



SOUTH SUDAN SITUATION

ETHIOPIA UPDATE

14 September 2016

HIGHLIGHTS

- **11,420 South Sudanese refugees have arrived in Gambella, Ethiopia since 3 September 2016.** Of this population, 379 refugees have been registered and relocated to Jewi refugee camp. An additional 3,009 has been registered, while 7,932 have received wristbands and awaiting registration. An estimated 100 new arrivals await wrist-banding and registration.
- Out of the 3,009 registered new arrivals, **146 are unaccompanied children**, 352 separated from their families and 33 other vulnerable children.
- **The new arrivals, mostly originating from the Upper Nile State, reported to have fled from insecurity and food shortage in neighboring South Sudan.** More information about this sudden arrival is sought and will be shared in subsequent updates.
- **As of 13 September, Ethiopia hosted a total of 292,885 South Sudanese refugees, including 237,664 who fled to Ethiopia since December 2013.** They originate mostly from Unity, Upper Nile, and Jonglei states.

KEY FIGURES

11,420*

South Sudanese arrivals since 8 September 2016, based on initial reports from Gambella (as of 14 September 2016)

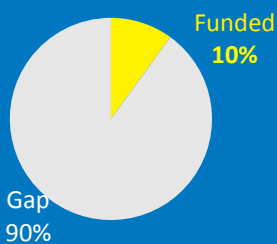
292,885*

Total South Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia

FUNDING (as of 14 September)

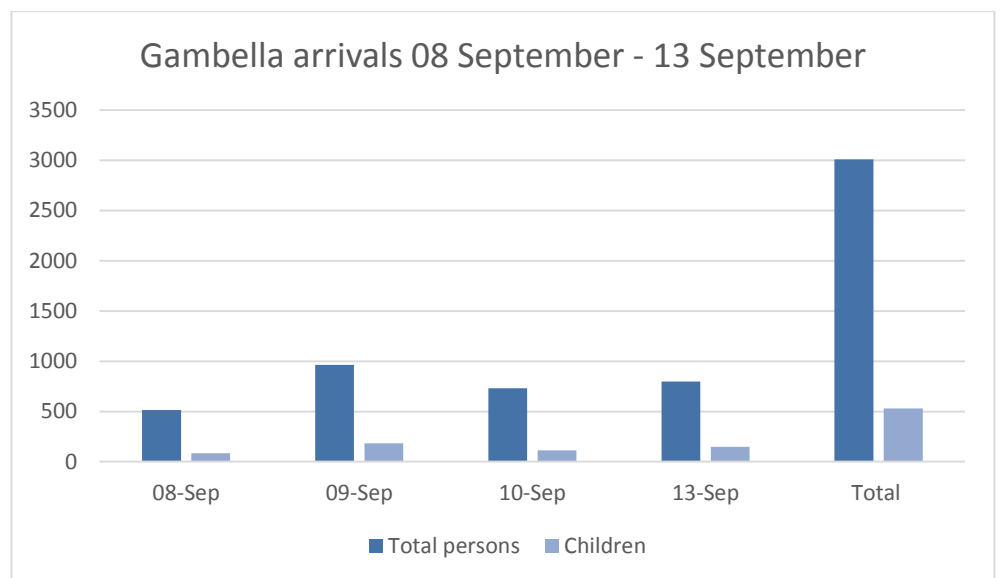
USD 113.8 M

Requested by UNHCR for the situation in Ethiopia



For more detailed information on the South Sudan situation response in specific country operations, kindly refer to the latest County Updates available on the portal:

data.unhcr.org/southsudan



Note: The statistics above do not include the 379 persons in 111 families already relocated to Jewi camp on 3 September.

A total of **498** of the new arrivals are unaccompanied and separated children.

UPDATE ON THE SITUATION

GAMBELLA

- **Latest developments:** UNHCR and partners have witnessed a sudden increase of new arrivals from South Sudan as compared to the previous week. The majority of the new arrivals continue to be women and children, many of whom are Un-Accompanied and Separated Children (UASC). The new arrivals are concentrated in the Pagak Transit Centre which has overstretched its capacity.
- To swiftly respond to the needs and ensure a safe access to asylum, registration and screening of the over 11,000 new arrivals at Pagak transit centre is being conducted by ARRA and UNHCR, so to facilitate the relocation of the refugees to the camps. The first step of registration, providing wristbands, has been organized for almost all the new arrivals.
- Refugees awaiting relocation from the Pagak Transit Centre have access to an operational Emergency Health Clinic ran by MSF, 40 drop-holes and potable water. 50,000 pieces of soap and 12,000 mosquito nets have been dispatched from Addis Ababa to Gambella, to respond to the health and sanitation needs of the refugees.
- Given the increase in the arrival of UASC, identification is ongoing so to provide the required specialized services, including care arrangements and family tracing.
- 379 refugees registered on 3 September have been medically screened and relocated to Jewi refugee camp with the logistical support from IOM. Relief items have been distributed and food lasting for 15 days has been provided to all new arrivals.
- A total of 3,009 new arrivals underwent Level 1 Registration, and are awaiting relocation to camps. Emerging new security issues and peaceful coexistence concerns around Jewi and Gambella are preventing the Government from allowing further relocation to Jewi Refugee Camp. Tierkidi and Kule are prioritized by local authorities; and additional options are sought.
- A joint UNHCR, ARRA, NRC, ADRA and IRC mission took place to Tierkidi refugee camp to assess the possibility of extending the camp, to accommodate an additional 10,000 new arrivals, as well as the needs in terms of reception facilities, WASH and site clearance. UNHCR's partner NRC is rehabilitating two hangars and is facilitating the construction of 125 emergency shelters to accommodate the incoming refugees.
- **Critical needs and challenges:** Support staff to conduct registration is of essence. Congestion at the Pagak Transit Centre remains a key challenge as overcrowded facilities heighten the risk of SGBV and the spread of diseases. Moreover, public lighting is required to ensure the safety of new arrivals. Thus, the relocation of registered refugees to the camps is the operational priority, whilst giving due consideration to peaceful coexistence between refugees and host communities. The identification of UASC and other persons with specific needs is of the essence in order to provide the appropriate assistance. Beyond the allocation of land for the reception of refugees, the availability of shelters to be able to accommodate the current and potential new arrivals remain amongst the major gaps. The allocation of the land in the Tierkidi refugee camp will imply the need to construct an emergency/temporary school to incorporate children within the education system. WASH facilities are limited, with a gap of 118 latrines; in spite of the efforts in raising awareness, open defecation continues to be a major challenge in the Pagak Transit Centre placing all refugees, including new arrivals, at heightened risk of diseases.

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