



IOM health promotion activities continue in Doro Refugee Camp. © IOM 2014 (Photo: IOM South Sudan)

OVERVIEW

Since the civil conflict began in December 2013, over 1.4 million people remain internally displaced in **South Sudan**, 467, 009 individuals have fled South Sudan and are seeking refuge in Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda (Source: UNCHR Sitrep 24 October 2014). The overall situation in South Sudan remains tense and unpredictable. Renewed armed actions in Doleib Hill, Upper Nile State were reported last week. Logistical constraints brought about by the rainy season have dampened active hostilities in the past months. Humanitarian partners are concerned that armed actions may increase with the onset of the dry season—around November 2014.

Ethiopia: Ethiopian borders remain open for refugees from South Sudan. 190,510 South Sudanese refugees have entered Ethiopia since the conflict broke out in mid-December 2013 (Source: UNHCR Sitrep, 24 October 2014). The South Sudanese refugee population has become the largest refugee group in Ethiopia, surpassing the Somali refugee population according to UNHCR.

Uganda remains the second largest receiving country in the region, for refugees from South Sudan, with 128,816 refugees having arrived in the country. (Source: UNHCR Sitrep 24 October). The operational planning figure for Uganda remains at 150,000 refugees until the end of December 2014. Refugees continue to be hosted in refugee settlements in three districts: Adjumani, Kiryandongo and Arua. The majority of new arrivals in Uganda are women, and among the total registered population 64.6% are children.

HIGHLIGHTS

South Sudan: IOM is developing a curriculum on implementation of mental health and psychosocial services.

Ethiopia: IOM has evacuated a total of 542 refugees in Gambella Region during this reporting period.

Kenya: Since mid December 2013, IOM and UNHCR have provided transportation assistance to 32,576 refugees.

Furthermore, 3,750 persons with special needs have been registered by partner agencies among the refugees in Uganda. To date, 176 shelters have been constructed for them by partner agencies. IOM has reached out to 838 persons with special needs, through household-level water and sanitation support including construction of household latrines and hand washing facilities, and hygiene sensitization campaigns.

IOM RESPONSE

SUDAN

TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE

SOUTH SUDAN: To date 4,522 Metric tons of Shelter and NFI stock has been moved through the pipeline (93% transported by IOM), 50 locations with 153 requests have been served.

ETHIOPIA: IOM has provided 173,238 refugees in Gambella and 2,574 in Benishangul-Gumuz with transportation assistance since the conflict broke out. Between 20 and 26 October, IOM evacuated a total of 542 refugees in Gambella Region to the Transit Centre in Matar. The reduced numbers of arrival is attributed to bad roads from heavy rains and rising water levels in the region. An assessment by UNHCR and the Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA) conducted during this reporting period has identified Akobo as the most active entry point currently receiving South Sudanese refugees, with approximately 60 refugees registered every day.

There are more than 62,800 refugees in need of relocation from various camps and transit centres within Gambella region. ARRA and UNHCR have requested that all new arrivals from the three entry points (Burbiey, Akobo and Pagak) to be moved to Okugu camp. IOM is ready in line with ARRA and UNHCR's request to start the relocation of refugees from flooded camps to Okugu camp and has also constructed a transit station at Geder around Macha. The road to Leichour is still impassable and IOM is facing challenges to continue its operations in Matar. All humanitarian partners are still depending on the lone UNHCR helicopter for all movements to and from Matar and Leichour. Movement of supplies such as fuel and other essential commodities are not possible on the helicopter. IOM has therefore hired vehicles as an alternative to transport refugees from Burbiey to Matar since the road is not accessible by buses.

KENYA: Since the onset of the crisis, 43,940 refugees have entered Kenya via the Nadapal border point (Source: UNHCR Sitrep, 24 October). During the reporting period, 124 refugees have been transported from Nadapal border point to Kakuma Refugee Camp, compared to 143 assisted between 13 to 19 October. The majority of the refugees arriving are children and women.

SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI)

SOUTH SUDAN: Since the start of the crisis, over 52,000 households have been supported with NFIs, of which 703 have also received additional shelter materials, in 39 distributions across the country. To date, the IOM team has participated in 25 assessments/rapid monitoring exercises in Bor. Relocation to the new site in Bor is ongoing. One cluster team member travelled to Bor to support the relocation and the shelter effort there. The cluster met with the Bentiu focal point (Concern Worldwide) to continue developing a longer term shelter plan for the Bentiu PoC Protection of Civilians, pending site development, in order to facilitate dry season pre-positioning.

ETHIOPIA: IOM has started constructing shelters to improve the protection of 39,000 refugees (7,800 households) in Kule refugee camp, Gambella from harsh weather conditions. However, due to heavy rains in the region, access to the camp has been blocked. This has posed a major challenge to moving the construction materials.

CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT (CCCM)

SOUTH SUDAN: Relocation of IDP's from Tongping to UN House is on-going with a total of 10,830 IDPs relocated from

the Tongping PoC to UN House PoC 3 so far. Approximately, 250 refugees have been relocated in an exercise taking place three times during this reporting period. IOM is supporting the Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED) with the construction of temporary bridges in PoC 3; 67 bridges have been completed. In total, ACTED, IOM and UNMISS are discussing the possibility of repurposing the NGO Hub in POC 3 as a transit site, given the high number of new arrivals coming to Juba PoCs.

WATER SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

SOUTH SUDAN: The repair and replacement of malfunctioning hand pumps in Samari village was completed during this reporting period. Fencing to provide protection to tap stands continued across the camp. From 20 to 26 October, four tap stands in Pudom were reinforced. Bacteriological water analysis for nine hand pumps and 7 seven samples from tap stands was conducted and results indicate that water is safe for drinking and is free of contamination. During this reporting period, 16,702 individuals were reached with hygiene and sanitation promotion messages. The construction of household latrines continued across Doro camp, and a total of 88 latrines were built during this reporting period.

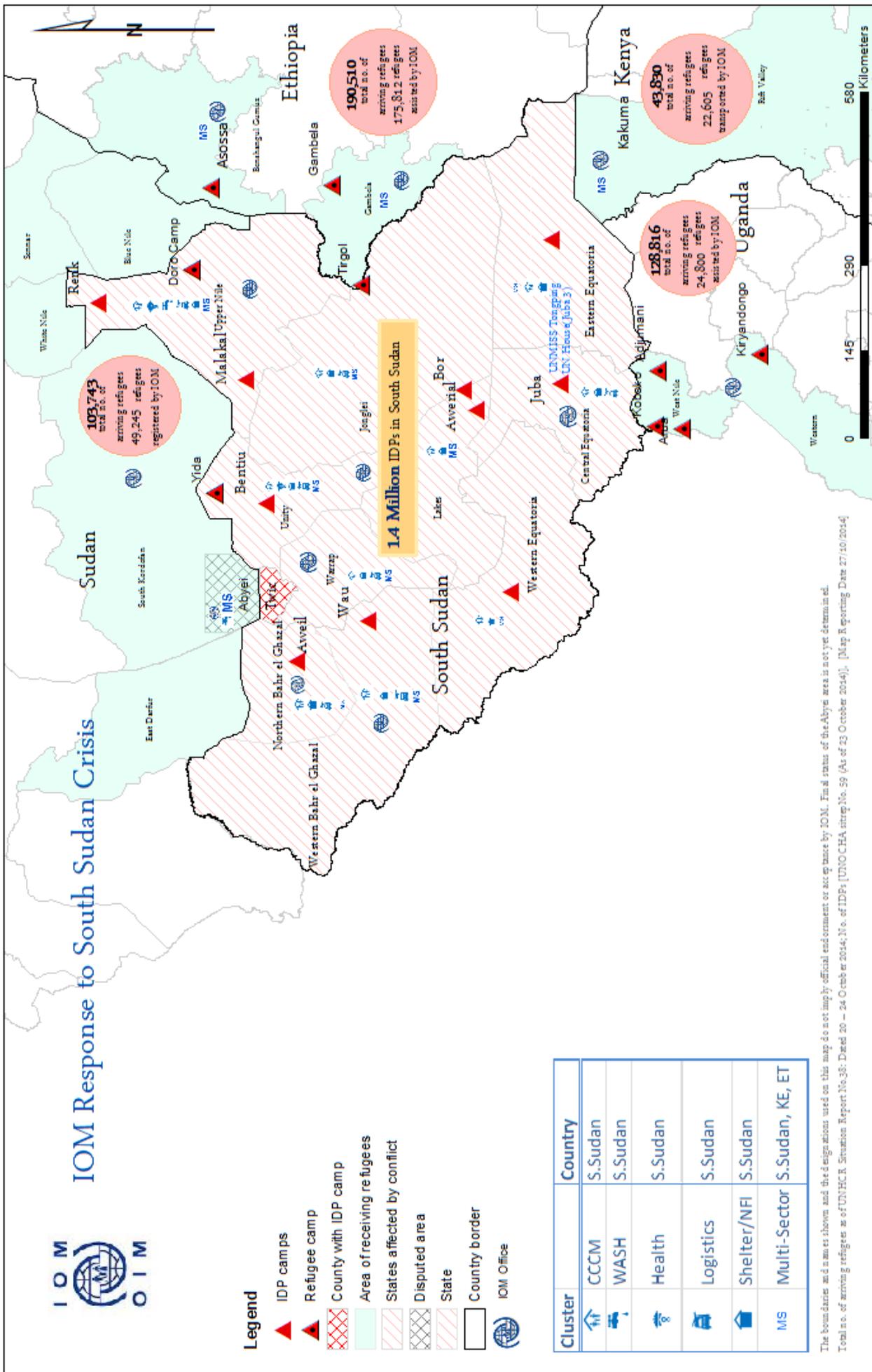
UGANDA: IOM participated in a joint Age Gender and Diversity Mainstreaming assessment between 20 and 23 October. A participatory assessment involving all stakeholders including refugees to discuss major thematic areas of food security, education, WASH, health, shelter, livelihood and infrastructure, and to identify gaps for 2015 programming. IOM launched a field assessment on 24 October at sites of old caseloads of refugee settlements at the request of the Ugandan Government and the findings will be tabled soon.

MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL

SOUTH SUDAN: IOM is developing a curriculum that will focus on the provision of mental health and psychosocial services. The curriculum will form the basis of the training provided to 20 IDPs from Bor PoC. The curriculum is expected to focus on basic concepts, specific psychosocial support skills and interventions, and community based psychosocial support activities. Once they finish the training, they will act as psychosocial community mobilisers and will provide psychosocial services to the community in the PoC).

HEALTH

SOUTH SUDAN: In Malakal, malaria and respiratory tract infections are the top morbidities. During this reporting period, 1,121 individuals benefitted from 25 health promotion sessions in the health clinic, while 1,899 individuals (774 households) in the Malakal PoC took part in health promotion sessions. Respiratory Tract Infections, skin diseases, and accidental traumas were the top morbidities, during this reporting period in Bentiu.



For more information on IOM's Response in South Sudan, see <http://southsudan.iom.int/crisis/>

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