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The REFUGE

A quarterly newsletter published by The Norwegian
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**Horn of Africa, South Sudan
and Yemen**

December 2014

NRC

NORWEGIAN
REFUGEE COUNCIL

Message from the Acting Regional Director

Photo courtesy Gurtong Trust



Dear friends,

I am pleased to share with you our quarterly newsletter, highlighting our different humanitarian involvement across the Horn of Africa, South Sudan and Yemen. Over the last three months, we have held successful country strategy workshops across the region to take stock of our humanitarian environment, our performance, lessons to be learnt and to actively plan for weeks and months ahead.

South Sudan continues to weigh heavily on our collective conscience. We sincerely hope that the new cessation of hostilities agreement brokered by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) will hold and bring much needed peace to South Sudan. The lives lost and massive displacement remain silent witnesses of the political fall-out of December 2013.

I have been able to visit some of the refugees who fled the violence that claimed hundreds of lives and have settled in Gambella in Ethiopia, Kakuma in Kenya and Adjumani in Uganda. NRC is providing them with shelter, food, water, sanitation and hygiene, education and livelihood support. NRC staff are on the ground in South Sudan supporting people in hard-to-reach areas with food and non-food items through air drops and they are supporting IDPs in camps with shelter, education and other types of support.

I wish to thank all our staff, partners and particularly our donors across the region for their efforts towards fulfilling our vision and mission. I hope that you will enjoy reading this newsletter.

Gabriella Waaijman
Acting Regional Director
NRC – Horn of Africa, South Sudan and Yemen

August - November 2014:

Nansen Refugee Award ceremony held in Geneva, Switzerland. Butterflies with New Wings, Building a Future, a women's rights network based in Colombia are the 2014 Nansen Refugee Award winners.

Country strategy workshops held in Kenya, Ethiopia and Yemen covering country level strategic analysis, target group needs and gaps analysis, risk analysis, funding analysis, value for money and 2015 plan.

Community-based adaptation and Resilience in East and Southern Africa's Drylands - A learning event for practitioners, researchers and policy-makers held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

A podium finish at Oslo Marathon 2014 as NRC scoops third position, represented by resilient Stephen Kahiu from Kenya.

"I dedicate my race to the 51 million people who are displaced around the world today" says 45-year old Steve who works as Fleet Manager at the Horn of Africa, South Sudan and Yemen programme of the NRC and is based in Nairobi.



Photo/NRC

Staff survey results announced on 10 October. The survey recorded a response rate of 82% and an overall improvement of 3.81 compared to 3.76 in 2013.

Learning forum on Community-based adaptation and resilience

A learning forum on community-based adaptation and resilience in East and Southern Africa's drylands was held in Addis Ababa on 1 -4 September.

Bringing together stakeholders from a diverse range of disciplines working with dryland communities across East and Southern Africa, the aim of the event was to facilitate learning from experiences and evidence on climate change adaptation. Participants generated new insights on the links between communities and achieving resilient development.

The conference explored issues of added value that community-based associations' practical experiences bring to achieving resilience in dryland communities. They looked into how climate change and related responses exacerbate the entrenched drivers of vulnerability among communities living in drylands. The question of what would an integrated and coherent approach to achieving resilience in vulnerable dryland communities look like, was also raised.

Representatives from the Building Resilient Communities in Somalia (BRCiS) attended the learning forum and shared information on progress. They also sought better understanding of the links between climate change adaptation and resilience in drylands. Issues of community based adaptation and resilience in drylands were also of interest. They also shared good practices, success factors, challenges and key lessons identified and analysed to inform future actions and policy.

In order to end drought emergencies recommendations included mainstreaming climate information into all levels, strengthening and creating institutions to coordinate intervention in short time, strengthening traditional peace-building and conflict resolution processes and integrating drought monitoring into all sectors and programmes. [Click here for detailed outcomes.](#)

The 'BRCiS is a 4-year programme, funded by the Department for International Development. The programme aims to address the effects of shocks through immediate humanitarian and emergency interventions, reducing the duration of shocks through immediate response and long-term approach.



Badra Yusuf Ali at NRC exhibition stand during Community-based adaptation and resilience forum. Photo/NRC

Community-centred shelter construction in Puntland

The good news from Garowe in Puntland is that with funding from the European Commission, NRC has finalised construction of 75 Corrugated Galvanised Ironsheet houses (CGIs) using the community involvement approach.

This construction methodology has ensured that men, women and children who are targeted beneficiaries participate in the actual construction process and learn how it is done



Photo/Abdihakim Mohamed

"Through the community-based approach, construction materials are provided by NRC to the beneficiaries who take up building processes under close supervision from our shelter technicians", explains Abdihakim Mohamed, NRC Shelter Officer in Puntland.



"Being directly involved in building our homes has given us new construction skills. Having been used to constructing buuls, we feel that this has given us a strong sense of pride and relevance", says Fatuma, a mother of three who is one of the beneficiaries. [Get more feedback from our Facebook page](#)

Providing services despite challenges

Humanitarian programmes by NRC in Yemen are on course despite disruptions caused by political instability in the country.

The European Commission-funded programme on sustainable approaches towards building resilient communities in north and south of Yemen has benefitted 468 households out of 500 who have received start-up grants to initiate income-generating activities.

Other key programmes on course include Integrated Recovery Programme (IRP) in support of conflict-affected groups in north and south of Yemen, funded by Department for International Development. NRC is also ensuring people affected by displacement, including returnees, benefit from improved physical protection and dignity. A programme supported by the European Commission providing integrated humanitarian support to people affected by displacement in Yemen is also on-going. Other programmes under implementation are funded by UNHCR, Emergency Response Fund (ERF) and Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida).

Civil unrest

The political instability in Yemen has slowed down humanitarian response in various parts of the country. Clashes have occurred frequently between demonstrators and security forces and road-blocks have been set up along the main streets in the capital and in major towns.

Activities of many humanitarian agencies have been affected. Security concerns led to relocation of international staff to NRC Aden office in September creating further challenges accessing affected populations. Sharp increase in fuel prices also makes it challenging to run vocational centres operated under NRC's Youth Education Pack (YEP) programme which rely on power generators.

Lahem: “Now I run my own repairs shop; I have a meaningful career”

Lahem Ali Mansor Hytham is among 150 learners under NRC's programme, Youth Education Pack (YEP) who successfully completed training in Abyan Governorate in April 2014.

He successfully completed a mobile and electronics maintenance course and has opened a small shop next to his house where he repairs mobile phones for relatives and neighbours.



Lahem attending to a client. Photo/NRC

Upon graduating, he received a start-up grant from NRC and together with a little sum of money from a family fund-raising, he embarked on his new career as an electronics repairman. He plans to relocate to the market-place, expand his shop and offer his services to more customers.

Before taking up vocational training, Lahem used to work as a casual labourer in the same market-place. This was a difficult time, filled with uncertainty a daily wage related livelihood brings. *“I would wake up in the morning and head to the market with no guarantee of getting a job. If there was work, I would do it, if there was none, I would pray to Allah to give me strength and patience”*, he says. The training has had a remarkable effect not only on his increased income, but level of self-confidence and self-belief. He speaks positively about life and is willing to encourage young men and women to learn vocational skills.

NRC continues to equip IDPs, returnees and host community youth with the necessary vocational skills, life skills, literacy and numeracy under the Youth Education Pack (YEP) programme. The objective of YEP programme is to enhance protection of and access to livelihood opportunities for displaced youth through provision of basic vocational, literacy and other relevant life-skills. This will improve their livelihoods, so as to become productive members of their communities. NRC has established one YEP centre in Harradh in the north and is running one in Abyan in the South to reach 300 IDP, returnee and host community youth with various skills training. ([Read more about YEP graduation in Yemen](#))

A confident and happy Lahem at his repair shop in Abyan. He earns an average of 20 US Dollars a day. Photo by NRC



Global Handwashing Day - Ali Addeh

Refugees and host communities in Ali Addeh, Djibouti had a rare education treat when NRC and UNHCR organised a public celebration to commemorate the Global Handwashing Day (GHD) on 15 October.

The event held at the Ali Addeh community centre brought together hundreds of refugees who took the opportunity to practice proper hand-washing as well as receive information, education and communication materials.



Photo/NRC

NRC's Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) team took the opportunity to distribute sanitation tools, hygiene kits and sensitised refugees about hand-washing techniques, critical times and risks of having dirty hands.

Generally poor hygiene and lack of health facilities in Ali Addeh and Holl holl refugee camps prompted NRC to establish WASH programmes in 2013. An assessment conducted earlier also showed that only 60% of the entire population had access to a latrine.

A proactive and innovative campaign under the WASH programme has enabled the men, women and children of Ali Addeh and Holl holl to begin to embrace sanitation and hygiene. The positive messages continue to reach more people including host communities. NRC would like to thank Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) for funding NRC's WASH programmes in Djibouti.

Want more information?
go to: www.nrc.no

Sweden increases funding for NRC programmes in Djibouti



Photo/NRC

Young refugees in Ali Addeh

The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), has granted NRC an additional SEK 5 million to help refugees and internally displaced persons in Djibouti.

The generous additional grants are part of the Humanitarian Agreement between Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and NRC on support for refugees and internally displaced persons. Sida is one of NRC's main partners, supporting operations in 18 of the 25 countries where NRC operates.

"We continue to be grateful for the generous support of the Swedish Government", says Petra Storstein, Head of Donor Support at NRC. "These additional funds will give us the opportunity to help even more people in Djibouti, where large numbers of people have been forced to flee from their homes due to severe prolonged drought and climatic change. Sida is a valuable partner for NRC because they allow us to respond to crises in a timely manner," she says.

The additional SEK 5 million (USD 0.67 million) has been allocated to improve living conditions for communities of internally displaced persons and refugees through shelter and distribution of emergency materials. Sida will also support activities for safe water, better hygiene practices and increased access to food and livelihood opportunities through income generating activities and own production.

NRC is providing humanitarian assistance to refugees in Ali Addeh and Holl-Holl refugee camps, partnering with the Office for National Coordination on Refugee and Affected Populations (ONARS) and supported by the European Commission. Ali Addeh camp hosts over 21,000 asylum seekers. According to a profiling exercise conducted by NRC, 90% of refugees rely on food aid and lack alternative means of livelihood. NRC is currently constructing hybrid shelters using corrugated galvanised iron sheets and cement. In addition, NRC has constructed family latrines and distributed hygiene kits, sanitation tools, shelter kits and other non-food items.



Children, NRC and UNHCR staff during global Handwashing Day celebrations in Ali Addeh refugee camp in Djibouti. Photo by NRC

Information, Counseling and Legal Assistance in South Sudan

NRC plans to provide services to over 36,000 beneficiaries under the Information, Counselling and Legal Assistance (ICLA) core competency. This will expand its operational coverage to Awerial County in Lakes States, in addition to existing presence and response in Central Equatoria State, Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Warrap states.

ICLA's overall programme strategy is to assist internally displaced persons and returnees to access rights and secure durable solutions. In addition, the programme will work on 'peaceful coexistence' projects, focusing on disputes between returnees, internally displaced persons and host communities over access to land, water and essential services while also working on improving access to Housing, Land and Property (HLP) rights for women, in particular returnee and displaced women.

The total number of direct beneficiaries targeted is 7,580 in northern Bahr el Ghazal; 7,230 in Warrap, 10,420 in Central Equatoria and 19,885 in Lakes (Awerial). ICLA in all the four states aims to target at least 50% female beneficiaries.

ICLA projects operate in all three administrative states where NRC is working, funded by the Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA), and with a focus on South Sudanese nationality documentation, HLP rights and human rights protection related to durable solutions.

For more information, please visit NRC website: www.nrc.no

S. Sudan: A complex situation with acute humanitarian needs



Emergency response teams assemble air-dropped food and prepare for distribution. Photo by NORCAP

Two million people in South Sudan do not have enough to eat. When roads are closed due to fighting and rains, food aid must be dropped from passing airplanes to reach vulnerable populations.

The food shortage has multiple causes. Firstly, the ongoing conflict has prevented people from sowing crops at the right time. In addition, in areas where crops have been planted, fighting is restricting people from harvesting.

Responding to the food crisis, NRC has been on the ground in South Sudan conducting food distribution relying on air-drops in areas where normal road movement is no possible. In August 2014 after series of negotiations and discussions NRC signed a partnership agreement with World Food Programme (WFP) in South Sudan. 14 teams have been recruited, and training conducted both for WFP and UNICEF on nutrition screening and General Food Distribution techniques adopted for the South Sudan context.

The food distribution is targeting Jikimir, Ulang, Mading and Rieng locations in Upper Nile State. The areas of coverage have also been increased to be able to cover more locations in the greater Upper Nile where gaps are identified. In 2015, NRC plans to continue with food distributions while expanding this to include Food for Asset projects following assessments in targeted areas.

Through its other deployments, NRC has provided non-food items and shelters to 12,000 households. 1,997 pupils in Awerial, Lakes State, and an additional 489 in Central Equatoria are benefitting from Education-in-Emergency programme. NRC has also constructed temporary houses which are sheltering 440 families, and is providing legal and counseling services to 2,372 people.



A plane air-dropping bags of food from the sky as part of food distribution in conflict-affected areas in South Sudan. Photo by NORCAP

Dadaab: Global Hand-washing Day



Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya marked the Global Handwashing Day (GHD) on 15 October with celebrations in Hagadera and Kambioos where NRC is currently providing Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) services to the 128,869 refugees.

The theme for this year's celebrations, "Choose Hand-washing Choose Health", and the slogan 'Clean Hands Save Lives' were popular and well received among the children and the entire refugee community in Dadaab camps.

The handwashing celebrations were ushered with successful performances by hygiene club members from different schools and included debates, skits, songs, poems, and demonstrations of good handwashing steps. The hygiene clubs are being supported by NRC in partnership with UNHCR, with financial assistance from the European Commission.

"Behavioral change towards handwashing with clean water and soap is extremely essential in protecting health and well-being of the school-children and the general population in a camp situation", says Patrick Okello, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Manager in Dadaab.

"These positive practices ought to be encouraged as it helps to prevent diarrheal diseases hence public health outbreaks, thereby contributing to improving the overall public health status and living conditions of the refugee populations", he says.



Photo/NRC

NRC opens new office in Mandera



In line with the mandate to reach more displaced and vulnerable people, NRC has opened its new office in Mandera in Northern Kenya to respond to displacement of populations occurring as a result of inter-clan conflict.

Mandera County has 6 constituencies; Banissa, Lafey, Mandera East, West, North and South and covers an area of 25,991 square kilometres. With a population of slightly above one million, the main economic activities include pastoralism in Mandera East and Central, irrigated cropping along the North Eastern corridor of Mandera East, bordering Ethiopia and agro-pastoralism mainly in Mandera West.



More than 900,000 people in Mandera are food insecure. 284,000 young people have had their education disrupted due to conflict and natural disasters. More than 115,000 have lost their livelihood, shelter and suffer from trauma associated with conflict and loss of land. The most pressing needs include food, shelter, water, sanitation and hygiene as well as education.

Dolo Ado communities building own shelter

A new shelter design and construction methodology have been piloted in Dollo Ado's Hiloweyn and Kobe refugee camps. The construction uses mud-bricks for walls and iron sheets for roofing.

"The beneficiaries procure their own materials, engage local experts who build the shelters. This has enabled NRC to give to the beneficiaries a sense of greater satisfaction since they have demonstrated their own abilities to build homes using materials that they trust for the good quality and durability, and they are able to determine their own privacy and dignity that they feel to be of utmost importance", says David Maliro, NRC Shelter Manager



Completed and occupied mud brick houses

From 2011 to 2014, there has been a remarkable shelter evolution in Dollo Ado from use of emergency tents, to bamboo and mud brick shelters. While emergency tents were relatively easier to install therefore providing quick and timely protection from threats to displaced families, they tended to be extremely unstable and also degraded very quickly especially when exposed to harsh weather conditions.

For more information on NRC's programmes in Ethiopia, go to: www.nrc.no

Renewable energy for domestic use



Biogas users in Assosa are excited about the innovation since it is effective and saves them time that could be spent looking for firewood. Photo by Yared Ayele

In an exciting new project, NRC in Ethiopia has introduced biogas fuel as an alternative source of energy at Bambasi Refugee Camp in Benishangul-Gumuz region. The technology involves the use of human and animal waste products to generate gas which can burn as fuel product with capacity to cook food safely and effectively at household level. The ultimate goal is to convert waste into energy and make sanitation a profitable investment.

Bambasi refugee camp was selected for implementation of the pilot phase, which has proven successful and has inspired new plans to apply the innovation to other refugee camps in Ethiopia. The camp has a total of 14,066 refugees mostly originating from Sudan and was established in 2012. .

Following the initial implementation of the pilot phase in May 2014, refugee populations in Assosa have started to witness the positive impact from the biogas technology. Families that have used biogas for domestic use have reported reduced dependence on firewood for cooking, and women have been able to save more time to attend to income generating activities other than going in search of firewood.

"I have very good things to say about this new technology, life has become easier for me since I no longer rely on firewood as much as I used to. I also sell the extra gas to gain some money which is also helping me buy other materials", says Mwamikazi Aline, a 20 year old refugee in Bambasi..

According to NRC's Biogas project team, the major concern is securing sufficient raw material. Most households are without cattle and therefore access to organic waste which forms the basic input is limited. However, despite the challenges, the innovation has been well received and has helped create optimism and new hope.



Photo/NRC

"This is likely to decrease demand by refugees for assistance from humanitarian agencies, making them more self-reliant. It might also improve the relationship between refugees and host community through business transactions", says Ahmednur Abdi, NRC Ethiopia Country Director.

Minimising security risks through action



Security awareness session, Nairobi - Kenya

The safety and security challenges posed to NRC's staff, assets and programs in the region remain significant.

Furthermore, the last three months have demonstrated that we can expect some of the contexts that we operate in to fluctuate. The fluid situation in Yemen, the dynamic situation in Southern Somalia or the potential for resumed hostilities in South Sudan are just but a few examples.

These challenges notwithstanding, the humanitarian situation across our operations continues to demand more engagement from actors such as NRC. Coupled with our strategic decision to increase access to hard-to-reach areas, we can expect that our risk exposure will significantly increase in the months ahead and into 2015.

This places an increasing responsibility on NRC management to ensure that the appropriate security management systems are in place to reduce the risks to staff, assets and programs. At the same time however there will be even greater individual responsibility for each staff member. This means participating in the security planning processes, understanding the systems and, importantly, complying as required. This is to minimize not only the risk to you, but also to colleagues and the organization in general.

This process will involve risk assessments, finalisation or review of plans and SOPs as well as trainings. You are all urged to participate in the assessments if called upon and share your input or concerns on the plans and SOP drafts so that the final versions are representative. This will contribute to stronger systems for everyone's benefit. Please don't choose to not comply with the systems in place because non-compliance will be handled through the existing disciplinary HR processes.

On a different and closing note, I would like to commend staff and area-level management for the increased reporting of incidents. Always remember that it is security policy to report any incident, no matter how minor, within 72 hours and that these reports assist the Security Unit in risk management and analysis.

Jeff Ohanga is the Regional Security Advisor for the Horn of Africa, South Sudan and Yemen

TIP-BOX

Eight basic check-point procedures



Let the driver do the talking

Do not operate any communications equipment at checkpoints

Stay in the vehicle and keep doors locked, unless/until ordered to do otherwise. Talk through a partially opened window if you must

Always be polite, calm and cooperative

Have the necessary documents such as identification card, vehicle documents and other necessary documents if requested

Make sure you can account for everything in the vehicle, such as packages, cargo, camera or mobile phone, photos and other items

Comply with requests to search the vehicle but accompany the searcher. You are allowed, to make sure nothing is planted or stolen

If in a convoy, pass through the check point one at a time. When clear, wait for all vehicles to go through before continuing the journey

Source: Security Department, Horn of Africa, South Sudan and Yemen



A woman reporting security-related incident to the SPU in Garowe, Puntland. "Reports help the Security Unit in risk management and analysis". Photo by Nashon Tado

NRC emerges third at Oslo Marathon



Stephen Kahi of NRC ran in to a strong third place during the Oslo Marathon held on 20th of September 2014 in Oslo, Norway. This was his third marathon race and first time on the podium. Steve has been a consistent marathoner over the past five years and has represented NRC during the Oslo marathon since 2012. His ambition and persistence has lifted him to a podium position with 2014 going down as his best performance since he started participating in the Oslo Marathon.

"I dedicate my race to the 51 million people who are displaced around the world today" says 45-year old Steve who works as Fleet Manager at the Horn of Africa, South Sudan and Yemen programme of the Norwegian Refugee Council and is based in Nairobi.

Before the race, Steve took a full three-week leave from his work in order to train at the Iten high altitude training field in Uasin Gishu County of Kenya. He later moved to the Ngong Hills in order to be closer to his family in Nairobi.

"I dedicate my race to the 51 million people who are displaced around the world today"

The 42km race was won by Ethiopia's Taye Babeker while Wojciech Kopec from Poland came second.

The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) is a goodwill partner of Oslo Marathon and this is the third year Steve has participated to raise attention to the plight of the displaced.



Staff updates

The Regional Director, **Hassan Khaire** has taken a six-month sabbatical and will return in March 2015. During his absence, **Gabriella Waaijman** is the Acting Regional Director. **Abdelgadir Galal Ahmed** has joined NRC as Country Director for Somalia. **Abdullahi Keinan** is the new Area Manager for NRC in Dolo Ado. **Muhumed Hussein** has left Dolo Ado and joined South Central Somalia as Area Manager. **Lamin Manjang** has joined NRC in Somaliland as Area Manager. **Hafsa Hassan** has joined NRC Agresso experts as Agresso Advisor. **Yemisrach Kebede** has been appointed Resident Representative for the NRC African Union Liaison Office. **Kassim Gabowduale** has finished his tenure as Area Manager for NRC in South Central Somalia. **Judith Bwire** has left the organisation after three years serving as Executive Assistant to the Regional Director.

Events updates

Staff Survey 2014 conducted and results announced on 10 October.

Country strategy workshops held from September for all countries in the Horn of Africa, South Sudan and Yemen region.

Global Protection, Advocacy and Communication seminar held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates from 1-5 September.

Global Hand Washing Day commemoration events held on 15 October at refugee camps across the region. Updates on our Facebook page [here](#).

Regional Monitoring and Evaluation Roll-Out held from 19 to 21 August at Lenana Conference Centre in Nairobi. The roll-out aims to build consensus and ensure country offices create and use M&E systems that support management, learning and accountability.

Closing ceremony of **Management and Leadership Programme** held at Fairview Hotel in Nairobi on 7th of November. **Photos**

Updates from logistics department



Logistics training



Brainstorming session



Supporting new arrivals in Lietchour



Consulting partners

The Annual Global Logistics Seminar for Africa (including Colombia) was held from 5th to 7th August in Nairobi at Silver Springs Hotel with over 20 logistics staff attending from NRC Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Yemen, Ethiopia, DR Congo, Mali, Zimbabwe and Colombia.

Main outcomes included updating Logistics Handbook in December 2014, develop logistics strategic plan, ensure logistics Involvement and participation in the programme cycle management, standardise logistics structures, develop a systematic handover and induction process for logistics managers. Main priorities for 2015 include wide implementation of Agresso, fleet management system and pilot of E-Sourcing Tender Management System in NRC Pakistan.

Logistics support to Gambella

The Regional Logistics Department in coordination with the Ethiopia Country Office Logistics team conducted extensive training in Gambella in September 2014. Gambella emergency office is located in Ethiopia supporting the South Sudanese refugee situation.

The regional logistics department completed the development of the local procurement Standard Operating procedures (SOPs) and provided extensive training on SOPs and warehouse management to all logistics, finance and programme staff in Gambella office, Kule and Terkidi camps. In addition Fleet Management System was introduced to manage Gambella's fleet.

The Regional Logistics Department will continue to provide timely support to all emergency response programmes in the field.

The Regional Programme welcomes NRC Uganda !

NRC Uganda has joined the Horn of Africa, South Sudan and Yemen region as from 31st August 2014. The programme has been active in Uganda since 1997 and now a new country office has been opened in Adjumani, West Nile region to provide assistance to the influx of South Sudanese refugees arriving since December 2013.

The Regional Logistics Department supported the handover process of assets from Gulu and the setup of the new office and guest house in Adjumani.

NRC is an independent, humanitarian non-governmental organisation providing assistance, protection and durable solutions to refugees and internally displaced persons in 20 countries worldwide. "The Refugee" newsletter is published every quarter by the Advocacy Department of the Horn of Africa, South Sudan and Yemen Mission.

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Notice Board

2015 UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award selection process is now open and everyone is encouraged to submit a nomination. Nansen Refugee Award has been bestowed to a person or group for outstanding work on behalf of the forcibly displaced since 1954. The winner is selected by the Nansen Refugee Award Committee, an independent body of experts. The award consists of a commemorative medal and a 100,000 USD monetary prize donated by the Swiss and Norwegian Governments.

Media updates

Mapping the crisis of displaced persons: A recent study showing the correlation between displacement and poverty. [Link](#).

Humanitarians: Aid workers in conflict zones no longer immune, now targeted Humanitarian groups in conflict zones need to reconsider how they protect aid workers now that insurgents no longer provide immunity for relief work, aid experts have said. [Click to open link](#).

In an IRIN article, NRC and others are quoted as saying "The use of 'new technology' is increasingly seen as a critical factor to enable cash transfer programming at scale and to implement cash transfer programmes in remote and insecure areas... [and] instrumental to improve monitoring and evaluation systems, early warning and preparedness initiatives and assessment data collection, amongst others." [Link](#).

Reference to IDMC's disaster report. As the global population grows, austerity bites, brutal wars rage, and climate becomes more extreme, the problem is escalating fast. A recent study by the Norwegian Refugee Council found that in 2013, some 22 million people were displaced by natural disasters alone - twice as many as in the 1970s. [Link](#).

A new online marketplace gives sellers the opportunity to donate 5% to a chosen charity, with NRC as one of the alternatives. [Link](#)

Conflict Affecting Education in S. Sudan new survey shows. NRC is part of the survey showing that an estimated 400,000 children have dropped out of schools as a result of the recent conflict in South Sudan published in Gurtong Trust. [Link](#).

Contributors

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Cover photo: Children attending classes at Kakuma refugee camp in Kenya
Photos: © NRC © NORCAP