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Uganda

Humanitarian Situation Update

South Sudanese Refugee Crisis

Humanitarian Situation Update 1 November – 31 December 31 2016

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Highlights

- Uganda is host to over 589,573 South Sudan refugees and asylum seekers since 2014; out of which 64% are children.
- 130,915 South Sudanese children aged 6 to 59 months have been vaccinated against Polio since January 2016.
- This year, 3,341 (1,475 boys and 1,866 girls) children born to refugee parents from South Sudan have been registered through the National Mobile Vital Recording system (MVRs). This ensures their right to identity and is a gateway to access services where identification documents are required.
- A total of 31,052 children have been registered for integrated early childhood development learning (IECD) in Yumbe, Adjumani, Kiryandongo and Arua refugee districts respectively since January 2016.
- 8,970 separated and unaccompanied children (4,853 boys and 4,117 girls) were registered for reunification and foster care in 2016.
- 109,600 South Sudan refugee children and women were provided with hand washing facilities in 2016.
- 3,496 South Sudanese children continue to receive antiretroviral therapy (ART) services in 2016.

UNICEF's South Sudan Refugee Response with partners

Sector	Indicator	Targets	January to December 2016
Child Protection	Number of children in humanitarian situations benefiting from psychosocial support	8,500	46,132
Health	Number of children (6 months to 14 years) vaccinated against measles	177,340	159,045
WASH	Number of people provided with access to at least 15litres of clean water per person per day	176,200	156,500
Education	Number of children (3-5 years) accessing early child hood Development services	56,680	31,052
Nutrition	Number of children aged 6 to 59 months receiving vitamin A supplementation	160,848	142,348

Source: UNICEF and partners Field Reports

255,652

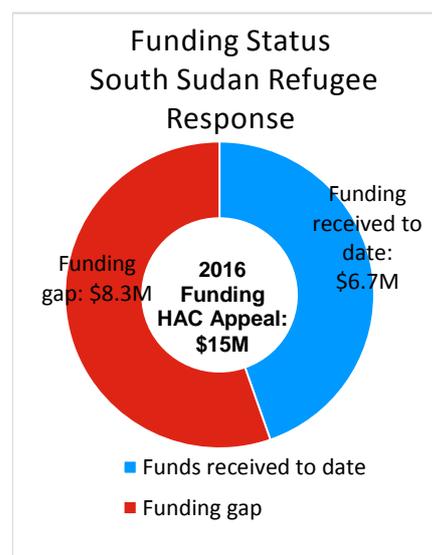
Number of South Sudanese refugee children registered in Uganda (1 January – 23 December 2016)
Source: UNHCR

399,456

Number of new refugee arrivals from South Sudan registered between 1 July and 23 December 2016
Source: Office of the Prime Minister (RIMS)

589,573

Total number of South Sudanese refugees registered in Uganda as of 23 December 2016
Source: Office of the Prime Minister (RIMS)



UNICEF's original 2016 Children (HAC) appeal for Uganda amounted to US\$14.4 million, of which US\$9.8 million was required for the South Sudan refugee response as at June 2016. The HAC was revised to approximately US\$22.7 million to reflect the latest funding requirements in the last quarter of 2016. The UNICEF appeal for the South Sudan refugee response increased to US\$15 million as per the revised August 2016 Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP) for South Sudan Refugees.

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

According to UNHCR and OPM¹, 64 per cent of the new refugee arrivals from South Sudan are children. During the first two weeks of December, daily arrivals averaged 4,501 individuals. Since July 2016, 399,456 refugees arrived in Uganda reflecting 67 per cent of the total South Sudan refugee population in the country and 84 per cent of those that arrived this year.

UNICEF, UNHCR and WFP are supporting the current food and nutrition assessment exercise in all districts of Kiryandongo, Adjumani, Yumbe, Arua, and Koboko covering refugee settlements and host communities. Nutrition screening is being done at all entry and collection points. Medical and nutrition screening by UNICEF, Concern Worldwide and respective district health teams at multiple entry points in December 2016 show that 19 children of 5,588 had severe acute malnutrition (SAM).

Across the refugee hosting districts, there is clear evidence of under-resourced basic services for new arrivals such as water, education and health particularly in Bidibidi settlement with its sizeable population.

Humanitarian Needs

According to UNICEF field reports, challenges in coverage of Health and WASH still exist across the settlements receiving new refugees. Providing water to refugees in Bidibidi is a challenge with previous sources providing an insufficient volume to meet the growing demand of the settlement. Cholera has been contained within hosting and nearby districts and prevention measures continue including hand washing with soap and chlorinating water in settlements and communities.

Needs in child protection relate to the presence of 'recyclers' amongst the new refugees. Critical needs remain in addressing social norms hindering girls and host community children from accessing services at the child friendly spaces. In Education, approximately 50,000 children (23,000 female) in refugee settlements in Adjumani, Yumbe and Arua lack access to education. More than 30,000 children from the Bidibidi settlement of school going age are not currently learning.

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

The Refugee Department of the Office of the Prime Minister and UNHCR continue to coordinate the national response to refugees. Within the current response, sector coordination arrangements include UNICEF playing a co-leadership role in Child Protection. The Government of Uganda's refugee policy prioritizes integration into Ugandan communities, therefore UNICEF's model of engaging directly with district governments is highly relevant. UNICEF has technical specialists based in the Zonal Office covering the Northern Region of the country, including West Nile, where the South Sudanese refugees are hosted. Technical specialists participate in coordination efforts and work with the district and sector line ministries to provide health, nutrition, WASH and education support as required. Additional technical expertise supporting the response in Child Protection has been availed by the Canadian Civilian Standby Support for UN Operations (CANADEM) as well as surge support in WASH from the Danish Refugee Council.

Humanitarian Strategy

UNICEF's humanitarian support to refugees from South Sudan is based on strategic priorities agreed upon in the inter-agency planning sessions led by OPM and UNHCR. Bidibidi in Yumbe district was the main settlement receiving refugees after Pagirinya in Adjumani District was filled. As of 16 December, the population in Bidibidi settlement stands at 266,558 refugees. Further to the Bidibidi settlement becoming populated, Palorinya (located some 24 km from the border), was opened on 9 December and is receiving new refugees. All new arrivals are currently received at Palorinya (Moyo District) and Rhino (Arua) settlements. At the current average arrival rates, the next settlement, possibly Imvepi, will have to be opened in mid-January 2016. Partners are engaged in strategic preparedness in case of rapid increase of refugee arrivals (due to displacement risks in South Sudan reportedly increasing). UNICEF contributed to Uganda's Chapter of the 2017 Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP) for South Sudan. UNICEF has a dedicated team for emergency planning and response, who are also part of the regular programme support to further strengthen the linkage between emergency and development programming.

¹ UNHCR Uganda, Emergency Update on the South Sudanese Refugee Situation. Bi Weekly Update December 23, 2016

Summary Analysis of UNICEF Programme Response

UNICEF and its partners at reception areas and settlements are providing services to women and children as seen below:

Health

The cholera transmission is contained in refugee hosting and neighboring districts. UNICEF and other partners are ensuring prevention measures including handwashing with soap and chlorinating water are undertaken in all settlements and communities in response to Cholera. Cumulatively, 65,372 and 116,818 children have been immunized against Polio and Measles respectively since the July influx began.

Nutrition

UNICEF, Concern Worldwide, Action Contre La Faim (ACF) and respective District Health Teams are supporting medical and nutrition screening at all active entry points, namely Kei and Kerwa (Yumbe district), Palorinya in Moyo district, Elegu in Adjumani, Kiryandongo reception centre at Kiryandongo district, Ocea at Arua district, Oraba, Kuluba and Busia at Koboko. 81,254 children have been screened since July 2016, of which 974 were found to be severely malnourished; 915 of these were provided with appropriate treatment. Cumulatively, 23,834 caregivers have been trained on key relevant information about nutrition programme activities.

UNICEF is monitoring the utilization of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Feeds (RUTF) at district level and in the regional referral hospital. Currently there is adequate stocks in country based on updates from the UNICEF real time Supply End User Monitoring System.

In 2016, 235,678 and 142,348 South Sudan refugee children received deworming and Vitamin A supplementation respectively. Preventive nutrition programming, including promoting and supporting breast feeding and complementary feeding is ongoing as well as maternal nutrition. Interventions are targeted at new arrivals.

WASH

Through UNICEF Support (through Water Mission Uganda), four motorized water systems were established (3 in Bidibidi and 1 in Elegu 2 reception center) between July-December 2016 providing safe drinking water for approximately 70,627 south Sudanese refugees. The installation of 126 boreholes in Yumbe, Arua and Adjumani has been completed to improve access to safe water to an estimated 37,800 people in the settlement.

350 communal latrines and bathing shelters were constructed and enabled access to latrines and hand washing facilities that are culturally appropriate, secure, sanitary user-friendly and gender appropriate benefiting an estimated 17,500 people. 100 Persons with Special Needs (PSN) latrines were constructed benefiting 500 people. 878 household latrines were constructed and are in use benefiting 4,390 people. In addition, 87 rubbish pits were excavated for solid waste management with support from UNICEF.

About 135,201 people have been reached with messages on personal and food hygiene, cholera prevention, use of latrine and safe water chain by UNICEF and its partners Uganda Red Cross Society and OXFAM. 668 hand washing facilities were provided for hand washing at latrines and institutions and 305 tippy taps were installed and are in use for hand washing. Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials were provided for dissemination covering preventative messages by hygiene promoters, and 87 hygiene promoters were trained on community out-reach with support from UNICEF.

Education

ECD centres in Bidibidi continued providing guided play and other recreational activities for children with the help of animators and caregivers. Registration of children under 3 years is on-going in preparation for the roll out of comprehensive key family care practices through the parenting programme.

In Rhino camp, a total of 75 adolescent girls and four mentors were trained by UNICEF and its partner Danish Refugee Council (DRC) to enhance understanding of sexual and reproductive health; to increase their ability to make healthier choices about their sexual and reproductive health. Similarly, to help adolescent girls begin the trauma healing process, group counselling sessions were conducted within 4 social networks in Rhino camp.

UNICEF and DRC conducted a life skills training of 986 adolescent girls, their female parents/ guardians and female mentors in Bidibidi settlement. This was intended to provide good parental skills and to open up a platform for the

adolescents to interact with their parents, voice their challenges and propose ways forward to handle these challenges in the future.

Child Protection

UNICEF Partners World Vision International and Save the Children in Adjumani and Yumbe reached 1,228 (673 boys and 555 girls) members of peer to peer groups, including 144 (80 boys and 64 girls) unaccompanied children; with child rights messages, peacebuilding and other life skills, which increased meaningful child participation.

Some 549 home visits were made to 268 boys and 281 girls out of which 93 cases of abuse were identified (46 boys and 47 girls) and support was provided. The cases of abuse identified included neglect, child labour, physical and emotional abuse of children by their caregivers.

744 (377 male and 367 female) South Sudan Children born in Uganda in Yumbe Refugee settlements had birth notification details captured and will receive birth notification records with support from UNICEF, the National Identification and Registration Authority (NIRA) and the Yumbe District Local Government.

Communications for Development (C4D)

Four C4D capacity building workshops were held/conducted in three refugee districts of Arua, Yumbe and Adjumani, reaching 73 participants who included key information and C4D focal points from District Local Government officers, Office of the Prime Minister, NGOs and UN agencies. Plans are underway to provide supportive supervision to specific implementing partners, including support for their monitoring and evaluation of ongoing C4D activities. Cholera IEC materials are being printed and will be distributed by social mobilisers in the new refugee settlement areas. Complementary interventions include airing of cholera prevention radio spots, radio talk show, house to house health and hygiene promotion activities and distribution of multi-purpose soap to facilitate effective hand washing for diarrheal disease prevention.

Funding

UNICEF is grateful to all Donors for their contributions to Uganda, including the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and the Department for International Development (DFID), whose support to preparedness and response has, in addition to UNICEF core resources, supported timely humanitarian action to the renewed influx of refugees from South Sudan.

UNICEF's original 2016 Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal for Uganda amounted to US\$ 14.4 million. As at June 2016, US\$ 9.8 million was required for the South Sudan refugee response. Post the July influx of refugees from South Sudan and other needs in the country and revision of the Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP) for South Sudan Refugees in August, the 2016 HAC was revised to approximately US\$ 22.7 million to reflect the latest funding requirements. Requirements for the South Sudan refugee response increased from US\$ 9.8 million to US\$ 15 million primarily in WASH, Health and Child Protection sectors to address the immediate needs of emergency affected South Sudanese women and children in Uganda.

UNICEF Funding Requirements for South Sudan Refugee Response				
Appeal Sector	Requirements	Funds available	Funding gap	
			US\$	%
WASH	1,500,000	1,751,946	-251,946	-17%
Education	1,500,000	615,471	884,529	59%
Nutrition and Health	5,300,000	2,581,401	2,718,599	51%
Child Protection	4,000,000	2,165,710	1,834,290	46%
Programme Support	2,700,000	510,024	2,189,976	81%
Total	15,000,000	6,723,410	8,276,590	55%

More info on the South Sudan Crisis on:

<http://www.childrenofsouthsudan.info/>

www.facebook.com/unicefsouthsudan

<http://www.unicef.org/appeals/>

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