ETHIOPIA

UNHCR ETHIOPIA: SOUTH SUDAN SITUATION OPERATIONAL UPDATE
3-9 July 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

- The general security situation in Gambella Region was calm, with no incident reported during the week. The ethnic tensions in Pugnido camp reported last week were resolved following intense discussions and peace talks facilitated by the host government at Regional and Federal levels. The travel restrictions to Pugnido camp were therefore lifted this week and UNHCR and other UN agency staff are now able to move between Gambella and Pugnido camp.

- South Sudanese refugees continue to arrive in Gambella at a daily average rate of 180 people. Pagak, Burbie, Akobo and Raad were the main crossing points.

- The total number of new arrivals from South Sudan since 15 December 2013 is now 211,803 individuals (208,125 in Gambella and 3,678 in the Benishangul-Gumuz Region). 90% of the adult refugee population are women and children and 19,415 are unaccompanied/separated children. As at end of the reporting period, the cumulative number of the South Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia is 275,217 which includes 63,414 refugees that were in country pre-December 2013.

- An estimated 13,816 refugees are at Pagak, Akobo and Burbie entry points awaiting registration or relocation to the new camp (Pugnido II) which is yet to be developed. Approximately 7,300 of them are in Pagak, including 3,939 who have undergone Level II registration. 3,107 are in Akobo and 3,368 are in Burbie entry points. Registration is scheduled to commence in Akobo on 9 July to be followed by registration in Burbie. Up on registration, the new arrivals in Akobo and Burbie will be relocated to Matar way station pending the construction of Pugnido II camp.

- The new arrivals are mainly from Upper Nile State (Ulang, Nasir and Dome counties) and claimed to have been fleeing generalized violence and food insecurity in South Sudan.

- Zone E of Tierkidi camp has been affected by flooding and UNHCR and partners are relocating affected households to a relatively drier section of the camp in Zone C. So far, 50 of the most affected households have been relocated while 184 collapsed and unoccupied tents had been collected.

- ARRA distributed dignity kits to women of reproductive age (13-49 years) for the first time in all the four sites of Pugnido camp. Over 17,179 women benefited and each received a dignity kit (a piece of soap, 2 under wears and 2 packs of sanitary napkins).

Population of concern

A total of 211,803 people of concern
UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

- The total number of South Sudanese refugees who have entered Ethiopia since the outbreak of the conflict in mid-December 2013 is now 211,803 individuals, with continued arrivals witnessed through Pagak, Akobo, Burbie and Raad entry points. In addition to the 63,414 refugees who were in the country before December 2013, the cumulative number of South Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia stands at 275,217. The focus of the Gambella operation is on the development of Pugnido II site in order to accommodate those already at the entry points (13,816) as well fresh arrivals from South Sudan. Moreover, the office focuses on stabilizing the operation, including finalizing the establishment of Jewi camp.

Achievements

Protection

Achievements and Impact

- A Focus Group Discussions on identification of sites for installation of Solar Lights was concluded in Kule and Tierkidi camps: The discussions involved some 100 refugees, majority of who were women. The report was finalized and shared with the technical unit for follow-up in the camps. Similar discussions are scheduled for Jewi camp for next week.
- A total of 201 new born babies were registered in Pugnido (192) Okugo (9) camps.
- Two hundred and thirty-eight unaccompanied and separated girls have received material distribution such as blankets and hygiene kits containing assorted items. Similarly, 30 foster parents caring for 63 unaccompanied minors (UAMs) also benefited from material distribution to help them better care for the children. Moreover, 10 Social Workers have been hired to strengthen case management activities in Kule camp.
- A total of 4,574 children (2,761 boys & 1,813 girls) participated in Children-friendly indoor and outdoor activities, including building blocks, storytelling, demonstration of alphabets, football, volleyball, slider, swing, beam balance; drawing and traditional or cultural games.

Education

Achievements and Impact

- Despite the security incidents in the past weeks, 6,558 students in Pugnido camp sat for the end of 2015 academic year examination. 3,232 of them are females.

Health

Achievements and Impact

- Surveillance for outbreak prone diseases and on arrival vaccination to prevent polio and measles is on-going in Pagak, Burbiey and Akobo entry points. In the reporting period, 615 and 593 children below 15 years old were vaccinated for polio and measles respectively. Also, 286 and 212 children between 6-59 months of age were given vitamin A capsules and deworming tabs to prevent Vitamin A deficiency and to boost their immunity respectively.
- Malaria remains one of the top causes of morbidity in several camps. To prevent and control morbidity, 8,000 bed nets were distributed in Jewi camp and additional 200 bed nets went to Kule camp. Besides, other preventive activities such as environmental cleaning, awareness raising on bed net utilization were undertaken.

Food Security and Nutrition

Achievements and Impact
Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) services are ongoing at the nutrition centers. A total of 3,025 children under five years are currently under Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) program in Jewi (639), Tierkidi (869), Kule (832) and Pugnido (474) camps, as well as 211 at Pagak entry point. A total of 226 new cases were admitted in the Supplementary Feeding Program (SFP). 1,123 children under five years (386 Jewi camp, 148 Tierkidi camp, 275 Kule camp and 238 Pugnido camp and 76 Pagak entry point) have been identified as Severe Acute Malnutrition cases and are receiving the necessary attention. A total of 144 new SAM cases were admitted in the Outpatient Therapeutic Feeding Program (OTP).

Targeted Blanket Supplementary Feeding Program (BSFP) services are being provided for children under five years of age and pregnant and lactating women in the different camps and in Pagak transit centre. A total of 38,986 children under-five years of age are enrolled (9,264 in Jewi, 12,847 in Tierkidi, 12,884 in Kule, 3,321 in Pugnido camps and 670 in Pagak entry point). 520 new cases were admitted in the basic supplementary feeding programme (BSFP) during the week. Overall, 11,026 pregnant and lactating women (1,372 Jewi, 3,620 Tierkidi, 3,678 Kule and 2,356 Pugnido camps) are enrolled in BSFP, including 365 new cases during the week.

A total of 10,225 pregnant and lactating women received Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) information at the various nutrition centers (2,231 in Jewi, 3,620 in Tierkidi, 3,678 in Kule and 696 in Pugnido camps). A total of 304 Mother-to-Mother Support Groups (MtMSG) are operational in the camps (96 in Tierkidi, 203 in Kule and 5 in Pugnido camps).

UNHCR’s partner-MCMDO- has begun food security and livelihoods activities in Kule refugee camp. Five hundred households comprising pregnant and lactating mothers, elderly and large family sizes have been embraced under the backyard gardening project. Seeds have been distributed and households have started sowing them.

Distribution of monthly food ration has been completed in all camps.

To mitigate the impact of the accessibility challenges caused by the seasonal rains, small mobile storage units have been installed in Akula settlement, which will also serve to store prepositioned food ration for August and September.

WFP is dispatching food for nutrition programme in Pugnido for July while adequate food stock is available in all other camps. All nutrition partners (GOAL, Concern World Wide, and ACF) reported that all programmes (TSFP and BSFP) were progressing well.

The quarterly Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) exercise was completed in Jewi, Tierkidi, Kule camps as well as in Akula settlement; the report is being analyzed.

Since the beginning of 2015, WFP dispatched to South Sudan 17,260mt, 2,521mt and 938mt of assorted food commodities to South Sudan through air, road and river respectively.

Water and Sanitation

Achievements and Impact

In Jewi a total of 346,800 liters of water was trucked translating into an access level of 7.4 liters per person per day. The reduction is attributed to poor road conditions which are limiting truck access to zones C and D. One emergency water kit with a capacity of 10,000 liters has been installed in Zone D to address the shortage.

Also in Jewi camp, 37 water point attendants and supervisors received training in management of water points while two water points were maintained to continue serving the refugees.

In Pugnido camp, IRC supplied 7,043 m3 of water to some 62,884 persons of concern through 97 tap stands. The average supply of water per person per day is 16 liters.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Achievements and Impact

Road construction is going on in Jewi camp, with 3.2 km of the 6.0km main road already graded and compacted with the first layer of selected materials.

UNHCR and ARRA fielded a joint mission to Pugnido camp to do a technical estimation of the scope of works involved in the planned repair of Abobo-Pugnido road. The report has been shared with Management for action.

Shelter
Achievements and Impact

- In Jewi camp, the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) completed 2,350 of the planned 2,970 emergency. Similarly, NRC has completed 2,800 (94%) of the planned 2,970 transitional shelters in Kule camp.

Logistics & NFI

Achievements and Impact

- The evaluation of the land transport and ITC networking and cabling services request for proposals (RFP) is currently on-going in Gambella.

Working in partnership

- UNHCR continues to coordinate the refugee response in Gambella and a number of donors and partners continue to visit the operation. In Addis Ababa, the Refugee Task Force remains an important coordination body.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total recorded contributions for the UNHCR operation amount to some US$ 31 million, against US$ 153.2 million requested for the situation, which is 20% funded as at 19 May. 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 programmes with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

UNHCR is grateful to the following donors for their direct contribution to the South Sudan Situation:

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