

## Context and methodology

Following the outbreak of armed conflict in Sudan on 15 April 2023, Ethiopia is receiving thousands of forcibly displaced people at three main points of entry along the land border between Sudan and Ethiopia. The Government's Refugees and Returnees Service (RRS) and UNHCR are coordinating the response to the new refugee inflows, including daily border monitoring, screening for asylum-seekers and refugees, and coordinating the provision of basic services, such as food, water, temporary shelter as well as emergency healthcare, together with partners.

RRS and UNHCR screen Sudanese and Non-Sudanese new arrivals who are seeking international protection in Ethiopia and Ethiopian refugees returning to Ethiopia. Data is collected at household level, while individual registration procedures will be conducted with biometrics. Category of persons screened and recorded by RRS/UNHCR include:

- **Ethiopian refugee returnees:** previously registered as refugees in Sudan. UNHCR collects information like refugee ID number, camp names, etc
- **Sudanese refugees/asylum seekers:** UNHCR identifies both Sudanese previously registered as refugees in Ethiopia and Sudanese newly arrived in need of international protection
- **Non-Sudanese refugees/asylum seekers** in need of international protection include mainly Eritreans and South Sudanese.

The methodology and tools developed by UNHCR and RRS help among others to: i) profile new arrivals (intention of return, persons with specific needs..), ii) record refugee ID numbers of all forcibly displaced persons previously registered as refugees in Sudan with the purpose of reconciling data to ultimately help in maintaining its integrity across the two countries and iii) identify Ethiopian refugee returnees from Sudan in order to provide the necessary return assistance.

## Key figures

**37,702**

Total new arrivals in need of international protection

**35,737**

Sudanese and Non-Sudanese refugees/asylum seekers

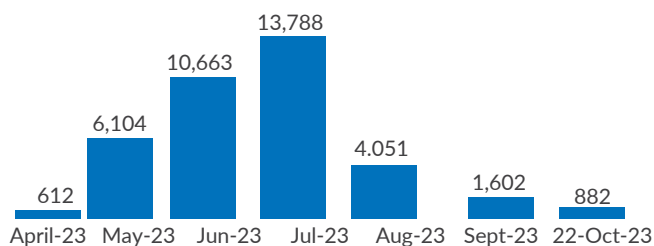
**1,965**

Ethiopian refugee returnees

## Gender breakdown

Children (0 - 17 years)		Adult (18 years+)	
Boys	Girls	Male	Female
22%	20%	37%	21%

## Monthly arrival trends | April - October 2023



## Relocation

**9,383**

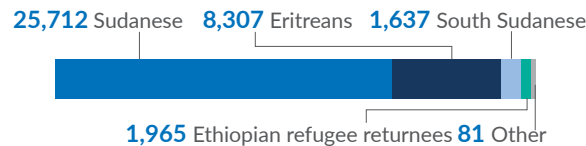
Individuals relocated from Metema TC to Kumer site

**1,364**

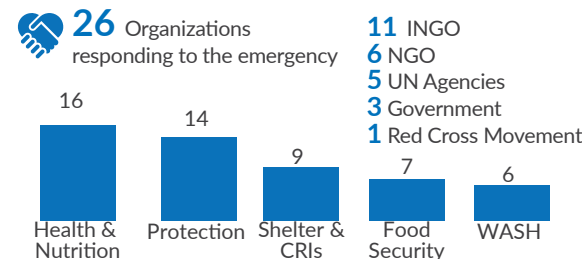
Individuals relocated from Kurmuk TC to Sherkole camp




## Nationality breakdown








## Partnership



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Sector	Response	Priorities / Challenges	Partners
 <b>Protection</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Andrew Mbogori, UNHCR Representative in Ethiopia, travelled on mission to the border entry points in Metema (Amhara region) and Kurmuk (Benishangul-Gumuz region) to assess the situation, needs, and the response. He met with various stakeholders, including the government's Refugees and Returnees Service (RRS), local authorities, partners, refugee representatives, to further strengthen the response.</li> <li>Despite the security situation in Amhara, UNHCR staff, partners, and persons fleeing the conflict in Sudan have full access to the border point in Metema. UNHCR and partners continue to provide protection and assistance to refugees and asylum-seekers.</li> <li>In Kumer site and Metema transit center (Amhara region) and in Kurmuk transit center (BSGR), a total of 114 refugees and asylum seekers received counselling at protection desks.</li> <li>UNHCR, Plan International Ethiopia (PIE) and other partners continue to extend special protection support to 815 Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC) and Other Vulnerable Children (OVC), in Kurmuk (483) and 332 in Metema. In Kurmuk, the Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS) reunited two UASCs with their families and 158 caregivers were referred to the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) for inclusion in the Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance. While in Metema, 50 children received Psychological Support First Aid (PFA), 37 placed in care arrangements, 52 referred to NRC for shelter assistance and in total 12 social workers and Child Welfare Committee members were mentored in identifying cases and facilitating referrals. In addition, in Metema, 120 children with specific needs from the host community were identified for in-kind assistance.</li> <li>In Metema border area, the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahido Church Development and Inter-church Aid Commission (DICAC) conducted two mobile outreach campaigns focused on GBV and Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), distributed flyers providing key messages on prevention from GBV and Cholera as well as on services and support systems available in the different sites. At the Kumer site and Metema Transit Center, 700 women benefitted from awareness-raising sessions on PSEA and GBV reporting mechanisms organized by DICAC and UNHCR. DICAC also provided individual counselling sessions for 31 GBV survivors, made home visits to six others and provided PFA to 17 individuals.</li> <li>So far, 40 GBV cases have been reported in the Metema area. Additionally, UNICEF provided dignity kits to 319 women and girls of reproductive age.</li> <li>At the Kumer site and Metema transit center, twelve persons with specific needs were provided with crutches and auxiliary sticks, while others were profiled to receive assistive devices. Home visits were conducted to monitor the living conditions of 43 persons with specific needs (PSNs) and 60 PSNs received CRIs, including soap, bedsheets and mats. There are a total of 674 PSNs in the different sites in Metema.</li> <li>There have also been reports of Ethiopian refugees who are returning from Sudan, using the Humera border point in Tigray. Some refugees who returned from Sudan to Sheraro received CRIs and multipurpose cash. UNHCR team is conducting protection monitoring and responding to their needs.</li> <li>In Kurmuk, identification and verification of beneficiaries has kicked off for the distribution of multi-purpose cash assistance to 829 most vulnerable households.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In Benishangul Gumuz (BSGR), Yabus entry point remains inaccessible due to road and weather conditions. Access to IDPs/returnees in the Metekel and Kamashi zones is intermittently restricted due to the security situation.</li> <li>The main concerns raised at the protection desks include malnutrition of children, child protection, wet feeding at the border, relocation, voluntary returns, registration, documentation, health, Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) and other types of assistance such as Core Relief Items (CRIs) and security.</li> <li>The mobile and internet networks in the Amhara and BSGR have remained highly unreliable with frequent and prolonged disruptions. This is hampering communication and coordination efforts.</li> </ul>	RRS, UNHCR, RaDO, DICAC, PIE, IOM, UNICEF, IHS, DRMO, EMT, ANE, GOAL, Red Cross, Community volunteers

Sector	Response	Priorities / Challenges	Partners
 <b>Health &amp; Nutrition</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Cholera outbreak in the Kumer site, Amhara region, has so far claimed nine lives. The local administration set up a Cholera Treatment Centre (CTC) supported by UNHCR and partners where 452 patients were admitted since the start of the outbreak in mid-August. Medical Teams International (MTI), in collaboration with the Gondar Health Office, trained 20 local health care professionals in Genda Wuha.</li> <li>In collaboration with the Woreda Health Office, Oral Cholera Vaccination (OCV) started at the Metema entry point, transit center and in Kumer site, already reaching 5,904 individuals above age of 1.</li> <li>In Metema transit center and Kumer site, with Innovative Humanitarian Solutions (IHS), MTI and MSF-H, over 2,500 individuals were reached with an awareness raising campaign conducted by Community Hygiene Promoters (CHPs) on cholera.</li> <li>In Kumer site, the CHPs are also carrying out active case surveillance, so far identifying 239 suspected cases. One Oral Rehydration Point (ORP) was established by UNHCR partner Action for the Needy in Ethiopia (ANE). Decontamination of the infected areas is ongoing, with 172 shelters in the affected zones disinfected so far.</li> <li>Currently, three additional latrine blocks are being built in the Kumer site, with four additional blocks planned.</li> <li>In Kurmuk, there is an increase in the incidence of malaria and an urgent need for malaria test kit and drugs. Refugees are being referred to Kurmuk Woreda Health Clinic and Sherkole Health Center. The ERC provided support to the Kurmuk Woreda Health Clinic to improve emergency response through the provision of supplies of antimalarial drugs and rapid diagnostic tests.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Despite the Cholera and disinfection campaigns conducted in Kumer site, the consumption of non-drinking water from the river and open defecation remains a challenge.</li> <li>In Kurmuk, there is an urgent need for malaria test kits, anti-malaria and other essential medicine. The supplies of plumpy nuts for the treatment of malnutrition for children also remains inadequate.</li> <li>The ERC could not continuously deploy its ambulance in the Kurmuk Transit Center due to lack of fuel.</li> </ul>	GOAL, Emergency Medical Team (MoH), WHO, RRS, MSF-H, CUAMM, IMC, CVT, DICAC, RaDO, PIE, MTI, IRC, IOM, EMT, Kurmuk Woreda health office.
 <b>Food Security</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In Kurmuk transit center, the National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC) distributed dry food (flour, cooking oil), kitchen sets and clothes to refugees and asylum seekers.</li> <li>The regional Disaster Risk Management Office (DRMO) with support from RRS and local administration delivered additional food (160 quintals of wheat flour and some cooking oil), kitchen sets and clothes to Kurmuk, targeting new arrivals staying in three locations with the host communities.</li> <li>RRS, UNHCR and IOM conducted border monitoring in Gessan entry point and IOM provided High Energy Biscuits and water to new arrivals. Following the verification, 43 Sudanese asylum-seekers were relocated from Gessan to Sherkole refugee camp.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In Assosa, refugee leaders reported that the ongoing pause on the provision of food assistance is leading to increased protection risks and compelling them to engage in work under hazardous and precarious conditions.</li> </ul>	UNHCR, IHS, ANE, RRS, GOAL, Samaritan's Purse, PIE
 <b>Education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In Metema, Amhara, a total of 1,255 refugees, including 439 girls, have been identified and profiled to resume their primary and secondary education.</li> <li>In Metema, 107 refugee students, including 26 girls, have been provided with information on the Mastercard Scholarship programme for undergraduate and graduate studies, encouraging them to apply.</li> <li>In Assosa, PIE is providing children the opportunity to play and learn inside the Child-Friendly Centre.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unavailability of education and work opportunities.</li> </ul>	UNHCR, RRS and Protection partners

Sector	Response	Priorities / Challenges	Partners
 <b>Shelter/ Core Relief Items (CRI)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In Kumer site, 20 hangars have been completed, reinforced with sandbags and other materials. 1,630 tents have been pitched so far sheltering over 9,700 refugees and asylum seekers. More tents will also be set up to accommodate 600 additional new arrivals.</li> <li>Near the Kurmuk Transit Center, ANE pitched 30 tents and maintained six hangars and a shaded waiting area. Also, 16 emergency shelters were completed in Sherkole camp and handed over to refugees. CRIs, including blankets, mosquito nets, soap, and water buckets, were distributed to 2,240 individuals. In preparation for the reopening of schools, 25 refugee families that had been sheltered in a school, were relocated to Kurmuk Transit Center, which now hosts over 9,000 refugees and asylum-seekers.</li> </ul>	<p>Discussions are on-going with RRS and the Regional President's Office on the identification of additional land to accommodate over 16,000 new arrivals in Kurmuk.</p>	<p>UNHCR, RRS, ANE, UNFPA, IHS, IOM, NRC, PIE, IRC</p>
 <b>WASH</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In the Amhara region, the per capita water distribution at Kumer site and Metema Transit Center stands at 9.4 liters per person per day (l/p/d), and 13.5 l/p/d, respectively. Partner MSF-H is planning to repair additional three generators at Gendewuha and Kokit water sources to enhance the water supply.</li> <li>In Kumer, handwashing stations were installed in five latrine blocs and three feeding centers, to improve hygiene conditions.</li> <li>Partners IHS and MSF-H are constructing 13 latrine blocks in Kumer site. Of those, IHS has completed construction of two blocks.</li> <li>CHPs continued conducting house-to-house awareness-raising on Cholera prevention in collaboration with MTI and MSF-H. RRS distributed 10,412 bars of soap to 2,848 families in Kumer.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Kurmuk Transit Center is still in dire need of potable water despite the recent establishment of a water supply from a nearby pond.</li> <li>In Kumer site, water delivered through trucking is not sufficient, causing long queues at water collection points. Immediate drilling of a borehole is vital to reduce the cost of water trucking.</li> <li>The refugee community in Kumer needs to be sensitized on the proper use of latrines, the importance of ensuring clean water containers, the importance of maintaining overall hygienic practices, the amount of available water, and the importance of using water with chlorine.</li> <li>In the Amhara region, the reduction in per capita water intake was attributed to constant power outages and technical issues with the generator, hampering water pumping.</li> <li>Access to latrine remains limited in Kumer with the latrine to users ratio standing at 1:164, which is significantly higher than the minimum emergency standard of 1 latrine to ≤ 50 persons. Three additional latrine blocks are under construction while more are planned to improve the situation.</li> </ul>	<p>IHS, Oxfam, UNICEF, ANE, IRC, PIE</p>