

EXTERNAL UPDATE #105

SUDAN SITUATION

6 - 19 April 2025



Amid the intensity of the war in Sudan, Engineer Omar Jadalla fled the country with his children. Upon his arrival to South Sudan, he developed a fungal infection on his foot, likely caused by hours of walking through muddy terrain. As a diabetic, his condition worsened, and doctors at Bunj Hospital, supported by UNHCR, were forced to amputate his leg to save his life. © UNHCR/Philip James Lukudu

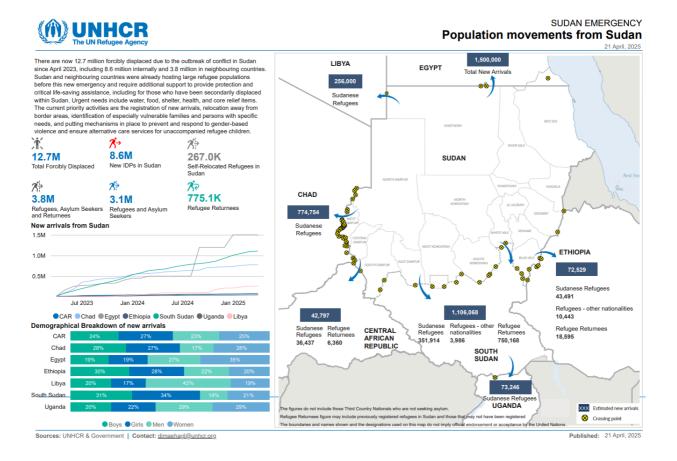
Highlights

- In Sudan, the conflict in Um Kaddada town, El Fasher city including Abu Shouk Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) Camp, and Zamzam IDP camp in North Darfur State resulted to deaths of over 400 civilians, including 10 staff from aid agencies as well as the displacement of over 400,000 IDPs to Tawila locality within North Darfur State while others remained trapped in areas where conflict continues, with no safe zones or safe corridors available.
- On 10 April, the European Union (EU) and UNHCR jointly organised an online event on the regional impact of the war in Sudan. The event featured a high-level panel with refugee hosting governments followed by a discussion with key regional representatives, donors, humanitarian actors and refugees from Sudan. The event underscored the urgent need for scaled-up, well-coordinated humanitarian response, stronger support for local and refugee-led organizations, sustained and predictable funding, integration of refugees into national systems and enhanced visibility of the crisis's regional impact.
- On 15 April, the United Kingdom, the African Union (AU), the European Union (EU), France and Germany hosted the London Sudan Conference. The participants focused on making progress on the shared goals of ending the conflict and alleviating the suffering of the Sudanese people. In his



<u>remarks</u>, the UNHCR High Commissioner urged donors to reverse cuts to aid, stressing that, "The policy of open borders in the region is at risk, if more support is not given. Let's have no illusion, if people now receive less cash and support, they will move on."

The 2nd Development Partners Group Meeting on the Sudan Regional Refugee Crisis, coconvened by UNHCR and the UN Development Coordination Office (DCO) took place on 17 April. The online meeting brought together over 185 participants, including senior officials from the World Bank, African Development Bank, bilateral donors, and other development partners for an exchange on how organizations are supporting responses both within Sudan and in countries of asylum and return. During the meeting, UNHCR, in collaboration with UN DCO and UN-Habitat, <u>launched</u> the Development Action Platform on the Sudan Regional Refugee Crisis (www.developmentactionrefugees.org). The Platform is designed to serve as a central hub for development partners to access data, policy analysis, and area-based information to help scale up investments in support of refugees and host communities.



Situation and Operational Response

SUDAN

Highlights

- The security situation across Sudan remained critically volatile and deteriorating, with armed clashes, aerial bombardments, intercommunal violence, and widespread criminality reported in North Darfur, South Darfur, Central Darfur, East Darfur, West Kordofan, South Kordofan, North Kordofan, River Nile, Northern, White Nile, Khartoum, El Gezeira, Gedaref, and Kassala States.
- The conflict in Um Kaddada town, El Fasher city including Abu Shouk Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camp, and Zamzam IDP camp in North Darfur State resulted to deaths of over 400 civilians, including 10 staff from aid agencies as well as the displacement of over 400,000 IDPs to Tawila



locality within North Darfur State while others remained trapped in areas where conflict continues, with no safe zones or safe corridors available.

 Sudan's Sovereign Council has approved the establishment of United Nations (UN) logistical supply bases in Mellit and Tawila, key areas near the besieged city of El Fasher in North Darfur. The new bases aim to facilitate aid delivery into hard-to-reach areas affected by the siege for more than a year. With 79 per cent of North Darfur's population in need, the approval marks a critical step toward improving humanitarian access and sustaining operations in one of Sudan's most affected regions.

Population Movements and Registration

Population Movements

During the reporting period, UNHCR and the Commission of Refugees (COR) received 408 Ethiopians, South Sudanese and Eritrean refugees and asylum-seekers in Kassala, White Nile and Gedaref States. Another 526 Eritrean, South Sudanese, and Ethiopian refugees and asylum-seekers were registered in Kassala, Khartoum, Red Sea, Blue Nile, Gedaref, and White Nile States in the last two weeks. Over 520 refugees in Gedaref, Kassala, Khartoum and Red Sea states received identity documents like photo slips and ID cards in the reporting weeks.

In South Kordofan State, COR verified 500 asylum seekers from South Sudan in El Leri. Meanwhile, COR in Kadugli reported 1,500 arrivals from South Sudan, using the route of Keliak locality in West Kordofan State. The new arrivals have dispersed within the town, residing with relatives. COR is in the process to verify their registration status.

In East Darfur State, the refugee community networks reported the arrival of 1,590 South Sudanese refugees in Kario refugee camp in March and April. The refugees arrived from Aweil and surrounding villages in South Sudan due to the fragile security situation, fear of tribal conflict, lack of food, and a deteriorated economic situation. In addition, a refugee leader reported that 137 households newly arrived in AI Ferdous settlement from South Sudan (Raja and Aweil) during the week due to insecurity and lack of food, as well as 31 families who previously returned to South Sudan who came back to AI Ferdous.

In Kassala State, 23 Eritrean families comprising 56 individuals were accepted as refugees upon completion of their refugee status determination process.

Over the past two months, West Darfur State received more than 20,000 displaced families who reportedly fled from Khartoum and AI Jazirah States. In Central Darfur State, Zalingei locality received approximately 7,000 IDPs and southern localities received around 4,000 IDPs. In South Darfur State, over 5,000 families arrived in Nyala town from North Darfur, AI Jazirah and Khartoum States.

Returns

There has been a steady increasing trend of Sudanese returning from Egypt. During the reporting period, close to 27,000 Sudanese were recorded crossing back from Egypt, which is the highest number in a two-week period since January 2025. According to Sudanese authorities, close to 16,000 individuals returned to Sudan via Eshkeet border crossing point while 11,000 came through the Argeen border point.

The Ministry of Social Affairs (MOSA) reported the return of 1,500 IDP families from White Nile to Khartoum State.

Protection

UNHCR is engaging with the Governor of Khartoum State and COR to find possible solutions to a recently announced government decision to relocate the refugees currently living in Khartoum to camps outside Khartoum. The decision came after the recent visit of the Minister of Interior and COR Commissioner to Khartoum State. Following the decision, COR has stopped the ongoing refugee registration in Khartoum State. Similarly, UNHCR in Northern State is coordinating with Executive Office of Wadi Halfa Locality to advocate for voluntary informed relocation of South Sudanese nationals, some of them are refugee and asylum seekers, from Northern to White Nile State.

During the reporting period, UNHCR conducted a monitoring mission to Wad Madani and Al Hasahisa localities in Al Jazirah state to assess the humanitarian situation of IDP returnees and refugees. The



discussion with the displaced community revealed the severity of protection risks, human rights violations and gender-based violence faced both by IDP returnees and those who opted to stay in the State during the conflict. Those who remained have reported symptoms of psychological distress, especially among children, after their prolonged exposure to armed fighting. Both populations are severely affected by the lack of services and basic commodities; access to water is available in some pockets across the State. Family separation is observed where heads of households, mostly men, have left for other States in search of livelihood opportunities. Refugees and asylum-seekers have faced increased risks such as curtailed freedom of movement due to loss or expiry of identification documents. Some have been accused of supporting either party to the conflict, with some males in Wad Madani allegedly arrested and their current whereabouts unknown to family members. Many of them reported exclusion from humanitarian assistance, despite their co-existence with the local population for the past decades.

The multi-purpose community centers (MPCCs) provided extensive support across various states in Sudan. In North Darfur State, the Tawila MPCC offered psychosocial support (PSS) to over 5,000 new arrivals through group sessions, individual counselling, and gender-based violence (GBV) case management. In West Darfur State, the Um Dowein MPCC in El Geniena locality supported 197 individuals with recreational activities. In Central Darfur State, the Al Salam MPCC in Zalingei provided psychosocial support to 103 individuals and held community meetings with 45 youth. The Golo MPCC conducted recreational activities for 126 participants, while the Nertiti MPCC continued its protection desk services. In East Darfur State, the El Nimir MPCC hosted an open day event with 226 refugees participating and held meetings to discuss protection concerns. Lastly, in South Darfur State, MPCCs in Belial and Mershing provided awareness sessions to 150 individuals and conducted community consultation meetings with over 40 participants.

In North Darfur State, the protection monitoring through partners and community networks reported the exposure of displaced people to GBV in Zamzam IDP camp and along the route to Tawila, particularly between Zamzam and Shagara while fleeing the violence. They have faced incidents of insults, humiliation, and torture based on ethnic and tribal lines. Most new arrivals interviewed by UNHCR partner reported experiencing looting of cash, phones, livestock (such as goats and donkeys), and other valuables. Along the route from Zamzam to Tawila, there are multiple checkpoints manned by the armed elements on motorcycles and camels. These armed groups often search fleeing civilians and loot their belongings. There are significant health, psychosocial support and non-food items (NFIs) needs among new arrivals in Tawila.

In East Darfur State, the protection monitoring highlighted that IDPs in Al Neem camp are still being subjected to abduction and arrest and ongoing recruitment by armed elements in the camp and surrounding.

UNHCR conducted an awareness-raising session on the civilian character of asylum reaching 70 individuals in Babikri camp, Gedaref State. The session highlighted the importance of maintaining the civilian nature of the refugee camps, the prohibition of engagement and association with armed groups, encouraging the participants to disseminate the message among the refugee communities.

During the reporting period, UNHCR in coordination with COR reactivated the community watch group to reinforce safety measures in Babikri refugee camps, Gedaref State following the reported increased theft and criminal incidents inside the camp.

In Kassala State, the protection help desk provided counselling and referrals to 65 individuals from Wad Shariefy, Kassala, Shagarab, and Girba refugee camps. Concerns raised were resettlement, inadequate supply of medicine, economic hardship, insufficient food assistance, and legal issues. Similarly, UNHCR's partner provided protection counseling to IDPs in Al Karama, West Airport, and Omer Haj School gathering sites. Major issues highlighted were health services, psychosocial support, non-food items (NFIs) and evictions from the site.

Tragically, fire incidents killed two refugee women and destroyed 50 refugee shelters in Al Firduous settlement in East Darfur State. Nine refugee shelters were also damaged by fire incidents in Kilo26 and Wad Sharifey camps in Kassala State.



During the reporting period, UNHCR conducted a training on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) awareness session for 40 participants from partner staff, government authorities and community volunteers in Kassala State. The training aimed at enhancing the capacity of partners to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian operations. The session emphasized integrating PSEA standards into daily operations, fostering a survivor-centred approach, and the importance of inter-agency coordination.

Child Protection

UNHCR's partner distributed food and NFIs to 20 unaccompanied refugee boys at the reception center in Shagrab camp, Kassala State.

In Kassala State, UNHCR organized a child protection workshop with protection partners. The workshop included case management, including the use of child protection information management system, safeguarding practices, PSEA, child protection strategies, and implementing child-friendly feedback mechanisms.

UNHCR's partner reported that many children have arrived in Tawila unaccompanied or separated from their families, and numerous cases of missing individuals have been reported during their flight from the conflict in Zamzam IDP camp, North Darfur State. In the east of Tawila, thousands of people gathered to look for their missing family members and children among the new arrivals. UNHCR partner is currently coordinating with UNICEF's child protection partners to facilitate family reunification efforts.

In East Darfur State, UNHCR partner conducted 11 recreational activities and PSS sessions, reaching close to 1,700 children across AI Ferdous, Kario, El Nimir, Abudangal and El Neem MPCCs. They also made 30 home visits for unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) in AI Ferdous, providing PSS. Additionally, 16 community awareness sessions on harmful cultural practices, child labour, and fire prevention were held, reaching 733 people. UNHCR's partner referred seven children for medical support and the protection desk team referred four female cases to medical services.

Gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response

UNHCR's partner in Kassala State conducted GBV awareness-raising sessions for 120 refugees in Wad Sharefey, Kilo 26, Shagarab and Abuda refugee camps. The sessions focused on female genital mutilation, early marriage and physical assault.

In North Darfur State, IDP women, GBV survivors, received medical treatment and psychosocial support after reportedly being raped by armed elements while fleeing Shagra village to Tawila locality. In Central Darfur State and Rongatas IDP camp in Azoum locality, cases of rape were reported against women. In South Darfur State, GBV cases were reported in Kalam IDP camp in Beleil locality with a need for health services. In East Darfur State, UNHCR's partner recorded GBV cases in El Neem IDP camp, Kario refugee camp, and Abu Karinka refugee settlement. Survivors received PSS and dignity kits, and an awareness session on PSEA was conducted in Algalabi Primary Health Centre.

Education

The State Ministry of Education (MoE) in Gedaref State presented its school opening plan for 2025/2026 academic year which will start on 27 April and end on 30 January 2026. The plan has five main priorities, including vacating schools used by IDPs, provision of textbooks, provision of learning and teaching materials and lab equipment, addressing issues of enrolment and improvement of teachers' situations. The MoE has requested partners to identify their support in accordance with the plan. Meanwhile, UNHCR's operational partner supporting secondary education in Tunaydbah, Um Rakuba and Babikri camps has already opened schools.

UNHCR, COR and Norwegian Refugee Council signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Gedaref MOE on refugees' inclusion in the national education system. As part of the MoU implementation, the MOE has started deploying government teachers as principals for the refugee schools in the camps.

Health and Nutrition

During the reporting period, over 13,500 outpatient consultations took place in primary health care facilities in the refugee camps in Gedaref and Kassala States. In Gedaref State, World Health Day focusing on "a



healthy beginning, a hopeful future" was commemorated in Babikri camp. The commemoration focused on amplifying basic health messages and raising the awareness of the camp community and host community about personal hygiene, maternal health, pregnant women and children, environmental health, and handwashing.

During the reporting period, 21 refugee children with severe acute malnutrition were identified and admitted into the nutrition program at the camp level for further management in Kassala State.

In Kassala State, the Ministry of Health announced the outbreak of Hepatitis E outbreak in West Airport Gathering site. 386 cases have been registered so far. UNHCR distributed 20 cartons of soap to primary health centres in West Airport IDPs gathering site.

In East Darfur State, a high number of diarrhea cases were reported by the community in El Regeibat in the border of East Darfur and South Sudan. UNHCR held two meetings with the Ministry of Health, who followed up on the reported cases. There are no well-equipped health services on either side of the border.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

In Gedaref State, UNHCR's partner distributed NFI kits to over 2,400 refugee families across all camps. Similarly, a UNHCR partner distributed emergency shelter kits to 36 refugee families who were affected by recent fire incidents in Um Rakuba, Um Gargour and Tunaydbah camps.

In AI Heshan area, Port Sudan, UNHCR's partners pitched 140 tents for IDP families. All IDPs were living within the host community.

In Kassala State, UNHCR's partner completed the rehabilitation of Shagarab reception centre. This has improved the living conditions of the accommodation up to a good standard and offering segregated washrooms for men and women. A UNHCR's partner distributed NFI kits to close to 250 IDP families living in Agriculture Research site in Kassala State.

In River Nile State, UNHCR 's partner pitched tents for 50 IDP families living in Egaidat Aldom area in Ad Damar locality.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

In Gedaref State, eight communal latrines were rehabilitated in Um Gargour camp in coordination with the community. Currently, there are 4,580 household latrines and 5,905 communal latrines across all camps with an average coverage of 19 persons per latrine, meeting the post-emergency indicator of \leq 20 persons per latrine.

Cash-based interventions (CBI)

In Northern State, UNHCR distributed cash to 279 vulnerable Sudanese returnees from Egypt to cover their immediate needs upon arrival in Sudan. Each beneficiaries received USD 180 equivalent in Sudanese pound.

In Port Sudan, UNHCR successfully used Bankak, a digital money transfer service through the Bank of Khartoum, to transfer cash assistance to 165 refugee and IDP households.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)

Highlights

- Insecurity persists in Vakaga prefecture, near the Sudan border, as non-state armed groups continue to commit human rights violations such as armed robbery, illegal taxation, extortion, and theft along key routes including Birao–Délémbé–Gordil, Birao–Am -Dafock, and within Birao town itself. As a result, the movement of people and goods has been severely restricted, leading to shortages of essential items and driving up the cost of living.
- Many families live in precarious conditions in the Korsi district of Birao, a refugee reception area. Among them, adolescents are a particularly vulnerable group, exposed to risks such as sexual exploitation, physical and psychological violence as well as economic exploitation. The young people interviewed by UNHCR's partner, Le Comité International pour l'Aide d'Urgence et le



Développement (CIAUD), highlighted urgent needs including age-appropriate income-generating activities (IGAs), psychosocial coaching, and the creation of safe spaces to promote exchange.

- The water supply in Korsi continues to deteriorate due to the increase in refugee arrivals, while no new water facilities have been built. As a result, the daily water supply dropped from 11.4 litres per person per day (l/p/d) to 9.60 l/p/d last week. This is well below the Sphere standard of 15 litres per person daily in emergencies. However, APADE, a UN Women partner, has resumed constructing a reservoir and installing six solar panels to increase water supply for the Sudanese refugees living in Korsi.
- Access to adequate hygiene and sanitation remains limited. The number of latrines has stalled at 393 (261 emergency and 132 semi-durable), as UNHCR and its partner, Triangle Génération Humanitaire (TGH), have been unable to build additional facilities since early February due to lack of funding. With the growing refugee population and no new latrines, the latrine-to-person ratio has risen to 1:56, surpassing the Sphere emergency standard of 1:50. Over 10,000 refugees urgently need 710 emergency latrines. Without immediate action, there is a serious risk of disease outbreak in Korsi.

Population Movement and Registration

The conflict in Sudan continues to drive refugee arrivals into CAR. In the third week of April, the average number of new arrivals in Korsi and Birao (Vakaga) reached 540, a sharp increase compared to previous months. Notably, 211 registered weekly at the end of March, 375 in February, 303 in January and 264 new arrivals per week in December 2024. Outside Korsi, new arrivals are also reported in Baminigui Bangoran (Koundi, Akoursoulback and Zobossinda).

As of 19 April, UNHCR had registered 25,320 people (10,176 households) in Korsi. Of these, 14,080 are women and girls (55.6 per cent) and 11,240 are men and boys (44.4 per cent). There are 14,751 children (58.2 per cent) and 9,722 adults (38.3 per cent), including 847 older people (3.5 per cent). Refugee registration outside Korsi has been on hold for several weeks due to security concerns.

Protection

UNHCR's partner, Le Comité International pour l'Aide d'Urgence et le Développement (CIAUD), recorded 24 protection incidents in the Vakaga region between 4 and 19 April, including killings, physical assaults, robberies and thefts, mainly attributed to non-state armed groups.

The Feedback and Information Centres (CIFs) in Korsi received 898 refugee inquiries on available services and feedback on humanitarian assistance. In addition, two door-to-door awareness-raising sessions on collective feedback and complaint mechanisms including the Complaint Box, Green Line and discussion forums, were conducted. These sessions aimed to enhance refugees' understanding of their rights and available channels, reaching a total of 201 people.

In Birao, Vakaga Prefecture, CIAUD and the NGO Humanitarian African Vision (HAV) organized training and capacity-building sessions on protection, child protection and peaceful coexistence for community relays, religious leaders, and peace and protection committees. These capacity-building activities comprised of 37 people (26 men and 11 women).

Gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response

Between April 4 and 19, UNHCR's partner, CIAUD, reported multiple cases of violence against women and girls in Korsi, including physical assault, rape, denial of resources, and psychological abuse. All survivors received psychosocial support at the Korsi safe space. 8 per cent were referred for medical care, and 8 per cent received individual counselling. This support aims to strengthen their resilience and well-being.

CIAUD organized 10 group sessions to raise awareness in Korsi of the services available to respond to violence against women and girls, reaching 56 people. In addition, as part of efforts to prevent such violence, CIAUD conducted eight group sessions in the Korsi safe space on social cohesion, physical aggression and its consequences, with 115 women and girls participating.

As part of efforts to promote equality and women's empowerment, three awareness-raising sessions were conducted in the Korsi neighbourhood of Birao. This initiative targeted displaced and host community



women and girls, promoting their socio-economic empowerment and fundamental rights and encouraging women's participation in decision-making. These sessions reached 135 people, including 80 women and 55 girls.

Child protection

Sudanese refugee children in Vakaga continued to face risks of violence, exploitation and limited access to education, exacerbated by tensions with host communities and strained basic services. Many also lack birth certificates, which hinders their access to civil rights and puts them at risk of statelessness. Data collected by UNHCR's partners indicates that the main barriers include distance to civil registry offices, low parental awareness, local conflicts and administrative costs.

To improve the effectiveness of local child protection services, CIAUD and Humanitarian African Vision (HAV) trained 22 local authorities (18 men and four women), national security forces, and administrative authorities on 11 April. The workshop aimed to assess the level of commitment of local authorities towards child protection and to identify gaps in their understanding and application of the referral system.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

Between 6 and 19 April, a total of 425 families comprising 1,137 refugees received NFIs from UNHCR's partner, CIAUD, in Korsi, Birao.

During the week of 14 to 19, a joint team from UNHCR, CNR, and the NGO NOURRIR registered 96 households in Korsi (Birao) to receive plots of land allocated by local authorities. Thirty-two refugees have already completed the construction of their shelters and moved in. They are now awaiting the delivery of tarpaulins by UNHCR to cover the roofs of their structures to ensure adequate protection from the weather, specifically during the rainy season.

As part of its response to the needs of the affected refugees, UNHCR has distributed NFIs to 219 Sudanese refugees (66 households) in Zobossinda, Bamingui-Bangoran. The refugees were affected by heavy rains as the rainy season started.

Food Security

Over the past two weeks, WFP, in collaboration with UNHCR and CNR, distributed dry food to 790 households comprising 2,147 refugees in Korsi, Birao.

FAO, in partnership with UNHCR, continues market gardening activities with Sudanese refugees in Korsi and members of the host community. As of 19 April, 51 of the planned 95 groups of market gardeners had been set up. The average number of members per group is 25. Awareness raising for the registration of volunteers continues.

Livelihood

From 4 to 19 April, UNHCR's partner, CIAUD, carried out several activities in Birao as part of the UNHCR project, "Improving the Self-Reliance, Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion of Refugees, Returnees and Host Communities", These activities included supporting CNR and refugee leaders to establish lists of groups supported by FAO in partnership with UNHCR, exchanging with interviewers provided by Welthungerhilfe (WHH) to train them to carry out surveys for the socio-economic study to be organized by Coopération d'Appui Technique au Devéloppement Communautaire (CATDEC) and, finally, preparing a memo for the presentation of the workshop on advocacy for arable land in support of the objectives of the livelihoods component of the project, in particular the agricultural and economic integration component.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

UNHCR's partner, NOURRIR, continued to conduct awareness-raising campaigns within the refugee community despite challenges related to limited facilities. They engaged households through focus groups, block-by-block activities and door-to-door outreach, reaching 4,149 families comprising 5,017 people, in Korsi over the past two weeks. These campaigns covered various topics, including water point management, sanitation maintenance, and household hygiene practices.

Since 30 April, hand-washing buckets with taps have been installed at the registration centre, the health centre, and various blocks in Korsi to improve hygiene conditions.



Health and Nutrition

Between 6 and 19 April, medical teams from the Centre de Support en Santé Internationale (CSSI) and International Medical Corps (IMC), coordinated by the Vakaga health district, carried out 1,226 medical consultations in Korsi. Of these, 1,084 consultations (86 per cent) were for refugees, including 174 new arrivals (16 per cent), and 132 consultations (8 per cent) were for the host population. Additionally, 381 children aged 0-59 months (30 per cent) were treated among the patients.

The most common diseases diagnosed were acute respiratory infections, malaria, and intestinal parasitic diseases. Most patients received care in the Korsi neighbourhood, with 22 outpatients referred to the Birao District Hospital.

From 6 to 19 April, 53 displaced women received antenatal consultations, and five postnatal consultations were also conducted. Meanwhile, 34 women received gynaecological consultations, and five received family planning services. Additionally, 381 children aged 6 to 59 months were screened for malnutrition during medical consultations with 16 cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and eight cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM). Furthermore, nine pregnant women were vaccinated against tetanus, and 12 children were vaccinated with multi-antigen vaccines. Eleven new cases of mental illness were reported.

CHAD

Highlights

On 9 April, UNHCR and its partners welcomed the Minister of Social Action, Solidarity, and Humanitarian Affairs in Adré. During her visit to Adré, the Minister held a working session with the Prefect and local authorities, visited the border to speak with newly arrived Sudanese refugees, and toured the spontaneous site, where she engaged with refugees. She also visited a general food distribution site. Her visit further informed her about the humanitarian needs on the ground.

Population Movements and Registration

Chad recorded a surge of new arrivals from Sudan following attacks in El Fasher and Zam Zam IDP sites, with over 1,700 people crossing at Tine border entry point (Wadi-Fira Province) and more than 600 at the Oure Cassoni refugee site (Ennedi Est Province) in 48 hours between 21 and 22 April. According to refugees, recent developments have triggered massive displacement, including towards Chad. Refugees reported protection concerns, including extortion of valuables and heightened risks for men, who face the threat of imprisonment or execution if suspected of links to the Sudanese military. UNHCR Chad is scaling up capacities at border entry points and sites to respond to new arrivals. Chad has received 52,460 new arrivals so farin 2025, and a total of 775,999 individuals (215,762 households) since April 2023.

Relocation

During the reporting period, a total of 140 households comprising 436 individuals were relocated from Adré to Dougui. This brings the cumulative total to 2,933 households comprising 8,893 individuals relocated to Dougui since 29 October.

Protection

Child protection

In Iriba, 30 at-risk children with special needs received XAF 100,000 (approximately USD 170) in cash assistance across three refugee sites.

A total of 71 children were identified with protection concerns, including separation, injuries, mental and physical impairments, and serious medical conditions. All cases have been followed up, and multi-sectoral responses are underway.

To fight statelessness, the Agence Nationale Des Titres Sécurisés (ANATS) and the Guéréda Rural Subprefecture issued 378 birth certificates to refugee children in the Kounoungou and Milé refugee sites.



Gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response

During the reporting period, GBV survivors received psychosocial, material support, and physical security. To mitigate GBV, a training session on GBV typologies and Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) was conducted at the Amnaback refugee site, with the participation of 75 community relays. The session aimed to strengthen their capacity to conduct awareness activities across zones and blocks. In Amdjarass, an awareness-raising session was held on 16 April, focusing on the modalities of access to services and the rights and obligations of asylum seekers. A total of 112 individuals, including 26 men, attended the session.

Community-based protection

During the reporting period, Information and Feedback Centre staff handled 578 consultations, including 288 women. The consultations were mostly linked to assistance as a direct impact of funding cuts.

Legal protection

A total of 237 protection incidents were recorded during the reporting period. The cases included physical assault, theft, battery, fraud, among others. During protection visits at detention centres, five out of six refugees were released from police custody.

Coordination

On April 9, the Chadian government launched a biometric registration initiative through the Ministry of Public Security, the National Commission for the Reception and Reintegration of Refugees (CNARR), and UNHCR at the One-Stop Centre in Abéché. Funded by the World Bank through the Refugees and Host Communities Support Project (PARCA), this pilot initiative targets 10,000 individuals in the East, representing 2 per cent of the total intended beneficiaries. The biometric card issued by the Chadian government will strengthen the protection environment for refugees and facilitate their access to public services, including financial institutions.

Education

On 8 April, the UNHCR High Commissioner, Filippo Grandi, officially inaugurated the first-ever Digital Learning Centre in Iridimi, in the presence of the Secretary of State at the Ministry of Higher Education. The Centre was handed over to the Government of Chad, marking a significant milestone in expanding access to post-secondary education and skills training for young refugees and host communities.

Educational leaders, including school principals, inspectors and data focal points, were trained on data collection techniques to enhance data-driven decision-making. The sessions took place in the Arkoum and Alacha camps, with 21 individuals participating.

Health and Nutrition

Since the start of the year, a total of 121,338 medical consultations have been conducted, with 8,239 new consultations taking place in the last week. The main conditions are acute respiratory infections, malaria, diarrhea, and malnutrition.

A total of 7,133 children (6–59 months) have been treated for moderate acute malnutrition (MAM), and 2,366 for severe acute malnutrition (SAM). A total of 21,970 pregnant and breastfeeding women have been screened out of which 849 MAM cases treated, including 63 last week from 1,538 screened.

A total of 754 individuals have received mental health support and treatment, including 150 new consultations conducted over the past week. 2,374 births have been attended to by qualified health personnel since the beginning of the year, including 180 births recorded last week. 789 patients have been referred for secondary/tertiary care, including 71 in the last week.

On 11 April, WHO delivered essential drug kits and a 72 m² tent to World Relief (WR) for the Koursigué health centre. This was the 3rd delivery under the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)-funded drug stock. Additional distributions are underway to Milé, Kounoungou refugee sites, and district hospitals in Guéréda, Kolonga, and Birak.

During awareness health campaigns on vaccination schedules, food hygiene, and epidemic disease prevention (e.g., Hepatitis E), 5,037 individuals (1,679 men and 3,358 women) were reached.



Cash-Based Interventions (CBI)

From 8 April, WFP began a 60-day cash distribution for refugee households in Mile, Kounougou, Touloum Farchana, Aboutengué, Amdjarass and Gaga refugee sites. To date, 36,647,951 individuals have been served, each receiving XAF 16,000 (approximately USD 27).

In Adre and Kerfi, 18,845 households comprising 90,196 individuals received WFP food rations.

A total of 3,000 women and girls received dignity kits and Uniqlo clothing in Touloum and Iridimi refugee sites.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

On 17 April, World Vision handed over a mini water supply system (solar-powered borehole, 10m³ tank, and three water points) for use at the Milé refugee extension site. Additionally, a new motor tricycle was provided to the Milé sanitation committee to strengthen its operational capacity.

Out of 876 planned latrine/shower blocks undertaken by UNICEF, 94 have been completed in Koursigué within four weeks of construction beginning on 21 March. Work continues to improve sanitation conditions for refugees.

The solar-powered water system in Alacha, consisting of 68 panels, has been completed with successful water pumping. Water distribution infrastructure (discharge lines and standpipes) was installed at the Kouchaguine-Moura, Arkoum, and Dougui refugee sites.

UNHCR's partner, Agence De Développement Économique Et Social (ADES), completed the construction of three new infrastructures, one fully equipped health centre for refugees and host communities in Yongome (Arkoum refugee site) and the remaining two community centres in Arkoum.

Livelihood/ Environment

In Touloum, 114 tons of ecological charcoal and 1,500 improved metal stoves were distributed to refugees and host communities. In Milé, 84 tons of charcoal were also distributed.

On April 16, the ALBIA project — a local development and adaptation project — officially handed over 4,000 butane gas kits to UNHCR at the Kounoungou refugee site for distribution to eligible refugee and host households.

UNHCR supported a joint mission (UNDP, Ministry of Environment, and energy sector partners) to prepare an ecological charcoal and stove production project targeting the Djabal refugees and host communities.

To promote sustainable energy use, 994 improved banco stoves were produced across Iridimi and Touloum, involving refugee participation.

A second training phase on improved mud stove production was held in Amdjarass with 67 female participants. Additionally, 40 households were trained in biopesticide production using local materials.

NIRVANA secured two plots, 100 hectares near Iridimi and 17 hectares near Touloum, with renewable agreements for one and two years, respectively, for refugee farming.

EGYPT

Highlights

The Egyptian Ministry of Interior decided to extend the validity of asylum-based residence permits from six months to one year, starting on 12 April. The Ministry also increased the daily processing capacity at the immigration office from 600 to 1,000 individuals. UNHCR has consistently advocated for this extension and <u>welcomes</u> the decision. Valid residency is essential for refugees in Egypt. These important measures will greatly enhance the protection environment for refugees and asylum-seekers by promoting greater stability, easing administrative burdens, and improving access to essential services such as healthcare, education, livelihoods, and birth registration.



- Egypt hosted the second ministerial meeting of the Khartoum Process (KP) in Cairo on 9 April after a three-year pause, bringing together officials from over 50 countries across Europe and the Horn of Africa to coordinate efforts against irregular migration and human trafficking. During her intervention, the UNHCR Representative <u>highlighted</u> the need to work with the KP member states, IOM and other key partners on advancing the route-based approach through joint programs that foster effective coordination among the countries of origin, asylum, transit, and final destination enhancing protection. The meeting culminated in the adoption of the Cairo Ministerial Declaration, which focuses on shared responsibility, protection of migrants, and the promotion of legal and safe migration pathways. The Cairo Plan of Action, which outlines the strategic direction for the initiative's future under the newly appointed French presidency, was also adopted.
- On the two-year mark of the Sudan crisis, UNHCR Egypt provided interviews to several international media outlets, including <u>Deutsche Welle</u> (Germany), <u>RTS</u> (Switzerland) <u>The New Arab</u> (UK), <u>El Periodico</u> (Spain), RTVE (Spain), and <u>La Croix</u> (France). UNHCR emphasized the devastating scale of displacement from Sudan now at record levels with Egypt currently hosting the largest number of refugees, all amid the most severe humanitarian funding crisis in decades. In parallel, UNHCR Egypt supported a fundraising campaign led by the UNHCR Foundation in Switzerland to mark this milestone. The campaign included a press release, two pieces to camera, a voice-streamed advertisement, and two radio interviews, and it specifically highlighted the consequences of funding cuts, particularly for Sudanese refugees in Egypt.
- On 8 and 9 April, UNHCR engaged in high-level meetings and field visits with key European partners on the margins of the Khartoum Process conference. On 8 April, UNHCR welcomed senior officials from Germany, Norway, and Denmark to its Reception Centre in Greater Cairo, where they received an overview of the refugee response and participated in a focus group discussion with five Sudanese asylum-seekers who shared their challenges. The following day, the UNHCR Representative to Egypt met with Marjolein Faber, the Dutch Minister of Asylum and Migration, to brief on the Dutch-funded Prospects programme of which UNHCR is the largest recipient in Egypt as well as the asylum transition plan, its financial needs, and the importance of broader support for the transition to State-led responsibility.
- On 15 April, UNHCR Egypt officially launched its new <u>WhatsApp Channel</u>, aimed at providing refugees and asylum seekers with timely, accurate, and accessible information in Arabic. This one-way communication tool complements UNHCR's existing digital platforms, such as its Facebook pages and Help website, by delivering real-time updates, including service announcements, health advisories, and operational changes, directly to users in a secure and anonymous format. The channel supports multimedia content such as images, videos, and voice notes, making it especially useful for individuals with varying literacy levels. Given the widespread use of WhatsApp among refugee communities, the platform ensures broad reach and trust, while also enhancing cost-efficiency by reducing the need for printed materials. It reached 9,000 followers in the initial hours after launching.

Population Movements and Registration

As of 22 April, UNHCR provided registration appointments to 916,730 people forced to flee Sudan since the onset of the conflict in April 2023. Of those, UNHCR has now registered 629,778 individuals (69 per cent) for assistance and protection. Adding to the pre-April 2023 population, there is now a total registered population of 950,916 refugees and asylum-seekers from 61 nationalities in Egypt. Most of the newly registered population arriving from Sudan are Sudanese nationals (96 per cent), followed by Eritrean (1.7 per cent), and South Sudanese (1.6 per cent). Over half (55 per cent) are female and 41 per cent are children.

Protection

Community-based protection

Over the past two weeks, 12,028 refugees and asylum-seekers, including new arrivals from Sudan, received information on services, assistance, and procedures for reporting fraud and complaints from outreach community workers at UNHCR's Reception Centre in 6th of October City, Greater Cairo. In addition, over the same period, UNHCR's partner, Terre des Hommes (TdH), provided on-the-spot basic psychosocial support to 7,300 individuals, out of whom 35 cases were referred for in-depth psycho-social assessment and another 249 fast-tracked for further urgent assistance. Additionally, UNHCR provided Community-Based Protection (CBP) case management for 253 refugees, including 226 who received in-person counseling, while the rest were assisted through remote sessions.



From 8 to 16 April, UNHCR, in collaboration with Red Noses International, organized eight therapeutic clown shows reaching 220 refugees across multiple multi-purpose community centres (MPCC) in Cairo and three Refugee-led Organizations (New Vision, Damas, and Amal El Mostakbal). The participants included 145 children, 30 children with physical disabilities, 30 elderly individuals, and 15 adults with physical disabilities, representing diverse nationalities (Syrian, South Sudanese, Yemeni, Eritrean, and Sudanese). As one of the world's leading healthcare clown organizations, Red Noses International brings trained healthcare clowns to crisis settings through its Emergency Smile programme to promote emotional well-being and social inclusion for vulnerable communities.

On 15 April, UNHCR organized a joint reception at TdH's Multi-Purpose Community Centre (MPCC) in Giza. During the event, UNHCR and partner staff provided support to 55 refugees and asylum-seekers, including individuals from Sudan, South Sudan, Yemen, Eritrea, and Ethiopia.

Legal and physical protection

Over the past two weeks, 797 individuals received legal assistance and counselling through UNHCR and partners, concerning early and late birth registration, filing legal reports, divorce, custody, and legal representation. Additionally, UNHCR provided legal and physical protection case management services for 240 refugees, including 154 Sudanese.

Infoline

Over the past two weeks, UNHCR Egypt's Infoline responded to 29,646 inquiries. Additionally, an average of some 2,548 individuals per day fleeing the conflict in Sudan secured registration appointments through the Infoline. Since the crisis began, a total of 610,842 people have successfully been scheduled with appointments using this system.

Child Protection

On 17 April, UNHCR met with the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM) to review the ongoing referral pathways and discuss the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

On 10 April, UNHCR participated in a <u>roundtable</u> on protection of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) at the Public Policy hub at the American University of Cairo. The roundtable was aimed at understanding the challenges, and possible policy solutions to address the protection concerns of UASC, both refugees and migrants.

Education

UNHCR participated in a roundtable discussion organized by the American University in Cairo to explore ways to enhance refugee access to education in Egypt and identify opportunities for improving learning outcomes. The discussion brought together professionals from across the education sector, including representatives from UN agencies, community educators, and youth focal points from the Ministry of Youth and Sports, the Ministry of Planning, and the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM).

UNHCR education partners delivered a capacity building session to 10 community leaders to share information on the available services and the relevant application procedures. The primary objective of these sessions is to empower and encourage local leaders to actively raise awareness on the education and integration of refugee children and youth within the host community, and to extend outreach to refugee groups. Furthermore, 19 refugee youth continued to benefit from the UNHCR Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) program focusing on topics of mobile maintenance and car mechanics. Additionally, 20 parents of children with disabilities attended one-to-one mentorship sessions to provide tailored guidance on how to best support their children's education while addressing any challenges they may encounter.

ETHIOPIA

Highlights

 UNHCR continues to have unrestricted access to refugee sites in both the Amhara and Benishangul Gumuz regions, despite the volatile security situation, especially in the Amhara region.



 In Benishangul Gumuz region, the security situation in Kurmuk Transit Centre, Ura, and Sherkole refugee sites remains calm.

Population Movements and Registration

In the Benishangul Gumuz region, 348 individuals from 120 households underwent household-level registration at Kurmuk Transit Centre. The cumulative total of persons now registered at household-level has reached 32,071 individuals since April 2023. As of 18 April, 4,961 individuals from 1,854 households successfully underwent biometric Level 3 (L3) registration and verification exercise at Ura refugee site. Of these, 3,675 individuals are enrolled in the National ID Programme (NIDP).

Relocation

In the Benishangul Gumuz region, UNHCR, in coordination with RRS and IOM, relocated a total of 369 individuals from 128 households from Kurmuk Transit Centre to Ura refugee site. In addition, eight individuals from four households self-relocated. This brings the total of refugees relocated to Ura to 12,551 individuals from 4,538 households.

Protection

In the Amhara and Benishangul Gumuz region, protection activities, including counselling, feedback and response as well as referrals were carried out by UNHCR and its partners.

In Aftit, members from the Elderly and Disability Association and refugee communities participated in an awareness session on disability inclusion and key aspects of physical and psychosocial rehabilitation. A custom walking stick and an elbow crutch have been provided for elderly men with disabilities. A meeting was organized to seek youth's views of their specific challenges and discuss practical solutions.

Gender-Based Violence (GBV) prevention and response

In the Amhara region, the Ethiopian Orthodox Church (EOC) and Development and Inter-Church Aid Commission (DICAC) provided GBV prevention and response services in Aftit. Complaints were promptly referred to relevant protection service providers. Additionally, individuals received crucial information about essential resources, their rights, and procedures for reporting under the PSEA.

An awareness-raising campaign on GBV, through home-visits, covered 62 individuals. Female-headed households participated in discussions on GBV communication with teenagers and a discussion session was held with 20 Women Working Group members on women's empowerment, gender equality, and GBV prevention. 31 women and girls participated in recreational and informal educational activities. 1,600 sanitary pads were provided to a host community primary school to support 750 girls in grades 5–8 facing economic challenges. A community dialogue on sexual violence with underage girl and unwanted reached 36 parents.

In the Benishangul Gumuz region, UNHCR's partner, the International Rescue Committee (IRC) provided GBV services in Ura refugee site. IRC conducted awareness-raising activities for 138 individuals using different approaches on the topic of early marriage. Home visit to 138 refugees addressed topics on GBV basic concepts, its types, and consequences. In addition, the Women and Girls' Safe Space (WGSS) activity continued, through IRC, and a total of 61 individuals participated in different skill and awareness activities.

Child Protection

In Aftit, UNHCR's partners, Innovative Humanitarian Solutions (IHS) and Plan International Ethiopia (PIE) provided Child Protection services. A Best Interest Assessment (BIA) was successfully completed for 06 children to ensure proper care and access to essential services. 120 caregivers and parents participated in discussions on positive parenting. The Child-Friendly Space (CFS) organized a range of indoor activities to foster social interaction, creativity, and physical well-being, engaging an average of 581 children during the reporting period.

In Ura refugee site, PIE continued the identification, verification, and registration of Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC) and other vulnerable children (OVC). BIA and registration of 12 separated children were conducted in Ura refugee settlement. A total of 348 children accessed the CFS during the week.



Health and Nutrition

In Aftit settlement, Medical Teams International (MTI) and World Vision Ethiopia (WVE) provided Outpatient Department (OPD) consultations for 1,070 refugees and host community members in Aftit. Overall, the prevalent diseases include acute febrile illness, upper respiratory tract infections, musculoskeletal disease, intestinal parasitosis, and Malaria (25 cases).

Nutrition screening was also conducted for 764 children under five and 278 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) in Aftit, with 19 cases of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) identified amongst PLW. All identified cases were included for Targeted Supplementary Feeding Program (TSFP). During the reporting period, sessions on Sexual and Reproductive Health, cholera prevention, MHPSS (Mental Health and Psychosocial Support), and Communicable Diseases and NCDs respectively reached a total of 1,512 individuals, 910 individuals, 1,119 individuals and 3,393 individuals. 34 MHPSS clinical consultation services were provided in Aftit health post.

In the Benishangul Gumuz region, UNHCR's partner, MTI, provided ODP consultation for 646 refugees and host community members at Akuda health post in Ura. The prevalent diseases include upper respiratory tract infection, watery diarrhoea, and pneumonia.

Nutrition screening was conducted by UNHCR's partner, GOAL, for 172 children under 5 and 95 PLW. Of these, 09 children were identified with MAM and 03 with SAM. All cases were admitted to the targeted supplementary feeding program. UNHCR's partner, PIE, has continued providing hot meal service for new arrivals at the Kurmuk Transit Centre. A total of 150 refugees were provided with hot meals during the reporting period.

Education

In Aftit, the education process is ongoing for the second semester for 899 primary school refugee students and 472 host community children. A total of 308 refugee students have also resumed the second semester education at the Gende Wuha/Metema host community secondary school. School buses have been provided for the transportation of refugee students to ensure safety.

During the reporting period, Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) services, including dignity kits and counseling, were provided to 47 adolescent girls, supporting their health, promoting dignity, reducing absenteeism, and creating a more inclusive environment for female students. 73 incentive teachers participated in a three-day training on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS), GBV, gender, and inclusion in the refugee context, while a two-day life skill and Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) reached 120 adolescent girls and 10 teachers at Aftit Primary School, promoting critical thinking, problem-solving, and resilience.

In Ura, the education process is ongoing for the second semester at the Akuda-Tumet primary school through PIE for 2,327 refugees and host community students. Among these, 1,352 are refugee students. A total of 56 students were provided with tutorial classes to enhance academic performance.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

In the Amhara region, PIE provided an average of 98,928 litres of chlorinated water per day for refugees in Aftit Settlement, 20,000 litres for the Aftit primary school, and 10,000 litres for Aftit Health Centre. An average of 14 liters per person per day (I/p/d) delivered for refugees in Aftit. The amount provided is below the UNHCR post emergency standard of 20 I/p/d.

In Benishangul Gumuz region, maintaining a distribution of 14.7 l/p/d of water was distributed to refugees in Ura. In addition to the 22 water points providing water to beneficiaries in the Ura Refugee Site, 09 water points were completed for the host community of Akuda Tumet Kebele. Distribution of empty sacks for solid waste collection reached a total of 720 households.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

In the Amhara region, UNHCR, RRS, and UNHCR's partner, Action for the Needy in Ethiopia (ANE) jointly conducted verification of completed works in Aftit. To date, 662 upgradable emergency shelters have been measured.



In the Benishangul Gumuz region, UNHCR's partner, the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), commenced with shelter construction and 94 shelters were covered with plastic sheet, making the total completed and occupied shelter in the Ura refugee site to 2,429.

LIBYA

Highlights

- On 10 April, the representative of Libya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs spoke at the even organized by UNHCR and the European Union, reaffirming the strength of the partnership with UNHCR. He emphasized that Sudanese have access to public services and reiterated the country's commitment to supporting UNHCR's efforts on humanitarian evacuation and resettlement outside of Libya.
- Authorities in Alkufra have resumed issuing Security Registration Cards (SRCs) to Sudanese refugees after the process had been halted since January. The SRCs grant the freedom of movement in the east/south of Libya and enables access to public services. While SRCs are issued free of charge, Sudanese refugees are charged 160 Libyan Dinars (LYD), approximately USD 11.40 for health certificates as part of the process. UNHCR has supported the registration process by authorities in Alkufra through the provision of equipment and consumables needed for the process.

Population Movement and Registration

As of 1 April, there were 66,716 Sudanese refugees registered with UNHCR at its registration centre in Tripoli, representing 76 per cent of the total refugees registered.

Protection

UNHCR's outreach team conducted sessions aimed at raising the awareness of Sudanese refugees on effective communication methods with UNHCR and its partners. The sessions covered various topics, including information on the services provided by UNHCR and its partners, guidance on the proper channels for communication with UNHCR, and the importance of identifying and reporting fraudulent activities and misconduct. Additionally, the team provided detailed instructions on how to report incidents and addressed individual questions regarding communication channels. These efforts ensured that attendees left with clear and valuable information. Since the beginning of the year, the outreach team has successfully reached a total of 1,875 Sudanese individuals through these sessions, highlighting the significant engagement with the Sudanese refugee community.

Gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response

Sudanese refugees represent 60 per cent of GBV survivors and at-risk populations in Libya. At UNHCR's protection desk at the registration centre in Tripoli, Sudanese survivors of GBV were referred for targeted support services, including psychosocial support to help them cope with their traumatic experiences.

Child protection

A total of 39 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) were identified at the Protection Desk and referred for further assessment. 25 children underwent a best interest assessment (BIA) process to receive targeted services. Those in need of care arrangements were provided with community support.

At UNHCR's registration centre, 238 Sudanese children were received at the Child-Friendly Space (CFS) where they participated in informal play activities. A total of 3,560 Sudanese children were received at the CFS since the start of the year.

Sudanese refugees including women and children make up the majority of hosted individuals under the community-based care arrangements totalling 119 individuals, 108 of whom are children. In addition, Sudanese volunteers make up the majority of caregivers under this arrangement. Of the vetted 51 caregivers currently active, 41 caregivers are from Sudan.



Education

A total of 43 out-of-school Sudanese refugee children were identified and referred to UNICEF. This referral is a coordinated effort under a Letter of Understanding between UNHCR and UNICEF to ensure children in need are considered for informal education, skills training and inclusion in the national education system. Since January, 523 Sudanese refugee children were identified and referred to UNICEF.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

UNHCR continues to provide assistance to Sudanese refugees across the country. Through its national partner, LibAid, UNHCR started a distribution targeting 2,990 Sudanese refugees (813 families) in Abusliem, Tripoli. The assistance includes the provision of mattresses, blankets, hygiene kits, solar lamps, kitchen sets, plastic sheets, jerrycans, and soap. In Benghazi, UNHCR completed a round of distributions that started on 23 March and reached 898 families comprising 4,615 Sudanese refugees with NFIs.

In the east of Libya, UNHCR provided wheelchairs to Sudanese refugees in need, including nine in Benghazi, one in Al-Marj, and two in Al-Bayda. Additional identified cases in Ajdabiya, Bishr, Awjela, Jalu, and Alkufra will receive their wheelchairs in the coming days.

SOUTH SUDAN

Highlights

- In The fighting between the South Sudan People's Defense Forces (SSPDF) and the White Army in Nasir, Upper Nile, has escalated since early March. SSPDF forces have recently regained control of Ulang and Nasir towns, both largely deserted by civilians. Ongoing insecurity, particularly in Upper Nile, has led to widespread displacement and severely hindered humanitarian access. In the past two weeks, 13 incidents of armed clashes and airstrikes have been reported, with increased White Army activity shifting toward Malakal, while tensions continue between Shilluk, Dinka and Nuer communities.
- In Central Equatoria, clashes near Juba on 7 April triggered fear among refugees in Gorom, although no further incidents have occurred since. A joint Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF)-SSPDF security cordon remains around the city. Displacement toward Ethiopia continues, and access constraints remain critical. The broader regional conflict, particularly spillover from Sudan, is affecting security and stability in Renk, Maban, and border areas.

Population Movements, Registration, and Relocation

Since the onset of the Sudan conflict some 1,129,315 individuals have arrived in South Sudan as of 20 April. Of these, 68 per cent are South Sudanese returnees while Sudanese refugees represent 31 per cent. Joda/Renk Border remains the most popular entry point, accounting for 72 per cent of all entries.

Relocation

All relocation from transit centres has been temporarily postponed as a result of funding challenges, leaving over 2,000 refugees stuck in transit centres awaiting relocation to refugee receiving settlements. Cumulatively since the beginning of the response in 2023, a total of 14,771 refugees have been relocated from Renk to various refugee hosting settlements across the country.

Protection

The closure of Renk Transit Centre 1 is nearly complete, with 70 of its population having departed—some returning to their areas of origin and others integrating locally. Returnee families received small cash incentives to support relocation or integration. Humanitarian services are now concentrated at Transit Centre 2, which now hosts 10,129 new arrivals, primarily returnees (91 per cent) and a smaller proportion of refugees (9 per cent).

A total of 273 individuals (South Sudanese) from Gedaref, Madani and Sennar were forcibly returned to Sudan forming a total of 3,416 individuals forcibly returned from Sudan to South Sudan since the beginning of the year. 90% of the deportees were single women and youth.



Health and Nutrition

In Maban, 8 children at Gendrassa and Doro reception centres were screened for malnutrition identifying one case of moderate malnutrition, which was referred to feeding programs accordingly.

In Renk, The Renk Nutrition Program screened 872 children under five for malnutrition, identifying 6 per cent as moderately malnourished and 2.6 per cent as severely malnourished 346 pregnant and breastfeeding women were screened.

Water, Health, and Sanitation (WASH)

In Renk, water shortage in the areas hosting the new arrivals at unofficial crossing points remains a challenge as all the hafirs (water dams/catchments) have dried up in Atam, Duk-duk, Abayok, Gongbar, Emtidad, and Omudulis. WASH teams successfully supplied 70 m³ of water to the reception centre and 350 m³ to surrounding sites benefiting over 1,000 individuals.

In Jamjang, 391 new arrivals received and accommodated in Yida transit, Pamir and Ajuong Thok Reception Centres benefited from clean drinking water. The new arrivals have access to an estimated 15 litres of potable water per person per day, which meets the humanitarian sphere standard for emergency response. Moreover, the latrine ration increased this week to 1:10 persons per latrine, meeting the post-emergency humanitarian sphere standard

In Abyei, coordination was pursued with WASH partners to explore potential support on water supply, maintenance of WASH facilities, and construction of emergency latrines in the Abyei Transit Centre. There are only three latrines for over 2,000 people, with most resorting to open defecation. MSF confirmed that they will be able to support with the construction of the latrines, discussions with Abyei authorities for permission are ongoing. Meanwhile, the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA) are currently providing 10,000 litres of water three times a week and UNHCR is requesting that this be increased to four times a week to match the current caseload.

UGANDA

Highlights

- Since the onset of the conflict in April 2023, Uganda has registered a total of 73,246 Sudanese refugees.
- As of 21 April, Uganda has received 11,011 Sudanese new arrivals since January, of whom 9,954 have been registered.
- Kiryandongo continues to monitor 14 mpox cases including 1 national and 13 refugees all of whom are recovering well. The cholera outbreak in Kiryandongo has officially been declared over, following a four-week period with no new suspected or confirmed cases.

Population Movements, Registration, and Relocation

During the 2 weeks in review, a total of 1,225 Sudanese refugees were registered in Uganda, representing a 20 per cent decrease compared to the 1,536 registered in the previous reporting period.

Out of the 77,181 Sudanese refugees and asylum seekers registered in Uganda, 9,507 (12 per cent) are urban refugees, located in Kampala. No new refugees from Sudan were registered in the urban area in the last 2 weeks.

A total of 417 new arrivals from Sudan were received in the settlements.

During the 2 weeks in review, a total of 915 Sudanese individuals (339 households) were relocated from Kiryandongo, Nyumanzi, and Ocea reception centres to their respective plots in the settlements. This is an increase of 38 per cent from the 663 relocated in the last reporting period. While the relocation numbers have improved, overcrowding in reception centers remains severe—particularly in Kiryandongo and Nyumanzi, which currently operate at 254 per cent and 147 per cent capacity respectively. This is primarily due to an ongoing influx of new arrivals that outpaces relocation efforts. UNHCR is actively engaging partners to address operational constraints and relocation bottlenecks such as limited transport, land



preparation delays, and staffing gaps, while also mitigating protection risks arising from overstay at reception centres.

Protection

Prima facie recognition for Sudanese asylum seekers remains in force. General violence and insecurity resulted in 417 new Sudanese arrivals in Uganda in this reporting period mainly from South Darfur and Khartoum.

As of 21 April, 52 percent (1,662 of 3,166 individuals) of the refugees hosted in Adjumani, Arua and Kiryandongo reception centers are Sudanese nationals. This increase from the last reporting period is partly due to the Sudanese refugee influx and relocation delays.

Legal and physical protection

A total of 14 cases were reported across Adjumani (1 case of unnatural offence, suspect arrested)), Lamwo (2 cases of domestic violence and threatening violence, suspects at large), and Kiryandongo (11 cases including 01 rape, 04 domestic violence, 01 grievous bodily harm, 01 theft, 01 threatening violence, 01 emotional/psychological abuse, 01 child neglect). All cases were reported to police and legal advice and counseling provided to 11 individuals involved. Additionally, 10 statutory declarations on name additions were presented for commissioning at court and subsequently referred to the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) for updates in the registration system, pending the presentation of certified copies.

In Kiryandongo, training on legislative advocacy was conducted for 19 community leaders. The training equipped participants with comprehensive knowledge of how laws are created, implemented, and amended. This session also served as a valuable platform to identify key challenges facing the community and explore potential legislative solutions to address these issues.

Community-Based Protection

In Kiryandongo, refugee-led protection desks became operational across various clusters, enhancing access to protection services at the community level. A total of 506 cases were received and recorded in the past two weeks. These cases related to a range of concerns including health and nutrition, education, cash assistance, shelter and NFIs, food assistance, assistive devices, child protection (including children at risk), community-based protection, resettlement, legal and physical protection, and GBV. While some cases were addressed on-site, others were referred to relevant partners for further support and follow-up.

A total of 100 refugees participated in a community dialogue aimed at addressing key protection concerns and risks. Key issues raised included poor leadership, inadequate water supply, limited access to construction materials, insufficient cash-based intervention (CBI) support, shortages of health equipment, language barriers, and land conflicts. The discussion provided a platform for collective problem-solving and identifying potential solutions to these challenges.

Support to People with Specific Needs (PSNs)

A total of 27 individuals including one PSN in Adjumani and 26 Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) in Kiryandongo received mobility aids. They were provided with assorted assistive devices such as wheelchairs and auxiliary crutches to enhance their mobility, enabling them to access essential services and participate more fully in community activities.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)

In Kiryandongo, 20 female community members assessed using the Beck's Depression Inventory were enrolled in interpersonal group therapy. The sessions focused on exploring interpersonal patterns, with participants actively applying communication and problem-solving skills acquired in previous sessions to support their mental wellbeing and social functioning.

Gender-Based Violence (GBV) prevention and response

In Kiryandongo, 180 survivors and women at risk from the settlement were supported with assorted items to improve their wellbeing.



Child Protection

Six Child Protection staff participated in a two-day online ProGres v4 (a comprehensive database management system used by UNHCR to track and manage refugee cases) training session. The training covered essential procedures, including how to request access to individual information and create Child Protection cases in the system. Additionally, the Resettlement team in Kiryandongo participated in this training to enhance their use of the child protection module during case management.

In Kiryandongo, a total of 112 children at the reception centre participated in Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) activities, engaging in games such as ludo, skipping, singing, drawing, dancing, football, volleyball, and netball. Similarly, in Adjumani, 130 children attended CFS sessions while another 220 children took part in structured indoor and outdoor games at Nyumanzi Reception Centre. These activities are designed to support critical learning and development skills while fostering positive social interaction among children The activities play a vital role in promoting children's growth, development, protection, and overall well-being

The joint Child Protection (CP) and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Working Group Meeting, co-chaired by OPM and UNHCR, addressed critical issues such as the relocation of minors and Alternative Care arrangements. Key outcomes included an Agreement that Child Protection partners and the OPM will oversee the relocation of minors outside the reception center; commitment to follow up on Cash-Based Interventions (CBI) for relocated minors; the inclusion of partner contact details in the 4W matrix; and a request for LWF to share a list of Foster Parents to support Alternative Care efforts.

Education

Windle International Uganda (WIU) distributed scholastic materials to 571 students at Arnold Primary School to promote access to quality education, and learning. This intervention aimed to reduce financial barriers to education, enhance learning outcomes, and improve school retention rates among both refugee and host community youth.

Health and Nutrition

The cholera outbreak in Kiryandongo has officially been declared over, following a four-week period with no new suspected or confirmed cases. This mirrors the earlier closure of the outbreak in Lamwo/Palabek, leaving the entire AoR with no active cholera cases. Medical Teams International is sourcing medicines for cholera chemoprophylaxis as recommended by the Ministry of Health. Meanwhile, Kiryandongo continues to monitor 14 mpox cases (1 national, 13 refugees), all of whom are recovering well.

During the past two weeks, the Adjumani Area of Responsibility (AoR) recorded a total of 18,018 outpatient department (OPD) consultations across Kiryandongo: 4,501; Adjumani: 7,307; Palorinya: 4,371; Palabek: 1,839. Proportional morbidity for Malaria increased from 10 per cent (870 cases) in Week 1 to 12 per cent (1,156 cases) in Week 2, likely due to the onset of the rainy season. Lamwo recorded the highest malaria burden (799 cases) while Kiryandongo had the highest RTI burden at 25 per cent (1,619 cases). Respiratory Tract Infections (RTIs) remained the leading cause of morbidity at 22 per cent (3,981cases). Diarrheal Diseases accounted for 4 per cent (350 cases) with no significant spike observed. Malaria surveillance continues through close monitoring as the rainy season progresses. Preparations are underway for malaria vaccination targeting children under five during the upcoming national immunization days, including in Lamwo.

A total of eight deaths were recorded in the AoR this week—Adjumani: 1, Lamwo: 1, Kiryandongo: 6. Among the deaths were two children under five and one neonatal case. A mortality audit is planned next week in Kiryandongo to investigate the circumstances surrounding the six reported deaths.

A severe bee attack occurred in Cluster B of Kiryandongo settlement, affecting 17 individuals. Tragically, the incident claimed the life of a 3-year-old child, while 16 others sustained severe dermal reactions requiring medical attention. Preliminary investigations indicate the swarm became aggressive following honey harvesting activities by a local beekeeper. In response, community leaders and health personnel convened an emergency meeting to implement immediate protective measures and develop improved apiary regulations to prevent future occurrences. Health teams remain on high alert for potential delayed hypersensitivity reactions among affected individuals.



Cash-based interventions (CBI)

In Kiryandongo, 546 households comprising 1,126 individuals received a total of UGX 206,932,826 (approximately 55,000 USD) through UNHCR's Cash-Based Intervention, disbursed via MTN Mobile Money to support settlement on OPM-allocated plots. Additionally, 4,456 individuals from 793 households benefited from multipurpose cash assistance of UGX 50,000 (approximately 13 USD) per household under the Uganda Cash Consortium, implemented by LWF over the past five months, as phase 1 nears completion.

Water, Health, and Sanitation (WASH)

In Kiryandongo, a 120-metre water pipeline was extended to supply water to the OPM accommodation. Key repairs were conducted on the Kiryandongo 2 water system using two HDPE 90mm connectors and a 5-metre pipe, and on the Karamojong water distribution system using two 40mm HDPE connectors. Additionally, chlorine cartridges were replaced in four water systems—K1, K2, and Cluster L—to ensure effective chlorination before distribution to tap stands.

The damaged water distribution pipeline serving Cluster A was repaired, and the RSI 5.5 kW inverter at the disabled water pumping station was serviced, restoring normal water flow to the main reservoir at Panyadoli Health Centre. Additionally, all tap stands in Clusters G, L, and C—including newly established ones—were successfully mapped to support improved water management and service delivery.

Community Engagement & Infrastructure

Conducted a post-distribution monitoring visit to 135 households that received latrine slabs in Kiryandongo. The assessment revealed that 111 households (82 per cent) had functional latrines in use. Seven latrine blocks were successfully desludged by a trained gulper team.

Hygiene and Sanitation

Reached 1,081 new arrivals through three comprehensive hygiene promotion sessions. The interactive campaigns covered critical WASH topics including Food hygiene and safety management, Environmental sanitation practices, Proper solid waste disposal techniques, Critical handwashing protocols, Maintaining the safe water chain, Effective vector control measures, Personal hygiene standards, and Menstrual health management. The sessions equipped participants with practical knowledge to improve community health outcomes while promoting proper utilization of the newly distributed sanitation facilities.

Other Partner Support

UNICEF, through direct implementation, has successfully drilled four production wells. The contractor has shared water quality analysis results for these wells, which will inform decisions regarding future development and utilization of these water sources.

Environment and Clean Energy

In Kiryandongo, 212 refugees from Cluster A and two host community farmers received 10,092 assorted seedlings, which were planted on 25 acres under the household tree growing initiative.

Challenges

Overcrowding and Critical Gaps

Due to the continuous influx of new arrivals, Kiryandongo reception centre is overcrowded, currently operating at 254 per cent capacity (3 per cent more than in the last reporting period). The situation is further exacerbated by several relocated individuals who return to stay overnight despite ongoing efforts to ensure they remain in their designated plots. This situation has significantly strained resources and deteriorated reception conditions, particularly affecting WASH, health, and protection services thus compromising the well-being of new arrival refugees.

WASH Gaps

In Kiryandongo, the supply of clean water remains critically low. The number of litres per person per day (I/p/d) has decreased from 14 I/p/d in January 2024 to 10 I/p/d in April 2025. Despite several water infrastructure investments, the resources available do not match the pace of new arrivals. WASH challenges, such as low latrine coverage and limited handwashing facilities, further increase vulnerability to diseases. There are overwhelming latrine emptying needs due to the increasing population of new arrivals at Elegu, Nyumanzi and Kiryandongo reception centres. Current resources are insufficient to meet



the escalating demand, resulting in heightened health risks, including the potential spread of waterborne diseases, and deteriorating hygiene conditions for both refugees and host communities. Additionally, there is a rise in non-communicable diseases among refugees, with a gap in the availability of appropriate treatments for chronic health conditions.

Healthcare challenges

The health system in Kiryandongo faces multiple, interconnected challenges that strain service delivery and outcomes. Chronic underfunding and resource gaps have led to critical shortages of medical supplies, inadequate staffing, and overwhelmed Village Health Teams (VHTs). Preventable diseases remain a concern, with low measles vaccination coverage contributing to outbreaks and poor hygiene practices heightening infection risks in public spaces. The situation is exacerbated by rising malnutrition rates,¹ frequent stockouts of essential medicines, and gaps in HIV-TB clinic operations due to human resource constraints. Emerging and ongoing health threats further complicate the response, including a surge in dog bite cases, increased pressure on inpatient and neonatal units, and a growing burden of non-communicable diseases. High population mobility and frequent social gatherings also elevate disease transmission risks, necessitating stronger infection prevention and control (IPC) measures. Additionally, infrastructure gaps, such as the lack of ORS cans in community spaces, hinder effective case management and preventive care. While partners are providing critical support—including medical supplies, infrastructure improvements, and expanded vaccination efforts—sustained investment is needed to strengthen health workforce capacity, ensure consistent drug availability, and improve community-based health interventions to reduce mortality and morbidity.

In Kiryandongo, the evacuation of Multi-Drug Resistant (MDR) TB cases to Hoima Regional Referral Hospital continues to face transportation challenges, hindering timely access to specialized care.

Overcrowding in classrooms

In Kiryandongo, overcrowded classrooms significantly affect the quality of education for pupils, exacerbated by an influx of new arrivals enrolling in schools. Limited classroom space and seating pose major challenges, while long travel distances to schools discourage attendance. Many schools are situated in areas occupied by earlier arrivals, forcing new arrivals to relocate further away, resulting in lengthy daily commutes for those who do attend. Prior to the Sudanese influx, the pupil to student ratio in Kiryandongo settlement was at 60 students to 1 teacher. While this number is already significantly below the recommended standard of 40 students to 1 teacher, the situation has dramatically worsened since then, bringing the ratio to 85 students for 1 teacher.

Response Plans and Funding Situation

Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP) – January - December 2025

The <u>Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan 2025</u>, launched on 17 February 2025, is an appeal for **USD 1.8 billion** for **111 partners** to provide essential aid and protection to a total of **5 million people** in seven countries by the end of 2025. This includes 4 million refugees, returnees, and others who have fled the ongoing conflict in Sudan and over 800,000 host community members. Reported funding towards the plan has reached USD 194.3 million, only **11%** of the requirements. Access UNHCR's Refugee Funding Tracker (RFT) <u>here</u>.

Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) – January - December 2025

The 2025 <u>Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan</u> (HRP), published on 31 December 2024, requires **USD 4.2 billion** to assist **21 million people**. The HRP includes the response for refugees hosted by

¹ Bi-weekly mass screenings at Nyumanzi and Kiryandongo Reception Centres (RCs) revealed critical levels of malnutrition among children. At Nyumanzi RC, malnutrition rates stand at 22.9 per cent, significantly exceeding the 15 per cent emergency threshold. Although the situation at Kiryandongo RC is comparatively better, the malnutrition rate of 11.6 per cent remains concerning, compounded by poor hygiene practices in public spaces and ongoing funding shortages. In response to the alarming situation at Nyumanzi, UNHCR and WFP have agreed to activate a blanket supplementary feeding program to address the urgent nutritional needs of affected children.



Sudan. Total funding for the HRP has reached USD 495.8 million, covering **11%** of the requirements. Access OCHA's Financial Tracking Service here: <u>OCHA FTS</u>.

UNHCR Supplementary Appeal – January - December 2025

UNHCR's financial requirement for 2025 for the <u>Sudan situation emergency response</u> – in Sudan and RRP countries – amounts to **USD 1.1 billion**. As of 31 March, UNHCR has received 18% of the requirements.

Resources

- NEW! UNHCR Sudan situation two-year impact report
- > NEW! Sudan: Crisis deepens but attention wanes after two years of war
- > NEW! London Conference: Co-Chairs' Statement
- > NEW! <u>A message to the world: Save Sudan</u>
- Two years of war in Sudan: a devastating combination of record displacement and dwindling aid
- News comment: Two years on, Sudan is a catastrophe the world cannot afford to ignore
- 2025 Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan
- Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan At a Glance
- UNHCR Sudan Situation Appeal 2025
- Sudan-Emergency-Critical-Life-Saving-Needs
- UNHCR Mpox Appeal 2024
- Refugee Coordination Model
- UNHCR's <u>Operational Data Portal (ODP) for the Sudan Situation</u> provides weekly 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)