INFO-GRAPHICS GAMBELLA REGION:
IOM'S South Sudan Refugee Relocation 27 May, 2015

TOTAL IOM ASSISTED IN GAMBELLA
236,439

BACKGROUND
More than 206,923 South Sudanese asylum-seekers have arrived in Ethiopia through the Pagak and Akobo-Tergol border points since the influx began on 15 December, according to UNHCR. IOM has relocated a total of 236,439 refugees to Pugnido, Leitchuor, Bonga, Tierkedi, Kule and Nip Nip camps as of 27 May, 2015. Children make up 67 percent of new arrivals; and women make up 71 percent of the adults. Women and children constitute 90 percent of the population. Arrivals entering from the Burbiey border entry points settled at Matar way station, are now relocated to Pugnido camp. The IOM medical team is conducting the PDMS at the entry points.
IOM has facilitated refugee movement in the Regional State of Benishangul-Gumuz. Requested by Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA), since January 2014 IOM has facilitated transportation for 3,089 refugees from South Sudan in the Region. Since the beginning of the South Sudan crisis, there has been an influx of refugees through nine entry points, namely: Kurmuq, Gesan, Gamed, Asheshiko, Tongo, Al-Mahal, Abrahamu, Sostegna camp and Bamaza. IOM is also providing pre-departure medical screening to identify refugees who may need medical attention and/or referral on arrival at the camp.
GENERAL OVERVIEW

Since the conflict broke out in December 2013, the total number of South Sudanese refugees crossing into neighbouring countries has surpassed 548,543 individuals. Ethiopia has received the highest number of refugees with a total of over 206,923 individuals according to UNHCR (203,877 through Gambella, and 3,046 through Benishangul-Gumuz). The Ethiopian borders still remain open to asylum seekers.

Including the camp-to-camp relocation, IOM has assisted a total of 239,528 refugees: 236,439 in Gambella and 3,089 in Benishangul-Gumuz since the conflict broke out.

Since the last update, IOM has evacuated and relocated a total of 18,973 refugees; 18,930 in Gambella and 43 in Benishangul-Gumuz Region.

HIGHLIGHTS

- IOM has assisted a total of 239,529 refugees: 236,439 in Gambella and 3,089 in Benishangul-Gumuz since the conflict broke out.
- 18,973 refugees from Gambella and 43 in Benishangul-Gumuz have been relocated since the last update.
- More than 6,000 refugees are awaiting relocation from Pagak to camps in Gambella.
- IOM hopes to conclude the relocation from Leitchour to Jewi camp.
IOM has continued the camp-to-camp relocation of refugees from Leitchour and Nip Nip to Jewii camp which started on May 8th to avoid flooding of camps with raining seasons approaching. Since the relocation started, 45,239 refugees were relocated; 42,605 from Leitchour to Jewii and 2,226 from Nip Nip. 408 refugees were relocated from Leitchour by a helicopter supplied by UNHCR with IOM medical escort on board.

The total number of refugees relocated in a day reached as high as 4,500, using a large convoy of 70 busses and 10 trucks. IOM has chartered 50 busses from the Gambella proximity and 20 busses from Addis Ababa for this operation.

A total of 50,000 refugees were residing in Leitchour camp. IOM hopes to conclude this relocation by the end of this week.

In the mean time, a large number of refugees continue to cross through the Pagak entry point. There are more than 6,000 refugees in the Pagak entry point. IOM will continue the border evacuation of refugees from the Pagak and Akobo border entry points in consultation with ARRA and UNHCR.

47,820 refugees have been relocated on the month of May. From this total 45,239 were camp-to-camp relocation. 2,581 were border evacuations (2,478 from Gambella and 103 from Benishangul Gumuz Regions).

In addition to the border evacuation and relocation, IOM has also continued the construction of shelters to assist 24,000 refugees (4,000 households) in Kule refugee camp in Gambella to enhance protection from harsh weather conditions and environments. 650 Shelters have already been handed over to beneficiaries and 1,811 are under construction.

**Partnerships and Coordination**

IOM closely collaborates with the Government of Ethiopia’s ARRA, UNHCR and humanitarian partners on the ground to respond to this emergency. IOM is also coordinating health referrals and care with the Ministry of Health, WHO, UNHCR, UNFPA, IFRC, UNICEF, WFP, IMC, ARRA, ACF, MSF-F as well as regional hospitals.

**Challenges**

- Security threats continue to challenge access to some camps in Benishangul-Gumuz.
- Refugees’ concerns about relocation to different refugee camps.
- Declining water level preventing boat relocation.

IOM appreciates the invaluable support from the following donors and partners whose support has enabled us reach out to those most in need: