

SUDAN SITUATION

14-21 February 2024



Sudanese refugees sit in front of their shelter at the Kurmuk transit centre in the Benishangul-Gumuz region of northwestern Ethiopia. ©UNHCR

Highlights

- Ongoing clashes between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and Rapid Support Forces (RSF) have continued for more than 300 days, since the outbreak of conflict in April 2023.
- As the crisis in Sudan continues, [WFP](#) warns that at least 25 million people are struggling with escalating rates of hunger and malnutrition. An [Al Jazeera video report](#) sheds light on the ongoing struggle in relation to food security in Sudan and neighbouring South Sudan.
- The Permanent Mission of Sudan issued a note verbal to the United Nations and international organizations, sharing the new directives and procedures adopted by the Federal Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) to accelerate and facilitate humanitarian operations in Sudan. The procedures were effective as of 20 February.
- Sudan is still experiencing an extensive outage of its telecommunications and internet infrastructure. The operational activities of UNHCR and its partners were significantly disrupted due to the network outages, which hindered communication with community networks, and registration of refugees and asylum-seekers.

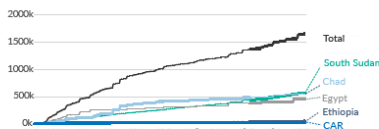
OVERVIEW: There are now 8 million forcibly displaced due to the outbreak of conflict in Sudan since April 2023, including 6.2 million internally and 1.6 million in neighbouring countries. Sudan and neighbouring countries were already hosting large refugee populations before this new emergency and require 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.

8,064,631 Forcibly Displaced
6,217,222 New IDPs in Sudan
1,651,898 Newly arrived refugees, asylum seekers and returnees
195,511 Self-relocated Refugees in Sudan

Arrivals by population and estimated gender type

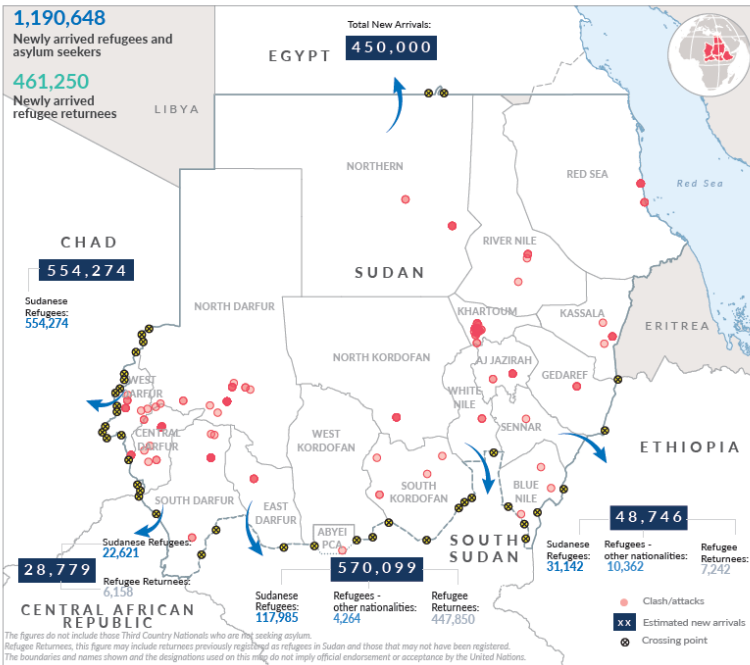


New arrivals from Sudan



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Situation and Operational Response

SUDAN

Highlights

- In White Nile State, refugees living in the seven camps in the Al Salaam area are unable to freely move due to the state of emergency in the state since January 2024, following the capture of Madani by the RSF and continued threats to attack Kosti. UNHCR is collaborating with state authorities and the COR to find a solution so that refugees can access income-generating activities outside the camps.

Population movements and Registration

265 people arrived in Kassala and Gedaref States during the reporting period. The majority are Eritreans (258), who crossed through the Gulsa border crossing point.

In Gedaref, 284 refugees and asylum-seekers, comprising 267 Eritreans and 15 Ethiopians, were registered in Um Gargour camp. In Kassala, 74 individuals completed pre-registration cross-check procedures in preparation for their biometric registration.

In Kharasana in the West Kordofan State, there has been an increase in the number of asylum-seekers crossing the border into Sudan from South Sudan. According to Commissioner for Refugees (COR), a weekly average of 180 individuals (50 families) are crossing the border seeking asylum in Sudan. The recent escalation of localized conflict in neighbouring areas of South Sudan (Unity State) is reportedly causing this increase.

Protection

In Wadi Halfa, 329 IDPs approached the Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) protection desks seeking counselling and assistance.

In White Nile State, food distribution in refugee camps has resumed following a week-long suspension due to a disruption in WFP's supply chain. The ongoing distribution will cover January and February and, as previously announced, will implement a 50% reduction from this cycle until further notice.

In White Nile State, youth in Khor-Alwaral, Redis 1, Redis 2, Kashafa camps, and the surrounding host community participated in sport activities. These activities aim to promote peace and cohesion between the two communities.

Tablets have been distributed to 36 youth in six camps in the White Nile State for digital peacebuilding engagement. The aim is to reach 60 youth mentors across ten camps trained in the UNHCR peacebuilding manual and digital peacebuilding skills, and they will form social media groups to disseminate peacebuilding messages.

Community-based Protection (CBP)

In Otash and Dereige IDP camps in South Darfur State, two new community-based protection networks (CBPNs) with 30 members were established with the support of World Vision. There are now nine active CBPNs in hotspot areas of South Darfur. There are 64 community-based networks supported by UNHCR and partners across Darfur states, which play a crucial role in enabling community engagement, community-based protection, and facilitating enhanced information sharing, which in turn fosters increased community involvement in the humanitarian response.

Prevention and response against gender-based violence (GBV)

In East Darfur State, 35 members of community-based protection networks in the Al Ferdous IDP settlement participated in a GBV refresher training conducted by World Vision. The training aimed to enhance participants' ability to identify and respond to GBV cases within their community. It focused on strengthening their knowledge and skills to provide support and refer GBV survivors for specialized assistance. The training also emphasized the need to collaborate with local authorities, health facilities, and other relevant stakeholders to ensure a comprehensive response.

Health and Nutrition

In White Nile State, the collaborative advocacy of UNICEF, WHO, the State Ministry of Health, and UNHCR led to the successful inclusion of refugees in the measles and rubella vaccination programme. As a result, close to 140,000 children under five were vaccinated in ten refugee camps, reaching over 98% of the targeted population.

Essential medicines have been prepositioned in all health facilities in the ten refugee camps in White Nile State to ensure smooth operations of the health services. Additionally, WHO donated 10 malaria kits for use in the 10 refugee camps to address the gap in the stockpile of anti-malaria drugs. The State Ministry of Health also provided some drugs for the sexual and reproductive health clinics in three refugee camps.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

In White Nile State, UNHCR is distributing CRIs to 10,220 vulnerable secondarily displaced refugee and asylum-seeker families living in Joure, Al Redis 1, Al Redis 2, Al Kashafa, Al Jamiya, Al Gana'aa, and Dabit Bosin refugee camps.

UNHCR supported WFP to distribute one-month food assistance to 500 IDPs in Tunaydbah village school gathering point in Gedaref State.

UNHCR and the Sudanese Organisation for Relief and Recovery (SORR) provided nine households with emergency shelter kits after their rakoubas (emergency shelters) were damaged in separate fire incidents in Tunaydbah, Um Rakuba, and Um Gargour refugee camps in Gedaref State.

Thirty refugee and asylum-seeker households who were secondary displaced to Um Rakuba refugee camp in Gedaref State received emergency shelter kits, which comprised shelter materials and land allocated for their use in the camp. In addition, 24 refugee and asylum-seeker households that were

displaced from Wad Madani, Al Jazirah State, to Um Gargour camp in Gedaref State received CRIs such as blankets, sleeping mats, solar lamps, kitchen sets, plastic sheets, and mosquito nets.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

To improve water quality in certain host community villages in White Nile State, where cholera cases have recently been reported, UNHCR has provided additional chlorine to treat water. The supply of chlorine will be sufficient until July 2024.

Water Environment Sanitation (WES) is installing three water treatment units in Dabat Bosin, Alagaya, and Umsangour refugee camps in White Nile State to be operational by May 2024, which will improve the water supply to some 170,000 refugees and host communities residing in the three camps.

In Gedaref State, UNHCR started distributing soap and dignity kits to refugees and asylum-seekers in the camps. In the reporting period, close to 2,600 households comprising over 8,100 individuals received soap for six months, and another 2,500 women and girls of reproductive age received dignity kits comprising extra soap, disposable sanitary pads, and underwear.

CHAD

Highlights

- On 15 February 2024, the President of the Republic of Chad issued a [nationwide proclamation](#) of a food and nutritional emergency. The National Response Plan will guide the provision of emergency humanitarian assistance.
- UNHCR and partners continue to search for additional sites to establish new refugee camps, as the five new camps are full. After the field visit and ongoing validation process for the Amal Koura new site near Souar Ouaga, another site, Koursigue, was visited during the reporting week. The Koursigue site is five kilometres from the Mile Refugee Site in Wadi-Fira Province.

Population movements and Registration

Some 1,259 individuals (321 households) were recorded by immigration officers and local authorities to have crossed into Chad, mainly through the Adré/Adikong/Tine border crossing points. Most of these families come from Nyala, Zalingue, Ardamata, and El Geneina, with a few from Khartoum. A total of 554,032 individuals have been counted as having crossed into Chad since the start of the emergency.

Biometric registration continued in Metché and Zabout refugee sites during the reporting period, with 38,377 individuals (9282 households) registered. In total, 391,770 new arrivals (106,326 households) were pre-registered since the start of the emergency.

Relocation

The first relocation convoy of Sudanese refugees from the Koulbous entry point was carried out on 17 February 2024 to the Mile Refugee Site with 138 individuals (40 households). More than 5,000 Sudanese refugees are waiting to be relocated from Koulbous.

Preparations are underway to relocate refugees from Kalma and Saraf-Bourgou to the Kerfi site.

Protection

UNHCR trained 24 Croix Rouge du Tchad (CRT) monitors and supervisors in Abéché on collection of protection incidents, during the reporting week. In addition, UNHCR code of conduct training targeted 25 staff of the Comité International pour l'Aide d'Urgence et le Développement (CIAUD).

Prevention & Response against gender-based violence (GBV)

GBV prevention and response programme continues to support survivors with psychosocial and medical support.

Child Protection

UNICEF and Croix Rouge du Chad (CRT) built four child-friendly spaces and rehabilitated three communal spaces. During the reporting week, 973 children at-risk were identified and received the needed support.

Education

The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) built three schools in Metché, each equipped with six classrooms. Enrolling 600 children in each school due to a double-shifting system brought the total number of new students registered in Metché to 1,800. Also, Plan International and ADES built five temporary classes for 360 enrolled students.

Health and Nutrition

339,131 medical consultations were carried out since the start of the emergency, including 16,133 during the reporting week. Malaria, acute respiratory infections, watery diarrhoea, and malnutrition are the most common pathologies.

290,749 children were screened since the start of the emergency, of which 29,664 cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and 14,911 cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) were treated for children aged between 6 to 59 months.

21,270 pregnant and breastfeeding women were screened, and 3,032 cases of MAM were treated. During the reporting period, 1,292 pregnant women were screened, and 220 cases of MAM were identified and treated.

13,369 mental health cases were received for consultation and treatment since the start of the emergency, including 137 new cases during the reporting week.

4,741 deliveries attended by qualified health personnel have been recorded since the start of the emergency, including 197 deliveries during the reporting week.

In Alacha, the yellow fever vaccination campaign began for 6–59-year-olds in refugee sites and host villages, and around 2,000 people got vaccinated.

Handicap International and Humanity & Inclusion organised a capacity building training for state officials, MSF staff, and the community on the identification and assessment techniques for the physical rehabilitation of war-wounded people.

There are suspected cases of Hepatitis E at the Adré refugee spontaneous site. Out of 9 samples taken, five are positive according to rapid tests. Other samples were sent to the Pasteur Institute in Yaoundé, Cameroon, for confirmation. Suspending the relocation of new arrivals from the site pending disease confirmation is a prudent measure to prevent its transfer to other refugee sites. Additional measures, such as reinforcement of hand-washing awareness campaigns and the distribution of additional soap, have been put in place to help improve hygiene and sanitation on this site.

In Ambelia, Metché, and Ourang, 44,663 individuals (11,790 households) received rations for February.

WFP and partners provided cash-based assistance to 13,281 individuals (6,209 households) in the Goz-Amir and Touloum refugee sites.

UNHCR partners CRT and ADES launched mobile clinics for refugees in Kerfi and Tissi for medical consultations and malnutrition surveillance.

WFP, UNHCR, and World Vision distributed food in Kalma and Saraf-Bourgou for 4,751 new Sudanese (1,225 households).

WFP provided food for a total of 691,511 beneficiaries (new refugees: 548,473; returnees: 91,101; and host population: 51,937) since the onset of the emergency.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

237 shelters were completed, 165 are under construction, and 115 shelters were allocated to new refugees in Kerfi. A total of 59,263 shelters have been built since the emergency began.

1,600 individuals (434 households) of the newly relocated new arrivals from Adré to Alacha were assisted with CRIs composed mainly of solar lamps, kitchen kits, blankets, mats, jerry cans, mosquito nets, buckets, and soap.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

A total of 11, 591 latrines have been built since the beginning of the emergency.

MSF France launched drinking water supply activities in Alacha for one month. Currently, three water bowsers are operational, aiming to supply 174 m³ of water per day, thereby improving the drinking water supply on-site by up to 10 litres per person per day.

Central African Republic (CAR)

Highlights

- Since 1 January, some 4,718 newly arrived refugees (2,232 households), of whom 56% were women, 54% were children, and 15% had specific needs, arrived in Korsi. Many refugees arrive without their family members, who are left behind due to a lack of means for transport from Nyala and its neighbouring villages.

Population Movements and Registration

The daily average number of arrivals has decreased to 113 from 133 the previous week and 155 the week prior. Should the current rate of 113 daily arrivals persist, the population of Korsi is projected to reach 10,000 inhabitants by the start of March, and 15,000 by mid-April.

Protection

Psychosocial support is available to refugees through different activities, including culinary. Additionally, 10 sessions of daily life skills activities were carried out with women and girls from Korsi, totaling 102 participants.

Prevention & Response against gender-based violence (GBV)

Prevention and response programme on GBV continues in Korsi where 364 people, 114 of whom are refugees benefited from the GBV awareness sessions (in total 515 since 1 January). Further, INTERSOS carried out four awareness sessions at the safe space in Korsi reaching out to 80 participants. The objective was to inform about the existing GBV preventive mechanisms and the referral pathway.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

Korsi currently has a total of 1,500 emergency shelters. A plan is underway to construct 300 semi-durable shelters for people with specific needs at Korsi.

Multipurpose cash was distributed to 263 households, 968 of whom are returnees from Birao and surrounding areas, to facilitate their reintegration into the country.

Health and Nutrition

The NOURRIR and IMC medical teams working at the health centres in Korsi provided 771 medical consultations (in total 5,038 since 1 January), of which 89% were for refugees and 11% for the host community. Children aged under five accounted for 34%, or 265 children, for medical consultations (in total 1,815 since 1 January).

The obstetrics and gynaecology team provided 34 consultations during the reporting week (in total 257 since 1 January).

NOURRIR distributed an average of 1,598 meals per day (breakfast and dinner) to newly arrived refugees. The total number of hot meals served during the reporting week is 55,602.

Dry food was distributed to 967 individuals (410 households) by WFP. As an increasing number of refugee families moved to their own shelters, the quantity of meals provided is reduced; however, households will still be supplied with the complete WFP ration. The provided dry meal consists of beans, salt, oil, and rice.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Korsi has a total of 160 emergency latrines and 160 emergency showers, which makes a ratio of 47 pp/emergency latrine and 47 pp/emergency shower. Triangle Generation Humanitaire (TGH) is continuing the construction of 24 durable latrines at health centres and Child Friendly Spaces at Korsi.

The pumping of 80 m³ of water per day results in a ratio of 10.7 liters of water per person per day.

UNHCR, in collaboration with UNICEF and partners NOURRIR and TGH, has launched a water expansion plan to quench the availability of water across the site with the installation of a network of pipes and fountains.

NOURRIR conducted awareness-raising activities on hygiene and sanitation promotion in Korsi, benefiting 357 refugees. Since 1 January, 3,161 have been reached through hygiene promotion and sanitation awareness campaigns.

ETHIOPIA

Highlights

- Some 48,746 individuals (21,728 households) crossed the border from Sudan to Ethiopia since the outbreak of the conflict. 20,838 individuals crossed through the Metema entry point in Gondar, 21,072 individuals through the Kurmuk entry point in Benishangul Gumuz, 700 individuals at different entry points in Gambella and 6,136 Ethiopian returnees in the Tigray region.

Population Movement and Registration

In the Benishangul Gumuz region, L1 registration was conducted for 125 individuals (43 households) who crossed through Kurmuk and other entry points. Women and children make up 79% of the new arrivals.

In Metema, L1 registration was conducted at the entry point for 148 individuals (64 households) during the reporting period. Their nationalities were as follows: 132 from Sudan, 10 from South, and six from Eritrea. L3 registration was conducted for 7,661 individuals (7,661 households) at the Kumer refugee site. WFP provides High Energy Biscuits (HEB) at entry points and the transit center.

Relocation

The first group of refugees from Kumer transit site has been relocated to Awlala settlement in the Amhara region with the joint efforts of UNHCR, RRS, partners, and local authorities. Commencing on 16 February, the relocation spanned two days, facilitating the transfer of 444 individuals (106 households) to the new settlement.

Protection

UNHCR, RRS, and partners (PIE, IRC, MTI, and GOAL) convened a meeting at Kurmuk Transit Centre to address the challenges faced by refugees residing in Akendayo kebele and devise strategies to mitigate the challenges. Subsequently, a joint fact-finding mission to the kebele was conducted on 13 February, resulting in the development of a collaborative report. Currently, UNHCR and its partners are strategizing on how to deliver life-saving assistance to the refugees in the mentioned kebele, taking into account the prevailing funding constraints.

Child Protection

At the Kumer site, the Child-Friendly Spaces (CFS) remain active, offering various activities. The CFS operates in two shifts throughout the week, catering to a total of 452 children. Additionally, outdoor activities continue at the transit centre, where 55 children access the services offered.

In Kurmuk transit centre, since the influx began, a total of 1,175 Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC) and Other Vulnerable Children (OVC) were identified.

Since the outbreak of the conflict, the Rapid Best Interests Assessment (BIA) has addressed 962 cases of UASC and OVC children in Kurmuk.

The home visits conducted by social workers and community-based structures in Kurmuk transit centre reached a total of 1,151 children, including UASC and OVC.

An average of 311 children, participated in sociocultural indoor and outdoor activities facilitated through Child-Friendly Spaces (CFS) and non-specialized Psychosocial Support (PSS) at Kurmuk transit centre.

Prevention and response against gender-based violence (GBV)

In Kumer site, 570 women and girls received dignity kits containing essential items, and informational materials on the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and GBV.

At the Women and Girls' Safe Space (WGSS) in Kumer, 100 women and girls engaged in awareness sessions on GBV and PSEA, aiming to empower them with knowledge and strategies.

Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials in multiple languages were distributed at the Metema Point of Entry to raise awareness about GBV and PSEA.

Community outreach in Kumer and Metema included house-to-house visits to raise awareness about GBV services, reaching a total of 90 households in total, and awareness activities on PSEA reached 250 individuals.

Government bodies in Metema and Kumer underwent a 3-day training on Psychosocial Support (PSS) and Psychological First Aid (PFA) to enhance service provision skills.

Forty-five adolescent girls in Kumer participated in sessions addressing harmful practices like early marriage.

In Kurmek, three awareness-raising sessions were held, reaching a total of 230 individuals. These sessions covered important topics such as the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and the effects of emotional violence.

Health and Nutrition

Medical Teams International (MTI) continued to provide healthcare services at the Kumer refugee site. During the reporting week, outpatient department (OPD) consultations were conducted for a total of 323 adult patients, of whom 277 (85.8%) were refugees and 46 (14.2%) were from the host community. Additionally, health services were provided to 96 children under the age of five, with 78 from the refugee population and 18 from the host community. The primary causes of consultation among adults included upper respiratory tract infections, intestinal worms, malaria, skin diseases, dyspepsia, and mental health conditions. Among children under five, the top causes of consultation were watery diarrhoea, upper respiratory tract infection, intestinal worms, acute febrile illness, and eye problems.

In Kumer, reproductive health services were delivered to 50 women, including antenatal care, postnatal care, and family planning consultations.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support services continue in Kumer.

In Kumrek transit centre, a total of 378 patients, including 141 under-five children, received clinical consultation services. The prevalent health issues observed were malaria, upper and lower respiratory tract infections, and diarrheal diseases. Pregnant women continue to receive antenatal care at the Kurmuk transit centre,

In Kumrek transit centre, GOAL conducted screenings for acute malnutrition among children under the age of five, screening 29 children in total. This effort identified one severe acute malnutrition case and two moderate acute malnutrition cases. GOAL promptly admitted these children to outpatient therapeutic and targeted supplementary feeding programs.

In Metema, malnutrition screening was conducted by partner MTI for 39 pregnant and lactating women, resulting in the identification of five cases of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) in Kumer site. Additionally, 92 children under the age of five were screened, with no cases of MAM or Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) identified.

At the Kumer site, WFP distributed High Energy Biscuits (HEB) to 774 individuals including 205 vulnerable refugees at the Kumer site.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Catholic Relief Services (CRS), delivered 807 m3 of chlorinated water to both the Metema Transit Centre and Kumer Settlement. However, with an average distribution of 12 liters per person per day (L/P/D), the quantity of supplied water falls below the UNHCR emergency standards of 15 L/P/D.

The CRS is working to increase the frequency of water delivery trips to the Kumer refugee site, host community, and primary school. Additionally, one water point underwent cleaning, disinfection, and restoration to functionality, aiming to reduce queues at nearby water points and minimize the risk of refugees using unsafe water. CRS procured and transported a 10,000-litre water tank to Kumer to enhance water provision.

Innovative Humanitarian Solutions (HIS) conducted house-to-house interactive sessions targeting 400 households in Kumer and the Transit Centre to raise community awareness on WASH-related topics.

The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) continued construction of 12 latrines and shower/bath shelter blocks in Kumer, with the completion of slab work for three latrine blocks and slab and rump work for seven bath shelter blocks.

In Awlala, CRS procured and transported four 10,000-litre water tanks and constructed two water seats, including one at the health post.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

A total of 100 tents were erected in Awlala, completing 69 during the reporting week and adding to the 31 previously installed. These have been allocated to refugees and asylum-seekers relocated from the transit site.

Two solar lights were installed around the site entrance in Awlala and the health post, improving visibility and safety during the night.

EGYPT

Highlights

- 450,000 Sudanese and 8,827 individuals of other nationalities, totaling 458,827 people, have now crossed into Egypt since the start of the Sudan crisis, according to the latest figures received by UNHCR from the Government of Egypt.
- On 14 February, UNHCR [signed an agreement](#) with the Ministry of Youth and Sports to promote social cohesion and ensure refugees' effective access to all youth centres across Egypt.

Population Movements and Registration

During the reporting week, UNHCR registered 7,300 new asylum-seekers from Sudan, bringing the total to 168,250 since the start of the crisis. Additionally, 17,950 individuals received registration appointments last week, making the total 367,000 since April 2023.

UNHCR provided pre-registration appointments to 367,059 people forced to flee Sudan since the onset of the conflict. Of them, 175,584 individuals have already been fully registered (48%). UNHCR is working to increase its capacity to meet the demand. Most of the registered population are Sudanese nationals (92%), while the other main nationalities registered are South Sudanese (4%), and Eritrean (3%). In terms of new arrival registration trends, 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 21% of those registered have one or more specific needs. Of the new arrivals registered, concerns remain due to the continued rise of those who report crossing irregularly into Egypt.

Protection

UNHCR signed an agreement with the Ministry of Youth and Sports to promote social cohesion, ensure refugees' effective access to all youth centres across Egypt, and enhance their digital literacy. The community centres will also intertwine the value of sports with a plan to introduce a training programme

targeting Egyptian and refugee youth, including Sudanese, entailing leadership and sportsmanship activities aimed at promoting social cohesion between refugees and the hosting population.

Community-based Protection

Refugee outreach workers provided information to close to 4,100 refugees and asylum-seekers from Sudan at UNHCR's Reception Centre in Greater Cairo on services, assistance, and procedures for reporting fraud and complaints. Furthermore, UNHCR partner Terre des Homme (TdH) provided basic counselling to 2,100 new arrivals.

35 community leaders, refugees, and asylum-seekers attended a community meeting in El Obour in Greater Cairo organized by UNHCR. Participants raised their concerns and shared their main needs. UNHCR staff addressed the refugees' questions and provided information on access to services and protection in Egypt.

Infoline

UNHCR's infoline handled 12,100 calls and provided registration appointments to 14,150 people who have fled Sudan. This brought the overall number of people who received registration appointments through the system to 241,600. Nine out of ten people who approached UNHCR through Infoline last week were in Greater Cairo, while 3.3% were in Alexandria and 2.7% in Aswan.

SOUTH SUDAN

Highlights

- Some 565,060 individuals arrived in South Sudan since April 2023, with approximately 7,054 arriving within the reporting week, marking a 25 percent decrease from last week. Returnees comprised 54 percent of all arrivals across all border points during the reporting week. In contrast, in Renk, refugees comprised 51 percent of new arrivals, continuing the trend of a roughly equal number of refugee and returnee arrivals in Renk for the second week in a row.

Population Movements and Registration

In Renk, a further 13 percent decrease in the outflows was observed as 1,351 individuals were recorded departing compared to last week's 1,552. Reasons given for returning to Sudan remain lack of food, family visits, family reunification, medical treatment, and unwillingness to relocate to Maban due to its distance.

In Bentiu, 169 returnees arrived in Rotriak through the Panakuach border entry point, and 11 individuals were recorded arriving in Panyijair County through Renk; these are returnees who arrived in South Sudan via Renk and then transited to Tayar port/Payinjair by boat.

Relocation

UNHCR relocated one convoy comprised of 86 individuals from Renk to Maban during the reporting week, bringing the total number relocated to Maban since the start of the year to 2,634. This is significantly lower than current relocation targets and represents a 78 percent reduction from the previous week's relocation. UNHCR has subsequently increased community engagement efforts to improve refugee confidence in the services available in Maban.

Protection

In Bentiu, returnees complained about the cost of transportation from Malakal to Adok port in Leer County, with some families paying around 150 USD depending on family size. On the other hand, those travelling through the waterway from Malakal to Tayar port in Panyijair County are paying up to around 350 USD. The cost of waterway transport has forced some families to sell property to raise this amount, according to recent arrivals from Malakal. IOM had previously transported returnees along this waterway to Adok or Tayar ports, but it stopped in early January 2024.

Child Protection

Authorities in Jamjang identified 17 separated children, a decrease from the 32 recorded the previous week. The child protection partner IRC referred the children for support, reuniting them with relatives or extended family in the camps. Access to education has been identified as one of the main reasons

behind the significant number of unaccompanied and separated children arriving from Sudan recently, with primary and secondary schools in South Sudan opening in the beginning of February.

Health and Nutrition

In Abyei, WFP provided food assistance to the 108 refugees currently residing at the transit centre; this is the first time the population has received food since 14 December 2023. New arrivals received cash, while older caseloads received food in kind. UNHCR is continuing to advocate for in-kind sorghum to be provided in its grounded form, as grinding the sorghum for consumption comes at an additional cost to refugees.

In Jamjang, Care International has resumed medical outreach activities at the Yida Reception Centre after a few weeks of disruption in services.

Between 10 and 15 refugees registered in Pamir camp, mainly women and children, were seen returning to Sudan through the Panakuach border during the reporting week. According to them, access to medical services was the reason they decided to get registered and are now returning home to Heglig after recovery.

Out of the 160 medical consultations carried out in the Panakuach Reception Centre this week, the majority were Sudanese nationals from Heglig who were not seeking asylum and returned to Sudan on the same day after accessing medical care. Host community consultations resulted in 56 cases, while returnees and refugees were the minority with seven cases.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

In Abyei, United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNIFSA) has still been unable to truck water to the transit centre and has instead prioritised water provision to the Rumajak IDP site, which has received 3,467 new IDPs following the relapse in intercommunal violence on 24 January. Refugees at the transit centre are fetching water from a borehole at a nearby school, but this is creating tensions between the refugees and host community.

In Renk, water provision of 15 litres per person continued in all sites, in line with emergency standards; meanwhile, latrine coverage stands at one latrine to 90. There is thus a gap of 163 stances of pit latrines required to meet emergency standards.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

The Renk Transit Centre and its immediate surroundings now host approximately 18,230 individuals, with refugees comprising 32 percent (5,915 individuals). This also represents a nine percent decrease in the population since the last headcount. The decrease is higher among refugees (15 percent), while the returnee population only decreased by six percent.

In Maban, UNHCR partner African Initiative for Relief and Development (AIRD) completed construction of 115 emergency shelters in Doro and Kaya camps for new refugee arrivals, 50 of which have been occupied thus far. The total capacity for these shelters is 575. Further, 222 emergency shelters are under construction and are expected to accommodate an additional 1,110 individuals.

In Rotriak, 600 households were provided with CRIs and dignity kits following the recently concluded joint UNHCR/IOM verification exercise of returnee households between 8 and 9 February.

Response Plans and Funding Situation

Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP) – January – December 2024

- On 7 February, UNHCR and 81 organization launched the [Regional Refugee Response Plan](#), with an appeal for **USD 1.4 Billion** to provide essential aid and protection to **2.7 million people** expected to arrive in five neighbouring countries by the end of 2024, fleeing the ongoing conflict in Sudan.

Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) – January – December 2024

- The [Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan](#) was launched on 7 February and requires **USD 2.7 Billion** to help 14.7 million people. As of 21 February, the total funding for the HRP reached some USD 95.5 million or **3.5%** of the requirements [OCHA FTS](#)

UNHCR Supplementary Appeal – January - December 2024

- UNHCR's total financial requirement for 2024 [Sudan Emergency Supplementary Appeal](#) – in Sudan and neighbouring countries – amount to **USD 988.1 million**. As of 21 February, the total available funding for the appeal is **10%** of the funding requirements.

Stories

- [My aspiration is to become a medical doctor dedicated to saving lives in conflict areas](#)

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](#)
- 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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