

## SUDAN SITUATION

22–28 August 2023



© UNHCR/Ariadne Kypriadi  
These three refugee women were friends back home in their village of Kanga in Sudan. They now live in the Arkoum refugee camp, in Ouaddai province, Chad.  
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### Highlights

The ongoing clashes between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and Rapid Support Forces (RSF) that started on 15 April 2023 have continued for 135 days as of 28 August.

UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi, concluded a four-day visit to South Sudan on 29 August with an [urgent plea](#) for more support to the people fleeing the crisis in neighboring Sudan.

On the same day, UN Relief Chief Martin Griffiths [announced](#) a new USD 20 million allocation from the Central Emergency Response Fund for Sudan as humanitarian needs continue to soar and funding levels are critically low.

On 25 August, the US Government issued a [statement](#) condemning conflict-related sexual violence in Sudan and calling on the conflicting parties to immediately halt the fighting in Nyala, South Darfur and allow safe passage for all civilians out of the city.

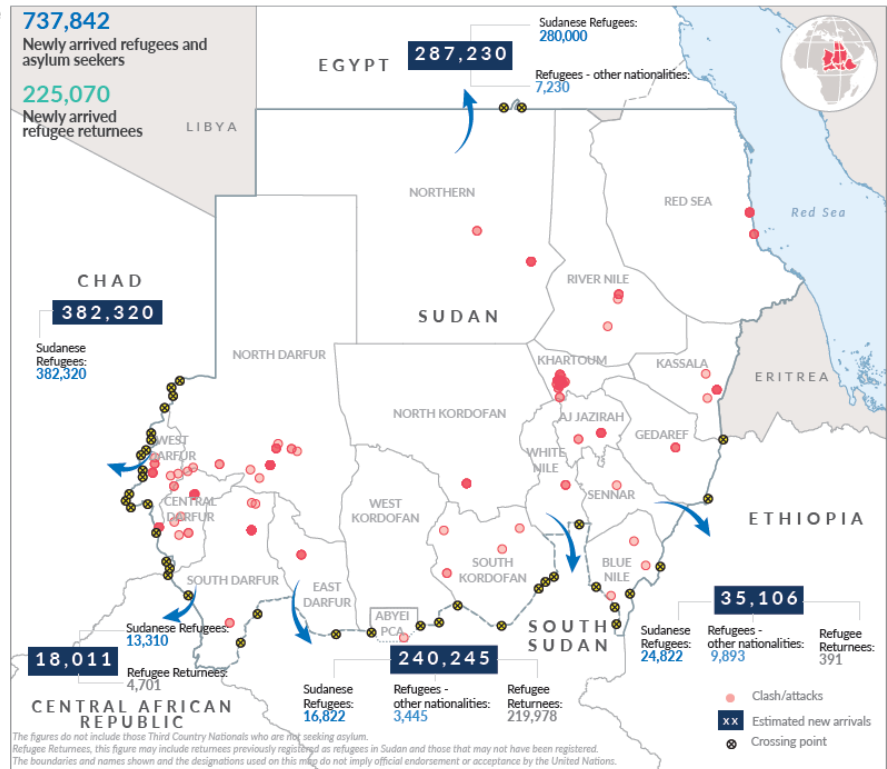
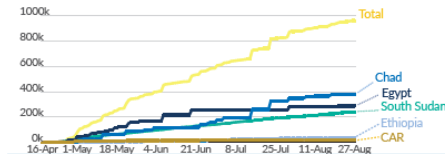
**OVERVIEW:** There are now nearly 4.8 million forcibly displaced due to the recent outbreak of conflict in Sudan, including 3.6 million internally and getting closer every day to 1 million in neighbouring countries. Sudan was already hosting large refugee populations before being impacted by this new emergency and, like hosting countries, needs additional support to provide protection and critical life-saving assistance, including for those who have been secondarily displaced within the country. Urgent needs include water, food, shelter, health, and core relief items. The current priority activities are the registration of new arrivals, relocation away from border areas, identification of especially vulnerable families and persons with specific needs, and putting mechanisms in place to prevent and respond to gender-based violence and ensure alternative care services for unaccompanied refugee children.

**4,751,999** Forcibly Displaced  
**3,601,593** IDPs in Sudan  
**962,912** Newly arrived refugees, asylum seekers and returnees  
**187,494** Self-relocated Refugees in Sudan

**Arrivals by population and estimated gender type**



**New arrivals from Sudan**



## Situation and Operational Response

### SUDAN

#### Highlights

- As of 22 August, the [IOM DTM \(Displacement Tracking Matrix\)](#) reports that the total number of internally displaced in Sudan now stands at 3,601,593 persons.
- During his mission to Sudan, UNHCR's Regional Director for East and Horn of Africa, and Great Lakes, and Regional Refugee Coordinator for the Sudan Situation, Mamadou Dian Balde, engaged with IDPs, refugees, and local authorities in Gedaref, Wad Madani (Jazirah State), and White Nile State, and visited gathering sites hosting IDPs and refugee camps. The Director also met with local authorities, seeking support to ease and/or expedite bureaucratic procedures to allow the delivery of supplies and assistance to people in need. The Director also emphasized refugee inclusion and a solutions-oriented approach in line with the Global Compact on Refugees.
- UNHCR Sudan's official WhatsApp channel has been launched, adding to ongoing initiatives on Communications with Communities (CwC) and Accountability for Affected Populations (AAP) in line with the commitment to establish multichannel complaints and feedback mechanisms. This new channel provides information aligned with the Sudan Help Page and contains a Frequently Asked Questions section in four languages (Amharic, Tigrinya, Arabic and English).
- In Darfur, clashes between SAF and RSF have renewed with reports of civilians being trapped between conflict lines. Continuing clashes in South Darfur have led to new displacement and refugees on the run have also been exposed to looting and other protection issues.
- An alarming number of cholera cases have been reported in the areas around Camp 6 in the Blue Nile State. UNHCR's partner has strengthened awareness raising activities on the prevention of the spread of cholera.
- In Gedaref, the Gallabat border crossing point with Ethiopia has fully reopened with both sides issuing visas.

## Updates by Location

### Darfur

Continuing clashes in South Darfur have led to displacement, including of refugees from Nyala town to El Obeid, Kosti, Ed Daein, Wad Madani and Port Sudan. Protection risks among refugees while moving to safer areas and states continue to be reported, such as looting of their property including money and mobile phones. In other states, the humanitarian situation continues to be dire due to lack of basic service provision (Central Darfur) and lack of available health services (West Darfur).

In North Darfur, UNHCR will prepare advocacy messages in relation to voluntary return in safety and dignity, following news reports of returns among IDPs in Tawilla..

In North Darfur, UNHCR's partner HOPE has conducted protection monitoring through key informants. Their findings revealed that around 3,000 individuals, primarily from nearby villages, had returned to Tawilla, three weeks after armed groups had displaced IDPs and the host community. The informants also indicated that a larger number of individuals are anticipated to return. The attacks have had a severe impact on the town's infrastructure with schools, police post, hospitals, solar panel systems and water supply generators either destroyed or looted. The most pressing needs for the returnees are currently access to food and clean water.

NFI stocks in the Darfur region are depleted and arrangements are being explored to replenish stock coming from Kosti.

### South Kordofan State

The Community-Based Protection Networks (CBPNs) continue to raise challenges related to food, medicines, and non-food items (NFI). The World Food Programme (WFP) has reported on food stock available in their warehouse and Save the Children reports that there are no medicines in warehouse.

### North Kordofan State

WFP called for a meeting with the Sudan Commission for Refugees (COR) and refugee leaders to plan upcoming general food distribution.

Refugees have been without access to medical referrals for five months now. Save the Children that was supporting with referrals through mobile clinics have run out of available funds for the operation of the clinics and is therefore only providing trauma-related counselling at the moment.

### Blue Nile State

The reported cholera cases in the areas surrounding Camp 6 are alarming especially considering the overall shortage of medicines in the state. In the camp, UNHCR's partner has strengthened awareness raising activities on the prevention of the spread of cholera. Camp 6 continues to receive a small number of spontaneous arrivals from Ethiopia.

A total 300 NFI kits will be provided in the coming weeks as part of the IDP response, including Blue Nile and Sennar States.

### White Nile State

The Wali (Governor) announced the formation of a High Council for Humanitarian Assistance, which to the stated aim to provide accurate data on displaced individuals in the White Nile State. The Wali also stressed the need for collaboration among government agencies and aid organizations in provision of assistance.

UNHCR, COR, and partner organisations have commenced the joint house-to-house verification exercise covering persons with specific needs in Dabat Bosin camp. The information gathered will be used to inform the provision of assistance, protection, and services to those most in need.

On the IDP response, landowner disputes have halted UNHCR's construction of communal shelters and the Norwegian Refugee Council's (NRC) WASH activities in Khor Ajwal.

UNHCR has provided partial NFI kits to 587 households of newly arrived IDPs in Rabak, Khor Ajwal, and Kosti.

WFP plans to provide food to all IDPs in gathering sites, starting 3 September.

UNHCR is actively engaging with refugee and IDP-led organizations and plans to enhance their capacity through various training programs including on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), fraud prevention, and project management.

### **Gedaref**

The Gallabat border crossing point with Ethiopia has fully reopened with both sides issuing visas.

UNHCR and COR conducted a joint border monitoring mission on 22 August. Border authorities reported that 464 Sudanese and 185 Ethiopian and Eritrea refugees have returned to Sudan.

As part of the IDP response, UNHCR is conducting cash-based interventions (CBI) activities in three locations targeting 832 IDP households with some 5,000 individuals, including those in gathering sites and living within host communities. Site management activities have commenced with mapping of gathering sites in the state.

New Ethiopian arrivals have been recorded for the first time since the outbreak of conflict in Sudan with 16 new arrivals reported so far in August, all coming from the Amhara region and belonging to the Qemant ethnic group. The group is undergoing registration and protection interviews.

### **Wad Madani (Jazirah State)**

UNHCR has supported 107 families in the gathering sites and continues to assist urgent cases that require medical attention including through referrals. UNHCR, together with COR and legal partner Mutawinat are planning to provide legal and material support to refugees who have been detained.

Relocation of refugees and asylum-seekers will resume with 179 individuals to be relocated to Gedaref.

### **Cross-border interventions**

An interagency mission took place from Chad to Kulbus in West Darfur to do assessments, identify vulnerable households to be targeted, and identify distribution sites.

UNHCR's partner, the Sudanese Organization for Relief and Recovery (SORR) has dispatched staff to Kulbus to conduct an NFI/Protection assessment. UNHCR is planning to distribute 1,677 NFI kits targeting 8,383 individuals in Kulbus.

## **CHAD**

### **Highlights**

- As of 26 August, a total of 382,320 refugees have been counted by UNHCR in eastern Chad.
- A total of 165,674 individuals (43% of new arrivals) have already been relocated to safer locations away from the border through 209 convoys.
- As of 25 August, 28,299 family shelters have been built in the provinces of Ouaddaï, Sila and Wadi Fira.
- New arrivals continue to be reported, including 3,892 between 18 and 26 August. The most urgent refugee needs remain shelter, core relief items, WASH (especially access to water), and health services.

### **Relocation**

As of 27 August, 165,674 individuals have been relocated through 209 convoys to the existing and new camps in the provinces of Ouaddaï (105,469 individuals); Sila (46,340 individuals); and Wadi Fira (13,865 individuals), bringing the total of new arrivals relocated to 43 per cent.

### **Protection**

In Ouaddaï, a total of 215 cases of gender-based violence (GBV) have been reported since the start of the crisis.

HIAS, with the support of UNHCR and in collaboration with Chad Red Cross Chad (CRT), *Association Tchadienne pour le Bien-Être Familial* (ASTBEF), Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) and camp leaders, have conducted 76 awareness sessions and 21 focus groups on GBV in camps and sites, reaching 30,274 people.

More than 8,000 refugees have taken part in 16 awareness-raising sessions on the services available for protection against sexual exploitation and abuse, organized by UNHCR, in collaboration with the CNARR (*la Commission Nationale d'Accueil et de Réintégration des Réfugiés et Rapatriés*), in Metché, Farchana, Ourang and Adré.

A total of 1,117 at-risk children have been identified and 63 best interest assessments have been initiated by HIAS. With the support of UNHCR, HIAS and the CRT have facilitated family reunification of 54 unaccompanied children. In addition, 31,310 children attended child-friendly spaces. A total of 50 girls aged 12 to 18 have received hygiene kits distributed by HIAS with the support of the UN Population Fund (UNFPA).

In total, 4,097 persons with specific needs have been identified, of whom 977 individuals have received material assistance.

In addition, 15,614 persons have participated in 19 mass sensitization sessions on human rights organized by HIAS.

### **Health and Nutrition**

Since the start of the emergency, 56,588 medical consultations have been carried out. Malaria is currently the most frequent pathology, followed by cases of acute respiratory infections, and watery diarrhea. The children examined benefited from seasonal malaria chemoprophylaxis.

In addition, 4,983 mental health cases have been treated.

A total of 28 per cent of global acute malnutrition was detected among 39,757 children screened (age 6-59 months). A total of 7,279 cases of moderate acute malnutrition and 3,891 cases of severe acute malnutrition have been treated. To date, 8,094 pregnant and breastfeeding women have been screened and 844 cases of moderate acute malnutrition have been treated.

In addition, 457 deliveries have been attended by skilled personnel.

As part of the national poliomyelitis vaccination campaign, which ended recently, 97,926 children (age 0-59 months) have been vaccinated.

Newly arrived persons at the Grena site in Birack (Guéréda, Wadi Fira Province) benefit from the health care and nutrition services offered by UNHCR's partner International Rescue Committee (IRC).

In Zabout (Sila), 4,339 children and 1,602 pregnant and breastfeeding women have received blanket feeding.

### **Food Distribution**

As of 26 August, WFP has provided food to 349,808 refugees, Chadian returnees and vulnerable people in host communities in the provinces of Ouaddaï, Sila and Wadi Fira.

### **Shelters, infrastructure, and WASH**

As of 25 August, 28,299 family shelters, 163 sheds, 4,534 latrines and showers have been built, and 21 boreholes are functional across the three provinces of Ouaddaï, Sila and Wadi Fira.

## Central African Republic (CAR)

### Highlights

- On August 19, the Central African Government signed a decree granting refugee status on a prima facie basis to Sudanese who have fled their country following the onset of the crisis in April 2023.
- As of 28 August, a total of 1,701 individuals have relocated from border areas to the Korsi site.
- UNHCR and MINUSCA have organized an inter-agency training on the Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and Sexual Harassment (SH), targeting 34 focal points from 20 organizations working on the response.

### Response Overview

Since the beginning of the crisis, an estimated number of 18,011 persons have arrived in CAR from Sudan, including 13,310 refugees and 4,701 Central African returnees. The majority are women and children, who upon arrival stayed with host families, or in makeshift shelter and in schools in Am-Dafock, Vakaga region, where UNHCR and partners provided protection and life-saving assistance.

Due to the volatile security situation at the border, a relocation site, Korsi, was identified, close to the town of Birao, at about 65 km from Am-Dafock. To date a total of 1,701 have relocated in Korsi. As the roads to Am-Dafock have become impassable due to the rains, the assisted relocation exercise has been temporarily placed on hold, though self-organized relocations continue. The National Commission for Refugees (CNR) and INTERSOS have deployed staff in Am-Dafock to conduct border and protection monitoring and provide information. They reported that a few families have traveled on the Nyala-Um Dhukun-Birao axis, to avoid the current dire situation in Am-Dafock.

Assistance continues in Korsi, where construction works for family and community shelters, latrines and showers are ongoing. Biometric registration continues, a listening centre was established and individual and community psychosocial support is provided. An information and feedback center and a complaint management mechanism have also been set up in Korsi.

Awareness raising sessions on GBV, protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), and child protection are also taking place, as well as healthcare and distribution of food and CRIs. Education activities started in Korsi, to include refugee children in the national school system.

In Bangui and Birao, coordination efforts are led by CNR and UNHCR.

### Registration

A total of 8,925 persons were biometrically registered.

### Relocation

As of 23 August, a total of 1,701 individuals have relocated to Korsi, mostly women and children.

A total of 842 persons have arrived by their own means since the last relocation convoy. They were registered and provided with assistance.

### Protection

CNR and INTERSOS staff have been deployed at the border continue to monitor the situation in Am-Dafock.

INTEROS has carried out 27 monitoring visits to refugees in Korsi and host community in Birao. A total of 30 community relays were identified, in Am-Dafock, in Korsi and Birao. A total of 18 community relays participated in a training organized in Korsi focused on community-based protection and protection monitoring.

INTEROS has organized individual psychosocial counseling sessions with 10 persons with specific needs, including breastfeeding women, elderly people, and people with chronic disease. In addition, 6 group counseling sessions on family conflicts targeted over 85 women and girls. Furthermore, 5 group discussions have been organized with 166 women and girls on the consequences of rape and forced marriage. Workshops on daily life skills, including braiding and knitting, have targeted 25 women and girls.

Since the relocation started, a total of 280 persons with specific needs were identified in Korsi, including women at risk, female headed households, GBV survivors, unaccompanied and separated minors), who were referred to relevant services.

INTERSOS continues to raise awareness on the information and feedback center and the complaint management mechanism in Korsi. Three community sensitization sessions have taken place, targeting 481 people.

INTERSOS has conducted 62 perception surveys with returnee households in Birao. The main concerns identified are related to access to health, shelter, and lack of core relief items.

NOURRIS started to build 10 solar lamps in Korsi, aiming at mitigating the risk of GBV.

The Return and Reintegration Support Project (PARET-CAR), an initiative of the Central African Government under the supervision of the Ministry of Humanitarian Action, Solidarity and National Reconciliation, supported by UNHCR, identified 1,314 returnees in Birao.

### **Health**

UNHCR's partner NOURRIR carried out an awareness raising session on hygiene promotion and the proper use of showers and latrines, targeting 600 households.

During the reporting period, NOURRIR, MSF-Spain and IMC, under the lead of the Health District of Birao, carried out 487 medical consultations, in addition to 18 prenatal consultations, 13 gynecological consultations and 8 post-natal consultations, 5 surgeries and 2 child deliveries. A total of 13 patients have been referred to the Health District in Birao for secondary health care.

A total of 21 children have been assisted for moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and 19 children for severe acute malnutrition (SAM).

### **Shelter, CRIs and Food Distribution**

NOURRIR completed 456 shelters in Korsi and started the construction of 50 new shelters.

WFP and NOURRIR distributed dry food to 83 people (49 households). Additionally, NOURRIR distributed hot meals to 198 newly arrived persons (109 households) in Korsi.

*Le Projet d'appui au retour et à la Réintégration en Centrafrique (PARET-RCA)* and WFP have finalized the distribution of dry food to 833 returnees (310 households) in Birao.

### **Education**

This week UNHCR, INTERSOS, NOURRIR and CNR have targeted 305 refugees (including 130 women and 105 children) through community sensitization sessions to promote the participation of children in educational programs, focusing on the importance of girls' involvement.

## ETHIOPIA

### Highlights

- As of 27 August, 35,106 refugees and asylum-seekers (16,865 families) have arrived in Ethiopia from Sudan.
- Following a relative improvement of the security situation in Amhara, UNHCR has been able to resume its activities in Metema.
- A cholera outbreak in the Kumer camp, Amhara region, has claimed three lives. There is an urgent need for antibiotics and improved sanitation conditions.
- The impact of the pause on food assistance in Ethiopia continues to have grave health and protection impacts. UNHCR is reallocating funds for emergency shelter, WASH, and protection interventions to provide cooked meals for newly arrived refugees from Sudan.

### Response Overview

Following a de-escalation of the security situation in the Amhara region, which is one of the main areas of influx of refugees from Sudan to Ethiopia, assistance activities have fully resumed. Despite the ongoing clashes in Sudan, the number of new arrivals has decreased (-90%) compared to the previous week.

### Population Movements

As of 27 August, 35,106 refugees and asylum-seekers (16,865 families) have crossed from Sudan to Ethiopia, of which 53 per cent crossed through the Metema entry point in Amhara; 45 per cent through the Kurmuk entry point in Benishangul-Gumuz; and some 700 individuals (2%) through different entry points in Gambella (Pagak and Burbiey). Most of these people are Sudanese (71%), followed by Eritreans (24%), South Sudanese (5%), Ethiopian returnees (1%), and other nationalities (0.2%).

### Access

In Metema border area, UNHCR staff, partners, as well as persons fleeing the conflict in Sudan have full access to the border crossing point; no issues have been reported by staff or by new arrivals.

UNHCR and IOM have full access to the Kurmuk border crossing point (BSGR); no recent issues reported.

### Protection

In Kurmuk Transit Center (TC) in Benishangul Gumuz Region (BSGR), UNHCR is continuing with the counselling of refugees and asylum-seekers on protection issues such as access to registration, medical services, relocation from Kurmuk TC to Sherkole camp, and provision of assistance, such as core relief items (CRIs).

In view of the imminent start of the school year, UNHCR and partners are exploring possibilities to relocate refugees from public schools.

UNHCR and partners resumed activities in all three sites in the Metema area. Since the start of the influx from Sudan, 18,491 refugees and asylum-seekers have been screened at Metema, of which 9,383 have been relocated to Kumer site and 2,500 to Metema Transit Center.

Because of the food pause in Assosa for the past three months, asylum-seekers and their children have resorted to alternative income generating activities, including gold mining. Plan International Ethiopia is working to assess the health situation, GBV risk and child labor risks of the concerned children.

An assessment of the education situation in Akendayu and Dulshetalo kebeles (BSGR) revealed a lack of emergency education for over 5,000 newly arrived children of school age.

A total of 332 unaccompanied and separated children have been identified, 417 Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC), including 184 girls, have been identified and registered, in the Assosa operating area.

In Metema, no new cases of separated and unaccompanied children have been identified. In the reporting period, 320 children benefited from the psychosocial first aid, and 288 children participated in activities in the child-friendly centers.

For the Kurmuk Transit Center, UNHCR's partner Action for the Needy in Ethiopia (ANE) has highlighted the need to improve shelter conditions and enhance privacy, while IRC has advocated for the recruitment of female security



guards at the Women and Girls Wellness Centers. During the last week, 150 women were consulted on issues related to GBV, including prevention, reporting mechanisms and available help.

In Metema, the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahido Church Development and Inter-Church Aid Commission (DICAC) have provided psychosocial first aid and distributed flyers on GBV awareness to refugees. Over the last week, a total of 35 individuals have benefitted from an awareness-raising session on GBV; 100 persons have been educated on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA); and 24 women-at-risk have received dignity kits.

In Assosa (Kurmuk, Kurmuk Transit Center and Sherkole), there are currently 422 persons with specific needs (PSN), including 306 women.

In Metema, the total number of PSN identified since the start of the influx from Sudan is 657 persons. Partners have conducted home visits to 44 individuals who have been referred the Refugees and Returnees Service (RRS) for non-food items support.

### **Health**

In Kumer site, Amhara region, 11 new cases of Cholera were identified during the reporting period, with 3 fatalities. Currently, 21 persons are under treatment at the Metema hospital and the Cholera Treatment Center in Kumer. RRS and partners, led by the Zonal Health office, are holding daily meetings to coordinate response to the outbreak.

Medical Teams International (MTI) has screened 148 children for malnutrition, identifying nine cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and two cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM). In addition, 21 mothers have benefitted from antenatal care visits (ANC) at the Kumer health post, and 23 from family planning consultations.

To date, 4,577 persons (including 1,006 children under five years) have benefitted from medical consultations since the beginning of the recent influx from Sudan. So far, 18 SAM cases and 101 MAM cases have been identified.

### **Shelter/Site development and relocation**

In Kurmuk, UNHCR shelter partner ANE have met with shelter committee members composed of refugee representatives to coordinate on their roles and responsibilities. The committee is also working to increase the number of shelters available in Sherkole for the relocation of refugees and asylum-seekers from the school.

Currently, 80 tents and 20 hangars have been erected in the Kurmuk Transit Center; 77 emergency shelters have been erected in Sherkole camp (108 still to be completed); and five tents at the Gizen entry point.

In Kumer, site development activities are ongoing: out of planned 20 hangars 12 have been completed, while 1.8 km of road and two culverts have been finalized. Sandbags have been distributed to 447 families to strengthen their tents against rain and storm and prevent rainwater penetration. To date, some 1,600 tents have been pitched in Kumer.

### **Food**

In Kurmuk Transit Center, despite the ongoing distribution of High Energy Biscuits to young children and lactating mothers, the levels of acute malnutrition identified in three kebeles (Akendayo, Dulshitalo and Dulhode) call for immediate attention.

### **WASH**

The partners in Kurmuk highlighted the need to increase awareness among the refugee community about the proper usage of latrines, the importance of regular maintenance of water containers, hygiene practices, and the use of water with chlorine. As the refugee community expressed interest to conduct the cleaning of the latrines, the WASH team will provide them with the necessary materials and educate them on their use.

The water supply in Kumer currently stands at 10.7 liters per person per day and 20 liters per person per day at the transit site.

To increase the current sanitation level, three additional latrine blocs are being built in Kumer site, with four additional blocs planned. Currently, the site has 15 functional latrine blocs while the standard is 24 blocks.

## EGYPT

### Highlights

- Some 280,000 Sudanese and 7,230 individuals of other nationalities, totaling more than 287,000 people, have crossed into Egypt since the start of the crisis according to the Government of Egypt. The daily number of entries into Egypt from Sudan remains stable with an average of some 300 entries through Qustol and some 150 through Argeen border crossing.
- Congestion at the Argeen and Qustol border crossings has started to reduce after the Egyptian authorities imposed a traffic mitigation system in Abu Simbel and Aswan to relieve the pressure on the border. The blockage and conditions on the border had led to the deaths of truck drivers in recent weeks. In Argeen, numbers have decreased from 1,500 to 1,000 trucks in recent days. The Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC) will offer regular daily medical services to drivers waiting at the border. Complex cases or cases that require immediate medical intervention will also now be referred to the Abu Simbel or Aswan public hospitals.
- UNHCR has received high interest from Sudanese refugees in university scholarships after publicly announcing a call for 50 scholarships under the *Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative Fund* (DAFI) scheme. UNHCR has received more than 400 applications, half of them from Sudanese students. It is anticipated that by the closing date, 2,000 refugee youth may apply. This figure could also rise to 4,000 students if the Ministry of Higher Education decides to charge refugees a USD 2,000 registration fee for Egyptian Universities. The increased application numbers (up from 1,200-1,400 in previous years) may also be related to the new DAFI platform, where students can now apply online. UNHCR Egypt has requested an increase of DAFI scholarships allocations for 2023/2024, which will start in early October.

### Response Overview

#### Protection

In the first half of August, the number of registration requests for newly arrived unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) increased by 39 per cent (117 UASC compared to 84 in the first half of July). In response to this trend, UNHCR has increased the monthly dedicated slots for new UASC registrations from 300 to 360. Of the UASC who have entered the country from Sudan so far this month, 50 per cent are Eritrean and 41 per cent Sudanese, which aligns with a trend before the onset of the conflict. Since 2020, Eritrean UASC have been the top nationality, as they flee the country to evade military conscription, which starts from the age of 15 or 16 for both boys and girls. UNHCR has observed that most UASC enter Egypt irregularly due to a lack of documentation and the difficulty of obtaining visas.

#### Registration

As of 27 August, UNHCR has provided pre-registration appointments to 66,997 newly arrived individuals (31,972 households), of whom 40,919 individuals (19,747 households) have already been registered (61%). The trend remains disproportionately high for female new arrivals (56%). The majority are Sudanese nationals (91%), and most originate from Khartoum (89%), with a slight increase in the number of people arriving from South Darfur (2%) and North Darfur (2%). In terms of documentation, 59 per cent of registered heads of household are in possession of a travel document.

#### Cash Assistance

In the past week, there has been a 57 per cent increase in the number of people provided emergency cash assistance as UNHCR continues to work towards bringing assistance to more people in need.

As of 26 August, 35,231 registered and unregistered individuals (12,179 households) have been identified by UNHCR as eligible for emergency cash assistance. Of those, some 24,592 individuals (8,547 households) have already been assisted since the start of the Sudan conflict.

Age and gender trends remain consistent, with most assessed families being female headed (71%), and the majority being between 18-59 years of age (80%), while 18% is aged 60 years and above.

A higher prevalence of vulnerability is noticed in Alexandria and Aswan, as 69 per cent of those assessed in Alexandria and 66 per cent of those in Aswan are found to be eligible, compared to 62 per cent in Greater Cairo. Vulnerable cases include, among others, single parents, lactating women, elderly, people with disabilities and with children.

## Education

UNHCR recently assessed public school needs in Sudanese hosting communities in southern Egypt. UNHCR visited Nasr Al-Nuba and Daraw in the Aswan area to meet with its education authorities to assess the needs given the continued influx of refugees into the area. The mission included a visit to the Aswan building authority to receive specifications and estimate costing for the establishment of four new playgrounds in refugee-hosting schools. UNHCR and the Ministry of Education have agreed to establish four playgrounds in public schools hosting refugee children to encourage social cohesion and peaceful coexistence between refugee and host community children through the practice of sports and other activities.

## Health

A recent UNHCR health assessment mission has revealed high medical needs in the south. Cancer, blood pressure, and diabetes are among the most common health issues reported by the Sudanese community in southern Egypt. Many new arrivals have substantial medical needs with many fleeing to Egypt to receive critical medical care, which is no longer possible in parts of Sudan.

During a UNHCR visit to a UNFPA safe space for women in the south, UN Population Fund highlighted that they have reviewed many requests to support pregnant women with their delivery and many new arrivals cannot afford the costs for medical follow-up.

Health and housing continue to be the greatest needs of the new Sudanese arrivals.

## Inter-Agency Coordination

The UNHCR-led Inter-Agency Coordination team in Egypt, conducted a survey with extensive partner participation to enhance coordination in response to the Sudan Situation. The survey was open to the stakeholders engaged in the refugee response, such as donors, UN agencies, international and national NGOs, sectors and sub-sectors lead and co-lead focal points. The survey questions included recommendations to improve the contents and the design of meetings and to enhance inclusiveness and participation of the various partners in these meetings. The survey was well received by partners and constructive feedback was received from 33 respondents.

## Core Relief Items

Since the onset of the Sudan conflict, UNHCR Egypt has delivered 634,180 water bottles, 150,000 hygiene kits, and 80,000 sanitary napkins to new arrivals. UNHCR has also installed three Rubb Halls at the border crossings between Egypt and Sudan, and a fourth Rubb Hall has been installed in the registration centre in Cairo. The Rubb halls have facilitated the scale up of the response and provided shaded areas for asylum-seekers to rest. In addition, UNHCR has delivered 1,000 blankets, 50 mattresses, 1,000 floor mats, 9 commercial fridges, 15 family tents, 10 tablets, 4 freezers, 4 logistic trolleys, 10 laptops, 20 smart phones, 30 fire extinguishers, 250 waiting benches, 1 sound system, 1 multi-function printer, 1 office fridge, 40 fans, 50 office chairs, and 20 tables to UNHCR's partner, the Egyptian Red Crescent.

# SOUTH SUDAN

## Highlights

- As of 27 August, a cumulative number of 55,850 households/240,894 individuals have arrived in South Sudan, with a 20% increase in new arrivals during the last week. Numbers of people entering via Joda/Renk continue to increase, accounting for 98 per cent of all new arrivals.
- South Sudanese returnees continue to comprise the majority of new arrivals (91%), followed by Sudanese (7%), and Eritrean (1%) refugees.
- Funding is urgently needed to continue and scale up the onward transportation of returnees. As of 24 August, over 17,000 refugees and asylum-seekers have been transported onwards from the border locations.
- UNHCR's High Commissioner, Filippo Grandi visited South Sudan from 26-29 August, meeting with government officials, partners and donors and visiting the Wedwill refuge settlement in Aweil.
- UNHCR's Director for the Regional Bureau for East, Horn, and Great Lakes, Mamadou Dian Balde, visited South Sudan from 23-29 August, including a visit to Renk Transit Center and Wedwil Refugee Settlement, where he was able to meet with refugees, returnees, and local government officials.
- WFP will increase the food rations provided to refugees from 50 per cent (the level of rations countrywide for refugees due to underfunding) to 70 per cent in Wedwill refugee Ssettlement for a three-month period.

### **Protection**

New arrivals recorded at the Joda/Renk border accounted for 98 per cent of all arrivals during the reporting period, whilst arrivals through Panakauch continued to decrease. This trend follows reports that entry routes via Joda are safer and that transportation of some returnees to the Joda border has been facilitated by the South Sudan Women's Union.

Those who arrived through Panakuach have reported fleeing clashes between armed groups in Kadugli, in the South Kordofan State of Sudan

Some 1,200 returnees who were stranded at the Nyeroup Port for 10 days have now been transported safely to Bentiu. Local stakeholders have since agreed to suspend relocation via the Nyreoup Port until the weather situation improves to avoid returnees being stranded there. Roads to the south of Unity State and to Mayom are still challenging with has led to returnees being stuck in Bentiu and along the road connecting Nyeruop to Rubkona in Unity State.

### **Health**

In Bentiu, the first suspected case of cholera has been identified and isolated in an MSF hospital. Health actors are closely monitoring the situation.

In Abyei, an IOM mobile clinic has begun supporting minor cases twice a week. They have completed 185 consultations for refugees during the week.

### **Food Security and Nutrition**

WFP will exceptionally increase the food ration provided to refugees from 50 per cent to 70 per cent in Wedwill Refugee Settlement for a three-month period due to the vulnerability of new arrivals. However, refugee food needs extend beyond Wedwil. In Abyei, the one-time cash assistance for food is insufficient when refugees cannot be relocated from Abyei in a timely manner.

The National Nutrition Cluster Coordinator visited Rotriak, in Unity State and expressed concern regarding the returnee influx to Mayendit and Leer. Both counties have an Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) severity scale reaching Phase 5, which is a famine classification, and which indicates that at least 20 per cent of households are in a famine situation or worse.

### **Water and Sanitation**

An increase in new arrivals and poor road conditions have challenged water provision with provision averaging between 10-15 liters per person per day (the emergency standard is 15 liters per person per day).

In Panakuach, the IOM contractor for water supply suspended water delivery due to poor road conditions. Casual workers were deployed to carry water with buckets from the nearby handpump-boreholes to the transit centre.

The ratio of people per latrine across transit centres has fluctuated between 20 (Panakuach) and 157 (Renk). To cover this gap, funding has been secured for the construction of 30 latrine stances in Renk, which will improve but not resolve this gap. Critical latrine coverage gaps are also present in Abyei and Paloich.

### **Shelter and NFI**

Across the four camps in Maban, the Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED) has successfully handed over 25 completed shelters for persons with specific needs.

### **Camp Coordination and Camp Management**

In Paloich, discussions are ongoing for the potential relocation of returnees from Paloich to a new site in Melut as conditions at the transit site and the road access are worsening.

In Panakuach, UNHCR's logistics partner Action Africa Help International (AAHI) began renovation at the transit centre, completing the dumping of marram at the compound site and working on the drainage system to mitigate flooding.

## Response Plans and Funding Situation

### Refugee Response Plan (RRP)

- The inter-agency [Sudan Emergency Refugee Response Plan – May-October 2023](#) seeks **USD 566.4 million** to support refugees, returnees and host communities in CAR, Chad, Egypt, Ethiopia and South Sudan. As of 28 August, the RRP had reached a funding level of **35%** (\$198.2 million) as per the [Refugee Funding Tracker](#).
- The revision and extension of the Sudan RRP through December 2023 is being finalized. New requirements will reach more than \$1 billion for a planning figure of 1.8 million people.

### Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP)

- The revised inter-agency [Humanitarian Response Plan \(HRP\) for Sudan – May-December 2023](#) requires **USD 2.56 billion** to help 18 million people.

### UNHCR Supplementary Appeal

- UNHCR's [Sudan Emergency Supplementary Appeal – May-October 2023](#) was revised in June to reflect the needs of **USD 277,354,702** (within the RRP and HRP). As of 20 July, the Supplementary Appeal had reached a funding level of **34%** (\$95.7 million). A new revision of this Appeal will be published in early September 2023 in line with the revision of the RRP.

## Resources

- UNHCR's [Operational Data Portal \(ODP\) for the Sudan Situation](#) provides daily updates on the refugee and returnee arrivals in Sudan's neighbouring countries.
- [UNHCR and IOM Joint Dashboard](#) of arrivals to South Sudan, including data on returnee intentions, onward movements, and numbers and locations of returnees in and around Renk.
- [UNHCR Global Focus Sudan Operation page](#)
- [UNHCR Sudan Emergency website](#)
- [Overview of Refugees and Asylum-Seekers Distribution & Movement in Sudan Dashboard](#) (as of 15 August).
- [Sudan Regional RRP Progress Report for Egypt – July 2023](#)
- UNHCR's HELP site for Refugees and Asylum-Seekers in Sudan provides information to individuals seeking information and support inside Sudan (in [English](#) and [Arabic](#)).

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