



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

RETURN AND
REINTEGRATION OF
SUDANESE REFUGEES TO
SOUTHERN SUDAN



REVISED SUPPLEMENTARY APPEAL
June 2005

Executive Summary

The civil war and its aftermath have left millions of Sudanese people displaced within their own country and across borders. Political and physical infrastructures have been completely destroyed and the capacity of local institutions and communities is far from ready to meet the expected massive return and reintegration of displaced people. Many of the displaced will be returning to areas which have suffered severely, not only from conflict, but also drought, and where basic social services are extremely limited or non-existent. While protection and community-based reintegration activities in these areas are gradually taking root, the access from refugee settlements in hosting countries to areas of return presents an enormous challenge.

UNHCR has set itself the target of helping some 64,000 people to repatriate before the end of 2005. Organised voluntary returns will begin after the end of the rainy season in October, conditions permitting. To effectively start organised returns and make the returnees' journey home a safe one, timely and substantial financial resources are required. At this stage, urgent funds are needed to repair selected sections of the road network from neighboring countries to areas of return; reinforce bridges over which trucks carrying refugees and their belongings will cross; procure barges to cross the river Nile; procure trucks and convoy vehicles in areas where commercial transport is non-existent; set up and manage way stations and dispersal centres; establish an emergency response capacity to assist stranded spontaneously returning refugees and internally displaced persons; and demine routes of return.

Countries of Asylum	Expected Return in 2005	Main Area of Return
Kenya	15,500	Equatoria
Uganda	6,000	Equatoria
Ethiopia	25,000	Southern Blue Nile
Democratic Republic of the Congo	10,000	Yambio (W. Equatoria)
Central African Republic	6,000	Tambura (W. Equatoria)
Egypt	1,500	Khartoum/S. Sudan

During the pre-rainy season from January to May 2005, UNHCR's efforts have been focused on establishing presence in the areas where returns are expected and undertaking activities to support spontaneous returnees, refugees and internally displaced persons as well as receiving communities to avert further displacement and create absorption capacity. UNHCR opened offices in Yambio, Kajo Keji and Malakal in 2005 to complement its existing offices in Juba, Rumbek and Yei. The Office started building the capacity of local institutions to strengthen protection and deployed an emergency response team of sectoral experts in water, sanitation, health, education, community services and income-generation to kick-start community-based reintegration projects.

Executive Summary (continued)...

The rainy and post-rainy seasons present greater challenges that will require matching financial resources. During the rainy season (June-September), UNHCR will engage in preparatory activities for organized voluntary repatriation and will start repatriation activities after the rainy season. Meanwhile, refugees in neighboring countries who are not yet ready to return home will continue to receive protection and assistance.



Structures, such as this destroyed school in Yambio, will be rehabilitated to facilitate the return and reintegration of refugees who have benefited from such services in the asylum countries.
Photo: UNHCR/S. Malik

To meet these daunting yet surmountable challenges, the sustained and long-term support of the international community is crucial. UNHCR will require USD 76.3 million for its regional operations, of which USD 54.5 million represents operations in South Sudan and USD 21.8 activities in countries of asylum as well as Headquarters support. UNHCR's revised requirements for South Sudan are included in the June 2005 revision of the UN Work Plan. The purpose of this appeal is not only to highlight the needs in Sudan, but also to reflect the needs in countries of asylum which are not part of the UN Work Plan.

This school in Yei is used by primary school children, including spontaneous returnees.
Photo: UNHCR/ S. Malik



Background

The signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) between the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) in January 2005 ends one of the longest running civil conflicts in Africa and paves the way for the recovery and reconstruction of South Sudan and the return of millions of uprooted people. According to the interim figures recently released by the Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (SRRC)¹ more than 500,000 refugees and internally displaced persons already returned to South Sudan and the Transitional Areas between January 2004 and March 2005. However, large numbers of people who are still displaced and wish to return home simply do not have the means to do so at this stage. At the same time, an estimated 320,000 new displacements have been recorded in the South², while new Sudanese refugees have arrived in Uganda and Kenya.

In Sudan, the challenges for the post-conflict return and reintegration of refugees and internally displaced persons are enormous and the task at hand is beyond any single agency's capability. The lack of capacity in the country is evident at all levels and in all sectors. In a politically fragile environment, typical of post-conflict situations, returnees and their communities must not be left in deprived conditions for extended periods of time without means and opportunities for the future, in particular with regard to protection, basic services and livelihoods. Many may opt to return to their countries of asylum or become internally displaced persons again. This phenomenon of back-flows is often witnessed in repatriation operations when return and reintegration are not sustainable due to the lack of adequate financial commitment. Similarly, those who wish to return home should be provided with the means to do so, as sustainable return of millions of displaced people will contribute to the consolidation of peace.



People in South Sudan are rebuilding their lives and creating income-generating opportunities such as these local shops in South Sudan. Photo: UNHCR

¹ SRRC is the humanitarian wing of SPLM

² UN Country Team estimates, November 2004—Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) Report

Background (continued)...



Traditional *tukuls* in South Sudan. Photo: UNHCR

The initial 2-year post-conflict phase (2005-2006) will be crucial to the return and reintegration of refugees and internally displaced persons. A successful initial phase will ensure that reintegration is sustainable and will avert the recurrence of displacement or exodus from rural to urban areas. This implies that preliminary assistance must focus on meeting basic needs and be geared towards confidence-building, conflict resolution and reconciliation among the populations in areas of return.

Offices in refugee-hosting countries have started preparatory activities for the organized return of refugees. In Sudan, the UNHCR branch office in Khartoum and field offices in the Equatoria, Bahr El Ghazal and Upper Nile regions are coordinating with sister UN agencies, NGOs and other stakeholder programmes that lay the ground for the sustainable return of refugees and internally displaced persons to these areas.

Given the enormity of the task, a coordinated approach is essential. In this regard, the Humanitarian Coordinator has requested UNHCR to play, under the Returns and Reintegration Section of the United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS), a lead role in assisting the return and reintegration of internally displaced persons in greater Equatoria and Blue Nile State, which are areas of substantial refugee return, and to play a key role in developing and implementing community-based reintegration and protection projects in these areas.

As the needs of returning internally displaced persons and returning refugees are the same, both will receive the same level of support. UNHCR's assistance will include, among others, protection monitoring en route and in areas of arrival, establishment of way stations, transport for vulnerable individuals and provision of NFI packages at dispersal points.



A bicycle repair workshop in South Sudan enables people to develop their skills and earn a living. Photo: UNHCR

Objectives and Strategy

UNHCR's overarching aim in 2005 is to help create minimum conditions conducive to the return and reintegration of displaced persons and to initiate voluntary repatriation of refugees to South Sudan. The emphasis during the pre-rainy season (January to May 2005) has been to support spontaneous returnees, refugees and internally displaced persons, as well as receiving communities in order to prevent renewed displacement and to create absorption capacity in return areas. Whilst these objectives have been largely achieved, the overall goal for the rainy and post-rainy season (June to December 2005) is to shift gear towards voluntary repatriation while continuing to create absorption capacity and to assume the UN leadership role in designated areas. Planned activities in the second part of 2005 will have three distinct components:

Scaling-up and establishing logistical capacity and facilitating voluntary repatriation.

This will entail the setting up of a logistical base and warehouses in South Sudan; procurement of trucks and convoy vehicles; procurement and pre-positioning of non food items; repair of priority roads and improvement of bridges on main routes of return; strengthening of barge transportation systems; procurement of barges for crossing the river Nile; setting up of way stations, transit centers and dispersal centers; establishment of a registration database and tracking and monitoring systems; organizing "go-and-see" and "come-and-tell" visits; organizing women and youth seminars; bringing refugees and receiving communities together to promote understanding and tolerance; and opening and equipping field offices in designated areas.

Continuing to create conditions conducive to return and anchoring returns by supporting communities through protection activities and community-based reintegration projects, including material support to and capacity-building of local institutions and community organizations; training of judiciary, police and enumerators; returnee monitoring; community-based reintegration projects (CBRPs) for community development and delivery of services in the sectors of health, water, sanitation, education, income-generation and livelihoods.

Assuming the leadership role of coordinating activities of the UN in greater Equatoria (West Equatoria, East Equatoria and Bahr el Jebel) and Blue Nile states for the return and reintegration of internally displaced persons and refugees to ensure that return takes place in safety and dignity. This implies accountability for assessing the needs of displaced persons, meeting their basic protection and assistance needs, monitoring and implementing programmes and providing information on population movements.

For the return and reintegration of the displaced population in Sudan, the principle of the **"4Rs" (Repatriation, Reintegration, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction)** has been adapted to include **"resettlement"** of displaced persons within Sudan, which is specifically mentioned in the peace protocols³ and promoted by the Government of Sudan, SPLM and partners. This "4Rs" approach will ensure the link between repatriation and reintegration programmes with recovery and development activities.

UNHCR presence

Sudan is the biggest country in Africa. Distances are great, road conditions are poor and transport infrastructure is weak. Significant efforts will have to go into setting up adequate office structures to enable operations. During the rainy season, some locations in South Sudan become inaccessible, thus requiring movement of people and goods by air or boat. Direct flights between the Government-controlled and the SPLM-held areas are still not regularized and at this stage only flights for peacekeeping operations are permitted. This makes co-ordination between offices located in Government and SPLM areas extremely difficult.

Given the complexity and large geographical areas to be covered, UNHCR will establish self-contained offices in priority areas. Furthermore, UNHCR will set up a small group of staff who will be roving from office to office to provide technical support, help design specific programmes, provide training to staff and partners, ensure uniformity and consistency in applying agreed-upon policies and standards. To facilitate movement of staff and priority equipment, UNHCR is also in the process of securing through WFP a dedicated flight service.

Staffing:

Country/Office	UNHCR Posts			UNV	Consultants & Secondees	Total
	Int'l	Nat'l	TOTAL			
Sudan	73	172	245	2	13	260
Representation	24	29	53	1	3	57
Rumbek	14	24	38	0	4	42
Juba	7	17	24	0	1	25
Yei	10	22	32	1	3	36
Yambio	4	15	19	0	2	21
Malakal	4	15	19	0	0	19
Kapoeta	4	14	18	0	0	18
Kajo-Keji	4	14	18	0	0	18
Tambura	1	11	12	0	0	12
Damazine	1	11	12	0	0	12
Asylum Countries	6	50	56	0	0	56
Kenya	2	12	14	0	0	14
Uganda	4	23	27	0	0	27
Egypt	0	2	2	0	0	2
Ethiopia	0	2	2	0	0	2
DRC	0	3	3	0	0	3
CAR	0	8	8	0	0	8
Geneva	3	8	11	0	0	11
Director's Office	3	6	9	0	0	9
Support Units	0	2	2	0	0	2
Grand Total:	82	230	312	2	13	327

UNHCR presence (continued)...

UNHCR's main office, the branch office, is based in Khartoum and provides programme, administrative and logistical support to three distinctive operations in the country: East, West and the South. The Director's Office for the Sudan Situation (DOSS) also operates out of Khartoum and has regional responsibilities. It provides policy guidance to all offices involved in the operation, including Chad and countries of asylum. The posts at the branch office are financed from these three operations, whereas those in DOSS are financed from the Chad/Darfur programme.



UNHCR is present in S. Sudan supporting spontaneous returnees and local communities.
Photo: UNHCR

In order to respond to the changing needs in this rapidly-evolving operation, sub-office Rumbek will continue to perform co-ordination functions with the UN system and the SPLM authorities in the South with respect to the implementation of policies and building protection capacity for local institutions. It is fully engaged in developing practical operational advice and guidelines for the UN system in this provisional capital. To maximize the operational impact and focus adequate attention on the main return areas in Equatoria, field office Yei will be upgraded to sub-office from July 2005. This arrangement allows flexibility of decision-making especially in light of the need to expedite preparatory activities for organized return, expected to start from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and the Central African Republic (CAR) in October 2005. Sub-office Yei will co-ordinate and provide support to the operations in Kajo Keji, Yambio, Kapoeta and Tambura. Sub-office Juba will continue its co-ordination and operational functions in the Government-controlled areas. In addition, it provides programme, administrative and logistics support to field office Malakal. The latter is located in a principal location of inter-actions between the Government and the SPLM/A in implementing the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in the Upper Nile region. It is also a major return area of internally displaced persons and returnees from Ethiopia, warranting urgent UNHCR interventions to address their protection and material needs. The presence of UNHCR in these locations has gained added significance following the request by the Humanitarian Coordinator to scale up activities to assume the lead role on protection and voluntary return of internally displaced persons in Equatoria and Blue Nile.

In light of the move of the UN agencies from Nairobi to South Sudan, the liaison office in Nairobi will be headed by a Liaison Officer, effective from July 2005. Because of the presence of basic services in Nairobi, this office will carry out support functions on programme, administration and logistics to the operations in South Sudan.

Populations of concern and assistance

Refugees

The table below provides the breakdown of the refugee population and planning figures for return:

Country	Assisted Population	Estimated Non-Assisted Population	Total
CAR		36,000	36,000
DRC	37,697	31,776	69,473
Egypt	10,046	20,278	30,324
Eritrea	714		714
Ethiopia	90,533		90,533
Kenya	65,000		65,000
Uganda	175,500	48,000	223,500
Total	<u>379,490</u>	<u>136,054</u>	<u>515,544</u>

Conditions permitting, UNHCR will organize voluntary repatriation to areas considered conducive for return. Countries of asylum have identified groups that are willing and ready to return during the first phase of repatriation.

Coordinated approach in support to internally displaced persons

For effective and coordinated response, in April 2005 the UN agreed on a “Policy Framework for Return and Reintegration” of the displaced which reaffirms the overall strategy and existing policy adopted by the Government of Sudan (HAC)⁴ and SPLM (SRRC). Through this policy framework, protection needs are streamlined into all programmes, projects and activities to ensure voluntary, safe and dignified return and reintegration. To operationalize the policy framework, the UN established the Core Group for Return and Reintegration. UNHCR and other UN agencies are actively participating in this collaborative approach. The Core Group has developed standards and guidelines for various aspects of return and reintegration of the displaced in Sudan, which are now costed and included in the June 2005 revision of the UN Work Plan.

⁴ HAC: the Humanitarian Aid Commission is the humanitarian wing of the Government of Sudan. Returning refugees/internally displaced persons issues fall under HAC.

Populations of concern and assistance (continued)...

The policy framework for return and reintegration outlines several strategic interventions. In places of displacement, the UN and partners aim to:

- Prevent or mitigate the effects of the relocation of internally displaced persons in Khartoum which could lead to coerced movement.
- Address gaps in coverage to ensure that internally displaced persons have, as a minimum, the same living standards as the host population.
- Ensure that internally displaced persons have access to existing services
- Ensure that the displaced can make an informed decision on return through the provision of information, legal advice and counselling.

To ensure protection and minimum humanitarian assistance, way stations will be established along routes of return and transport will be provided for the most vulnerable returnees, internally displaced persons and refugees. To minimize the burden on receiving communities, the UN Work Plan has been revised and increased to provide returnees, refugees and internally displaced persons with packages at dispersal centres and to strengthen basic services in places of displacement and areas of arrival.



Rumbek: Both local communities and returning refugees are looking to UNHCR for assistance in creating absorption capacity in return areas and conditions conducive for return. Photo: UNHCR/S. Malik

Operational Challenges

The challenges facing the returnees and the international community are enormous. The tasks are daunting, costly, labour-intensive and time-consuming and are likely to dwarf other operations in terms of complexity.

There are reportedly **millions of mines and UXOs** in South Sudan. Under the current set-up of the UN system, the critical task of demining is under the co-ordination of UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) which has engaged several agencies to clear mine fields and UXOs. WFP has also engaged an agency to start clearing mines on several main roads through which it will transport food supply. However, many of the feeder roads and tracks leading to villages where a large majority of refugees and internally displaced persons will return reportedly remain infested with mines. Every day, women and children risk life and limb to search for water and firewood in mine-infested areas. UNHCR has thus signed an agreement with an agency to conduct humanitarian mine clearing and mine awareness activities in South Sudan starting with the Equatoria State.

The presence of the **Uganda-based Lord's Resistance Army (LRA)** continues to cause displacement within southern Equatoria, making it difficult to create an environment favourable to return. **Numerous militia groups** still need to be mainstreamed into the peace and reconciliation process. **Regional and clan differences** remain a source of tension and social strife.



Demining activities in South Sudan, 2005. Photo: UNHCR

Operational Challenges (continued)...



Former refugees who have returned home to the Kajo Keji area of South Sudan (from a resettlement in Uganda), have taken up farming as they try to rebuild their lives. Photo: UNHCR/K. McKinsey

As a result of the civil war, South Sudan **lacks infrastructure and basic services**. For example, there are no secondary schools in Upper Nile Region, from where over 70,000 refugees originate. Two doctors serve over 180,000 inhabitants in the entire county of Yambio. Civil servants, teachers and health workers are volunteers and are in short supply. Everywhere in South Sudan, people have limited access to safe water, education and health services.

The issue of **land allocation and livelihood opportunities** poses a major challenge to the international community. A high number of refugees are educated and skilled workers who can contribute positively to this initial stage of reintegration and peace-building. There is, however, resentment amongst receiving population towards returnees “taking away their jobs”. Coexistence and reconciliation remains a major pre-occupation.

Violations of the rights of many returnees have already been reported as populations moved and settled in 2004. Violations include property looting, physical and sexual assault, denial of freedom of movement and forced separation of families. Further protection issues revolve around access to land, services, justice and basic law, taxation and order.

Activities

Major activities in Sudan

Establish logistical capacity and set up infrastructure to facilitate voluntary repatriation

UNHCR will embark on reaching full-scale readiness by the end of the rainy season to enable the operation to shift towards voluntary repatriation. In many areas of South Sudan, private transportation is non-existent and refugees returning home will have to pass through difficult and sometimes insecure areas. To ensure that return takes place in safety and dignity, UNHCR will arrange for trucking capacity to supplement commercially-available transport. The procurement of 15 trucks and 27 support vehicles (such as ambulances and escort vehicles) will be initiated well in advance to be ready by the end of the rainy season. A small mechanical support/workshop will be set up to ensure the proper maintenance of the trucks and light vehicles.

Large numbers of returnees are expected to arrive in greater Equatoria. This region will therefore be the hub of activities for transportation of resources to other states and counties in South Sudan. Stocks of non-food items will be pre-positioned in Yei. This will require the setting up of a major logistical base and warehouses. To increase storage capacity, ten rub halls will be procured. The procurement of non-food items and their pre-positioning in strategic locations inside South Sudan will be completed during the rainy season to provide effective support to the returnees after the rainy season. Air transport will be required to ensure the timely pre-positioning of relief items and the movement of staff in areas of operation.

‘What is needed? In a word, everything’⁵

The regional logistics plan identifies many critical sections of roads that will be repaired and bridges to be improved to allow for the safe transport of returning refugees. Private contractors, UN agencies and NGOs will be engaged in these activities. In areas where other means are not available, UNHCR will establish a “roads unit” with the ability to act rapidly to repair and open up critical sections of the road network. Procurement of road construction equipment will be completed during the rainy season. Other major activities will include strengthening of the barge transportation system (includes procurement of two barges for crossing the river Nile) and repair and maintenance of existing barges.

Establishment of way stations will be a priority activity for the safe return of the displaced population. In total, more than 60 way stations have been identified in Sudan for movements from North to South and from neighboring countries. UNHCR will establish and manage 13 of the 60 way stations in Sudan and 12 in refugee-hosting countries. Way stations will be established at strategic locations en route for brief stop-overs of convoys and will provide water, food and emergency health assistance.

Major activities in Sudan (continued)....

Way stations will also become protection hubs from where mobile protection teams will conduct returnee monitoring. Similarly, UNHCR will establish 13 dispersal centres in major areas of return which will provide urgent assistance, packages of non-food items and seeds and tools to returnees to help them start the reintegration process.

Dispersal centres will have limited storage capacity and registration and monitoring staff. In specific areas, and under exceptional circumstances where returnees cannot return to their areas of origin, UNHCR will establish temporary transit centres. Mindful of the risks involved, these centres will be of temporary nature with basic emergency services.

UNHCR, in collaboration with other UN agencies, will also set up a registration, tracking and returnee monitoring system and a data base at sub-office Rumbek to coordinate return movements (organized and spontaneous). Linked to the data base will be GIS mapping facilities. As part of the mass information campaign, “go-and-see” and “come-and-tell” visits will be organized for refugees from camps to areas of return and for elders and traditional leaders from receiving communities to camps. Seminars involving refugee and receiving communities, especially women and youth, are also planned to promote understanding and tolerance.

In addition to the sub-offices in Malakal, Juba, Rumbek and Yei and field offices in Yambio and Kajo Keji, field offices in Kapoeta, Tambura and Damazine will be established as part of the preparatory activities.



Children are so eager for education, they attend classes under trees while St. Joseph's School, near Yei, South Sudan, is being constructed by UNHCR. Photo: UNHCR/K. McKinsey

Major activities in Sudan (continued)....

Continue creating conditions conducive to return and anchor returns by supporting communities through protection and community-based reintegration projects (CBRPs)

According to the standards established by the SPLM for South Sudan, all southern counties currently exceed the ratio of maximum population to services for clean water points and for schools, and only 30 of the 50 counties assessed meet the ratio of established population to health facilities in 2003⁶. These ratios will worsen as the displaced return, especially in the least developed regions of Sudan. Furthermore, large numbers of returnees have spontaneously returned to areas where services are limited or non-existent. In this regard, UNHCR through its CBRPs will aim to: i) address the needs of spontaneous returnees and residents in areas of return/origin and ii) develop the absorption capacity of receiving communities and strengthen protection programmes to create an environment conducive to the start of organized repatriation (conditions permitting) during the second half of 2005. The CBRPs are designed around two principle objectives: i) quick and cost-effective implementation of projects addressing immediate and urgent needs of returnees and communities to sustain returns within the overall 4Rs programme and ii) partnership between population, local government, UN agencies, NGOs and the private sector.

A number of CBRPs in the areas of health, water, sanitation education and community infrastructure will be implemented in all areas of return. These projects will be complemented with livelihoods and income-generating activities to make returnees and receiving communities self-reliant. Capacity-building of local institutions and community organizations such as youth, women and parents-teachers associations will be part of the interventions to create conditions conducive to return.

Develop and implement a comprehensive protection-based framework for return and reintegration

UNHCR plays a lead role in the inter-agency collaborative effort to develop a comprehensive protection-based return and reintegration framework for the displaced to South Sudan. UNHCR chairs the Protection Working Group covering South Sudan. UNHCR within the protection framework, aims at ensuring the legal, physical and material security of returnees; securing a receptive environment in areas of return; strengthening local institutions through capacity-building activities; promoting fair land and property restitution and allocation; and promoting confidence-building and reconciliation.

To this end, UNHCR will: obtain accurate information on main return areas through profiling; register and monitor returnee movements; create community-based protection networks; support local authorities in the registration of returnees and ensure that they are provided with documentation; provide material support and training to local institutions; reinforce protection networks within communities of return; develop a comprehensive programme to tackle land and property issues which includes training workshops; assist in developing legal aid clinics and mobile courts; promote and support peace education and community dialogue undertaken by community-based organisa-

Major activities in Sudan (continued)....

tions, organize and facilitate “go and see” and “come and tell” visits; and promote awareness of sexual and gender-based violence, reproductive health and HIV/AIDS.

According to the Return and Reintegration Policy Guidelines for the Revision of the Work Plan 2005, WFP is making provision for 3 months of general food ration for each returnee (to be distributed on monthly basis), followed by 3 months of community-based food security interventions such as food-for-work/assets and food-for-education programmes. The general food ration will be 2100 Kcal/per/day and the basket will include cereal 450 gm; pulses 50 gm; vegetables 30 gm; CSB 50 gm; sugar 25 gm; salt 10gm. Provision is made for returnees for 15 days transit ration of High Energy Biscuits (HEB) of 460g/per/day to be effected on a case by case basis.

Assume lead role for return and initial reintegration, and coordinate activities in greater Equatoria and Blue Nile state

In order to effectively coordinate the activities of all agencies and institutions for the return and reintegration of internally displaced persons and refugees, monitoring and tracking systems will be improved, the capacity of local institutions will be strengthened with material support and training, and partner agencies will be trained on protection and related aspects of return and reintegration. Advocacy on behalf of the displaced population will be a priority activity. Furthermore, UNHCR, together with partners, will undertake assessments of the needs of displaced persons, meet their basic protection and assistance requirements and monitor population movements to ensure that return takes place in safety and dignity.



Returnees and local communities make bricks for a construction project in South Sudan. Photo: UNHCR

Activities in countries of asylum

Equally important, within the countries of asylum, activities are focusing on the voluntary repatriation exercise.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

A registration and profiling exercise has started as the first step in the organised voluntary repatriation and is expected to be completed in July. For the smooth running of this exercise, light vehicles, motorbikes and trucks will be procured. Vaccination campaigns and medical examinations targeting returnees will be provided at the pre-departure stage. Due to non-existence of local facilities, a transit centre for 250 persons will be constructed. This will necessitate drilling of 3 boreholes and purchase of bladders. To provide for adequate sanitary conditions and proper medical assistance, latrines will be built and maintained. Moreover, renovation of the Mboki hospital becomes indispensable. The voluntary repatriation will be carried out by means of a chartered aircraft that will take refugees from Mboki to the Tambura region of Western Equatoria. Rehabilitation of former refugee sites is planned through reforestation.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

A main preparatory activity is registration and profiling that, among others, records vulnerable refugees' needs like the handicapped, the elderly, female heads of household, unaccompanied minors and pregnant women. Each refugee child born in the DRC will receive a birth certificate. The target population will benefit from prior medical screening and appropriate treatment during the trip. English language programmes will be continued to facilitate the reintegration of mainly French-speaking returnee chil-

dren. Parallel to English courses, vocational training will be organised for adults to reduce social and economic problems related to their reintegration. Transport from DRC to the places of origin will be by road. The most cost-effective identified repatriation routes will still require setting up of assembly points, transit centres and way stations. All these sites will need adequate water supply as well as sanitation facilities that will be constructed. The issue of environmental degradation on and around refugee sites will be addressed.

EGYPT

A registration and profiling exercise has started and will be completed before the repatriation process starts. Targeted mass information campaigns in the priority areas of HIV/AIDS, sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and mine awareness will commence shortly to enable refugees to make informed decisions on their return. Travel to Sudan will be arranged by train and ferry. A reception and staging centre in Aswan will be set up on contractual basis to take care of returnees' needs prior to boarding the ferry for Wadi Halfa, N. Sudan, from where onward road transportation to Khartoum and beyond will be provided. Limited material assistance will be offered to vulnerable returnees to facilitate their travel.

ETHIOPIA

A registration exercise in Bonga, Dimma and Fugnido commenced in May and will be completed in July. The Office will shortly launch information campaigns on landmine conditions and the risks associated with unexploded ordnance to returning refugees. The limited transport support and truck fleet needs to be increased to run the operation effectively. Outdated telecommunication equipment needs urgent upgrading.

Activities in countries of asylum (continued)...

Refugees will travel long distances by truck to the dispersal points within Sudan. Semi-permanent storage facilities will be built for non-food items that make up part of the repatriation package. Assembly points in the camp for overnight stays will have to be built as refugees dismantle their *tukuls* one day prior to their departure. Construction of way stations en route is also required due to the distance between the camps and the border crossing points. There is a need for road repair and bridge construction to facilitate smooth movement of the convoys. Returning Sudanese refugees will receive food at the way stations where they are expected to spend 1 to 5 nights. Within the assembly points and way stations water points, toilets and other sanitary facilities will be set up and access provided to emergency medical assistance.

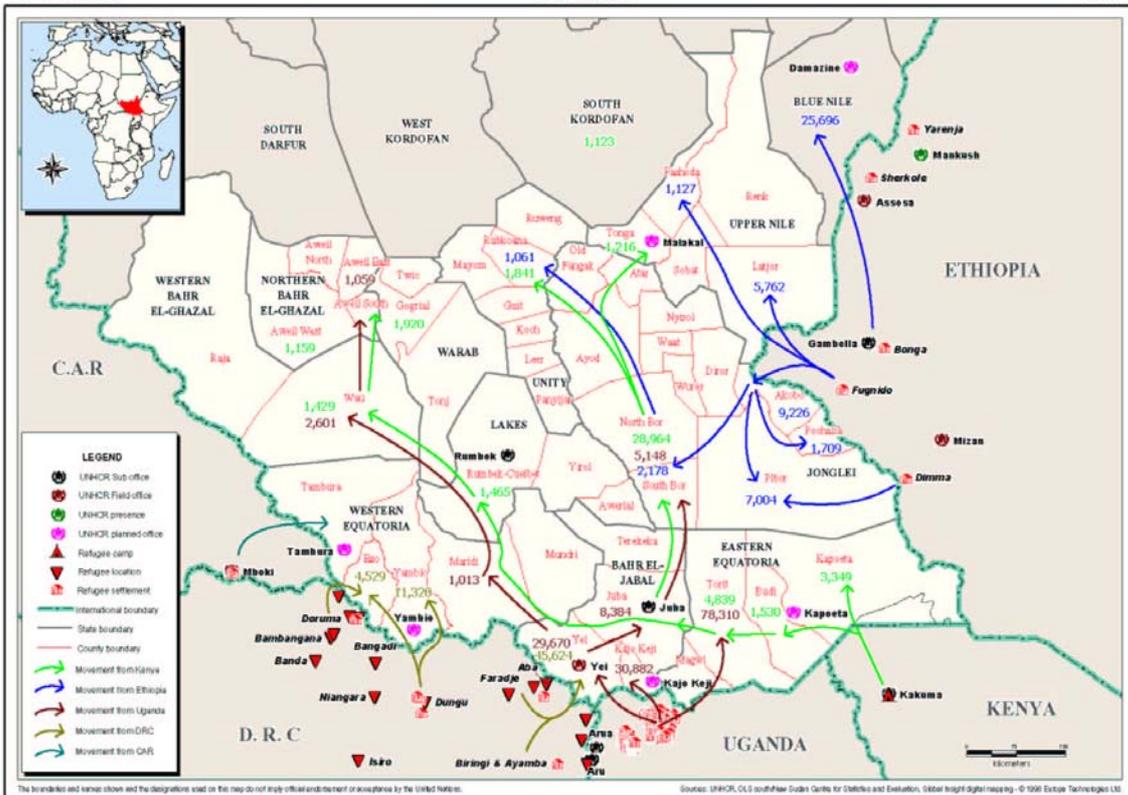
KENYA

Kenya has already completed the registration and profiling exercise and is facilitating “go-and-see” visits to enable refugee women living in Kakuma refugee camp to visit Tonj County in Bahr-el-Ghazal region. Returning refugees will receive a repatriation package of food and non-food items. Refugee women and girls of childbearing age will be provided with sanitary materials and laundry soap. Targeted awareness-raising campaigns have started. Vulnerable refugees and refugees travelling to distant or remote locations in South Sudan will be transported by air charter; others will travel overland by truck. Critical points along repatriation routes, including the Kakuma airstrip, are in need of repair work having been damaged by rains and heavy floods. A fitted ambulance will be procured to escort convoys in transit.



Expected Repatriation Movements to south Sudan
(showing destinations having above 1,000 refugees)
As of March 2005

RSAL
Regional Spatial Analysis Lab
Nairobi, Kenya



Activities in countries of asylum (continued)...

Trucks and temporary warehouses will be purchased to transport the refugees and to provide temporary storage facilities in Kakuma and Lokichoggio. Refugees will spend 3 days at the departure centre in Kakuma to complete medical screening and customs formalities.

Food and kitchen utensils will be provided for group cooking at the Kakuma centre and those transiting through Lokichoggio will be provided with high energy biscuits for the trip. The existing Lokichoggio reception centre will be transformed into a transit centre for these repatriation movements.

There is no secure water supply in the area and only 1 borehole at the Lokichoggio field office. Water storage tanks will be procured, a new borehole will be drilled and sanitation facilities constructed. Following the departure of the refugees, an environmental clean-up will be conducted and trees planted.

UGANDA

Registration and profiling of the refugee population is being carried out in Uganda and is expected to be completed in July. Information campaigns on harmonious co-existence with other communities and to inform refugees about the infrastructural developments in their country are set to commence. To enhance the capacity of returnees, training in areas such as carpentry, tailoring, computing and blacksmith will be offered.

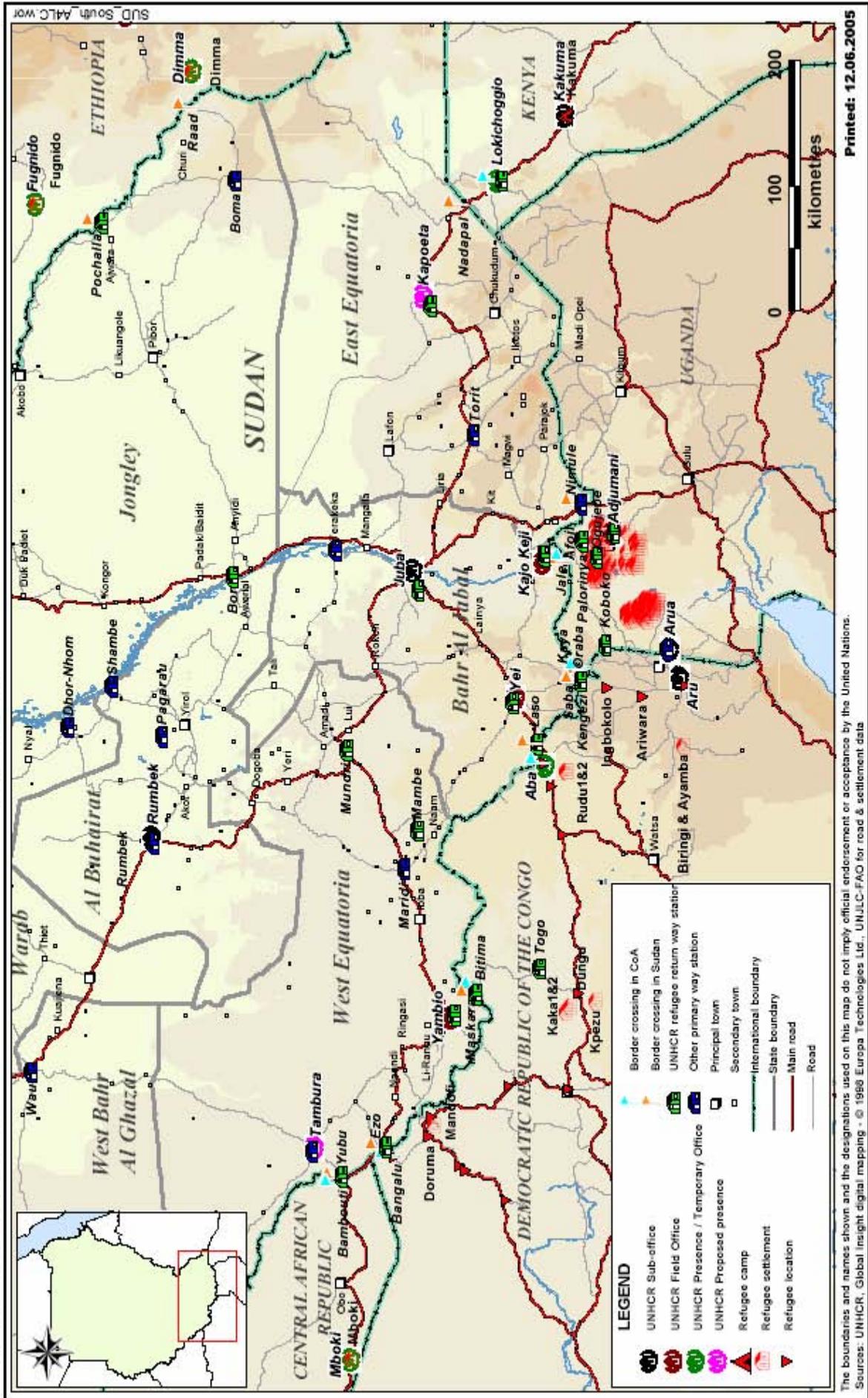
The returnees will be transported to Sudan by truck and by ferry. As the ferry operated by the local government is the only means to cross over to Moyo from

Adjumani, another ferry is needed for this purpose. Way stations and collection points will be constructed and shelter materials will be provided to cover the strategic sites and the needy refugee families. These facilities will be equipped with reasonable office and communications equipment, furniture and cooking utensils. Boreholes will be drilled to provide refugees with minimum standards of potable water during transit. Latrines and showers for the way stations in Adjumani, Arua and Homa need to be constructed and basic health services provided to supplement the current minimal or non-existent facilities. Hospital tents will be procured together with emergency drugs and a fitted ambulance. Procurement of NFIs including soap, kitchen utensils, agricultural tools and stoves is planned to supplement current stocks of return packages.

Tripartite agreements for voluntary return

The tripartite agreements for voluntary return will be signed between UNHCR, the Government of National Unity in Sudan and the respective countries of asylum prior to organised return movements in the autumn of this year. Apart from ensuring that return is voluntary and that an informed decision to return has been made, the agreements will guarantee returnee rights such as physical safety, property rights and family unity of the returning refugees.





Revised 2005 Supplementary Programme Budget
Return & Reintegration of Sudanese Refugees to Southern Sudan
Overall Requirements for 1 January—31 December 2005
(in US \$)

ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES	CAR	DRC	EGYPT	ETHIOPIA	KENYA	SUDAN	UGANDA	Hqs + Auditor	TOTAL IN USD
Protection, Monitoring & Co-ordination	254,328	381,982	27,447	137,252	366,450	10,260,595	796,300		12,224,354
Community Services	-	7,808	-	-	141,504	894,000	163,636	-	1,206,948
Crop Production	-	-	-	-	-	1,060,000	-	-	1,060,000
Domestic Needs/Household Support	11,209	-	256,375	212,868	283,200	884,500	99,565	-	1,747,717
Education	-	39,743	-	-	248,681	4,082,950	-	-	4,371,374
Fisheries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food	-	3,500	-	240,440	350,006	556,781	-	-	1,150,727
Forestry (Environment)	28,682	36,412	-	-	76,488	20,000	-	-	161,582
Health/Nutrition	113,733	19,690	-	197,400	213,211	2,621,040	58,000	-	3,223,074
Income Generation	-	-	-	-	-	420,000	124,656	-	544,656
Legal Assistance / Protection	174,657	49,240	22,276	517,011	451,089	4,493,069	706,814	-	6,414,155
Livestock	-	-	-	-	-	320,000	-	-	320,000
Operational Support (to Agencies)	67,863	209,426	19,445	213,000	184,972	4,220,640	823,853	-	5,739,199
Sanitation	15,732	21,680	-	34,762	24,567	255,000	57,300	-	409,041
Shelter / Other Infrastructure	93,413	134,000	-	1,795,459	380,165	6,978,000	721,956	-	10,102,993
Transport / Logistics	809,398	901,548	400,307	1,101,152	955,435	8,764,000	2,131,415	-	15,063,255
Water (non-agricultural)	31,942	28,461	-	57,937	108,061	1,908,120	93,390	-	2,227,911
Total Operations	1,600,956	1,833,490	725,850	4,507,281	3,783,829	47,738,695	5,776,885	-	65,966,985
Support Costs 7% *	112,067	128,344	50,810	315,510	264,868	3,341,709	404,382	-	4,617,689
Programme Support	38,044	-	11,763	-	412,989	3,452,341	126,411	1,721,549	5,763,097
Grand Total	1,751,066	1,961,834	788,423	4,822,790	4,461,686	54,532,745	6,307,677	1,721,549	76,347,770

* a 7% Support Cost has been added to the total operational requirements and will be recovered from each contribution to meet indirect support costs in UNHCR (Field and HQs)