UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

SUDAN SITUATION

UNHCR APPEAL 2026

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Overview

UNHCR's financial requirements for 2026 for the Sudan situation emergency response – both in Sudan and in neighbouring countries – amount to **$929 million**.

Planning figures in Sudan and neighbouring countries

17,213,800 Total planning figure

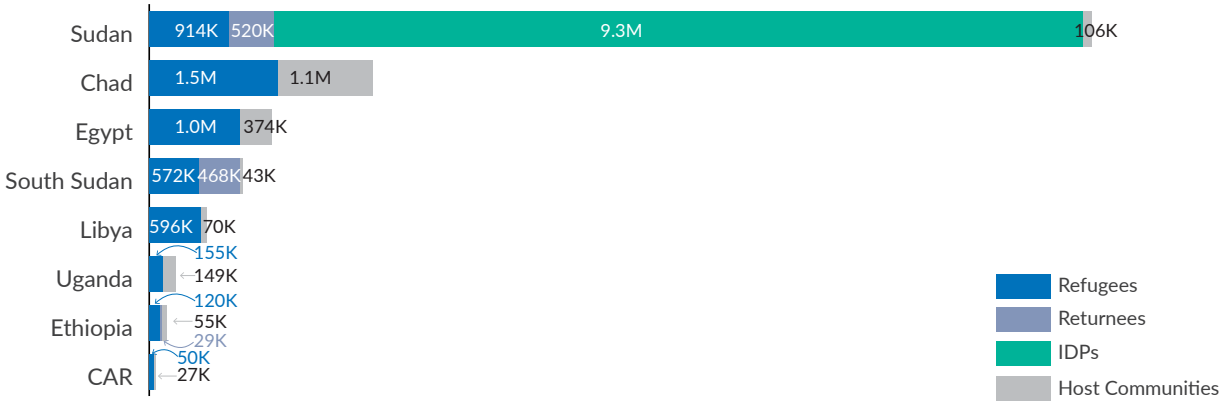
4,928,900* Total projected Refugees (Sudanese and other nationalities)

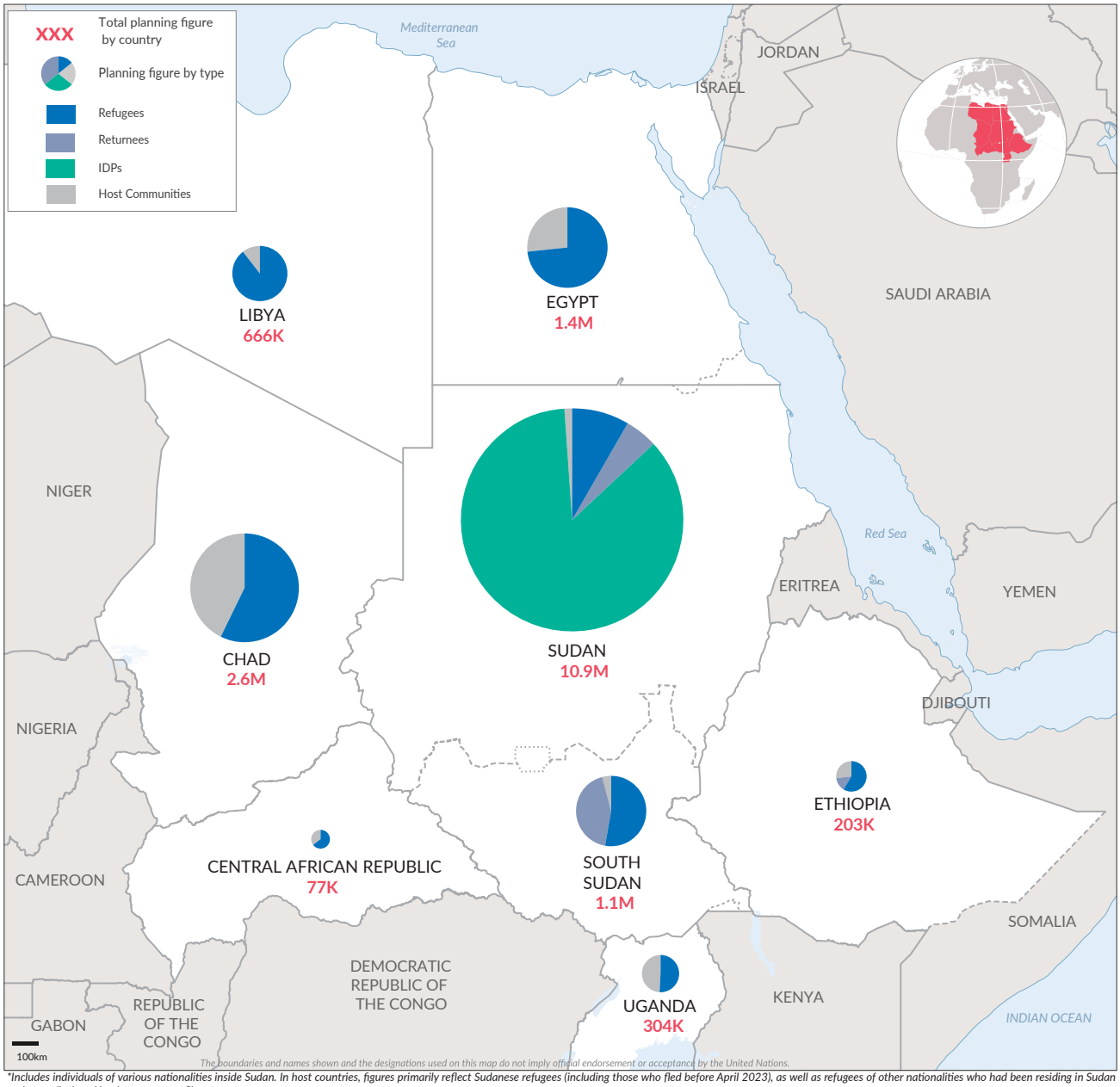
1,017,000** Total projected Refugee Returnees

9,339,000*** Total IDPs

1,928,900 Targeted Host Community Population

Planning figures in Sudan and neighbouring countries





*Includes individuals of various nationalities inside Sudan. In host countries, figures primarily reflect Sudanese refugees (including those who fled before April 2023), as well as refugees of other nationalities who had been residing in Sudan and were displaced by the current conflict.

**In Sudan, the planning figure of 520,000 Sudanese refugee returnees assumes that returns in 2026 may be comparable to those observed in 2025, contingent on similar push and pull factors. In South Sudan, the planning figure of 468,000 South Sudanese refugee returnees comprises returnees from 2024–2025 (314,000) and the projected caseload for 2026 (154,000). In Ethiopia, the planning figure of 29,000 Ethiopian refugee returnees includes returnees from 2023–2025 (21,000) and projected returns in 2026 (8,000).

***The latest IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) for 2025 estimates a total of 9.3 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Sudan, including those displaced prior to April 2023 (Sudan Displacement and Return Overview: Update 1, 17 December 2025).

Main developments in the emergency

Despite repeated diplomatic efforts to achieve a ceasefire, the conflict that erupted in Sudan in April 2023 between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) continues, and has led to the world's largest displacement, humanitarian, and protection crisis.

As of December 2025, some 14 million people had been forced to flee their homes since the conflict began, of whom nearly 12 million remain displaced. This includes 7.1 million internally displaced people (IDPs) in Sudan and 4.4 million refugees, asylum-seekers, and returnees who sought safety in the Central African Republic (CAR), Chad, Egypt, Ethiopia, Libya, South Sudan and Uganda.

Before the current conflict, Sudan itself hosted the second highest refugee population in Africa, mainly from Eritrea, Ethiopia and South Sudan. Despite the conflict, Sudan maintains an open-door policy to refugees and asylum-seekers, with over 84,000 new arrivals since the start of 2025. Most have come from South Sudan, where political instability and rising hostilities between armed groups since February 2025 have led to fresh clashes, particularly in Upper Nile State.

As of December 2025, there are nearly 860,000 refugees and asylum-seekers in Sudan. Roughly 66 per cent of refugees in Sudan reside in overcrowded camps with restricted movement, and 34 per cent live in urban/peri-urban settings where they are highly vulnerable to exploitation, eviction, abuse and other protection risks. Refugees and asylum-seekers also face violence, exposure to trafficking networks, and arrest and detention, particularly as parties to the conflict tighten security measures. Disruptions to education have also been profound: as of September 2025, an estimated 300,000 refugee children, representing 86 per cent of school-age refugee children, were out of school, exposing them to heightened risks of child labour and child marriage. Worsening food insecurity, recurrent disease outbreaks, and increasing malnutrition rates add to refugees' poor living conditions.

Moreover, over 272,000 refugees and asylum-seekers in Sudan who were largely self-reliant prior to the conflict have been compelled to relocate within Sudan, often moving from urban settings to camps. A near-doubling of the camp-based refugee population has severely strained already limited resources, infrastructure and social services.

Between 2023 and 2025, insecurity and the deteriorating humanitarian situation inside Sudan pushed nearly 870,000 refugees living in Sudan to return to their countries of origin, often under dangerous conditions. The majority have returned to South Sudan.

The current conflict is marked by extreme levels of violence and human rights violations against civilians, including sexual violence, torture, arbitrary killings, abduction, extortion, and targeting specific ethnic groups, leaving lasting trauma on survivors and communities. The risk of violence against women and girls, including as a weapon of war, is reported to have surged 80 per cent since 2024 and 350 per cent since April 2023[1].

In March 2025, the SAF retook control of Khartoum, Sudan's capital, and fighting subsided in Khartoum and Al Jazirah States. An estimated over 3 million displaced Sudanese inside Sudan and in neighbouring countries have returned to their home areas since January 2025. This includes close to 520,000 Sudanese refugees who had fled Sudan seeking safety in neighbouring countries, returning mainly from Egypt and South Sudan, with smaller numbers returning from Libya. Yet many families return to Sudan because of the hardship they faced in asylum countries, rather than the safety of return areas, and come back to find infrastructure destroyed and essential services decimated. Many also remain stranded in border and transit states, increasing pressure on services and humanitarian capacity in those areas.

Over the same period, clashes have intensified in the Darfur and Kordofan regions, precipitating new waves of displacement including to Northern and White Nile States and across Sudan's borders with Chad and South Sudan.

Many families have been displaced multiple times, or have had to remain on the run, as places in which they had found temporary refuge come under attack. In April, a three-day offensive on the Zamzam IDP camp in North Darfur involved summary executions of civilians and the widespread rape of women and girls. Over 400,000 people – about 80 per cent of the camp's prior population –

1 UNFPA Sudan Emergency Situation Report No. 21 - June 2025 - Sudan | ReliefWeb

fled the violence, most across Darfur but many also into Chad[2]. At the end of October, after a 500-day siege, the RSF took control of El Fasher, the capital of North Darfur, and over 107,000 people had fled the town and its surrounding villages by early December[3]. A lack of money to cover exorbitant transportation costs and ransom demands, and the absence of any safe escape routes, has kept many others trapped. Battle lines have shifted to strategic hubs and critical infrastructure in the Kordofan region, where heavy shelling, increased drone strikes, and fierce ground assaults have resulted in growing civilian casualties. Between 25 October and 30 December 2025, nearly 65,000 people were uprooted in the Kordofans[4]. Several hundred thousand more are at risk of being displaced if fighting continues in Kadugli, the besieged capital of South Kordofan State, or reaches El Obeid, the capital of North Kordofan State[5].

Humanitarian access has been blocked in some areas, and 87 aid workers were killed, injured, kidnapped or detained in 2025[6]. Recent attacks have hit aid convoys, peacekeepers, marketplaces, schools, and medical facilities. Sudan has been ranked the deadliest conflict in Africa, with over 17,000 civilian fatalities between January and November 2025[7].

Challenges persist in delivering humanitarian aid not only due to ongoing insecurity, but also because of road closures, limited transportation options, and bureaucratic impediments alongside tighter security measures. Even in areas where markets for goods and services remain functional, the access of displaced families to basic necessities is severely limited by soaring prices and disrupted supply chains; cash shortages and telecommunication outages also hinder access to banking services, among other obstacles.

Critical infrastructure in parts of the country has collapsed and basic services such as safe water, health care and shelter are severely limited. There have been repeated cholera outbreaks, and other diseases like malaria, dengue fever, and viral liver infections like hepatitis are now on the rise in some states in Sudan. Seasonal flooding exacerbates conditions. More than half the population of Sudan faces acute food insecurity, with famine confirmed in several regions.

Most refugees from Sudan have little to no resources and reach asylum countries in dire condition. In Chad, 1 in 10 newly arrived Sudanese refugee children are malnourished. Many Sudanese refugees, especially women and girls, have encountered violence at multiple junctures - when their homes came under attack, in transit, in temporary shelters, and at the borders. Family separation is also a serious concern, and refugees exhibit high levels of mental distress. At the same time, a relatively large proportion of the Sudanese refugee population in some countries are urban and educated, with professional skills, and so the response in asylum countries must be tailored both to meet refugees' immediate needs and to foster their self-reliance and potential contributions.

Arrivals from Sudan often enter impoverished regions of asylum countries that have limited services and economic opportunities. Disrupted cross-border trade between Sudan and its neighbours is driving food and fuel inflation, worsening macroeconomic pressures. Neighbouring countries are also hosting new arrivals post-April 2023 on top of some 840,000 Sudanese refugees received pre-April 2023, while receiving their own nationals coming back from Sudan.

Until lasting peace is achieved, significant displacement, both within and outside Sudan, is expected to continue. Governments and host communities receiving Sudanese refugees have shown remarkable solidarity despite overstretched resources, underscoring the need for sustained international support.

Egypt hosts 1.5 million Sudanese refugees and asylum-seekers who benefit from the countries' inclusive out-of-camp policy, enacted in law in December 2024, but refugees continue to face significant challenges in meeting their basic needs due to rising living costs and limited access

2 *"Three days of terror with no safe refuge" (Report of OHCHR Sudan Country Office: 18 December 2025)*

3 *DTM Sudan Focused Flash Alert: Al Fasher, North Darfur (Update 012) | Displacement Tracking Matrix*

4 *DTM Sudan Focused Flash Alert: Kordofan Region (2) | Displacement Tracking Matrix*

5 *"Sudan war: Kordofan's El-Obeid 'one or two steps' away from being attacked" (19 December 2025) | UN News*

6 *Aid Worker Security Database (retrieved on 22 January 2026)*

7 *Conflict-related violence resulted in the deaths of over 17,000 people across Sudan*

to formal employment. With rising numbers of refugees, registration and other services for refugees were also under strain in 2025.

In **Chad**, the number of Sudanese refugees seeking safety has increased significantly, reaching nearly 900,000 by December 2025. Arrivals spiked to nearly 20,000 in two weeks alone in May 2025 as violence flared across the border in Sudan's North Darfur region. The new arrivals add to the over 400,000 Sudanese refugees Chad was already hosting prior to April 2023, and the response remains severely constrained by funding shortfalls and rising humanitarian needs.

South Sudan hosts over 400,000 Sudanese refugees while grappling with worsening humanitarian conditions driven by conflict, economic decline, climate shocks, and mass displacement, including 2 million internally displaced South Sudanese and food insecurity that affects nearly 6 million people nationwide. Since April 2023, more than 800,000 South Sudanese have also returned from Sudan, adding strain to the country's fragile infrastructure and economy.

Uganda, despite not bordering Sudan, has received over 90,000 Sudanese refugees, adding to more than 1.9 million refugees in the country who benefit from the progressive refugee framework which guarantees freedom of movement, employment, and access to national services. However, with funding shortfalls and high numbers of other refugees including from South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), services are severely strained.

Ethiopia maintained its open-door asylum policy for more than 77,000 Sudanese refugees in the country, as well as receiving more than 20,000 Ethiopians who had been refugees in Sudan. About 75,000 South Sudanese refugees also crossed into Ethiopia over the past year. Ethiopia is moving towards voluntary inclusion of refugees and asylum-seekers in its 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. Yet the refugee response in Ethiopia, now the second largest refugee-hosting country in Africa, is on the verge of collapse as the country faces a surge of arrivals fleeing conflicts in both Sudan and South Sudan, as well as drought in Somalia, at the same time as severe funding shortfalls forced aid agencies to cut emergency relief supplies in Ethiopia by 70 percent in 2025.

Libya has received more than 450,000 people coming from Sudan since April 2023; only about 70,000 have been registered by UNHCR. The influx comes mainly through a remote, resource-scarce region, and then people try to reach coastal cities like Benghazi and Tripoli. Women and children comprise over 80 per cent of arrivals, and refugees in Libya have struggled with shortages in shelter, healthcare, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and education. Without adequate support, risks of onward movement, including dangerous Mediterranean crossings, are high.

The Central African Republic hosts around 40,000 Sudanese refugees, with a sharp increase in 2024-2025. Most are women and children who cross into remote and hard-to-reach northern and eastern border prefectures where poor infrastructure, rising prices, and limited presence of humanitarian actors and partners severely constrain assistance. Insecurity driven by armed actors and cross-border movements - including fighters, weapons and opportunistic criminality originating from Sudan - also heightens protection risks and restricts humanitarian access in those areas. Despite an out-of-camp policy and legal protections for refugees, funding shortfalls and growing needs jeopardize the ability to provide essential services in sectors such as health, education, WASH and livelihoods.

In addition to **weak infrastructure** in **the Central African Republic**, **Libya** and **South Sudan**, these countries face **insecurity**, with armed actors exacerbating instability and interrupting humanitarian access to populations in need.

The anticipated **reduction in peacekeeping capacity in the Central African Republic and South Sudan** further threatens safe movement and the delivery of assistance. **Extreme weather events** have compounded needs in **South Sudan** and **Chad**, causing damage to shelter and infrastructure, disrupting livelihoods, and hindering aid delivery. Concurrently, there have been **cholera** outbreaks in Ethiopia, Chad and South Sudan in 2025, linked to Sudan's 2024 outbreak.

Solar-powered water points provide safe, reliable water for refugees and host community in Maban, South Sudan © UNHCR/Philip James Lukudu

Meeting urgent humanitarian needs

Together with partners, UNHCR will support host countries and communities to continue receiving those seeking safety and will deliver life-saving assistance—including food, shelter, healthcare, and protection—to new arrivals and other vulnerable refugees.

At the same time, UNHCR will also coordinate across the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) nexus with development actors who can carry forward critical interventions beyond the emergency phase.

In this way, humanitarian actors address immediate protection and life-saving needs, including access to territory and asylum, emergency shelter, food, sanitation, health, and education, while development actors lay the foundation for resilience, inclusion, and self-reliance through investments in skills development, livelihoods, and access to national systems. Wherever possible, humanitarian interventions will be designed with a development lens, ensuring that short-term responses contribute to long-term, sustainable and resilient outcomes for both refugees and host communities.

This approach includes advocating for host countries to develop and implement national strategies that facilitate “solutions from the start,” like the inclusion of refugees in national health, education, and other services instead of setting up parallel humanitarian systems. UNHCR will also continue to advocate for

integrated settlement models, pursued as part of the emergency response in the Central African Republic, Chad, Ethiopia and South Sudan, to be embedded in local development plans. Through area-based and settlement approaches in Aweil, Jamjang and Maban, in South Sudan, for example, where the Government has generously allocated agricultural land, partners will be able to scale up emergency agriculture and livelihood initiatives. Short-cycle food production, vegetable gardening, and fishing activities can help provide quick access to food and promote self-reliance within the first month of settlement.

However, the scale of displacement and funding shortfalls over 2025 – among other shocks that have repeatedly hit host countries, like recurrent disease outbreaks and severe annual flooding and other climate-related disasters – have meant that millions across the seven countries remain without adequate protection, food, shelter or access to basic services. The food basket in most hosting countries only partially met the recommended dietary needs of refugees. Then, too, the rapid depreciation of currency and accelerated inflation in some contexts dramatically increased the cost of basic commodities: in South Sudan, for example, the cost of a household minimum expenditure basket rose by 58 per cent between January and October 2025. Protection services, including critical gender-based violence (GBV) services in transit centres, were scaled back due to limited funding such as in Ethiopia. Registration and access to documentation are also affected by long waiting periods for asylum seekers. These services are critical to refugees and will need to be strengthened in 2026.

Ongoing response and critical needs in Sudan

In **Sudan**, to help families that fled from El Fasher and surrounding villages in North Darfur and those escaping the deteriorating security situation due to heavy fighting in the Kordofan region over November-December, UNHCR and partners are scaling up emergency response across Darfur, Kordofan, Northern, and White Nile States. Teams on the ground are delivering relief items, providing psychological first aid to traumatized families, and coordinating with other organizations to ensure assistance is timely and meets urgent needs. UNHCR and partners are present in Ad Dabbah (Northern State), Tawila and Mellit (North Darfur), Khazan Jadeed (East Darfur), and several locations in White Nile State where IDPs have newly arrived. Coordination with partners in Tawila, for example, is being strengthened to streamline protection monitoring and protection desks have been established to provide specialized support for new arrivals and highly vulnerable individuals, including counseling, family tracing, and other forms of assistance for survivors of violence, people with disabilities, unaccompanied children, and older persons. With additional funding, UNHCR will expand cash assistance, distribute core relief items, and reinforce community networks offering psychosocial and referral support.

Across Sudan, Community-Based Protection Networks (CBPNs) and Multi-Purpose Community Centres (MPCCs) supported by UNHCR have proven critical to the humanitarian response. Multi-sectoral support planned in 2026 to respond to refugees' needs includes protection (general, child protection, GBV); education; food security; health and nutrition; shelter/non-food items; and WASH. Access permitting, refugees in conflict zones and urban areas will be reached through community-based approaches, emphasizing life-saving assistance, documentation and other protection needs.

The refugee response plan for Sudan also aims to safeguard access to asylum while strengthening registration, documentation and refugee status determination (RSD) systems, in partnership with the Commission for Refugees (COR). Given that nearly half of those displaced by the conflict in Sudan have lost or lack civil documentation, this approach addresses how foundational documentation is to access to protection, services and solutions. Advocacy with authorities and relevant stakeholders will also prioritize respect for the principle of non-refoulement, mitigation of risks related to arrest, detention and deportation, preservation of the civilian character of asylum and refugee sites, and the promotion of freedom of movement and alternatives to camps.

As Sudanese refugees return from asylum countries, and IDPs return to their home areas, UNHCR also urges investment in parallel humanitarian and development programmes in Sudan, including infrastructure rehabilitation,

service restoration, and livelihoods support, to stabilize returnees and ensure their safe and sustainable reintegration.

Ongoing response and critical needs in host countries

In **Chad**, under government leadership, UNHCR and partners are working together for a coordinated emergency response at key entry points. Urgent resources are needed to expand sites in Wadi Fira and Ennedi Est Provinces and ensure access to essential services.

In **South Sudan**, investment is required to enhance reception capacity and protection monitoring at new, remote border crossings anticipated to receive arrivals from Darfur and Kordofan.

In **the Central African Republic**, **Egypt**, **Ethiopia**, **Libya**, and **Uganda**, while mass influxes are not anticipated, conditions for refugees and returnees remain dire. Sustained funding is essential to maintain basic humanitarian standards, protect dignity across the region and lay the foundations for self-reliance and solutions.

Despite their own challenges, the generosity of host countries continues and needs to be supported. UNHCR and partners call on the international community to show greater solidarity and support for host countries by operationalizing the humanitarian-development-peace nexus, addressing the chronic underfunding of humanitarian operations, increasing development investments, and supporting solutions from the start. Flexible funding is also vital, as the Sudan situation, and the response it demands, continues to rapidly evolve.

Omar El Fadl and Maha (his daughter). Omar is a refugee from Sudan who fled to Egypt in April 2023. Father of three, Omar arrived to Egypt in May 2023.

© UNHCR/Pedro Costa Gomes

Priorities in the response

In collaboration with national authorities, UNHCR and partners are prioritizing the protection of people displaced by the Sudan conflict and the delivery of life-saving assistance like access to shelter and clean water. UNHCR is also engaging with development actors to promote integrated settlements that benefit both host communities and refugees, the inclusion of refugees in national health, education, and other systems, and other "solutions from the start" of an emergency that foster refugees' resilience and self-reliance, as well as the sustainable reintegration of returnees (refugees and IDPs returning to their home countries or areas).

Priorities within Sudan include:

- Pursue unrestricted and uninterrupted access to all people in need, including those trapped behind conflict lines and especially those facing famine conditions in Darfur and Kordofan, to enable the delivery of urgently needed humanitarian assistance through both cross-border and cross-line routes.
- Strengthen the protective environment for refugees and asylum-seekers, ensuring access to life-saving assistance and timely protection interventions—including responses to gender-based violence, child protection needs, conflict-related risks, as well as support for refugee registration, documentation, and protection from deportation.
- Provide equitable access to basic services for refugees and strengthen opportunities for resilience and self-reliance.
- Provide timely and life-saving support, protection services and basic self-reliance opportunities to internally displaced Sudanese while strengthening inter-agency cluster coordination.
- Direct development funding toward overstretched public systems to prevent their collapse and reduce reliance on humanitarian actors for basic services.

In neighbouring countries, UNHCR and its partners will:

- Support host countries to continue providing refuge to those fleeing conflict and persecution, to shield them from return to places where their lives would be at risk, and to uphold the civilian and humanitarian character of asylum.
- Support host countries in delivering timely, effective, and inclusive life-saving protection and humanitarian assistance to all those fleeing Sudan, with particular emphasis on identifying and assisting the most vulnerable individuals and those requiring specialized protection interventions and services.
- Support host countries in strengthening institutional and local capacities to include refugees in national services and local economies. This includes developing integrated settlements for refugees and host communities in rural and semi-urban areas, as well as advancing socio-economic inclusion and providing targeted assistance for refugees in urban settings.

Cross-cutting priorities:

- Maximize effectiveness, efficiency, and impact by stretching limited resources through opportunities to improve aid delivery and reduce aid dependency.
- Accountability to affected populations: programming decisions and actions will be responsive to the expressed priorities, needs, capacities and views of IDPs, refugees, returnees, and others directly impacted.
- All interventions will be designed, implemented, and monitored through rights-based, community-based, and age, gender and diversity approaches. Special attention will be given to the needs of persons with disabilities and elderly persons.
- Protection from sexual exploitation and abuse is an integral and cross-cutting component of activities and will be mainstreamed across the response.
- Localization: local actors will be directly involved in the response and in shaping efforts to find more inclusive solutions.
- Strengthen efforts to make programming climate-smart and environmentally sound.

Coordination and partnerships

UNHCR coordinates the Sudan Regional Refugee Response. In the regional response plan (Regional RRP) for 2026, UNHCR is working with 123 inter - agency partners[8] across 7 countries. The Regional RRP complements Government-led efforts in each host country, reinforcing rather than replacing State action.

The 123 partners include UN agencies, international and national NGOs, and civil society groups, all working together to assist refugees and asylum-seekers from Sudan. Localization is also central to the response, recognizing the critical role of national and local actors as first and effective responders. About one third of partners are national NGOs, refugee-led, women-led, and faith-based organizations.

Inside Sudan, UNHCR jointly leads the refugee response with the Commission for Refugees (COR) and has developed a multisectoral response plan with COR and 17 agency partners that aims to deliver critical, life-saving services to refugees across 91 localities in 18 states. For IDPs in Sudan, under the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Framework, UNHCR leads clusters on Protection; Shelter/Non-Food Items (NFIs) such as blankets, mats, and mosquito nets to meet immediate survival needs); and Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), and coordinates and advocates with the authorities on these fronts. In line with the Humanitarian Reset, the Refugee Coordination Model and the IASC Cluster system for internal displacement work closely at both national and subnational levels.

In line with the Global Compact on Refugees, too, UNHCR is facilitating coordination mechanisms in each country with the aim to support the host government, ensure a multi-stakeholder approach and lay the groundwork for solutions from the start, importantly through timely engagement of development actors.

UNHCR's concerted efforts to engage development partners on the Sudan crisis will step up further in 2026, building on engagements with the African Development Bank, Islamic Development Bank, the World Bank, EU-INTPA and other development actors, including bilateral development agencies in Europe (France, Germany, Italy, and the Netherlands) and the Gulf (Kuwait, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia).

With the possibility of protracted displacement, it is imperative for UNHCR to foster these partnerships to support self-reliance and solutions, complementing humanitarian efforts by building the resilience of refugees, returnees, IDPs, and host communities. Development partners can invest in integrated settlements, extending and expanding service delivery and creating economic opportunities in areas impacted by displacement. They can also expand access to secondary and tertiary education, vocational training, and early investments in livelihoods, especially in the agricultural sector.

UNHCR and the UN Development Coordination Office have established a Development Partners Group for the Sudan Regional Crisis committed to scaling up action in response to the Sudan emergency. Membership is open to the full range of development actors, including international financial institutions, multilateral development banks, bilateral development agencies, UN agencies, and embassies. To support these efforts, a Development Action Platform for the Sudan Regional Crisis was launched in 2025 to consolidate data, evidence and analysis on the Sudan regional crisis.

UNHCR is grateful for the collaboration with all partners to maximize efficiencies and impact in responding to the complex emergency in Sudan.

UNHCR and partners distribute plastic sheets in Tawila, Sudan, to address immediate needs. © UNHCR/Mohammed Jalal

8 UN agencies and some international NGOs are operational in more than one country, but are counted only once as a partner in the RRP, even though their interventions may vary by country

Sudan Situation appeal budget

UNHCR's total requirements for the Sudan emergency in 2026 amount to $929 million.

The operational and coordination environment is complex, spanning eight UNHCR country operations (Central African Republic, Chad, Egypt, Ethiopia, Libya, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda), and three of UNHCR's regional bureaux (Eastern and Southern Africa, Middle East and Northern Africa and West and Central Africa). Operations in Sudan and neighbouring countries that have already been hosting large pre-existing refugee and IDP populations have been severely underfunded, and the continued emergency creates significant additional needs. As of the end of November 2025, UNHCR's Sudan Situation Appeal for 2025 remained critically underfunded at only 37 per cent – with overall needs totalling $1.1 billion.

Summary of 2026 requirements for the Sudan Situation (USD)

Country	ExCom approved budget apportioned to the Sudan Situation	ExCom approved budget for Sudan	Total requirements for 2026
Sudan	-	319,059,894	319,059,894
CAR	18,236,031	-	18,236,031
Chad	185,954,774	-	185,954,774
Egypt	100,150,415	-	100,150,415
Ethiopia	67,087,399	-	67,087,399
Libya	25,000,000	-	25,000,000
South Sudan	166,472,789	-	166,472,789
Uganda	46,923,817	-	46,923,817
Total	**609,825,225**	**319,059,894**	**928,885,119**

The importance of flexible funding

Flexible funds help UNHCR to kick-start an emergency response, bolster forgotten or under-resourced crises, and fully implement critical initiatives. Flexibility also enables UNHCR to plan and manage resources most efficiently and effectively, and to maximize the impact on every life that is saved, sustained, and transformed.

The humanitarian response in Sudan, Central African Republic, Chad, Egypt, Ethiopia, Libya, South Sudan, and Uganda was already significantly underfunded at the onset of conflict in April 2023.

Flexible funding for emergency response will allow UNHCR to deliver much-needed core relief items like mosquito nets and sleeping mats, essential shelter supplies, and basic health and hygiene kits; to safeguard fundamental human rights; and to protect those fleeing violence from further harm, including identifying for urgent attention vulnerable survivors of rape and children separated from their families. Field teams can be immediately deployed to border crossing points to receive new arrivals and relocate them, if necessary, to safer or less over-crowded and under-resourced areas. Flexible funding allows UNHCR to adapt to shifting conflict lines and an unpredictable situation, especially with respect to the access of humanitarian actors to those in acute need.

To all our generous donors, especially those providing the kind of flexible and unearmarked funding that enables UNHCR to plan, prioritize, and pivot in response to developments on the ground, UNHCR extends deep thanks.

SUDAN SITUATION

UNHCR APPEAL 2026

COVER PHOTO: Mothers are waiting in line for treatment for their malnourished children at the health center that UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, is running in Iridimi settlement in Chad. One of them is 22-year-old Mowada Moussa Yaya, a Sudanese refugee, who fled Sudan shortly after the conflict broke out and has been living in Iridimi for about two years. She has already lost one of her children to malnutrition and is now afraid that history will repeat itself. © UNHCR/Andreas Floistrup

For more information, visit:

UNHCR's main website for an overview of risks faced by forcibly displaced and stateless people around the world and how UNHCR leads and partners to address them, and the Planning, Funding, and Results section of the site to find key financial reports – including the Global Appeal and Global Report – and up-to-date information on flexible funding, underfunding, budget, expenditure and donor contributions. The section also highlights the importance of unearmarked funding, the impact of financial gaps, and how resources are allocated and spent.

UNHCR's Sudan Operation page to learn more about situation-specific dynamics and UNHCR's response.

UNHCR's Operational Data Portal (ODP) for the Sudan Situation for regularly updated information on the refugee and returnee arrivals in Sudan's neighbouring countries .

The Sudan Regional Crisis Development Action Platform, co-designed and jointly maintained by UNHCR to be the "go-to" resource for critical data and analysis on how development actors are working with governments and communities to respond to the Sudan crisis.

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Scan the QR code here to link to UNHCR's Sudan Situation Operational Data Portal; this Appeal and other documents can also be accessed from the data portal.