food to 7,800 South Sudanese refugees that arrived in 2016, and approximately 7,000 IDPs from East Darfur in Allait locality.** The process is expected to conclude the third week of May. The displaced populations are scattered in villages across the locality, and are overlapping in some locations, which has promoted humanitarian actors to

integrate some of the responses. Resources are currently being mobilized to respond to additional needs, with a focus on basic service provision and shelter.

## UGANDA

### Latest developments

- **A total of 20,292 South Sudanese refugees arrived to Uganda in the first half of May, representing a daily average of 1,353.** Refugees continue to report the fear of indiscriminate killings, looting of property, burning of houses, torture, rape, arrest by both government and opposition forces, lack of basic services and hunger as their main reasons of flight.
- **On 9 May, the Prime Minister of Uganda Ruhakana Rugunda announced at a joint press conference with UNHCR and the Office of the Resident Coordinator that President Yoweri Museveni and UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres will host a Solidarity Summit on Refugees in Kampala from 22 to 23 June 2017 to galvanize international support for refugees.** The Summit offers a concrete opportunity to translate into action the commitments of the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, whereby 193 states of the international community pledged robust support to countries affected by large movements of refugees and migrants during the UN General Assembly's seventy-first session on 19 September 2016.

### Achievements and Impact (covering 8 – 14 May)

- **Protection:** In Bidibidi, UNHCR partner International Rescue Committee provided counselling to 432 refugees on issues such as family separation, child-to-child sex and juvenile offenses. The team also conducted 13 legal information sessions for 555 people, with a focus on criminal offences and punishments, obligations and rights of refugees, marriage and divorce.
- **Child Protection:** In Adjumani, the Child Protection Working Group (CPWG) engaged 309 people of Agojo settlement in a dialogue to discuss child protection issues such as attempted suicides by children, causes of early pregnancies and school drop outs and increased cases of missing children. In Bidibidi, UNHCR and partners identified and responded to nine cases of child abuse and referred 15 children for medical care.
- **Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV):** In Bidibidi, UNHCR and partners identified 20 new SGBV cases and provided them with medical and psychosocial counseling. In Adjumani, UNHCR and SGBV prevention and response partners concluded a joint Rapid Assessment and focus group discussions in 19 refugee settlements to measure results of awareness and prevention interventions.
- **Community mobilization:** In Bidibidi, UNHCR and partners American Refugee Committee and Danish Church Aid supported the refugee youth of Ombechi village to launch a community project helping construct shelters for persons with specific needs (PSN), including by providing tools and cash-for-work.
- **Education:** In Bidibidi, UNHCR and partners selected underperforming female students from 14 schools to receive help to improve their academic performance, as part of the Girls Empowerment Club programme.
- **Health:** In Adjumani, a total of 706 refugees were tested for HIV/AIDS, of which less than one per cent tested positive and referred to care and treatment.
- **Shelter and NFIs:** In Palorinya, the police was able to recover 17 bags of UNHCR blankets and mosquito nets from illegal traders.
- **Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance:** In Bidibidi, 2,160 families received cassava cuttings and another 2,145 received orange sweet potato vines, while 504 women received business training and a startup grant. In Adjumani, UNHCR and partners helped establish 30 farmer groups of refugees and local Ugandans, who have opened a total of 78 acres of group gardens. In Palorinya, 7,443 people received emergency seed kits for planting in the current planting season, as part of a broader food security programme for some 20,750 individuals. In Rhino camp six income generating activity groups received cash grants worth USD 7,000 and USD 4,000 for investment.
- **In Palorinya, UNHCR, the Office of the Prime Minister and Lutheran World Federation carried out a joint assessment of flood-affected households.** Some 700 households were affected and registered for distribution of non-food items. Among them were 240 households in need of immediate relocation to higher and dry land.

# CRITICAL NEEDS AND PRIORITIES

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## DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

**Protection:** Referral of cases of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) to dedicated structures is limited. Refugees prefer to report the cases to traditional leaders in order to resolve the issue through amicable settlement. A training for traditional leaders on SGBV is planned in Meri site.

**Education:** Additional classrooms, school kits, manuals and blackboards are needed.

## ETHIOPIA

**Health:** The absence of mosquito bed nets and blankets at Pagak entry point is a concern during the rainy season.

**Shelter and NFIs:** 52 per cent of households registered in Gambella camps are in need of transitional shelter assistance. Shortage of funding limits the provision of key services such as education, shelter, WASH facilities, as well as livelihoods activities.

## SUDAN

**Education:** As a result of the new influx to White Nile State, it is estimated that over 19,000 school-aged children are out of school across Al Waral and Um Sangour, the two main sites receiving new arrivals. As the start of the new school year is quickly approaching, funds are urgently needed to address the gap.

## UGANDA

**Protection:** In Bidibidi, unregistered refugees in the settlement remain a major protection concern. Individuals with relatives in the settlement are being reunified with their family members and those with no relatives are returned to the border for possible registration. Community leaders working on SGBV prevention and response reported threats and attacks by members of the community who had expressed dissatisfaction with the leaders' involvement in the management of SGBV incidents. UNHCR and partners are organizing a training to better equip the community leaders and the police to respond to such threats. In Palabek, there is a need to establish a recreational space for the youth and a birth notification system to provide access to registration at birth in a timely manner. UNHCR and partners are currently working to address these issues.

**Food security and nutrition:** In Imvepi, food pipeline delays affected the third cycle of general food distributions and salt was missing from the food basket. The lack of food storage remains also a huge challenge, with food being left on trucks until the next distribution. Food partners are looking to resolve this matter.

**Health:** In Imvepi, health partners are reviewing the recruitment system for health professionals in order to improve provision of quality services. The supply of essential drugs remains a challenge, which partners are working to address. In Bidibidi, health facilities are experiencing a shortage of some essentials drugs and medical supplies. In addition, eight health facilities have no light, which makes it difficult to deliver the health services during night.

**Water, Sanitation and Hygiene:** In Bidibidi, there is a need to bridge a daily demand gap of 1,684 m<sup>3</sup>/day for approximately 12,000 people, including through additional drilling, motorizing and connecting high-yield boreholes to the water supply systems, towers, and pipe distribution networks.

**Shelter and NFIs:** In Palorinya, the ongoing heavy rains across the settlement have led to inaccessibility of some roads, with some settlements in Ibakhwe being cut off from timely access to services and assistance.