

## **SUDAN SITUATION**

**19 - 25 December 2023**



*Mama Nyande Mian has been living in a makeshift shelter in Kumer for 3 months now with her children and grandchildren, all in a family of 14. They await to be relocated to a better location. UNHCR/ Photo by Elema Fulem*

### **Highlights**

The ongoing clashes between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and Rapid Support Forces (RSF) that started on 15 April 2023 have continued for 254 days as of 25 December.

Over the past week, since the RSF captured Wad Madani, [SAF recruitment increased](#) across River Nile State. Army supporters are reportedly exploiting ethnic undertones to recruit young men and some are reportedly being arrested, tortured or killed based on ethnicity or tribal affiliations. Increased checkpoints between Gedaref and Sennar are preventing impeding people to move. Security checkpoints have also been set up inside Wad Madani city's neighbourhoods.

Heightened tension is being observed in Port Sudan along with an increase of military presence. . Port Sudan is also considered to be the swiftest exit route in the event of further escalation of hostilities.

Shelling was reported at Al Kamlin town 93 km North of Wad Madani and Al Getina area north of Kosti. Gunfire exchanges were reported in Sennar town and along El Obeid – Bara Road near El Obeid town. Clashes were also reported in Khartoum South and aerial bombardment reported in Nyala in South Darfur on the evening of 20 December.

There are reports of [fighting between the army and the RSF in El Obeid](#), the capital of North Kordofan State on 25 December.

Residents reported that battles between the Sudanese army and the RSF renewed on 18 December, in the Sukkar Sennar area adjacent to Gezira State, [west of the city of Sennar](#). Since 15 December, Sennar, located 110 kilometres south of Madani and 130 km north of Kosti, has accommodated a large influx of people fleeing the conflict in Gezira State. Some have been sheltered in schools that have been converted into temporary shelters, while others remain in the city's large, popular markets without adequate shelter.

Dozens of people were reportedly [killed or wounded in Nertiti locality, west of Jebel Marra](#), Central Darfur State, as a result of violent clashes that broke out between the RSF and SLM-Abdel Wahed on 23 and 24 December.

Following a three-day meeting in Nairobi, the Civilian Democratic Forces Coordination (Taqaddum) announced that it has decided to [initiate urgent contact with the SAF Command and the RSF Command](#) to urge them to heed the call of reason and fulfil their pledges to safeguard civilians in their respective territories, provide safe passage for aid deliveries, and expeditiously resume negotiations under the Jeddah framework.

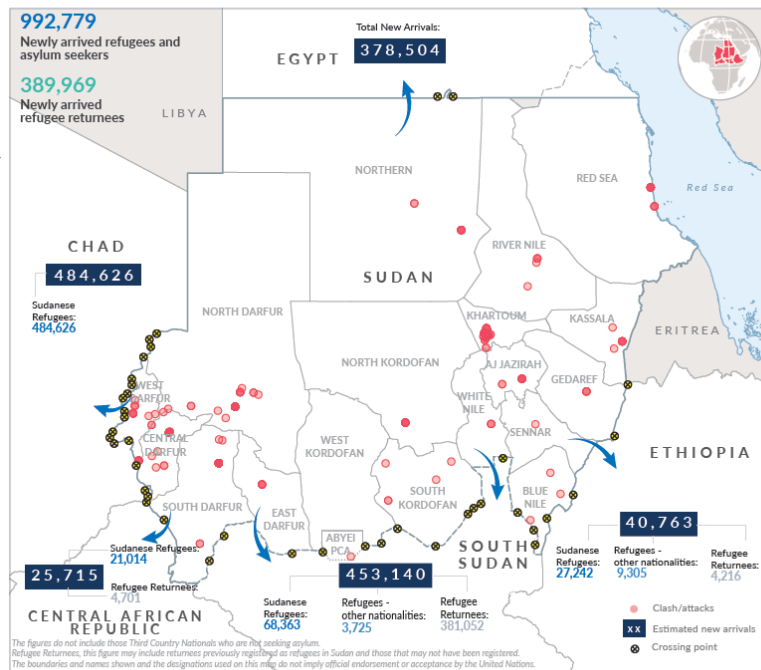
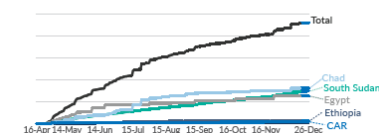
**OVERVIEW:** There are now more than 7 million forcibly displaced due to the outbreak of conflict in Sudan since April 2023, including 5.5 million internally and over 1.38 million in neighbouring countries. Sudan and neighbouring countries were already hosting large refugee populations before this new emergency and require additional support to provide protection and critical life-saving assistance, including for those who have been secondarily displaced within Sudan. 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.

**7,117,888** Forcibly Displaced  
**5,539,883** New IDPs in Sudan  
**1,382,748** Newly arrived refugees, asylum seekers and returnees  
**195,257** Self-relocated Refugees in Sudan

**Arrivals by population and estimated gender type**



**New arrivals from Sudan**



## Situation and Operational Response

### SUDAN

#### Highlights

- In Gedaref, HAC organized a meeting with humanitarian partners to coordinate the interventions for newly arrived IDPs.
- According to a report from the Red Crescent Services, approximately 5,397 IDPs, have settled in various open areas within Gedaref town and the Souk Shabi area.
- RSF imposed access restriction in Kreneik locality in West Darfur.
- Key routes out of Wad Madani, Tamboul and Hasahisa are reportedly almost completely blocked to civilians attempting to flee, as noted in the flash update issued by the Sudan Protection sector.
- Kassala and Girba remain calm but have witnessed a significant influx.

- In Zalingei, Central Darfur, the vast majority of IDPs previously residing in Hasa Hisa IDP camp have not returned, despite the efforts of RSF to encourage them to do so.
- According to the Sudan Doctors' Union, all healthcare institutions in the city of Wad Madani are currently unavailable due to the escalating conflict in Al Jazira State.
- At least 8,267 suspected cases of cholera, including 224 associated deaths (case fatality rate of 2.7 per cent), were reported as of 23 December from 46 localities of nine states, according to the Federal Ministry of Health (FMoH) and WHO

### Operational Update

On 24 December in Gedaref, HAC organized a meeting with humanitarian partners to coordinate the interventions for newly arrived IDPs. An inter-sectoral rapid needs assessment of the Wad Madani population displaced in Gederaf is planned for 27-31 December, once OCHA receives endorsement from HAC.

According to a report from the Red Crescent Services, 1,047 households of approximately 5,397 IDPs, have been settled in various open areas within Gedaref town and the Souk Shabi area. Partners agreed on a plan for shelter, WASH, registration, health, and hot-meal provision in a HAC-designated site.

In West Darfur, RSF imposed access restriction in Kreneik locality, noting that humanitarian actors must coordinate with them before travelling to the locality.

Kassala and Girba remain calm but have witnessed a significant influx. Approximately 40 buses departed from Kassala to Port Sudan, with another 40 traveling to Atbara in River Nile State (northeastern Sudan). Security personnel have begun house to house visits as part of broader heavy surveillance measures imposed in Kassala town and as of 22 December, 600 households had arrived in Kassala town and some 70 households in the areas surrounding Shagarab camp.

In Zalingei, Central Darfur, the vast majority of IDPs previously residing in Hasa Hisa IDP camp have not returned, despite the efforts of RSF to encourage them to do so. A committee established to identify the barriers to IDPs moving back into the camp, found that these include insecurity, specifically ongoing looting, and the presence of Explosive Remnants of War (ERW). Other concerns cited were lack of water in the camp as most water points were destroyed.

Further, poor network connectivity in Al Jazira and White Nile impedes communication and UNHCR monitoring activities.

### Protection

The Protection Sector has issued a flash update, which notes that key routes out of Wad Madani, Tamboul and Hasahisa are reportedly almost completely blocked to civilians attempting to flee. In some cases, reports indicate that RSF turned back civilians, ordering them to remain in locations where they felt insecure.

The general security situation in Kassala remains relatively calm but unpredictable. The state has registered a big influx of people following events of 15 December 2023, though mostly as a stop-over to re-fuel vehicles and for supplies before continuing their journey further North.

Wadi Halfa has witnessed an influx of new arrivals. The majority are IDPs with a small proportion of refugees and third country nationals.

### Health and Nutrition

According to the Sudan Doctors' Union, all healthcare institutions in the city of Wad Madani are currently unavailable due to the escalating conflict in Al Jazira State.

At least 8,267 suspected cases of cholera, including 224 associated deaths (case fatality rate of 2.7 per cent), were reported as of 23 December from 46 localities of nine states, according to the Federal Ministry of Health (FMoH) and WHO [Sudan Outbreaks Dashboard](#). This is an increase of about 104 per cent compared to the number of cases reported on 23 November. With the new influx, it will be important to closely monitor developments in Gedaref State, which has reported 2,005 suspected cholera cases and 49 associated deaths, with a case fatality rate of 2.4 per cent.



In Sennar, mobile reproductive and sexual health clinics have been deployed to three localities (Sinja, Sennar, and Abuhjar) in coordination with the State Ministry of Health (SMoH).

### **Shelter, Non-Food Items (NFIs) and WASH**

UNHCR's partner Action on Disability and Displacement (ADD) carried out a rapid assessment in gathering sites in Sennar. Six new gathering sites accommodating 801 households were identified. ADD has a strong community-based network in Sennar and has the capacity to distribute UNHCR NFI kits to the 801 households.

In Gedaref, a joint site visit was made to Um Gulja where government authorities decided to establish a temporary reception site for IDPs with capacity of 500 households. Partners will deploy tents and latrines as well as deliver some food supplies and water.

The relocation of secondarily displaced refugees to Um Gargour and Tunaydbah continues. A total of 135 individuals from 35 households were successfully relocated to Tunaydbah camp from Um Gulja camp.

WFP with the support of UNHCR and COR started distributing food s to the refugee population, which began in Tunaydbah camp on 24 December. In total, 385 households, comprising 1,377 individuals, received their rations on Day 1. The food distribution is expected to continue for 3 to 4 days, provided that the security situation in the region permits.

### **Staff presence and safety**

UNHCR completed the temporary relocation of international staff. A total of 23 international staff, 311 national staff and 810 dependents are present in Sudan. Self-relocation of national staff is on-going and a tracking modality to pinpoint the locations was put in place albeit with challenges as a result of the pace of movements and connectivity issues.

## **CHAD**

### **Highlights**

- In a meeting with UNHCR and the humanitarian partners in Adré, on Monday, 18 December 2023, the Prefect updated the humanitarian team on the risks of a new influx following the intensification of fighting in Sudan. He advocated for additional funding for the Sudan situation in Chad, to help meet the protection and assistance needs of both the fleeing refugees and to the refugee host communities in Eastern Chad.

### **Relocation**

Three convoys were organized during the reporting period from Adré refugee spontaneous site to the new Alacha refugee camp, with 6,308 individuals (1,704 households). This brings to total number of 23,801 individuals (6,445 households) relocated from the Adré refugee spontaneous site to the Alacha new Refugee Camp and Metché (1,735 individuals/502 households) since the start of the relocation convoys.

### **Protection**

During last week's border monitoring, 1,927 individuals (472 households) were recorded to have crossed into Chad through the Adré/Arikong border entry point. The figure excludes those who passed through other routes to go to the refugee spontaneous sites.

In Arkoum, 3,723 individuals (1,047 households) were biometrically registered. The total number of biometrically registered refugee in Arkoum stands at 33,128 individuals of 9,064 households.

Nine children who had been detained were granted provisional release. All of them have been reunited with their extended family, with the exception of one who is with a foster family in the Metché Refugee Camp. UNHCR and partners are working to reunite him with his biological mother who is in a refugee camp in Goz-Beida.

In total, 1,117 children-at-risk (504 boys, 613 girls) were identified, 742 are separated children and 253 unaccompanied children, 37 are already with foster families and 38 were reunited with family members.

## Health and Nutrition

The ophthalmological campaign for cataract patients in the region started during the reporting period.

230,862 medical consultations were carried out since the start of the emergency, including 9,952 over the past week. Malaria, acute respiratory infections (ARI), watery diarrhea and malnutrition remain the frequent pathologies.

174,539 children were screened with 21,428 cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and 11,824 cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) treated in children aged 6 to 59 months.

16,413 pregnant and breastfeeding women were screened with 2,208 cases of moderate acute malnutrition treated.

7,957 mental health cases have been received for consultation and treated since the start of the emergency, including 55 new cases last week.

3,224 deliveries attended to by qualified health personnel have been recorded since the start of the emergency, including 146 deliveries last week.

The SMART SENS 2023 nutritional survey began in refugee camps and host villages with data collection. It will cover all refugee camps in Chad.

A national tuberculosis team carried out tuberculosis screening in the Adré and Metché refugee camps. This activity will continue in the other camps.

## Shelter Infrastructure and WASH

A plot of land (390 meters x 128 meters) has been given to UNHCR by the administrative and traditional authorities to extend the Amnabak Refugee Camp to provide construction of additional shelters for the Sudanese new arrivals.

In the new Alacha camp, 2,856 emergency shelters have been finalized by UNHCR and partners and 1,459 refugee housing units (RHUs) installed.

129 community sheds have been built as part of the relocation process in the old and new camps.

172 new latrines/showers were built during the reporting week. The cumulative figure for latrines is 6,532 since the start of the emergency.

Two borehole drillings were carried out in Alacha to support with water supply, only one of them was successful.

## Central African Republic (CAR)

### Highlights

- As of 25 December, the Korsi site hosts 2,692 Sudanese refugees (1,390 households), 70% of whom are women and children. Of these, 1,843 (1,041 households) arrived at the site on their own since the relocation was suspended on 21 June. Spontaneous arrivals at the Korsi site in Birao are increasing due to the current security situation in Sudan. Most Sudanese arriving in CAR are from Nyala.
- UNHCR and the Commission Nationale pour les Réfugiés (CNR) have registered 10,614 Sudanese individuals (3,632 households) using biometrics. Most refugees live in small villages in various prefectures other than Vakaga. Since the beginning of the crisis, some 25,836 people have arrived in CAR from Sudan. This includes 21,135 Sudanese refugees and 4,701 Central African returnees, 88 per cent of whom are women and children.
- The United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Jean Pierre Lacroix, visited Birao on 21 December, where he met with local authorities, Sudanese refugees and their host communities. The USG confirmed the deployment of a United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) battalion to the border areas of Am

Dafock (65 km, northeast of Birao) and Tissi-Fongoro (85 km, north of Birao) in the coming weeks. This will facilitate the resumption of the relocation of Sudanese refugees still in Am Dafock to Birao.

### **Protection**

UNHCR, CNR, NOURRIR, and INTERSOS teams continue to welcome and register refugees at the Korsi site. UNHCR and CNR continue to provide documentation through ongoing Level 2 registration of new arrivals. Several Sudanese individuals are reported to be present at Am Dafock. However, they are unable to reach the Korsi site due to recent security incidents reported on the AmDafock-Birao axis, while organized relocation has not yet resumed.

Last week, UNHCR's partner INTERSOS carried out 34 protection monitoring visits, notably to the Korsi site and in the host community. During these visits, 32 protection incidents were documented, mainly involving violations of the right to property, the right to life/physical integrity, and gender-based violence (GBV). Of these incidents, five new cases were related to GBV, although this represents a decrease from the previous week. Care for survivors is ongoing, including medical referrals to IMC and the Birao health district of three survivors, as well as psychosocial support at the Ma Mbi Si listening center.

As part of its GBV prevention efforts, INTERSOS organized group awareness-raising sessions at the Korsi site, covering topics related to forced and early marriages, as well as stressing the importance of schooling for young girls. These sessions reached 734 people. In addition, INTERSOS organized 10 individual counseling sessions, targeting pregnant women, unaccompanied and separated children, and women at risk among new arrivals at the Korsi site. Group discussions were also organized on violence prevention, reaching 170 people. These activities have helped to improve the emotional well-being of the refugees living on the site.

The safe space established at Korsi has received a total of 607 participants to date. The women who frequent the space are engaging in an experimental community farm. Despite water supply problems, the activities have had a positive impact on the emotional state of the women and girls.

UNFPA, in collaboration with its partner Olivier l'Homme de Gallilé pour le Développement Social (OHG-DS), supported 258 people during the week, including 52 men and 206 women. 173 girls and teenagers received GBV services, among whom 134 Sudanese refugees, 85 Central African returnees, and six people with various disabilities. In addition, three GBV survivors received case management services and psychosocial support in one-to-one sessions.

The complaints and feedback mechanism set up by INTERSOS at the Korsi site to improve communication with refugees documented 16 requests for information relating to humanitarian assistance at the site during the week. A total of 48 feedbacks were provided concerning requests for non-food items, food security, shelter, and health. All complainants expressed satisfaction with the responses to their complaints.

UNHCR, together with its government partner PARET (Ministry of Humanitarian Action), is continuing to register Central African returnees in the Vakaga region while waiting to support them with cash assistance so that they can leave the Korsi site and return to their areas of origin in CAR. A total of 606 households from 1,989 returnees have been registered in the PARET database.

### **Shelter, Core Relief Items (CRIs) and Food Distribution**

During the week, UNHCR's partner NOURRIR completed the framing of 162 shelters on the Korsi site, which will be covered with tarpaulins next week. This brings the total number of shelters constructed in Am Dafock and on the Korsi site since the start of the response to 572. In addition, 31 community shelters have been built on the site to accommodate new arrivals and people who do not yet have family/individual shelters.

NOURRIR also served 2,452 hot meals during the week, or 350 meals per day, for a cumulative total of 18,113 meals served since 13 August.

During the week, 183 households of 335 people benefited from the distribution of non-food item kits consisting of mats, blankets, mosquito nets, buckets, kitchen sets, jerry cans, soap and solar lamps.

## Education

A total of 427 children have benefited from psychosocial support since the creation of the child-friendly space in Korsi, managed by INTERSOS. Children attending the center also benefit from a range of developmental activities, including educational awareness.

Over the course of the week, the psychosocial support team established at the site identified and documented five cases of violation of children's rights and one case of rape in a school setting. As soon as the cases were identified, they were actively listened to and provided with psychosocial support by our partners. Two awareness-raising sessions on the importance of school education were organized.

## Health and Nutrition

NOURRIR, International Medical Corps, and the Birao Health District received a total of 347 patients for medical consultations during the week, 86.46 per cent of which were refugee patients from the Korsi site. The main causes of morbidity remain malaria, acute respiratory infections and gastrointestinal infections. Since July 2023, a total of 11,930 consultations have been carried out at the Korsi site, benefiting refugees and the Central African host population.

During the week, three children suffering from moderate acute malnutrition were treated at the site, bringing the total number of children treated and monitored in the nutritional rehabilitation program to 273.

## WASH

All households on the Korsi site benefited from potable water supplies at a rate of 16.21 liters of water per person per day, for a total supply of 40 m3 of water per day. The ratio per person per day remains below SPHERE standards, and the main challenge for the refugees on site remains the remoteness of the water points. It is necessary to multiply the sources of water supply on the site in order to avoid any protection risk that this remoteness might create.

# ETHIOPIA

## Highlights

- As of 25 December **18,982/40,959**, individuals have fled violence in Sudan and arrived in Ethiopia.
- According to Ethiopian Immigration Services, around 10 to 20 buses (more than 600 people per day) are being organized per day from Metema to Gondar to transport Sudanese who apply for visas to transit to Addis.
- Twelve men were reportedly abducted by unknown armed gunmen from a bus that was travelling with Sudanese fleeing the conflict along Gende Wuha-Kumer Road in Amhara region.
- New arrivals crossing the Metema border inform that the Sudanese Security Forces (SAF) have started to instruct the population fleeing the Gedaref - Gallabat axis to stay and take refuge in public schools' facilities instead of crossing to Metema.
- L1 Registration and Protection Desks are operational at the Kurmuk entry and L3 registration is also ongoing in Kumer site.

## Security

- On 25 December, along the Gende Wuha-Kumer Road, Amhara region, a bus transporting Sudanese fleeing the current conflict was targeted by unknown armed gunmen. UNDSS confirms that passengers, a total of 12 men, were abducted. The Ethiopian Defence Forces are investigating this situation. A vehicle from Action for the Needy (ANE), UNHCR shelter partner, was reportedly shot at while passing the scene. No injuries were reported.

## Population Movements

As of 25 December, 18,982 families/ 40,959 Individuals crossed the border from Sudan to Ethiopia in need of international protection. Of these, **19,740** individuals crossed through Metema entry point in Gondar, **17,399** individuals through Kurmuk entry point in Benishangul Gumuz and **700** individuals in different entry points in Gambella (Pagak, Burbiey), and **3,120** Ethiopian returnees in Tigray region. Most of the new arrivals are Sudanese (66.9 per cent or 27,402 individuals), followed by Eritreans (18.6

per cent or 7,628 individuals), South Sudanese (4.0 per cent or 1,618 individuals) and Ethiopia returnees (10.3 per cent or 4,224 individuals).

Among the Sudanese new arrivals, 80 per cent who crossed Metema entry point request visas to continue to Addis and outside of Ethiopia while 20 per cent represent the number who applied for asylum in Ethiopia, who are registered by RRS and UNHCR Registration team, and are receiving basic services.

According to Ethiopian Immigration Services, around 10 to 20 buses (more than 600 people per day) are being organized per day from Metema to Gondar to transport Sudanese who apply for visas to transit to Addis. Ethiopian migrant returnees are also arriving in large numbers (around 300 to 400 people per day according to IOM). Transport is provided by IOM (Metema-Gondar route) and by the Disaster Risk Management Office - DRMO (Gondar-Addis route).

New arrivals crossing the Metema border inform that the Sudanese Security Forces (SAF) have started to instruct the population fleeing the Gedaref - Gallabat axis to stay and take refuge in public schools' facilities instead of crossing to Metema. The majority are only transiting through Addis to continue travels outside of Ethiopia. Some Sudanese (10 per cent) are entering Metema and seeking asylum.

In Assosa (Benishangul Gumuz Region) border entry points as of 22 December around 35 new arrivals have been recorded. New arrivals in Gisan entry point have been relocated to Sherkole camp.

### Registration and Protection

**Registration:** L1 Registration and Protection Desks are operational at the Kurmuk entry point. New arrivals will remain at the transit site, together with the over 16,000 Sudanese refugees still residing there pending relocation. RRS is accelerating the timeline to obtain written authorization from the Benishangul Regional President to proceed with relocation of refugees to the proposed relocation site (in Ura Woreda).

Continuous L1 Registration was conducted at the entry point for 31 households of 47 individuals (29 male, 18 female), including 35 Sudanese, 8 South Sudanese, 2 Eritreans and 2 Yemenis. New arrivals were provided with hot meals upon entry and transferred to the transit centre with the IOM support. L3 registration is also ongoing in Kumer site with newly registered 17 households of 81 individuals.

### Health, nutrition and WASH

Medical Screening, wet feeding, and water are provided by IOM, Emergency Medical Team, and Plan International in Metema Entry point.

## EGYPT

### Highlights

- 370,000 Sudanese and 8,504 individuals of other nationalities, totaling some 378,504 people, have crossed into Egypt since the start of the Sudan crisis, according to the Government of Egypt.
- UNHCR has so far fully registered 132,000 new arrivals from Sudan, 91 per cent of whom are Sudanese.
- UNHCR has provided information sessions on access to protection and assistance to more than 57,000 newly arrived refugees from Sudan since the onset of the conflict in April.
- Some 30 newly arrived Sudanese refugee children participated in a knowledge quiz at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina where they learned, interacted, and forged connections while expanding their reading skills.

### Registration and Protection

**Registration:** As of 22 December, UNHCR had provided pre-registration appointments to 203,980 newly arrived people from Sudan (94,951 households), of whom 132,197 (63,545 households), i.e., 65%, were already registered. Most of the registered population are Sudanese nationals (91%), while the other main nationalities registered are South Sudanese (4%), and Eritrean (3%). Both female new arrivals and female heads of household remain slightly disproportionate at 53% and 52%, respectively. The great majority of new arrivals registered still originate from Khartoum (89%), and 22% of those registered have one or more



specific needs, among which 73% is on grounds of lacking legal documentation and 8% are children at risk of not attending school.

**Community-based Protection:** At the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, UNHCR collaborated with its partner Caritas to organize a knowledge quiz for refugee and Egyptian children on December 21. Having conducted several training sessions in anticipation of the contest, the Bibliotheca rewarded the winners with a complimentary annual membership at the historic library, accompanied by a thoughtfully curated collection of books. Over 70 children, including around 30 newly arrived Sudanese refugees, gathered in Alexandria to learn, interact, and forge connections while expanding their knowledge. The program also aimed to boost children's self-esteem and foster a culture of ongoing learning and reading skills.

Since the start of the conflict in Sudan, UNHCR has provided information on access to protection and assistance services in Egypt to some 50,000 newly arrived refugees from Sudan at the UNHCR Reception Centre in the outskirts of Cairo. Moreover, UNHCR and partner PSTIC have delivered 1,378 information sessions attended by 7,231 newly arrived refugees in community centres located in different parts of Cairo. During the sessions, refugees learn about practical tips for daily life in Egypt, as well as information on how to register with UNHCR and how to report fraud and complaints.

UNHCR also carries out awareness sessions with refugees and asylum-seekers in the south of Egypt. On 20 December, 56 recently arrived refugees (89% Sudanese), mostly women, attended a session in Daraw (Aswan governorate).

During the last week, refugee outreach workers provided support to some 6,333 new arrivals from Sudan at UNHCR's Reception Centre in Cairo on services, assistance, and procedures for reporting fraud and complaints. Furthermore, UNHCR partner Psycho-Social Services and Training Institute in Cairo (PSTIC) provided counselling to 5,250 refugees and asylum-seekers and referred 37 cases for in-depth assessment.

**Infoline:** 11,440 inquiries were handled by UNHCR's Infoline last week and registration appointments were given to 8,800 people who have fled Sudan. This brings the overall number of people who received registration appointments through the system to 114,557. Following the merging of the Cairo and Alexandria lines and the hiring of additional agents, the average number of calls per day has tripled compared to pre-crisis levels.

### **Cash Assistance**

Since the onset of the conflict in April, UNHCR has identified 54,521 people (20,088 households) as eligible for one-off emergency cash assistance, and 84% of them have already received assistance (45,984 individuals).

## **SOUTH SUDAN**

### **Highlights**

- New arrivals to Renk continue to increase. On 23 December, over 2,885 arrived, with another 2,000 more arriving on 24 December.
- New arrivals reported movement restrictions inside Sudan. People also said they are avoiding the main roads when heading to Kosti in fear of being attacked by the RSF.

### **Population Movements**

New arrivals to Renk continue to increase. On 23 December, over 2,885 arrived, with some 2,000 more arriving on 24 December. Many have no financial resources to continue their journey from Joda crossing point. The vulnerability of families arriving is visibly increasing, with high numbers of women, children, elderly. New arrivals with heightened risks and their caregivers are prioritised for assistance in the existing transit centre, as well as in the new site.

Coordination is on-going with UNHCR Sudan to regularize presence and put into effect the business continuity plan for cross border operations from Renk.

## Protection

Access to Territory: new arrivals reported movement restrictions inside Sudan. People said they are avoiding main roads when heading to Kosti in fear of being attacked by the RSF. Others have reported cases of sexual assault against women and girls on the way perpetrated by soldiers. Men and boys expressed concerns about being forcibly recruited by the military forces.

## Response Plans and Funding Situation

### Revised Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP) – May-December 2023

- On 4 September, UNHCR and 64 partner organisations published a revised inter-agency [Sudan Emergency Regional Refugee Response Plan – May to December 2023](#), which is appealing for **USD 1,004,761,770** to provide essential aid and protection to over 1.8 million people expected to arrive in five neighbouring countries by the end of 2023, fleeing ongoing conflict in Sudan. As of 11 December, total funding of USD 375 million has been recorded or **38%** of the funding requirements ([Refugee Funding Tracker](#)).
- RRP Summary: [Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan \(May-December 2023\) – At a Glance](#).

### Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) – May-December 2023

- The revised inter-agency [Humanitarian Response Plan \(HRP\) for Sudan \(May-December 2023\)](#) requires **USD 2.57 billion** to help 18 million people. As of 27 November, the total funding for the HRP reached some USD 998.4 million or **38.9%** of the requirements ([OCHA FTS](#)).

### Revised UNHCR Supplementary Appeal – May-December 2023

- On 4 September, UNHCR issued a revised [Sudan Emergency Supplementary Appeal \(May-December 2023\)](#) to reflect increased needs of **USD 506,528,613**. As of 11 December, the total available funding for the appeal was USD 166.3 million or **33%** of the funding requirements ([Sudan Situation Funding Update](#)).

## Resources

- [UNHCR Cross border movement – outflow and incoming flow as of 30 November 2023](#)
- 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](#)
- 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](#)).

**Contacts:** Evelynne Waikwa – Reporting Associate, RB EHAGL ([waikwa@unhcr.org](mailto:waikwa@unhcr.org)).