

SOUTH SUDAN REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE PLAN

January — December 2018

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CREDITS:

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All statistics are provisional and subject to change.

For more information on the South Sudan crisis go to: [South Sudan Information Sharing Portal](#)

FRONT COVER PHOTOGRAPH:

A South Sudanese refugee waiting for her food to be distributed at El Nimir camp, Sudan, where she was relocated in May 2017. She has three daughters and a son, who is three years old. Her husband's whereabouts is unknown for the last three years.

UNHCR / Petterik Wiggers

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Foreword

In 2017, we have continued to see an increase of South Sudanese refugees into the six neighbouring countries: CAR, DRC, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda. As the crisis enters its fifth year in 2018, the magnitude of the influx remains alarming with the population projected to reach 3.1 million by December 2018. If this projection is proved correct, it would represent an exodus not witnessed in Africa since the Rwandan genocide.



Across the host countries, women have reported rape and other forms of SGBV, the killing of their husbands, and the abduction of children during flight. The composition of the refugee population is made up of 85% women and children, and 63% children under 18 years. The crisis is undoubtedly a children's crisis, producing numerous lost generations.

Dwindling funding continues to pose challenges in the delivery of humanitarian assistance, with the funding gap for October 2017 at \$605.7 million. The implications are dire: water supplies for refugees in Uganda will remain below required emergency standards; 211,000 women and girls in Sudan are currently without sanitary materials and over 330,782 children in Uganda and 91,000 children in Sudan are out of school.

Despite the announcement in June 2017 of the revitalization of the 2015 Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (ARCSS) by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the political situation remains unpredictable. As such, in 2018, RRP partners will continue to support host countries to roll out the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) and encourage refugee integration into national development plans, improving refugee's capabilities to become self-reliant.

Amidst dwindling funding and an unpredictable political climate, I would like to thank our partners for their lifesaving work; I thank host countries and communities for cooperating with UNHCR; and urge the donor community to increase funding for the South Sudan situation.

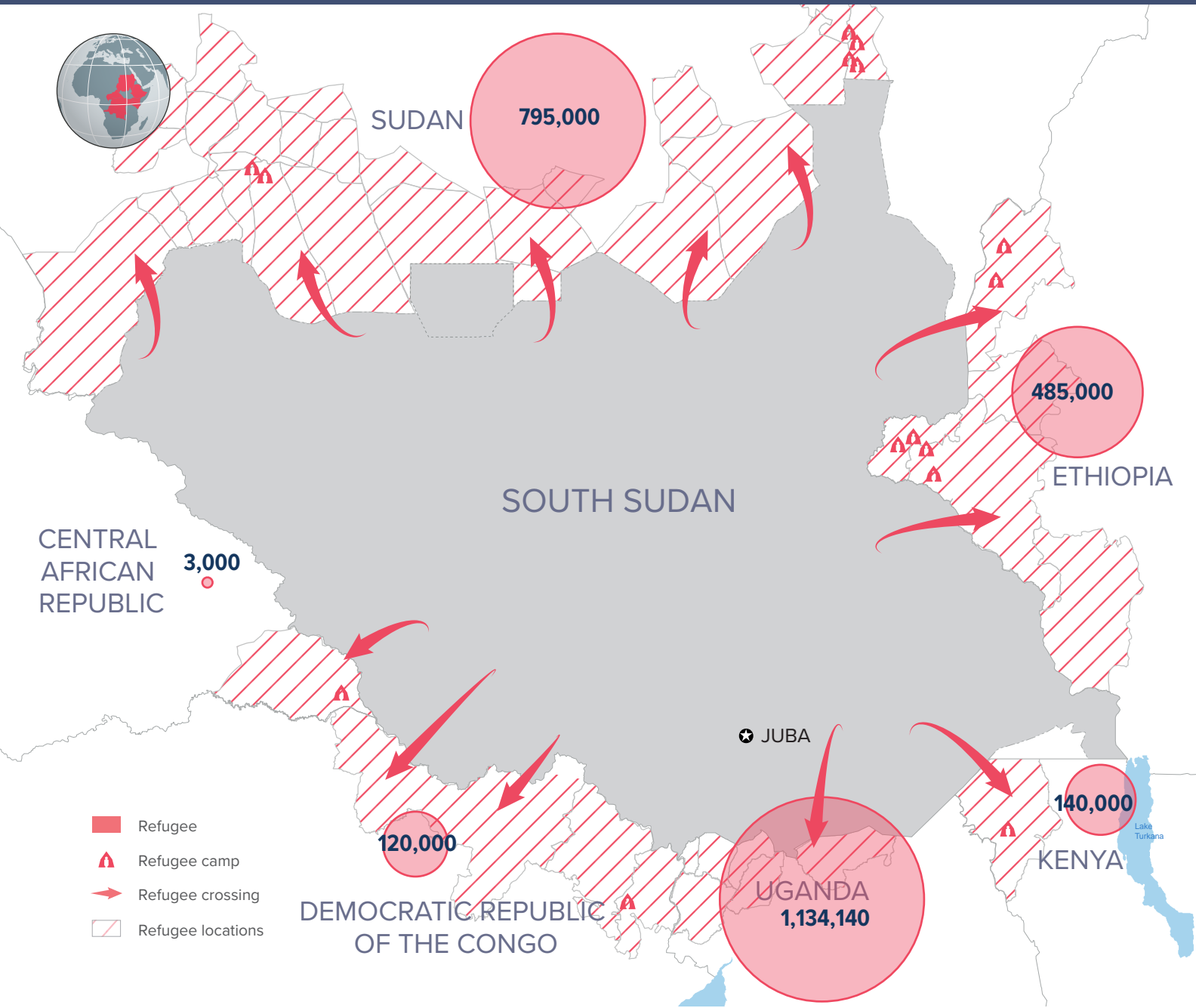
To end the human suffering, the African Union, IGAD and the International Community must continue to call for peace in South Sudan. A projection of 3.1 million refugees for 2018 should not become a reality. It is my hope that an inclusive political solution will be agreed upon in 2018 as this remains the only viable option through which peace, security and stability can be achieved.

Arnauld Akodjenou
UNHCR Regional Refugee Coordinator for the South Sudan
Situation and Special Advisor to the High Commissioner

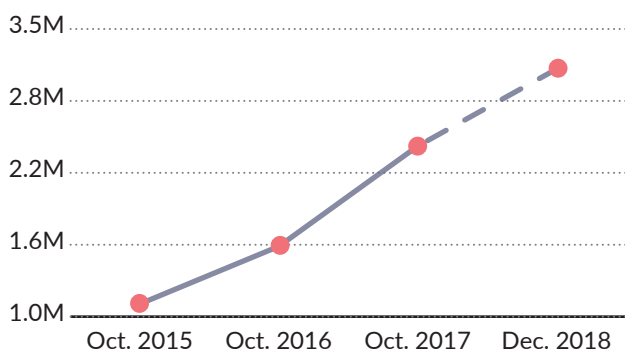
2,677,400
REFUGEE POPULATION

US\$ 1.38B
REQUIREMENTS

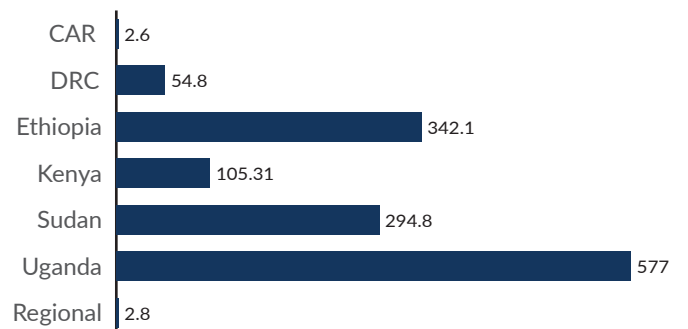
70
PARTNERS INVOLVED



Refugee Population Trends



Requirements | in millions US\$



Regional Overview

Introduction

As of 31 October 2017, there are more than 2.5 million South Sudanese refugees hosted in six asylum countries: the Central African Republic (CAR), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda. This figure includes two million refugees who have fled since the outbreak of conflict in December 2013, over 116,000 South Sudanese refugees who had sought asylum in the region prior to December 2013, as well as over 352,000 South Sudanese who were living in Sudan prior to December 2013 and who have recently been included in the official South Sudanese refugee population by UNHCR and the Commission of Refugees (COR) in Sudan, as returning to South Sudan is not considered a viable option for this population.

As the South Sudanese refugee crisis enters its fifth year in 2018, it remains the fastest growing and largest refugee situation on the African continent. The rate of the refugee movement has accelerated as the conflict has drawn on; over two thirds of the post-December 2013 refugee population have sought asylum in 2016 and 2017. This has created a challenging situation for asylum countries and humanitarian partners who are addressing the needs of refugees who fled before and after the outbreak of conflict in 2013, as well as responding to a constant and steady flow of new arrivals fleeing an evolving and volatile situation, with basic services overstretched in many countries of asylum.

Inside South Sudan, the humanitarian situation and complex protection crisis continued to deteriorate. As of 30 September, some 1.87 million South Sudanese are

internally displaced, with over 200,000 residing in Protection of Civilian sites, and a total of 7.6 million people urgently need humanitarian assistance as a result of armed conflict, widespread inter-communal violence, food insecurity and disease outbreaks. Over 2,600 cases of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) were [reported to humanitarian partners](#) in 2016, and civilians continued to be targeted and children forcibly recruited. From January to March 2017 alone, 252 incidents of grave violations affecting an estimated 4,385 South Sudanese children were documented through the [Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism \(MRM\)](#). The conflict has escalated severely, affecting the greater Equatoria and Upper Nile regions as well as Western Bahr el Ghazal resulting in a surge in forced displacement, serious and systematic reported human rights violations and abuses, including the extrajudicial killing of civilians, arbitrary arrest, detention, torture and other inhumane and degrading treatment, conflict-related sexual violence and looting and destruction of civilian property. Almost all villages in Central Equatoria accessed by UNMISS or humanitarian partners during the first quarter of 2017 had been burned to the ground by belligerents to the conflict. Moreover, satellite imagery obtained and analyzed by UNITAR Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNOSAT) during the first quarter of 2017 found large-scale destruction in multiple areas of Central Equatoria, particularly in and around Yei (Source: [Protection Cluster South Sudan](#)).

Negative macroeconomic factors compound the complexity of the protection crisis. The United Nations officially declared a state of famine in two counties of

Unity State in February 2017, and while the areas are no longer classified as such, food insecurity has deteriorated to unprecedented levels across the country. South Sudan entered the harvest season in September 2017 with 6 million people (56%) of the total population estimated to be severely food insecure according to the [Integrated Food Security Phase Classification \(IPC\)](#) findings covering September 2017 to March 2018. This is the highest proportion of food insecure populations recorded since the start of IPC in South Sudan. In addition to the needs of South Sudanese citizens, the country is also hosting close to 280,000 refugees, the majority from Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

As of June 2018, the refugee influx remained lower than initially anticipated, prompting partners to revise downwards the planning figures for the number of new refugees expected to arrive from South Sudan to Uganda and Sudan by year-end 2018 from initial 3.14 million people to 2.68 million. This has led to the decrease in funding requirements from initially requested US\$ 1.5 billion to US\$ 1.38 billion.

Projected South Sudanese Refugee Population

	Refugee Population 31 Oct. 2017	Projected Refugee Population 31 Dec. 2018
Uganda	1,057,809	1,134,140
Sudan	805,258 ¹	795,000
Ethiopia	418,892	485,000
Kenya	111,040	140,000

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