

# South Sudan Situation

1 – 15 August 2017

**2,005,631\***

Total **South Sudanese refugees** in the region as of 15 August (pre and post Dec 2013 caseload)

**574,871\***

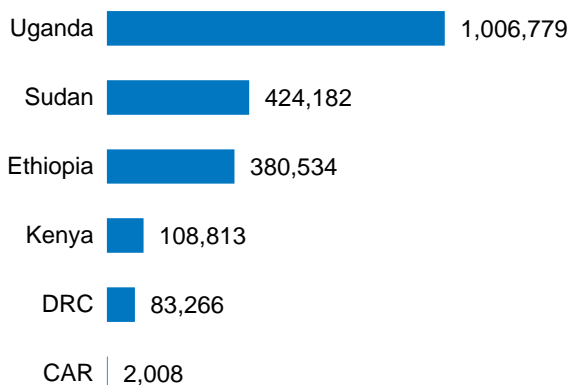
South Sudanese refugee **arrivals in 2017**, based on field reports as of 15 August

**275,187**

**Refugees in South Sudan and 2 million IDPs** as of 31 July

## SOUTH SUDANESE REFUGEES AS OF 15 AUG 2017

### Host Countries



### New Arrivals

	In 2016 (Jan to Dec)	In 2017 (as of 15 August)
CAR	659	319
DRC	61,125	16,934
Ethiopia	53,661	37,603
Kenya	22,501	16,181
Uganda	489,234	323,242
Sudan	134,370	180,592
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>761,550</b>	<b>574,871</b>

## KEY FIGURES\*

**63%**

of the South Sudanese refugee population are children (under the age of 18 years old)

**4.28 million**

Total population of concern (South Sudanese refugees, South Sudanese IDPs and refugees inside South Sudan)

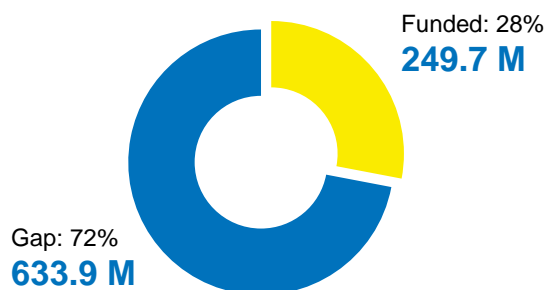
**2,130,500**

South Sudanese refugees are expected to be hosted in the region by 31 December 2017 (Revised 2017 RRP Planning figures)

## FUNDING (AS OF 22 AUGUST 2017)

**USD 883.5 M**

requested for the South Sudan situation



\* 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.

## Regional Highlights

- **The total South Sudanese refugee population has hit two million with the population in Uganda reaching the one million mark.** Of the two million, some 1.2 million are children under the age of 18, representing 63 per cent of the refugee population.
- **Over 14,000 new South Sudanese refugees have sought asylum in neighbouring countries in the first half of August.** Refugees continue to report conflict, insecurity, forced recruitment, sexual violence, breakdown of basic services and food insecurity as main reasons for flight.
- **In Sudan,** the influx of South Sudanese refugees into South Darfur remains ongoing, with nearly 10,500 arrivals since 1 July 2017. Sudan has surpassed the total anticipated new arrivals for 2017 by mid-August, with over 180,000 South Sudanese refugees arriving in Sudan in 2017 so far. However the total caseload of refugees who arrived in Sudan post-December 2013 remains below the overall planning figure estimate of 477,000, due to the roll-out of biometric registration of the existing caseload for whom individual registration had not occurred.
- **In Uganda,** the number of elderly people among the new arrivals continues to increase. Many elderly refugees report that at the beginning of the conflict they had no intention of fleeing their country, but have been forced to flee as the situation deteriorated. Through border monitoring and interviews with arriving refugees, a rise in the number of single male new arrivals was noted at Busia Collection Centre. This can be partly attributed to fighters reportedly deserting armed groups. Infrastructure in Amuru has been damaged by the flooding, including Unyama Bridge, which connects Adjumani district to Palabek Settlement. The damage continues to affect movement of people, goods and services to a number of locations in and around Amuru district. Response efforts are underway.
- **In Ethiopia,** the first week of August witnessed an increased influx of South Sudanese refugees crossing through Pagak Entry Point following reports of active conflict in South Sudan. The influx has since decreased, however the general security situation remains tense.
- **In Central African Republic,** the IDP population arriving in Obo, where the South Sudanese refugees are currently hosted, continues to rise and now totals 5,155. UNHCR continues to monitor the situation.
- **In the Democratic Republic of Congo,** the number of new South Sudanese refugee arrivals is increasing. A total of 944 new arrivals were registered in the first half of August, compared to 1,547 in the full month of July and 1,280 in June.

# Updates and Achievements

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)



## SOUTH SUDAN

### Latest developments

- **The first batch of the Regional Protection Force (RPF) arrived in Juba on 5 August** to bolster the 12,000-strong UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS). In August 2016, the United Nations Security Council approved the deployment of a 4,000-strong following the request by the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD).
- **On 1 August, the UN Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Jean-Pierre Lacroix, arrived in Juba, South Sudan, to assess the political situation in the country.** Upon his arrival, he met with senior government officials, including the First Vice-President Taban Deng Gai, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Deng Alor and the Minister of Cabinet Affairs, Martin Elia Lomuro. In a statement following his meetings, Lacroix said that South Sudan’s conflict has to end to give the peace process a better chance of success.

### Achievements and Impact

- **UNHCR registered 109 new Sudanese arrivals in Yida refugee settlement in the first half of August.** Cumulatively, 8,568 new arrivals have been registered since the beginning of 2017. Some 126 refugees were relocated from Yida to Jam-Jang camp during the reporting period; 29 to Ajuong Thok and 97 to Pamir refugee camps, including 15 refugees previously settled in Yida and 111 new arrivals. Cumulatively, 10,002 refugees have been relocated in 2017, out of which 1,552 individuals were previously residing in Yida refugee settlement.
- **UNHCR and partners continued to conducted protection activities across the country.** In Unity, UNHCR recorded and supported seven Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) survivors with psychosocial and case management

support. In Ajuong Thok refugee camp, UNHCR reached 951 community members with SGBV prevention and health messages as part of the SASA1 campaign. In Yei, Central Equatoria, UNHCR partner UMCOR conducted 10 group and individual psychosocial counselling sessions for 24 SGBV survivors. In Ajuong Thok and Pamir, UNHCR identified 12 children at risk through various Child Help Desks and supported five with core relief items.

- **In Batil and Doro refugee camps, Upper Nile, UNHCR and its partners Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and ACTED distributed core relief items to 532 households** following the inter-tribal clashes within the refugee community in July.
- **In Ajuong Thok and Pamir refugee camps, UNHCR completed the distribution of second-hand clothes donated by UNIQLO to an additional 33,623 refugees.** In total, 45,946 individuals received second-hand clothes donated by UNIQLO.
- **In Pamir refugee camp, the construction of 1,000 transition-shelters is under way, with 90 per cent of work completed to date.** A total of 903 transitional shelters have been constructed during the reporting period.
- **IDP Response:** In Mingkaman and Awerial counties, Lakes/Jonglei UNHCR and its partner Humanitarian Development Consortium (HDC) distributed core relief items to 3,505 individuals, including vulnerable IDPs and host community members identified through a regular protection monitoring. In Doro, Upper Nile, UNHCR and HDC constructed 171 shelters for the return of the displaced host communities following the conflict between the refugee and the host communities in December 2016. In Bor, Jonglei, UNHCR in collaboration with the Directorate of Nationality, Passport, and Immigration (DNPI) completed the application process for Nationality Cards for 175 IDPs residing inside the Protection of Civilians (POC) site.

## Countries of Asylum

### CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

#### Latest developments

- **Obo, the town where the South Sudanese refugees are currently hosted, continued to receive IDPs from the town of Mboki,** with the total IDP population rising to 5,155 individuals. UNHCR continues to monitor the situation.

#### Achievements and Impact

- **UNHCR conducted cash distributions for the South Sudanese refugees in Obo on 9, 10 and 11 August.** The refugees participated in a sanitation session prior to the distributions on the 4 August.
- **UNHCR partner Vision to Change the World (VCW) began the construction of 14 semi-permanent shelters for Persons with Specific Needs in the camp.**

## DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

### Latest developments

- **During the first half of August, 944 new South Sudanese refugees were biometrically registered at the Meri and Biringi sites (Haut-Uélé province, respectively Ituri province).** The number of new arrivals increased compared to previous months, where a total of 1,547 new arrivals were registered in the full month of July and 1,280 in June. Tensions in South Sudan in the border areas to the DRC's Haut-Uélé and Ituri provinces continued to displace the population across the border.
- **UNHCR signed a Memorandum of Understanding with NGO Caritas Mahagi-Nioka for assistance at the Biringi site,** which will include the provision of food for 2,000 vulnerable refugees and hygiene kits for 1,400 women and girls, training for 2,000 refugees on how to build improved stoves and 10 health staff at the local hospital for assistance to victims of rape and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence.

### Achievements and Impact

- **A total of 6,400 refugees and members of the host community were sensitized on SGBV prevention and response at the Meri and Biringi sites.**
- **UNHCR's partner, the National Commission for Refugees (CNR), trained 20 refugees at the Biringi site** in their responsibilities as members of the vigilance committee. This committee supports the national police.
- **Community health workers in Meri reached over 900 refugees in a door-to-door health campaign** on the correct use of mosquito nets, to prevent malaria, and good food hygiene to mitigate waterborne diseases.
- **The construction of a new primary school bloc in Meri reached the final phase.** The school will open its doors for 300 pupils at the beginning of the new school year in September.

## ETHIOPIA

### Latest developments

- **The first week of August witnessed an increased influx of South Sudanese refugees crossing into Ethiopia through Pagak Entry Point Following reports of active conflict in South Sudan.** The influx has since decreased, however the general security situation in South Sudan (Pagak) remains tense, with reported ongoing clashes between the South Sudanese government forces and IO forces. UNHCR staff remain present at the Pagak Entry Point on a daily basis, in order to ensure protection of new arrivals and their access to territory.
- **During consultations with newly arrived refugees at the Pagak Reception Centre to assess their status and intentions, a number of families noted that**

**they were already registered in Kule, Jewi, Tierkidi, Nguenyiel and Pugnido Camps**, having returned to South Sudan (Maiwut and Mathiang) to collect personal possessions and remaining family members. They have since returned to their respective camps. Additional families noted that they did not intend to seek asylum in Ethiopia, opting to monitor the current situation, with the intention of returning to South Sudan when the situation improves. A number of refugees have already returned to Ethiopia with their cattle.

- **Between 1 and 15 August 2017, 599 South Sudanese refugees sought asylum and were registered in Gambella.** They arrived in Ethiopia through Pagak and Raad Entry Points. A further 54 South Sudanese refugees arrived through Yabus Entry Point in Assosa. There are ongoing discussions with ARRA regarding the possibility of a reception center further away from the border to increase security.
- **An additional 320 South Sudanese refugees arrived in Okugo Camp during the reporting period and were registered by ARRA/UNHCR.** The refugees entered Ethiopia and proceeded to Okugo via Raad Entry Point from Bumma district, Pibor State, South Sudan.

#### **Achievements and Impact**

- **Since the start of the convoys in May, a total of 3,034 refugees were relocated from Pagak Entry Point to Gure Shombola camp**, including 225 refugees relocated in the first half of August.
- **The Gambella Regional Health Bureau (RHB), supported by UNICEF, continued vaccination and supplementation for children Pagak Entry point.** Some 2,441 children received the polio vaccine, 2,082 received the measles vaccine, 1,584 received vitamin A supplementation and 1,257 children received Albendazole for deworming.
- **Nutrition screening at Pagak Entry Point continued with support from ACF.** A total number of 12 children aged 6-59 months were screened during the L1 registration at the nutrition center. All children identified to be suffering from acute malnutrition were referred to the nutrition center for treatment and follow-up. The community management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) programmes continue successfully in all camps.
- **Shelter construction continued in the refugee camps.** In Pugnido 1 Camp, 190 transitional shelters were completed while 190 were completed in Pugnido 2, 340 in Okugo, 320 in Tierkidi and 340 in Nguenyiel refugee Camp. All shelters were handed over to beneficiaries for mud plaster and grass thatching. At Metu way station, the construction of a feeding space was completed.

**KENYA****Latest developments**

- **UNHCR registered a total of 401 South Sudanese refugees in Kakuma in the first half of August.**

**Achievements and Impact**

- **UNHCR and Vodafone Foundation conducted a one-week Instant School Network Bootcamp on Information Technology and Communication (ICT) for 60 refugee girls in Kakuma refugee camp, including 27 South Sudanese girls. The girls were introduced to latest ICT Innovations including web design and development, 3D modelling and computer robotics.**

**SUDAN****Latest developments**

- **Sudan surpassed the total anticipated new arrivals for 2017 by mid-August, with over 180,000 South Sudanese refugees arriving in Sudan in 2017 so far.** Despite having surpassed the revised planning figure, the total caseload of refugees who arrived in Sudan post-December 2013 remains below the overall planning figure estimate of 477,000 by the end of 2017. This is due to the roll-out of biometric registration of the existing caseload, which has helped to refine household level estimates to provide a clear picture of individual refugee figures.
- **The influx of South Sudanese refugees into South Darfur remains ongoing.** Since 1 July, nearly 10,500 refugees have arrived in South Darfur, including 2,900 refugees who arrived between 1-15 August. New arrivals report crossing the border from Western Bahr Ghazal state in South Sudan, fleeing escalating conflict and emergency levels of food insecurity. Additionally, approximately 278 individuals (68 households) have reportedly transited to Buram from El Ferdous, East Darfur to join family members. Based on the current trends, the state Refugee Working Group (RWG) is working with partners to prepare contingency plans for an estimated 30,000 - 40,000 additional refugees who are anticipated to arrive in South Darfur by January 2018.
- **The UN High Commissioner for refugees, Mr. Filippo Grandi, visited Sudan 15-16 August to highlight the plight of South Sudanese refugees in Sudan.** On 15 August, Mr. Grandi visited with refugees and partners in Al Nimir refugee camp, East Darfur, and met with the donor and humanitarian community and top government officials, including President Omar Al-Bashir. Mr. Grandi congratulated the Government of Sudan on its long history of generosity to refugees and asylum-seekers, as one of the largest refugee hosting countries in the world. He also emphasized the need to scale-up support to host communities in Sudan and expand registration activities. President Bashir committed to maintaining Sudan's open-border policy and supporting refugees in out-of-camp locations.

- **Activities in Al Waral camp have been resumed following an incident on 1 August 2017 that led to destruction of several facilities by refugees in the camp and the alleged sexual assault of six Sudanese teachers who were working in the camp.** The camp was temporarily closed to UN and INGO partners until 9 August. The incident was triggered by a rumour that a refugee from the camp had died in police custody after being arrested for stealing a bag of sorghum. High level representatives from the Government of Sudan and UNHCR visited Al Waral immediately after the incident to help normalize the situation. UNHCR is working closely with Sudan's authorities to avoid similar events in the future.

#### **Achievements and Impact**

- **The Jabalain ferry service has resumed and can now be used by partners to access refugee camps in White Nile.** The ferry provides access to six refugee camps, including Al Redis I and II, Jouri, Al Kashafa, Um Sangour and Al Waral, as well as transfers from the El Megenis and Umjalala border entry points. The ferry was rehabilitated by UNHCR in 2015 and helps to cut down transit times and address road access issues faced by partners over the rainy season.
- **The school year began in Al Nimir refugee camp on 15 August for 1,615 students in grades 1-8, nearly 80 per cent of the school-aged population in the camp.** UNHCR worked with the Ministry of Education and the Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) to enrol students, identify teachers, construct and equip eight temporary classrooms, and to distribute school supplies. Four additional temporary classrooms are planned to reduce the number of students per class.
- **Efforts by UNHCR, the Ministry of Health (MOH), WHO, government and NGO health partners have been successful in containing Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) outbreaks within refugee populations in East Darfur and South and West Kordofan states.** No new cases have been reported in Al Nimir refugee camp so far in August, while four new cases have been reported from Kario. According to MoH, there are no new cases of AWD among the refugee population in West and South Kordofan. In Al Nimir and Kario refugee camps, treatment centres (CTCs) remain functional, and health and hygiene promotion are ongoing.
- **With the support of UNHCR and the Ministry of Social Welfare (MoSW), 60 South Sudanese youth from El Leri, Abu Jubaiha, Abassiya and Sirajiya were enrolled in skills training courses.** The courses aim to increase levels of self-sufficiency and improve livelihood opportunities.

## **UGANDA**

#### **Latest developments**

- **A total of 7,225 new South Sudanese refugees arrived in Uganda in the first half of August.** New arrivals report that heavy rains, flooded rivers and worsening road conditions are making it difficult for South Sudanese refugees fleeing fighting



in their country to reach safety in Uganda. They also report that torture, looting of property and livestock and the slaughter of civilians by gunmen have become common occurrences.

- **Through border monitoring and interviews with arriving refugees, a rise in the number of single male new arrivals was noted at Busia Collection Centre.** This can be partly attributed to fighters reportedly deserting armed groups.
- **Additionally, the number of elderly people among the new arrivals continues to increase.** Many elderly refugees report that at the beginning of the conflict they had no intention of fleeing their country, but have been forced to flee as the situation deteriorated.
- **Infrastructure in Amuru has been damaged by the flooding, including Unyama Bridge, which connects Adjumani district to Palabek Settlement.** The damage continues to affect movement of people, goods and services to a number of locations in and around Amuru district. Response efforts are underway.

#### **Achievements and Impact**

- **Omugo Settlement, an extension of Rhino Camp in Arua district, commenced receiving refugees 1 August, and has so far received 6,130 refugees from South Sudan.** Two schools and an Early Childhood Development centre are under construction and health services are being expanded.
- **Biometric registration continued in Arua settlements, targeting new arrivals for family reunification and registration of new births.** All refugees biometrically registered during the reporting period received attestation letters. Rigorous screening during biometric fingerprint screening identified refugees attempting to register multiple times and Ugandan nationals pretending to be refugees, all of whom were turned away.
- **In Moyo, a toll-free line has been installed which refugees can call without charge to access services,** make enquiries and report any form of human rights abuses or crimes committed.
- **In Adjumani, foster parents for 60 children living in foster care arrangements received sim cards and mobile money registration** to be able to benefit from future cash support.
- **In Rhino Camp, an assessment carried out to verify reports of refugees engaging in sex work as a survival mechanism in Ofua revealed the existence of the trade in multiple locations, including major trading centres.** The report also found that the trade is not restricted to refugees, but also local residents. Prevention measures being implemented include targeted material support, vocational training and income generating activities for survivors and enhanced awareness raising among both refugee and host communities.
- **Across all settlements, primary and secondary school students sat for their end of term exams, and primary school candidates for secondary education sat their mock examinations.** In newly opened Omugo settlement, Arua district,

400 children have so far been enrolled for school. A temporary primary school has been set up with tents for classrooms, and work has commenced on a second. Recruitment of teachers and other staff has commenced, and an Early Childhood Development centre is under construction. In Bidibidi, repair of temporary classrooms commenced across the five zones, with contractors deployed to ensure the work is completed before the third school term begins.

- **The newly opened Omugo settlement provided public health services to refugees while also benefiting a considerable proportion of the host population.** Health facilities conducted 1,027 outpatient consultations, of which 614 were refugees and 413 nationals. Health service outreach is being expanded, and Omugo Sub-county Health Centre is under renovation in preparation to commence receiving referrals soon.
- **Access to safe water stands at 15 litres/person/day (l/p/d) in in Adjumani settlements, 15 l/p/d in Omugo and 16 l/p/d in Bidibidi, compared to the UNHCR emergency standard of 15 l/p/d.** In Adjumani, hygiene awareness campaigns were carried out across thirteen settlements on various issues including maintaining a good household environment, domestic, food and personal hygiene, effective hand washing, safe water and menstrual hygiene.

# Critical Needs and Priorities

## DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

**Education:** Further funding is needed to support South Sudanese refugee children to access education. In the last semester, only approximately 20 per cent of primary school-aged children were supported. UNHCR is planning to construct 12 classrooms to respond to the pressing need, up from the six classrooms originally planned.

**Shelter:** Over 5,000 families in Meri urgently require shelter. In Biringi, 360 refugees currently live in transit hangars due to the lack of adequate shelter, some of whom have been housed in the hangars for over six months.

## ETHIOPIA

**Shelter:** 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:** In Al Nimir camp, school feeding is recommended to encourage student retention and to further increase enrolment. A secondary school is also needed, as neither the host community nor the camp have formal learning spaces for older students.

## UGANDA

**Protection:** Registration remains a key priority in order to identify children at risk. Additional computers are required in order to obtain information and document cases. Inadequate post-primary education opportunities for adolescents expose them to protection risks including early marriage and pregnancy, drug abuse and prostitution.

**Education:** Across the settlements, additional classrooms are needed and existing classrooms require repair and upgrade. In Bidibidi, poor road conditions throughout the settlement are restricting children's access to nearby primary schools, resulting in reduced daily attendance rates. In Imvepi settlement, there is no primary school in Zone 3.

**Health:** Inadequate medical supplies, including drugs, medical equipment and administrative materials, remains a challenge throughout the settlements. In Bidibidi, inadequate transport continued to hamper outreach services across the zones. Delivering services in temporary facilities remains a challenge, particularly during heavy rain.

**WASH:** Distribution of essential water, sanitation and hygiene items including buckets, soap, water purification tablets and hygiene kits for refugees affected by seasonal flooding. Current supplies are inadequate.

## Financial Information

UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors who have contributed to their activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed directly to the operation.

### Donors who have contributed to the operation:

- United States of America
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### Funding (in million USD)

A total of **250.1 million** has been funded as of 7 August 2017

## External / Donors Relations

### Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2017

United States of America (95 M) | Sweden (76 M) | Netherlands (52 M) | Norway (41 M) | Private Donors Spain (35 M) | Japan (25 M) | Denmark (23 M) | Australia (19 M) | Private Donors Republic of Korea (17 M) | Canada (16 M) | Switzerland (15 M) | France (14 M) | Private Donors USA (13 M) | Germany (12 M) | Private Donors Italy (12 M) | Italy (10 M)

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### LINKS

Regional Data Portal: <http://data.unhcr.org/SouthSudan/regional.php>

UNHCR South Sudan Situation page: <http://reporting.unhcr.org/node/20>

Recent News Story: <http://www.unhcr.org/news/stories/2017/8/59915f604/south-sudanese-refugees-uganda-exceed-1-million.html>