

South Sudan Situation

October 2019

2,202,059*

South Sudanese refugees in the region as of 31 October 2019 (pre- and post-Dec 2013 caseload).

65,669*

South Sudanese refugee's arrivals so far in 2019, with 4,389 refugee arrivals in October 2019.

297,135

Refugees in South Sudan and 1.46 million IDPs with 12% inside six UNMISS Protection of Civilians sites.

KEY INDICATORS

3.9 million

persons of concern (South Sudanese refugees in the region; South Sudanese IDPs and refugees in South Sudan)

63%

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

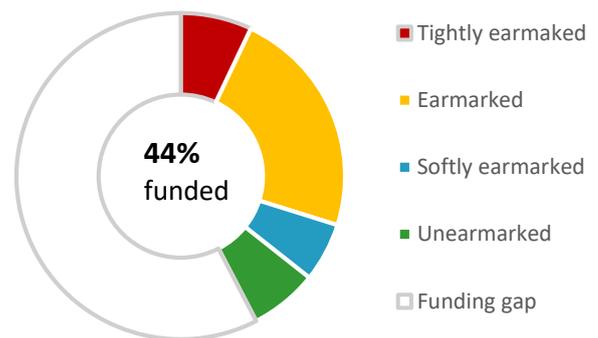
2,795,827

2019 Regional RRP Planning figure for the total South Sudanese refugees projected in the region by 31 December

UNHCR'S FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS (AS OF 6 NOVEMBER 2019)

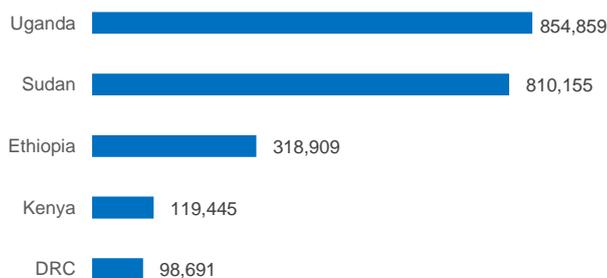
USD 718.9 million

requested for the South Sudan situation



2,202,059 SOUTH SUDANESE REFUGEES AS OF 31 OCTOBER 2019

Host Countries



* Based on field reports, UNHCR and Government registration.

New Arrivals

	In 2018 (Jan to Dec)	In 2019 (as of 31 October)
CAR	325	171
DRC	6,201	5,521
Ethiopia	19,770*	3,846
Kenya	7,325	9,684
Sudan	33,117	17,167
Uganda	40,758	29,280
TOTAL	107,496	65,669

Regional Highlights

- **On 30 October, South Sudan's President Salva Kiir declared a state of emergency in the flood-hit areas of the country.** The state of emergency was issued through a presidential order covering 30 counties in Greater Bahr El Ghazal, Upper Nile and Equatoria regions. The order urged government and humanitarian organizations to mobilize in assisting people in need in South Sudan which includes IDPs, refugees and host communities.
- **In a visit to Juba on 20 October, members of the UN Security Council urged leaders to expedite implementation of a 2018 peace agreement aimed at ending six years of ongoing conflict.** The 15 ambassadors described their visit as an opportunity to secure lasting peace in the country. However, key outstanding issues remain which are having an impact on the progression of the peace process. They include decisions on states and boundaries, as well as the reunification of security forces. Members held lengthy meetings with President Kiir, Mr. Machar and other signatories to the peace agreement, urging them to expedite its implementation.
- **On 31 October, the Government of South Sudan participated in a regional intergovernmental conference entitled "Delivering the Global Compact on Refugees: Local Approaches to Inclusion" bringing together States and stakeholders from the East and Horn of Africa in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.** The Conference enabled South Sudan to share experiences and identify opportunities on a peer to peer level with other IGAD member states to achieve the objectives of the Global Compact on Refugees, with a focus on local approaches to the inclusion of refugees within their host communities. The Conference was organized by the Ethiopian Ministry of Peace, in partnership with the Danish Government and UNHCR.
- **IGAD convened a meeting of Regional and International Special Envoys to South Sudan took place from 25-26 October in Djibouti.** The meeting took stock of the implementation of pre-transitional tasks of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS) and aimed to coordinate efforts in mobilizing the required support to the peace process in South Sudan. The meeting was convened by Dr. Ismail Wais, IGAD Special Envoy for South Sudan, Dr. Stephen Kalonzo Musyoka, Kenya's Special Envoy to South Sudan, Amb. Jamal El Sheikh, the Sudan Special Envoy to South Sudan, Betty Bigombe, Technical Advisor to the President of Uganda on the South Sudan Peace Initiative, Prof. Amb. Joram Bisworo, Head of African Union Mission in South Sudan, Parfait Onanga-Anyanga, UN Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa, and David Shearer, the Special Representative of the Secretary General and Head of the UN Mission in South Sudan were in attendance. The Envoys underscored the need for the Parties to recommit and redouble efforts in the implementation of the R-ARCSS and agree on mutually acceptable and all-inclusive solutions on pending pre-transitional tasks that place the interest of the South Sudanese people at the center. In this regard, the Envoys called upon regional and international partners to provide the much needed political and material support to the peace process in South Sudan.
- **On 24 October, the Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations, Jean-Pierre Lacroix, told the Security Council that Sudan and neighbouring South Sudan "have never been closer" to reaching a sustainable peace with each other, and their own internal armed opposition groups.** The meeting was focused on the disputed, arid, oil-rich border territory of Abyei, where the UN Interim Security

Force (UNISFA) has helped to monitor an uneasy peace without formal governance, and protect civilians, since 2011, in the weeks before South Sudan became independent from its northern neighbour. The UN Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa, Parfait Onanga-Anyanga, also briefed the Council, noting the “encouraging signs of progress” in relations between the countries.

Updates and Achievements

SOUTH SUDAN

Update

- UNHCR and partners provided emergency assistance to thousands of flood affected people in Maban, Upper Nile, after flooding intensified in early October. Refugees and local residents in Bunj town evacuated their homes, balancing beds and bundled belongings on their heads, and congregated on small islands of high ground. The water carved out huge chunks of the road. Crops and livestock were washed away, swamped schools had to be shut down and health services were hobbled. Boreholes flooded, compromising water safety, and 45 percent of latrines were destroyed.
- UNHCR continued its work with the Bor Solutions Working Group in Jonglei to help IDPs who wish to return home. In October, 63 individuals (20 households) approached UNHCR seeking support to relocate from the UNMISS Bor Protection of Civilians (POC) site to various areas in South Sudan. Most IDPs want to go to Unity State; however, others requested to return to Fangak and Eastern Equatoria. The registered IDPs seek humanitarian support for transportation, food, and basic items to help them resettle.
- On 7 October, South Sudan made five pledges aimed at ending statelessness during a UNHCR Executive Board High-Level Segment in Geneva, Switzerland. Ahead of the segment on 3 October, UNHCR, in collaboration with the Directorate for Nationality Passports and Immigration and the Office of the National Coordinator for the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, organized a round table on ongoing efforts on addressing statelessness. Sixteen members of the three Transitional National Legislative Assembly attended.

Achievements and Impact

- **Education:** A task force established by South Sudan’s Ministry of General Education and Instruction, with support from UNHCR and partner Lutheran World Federation (LWF), finalized a plan to integrate displaced persons into the national education sector during a 28-29 October workshop. The plan, called the National Education Response Plan for Refugees, Returnees, IDPs and Host Communities in South Sudan, was developed in response to the 2017 Djibouti Declaration, which calls on IGAD member states to take concrete steps to ensure inclusive and equitable educational access for displaced persons. UNHCR has been working with government partners on the plan since April.
- **IDPs:** During the reporting period, UNHCR, together with Shelter/NFI partners, met the mayor of Bentiu to discuss a pilot project which aims to assist IDPs who own plots of land in Bentiu town but cannot afford to construct their own houses. UNHCR and the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) registered 264 households of IDPs who own land but are staying in Kalibalak collective centers in Bentiu town. The list has been submitted to the mayor to verify plot ownership through the State Ministry of Physical Infrastructure. Following verification, UNHCR and DRC will provide shelter support.

- **Refugee returns:** During the reporting period, South Sudan finalized its National Framework for Return, Resettlement and Reintegration. UNHCR supported South Sudan in rolling out the Framework on 2 October, along with the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission, and partner humanitarian agencies. UNHCR provided technical support throughout the framework's development. However, UNHCR is not facilitating or promoting returns to South Sudan at this time.

Countries of Asylum

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Achievements and Impact

- **The *Commission Nationale pour les Refugies (CNR)* provided travel and other documents to 22 South Sudanese refugees** who applied to the CNR in Obo to travel to Mboki and Zemio. In addition, 5 new births were registered in the South Sudanese refugee camp, including 03 girls and 02 boys.
- **During the reporting period, 65 groups of 10 members of the South Sudanese refugee community were sensitized on the upcoming distribution of resilience kits** to be distributed in early November. This will enable them to provide for their needs, pending the actual allocation of kits for income-generating activities.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Latest Developments

- **Heavy rainfall has hampered road constructions which are to facilitate the relocation of South Sudanese refugees away from border regions.** The Bele axis and other road paths in development connecting Dungu to Faradje were severely damaged. Roads currently under construction include: the Niari-Bele road which is 98% operational and 26% of areas which require rehabilitation have now been completed pending the refurbishment of the Duru-Dungu road (the next phase of development); and the 14 bridges requiring construction are now 64.3% complete of which 9 have so far been refurbished.

Achievements and Impact

- **On 4 October, a community plan aiming to better respond to and prevent SGBV incidents was set up in Kaka refugee settlement in Dungu** involving various community leaders as well as 26 community members who ratified a plan of engagement via the signing of an official agreement.

ETHIOPIA

Latest Developments

- **During the reporting period, a joint mission consisting of UNHCR/AU/OHCHR/UN Women was carried out to Gambella to establish the Mechanism for Women and Girls.** Gambella is one of the selected sites in Ethiopia that is part of the continent-wide assessment, including the Central African Republic and Nigeria. The mission visited the 3 camps of Jewi, Tierkidi, and Nguenyiel, and held a briefing with partners.

Achievements and Impact

- **In Nguenyiel refugee camp, Action for the Needy in Ethiopia (ANE) continued the construction of the planned transitional shelters for 2019 and accomplished site demarcation for 520 shelters**

and the installation of 362 frame structures. NRC completed 184 transitional shelter frames up to and DRC continued the construction of the planned transitional shelters in 2019 including the installation of 343 shelter frames.

KENYA

Achievements and Impact

- **UNHCR and the Refugee Affairs Secretariat (RAS) commenced verification of the population in Kakuma refugee camp on 11 October.** The exercise aims to ascertain the number of refugees and asylum seekers who are physically present in the refugee camp. As of 31 October, 43,181 individuals have been verified. The verification exercise is expected to be completed in 5 months. Concurrently, UNHCR is conducting a socio-economic survey to collect data on socio-economic indicators to better understand the living conditions of refugees in Kakuma refugee camp. The survey started on 21 October and is expected to be completed in mid-December 2019.
- **In October, a team composed of an orthopedic surgeon and three assistants from Kijabe mission hospital in Nairobi county consulted with over 68 patients with orthopedic/bone complications and perform surgery on 17 patients at the Kakuma referral hospital in Kakuma camp.** The orthopedic camp, as a reverse referral mechanism, was organized in collaboration with African Inland Church, UNHCR's implementing partner for Health in village 2 of Kalobeyei settlement.

SUDAN

Latest Developments

- **Sudan resumed river transportation with South Sudan on 22 October.** World Food Programme (WFP) launched barge transportation carrying food supplies from Kosti in White Nile State, Sudan to Renk and Malakal in South Sudan to increase food assistance to displaced South Sudanese people. The first three barges carried 4,500 tons of food, enough to feed 370,000 people for one month.

Achievements and Impact

- **In October, UNHCR, in partnership with the Commissioner for Refugees (COR), WFP and the Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) carried out a pilot biometric verification using the Global Distribution Tool (GDT) at the General Food Distribution (GFD) in the Alagaya, Dabat Bosin and Al Jameya camps in White Nile State, home to 32,808 South Sudanese refugees.** The use of the GDT is expected to improve accountability, through accuracy in the distribution, as well as expand the biometric registration of South Sudanese refugees in Sudan.
- **UNHCR in collaboration with COR and the Supreme Council of human development organized a workshop on 30 October to launch the issuance of the work permits for the refugees in Khartoum.** It was agreed that the work permits and business licenses will function as legal authorization for all refugees, including South Sudanese, to access the labor market, provided they are registered with COR and recognized as refugees, in addition to a referral letter from COR. The requests will be processed through a special window at the Office of Labour in Khartoum state, where one dedicated staff will be equipped with general knowledge on refugees' issues through on the job training.

UGANDA

Latest Developments

- **On 29 October, the CRRF Secretariat organized a national high-level consultation ahead of the GRF to generate a common approach for the Uganda refugee response, mobilize stakeholders and identify champions among them to advocate for joint Global Refugee Forum (GRF) pledges and contributions for Uganda, and discuss the possibility of aligned pledges and contributions to Uganda's proposed pledges.** The Government shared its pledges, showcasing their costed comprehensive plans with the goal of mobilizing pledges and contributions towards them. The meeting was presided by Minister of Disaster, Preparedness and Refugees, Hillary Onek and attended by most if not all Ambassadors and Heads of Agency in Uganda. Commitments were made to align their pledges to Uganda's thematic plans.
- **The 8th CRRF Steering Group took place in Hoima on 2-3 October.** It included a field visit to Kyangwali refugee settlement, where the nascent efforts to transition from patterns of humanitarian approaches towards Government-led sustainable development approaches, are visible. The Steering Group made decisions to shape the implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees and its CRRF in Uganda, regarding the inclusion of refugees in national planning, natural resource management, jobs and livelihoods, as well as, preparation of the GRF to take place in Geneva on 17-18 December..

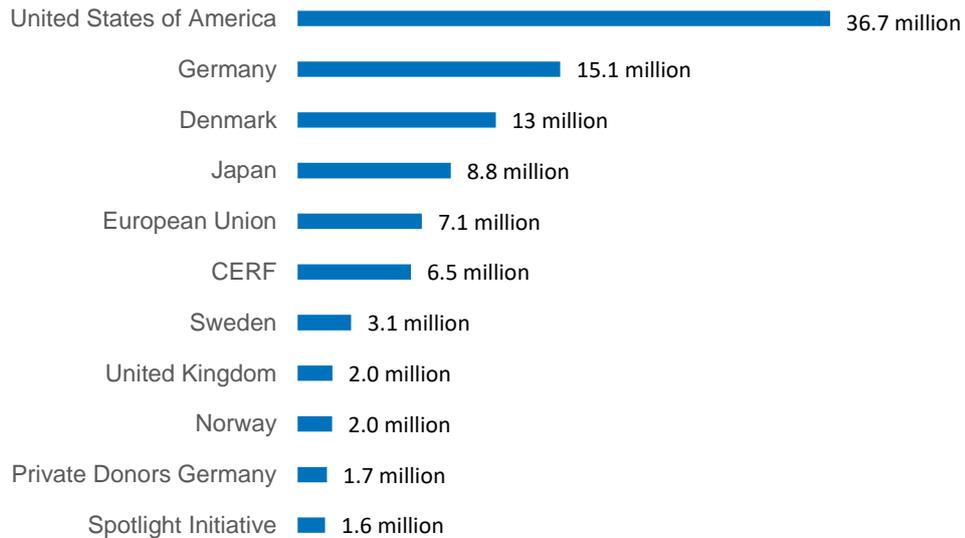
Achievements and Impact

- **School monitoring activities by education partners in October aimed to ensure that learning is conducted in favourable and conducive learning environments.** Physical verification was also undertaken as a measure to track teacher attendance. The high attendance rates that had been witnessed at the beginning of the term were maintained with most locations and schools registering over 80 percent attendance, with Imvepi settlement registering an attendance rate of 90 percent.
- **In October, over 40 partners including the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), District Local Government (DLGs), National Forestry Authority (NFA) and civil society, continued to prioritize interventions for environmental restoration and increasing safe access to sustainable energy across the refugee response.** NFA planted 149 hectares with teak, indigenous trees and bamboo in Eria and Era Central Forest Reserve (CFRs) in Moyo. NFA also reported restoration work in Bugoma Central Forest Reserve including 80 hectares of indigenous trees and 20,000 bamboo plantlets intended to provide sustainable construction material and biomass energy to both refugees and host communities in three years. In future, the International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation (INBAR) will work with UNHCR to promote bamboo planting and value addition among host and refugee farmers.

Financial Information

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to the South Sudan situation as well as for those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with broadly earmarked and unearmarked funds.

Total contributions for the South Sudan Situation amount to some **USD 314 million**.



Special thanks to the major donors of softly earmarked and regional funds in 2019 | USD

United States of America 313.9 million | Private donors Australia 10.2 million | Canada 8.9 million | United Kingdom 6.9 million | Sweden 6.6 million | Switzerland 3 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 2.3 million

Special thanks to the major donors of unearmarked contributions | USD

Sweden 99.8 million | Private donors Spain 54.5 million | Norway 44.5 million | Netherlands 37.5 million | United Kingdom 31.7 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 27.6 million | Germany 26.7 million | Denmark 24.4 million | Private donors Japan 16.1 million | Switzerland 15.1 million | France 14 million | Private donors Italy 12.7 million | Private donors Sweden 10.4 million | Ireland 10.2 million

External / Donors Relations

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LINKS

Regional Data Portal: <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/southsudan>

UNHCR South Sudan situation Page: <https://www.unhcr.org/south-sudan-emergency.html>

UNHCR South Sudan situation Global Focus: <http://reporting.unhcr.org/node/20>

Recent News Story: <https://www.unhcr.org/news/stories/2019/10/5d95fee04/south-sudanese-teacher-dedicates-life-exile-refugees-ages.html>