

Central African Republic (CAR) – SUDAN SITUATION

17 – 23 November 2024



Distribution of multipurpose cash to Sudanese refugees in Ouandja Kotto. @UNHCR CAR

Highlights

- The Sudanese refugee-hosting areas of Vakaga, Bamingui-Bangoran, Haute Kotto, Ouaka, Mbomou, and Haute Mbomou remain highly volatile due to the presence of non-state armed groups, with reports of ongoing human rights abuses.
- This week, 291 refugees (94 households) arrived in Korsi, the neighborhood in Birao hosting Sudanese refugees in the Vakaga prefecture. This marks more than twice the arrivals recorded last week and over five times those from two weeks ago. The sharp increase is linked to the start of the dry season and continued conflict in Sudan.
- In Bamingui-Bangoran prefecture, UNHCR and its partner INTERSOS distributed shelter, hygiene, and core relief item kits (including tarpaulins, buckets, underwear, and loincloths) to 2,399 Sudanese refugees (682 households) affected by flooding in Ndele, Zobossinda, Koundi, and Akoursoulback.
- FAO launched a market garden project in Birao, providing farming tools to 50 farming collectives comprising 500 Sudanese refugees and 400 host-community members, including returnees and IDPs.
- UNHCR, INTERSOS, and UNICEF's partner Triangle Generation Humanitaire (TGF) commemorated World Children's Day in Birao with a peaceful march, awareness-raising sessions, and recreational activities such as drawing competitions, folk dances, and football matches. MINUSCA also donated clothing to 350 Sudanese refugee children.
- In Bamingui Bangoran prefecture, WFP provided cash assistance to 600 Sudanese refugees from 222 households to purchase food.
- Refugees in Bamingui-Bangoran prefecture face critical shortages of medicines and qualified medical staff at Akoursoulback and Koundi health centers. Many are forced to travel long distances—10 km to Koundi and 25 km to Zoukoutouniala—to access basic healthcare services.

Population Movements and Registration

This week, the Commission Nationale pour les Réfugiés (CNR) and UNHCR biometrically registered 98 newly arrived Sudanese refugees in Korsi.

Between 13 and 20 November, the CNR and UNHCR carried out a joint registration mission in Mboki, Haut Mbomou prefecture, near the Democratic Republic of the Congo border. During the mission, 583 Sudanese refugees from 178 households were biometrically registered.

Protection

This week, 35 protection monitoring missions were carried out, including 22 in Korsi and 11 within the host communities in Birao to evaluate the security situation, document protection incidents and human rights violations, and assess the needs of newly arrived households in Korsi. Tailored psychosocial support was provided, and protection concerns were relayed to the relevant authorities and stakeholders. Additionally, Project 21 (P21) surveys were conducted with newly arrived refugee households in Korsi, and support was extended to community relays to enhance their outreach activities.

UNHCR's partner INTERSOS documented 52 protection incidents in Vakaga prefecture this week, reflecting an increase from the 47 incidents reported the previous week. This rise is likely linked to heightened tensions following the arrest of a non-state armed group leader, as well as ongoing armed group activity in the region. Most reported incidents involve violations of property rights, including extortion, theft, and the imposition of illegal taxes. Non-state armed groups remain the primary presumed perpetrators of these violations, with local men particularly affected as they travel between major towns, exposing them to risks of banditry and attacks by armed groups.

This week, INTERSOS carried out three awareness-raising sessions in Korsi, focusing on fire prevention and the feedback/complaint management mechanism. The sessions aimed to strengthen communication, address refugee concerns, and encourage greater participation of refugees in humanitarian activities. A total of 464 people participated in the sessions.

Gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response

During the reporting week, UNHCR's partner INTERSOS held two community-based awareness sessions in the Korsi safe space, engaging both refugees and host community members and focusing on raising awareness about the consequences of physical aggression.

In Korsi, all GBV survivors who disclosed incidents of violence received psychosocial support from UNHCR's partner INTERSOS.

As part of the rollout of the Engaging Men through Accountable Practice (EMAP) programme, the first women's group session was held this week in Korsi and within the host community. The session emphasized the importance of engaging men in addressing harmful practices affecting women.

Water, Shelter, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

The ratio of people per latrine in Korsi remains at 62, while the ratio of people per shower stands at 60, both exceeding the emergency standard of 50 people per facility.

The daily drinking water supply in Korsi has dropped to 88,600 litres due to the breakdown of two boreholes. With a population of 15,064, this equates to an average of 5.88 litres per person per day, which is far below the Sphere emergency standard of 15 litres per person per day.

The Triangle Generation Humanitaire, which is a partner of UNICEF, is continuing the construction of 56 semi-durable latrines in Korsi to improve sanitation access.

Education

This week, 13 Sudanese refugee children enrolled in two primary schools in Birao—Nguerendomo and Préfectorale. Currently, 1,015 refugees are enrolled in primary schools, reflecting an 8 per cent increase compared to the end of the 2023/2024 school year and a fourfold rise from the beginning of the previous school year.

In Korsi and surrounding host communities, UNHCR's partner INTERSOS, in collaboration with Parent-

¹ Project 21, co-led by UNHCR, is a regional protection monitoring system designed to gather and analyze data on protection risks across West and Central Africa. In the Central African Republic (CAR), P21 tools have been customized to integrate local protection monitoring data into a broader regional database. This adaptation enables a more holistic understanding of protection gaps, ensuring that targeted interventions are informed by comprehensive, regionally connected insights.

Teacher Associations, community relays, and refugee leaders, organized two education awareness sessions. These sessions reached 620 participants from both refugee and host communities, emphasizing the importance of education and the ongoing school year.

In the Bamingui-Bangoran prefecture, most Sudanese refugee children attend informal Koranic schools in Koundi, Akoursoulback, and Zobossinda. However, challenges such as limited resources to pay parent-teachers and provide school supplies continue to pose significant barriers to broader enrollment in formal education. Urgent support is needed to ensure refugee children can access formal education opportunities.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

This week, 16 emergency shelters were constructed, bringing the total number of shelters built this year to 570. In total, there are now 1,873 emergency shelters in Korsi.

The construction of 220 semi-durable shelters in Birao is ongoing, with 160 completed so far. UNHCR and its partners are identifying and verifying 150 households with people with specific needs to allocate the remaining shelters.

Food Security

As part of a joint resilience-building project, UNHCR and MINUSCA conducted a joint evaluation in Ndele to assess efforts supporting locals, IDPs, refugees, and returnees with agricultural inputs and tools to enhance food self-sufficiency. The evaluation team also monitored progress along the Ngarba axis and identified 150 new beneficiary households – 90 from the host community and 60 displaced families—across Zobossinda, Koundi, and Akoursoulback.

Health and Nutrition

This week, NOURRIR and International Medical Corps (IMC) medical teams, under the supervision of WHO and the Vakaga Health District, conducted 395 medical consultations in Korsi. Refugees accounted for 363 consultations (92 per cent), while 32 consultations (8 per cent) were provided to host community members. Among the refugee consultations, 29 (7 per cent) were for new arrivals, and approximately 33 per cent of all consultations were for children aged 0-59 months. The primary health concerns included malaria (1229 cases, 58 per cent), acute respiratory infections (82 cases, 21 per cent), and intestinal parasitosis (40 cases, 10 per cent). All patients received outpatient treatment. Since the start of 2024, 33,397 consultations have been conducted, with 10 per cent serving host communities.

In Korsi, 21 Sudanese women received antenatal consultations this week, bringing the 2024, total to 1,290. Six postnatal consultations were also recorded, raising the annual total to 272. Gynecological consultations were provided to 26 women, bringing the total to 1,732 for the year, while 14 women accessed family planning services, bringing the cumulative total to 273. Additionally, one baby was safely delivered this week, increasing the total to 131 deliveries and 134 newborns for 2024.

Eight patients were referred this week from Korsi to Birao District Hospital for specialized care, adding to the 664 referrals made this year. No deaths were reported during the reporting period.

Malnutrition remains a critical concern, with seven cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and five cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) identified in children aged 6-59 months this week. Since the start of 2024, 1,250 children have been treated for MAM, 191 for SAM, and 844 have benefited from malnutrition prevention efforts, resulting in 2,273 children receiving treatment for malnutrition.

Vaccination efforts continued, with nine pregnant women receiving the anti-tetanus vaccine and seven children receiving multi-antigen vaccines, including three for measles. To date in 2024, 581 children have received multi-antigen vaccines, 198 have been vaccinated against measles, and 509 pregnant women have received the anti-tetanus vaccine as part of routine immunization programmes.

Response Plans and Funding Situation

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

- On 7 February, UNHCR and 81 organizations launched the [Regional Refugee Response Plan](#), with an appeal for **USD 46.2 million for the Central African Republic (CAR)** to provide essential aid and protection to 71,176 people in need, **including 39,876 refugees** fleeing the ongoing conflict in Sudan by the end of 2024. As of 23 November, the total funding for the CAR remained at some USD 16.2 million or **35%** of the requirements.

UNHCR Supplementary Appeal – January - December 2024

- UNHCR's total financial requirement for the 2024 [Sudan Emergency Supplementary Appeal](#) – in Sudan and neighboring countries – amounts to **USD 988.1 million**. As of 23 November, the total available funding for the appeal is 30% of the funding requirements.

Resources

- UNHCR dashboard: [Sudan Situation: One year on](#)
- Data story: [Sudan: One year of spiralling conflict and displacement](#)
- [End of Year Report Sudan Regional RRP 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 Global Focus Sudan Operation page](#)
- [UNHCR Sudan Emergency website](#)

Contacts:

Stella Fatime_Public Information Associate (fatime@unhcr.org);

Ying HU_Associate External Relations Officer (huyi@unhcr.org);

Gloria Ramazani_External Relations Officer (ramazang@unhcr.org).

Follow us on our [X \(twitter.com\)](#) [UNHCR Centrafrique | Bangui](#) | [Facebook](#)