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# Emergency appeal operations update

## Uganda: Population Movement

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

|  |                               |   |
|--|-------------------------------|---|
| <b>Emergency appeal n° MDRUG037</b>  |                               | <b>GLIDE n°: OT-2014-000013-UGA</b>   |
| <b>Operations update n°:1</b>  |                               | <b>Timeframe covered by this update:</b> 28 January 2014 to 17 February 2014. |
| <b>Emergency Appeal operation: Start Date:</b> 11 February, 2014; <b>End Date:</b> 10 August, 2014                                   |                               | <b>Timeframe:</b> 6 months  |
| <b>Appeal budget:</b><br>CHF 1,722,559   | <b>Appeal coverage:</b><br>0% | <b>Total estimated Red Cross and Red Crescent response to date:</b> CHF 0     |
| <b>Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) allocated:</b> CHF 170,000  |                               |   |
| <b>N° of people being assisted:</b> 25,000   |                               |   |
| <b>Host National Society) presence:</b> 40 volunteers, 10 staff and 4 branches in the regions bordering South Sudan.                 |                               |   |
| <b>Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation:</b> IFRC, ICRC, Danish RC, German RC and British RC. |                               |   |
| <b>Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation:</b> Government of Uganda, UNHCR, WFP, Oxfam, and CARE.            |                               |   |

**Summary:** CHF 170,000 was allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 11 February, 2014 to support Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) in delivering assistance to 25,000 beneficiaries from South Sudan in refugee camps in Arua and Adjumani districts in Northern Uganda. The background for the emergency is rooted in the eruption of a conflict in the Republic of South Sudan from mid-December 2013.

The insecurity and violence has provoked a mass population displacement within South Sudan and into neighbouring countries and Uganda has received the main bulk of the refugees. The number of refugees in the operational area are still expected to increase as the insecurity continues despite the signing a Peace Agreement. Based on an inter-agency assessment and discussions with involved agencies, URCS and the IFRC prepared this emergency appeal to support tens of thousands of people in dire need of emergency medical care, shelter, food, water and adequate sanitation facilities.

URCS, through its branches in Arua and Adjumani and supported by International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), has been supporting the displaced populations with Restoring Family Links (RFL) activities. Furthermore, with support of the appeal URCS has initiated hygiene promotion activities in the camp, and is in the final stage of rolling out programme activities, including the deployment of two WatSan kit 5, emergency shelter provision, communicable disease prevention and an ambulance for referrals.

The IFRC has deployed almost all delegates in the Operations Support Unit composed of an Operations Support Delegate, a Logistics Delegate and a Project Accountant for operational support and management of the operation. The role of the unit is to provide technical support to Uganda RCS in relation to current and potentially upcoming emergency operations, especially in the areas of finance and procurement.



URCS volunteers involved in mobilization and loading of refugees for relocation from THE reception centre to a camp in Adjumani district. Photo/ Uganda Red Cross.

Norwegian Red Cross has pledged a WatSan delegate with the deployment of a WatSan Kit 5 which is expected to arrive in Uganda end of February 2014. Swedish Red Cross has committed to deploy a delegate for one month to function as the Operations Support Coordinator during recruitment, whereas British Red Cross support with a Logistics Delegate. Discussions are on-going with several movement partners for support towards the emergency appeal.

## Coordination and partnerships

An inter-agency assessment on the situation and needs has been carried out involving different agencies such as: Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Uganda Police, District Local Governments of Arua, Koboko, Kiryandongo, Adjumani Districts, the authorities in Acholi Sub region, Save the Children, Windle Trust, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Lutheran World Federation (LWF), InterAid, International Organization for Migration (IOM), Action Against Hunger (AAH), Uganda Red Cross (URCS), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), World Health Organization (WHO), Médecins Sans Frontières France (MSF-F), Samaritan Purse, World Food Programme (WFP), Trauma Healing, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA). This information informed the development of the appeal.

UNHCR and the Government have requested aid agencies to engage and support to address the huge gaps in terms of services for the refugees.

The IFRC's Emergency Appeal covers essential part of the interagency response to the population movement and with the IFRC Operational Support Unit in place; URCS is ready to step up the interventions as pledges to the appeal come through.

So far, the Canadian Red Cross has pledged to support the appeal with approximately 70,000 CAD, Swedish Red Cross has supported with a temporary Operations Support Delegate during the recruitment process while British Red Cross has contributed with a Logistics Delegate. Norwegian Red Cross will provide support towards the URCS emergency response with a WatSan Delegate and WatSan Kit 5 and the German Red Cross is also in discussion around supporting the operation with a WatSan Kit 5.

In Arua and Adjumani, URCS volunteers are engaged in RLF activities supported by ICRC including dissemination, collection of Red Cross Messages (RCM) and tracing requests, identification, verification and phone calls. In Arua 405 phone calls were made of which 226 were successful. In Adjumani, cumulatively 368 Unaccompanied Minors (UAM) have been identified and 161 have been registered. Family reunifications within the camp are ongoing and so far there have been 159 reunifications, 38 pending cases and five follow up cases.

In Arua, URCS volunteers have been assisting the Government and United Nations in organizing the polio immunisation process for children under the age of 15 years. In Adjumani, 20 volunteers were involved in mass mobilization of refugees for planned immunization of children below the age of 15 years. The immunization covered over 17,000 children across all the camps to give 95 per cent immunization coverage.

## Operational implementation

### Overview

Since the launch of the Emergency Appeal on 11 February, URCS and the IFRC have been finalising the arrangement for the IFRC Operations Support Unit deployed to Kampala as of 19 February. Currently two international delegates have been assuming their positions as Operational Support Delegate and Logistics Delegate while a finance accountant is being hired. Meanwhile URCS branches in Arua and Adjumani have deployed staff and volunteers to start engaging in a variety of activities to support the South Sudanese refugees.

The summary of activities below is based on activity reports from URCS's Arua and Adjumani branches covering 9 to 16 February 2014.

URCS and volunteers have been implementing upstart activities in Arua area and Adjumani districts. A total of 40 volunteers (20 in each district) have been trained in Psycho Social Support (PSS), First Aid and hygiene

promotion. These form parts of a pool of volunteers who are engaged in daily activities in the reception centres and camps. In Arua district, PSS activities to date include 148 household (HH) visits, 336 people have received psychosocial support counselling and 9 have been referred for professional counselling.

In Arua, 20 volunteers are on a daily basis conducting routine sensitization on hygiene and sanitation to new arrivals in the reception area. Briefings are given to the refugees on how to use of sanitation facilities (latrines, bathing shelters and water sources). Volunteers have also been conducting compound cleaning. In Adjumani, 10 volunteers were deployed for hygiene promotion at Baratuku settlement. This was aimed at preparing the refugees to embrace holistic participatory hygiene and sanitation activities before the onset of the rainy season. The volunteers held meetings with the refugee community on proper disposal of waste, hand washing practices, opening of homestead drainages, slashing around communal shelters and drinking of purified water.

| Planned interventions  | Implementation  |
|--|---|
| <b>Health and Care</b>   |   |
| <b>Outcome 1:</b> Emergency health care and psychosocial support to refugee families in reception centres and camps.                                   | 40 volunteers have been trained in PSS.                             |
| <b>Water, Sanitation and Hygiene promotion</b>   |   |
| <b>Outcome 1:</b> Immediate reduction in risk of waterborne and water related diseases in targeted communities.  | Awaiting funds and deployment of one WatSan Kit 5 under the appeal. |
| <b>Shelter and settlements</b>   |   |
| <b>Outcome 1:</b> Improved living situation for 5,000 of the most vulnerable refugee families through provision of emergency shelter, during 6 months. | Awaiting procurement.   |
| <b>Disaster preparedness and risk reduction</b>  |   |
| <b>Outcome 1:</b> Strengthened capacity of the national society to ensure provision of quality services in line with international standards.          | Awaiting funds.   |

## Contact information

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## How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Disaster Relief and the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.



The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.