EXTERNAL UPDATE #112

SUDAN SITUATION

October 2025

New Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Tawila wait to receive plastic sheets as UNHCR's partner AHA distributes 1,240 sheets to IDPs recently arrived from El Fasher, providing urgent shelter support while additional supplies are en route. © UNHCR/Mohammed Jalal

Highlights

- **Sudan:** In October, the security situation in the Western Corridor worsened, following intensification of armed clashes especially related to the takeover of El Fasher, North Darfur, by the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), and in Bara, North Kordofan state. The protection environment in North Darfur significantly deteriorated in October, with civilians fleeing the city facing repeated attacks along displacement routes, especially heading towards Tawila.

  In Tawila, protection desks have been established to provide specialized support for newly arrived and highly vulnerable individuals, including counselling, family tracing and other forms of assistance. Unaccompanied and separated children are being identified, documented and referred to specialized service providers for follow-up support. Additional protection desks operated by UNHCR partners in Daba Naira and Dali IDP camps are providing psychological first aid, have registered more than 200 unaccompanied children, most of whom have been reunited with their families, and have referred over 700 individuals, including survivors of gender-based violence, for specialized services.

- **Central African Republic (CAR):** The security situation in Vakaga Prefecture near the Sudan border remained volatile. While the situation in Birao, hosting around 27,000 Sudanese refugees, remained relatively calm, the security situation at the Am-Dafock border area has drastically deteriorated, with a rise in unidentified armed individuals carrying out deadly attacks on towns and villages near the border. These attacks triggered inter-community clashes, leading to civilian casualties and internal displacement of tens of thousands of people. Following the escalation at the border, a reconciliation meeting was held in Am-Dafock between delegations from Sudan and Birao. Talks focused on ending hostilities between the two communities and led to a peace agreement, marking a significant step

towards peaceful coexistence. The meeting was attended by local authorities, community leaders and MINUSCA, which supported the process.

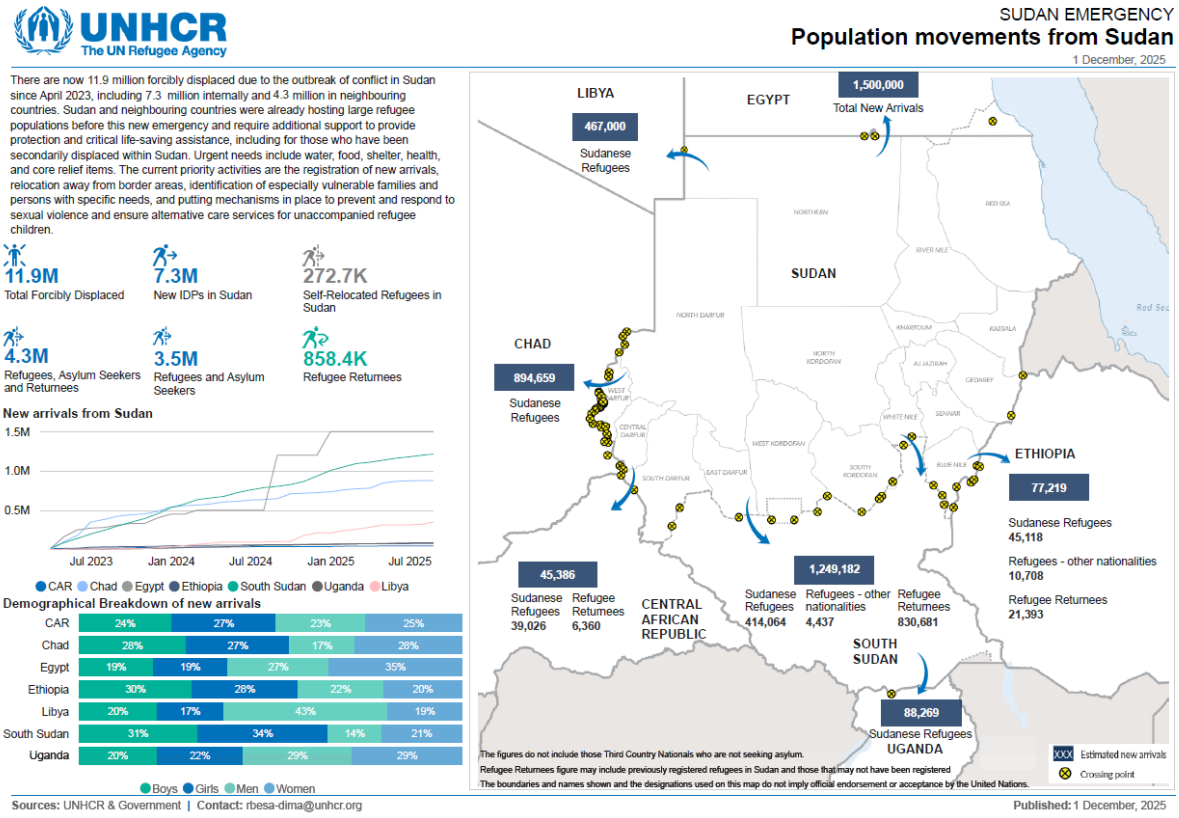
- **Chad:** Amid escalating insecurity in El Fasher in Sudan, UNHCR and 20 partners have finalized a contingency plan for Eastern Chad to enable a rapid, coordinated emergency response at key entry points. The plan is based on an estimated influx of 90,000 refugees and 30,000 returnees between October and December 2025. With a budget of USD 52.2 million, it prioritizes protection, health, WASH, shelter and relocation, while fostering resilience and supporting host communities.

- **Egypt:** At the fifth Aswan Forum on 19 and 20 October, Egypt reaffirmed its commitment to supporting refugees and promoting regional stability, especially amid Sudan's crisis. UNHCR's High Commissioner was part of a high-level panel on Sudan, the panel was chaired by Egypt's Foreign Minister and panelists included Sudan's Foreign Minister. Egyptian Foreign Minister Abdelatty emphasized Egypt's dual focus: aiding Sudan's peace process and securing international support for nearly 10 million foreigners in Egypt. On the second day, UNHCR's Representative participated as a key speaker in a side event that aimed to highlight refugee access to health care services. In her remarks, the UNHCR Representative described the Joint Platform for refugees and migrants as an exemplary model that reflects Egypt's strong leadership fostering a vision of a whole-of-Government and a whole-of-UN approach.

- **Ethiopia:** On 3 October, the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs visited Assosa and the Ura refugee site in Benishangul-Gumuz Region. The delegation focused on refugee inclusion efforts, met with stakeholders, toured refugee and host community facilities, and reaffirmed Finland's commitment to inclusive refugee response. The visit highlighted progress in service delivery and inclusion, while recognizing ongoing challenges in health, education, infrastructure, and livelihoods. On 16 October, a high-level mission from ECHO visited Assosa. Through engagements with government stakeholders, UN agencies, partners and refugee communities, the delegation reaffirmed its commitment to supporting Ethiopia's inclusive refugee policies and the transition toward sustainable, integrated service delivery.

- **Libya:** The issuance of Security Registration Cards (SRC) remained suspended, with no confirmation of when it would resume. Meanwhile, the Libyan Red Crescent (LRC) continued issuing health cards that helped refugees avoid arrest, detention and deportation. The cost of a health card is 60 LYD (approximately USD 11).

- **Uganda:** Criminality including robberies and break-ins, perpetrated by gangs and youth, remain a major community concern in Kiryandongo Refugee Settlement. During community meetings, residents highlighted this insecurity as a key challenge undermining livelihoods, noting that the little they earn or receive through support from GiveDirectly, Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and other partners is often stolen or destroyed. In response, UNHCR discussed this issue with the settlement security team and conducted community dialogues to engage the youth in identifying solutions and promoting peaceful coexistence.



Situation and Operational Response

SUDAN

Highlights

- In October, the security situation in the Western Corridor worsened, following intensification of armed clashes especially in El Fasher, North Darfur, in relation to the takeover of El Fasher by the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), and Bara, North Kordofan states The protection environment in North Darfur significantly deteriorated in October, with civilians fleeing the city having faced repeated attacks along displacement routes. Insecurity and violent incidents, that will impact the agricultural season, such as the destruction of farms and armed attacks, were also reported across Darfur states, increasing tensions and the likelihood of intercommunal clashes.
- Khartoum International Airport was targeted by drone strikes just days after authorities announced plans to reopen the facility, forcing an indefinite postponement. Multiple drones strike also targeted several cities across the country.
- While Kosti, in White Nile State, has not been directly affected, advances toward nearby towns and recurrent drone strikes have heightened fears. Overall, localized incidents of violence and sustained military activity continue to make for an unpredictable security environment. White Nile State has witnessed a new influx of IDPs from North and West Kordofan, following the reported RSF takeover of Bara.
- The security situation in Damazine and the wider Blue Nile region remains tense and volatile, driven largely by drone attacks targeting critical infrastructure and military positions across multiple locations, including Damazine city.
- UNHCR, in coordination with the Sudanese Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) and humanitarian actors in Red Sea State, facilitated a visit towards the end of October by the UNHCR Deputy High Commissioner and the Head of ECHO/Director General, Mr Popowski to the Alsadaga refugee gathering site. The joint delegation visited families, held focus group discussions with community leaders, and observed partner-led activities across the site. They also visited Khartoum State, where returnee women and their families whom they met asked for support to rebuild their lives.

Population Movements and Registration

Since the beginning of the year, UNHCR and the Commission for Refugees (COR) have provided legal documentation to 81,355 refugees and asylum-seekers in Sudan. In September, the authorities suspended registration to align national identification systems with UNHCR's databases, and the suspension and systems-alignment is ongoing. UNHCR is advocating with the authorities to ensure that refugees and asylum-seekers have continued access to basic services. In the meantime, UNHCR conducted refresher capacity-building sessions for 83 COR and UNHCR registration and protection staff in Gedaref and White Nile states.

Relocation

Since April 2025, authorities started to relocate foreigners, including refugees and asylum-seekers, from Khartoum to other areas. Since that time, UNHCR and partners have monitored the process and supported the relocation of more than 3,200 Ethiopian and Eritrean refugees to Gedaref State, and South Sudanese refugees to White Nile State.

Cross-border Movements

Since the beginning of 2025, over 82,000 refugee and asylum-seekers arrived in Sudan seeking international protection. The vast majority (75,484) are from South Sudan; other nationalities are Eritreans, Ethiopians and Somalis. The new arrivals are hosted in Blue Nile, Darfur, Gedaref, Kassala, Kordofan and White Nile states.

In October 2025, border authorities in Eshkeet and Argeen crossing points reported that close to 37,000 Sudanese nationals crossed into Sudan from Egypt; most of them intend to move to their area of origin in Khartoum, while some intend to go to Al Jazirah and Sennar States. Since January 2025, more than 344,300 Sudanese are reported to have crossed back into Sudan from Egypt.

Protection

In Red Sea State, 21 Ethiopian, Eritrean and South Sudanese refugees approached the Protection Desk run by UNHCR's partner in Port Sudan, with concerns related to access to education, registration, medical needs and needs for cash assistance. All cases were addressed according to protection procedures, with referrals made as needed.

In Red Sea State, the Port Sudan hotline run by UNHCR received 11 calls during the reporting period, eight from South Sudanese refugees and three from Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). Most inquiries were related to access to water in gathering sites, followed by medical issues and requests for cash assistance to meet basic needs. All calls were logged in UNHCR's Feedback and Response System, and relevant cases were referred for follow-up. In response to water shortages in October 2025, UNHCR began to directly manage the water supply system in Alsadaga gathering site.

In Gedaref State, the hotline run by UNHCR, received 18 calls. Staff counselled all callers, provided eight individuals with information on how to access humanitarian services, and referred 10 cases to the Sudanese Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) for further support.

In Gedaref State, UNHCR and protection partners distributed information materials across public areas in Um Rakuba refugee camp to promote the civilian character of asylum; awareness-raising sessions also reached 125 individuals.

In West Kordofan, UNHCR's partner identified 30 vulnerable refugee and host community children with disabilities in El Meriam and Tibon, and provided them with nutritional packages that included sugar, rice, lentils, powdered milk, cooking oil and sorghum.

In South Darfur, UNHCR provided IDP and refugee survivors of GBV in Gereida, Otash and Al Radoum settlements with dignity kits and psychosocial support. Additionally, in East Darfur UNHCR's partner delivered three GBV awareness sessions on referral pathways, child protection, domestic violence and safeguarding in Kario refugee camp, El Ferdous settlement and Khazan Jadid IDP site, reaching 290 women, men and children.

Protection monitoring by UNHCR and partners in Darfur states indicates that tensions are rising between farmers and herders, following an increased number of incidents involving the destruction of farms and

crops. UNHCR has documented these incidents, and an analysis will be shared with Protection Cluster partners to enable them to help support existing crop protection committees. Cases of GBV targeting women and girls returning from the farms have also been reported and were shared with Protection Cluster partners.

In Blue Nile, UNHCR's partner delivered 21 GBV and child protection awareness-raising sessions, reaching 970 individuals from IDP and refugee returnee communities. The partner also facilitated two mental health and psychosocial support trainings for 85 refugee returnees in the village of Karama and the city of Damazine.

Access to Territory/Legal assistance

In Gedaref State, UNHCR collaborated with COR and partners to train 56 participants (including law enforcement officers, COR staff and host community members) to address the increasingly complex mixed migration flows across the Gallabat border between Sudan and Ethiopia. The training aimed to strengthen law enforcement capacity to identify protection risks, apply rights-based approaches and understand international protection frameworks.

UNHCR, its legal partner, and IOM organized a refugee protection and counter-trafficking workshop in Kassala State. The training reached 35 participants from law enforcement agencies, including the judiciary, and helped strengthen institutional understanding and coordination in addressing refugee protection and trafficking challenges.

In Kassala State, UNHCR also organized a paralegal training for 14 refugees. The training covered legal aid fundamentals, protection and referral mechanisms, asylum law awareness, and the risks of irregular migration and smuggling.

In Wadi Halfa, Northern State, UNHCR's partner delivered a legal awareness-raising session for refugees, focusing on rights and available protection mechanisms. The partner also organized a capacity-building workshop in Dongola for 13 government officials that covered protection principles, anti-trafficking measures and relevant national laws.

In Blue Nile State, to enhance legal awareness, UNHCR's legal partner facilitated a two-day session in Camp 6 for 300 refugees and 30 host community members that covered refugee law, national legislation, peaceful coexistence and criminal procedures. A separate one-day legal awareness session for IDPs in Baw locality focused on civil documentation, national law, and peaceful coexistence, and reached 100 participants.

Community-based protection

Multi-purpose community centres (MPCC)

MPCCs are used to offer GBV and PSEA awareness sessions, recreational activities, counselling and referrals through Protection Desks, psychosocial support, and also provide a space for community-led initiatives.

Across East, Central, North, South, and West Darfur states in October, approximately 14,400 individuals, including IDPs, refugees, and host community members, accessed MPCC services.

In West Kordofan State, two MPCCs served over 800 individuals including refugees and host community members, during the reporting period.

In Gedaref State, UNHCR's legal partner engaged the community at the Doka MPCC through legal awareness sessions for 150 people and also trained 30 participants on initiatives for youth and women. The Doka MPCC also hosted community-led activities and facilitated WFP food distributions to IDPs in the area.

Through a partner in Northern State, UNHCR completed the rehabilitation of the Abri MPCC and handed it over to the community and local authorities. The construction of the MPCC in El Dinder, Blue Nile State, was also completed.

In White Nile State, 8 operational MPCCs ensured the provision of protection services to more than 900 refugees, IDPs, and host community members.

Community-Based Protection Networks (CBPNs)
In Gedaref State, UNHCR's partner trained the 16-member women's committee at the Tunaydbah MPCC to strengthen their knowledge of GBV, build capacity to support survivors and clarify their role in community-level prevention and response. Additionally, in coordination with COR, UNHCR's partner established a 25-member women's committee in Um Gargour camp to address GBV concerns following an increase in reported cases.

CBPNs in South Darfur State conducted awareness-raising sessions together with UNHCR's protection partner on gender-based violence prevention, management, and referral pathways, as well as to promote cholera prevention and mitigation. These sessions engaged IDPs, refugees, and host communities across Buram, Belail, Al Radoum, and Al Amal refugee settlements and Kalma, Otash, Deraig, Geraida, and Mershing IDP camps. In total, the sessions reached 1,185 individuals, including women and children.

Forcibly Displaced Persons-Led Organizations (FDPLOs)
In Kassala State, a UNHCR-supported, IDP-led organization, the Sudanese Organization for Disability and Development (SODD), conducted a psychosocial support session for 20 displaced individuals living with disabilities in West Airport and Al Karama gathering sites. This initiative aimed to improve the psychosocial wellbeing and resilience of displaced persons with disabilities.

In Al Neem IDP camp, East Darfur State, the Al Rayan 2 Youth Association, an FDPLO supported by UNHCR, conducted a GBV awareness session that reached 210 women and girls. The FDPLO also organized a sports competition involving 32 football (soccer) teams from both the IDP and host communities, aimed at promoting peaceful coexistence and social cohesion. In North Darfur State, another FDPLO in Tawila, AVOPD, reached 600 individuals through awareness-raising sessions on GBV and child protection.

Education

UNHCR, in coordination with its partner, assessed challenges to accessing education arising among school-aged refugee children in Red Sea State, and identified 472 children in Port Sudan and Swakin who lacked documentation, particularly birth certificates. This assessment followed an August joint education survey by UNHCR, UNICEF, and partners that highlighted barriers to school enrollment and aimed to analyze and address documentation gaps to improve the inclusion of refugee children in education systems.

In Kassala State, UNHCR facilitated the payment of monthly incentives for 240 teachers and 42 other staff across 20 refugee schools, in seven camps managed by UNHCR's partner, the Sudanese Ministry of Education (MoE). In Blue Nile State, 32 volunteers, including 24 teachers, 4 cleaners, and 4 guards received incentives, too.

In White Nile State, UNHCR's partner coordinated with the MoE to train 295 teachers as part of efforts to strengthen the MoE's capacity to deliver quality education. The training included intermediate and secondary school teachers from Aldewem, Al Gitena, Kosti, Rabak, Tandalti, Al Jabalain, and Al Salam localities, representing refugee, IDP, and host community populations. In addition, 3,000 secondary school students received school supplies to support their education.

In Blue Nile State, to enhance access to quality education, UNHCR's partner trained 196 teachers. These sessions contributed to strengthening teaching methodologies and classroom management at the intermediate and secondary levels.

To address rising dropout rates in Blue Nile State, UNHCR's partner organized two enrollment campaigns in Camp 6 and Village 6, encouraging parents and community members to send their children back to school. As a result, 911 students from both refugee and host communities resumed classes during the month. Additionally, 330 students (174 girls) were newly registered in Level 1 for the 2025-2026 academic year, reflecting improved enrollment trends.

Health and Nutrition

For the first time, UNHCR rolled out the use of the Global Distribution Tool (GDT) in WFP's general food distribution exercises across Girba, Kilo 26, Abuda, and Shagarab 1-3 camps in Kassala State. This marks a significant development, ensuring the use of biometrics to facilitate the distribution of assistance. A total of 79,430 individuals then received a WFP food ration during the period. WFP has indicated that it will transition to voucher-based food assistance for November and December.

In Gedaref State, UNHCR also rolled out the GDT in support of the WFP's general food distribution exercise. A total of 49,916 individuals received the food ration for October across all camps. Due to the Sudanese authorities' suspension of refugee registration in September, the WFP agreed to exceptionally cover unregistered individuals (new arrivals and relocated individuals from Khartoum whose registration was pending) through "offline" distribution, not under the GDT.

Health facilities in White Nile State refugee camps provided 47,000 outpatient consultations (73.3 per cent refugees and 26.7per cent host community/IDPs), marking a significant increase of 63.3 per cent more consultations than in September due to seasonal increased malaria infections.

In Blue Nile State, 2,600 outpatient consultations were recorded in October (85.4 per cent refugees and 14.6 per cent host community and IDPs).

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFIs)

In October, UNHCR and partners provided NFI assistance, including blankets, mats, kitchen sets, mosquito nets, solar lamps, and jerry cans, to some 1,024 households, reaching some 5,120 IDPs and refugees. Since the beginning of 2025, over 93,500 households have received NFI support in 16 states: Al Jazirah, Blue Nile, Central Darfur, East Darfur, Gedaref, Kassala, Khartoum, North Darfur, Northern, North Kordofan, Red Sea, River Nile, South Darfur, South Kordofan, West Darfur and White Nile.

During the reporting period, emergency shelter assistance reached approximately 7,960 refugee households in Blue Nile, Gedaref and White Nile states. Since January 2025, more than 17,000 households have received shelter support through both cash and in-kind modalities.

Water, Health, and Sanitation (WASH)

UNHCR and partners provided clean water to refugees in 11 refugee camps in Gedaref and Kassala states. The average quantity of daily water production ranged from 1,480m^3/day in Gedaref to 2,304m^3/day in Kassala, while the average water consumption stood at 22 liters/person/day (l/p/d) in Kassala and 26 l/p/d in Gedaref, with both exceeding the UNHCR post-emergency standard of 20 l/p/d.

UNHCR, in collaboration with WASH partners, provided safe drinking water to 510,315 refugees and host community members, including 497,529 people in White Nile State and 12,786 people in Blue Nile State, through the operation and maintenance of 11 existing water systems. This supply was supplemented by water trucking in Al Jamyia Camp (White Nile) and Camp 6 (Blue Nile) to meet additional needs arising from the relocation of South Sudanese and other refugees ("secondary movers") from Khartoum, as well as Ethiopian refugees. Water supply services remained stable across all refugee camps in both states.

In Gedaref State, UNHCR's partner repaired and maintained water lines, and replaced 13 tap stands in Um Gargour refugee camp and 45 550W-capacity solar panels for solarized water systems in the camp. This resulted in longer operating hours and an increased water supply.

In Kassala State, UNHCR's partner distributed 4,186 chlorine tablets (1.67mg each) to community members across all refugee camps to enhance water quality. UNHCR's WASH partner also conducted hygiene-promoting activities in Girba and Wad Sharife camps under the Regional WASH (R-WASH) project, reaching over 35,500 individuals with messages on proper hygiene practices. Additionally, about 19,000 individuals in Wad Sharife camp received a two-month soap ration during a general distribution exercise.

In White Nile State, to mitigate the risk of open defecation and potential WASH-related disease outbreaks, UNHCR and partners constructed 117 communal latrines, enabling 5,850 individuals to gain access to improved sanitation facilities.

Across refugee camps in White Nile State, UNHCR partners strengthened hygiene promotion, reaching nearly 93,000 individuals with hygiene awareness and risk communication messages. Partners distributed hygiene kits and information, education and communication (IEC) materials to 2,403 women and girls of reproductive age, supporting improved menstrual hygiene management and overall public health.

Livelihoods, Self-reliance and Economic Inclusion

In Gedaref State, UNHCR's partner trained 10 refugees in soap production and baking to support income-generating activities. Additionally, 95 individuals in Babikri, Um Gargour and Um Rakuba camps received access to land and agricultural inputs and crop cultivation is underway.

In Wadi Halfa, Northern State, in coordination with local authorities, UNHCR's partner delivered a Training of Trainers on Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) to 21 female participants (13 IDPs and eight host community). The skills participants gained will enable them to access financial services through microcredit associations and business grants, fostering linkages with financial institutions and supporting the formation of VSLAs and microcredit groups.

In Blue Nile State, UNHCR's partner distributed start-up "kits" to 74 beneficiaries in Al Seriwe, Al Shamar Village and Al Ban Jadid, all of whom had previously completed vocational training. Among the beneficiaries were 36 women, who received tailored kits designed to support income-generating activities. Each kit included equipment, supplies and/or tools to enable recipients to launch those activities.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)

Highlights

- In October, security in Vakaga Prefecture near the Sudan border remained volatile. Birao, hosting some 27,000 Sudanese refugees, stayed relatively calm, while in the Am-Dafock area deadly attacks by unidentified armed individuals triggered inter-communal clashes, civilian casualties and the displacement of tens of thousands.
- Following the border escalation, a reconciliation meeting was held in Am-Dafock between delegations from Sudan and Birao, focusing on ending inter-communal hostilities and resulting in a peace agreement that marked a key step towards peaceful coexistence, attended and supported by local authorities, community leaders and MINUSCA.
- Human rights' abuses against civilians perpetrated by non-state armed groups, including armed robbery, intimidation and harassment continue to generate a climate of fear in Vakaga Prefecture, restricting the movement of people and goods, exacerbating already dire living conditions and deepening vulnerabilities.
- No new Sudanese refugee arrivals in Birao were recorded in October, likely due to the ongoing rainy season, which has worsened road conditions rendering some areas close to the border inaccessible. However, with the rainy season ending soon, the number of new arrivals is expected to rise due to escalation of conflict in Sudan's Darfur region.
- Despite ongoing humanitarian assistance, significant gaps remain in sustainable support for Sudanese refugees and host communities. Supply of potable water in the Korsi refugee neighborhood in Birao remains below emergency standards with around 10 liters of water per person per day. No new latrine was built, and the conditions remain critical with 52 people per latrine. Over 16,440 refugees still lack adequate access to sanitation, with an estimated 822 additional latrines urgently needed.
- On 15 October, UN Under-Secretary-General (USG) for Humanitarian Affairs Joyce Msuya visited Birao to assess the humanitarian situation and mobilize further resources for Vakaga Prefecture. She met refugee women, including survivors of violence, and engaged with local authorities, community leaders, humanitarian actors, and MINUSCA. The USG announced further resource allocation to the Central African Republic (CAR) and pledged to continue advocating with the Secretary-General for stronger support.

Population Movement and Registration

As of 31 October, UNHCR and the National Commission for Refugees (CNR) have registered 26,924 Sudanese refugees (10,708 families) in Kosi. 56 per cent of them are women and girls, and 44 per cent are men and boys. Additionally, around 12,140 Sudanese refugees are still in other, often hard-to-reach areas in the prefectures of Bamingui-Bangoran, Haute-Kotto, Ouaka, Mbomou, and Haut-Mbomou.

Protection

In October, UNHCR's partner Le Comité International pour l'Aide d'Urgence et le Développement (CIAUD) recorded 59 protection incidents in Vakaga prefecture. The incidents were primarily attributed to non-state armed groups along transit routes and in nearby localities, such as Am-Dafock, Boromata, Birao, Korsi, Gordil, and Sikikedé.

The incidents affected both refugees and host community members, with men constituting the majority of victims. Many faced risks such as physical assault, threats, theft, extortion, and, in some cases, murder, largely due to their mobility while seeking livelihoods.

To mitigate and respond to protection-related risks and incidents, UNHCR and its partner CIAUD continued protection monitoring, case management and strengthening of community-based protection and vigilance committees. The committees are actively engaged in strengthening community security and safety, social cohesion and early-warning alerts, in coordination with the local authorities and UNHCR.

UNHCR and CIAUD continued to promote peaceful coexistence between refugees, IDPs and host communities in Birao. Awareness-raising sessions on human rights, complaint mechanisms, conflict resolution and non-violence reached over 950 people. These activities aimed to strengthen social cohesion, encourage dialogue and improve understanding of protection risks, helping communities manage tensions and prevent conflicts amid a volatile environment.

Accountability to the affected population (AAP)

In October, UNHCR and its partner CIAUD continued to strengthen accountability to affected populations in Korsi through regular feedback collection, referral, and awareness-raising. CIAUD recorded 456 refugee requests via the information and feedback centre (CIF), as well as during distribution of cash and through community engagement activities such as meetings with community leaders and door-to-door outreach. Requests mainly concerned food assistance, shelter, WASH, education, health and protection services. UNHCR and its partners referred cases to relevant actors and followed up to ensure timely assistance.

In addition, CIAUD continued to conduct door-to-door awareness-raising sessions on AAP mechanisms, reaching hundreds of people. These sessions aimed to improve refugees' understanding of their rights and responsibilities and collective feedback mechanisms.

Gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response

UNHCR's partner CIAUD continued to prevent and respond to GBV in Vakaga prefecture, including physical assault, psychological abuse, forced marriage and denial of resources among Sudanese refugees and host communities. All survivors received psychosocial support at the safe spaces, with 36 per cent receiving dignity kits and 9 per cent referred for medical care based on individual needs.

To strengthen prevention of GBV and sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), CIAUD continued to conduct awareness-raising sessions. Engaging Men through Accountable Practices (EMAP) sessions were organized weekly in Korsi and Birao with each session engaging 40 men from both the refugee and host communities to discuss gender roles, social power dynamics and the impact of unequal norms on women and vulnerable groups. These activities reinforced community understanding of gender equality and GBV, while actively involving men in the prevention of GBV.

Child protection

UNHCR and its partners continued engaging in child protection activities in Korsi, focusing on promoting children's rights, psychosocial well-being, and social cohesion. Awareness sessions focused on school enrolment, prevention of abuse and neglect, non-discrimination, and parental responsibilities, reaching hundreds of refugees and host community members, including sessions designed to encourage interaction between the two groups.

UNHCR and its partners continued to identify child protection issues in Korsi, such as cases of neglect, exposure to inappropriate domestic and economic work, physical punishment and psychological abuse. In Korsi, 592 children (293 girls and 299 boys) participated in creative, recreational and educational activities at the Child Friendly Space, including sports, dance, and games, supporting their psychosocial well-being and socialization. Most participants were refugee children, although the number of host community children increased during the last week of October.

Education

During the start of the 2025-2026 school year in October, UNHCR and its partners, the Centre de Support en Santé Internationale (CSSI) and Olivier l'Homme de Galilée pour le Développement Social (OHG DS), worked closely in collaboration with the Academic Inspection of the Vakaga prefecture, to support refugees' continued integration into the national education system. The focus was on school enrolment, learning support, and safe and inclusive learning environments for IDPs, refugees and host community students. A high attendance rate was observed at the start of the new school year and data collection is ongoing for initial enrolment figures.

French language courses in Birao continued, engaging 968 refugee learners (445 women, 523 men) across three levels to strengthen their language skills and to ease their integration into the national education system while promoting social cohesion. In addition, host community schools near Korsi, Nguerendomo and Prefectorale received support from parents, community volunteers, and school staff to clear weeds and debris from school compounds and classrooms. The aim was to create safer, cleaner, and more welcoming spaces for students, reducing health risks, improving overall conditions for learning, while reinforcing community ownership of the learning environment.

Throughout October, community-based awareness-raising activities, such as door-to-door outreach by community relays, continued to be carried out in Korsi and surrounding neighborhoods, reaching 4,493 people (1,064 households). These sessions emphasized the importance of on-time enrolment for the new school year, consistent school attendance, peaceful interactions among learners and parents' role in supporting children's education.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFIs)

UNHCR and its partner NOURRIR completed the construction of 80 semi-durable shelters for Sudanese refugees in Kosi in September, while 11 others are still under construction. The main challenge remains the ongoing shortage of baked bricks in the local market. To address the issue, alternative suppliers were sourced, local brick production was encouraged, and technical monitoring reinforced.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

UNHCR's partner NOURRIR continued to conduct hygiene promotion activities throughout October, reaching 3,986 individuals from 2,926 families through focus groups, block-by-block activities and door-to-door outreach. These awareness-raising sessions focused on safe water management, handwashing, latrine use, and waste management, aiming to reduce waterborne diseases and strengthen hygiene practices despite limited WASH infrastructure.

Food Security and Livelihood

In October, food and livelihood assistance continued in Korsi. Cash distributions by WFP, in collaboration with UNHCR and CNR, reached 4,373 households (12,247 people), with a total of 213 million XAF distributed.

UNHCR and its partner CIAUD continued implementing the livelihood projects aimed at enhancing the self-reliance and economic inclusion of refugees, returnees, and host communities in Korsi, Nguéréndomon, and Songo. Activities included monitoring agricultural and market gardening sites, preparing new plots for sesame and watermelon cultivation, and promoting community participation, peaceful coexistence, and the creation of community-based savings and loan groups.

Health and Nutrition

Medical teams from the CSSI and International Medical Corps (IMC), coordinated by the Vakaga health district, provided 2,092 consultations throughout the month, with refugees accounting for 78 per cent and members of the host community 22 percent. Children aged 0–59 months represented nearly 29 per cent of patients.

The most common conditions diagnosed were malaria (46 per cent), followed by respiratory infections (16 per cent), and intestinal parasitic diseases (7 per cent). A total of 33 patients (1.6 per cent) were referred to the Birao District Hospital, with the majority recovering following treatment.

Reproductive health services continued to be provided in Korsi with 171 women receiving family planning and gynecological consultations. Five childbirths were recorded in Korsi, totaling 138 births in 2025. 100 per cent of the new childbirths were assisted by qualified health workers at the hospital.

In October, 698 children aged 6–59 months were screened for malnutrition. Of these, 17 cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and seven severe acute malnutrition (SAM) identified and treated. So far in 2025, 366 MAM and 149 SAM cases have been treated among 8,245 children screened.

Vaccination campaigns continued with 450 children fully vaccinated against multiple diseases, including 118 for measles and 276 pregnant women receiving tetanus immunization. In response, a vaccination campaign

Since early October, concerns have grown over an emerging public health issue in Vakaga Prefecture, where five deaths following dog bites have been reported—four in Am-Dafock and one in Birao. These cases, which are likely linked to rabies, highlight gaps in prevention and treatment. In response, UNHCR and its partners, in collaboration with WHO and health authorities, are conducting vaccination and awareness campaigns to reduce further risk.

Health promotion and disease prevention activities continued in October in Birao, focusing on malaria, cholera, measles, Mpox and hygiene. Key interventions included distributing mosquito nets and conducting awareness sessions on handwashing, safe food preparation, vaccination, and ways to avoid exposure to Mpox and rabies.

CHAD

Highlights

- As of 30 October, Chad had reported 2,807 cases and 157 deaths since the beginning of the cholera outbreak, with several areas in the provinces of Sila and Ouaddaï remaining the most affected. About 30 per cent of the cases are refugees. Authorities are strengthening epidemiological surveillance, maintaining emergency interventions and planning health checkpoints in high-risk areas to curb transmission. Communities are urged to follow preventive measures as cholera can spread rapidly in areas lacking safe water and sanitation.
- In line with its strategy, UNHCR continued to relocate newly arrived refugees from the border entries to the camps/sites and host communities deeper inside Chad to ensure protection and assistance. The relocation of Sudanese refugees from spontaneous sites in Birak and Koulbous to the newly established site of Marassabré is progressing smoothly. Since the start of the operation on 29 August, 48 convoys have been relocated 15,514 individuals (3,745 households) to Marassabré. The site spans 618 hectares and has a capacity of 40,000 people.

Population Movements and Registration

In October, the refugee situation in eastern Chad remained critical. Since the Sudan conflict began in April 2023, over 888,000 people, mostly women and children, have fled to Chad. Combined with 400,000 refugees from earlier Darfur displacements, as of October, Chad hosts nearly 1.3 million (321,955 households) Sudanese refugees, including 965,715 in 23 camps across Ouadaï (10), Sila (4), Wadi Fira (8), and Enedi East (1). UNHCR, alongside Chadian authorities and partners, continues registering new arrivals and relocating them from insecure border areas to safer sites inland, as daily arrivals persist amid ongoing fighting in Darfur.

From the 24 October to 31 October, about 2,200 people (770 households) were registered at entry points in Ouaddaï, Wadi Fira, and Ennedi East, a 42 percent increase from the previous week (1,550 people from 480 households). While no large-scale influx occurred, UNHCR and its partners are anticipating more arrivals as security in Sudan remains volatile and travel becomes easier with the end of the rainy season in October. Contingency plans are being updated to prepare for up to 90,000 additional refugees in the coming weeks or months.

Relocation

In line with its strategy, UNHCR relocated 8,330 refugees in October, bringing the total number moved from the border to camps, sites and host communities in Chad to 160,768 in 2025 and 569,438 since April 2023, to ensure their protection and access to assistance. Most refugees have been relocated in the Ouaddai 46 per cent, Wadi Fira 29 per cent, Sila 14 per cent and Ennedi East 11 per cent.

Protection

Gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response

In October, 587 vulnerable individuals, including GBV survivors, received care through case management, psychosocial support and referrals from partners Association pour la Promotion des Libertés Fondamentales au Tchad (APLFT) and Nirvana. Incidents increased, often linked to marital conflicts and assaults during firewood collection in new settlement sites.

Awareness efforts reached 10,005 people (5,017 women, 1,921 men, 1,903 girls and 1,164 boys) across eastern settlements and transit centers, focusing on Chad's Law 003/PR/2025, GBV types and consequences, available services, referral systems, and the importance of reporting rape within 72 hours for medical care. Capacity building included two PSEA trainings in Iriba and Farchana for 56 humanitarian and community workers on SEA risks, prohibitions, and accountability; training for 12 enumerators on GBV security audits (ongoing at Goudrane, Iridimi, Oure-Cassonie); legal/judicial care training for 32 authorities and settlement leaders; and distribution of 166 improved stoves at Metche, reducing firewood use by 41 per cent.

Challenges remain suspension of GBV case managers due to funding gaps, lack of shelters and latrines, insufficient dignity kits and lighting, and limited cooking stoves, all heightening risks for women and girls.

Child protection

A total of 1,568 children (746 girls and 822 boys) attended the Child-Friendly Spaces (CFS) managed by World Vision across two sites in Kerfi and Zabout. Among them, 108 were newly enrolled, including 50 girls. Additionally, 75 births (36 girls and 39 boys) were registered with civil authorities, 39 in Goz-Amir and 36 in Djabal. However, 17 children (9 girls and 8 boys) at Goz-Amir have not yet had their births officially registered.

Coordination

A weekly coordination meeting co-chaired by UNHCR and the National Commission for the Reception and Reintegration of Refugees and Returnees (CNARR) brought together donors, humanitarian partners, and government authorities. The 29 October 2025 session focused on field developments, response gaps, and the potential activation of contingency plans. Despite limited financial resources, partners reaffirmed their commitment to supporting the humanitarian response and strengthening intersectoral coordination.

Bi-weekly local coordination meetings continued, focusing on site preparation, border monitoring, relocation, and protection services in Wadi Fira and Ennedi East

In October, UNHCR, as the lead agency coordinating the PSEA Network at the sub-national level in Eastern Chad, intensified efforts to strengthen the visibility of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) prevention tools. To promote awareness among refugees and humanitarian actors, 15,000 colouring booklets featuring key PSEA messages for children were produced (13,000 in Arabic and 2,000 in French). Additionally, 10,000 "No Excuse" cards on PSEA (8,000 in Arabic and 2,000 in French) were developed for humanitarian partners and newly arrived refugees. Distributed in collaboration with sectoral working groups—particularly Child Protection and Education—these materials contributed to raising awareness on reporting mechanisms for SEA cases, appropriate conduct expected from humanitarian workers, and behaviors that are considered unacceptable.

Education

Access to education is supported for 163,177 children (52 per cent girls and 48 per cent boys). UNHCR also supported the provision of stipends for 2,541 teachers in the East of Chad. To strengthen quality education, 254 temporary classrooms have been built and equip. Additionally, school kits have been distributed to 6,055 students in schools across the Ouaddai. The kits included notebooks, pens, calculators and other essential supplies. This initiative has had a positive impact on attendance and retention, particularly among students from vulnerable families.

Health and Nutrition

UNHCR and its health partners are working closely with the Ministry of Health to deliver comprehensive primary healthcare services to refugees and host communities. At border entry points, teams provide medical and nutritional screening, first aid, vaccinations, and psychological support. Within refugee sites, services include curative consultations, management of chronic illnesses such as TB and HIV, maternal and newborn care, family planning, mental health support, treatment of acute malnutrition, and health

education on disease prevention and infant feeding. A referral system ensures that complicated cases receive secondary or tertiary care. The main causes of morbidity remain respiratory infections (27%), malaria (17 per cent) and acute gastroenteritis (7 per cent), while increasing numbers of wounded civilians are reported at entry points, particularly in Tiné.

Thirty-five fully equipped health centres staffed with qualified personnel provide an average of 130,000 consultations, 1,400 assisted deliveries and 450 medical referrals each month. Around 20,000 acutely malnourished children since January 2025, and nearly 29,600 people have accessed mental health services.

The cholera outbreak response has strengthened access to safe water, preventive measures, and case management. Additionally, 230 health workers including 26 doctors and 204 nurses/midwives, have been officially registered after diploma verification. Key health indicators, particularly mortality rates, remain within acceptable standards, reflecting the effectiveness of the ongoing response.

Humanitarian partners have scaled up life-saving support for Sudanese refugees in Eastern Chad. Over 824,000 people have received food assistance through in-kind distributions and cash transfers, ensuring access to essential nutrition. Additionally, 274,534 newly arrived refugees were provided with hot meals during relocation, helping families maintain dignity and well-being during critical movements to safer sites.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFIs)

In October, significant progress was achieved across multiple sites. In Ouré-Cassoni, 1,407 shelters were constructed and allocated to beneficiaries. At Touloum, 90 parcels were prepared and 30 shelter frames installed by NRC, while COBRA mobilized materials for 500 additional shelters. In Kouchaguine-Moura, 230 UNHCR tents were installed out of 330 planned. Meanwhile, in Marassabré, INTERSOS completed the construction of 1,500 emergency shelters. Since January, 32,152 emergency shelter kits have been distributed, bringing the cumulative total since 2023 to 113,669 family shelters and shelter kits delivered.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

The ongoing crisis in Sudan continues to drive a significant influx of refugees into Eastern Chad, prompting humanitarian partners to scale up and expand their operations. October was marked by the relocation of refugees to the Marassabré site, as well as assessments for the potential expansion of the Moura-Kouchaguine and Touloum camps.

Significant progress was made in improving access to safe drinking water across several refugee camps in Eastern Chad. On average, water consumption reached 12 litres per person per day. Notable improvements were recorded in camps such as Gaga, Dougui, Metche Iridimi, Touloum, and Goz-Amir, as a result of targeted technical interventions including the connection of modern wells, installation of new pumping lines and construction of water towers and tap stands.

However, water access ratios declined in Kouchaguine-Moura and Koursigué due to an increase in the refugee population and technical breakdowns. The Farchana, Iriba/Amdjarass, Guéréda and Sila zones all benefited from infrastructure expansion and rehabilitation efforts, contributing to improved water coverage in the affected sites.

In the area of sanitation, considerable efforts were made to address the persistent shortage of latrines, particularly in camps such as Marassabré, Ouré-Cassoni and Goudrane, where the average ratio reaches up to 28 people per latrine. Hundreds of emergencies, household and school latrines were constructed or are underway, alongside the development of waste pits and water distribution platforms.

Hygiene promotion efforts reached over 243,730 individuals through 634 sessions, including 357 household visits and 277 mass awareness campaigns. These activities targeted diverse population groups, with notable participation from women (33 per cent) and girls (33 per cent), reflecting an inclusive approach. The overall coverage rate across the camps stood at 26 per cent.

Cash Assistance

As of 30 October, 452,461 individuals (76 per cent of the target) in Eastern Chad received cash assistance for emergency response, protection, shelter/NFI, socio-economic inclusion and education. UNHCR distributed 853.7 million XAF (equivalent to USD 1.5 million) 85 per cent of the planned allocation, supporting cholera prevention, entrepreneurship, agriculture and multipurpose protection assistance. 96

per cent of beneficiaries (436,325 refugees) received cholera-related cash support, while others benefited from education, livelihoods and reintegration activities. The host population accounted for 30 per cent of beneficiaries, fostering social cohesion.

Livelihood and Environment

In Farchana and Gaga, as part of the local entrepreneurship promotion program, direct financial support was provided to 135 entrepreneurs out of 138 planned (103 refugees and 32 members of host communities) strengthening income-generating activities and fostering economic resilience.

Beyond immediate food assistance, efforts to strengthen resilience and self-reliance are underway. Twelve solar-powered water pumping systems and 15 market gardening areas equipped with boreholes and wells have been established, providing clean water and enabling sustainable agriculture. Furthermore, 12 spreading thresholds have been constructed to improve water management and support farming activities. These initiatives not only address urgent needs but also create opportunities for livelihoods and long-term recovery.

EGYPT

Highlights

- UNHCR Global Goodwill Ambassador, Cate Blanchett, travelled on mission to Egypt to attend the El Gouna Film Festival on 16 October to spotlight the underreported Sudan crisis. Egypt, hosting most Sudanese refugees, faces immense humanitarian pressure. Blanchett met refugees at a German hotel school funded by the Sawiris Foundation, shared their stories publicly, and joined a panel with fellow ambassador Raya Abirached. Her visit coincided with a five-year MoU renewal between UNHCR, the El Gouna Film Festival, and the Sawiris foundation to boost collaboration. The Sawiris Foundation pledged $500,000 for cash assistance and education grants, Arafa Holding committed $250,000 in Zakat for health and education grants, and Abou Ghaly Motors offered $230,000 in training and capacity buidling for 200 refugees, highlighting the vital role of private sector partnerships in refugee support.
- On 23 October, the Canadian Ambassador to Egypt visited UNHCR in Alexandria for a one-day mission led by the UNHCR Representative. The visit began at Rouh Center, a refugee-led initiative founded by Sudanese refugee and Nansen Award Winner for the MENA region in 2024, Nada Fadol, showcasing vocational training for refugee women. The delegation then toured a UNHCR-supported community centre run by Terre des Hommes, engaging with refugees in programmes like digital literacy and psychosocial support. A focus group with refugees from Sudan, Syria, Yemen and Iraq highlighted the impact of UNHCR's work and raised concerns, especially about the closure of the North Coast registration center due to funding cuts. This has hindered access to residency permits, affecting access to education and increasing protection risks, such as child labour and GBV.
- At the fifth Aswan Forum, Egypt reaffirmed its commitment to supporting refugees and Sudan's peace process, while calling for stronger international support for nearly 10 million foreigners in the country and a comprehensive Refugee Response Plan. UNHCR leadership highlighted Egypt's Joint Platform for refugees and migrants, especially in health care as a model of whole-of-Government and whole-of-UN cooperation.
- On 28 October, UNHCR received a mission from Vodafone Group Foundation Board of Trustees. UNHCR organized a field visit to an Instant Network School (INS) in 6th of October area, Giza Governorate, to highlight the program's impact in enhancing digital learning for both refugees and host community students. The visit showcased how the INS program is digitizing classrooms, building teachers' digital skills, and creating inclusive, technology-enabled learning environments. Key attendees included the Chairman and the Secretary-General of Vodafone Egypt Foundation, as well as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees and the CEO Vodafone Group Foundation. Following the field visits, the Vodafone delegation and UNHCR met with the Vice Minister Dr. Ahmed Daher, Head of Technological Infrastructure at the Ministry of Education. Dr. Daher expressed his gratitude towards the support coming from UNHCR and Vodafone Foundation, and the Ministry of Education commended the work and support provided by UNHCR to capacitate public schools hosting refugees. To date, the INS project is implemented in 70 schools distributed between Giza, Alexandria, Damietta and Sharqiya governorates with 27 INS schools now powered by solar energy in Sharqiya and Giza, benefitting over 101,000 students. This visit underscored

the strong partnership between UNHCR, the Ministry of Education, and Vodafone in advancing digital inclusion and quality education for refugees and host communities across Egypt.

Population Movements and Registration

In October, UNHCR registered around 20,833 new refugees and asylum-seekers in Egypt, 87 per cent of whom were Sudanese nationals. Smaller numbers include other nationalities (12 per cent) and Syrians (1 per cent).

Since the outbreak of conflict in Sudan in April 2023, UNHCR provided registration appointments to 992,746 individuals who fled the country. Of these, 770,852 people (78 per cent) have been fully registered to receive protection and assistance.

As of 31 October, the total registered population is 1,069,155 individuals, including those who arrived in Egypt before the conflict, with the following breakdown: 806,946 Sudanese (76 per cent), 141,617 of other nationalities (13 per cent), and 120,592 Syrians (11 per cent). Women make up 54 per cent of the registered population.

Protection

Community-based protection (CBP)

In October, 23,948 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 7,045 individuals, out of whom 61 cases were referred for in-depth psycho-social assessment and another 83 fast-tracked for further urgent assistance.

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On 1 October, UNHCR hosted the National Council for Persons with Disabilities (NCPWD) delegation. The visit included a facility tour and a productive debrief session where the Council offered concrete support including disability inclusion training for non-specialized staff, sign language interpretation services for UNHCR videos, and accessibility audit checks for hospitals and public facilities in refugee-populated areas. On 5 October, UNHCR held a meeting with the National Council for Human Rights (NCHR) Secretary General who noted that the recent briefing at the Main Building had deepened his understanding of refugee issues and reinforced the Council's commitment to protecting refugee rights. The following areas of collaboration were discussed: capacity development for NCHR staff; joint workshops and training for the Bar Association and journalists; joint advocacy to promote international refugee law among government stakeholders and civil society; support for the transition of NCHR's "illegal migration" unit into a full department; and strengthening NCHR's helpline services.

On 7 and 8 October, a Multi-Functional Team (MFT) committee, comprising representatives from UNHCR and TdH, convened at the Elbehouth Multipurpose Community Centre and, using predefined selection criteria, selected 10 RLOs to receive material support of 30,000 EGP each (equivalent to USD 631.14) to implement their proposed activities and services.

On 7 October, UNHCR organized a joint reception at the TdH Maadi MPCC with the participation of CARE International, TdH, PSTIC, Mersal and Egyptian Foundation for Refugee Rights (EFRR). A total of 62 forcibly displaced individuals—Sudanese, South Sudanese, Ethiopian and Eritrean—approached the reception; 53 sought protection services and counselling, while 9 received support with registration procedures.

On 9 October, UNHCR participated in a World Mental Health Day event held at the American University in Cairo Greek Campus. The event brought together over 300 asylum-seekers and refugees who took part in a full day of activities, including theater performances, psychotherapy sessions, and mind–body connection exercises.

Gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response

On 2 October, the GBV team attended the UNCT Women and Girls Results Group meeting (chaired by UNFPA and UN Women), which reviewed 2024 achievements, 2025 planning, and the impact of funding cuts. In the discussion on emerging needs, members highlighted the importance of livelihoods and psychosocial support for refugee women and girls, particularly GBV survivors, as critical to strengthening resilience and ensuring the sustainability of the GBV response. The group also discussed preparations for UN80 Thematic Days, where each Results Group will host an event featuring a youth dialogue.

UNHCR successfully organized a four-day in-person GBVIMS+ training from 19 to 22 October as part of the official GBVIMS+ rollout process. GBVIMS+ is a secure, web-based system used in humanitarian settings to confidentially record, store, analyze and share standardized gender-based violence case data, helping service providers strengthen case management, coordination and evidence-based GBV response. The workshop aimed to standardize GBV case management and information management among GBV partners in Egypt, bringing together 22 participants from Data Gathering Organizations in refugee settings, with coordination from UNHCR and UNFPA. CARE, Future Eve, Balqees and Etijah were selected as rollout partners, while StARS and Save the Children joined as observers, and the workshop ended with one-on-one technical consultations to support effective implementation of GBVIMS+.

Child protection

On 2 October, UNHCR attended a presentation at the Dutch Embassy on a study entitled “Migrant Children on the Sudan–Egypt Route”, conducted by Save the Children in collaboration with the Mixed Migration Centre (MMC). The study sought to understand the experiences, vulnerabilities and protection needs of migrant children fleeing conflict in Sudan and travelling to Egypt. MMC highlighted the risks reportedly faced by refugee children during their journey, including exposure to violence, exploitation, trafficking and abuse, both in transit and in host communities, as well as limited access to education and healthcare as a key concern. A panel discussion with two refugee children brought attention to their worries about the security situation in their neighborhood (Ain Al Shams) and their strong desire to access education and livelihood opportunities. The children were also asked to share potential solutions they envisaged to improve security, including measures that could be supported by international actors.

On 8 October, child protection facilitated a session at the Cairo International Center for Conflict Resolution, Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding (CCCPA) for senior officials from judicial and social services authorities from different countries in Africa. The session focused on UNHCR's approach to children at risk, and children on the move.

Legal and physical protection (LPP)

On 6 and 7 October, UNHCR participated in a two-day workshop organized by the National Council for Human Rights, in cooperation with the Danish Institute for Human Rights, titled “The Asylum Law from a Human Rights Approach: A National Vision and Regional Experiences.” As part of an ongoing collaboration with the Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR) and the National Council for Human Rights (NCHR), UNHCR contributed to the workshop by presenting recommendations for the executive regulations, aligned with international standards, and sharing best practices from Türkiye’s transition from a UNHCR to a government-led asylum system. The workshop provided a valuable platform to engage key ministries on the content of the executive regulations, and UNHCR’s contributions were also covered in Egyptian media. Additional recommendations will be submitted in writing to NCHR over the coming week. According to discussions with NCHR, an expert meeting may be convened in November with stakeholders involved in drafting the executive regulations, where UNHCR will be invited to contribute.

Between 6 - 8 October, UNHCR joined a three-day PROSPECTS workshop to review 2025 achievements and set 2026 priorities. Group discussions centered on the four PROSPECTS pillars—Education, Economic Inclusion, Protection, and Infrastructure—highlighting progress, challenges, and strategic planning. Presentations included the World Bank’s socio-economic overview, UNHCR’s update on Egypt’s refugee situation and new asylum law, and ILO’s insights on the new labor law. Key outcomes emphasized stronger inclusion of forcibly displaced persons in national systems, improved stakeholder coordination, gender and diversity sensitivity, localization, mental health integration, and the impact of Egypt’s evolving legal landscape on refugee protection.

On 15 October, UNHCR joined a consultation convened by the Danish Institute for Human Rights on the human rights-based approach to Artificial Intelligence and digitization in migration governance, where representatives from IOM and UNHCR North Africa shared regional experiences and ethical

considerations. UNHCR Egypt emphasized the role of technology in managing the growing refugee population, highlighting safeguards around iris scans, facial recognition, and a new contact centre, and the transition to a digitalized government-led asylum system, while acknowledging associated risks.

Infoline
In October, UNHCR Egypt's Infoline responded to 35,046 inquiries. Additionally, 2,913 individuals fleeing the conflict in Sudan secured registration appointments through the Infoline. Since the crisis began, a total of 632,003 people have been successfully scheduled with appointments using this system.

Capacity-building
From 6 to 8 October 2025, a training was held for the Egyptian Ministry of Defence for 32 MoD officers planning to join the peacekeeping forces soon. The workshop was conducted in the LAWIO office covering a variety of topics related to UNHCR mandate and international protection, identification of persons with specific needs, and protection in mixed movements. UNHCR also participated with a session focused on raising awareness of core child protection principles. Participants were highly engaged throughout the training, with many questions regarding child labor including the legal working age, permissible working hours, and acceptable types of employment for children. Additional inquiries addressed alternative care arrangements and the government's role in supporting children at risk.

Cash Assistance
On 20 October, UNHCR issued its 2025 Mid-Year Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MCPA) post-distribution monitoring survey based on a representative random sample of 430 households from all refugee nationalities, receiving MPCA who were randomly selected and interviewed. In September, UNHCR provided MPCA to 19,677 refugee and asylum seeker households (HH) from all nationalities to support them in covering their priority needs. Only a small fraction of beneficiaries could meet all or most of their priority needs, though 63 per cent managed to cover about half. Cash assistance had a strong positive impact, with nearly all recipients reporting improved living conditions and reduced stress. The funds were mainly spent on essentials, especially food and rent, and enabled access to previously unaffordable items and services. Most beneficiaries found needed goods locally and of acceptable quality, though many noticed rising prices. Despite the support, nearly all had to use negative coping strategies recently. Satisfaction with the distribution process was high, and most felt safe and well-informed, with many aware of how to provide feedback or lodge complaints.

ETHIOPIA

Highlights
- Humanitarian actors, including UNHCR, had unrestricted access to refugee sites in both the Amhara and Benishangul-Gumuz regions, despite ongoing security challenges, particularly in the Amhara region.
- On 16 October, a high-level mission from ECHO visited Assosa. Through engagements with government stakeholders, UN agencies, partners, and refugee communities, the delegation reaffirmed its commitment to supporting Ethiopia's inclusive refugee policies and the transition toward sustainable, integrated service delivery.
- On 27-31 October, a total of 36 government officials and 115 refugee representatives in Benishangul-Gumuz region participated in a capacity training on law enforcement. The aim was to enhance their capacity to effectively implement and support Ethiopia's national asylum system, strengthen their understanding of international and national legal frameworks governing asylum, strengthen coordination between stakeholders involved in refugee protection, and promote understanding of the refugee status determination (RSD) and protection in Ethiopia.

Population movements and Registration
In the Amhara region, the Level 3 (L3) registration exercise officially commenced on 20 May 2025, marking a significant step toward the inclusion of refugees and asylum-seekers in Ethiopia's National Identification Program (NIDP). This consent-based process enables individuals to be integrated into the national identification system, granting them access to essential services such as employment opportunities, work permits, the ability to open bank accounts, and greater freedom of movement for work or educational purposes. By 31 October 2025, 3,620 individuals (1,322 households) have been verified. In parallel, the issuance of identification documents progressed, with 1,210 individuals receiving Fayda ID cards and 821 households receiving Proof of Registration (PoR) documents.

In the Benishangul-Gumuz Region, no registration and relocation activities were conducted during the reporting period. To date, in response to the ongoing conflict in Sudan, UNHCR has received and registered 32,971 Sudanese new arrivals through Level 1 household registration in Benishangul-Gumuz Region. As of 31 October 2025, 11,005 individuals (3,667 households) underwent biometric Level 3 (L3) registration and verification exercise at Ura Refugee Settlement. Additionally, 8,089 individuals were recorded under the National ID Programme (NIDP). A total of 8,717 individuals aged five and above were enrolled in the Biometric Identity Management System (BIMS).

Protection

In the Amhara and Benishangul-Gumuz regions, UNHCR and its partners actively implemented a range of protection interventions during the reporting period. These included individual and group counselling sessions, mechanisms for collecting and responding to community feedback, and timely referrals to appropriate services. These efforts aimed to address the specific protection needs of affected populations and strengthen community-based protection systems.

In the Benishangul-Gumuz region, protection desk services continued at Ura, reaching a total of 14 individuals. In Amhara Region, 20 individuals with specific needs received psycho-social support and counselling services. 75 people with disabilities were identified as assistive devices and material support.

Gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response

During the reporting period, UNHCR and partners conducted several targeted awareness-raising sessions, group discussions, and home-to-home visits, reaching a total of 2,438 individuals. These sessions focused on critical topics such as gender-based violence and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA). In addition, 118 individuals received psychosocial support, seven women at risk received dignity kits, two female GBV survivors were referred for cash support, 127 women and adolescents participated in skill building activities, drawing and outdoor traditional game activities at Women and Girls Safe Space (WGSS), and 30 male facilitators attended the EMAP (Engaging Male in Accountability Practice) group discussion training.

In the Benishangul-Gumuz region, GBV prevention and response activities continued during the reporting period through UNHCR's funded partner, International Rescue Committee (IRC). GBV cases were identified and supported through the provision of material assistance, psychosocial support and referrals to other service providers for further specialized care, ensuring a comprehensive and survivor-centered approach. At Ura, home-to-home visits focusing on sexual, physical, and domestic violence reached 578 individuals (328 girls and women as well as 250 boys and men). Activities at the Women and Girls Safe Space (WGSS) also continued, engaging 609 participants (295 girls and 314 women) in a variety of skill-building and awareness sessions.

These included henna application, music, beautification, hairstyling, handicrafts, volleyball, and traditional coffee and tea ceremonies, alongside discussions on gender-based violence. A total of 460 individuals (243 females and 217 males) participated in SASA sessions on the topics of impacts of isolation, domestic violence, sexual violence, and rape at various community locations, including 38 persons with disabilities (15 women and girls as well as 23 men and boys). In addition, a three-day refresher training on PSEA and Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) was conducted in Ura through the operational partner Medical Team International (MTI), with a total of 20 participants (11 men and 9 women) attending. The sessions aimed at strengthening community understanding on PSEA principles and reinforce accountability mechanisms to ensure safer and more responsive service delivery. In addition, nine group awareness sessions were held at WGSS using video-based materials, reaching 154 women. These sessions focused on enhancing participants' understanding of their rights and informing them about safe and accessible reporting channels for PSEA-related concerns.

Child protection

During the reporting period, UNHCR's partners, Plan International Ethiopia (PIE) and Innovative Humanitarian Solutions (IHS), maintained two Child-Friendly Space (CFS) at Aftit Refugee Settlement in the Amhara region. In addition, a tent was set up as a CFS, equipped with furniture and diverse play materials to support children's learning, creativity, and psychosocial well-being. This space served as a vital hub for children's well-being, offering a range of age-appropriate recreational, play, and pre-education services. Over the course of the month, a total of 147 children accessed these services, benefiting from a safe and nurturing environment designed to support their development and resilience.

In addition, 106 children conducted the Best Interest Assessments (BIAs). 29 caregivers participated in psychoeducational sessions designed to strengthen their understanding of mental health and practical skills to better support children's emotional and behavioral well-being. 19 caregivers participated in a psychological education session on school absenteeism. Two caregivers received individualized psychosocial support to address their specific needs. In addition, in commemoration of World Mental Health Day, 20 members of the MHPSS support groups conducted a community awareness campaign aiming to promote psychosocial resilience, reduce stigma, and highlight the role of peer support.

At Ura refugee site in the Benishangul-Gumuz region, UNHCR, in partnership with PPIE, continued to implement comprehensive child protection activities during the reporting period. These efforts focused on the identification, verification, and registration of Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC) as well as Other Vulnerable Children (OVC). As a result, a total of 321 separated children (156 boys and 165 girls) were newly identified and registered for child protection case management services across both the host community and refugee site. 252 children received a range of support services tailored to their needs. These included Best Interest Assessments (BIA), Best Interest Determination (BID), the establishment of alternative care arrangements, psychosocial support, regular follow-up, and referrals to appropriate services, ensuring a holistic and protective response. Additionally, a total of 1,600 children (730 boys and 870 girls) participated in sociocultural, indoor and outdoor recreational, and non-formal educational activities at the CFS.

Education

In the Amhara region, 1,610 (926 boys and 684 girls) refugee students and 2,595 host community students were attending their pre-primary, primary & secondary education at different host community schools including Aftit Primary and Gende Wuha Secondary schools during the reporting period. 58 incentive teachers and 18 national teachers at Aftit Primary school participated in a child safeguarding orientation session. All participants signed the Safeguarding Code of Conduct Agreement, to reaffirm their commitment to upholding professional ethics, ensuring the safety and dignity of learners, and maintaining accountability during the delivery of education services. An additional school block with four classrooms was under construction at Gende Wuha host community secondary school where 375 refugee students received secondary education together with host community students.

In the Benishangul-Gumuz region, school activities, including the registration of students, for the 2024/2025 academic year were ongoing at Ura. As of 31 October 2025, 3,746 students were registered (1,851 girls and 1,895 boys), including 368 for pre-primary, 2,914 for primary and middle school, and 464 for secondary school.

Health and Nutrition

In October, the Aftit Health Facility in Amhara Region, supported by MTI and World Vision Ethiopia (WVE), provided a total of 3,146 adult medical consultations (2,162 for refugees and 984 for host community members), as well as 805 under-five consultations (515 refugees and 292 hosts). Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services reached 99 individuals (81 refugees and 18 hosts).

Maternal and reproductive health services continue to be a priority in Aftit. A total of 140 women and girls received antenatal care, while 28 women delivered with the assistance of skilled health personnel at the facility. Postnatal care was provided to 95 women, and 74 women accessed modern family planning services. Furthermore, one maternal conference was conducted, reaching 39 pregnant women from both communities.

In the same location, nutrition support remained robust, with 14 children enrolled in Outpatient Therapeutic Programs (OTP) for severe acute malnutrition (SAM), and 81 children treated for moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) through Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programs (TSFP). Additionally, 1,084 refugee children were enrolled in Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programs (BSFP). Among pregnant and lactating women (PLWs), 86 MAM cases were enrolled in TSFP, and 222 refugee PLWs were supported through BSFP, while 175 refugee women received social medical support.

Community-based nutrition activities at Aftit included nine cooking demonstrations, 180 mother-to-mother support focused groups, 105 father-to-father support focused groups, 18 breastfeeding discussions, and 103 Individual Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) group sessions. To support recovery and prevent relapse, 12 SAM cases with complications received cash assistance. In addition, 25 Health Extension

Workers, government health facility workers, and MTI staffs participated in capacity building sessions to strengthen the provision of IYCF. A total of 62 households benefited from Backyard Gardening (BYG) activities, improving household food diversity and nutrition.

Preventive health services at Aftit included deworming for 15 mothers, iron-folate supplementation for 146 pregnant women, and tetanus-diphtheria (TD) vaccination for 36 pregnant women. Additionally, under the Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI), 85 children received various immunizations. 125 patients were referred for advanced care (113 to Metema General Hospital and 12 to Gondar Tertiary Hospital) for further investigation and management.

In the Benishangul-Gumuz region, UNHCR, through its funded partner Medical Teams International (MTI), continued to deliver essential health services at the Akuda-Tumet Inclusive Health Center at Ura refugee site during the reporting period. A total of 1,664 patients received clinical consultations, with the most common health conditions being upper respiratory tract infections, pneumonia, and watery diarrhea. In addition, 62 patients received mental health and psychosocial support services. 108 pregnant women completed their antenatal care follow-up and 13 women in labor received skilled birth assistance.

Meanwhile, screening for acute malnutrition continued at both the Kurmuk Transit Centre and the Ura refugee settlement, led by UNHCR's funded partner GOAL. A total of 1,245 children under the age of five and 164 pregnant and lactating mothers were screened. Among the children screened, 34 were diagnosed with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and seven with severe acute malnutrition (SAM). These children were promptly enrolled in the targeted supplementary feeding program and the outpatient therapeutic feeding program, respectively.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

In the Amhara region, UNHCR and Partner NRC continued Shelter and CRIs activities in collaboration with the Refugees and Returnees Service (RRS) and the community shelter committee. The upgrade of 109 emergency was ongoing. Two shelter coordination meetings were held with key partners (UNHCR, RRS, and WASH actors), focusing on shelter-WASH integration, expenditure, and implementation activities. Most hand tools, including hammers, saws, strings, wheelbarrows, shovels, and assorted nails, were fully delivered and distributed to beneficiaries. In addition, each refugee at Aftit received a 500 grams of laundry soap to support personal hygiene and sanitation.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

Throughout the month, UNHCR and partner IHS maintained the supply of chlorinated water to Aftit refugee settlement in the Amhara region. The average per capita water delivery stood at 18.6 liters per person per day (L/P/D). To ensure water safety, Free Residual Chlorine (FRC) tests were conducted at random water points across the settlement. The results showed chlorine concentrations ranging between 0.2 and 0.6 mg/l, with all tests meeting the required water quality standards.

In addition, awareness sessions on hygiene and environment health were ongoing by community hygiene promoters in close collaboration with refugee communities, reaching 1,000 individuals. In addition, the verification of 1,200 households was underway to ensure a well-targeted upcoming WASH-NFI distribution in Aftit refugee settlement and host communities. Notably, the excavation for five semi-permanent latrine units was completed, 26 latrine blocks were dislodged over 30 trips across all zones, and reservoir correction works were finalized to enhance structural integrity and water storage capacity.

In the Benishangul-Gumuz region, WASH activities continued at the Ura refugee settlement through UNHCR's funded partner, International Rescue Committee (IRC), and other operational partners including NRC, PIE, Qatar Charity (QC), Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS), Action for the Needy Ethiopia (ANE), MTI, and ACTED. The supply of potable drinking water was consistently maintained, ensuring a daily provision of 19.15 litres per person, meeting essential humanitarian standards. Notably, UNHCR completed the installation of a solar-powered system with a 30KW surface pump at the Ura River water source, enhancing sustainable access to water for refugees. In parallel, IRC finalized the construction of four water points within the Ura refugee site, bringing the total water points installed at Ura to 26.

Routine hygiene and sanitation promotion and awareness messages through mass education campaigns and home-to-home visits reached 210 households. These integrated WASH interventions enhance public health, promote dignity, and strengthen resilience for both refugee and host communities. Environmental Health Assistants (EHAs) conducted targeted hygiene promotion activities at Ura refugee site, reaching

76 individuals with messages on solid waste disposal and environmental cleanliness. In addition, IRC completed the construction of 694 blocks of household latrines at Ura. This intervention significantly increased the total number of household latrines to 750 and improved household latrine coverage, raising it from 2.3% to 31.2%.

Food Security and Livelihoods

At Aftit Settlement in the Amhara Region, the General Food Distribution (GFD) for October 2025 reached a total of 5,405 individuals (1,949 households).

The GFD for the October 2025 cycle was also successfully carried out in the Benishangul-Gumuz region. A total of 13,732 beneficiaries (4,601 households) received their allocated food rations at Ura.

At the Ura refugee site in Benishangul-Gumuz Region, 165 individuals from refugee and host communities participated in a four-day Cluster Farming Training at Akuda Primary School near Ura. Facilitated by experts from the Benishangul-Gumuz Bureau of Agriculture, the training covered land preparation, crop management, and post-harvest handling, aiming to enhancing sustainable farming practices and productivity. In addition, Good Neighbors Ethiopia officially handed over two business center construction project lots at Ura on 27 October, including areas for restaurant, tailoring house, business shop, grind mill, recreation center, barber shop, and common toilet.

LIBYA

Highlights

- The issuance of Security Registration Cards (SRC) remained suspended, with no confirmation of when it would resume. Meanwhile, the Libyan Red Crescent (LRC) continued issuing health cards that helped refugees avoid arrest, detention and deportation. The cost of a health card is 60 LYD (approximately USD 11).

Population movements and Registration

It is estimated that over 467,000 Sudanese refugees have arrived in Libya since April 2023. This includes 67,924 individuals who were registered post-conflict, bringing the total number of Sudanese registered by UNHCR at its registration centre in Tripoli to 86,849. Authorities in Alkufra reported issuing 195,746 health certificates as of July, with approximately 340,000 Sudanese arriving through Alkufra alone.

Protection

Refugees, who were previously staying at the “airport site” in Sabha, southern Libya, were transferred to multiple detention centers in eastern Libya, including Ajdabiya and Ganfouda. UNHCR in the East was able to visit Gandoura DC, where 1,468 refugee men, women, children and elderly were transferred. Access was granted to women and girl-detainees only. Most of the Sudanese detained in Ajdabiya were released after being transferred.

Throughout October, the newly opened Community Support Centre (CSC) operated by UNHCR’s partners Moomken and LibAid continued to provide a range of essential services to refugees and asylum-seekers, including voucher distribution, CFS activities and needs assessment interviews. During the month, 316 Sudanese refugees received support and assistance

Throughout October, refugee children continued to rely on the CFS at UNHCR’s Registration Centre for play and have a brief respite from the trauma of displacement. The space offered structured recreational and psychosocial activities in a safe and supportive environment. So far this year, 7,879 children have benefited from both structured and unstructured sessions at the Child-Friendly Space.

<u>Gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response</u>

In October, UNHCR continued to provide prevention and response services to survivors of gender-based violence. Throughout the month, UNHCR provided survivors with psychosocial support (PSS), and 17 additional survivors were referred for PSS interventions.

Education
During October, 706 out-of-school Sudanese refugee children were identified and referred to UNICEF as part of a coordinated effort between UNHCR and UNICEF to support access to informal education, skills training and inclusion in the national education system when the necessary documentation is available. In parallel, UNHCR continued distributing school kits to Sudanese refugee children enrolled in non-formal education programmes in Alkufra.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)
In October, UNHCR supported 9,184 Sudanese refugees and Libyan host families in Benghazi, Ubari, Alkufra, Tobruk, Sabha, Tripoli, Ajdabiya and Shahhat with essential household items including mattresses, blankets, hygiene kits, solar lamps, kitchen sets and jerrycans, helping families sleep, cook, and maintain personal care. This assistance is vital to restoring dignity and improving living conditions.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)
UNHCR conducted a field mission to Benghazi, where they met with the Ministry of Health and the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) Authority. During the visit, the team also attended a Libyan Red Crescent (LRC) health awareness session with representatives from the Sudanese community's Women and Child Empowerment group.

In addition, UNHCR delivered a capacity-building session for the LRC team in Benghazi, aimed at enhancing their understanding of community-based health approaches and strengthening their operational skills.

UGANDA

Highlights
- As of 31 October, Uganda had received 26,436 Sudanese new arrivals since January 2025. Majority of the arrivals are adults between 18 and 59 years. Conflict and famine remain the top causes of their flight from Sudan. The main areas of origin include Khartoum (42,284), South Darfur (13,648), North Darfur (11,080), South Kordofan (4,216) and Al Jazirah (3,561).
- Nyumanzi reception centre remains the main entry point for most Sudanese arrivals, while Kiryandongo refugee settlement is the largest host, with 78,089 individuals by the end of the reporting period.
- Out of the 91,990 Sudanese refugees and asylum-seekers registered in Uganda, 9,373 (10.2 per cent) are urban refugees living in Kampala.
- Although the current security situation in Sudan does not meet the threshold for facilitated or promoted returns, a total of 207 individuals have spontaneously returned to Sudan, with nearly 80 per cent (165 individuals) being refugees who had arrived in Uganda in 2024 and returned between April and June 2025. The vast majority (95 per cent or 197 individuals) had been residing in Kiryandongo, while smaller numbers returned from Kampala, Imvepi and Rhino, mostly among those originally from Khartoum.

Population Movement and Registration
As of 31 October, UNHCR and the National Commission for Refugees (CNR) have registered 26,924 Sudanese refugees (10,708 families) in Kosi. 56 per cent of them are women and girls, and 44 per cent are men and boys. Additionally, around 12,140 Sudanese refugees are still in other, often hard-to-reach areas, in the prefectures of Bamingui-Bangoran, Haute-Kotto, Ouaka, Mbomou and Haut-Mbomou.

Protection
Prima facie recognition for Sudanese asylum-seekers remains in force.

Continuous criminal activities including robberies and break-ins, perpetrated by gangs and youths armed with *pangas* and knives, remain a major community concern in Kiryandongo refugee settlement. During community meetings, residents highlighted this insecurity as a key challenge undermining livelihoods, noting that the little they earn or receive through support from GiveDirectly, LWF and other partners is often stolen or destroyed. In response, UNHCR discussed this issue with the settlement security team and conducted community dialogues to engage the youth in identifying solutions and promoting peaceful coexistence.

Legal and physical protection (LPP)
Kiryandongo recorded several legal cases involving mostly refugee and national youth, including incidents of assault, domestic violence, torture, divorce and land disputes.

A total of 22 juvenile offenders (17 refugees) were transported from Masindi Remand Home to the Chief Magistrate's Court in Kiryandongo settlement for hearings. Following the proceedings, 12 juveniles (11 refugees) were released and reintegrated into their communities

Joint detention monitoring was carried out across facilities in Kiryandongo settlement, Masindi and Kigumba, assessing conditions and sensitizing inmates on their rights. 150 refugees (12 women and 138 men) received legal counseling and basic materials such as soap and slippers.

Multiple legal aid clinics and community policing sessions were conducted in refugee and host communities in Kiryandongo settlement. These reached 276 refugees and addressed refugee rights, frequently asked questions about police bond and court bail procedures, and challenges in accessing justice.

A five-day mobile court session was held in Kiryandongo settlement, improving access to justice and reducing case backlogs. The session drew 481 participants, including 184 refugees and 297 nationals, and promoted understanding of the justice system.

Gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response
17 new GBV incidents were recorded in Kiryandongo settlement, including cases of physical assault, emotional, economic, and sexual violence. The main contributing factors were alcoholism, family neglect, and limited livelihood opportunities.

Two Women and Girls Safe Spaces in remained operational, providing psychosocial support and empowerment activities for 393 women and girls, mainly Sudanese refugees. Activities included tailoring, liquid soap production, basic English lessons, and experience sharing, helping to build confidence, life skills, and social support networks.

GBV partners conducted regular follow-ups to assess survivors' well-being. Most survivors reported improved emotional stability after receiving counselling and psychosocial support.

Underreporting of GBV incidents remains a major challenge, as many Sudanese women and girls fear stigma and retaliation, leading cases to surface informally rather than through proper channels. GBV response is further constrained by limited staffing, inadequate transport for caseworkers and community structures, and overcrowded Women and Girls Safe Spaces in Clusters A and G of the settlement where demand exceeds capacity. Additionally, livelihood support for survivors is insufficient, leaving many economically dependent and vulnerable to repeated domestic violence.

Health and Nutrition

The measles outbreak in Kiryandongo District was confirmed on 29 September 2025, after five out of nine samples tested positive for measles at the Uganda Virus Research Institute (UVRI). The initial cases were all Ugandan nationals from the host communities. A total of 29 cumulative cases have been reported, 3 among refugees and 26 among nationals, with no fatalities recorded and all cases successfully treated.

The Government Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) continued routine measles and polio vaccination for children under five at both reception points and health facilities.

Partners (notably MTI and UNHCR) emphasized continued immunization and community sensitization to prevent potential outbreaks, given the crowded living conditions and reduced access to water and sanitation, which could heighten disease risks.

At Nyumanzi reception centre (main entry point for Sudanese), Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) among children was 4.8 per cent, while no cases were detected among pregnant and breastfeeding women (0 per cent). In Kiryandongo, there was an improvement among children, with GAM at 5.6 per cent and 33.3 per cent among pregnant and breastfeeding women (PBW). While the nutrition situation for PBW appears

critical, it is not alarming, as it represents only 3 out of 10 women screened during the recent biweekly assessment.

Many long-term refugees in Kiryandongo no longer receive food assistance, leaving families reliant on casual labour and small-scale farming to survive. Of the 78,000 Sudanese refugees in the settlement, 21,867 receive no food rations, increasing vulnerability among children, pregnant women and older persons, many of whom are skipping meals or eating less nutritious food.

Health facilities in Kiryandongo remain overcrowded and understaffed, with reduced incentives for health workers due to funding shortfalls.

Service delivery, especially for maternal and child health, is affected by stock-outs of essential medicines and inadequate laboratory supplies.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Refugees in Kiryandongo received an average of 10.3 litres of safe water per person per day (l/p/d), below the emergency standard of 15 l/p/d. Water was supplied through solar-powered and hybrid systems and hand pumps, producing approximately 994 m^3 (994,000 litres) of water daily.

To improve sanitation among new arrivals, eight communal latrine blocks (each with two stances and a bath shelter) were constructed in Kiryandongo in Clusters F, S, and E.

There was a gap in latrine coverage, particularly in some settlement zones where new arrivals had to share limited facilities.

Reports noted poor handwashing and waste disposal practices among some households, especially in areas without active hygiene promoters. Menstrual hygiene management (MHM) remains a challenge due to limited access to sanitary materials and cultural barriers affecting adolescent girls. Some Village Health Teams (VHTs) and hygiene promoters lacked adequate facilitation (transport and supplies) to reach all targeted households.

Solid waste accumulation was observed near market areas in Kiryandongo settlement and communal facilities due to limited waste collection mechanisms.

Education

UNHCR Field Office Kiryandongo hosted a high-level delegation from the Finnish Parliament, comprising 11 Members of Parliament, the Director of External Relations and Fundraising of Finn Church Aid (FCA), and representatives from the Helsinki Parish Union and the Finnish Embassy in Nairobi. The visit focused on Education in Emergencies (EiE), assessing critical needs, the impact of global funding cuts, and exploring ways to strengthen advocacy for increased education support. The delegation visited Arnold and Ematong Primary Schools and the Kiryandongo Reception Centre to gain firsthand insight into the education situation in refugee-hosting communities.

Classrooms are overcrowded, with limited learning materials and desks, affecting both teaching quality and learner concentration. Lack of school feeding continues to affect attendance and retention, especially for children from long-term refugee households receiving 0 per cent food rations. Many children attend school without breakfast or lunch, leading to fatigue and absenteeism.

Response Plans and Funding Situation

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

The Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan 2025, 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 430.26 million by the end of October, only **24%** of the requirements. Access UNHCR's Refugee Funding Tracker (RFT) here.

Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) – January - December 2025

The 2025 Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan (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 Sudan. As of October, the total funding for the HRP reached USD 1.46 billion, covering **35%** of the requirements. Access OCHA's Financial Tracking Service here: OCHA FTS.

UNHCR Supplementary Appeal – January - December 2025

UNHCR's financial requirement for 2025 for the Sudan situation emergency response – in Sudan and RRP countries – amounts to **USD 1.1 billion**. The appeal is funded at **36%** as of 31 October 2025.

Resources

- NEW! Sudan situation - Critical Needs (November 2025 - January 2026)
- NEW! UNHCR: Escalating violence in Sudan's El Fasher forces thousands to flee
- NEW! UNHCR: The Silence That Follows: A Reflection from Farchana
- NEW! Families fleeing El Fasher are malnourished, sick & traumatized from the perilous journey to safety.
- Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan: Mid-Year Progress Report (January - June 2025) and "At a Glance"
- Sudan Emergency: Critical Life-saving Needs September - December 2025
- Sudan Emergency: Critical life-saving needs to support forcibly displaced people in Darfur, Sudan and relocate refugees in Eastern Chad (July - December 2025)
- Sudan Situation | 2025 Regional RRP Hyper-prioritization Factsheet
- OCHA Sudan Humanitarian Dashboard
- Sudan Regional Crisis Development Action Platform
- 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
- Refugee Coordination Model
- UNHCR's Operational Data Portal (ODP) for the Sudan Situation 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)

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