

HIGHLIGHTS

- *Government of Kenya deploys troops to stop inter-communal violence in Moyale*
- *An estimated 494,000 IDPs and more than 86,000 refugees displaced by conflict in South Sudan*
- *Humanitarian community activates a three-month response plan and provides assistance in accessible areas of South Sudan*
- *Expulsion of migrants from Tanzania and Saudi Arabia ongoing*
- *M23 reportedly regrouping, as other armed groups continue to attack civilians in eastern DRC*



Credit: OCHA South Sudan

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South Sudan Regional Update

More than half a million people displaced by fighting in South Sudan

Two and half years after becoming an independent nation, South Sudan appears to be on a reversal path of gains that were beginning to consolidate. An alleged coup attempt on 15 December, followed by subsequent fighting between opposition and Government forces, has resulted in an estimated 10,000 deaths and more than 86,100 people displaced into neighbouring Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda, according to UNHCR. In addition, OCHA estimates that some 494,000 people have been displaced internally in South Sudan. The largest concentrations of IDPs have been registered in Jonglei, Lakes and Unity States. The UN bases in Juba are sheltering over 67,400 people.

The Humanitarian Community in South Sudan has developed a [response plan](#) for the first three months of 2014. With incidents of insecurity still being reported, coupled with uncertainties in the political process, there is a high likelihood of further displacement both within and beyond the borders of South Sudan, which may necessitate an upward revision of the statistics in the response plan.

494,000	229,587	90,000+
IDPs in South Sudan since Dec 2013	Refugees in South Sudan	South Sudanese refugees since Dec 2013

Food insecurity likely to be a long-term concern for IDPs in South Sudan

The displacement in South Sudan has disrupted livelihoods and increased the risk of vulnerabilities, especially for communities that were already living in States affected by previous protracted insecurity. The current violence, which erupted in Juba, has quickly spread, affecting six of the country's ten states. According to FEWS NET, food insecurity among the worst affected populations, particularly in Jonglei, Upper Nile and Unity States, is likely to worsen in the coming months. IDPs in conflict-affected areas are said to have abandoned all harvested stocks as the conflict began midway through the main harvest, hence the possibility of food shortages. Internal and cross-border trade flows have been affected as markets in Bor (Jonglei) and Malakal (Upper Nile) were completely destroyed, while those in Juba and Bentiu (Unity) are operating at low levels due to insecurity. Opposition control of Nasir town has hindered trade through this main trading route with Ethiopia, while trade flows with Uganda are also reduced.

Existing refugee programmes in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda stretched by new South Sudanese influx

The fluid security situation has constrained humanitarian action in the country and put a major strain on existing refugee programmes in neighbouring host countries.

FIGURES

South Sudanese refugees (UNHCR)

since 15 December 2013

as of 20 January 2014

Country	Refugees
Ethiopia	21,156
Kenya	9,950
Sudan	10,000*
Uganda	50,239

*estimate that includes nomadic groups

Regional and international partners have boosted support towards restoring peace in South Sudan

In **Uganda**, the Government and humanitarian actors had appealed for an additional US\$21.4 million for underfunded operations in Uganda for refugees who had fled from the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). An estimated 85,000 Congolese refugees have entered Uganda between July 2013 and 7 January. The additional influx of more than 50,000 refugees from South Sudan means additional constraints on already scarce resources. The refugees, who are mainly women and children, are hosted in the Ugandan districts of Arua, Adjumani and Kiryandongo, according to UNHCR. The Government of Uganda and UNHCR are making arrangements for additional shelter in the camps and transit centres. With a reported influx of up to 2,500 people a day, the situation is at risk of worsening.

Inter-communal **tensions** resulting from political strife in South Sudan have extended across the border with **reports** of increased insecurity and attacks between the Dinka and Nuer communities, now in Elegu camp in Amuru District and those in Dzaipi in Adjumani District. Increased efforts towards ending this polarization will be a critical factor in the stability of South Sudan.

In north-west **Kenya's** Kakuma Refugee Camp, UNHCR reports that as many as 500 South Sudanese are arriving daily. As of 20 January, UNHCR staff had registered 9,950 new arrivals from Jonglei State. The agency is concerned by the large presence of children among arrivals, the majority of whom are separated from their families. Prior to the conflict in South Sudan, UNHCR had secured land (Kakuma 4) to accommodate 25,000 refugees. This was meant to decongest the three existing Kakuma camps, which reached their capacity of 100,000 in July 2013. The new location is currently being used to settle new arrivals.

In **Ethiopia**, UNHCR reports that 21,156 South Sudanese have crossed into the Akobo area from Jonglei region. UNHCR has activated its contingency plan and is closely monitoring the continued influx at border points. An inter-agency mission is on the ground to assess the humanitarian situation.

Inside **South Sudan**, OCHA estimates that some 494,000 people have been displaced within the country since 15 December. The number of people sheltering in UN bases had risen to 67,400 as of 19 January. Aid agencies have so far assisted over 200,000 people affected by the conflict and are scaling up provision of essential services in accessible regions. \$105 million is still needed to meet the immediate needs caused by the crisis.

In **Sudan**, UNHCR estimates that 10,000 people, including nomadic groups, have crossed into the volatile States of West and South Kordofan. UNHCR, WFP and other partners are providing assistance through local partners, as well as to some of the nomads who are in dire need of humanitarian assistance. These figures are likely to change as the registration of people coming from South Sudan by IOM and HAC is continuing.

Regional and international efforts for conflict resolution in Sudan

The political strife in South Sudan has seen the intervention of various parties aimed at averting a full-blown civil war. The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) initiated mediation talks between the warring parties on 2 January in Ethiopia but the parties are yet reach a settlement. The UN Security Council on 24 December increased the UN's peacekeeping force to 12,500, and called for "immediate cessation of hostilities" in South Sudan. Uganda, meanwhile, has controversially sent in its military forces in support of South Sudanese President Salva Kiir.

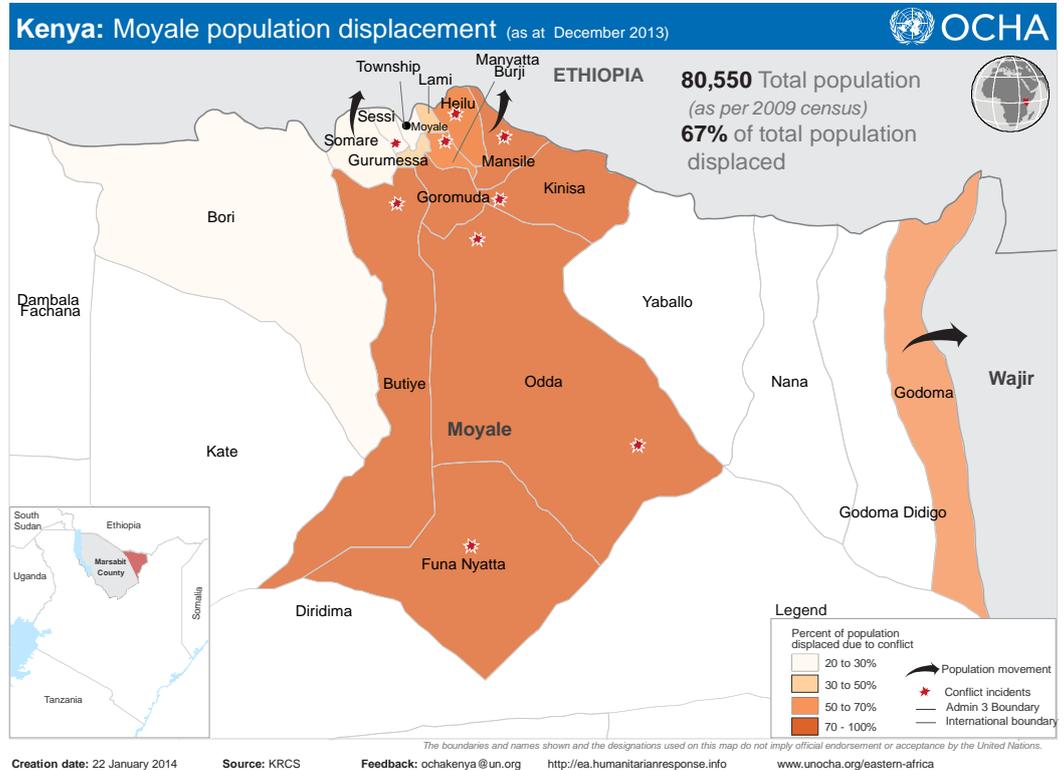
Kenya

Inter-communal clashes in Moyale, northern Kenya curtailed

The fighting that erupted in December 2013 in Moyale town marks a dramatic escalation in violence and tension. The Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) reports that 72,000 people were displaced both internally and across the border into Ethiopia due to the fighting; some 40,000 have since returned from Ethiopia. On the immediate humanitarian

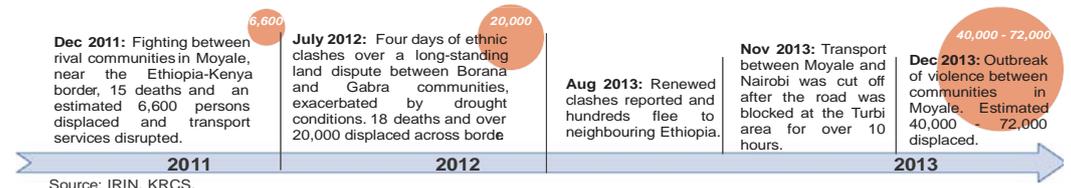
Moyale has been the centre of inter-communal fighting over rangeland resources

response: Concern Worldwide has distributed food vouchers to 3,300 households; World Vision has distributed 291.4 tons of mixed food commodities to 8,668 people and is trucking water to the affected villages, while KRCS has provided 1,480 non-food item kits. The Moyale County Administration has deployed Water, Health, Coordination and Administration County Executives to support the emergency response in collaboration with partners. The main humanitarian concerns at present are the negative impact of conflict and the January-March dry season on household food security and livelihoods; inadequate health services for the displaced; and the threat of retaliatory attacks.



The Government of Kenya has responded by deploying more troops to quell the inter-communal violence in Moyale and is liaising with the Ethiopian army to flush out militants who are contributing to the conflict. In efforts to promote peace building and reconciliation in Moyale, the Governor, Ambassador Ukur Yattani, has established a Directorate for Cohesion and Non-state Coordination headed by Joseph Mirgishan, a former Bishop of the Diocese of Marsabit. The Governor will also appoint sub-county administrators to support the process.

Chronology of Moyale clashes and number of displaced: 2011 - 2013



For decades, Moyale has been the centre of inter-communal fighting over rangeland resources. Increasing human and livestock population has put immense pressure on scarce resources. Cattle raiding and clashes have become more frequent, as severe droughts since 2010 push livelihoods to the brink of collapse. Moreover, FEWS NET predicts an abnormally drier January-March season in 2014, which risks aggravating the already tense situation. Further complicating the situation, Aljazeera Africa reports that the region is awash with guns due to its proximity to unstable neighbours such as Somalia, where Al-Qaeda-linked rebels have been fighting to topple the Somalia Government. Meanwhile, Oromo Liberation Front rebel fighters in Ethiopia have made sporadic incursions into Kenya to reinforce or avenge their kinsmen in deadly attacks. More recently, 2013 pre- and post-election periods saw land boundaries and political

positions being increasingly contested. All this is happening in what is acknowledged as a neglected, under-developed part of Kenya.

Great Lakes update

More than 1.3 million IDPs and over 300,000 Congolese refugees require urgent humanitarian assistance amidst a deteriorating security situation in eastern DRC

Humanitarian situation dire as insecurity remains rampant in eastern DRC

Conflict in neighbouring Central African Republic and South Sudan over the past month has seemingly overshadowed what remains a dire humanitarian situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), where dozens of armed groups continue to operate, and where insecurity, logistical and financial constraints severely impede humanitarian agencies' ability to reach populations in need.

At end-2013, some 1.3 million people were internally displaced in the eastern Congolese provinces of Orientale, North and South Kivu, while some 300,000 Congolese refugees were residing in neighbouring Burundi, Rwanda and Uganda.

Although the signing of a peace accord in Nairobi on 12 December 2013 between the DRC Government and the M23 rebellion was cause for cautious optimism going into the new year, reports have since emerged alleging that the M23 is regrouping. Meanwhile, other groups including the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR), and various Mayi Mayi militias continue to terrorize the population across eastern DRC. Following one particularly gruesome attack, the UN mission in the DRC (MONUSCO) [discovered](#) on 13-14 December the bodies of 21 civilians brutally slaughtered, including babies, children and women, some mutilated, others raped, in Musuku village in the Rwenzori area of Beni, North Kivu Province. The National Army for the Liberation of Uganda (NALU) and the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), two of several armed groups that have terrorized North Kivu for years, are suspected to be responsible for these atrocities.

Meanwhile, among myriad health concerns for the population, cholera outbreaks in North and South Kivu Provinces persist, due primarily to consumption of contaminated water, as municipal sanitation systems have fallen into disrepair.

Amid this fragility in the region, the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region, Mary Robinson, said in a [briefing](#) to the Security Council on 13 January that the Peace, Security and Cooperation [Framework](#) for the DRC and the Region – signed by 11 nations in February 2013 – remains “the best chance” to achieve sustainable peace, security, cooperation and development in the Great Lakes Region. “However, it is essential that the pace of its implementation be increased in order to maximize its impact,” she said of the accord, noting that the Framework agreement is at a crucial juncture. “What is most important for meaningful progress is the immediate implementation of all commitments at the national and regional levels in order to bring about concrete peace dividends and lasting life improvements to the people in the region.”

In Brief

Ethiopia: Nearly 35,000 additional migrants received in past month

Following the enforcement of the new Saudi Arabia Foreign Labour Law restrictions on all illegal migrants in mid-November 2013, OCHA Ethiopia reports that some 154,000 Ethiopian migrants, including 475 unaccompanied minors, from Saudi Arabia have been repatriated since mid-November 2013. The current average daily arrival rate stands at 200 people and is expected to continue as more Ethiopians are reportedly awaiting deportation in Saudi Arabia. The total figure of expected returnees is still unknown. In-kind contributions from IOM, UNICEF, UNHCR, WFP, IRC, ICRC, Ethiopian Red Cross Society and other partners are being used to assist the migrants arriving at reception centres. The donations range from water and sanitation kits, dignity kits, to ambulances,

Forty percent (154,000 people) of an expected half million Ethiopian migrants repatriated from Saudi Arabia since November 2013

Country	No. of people expelled from Tanzania
Burundi	37,331
Rwanda	13,928
Uganda	4,669
Total	55,928

medicine, water tanks, blankets, tents, high energy biscuits and mobile toilets among others. Other services include transportation within Addis Ababa and cash for onward travel, post-arrival medical and psychosocial first aid, provision of meals, temporary accommodation for migrants who arrive at night, as well as accommodation and transportation for unaccompanied minors. IOM is also distributing shoes and other non-food items to extremely vulnerable returnees.

Tanzania: Expelled migrants continue to face challenges in Burundi, Uganda and Rwanda

IOM and partners continue to register new arrivals in Rwanda, Burundi and Uganda following their forcible expulsion from Tanzania following a 29 July 2013 Presidential decree. In Uganda, 4,669 migrants are hosted in Kikagati and Sango Bay transit centres. However, the health challenges in Sango Bay continue with increased cases of malaria and upper respiratory tract infections, and a spike in severe acute malnutrition in children under age 5. The number of migrants transported to their areas of origin is unconfirmed. In Rwanda, the Government plans to close the transit and reception centres by the end of January 2014 to facilitate the resettlement of 6,000 migrants to designated districts; 7,974 have already received transportation assistance to their districts of origin. In Burundi, the three transit centres of Rutana, Makamba and Muyinga are hosting about 526 individuals (226 households). IOM had provided onward transportation to 6,970 migrants by mid-December 2013.

Government authorities in the three countries with IOM, WFP, UNICEF (and with the Burundian Red Cross in Burundi) are providing food, non-food items in transit centres, and transportation assistance to areas of return. For the Ugandan migrants in Sango Bay, IOM warns of a looming shortage of food rations. The Government of Rwanda meanwhile reports that the provision of reintegration assistance, especially shelter, is the most pressing need. For Burundian migrants, there is concern over family reunifications, as the majority of the migrants wish to return to their families in Tanzania.

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