

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 young refugee from South Sudan plays with an umbrella while her family waits to be transported from the border to a holding area where they will be provided with meals and accommodation. ©UNHCR / Will Swanson

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Foreword

South Sudan's protracted conflict remains the largest contributing factor to internal displacement and exodus of refugees into neighbouring countries. In 2018, Regional Refugee Response Plan partners continued to observe an increase in the number of South Sudanese refugee arrivals in the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda. 2019 marks the sixth year of the conflict. With 2.2 million people living in poor conditions in exile, South Sudan's refugee crisis remains the largest in Africa.



Approximately 80 per cent of the refugee population are comprised of women and children and more than 50,000 refugee children remain unaccompanied or separated. Within South Sudan, 85 per cent of the 1.97 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) are women and children. Organizational partners are struggling to provide quality and timely assistance to survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), while services that could offer resilience are largely out of reach, due to lack of infrastructure and resources in refugee hosting areas.

In 2018, underfunding posed severe challenges in the delivery of protection and humanitarian assistance, with only 25 per cent of the required \$1.3 billion funded as of September 2018. In Uganda there were insufficient teachers to provide quality education, with more than 80 students per teacher. In Sudan, the SGBV response is tested by a lack of medical services for survivors in health facilities, and in Ethiopia, 62 per cent of refugee households have no access to semi-permanent shelter. These examples are but a few of the consequences of underfunding.

Since the signing of the Revitalised Agreement on the Resolution of Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCSS) on 12 September 2018 under the auspices of the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), a partial reduction in fighting has been seen. Amidst dwindling funding and a tumultuous political climate which gave rise to the R-ARCSS, I want to thank host countries and communities for granting asylum and for supporting Regional RRP partners as they continue to save and improve lives. I urge the donor community to increase funding to the South Sudan situation, particularly in underfunded areas such as protection, livelihoods, and education, for which levels among South Sudanese children and young adults are some of the lowest in the world.

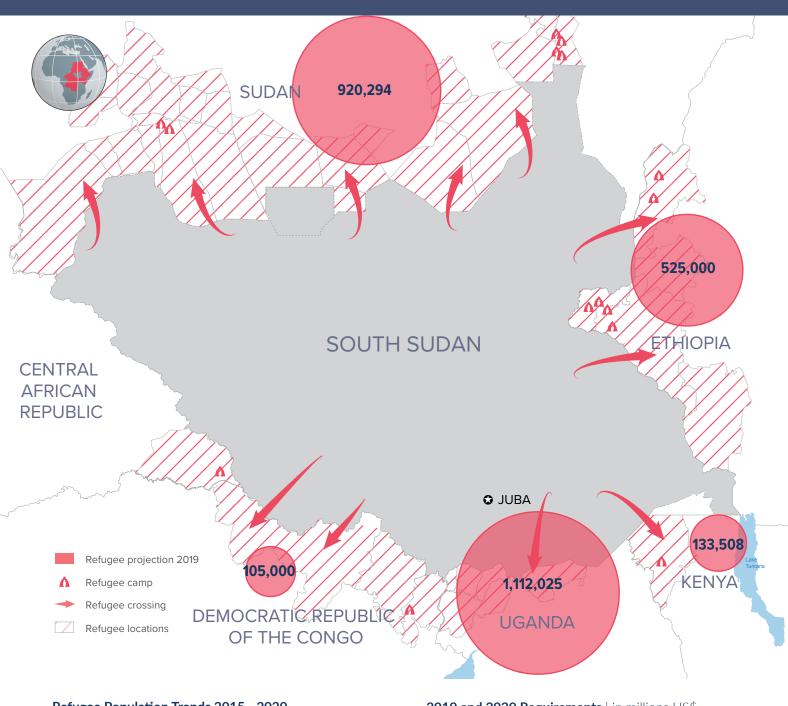
It is my hope that increased funding for 2019-2020 will significantly improve living conditions and enhance refugee resilience. Resources are needed to ease the pressure on host states in furtherance of the Global Compact on Refugees, and to advance the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework and related approaches that foster greater integration of refugees into national protection systems and development plans.

Arnauld Akodjenou

Regional Refugee Coordinator for the South Sudan Situation and Special Advisor to the High Commissioner United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees 2.8 M PROJECTED REFUGEE POPULATION BY 2019

US\$ 1.4 B REQUIREMENTS 2019

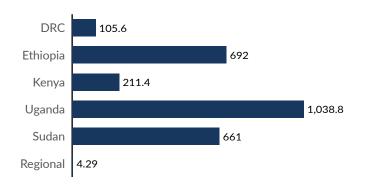
2019 & 2020 PARTNERS **INVOLVED**



Refugee Population Trends 2015 - 2020



2019 and 2020 Requirements | in millions US\$



Introduction

The 2019-2020 Regional Refugee Response Plan (Regional RRP) for the South Sudan situation seeks to mount a regionally coherent inter-agency response supported by host governments in five countries of asylum, including Ethiopia, Uganda, The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Kenya, and Sudan, over the next two years. The shift of time span for the Regional RRP, changing from past practice of a one-year planning cycle to two years, was introduced with a view to ensuring longer-term predictability in the planning and programming of life-saving and resilience needs of South Sudanese refugees in the region.

The 2,571 South Sudanese refugees residing in the Central African Republic (CAR) are located in the town of Obo. Given the size of this refugee population, their needs will no longer be addressed through a dedicated chapter within the 2019-2020 Regional RRP for the South Sudan situation. The budgeted needs of this refugee population will instead be addressed and reflected in the refugee chapter of the 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan for CAR and the refugee country plan. Self-reliance activities (activités d'autonomisation) will be prioritized for this population with a view to increasing their access to health services, education, and livelihoods, which are severely underfunded. Since the CAR conflict has rapidly escalated in 2018, with 80 per cent of the country's territory embroiled in fighting between various armed factions, the provision of continued humanitarian support to this refugee population is vital.

Uganda currently hosts an estimated 785,104 South Sudanese refugees. In 2018, new arrivals dropped to 34,000 for the entire year, which is to be contrasted with an unprecedented influx of South Sudanese refugees

flowing into the country in 2016 and 2017 at an average rate of 2,000 refugees per day. While full food rations were restored for new arrivals, those who arrived prior to June 2015 no longer receive food and the individual arable plots of land generously granted by the Government of Uganda do not produce enough yield for refugees to become wholly self-reliant.

Sudan hosts 848,425 South Sudanese refugees. The Government of Sudan estimates South Sudanese refugees to be over 1.3 million but this figure has not been confirmed through verification. In 2018, Sudan received more than 30,000 new arrivals. Standardized Expanded Nutrition Survey (SENS) for refugee camps in White Nile State were released at the end of June 2018, indicating critical global acute malnutrition with severe acute malnutrition above emergency levels amongst both refugees and the host community.

Ethiopia hosts 422,240 South Sudanese refugees, making this the largest refugee population in the country. Continued violence in Upper Nile, Jonglei and Unity States has resulted in around 20,000 new arrivals seeking asylum thus far in 2018. The vast majority were accommodated through the expansion of Nguenyyiel Camp in the Gambella Region, while a small number relocated to Gure Shembola Camp which was established in the neighbouring Beni Shangul Gumuz region in May 2017. Intra-communal tensions have been rife in 2018 due to competition over scarce resources, land-related disputes, and demographic changes in the Gambella region.

In Kenya, most of the 114,432 refugees from South Sudan are hosted in Kakuma camp and Kalobyei settlement in Turkana county. Kalobeyei settlement was conceived as a joint initiative by UNHCR and the regional government, with the aim of easing the pressure on Kakuma camps and transitioning from an aid-based model of refugee assistance to one focused on self-reliance. In 2018, the Government took on an increased role in the delivery of protection services, making significant achievements in handling reception facilities and conducting registration and refugee status determination with the aim of strengthening the national refugee management system.

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) hosts 95,181 South Sudanese refugees, who reside primarily in overcrowded refugee camps. Thousands live with impoverished host communities along the border, facing significant security challenges, lack of services, and food insecurity. With violations of the cessation of hostilities agreement in Central Equatorial State and Western

Equatoria State, current expectations are that there will be some 105,000 South Sudanese refugee arrivals into the DRC during 2019.

In 2019, the Regional RRP is expected to cater for 2.8 million South Sudanese refugees in the East and Great Lakes sub-regions of Africa. In 2020, that figure is anticipated to slightly reduce to 2.7 million, subject to the revitalized peace agreement currently being implemented. The projection also takes into account possible spontaneous returns and natural population growth rate. Ongoing protracted displacement of South Sudanese refugees is expected to exert further pressure on the already limited economic resources of the host countries. The sheer scale of the South Sudanese refugee situation urgently calls for greater international solidarity and responsibility sharing – key principles that underpin the Global Compact for Refugees.

Projected South Sudanese Refugee Population

	Projected Refugee Population 31 Dec. 2018	Refugee	Projected Refugee Population 31 Dec. 2020
DRC	100,000	105,000	108,000
Ethiopia	485,000	525,000	480,000

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