

Sudan: 2018 Year End Report SOUTH SUDAN REGIONAL RRP

January - December 2018



852,080

SOUTH SUDANESE
REFUGEES HOSTED IN
2018

US\$ 294.8 M

REQUIRED IN SUDAN IN
2018

31%

FUNDING RECEIVED IN
2018)

25

RRP PARTNERS IN SUDAN
IN 2018

SITUATION OVERVIEW

By the end of 2018, Sudan now hosts the largest South Sudanese refugee population in the region, with a total 852,080 South Sudanese refugees in country (including both registered and unregistered populations).

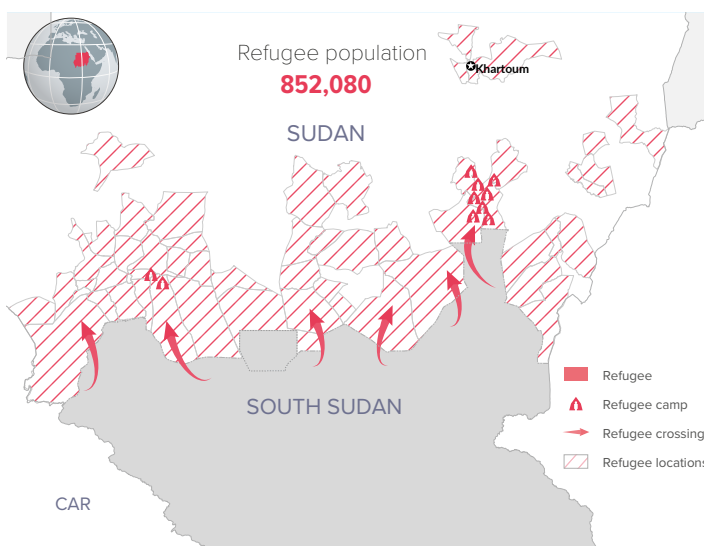
New arrival rates were lower in 2018 as compared to previous years but remained steady with 33,117 South Sudanese refugees arriving in Sudan by year-end. East Darfur and South Darfur States received the largest flows. At the same time, roll-out of biometric registration across the response allowed for increasingly precise population figures.

The capacity of inter-agency partners to respond continues to be stretched, exacerbated by a critical funding gap of nearly 70 per cent. While some progress has been made, many areas are still below emergency standards and require continued investment and additional resources in order to meet the protection and basic service needs of refugees.

Critical funding gaps have been compounded by the rapid destabilization of Sudan's economy throughout 2018, including rising inflation, fuel shortages and import restrictions that have slowed the delivery of goods and services, as well as partner movements in the field. Consumer price inflation (e.g. 150-200% increase in staple food prices for sorghum, millet and wheat; 50-100% increase in the cost of medicines), combined with austerity measures, removal of subsidies, and depreciation of the currency have also limited the already weak purchasing power of refugees, in some cases increasing their reliance on humanitarian assistance. Persistent pipeline breaks and transportation issues have also hampered general food distribution across all states.

The economic situation has intensified assistance needs of both refugee and host communities, especially for over 673,000 refugees living in out-of-camp locations (nearly 80 per cent of the total refugee caseload), compounded by limited livelihood opportunities and the challenges refugees face accessing public services. In Khartoum, at least 58,000 South Sudanese refugees continue to live in dire humanitarian conditions in slums called "open areas", despite renewed access for partners granted by the Government of Sudan in December 2017 and the finalization of an inter-agency response plan that remains largely unfunded. Urgent needs persist for basic services across all sectors, including health, nutrition, education and WASH.

Over-congestion of refugee camps remains a serious concern. This is particularly problematic in White Nile State, where Khor Al Waral camp hosts over 11,400 refugee households, well above its 4,000 household capacity. A new camp at Al Jameya was established to support decongestion, and 1,356 households were relocated to the new site in 2018. Land extensions to accommodate an additional 6,500 households are secured for other camps in the State. In East Darfur, negotiations for additional land for camps are ongoing.



Protection

90,087

Refugees
biometrically
registered
in 2018



11,036

Refugee children with
specific needs received
**specialized child protection
services**



SGBV

**prevention and response
capacity remains low**

Biometric registration was expanded in 2018 to cover previously unregistered out-of-camp settlements and new arrivals across the response, with 90,087 refugees registered in remote areas of South Kordofan, West Kordofan, East Darfur and South Darfur. Biometric registration was also initiated in May for refugee 'open areas' in Khartoum, with 38,039 registered by year end. This has improved the identification of persons with specific needs (PSNs) and children in need of specific services. Access to birth registration continues to remain a key gap across most out-of-camp settlement areas due to limited presence or outreach of Civil Registry officials.

In White Nile, child protection services were established at reception centres to support children's access to assistance and referral to specialized services upon arrival. Across the response, the Family Tracing and Reunification (FTR) network facilitated the reunification of 294 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) with their families and relatives within Sudan.

Partners worked to expand community-based protection mechanisms including self-management structures and protection networks in all camps and large out-of-camp settlements. This included capacity building of refugees, government and NGO partners in South Darfur, East Darfur, South Kordofan and White Nile States through training on community-based protection, alternate dispute resolution and identification, reporting and case referral for individual protection cases.

Inter-agency sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) networks were established in East Darfur and White Nile states to support mainstreaming of SGBV response across sectors. Despite these gains, SGBV prevention and response capacity remains low and gaps are exacerbated by under-reporting and a lack of appropriate medical services for survivors.

The widespread distribution of relatively small caseloads of refugees in remote out-of-camp areas is a key challenge for ensuring sufficient coverage of protection assistance across the response. A lack of access to formal livelihood opportunities heightens refugee protection risks where some turn to the sale of alcohol and survival sex work to meet their basic needs. This also puts refugee children at risk of child labour and exploitation, especially in a context of limited coverage of child protection programming for out-of-school children and youth.

Education

Refugee student data
now collected by the
National **Education
Management Information System.**



Provisions for Refugee
education were formally
integrated within the
national **Education Sector
Strategic Plan (2019-2023)**



only **33%**
refugee children
are enrolled in primary
education

This year saw the successful inclusion of refugee education within Sudan's Education Sector Strategic Plan (2019-2023), a key milestone towards the attainment of the Djibouti Declaration on Refugee Education. Education partners collaborated closely with State Ministries of Education to support the integration of refugee volunteer teachers within local school systems.

Nearly 73,000 refugee students were enrolled in basic education (grades 1 through 8) in 2018. These students also received assistance to support school attendance and retention, including provision of school uniforms, text books, school supplies and transportation. At least 17 refugee and host community schools were rehabilitated, and 83 additional classrooms were constructed, which helped to decongest schools and increase local schools' absorption capacity. Schools also received school seating and teachers' supplies. This work also contributed to


peaceful coexistence between refugees and host communities across the response.


In Khartoum, basic-school aged refugee children living in Naivasha ‘open area’ received education assistance for the first time since 2016 along with local school children, including school uniforms and supplies.

Despite these efforts, the absorption capacity of public schools in refugee locations remains limited. An estimated 1,271 public schools in Sudan are hosting South Sudanese refugees; however, they comprise just 5 per cent of total enrolment. Over 65 per cent of refugees are estimated to be out of school, with the lowest enrollment rates observed for refugees living in out-of-camp settlements, including in Khartoum’s ‘open areas’.

Rising inflation and increased cost of living drove high dropout rates of approximately 89 per cent across the country. The situation is compounded by insufficient funding for the South Sudanese refugee education response in 2018 and limited livelihoods opportunities.

Food

 **335,164**
Refugees received
monthly in-kind
food assistance

 **35%**
of South Sudanese
Refugees not
covered by food
assistance at all.

Between 60-70 per cent of refugees targeted for food assistance were reached in 2018, with an average of over 335,000 refugees receiving in-kind food assistance each month across the response.

Ongoing pipeline breaks and distribution delays interrupted refugee’s access to the standard 2,100 Kcal per person per day throughout 2018.


Pipeline breaks for pulses, oil and salt persisted throughout 2018 and led to ration gaps for key commodities. These breaks were aggravated by transportation challenges linked to fuel shortages in Sudan, leading to food distribution delays. Out-of-camp settlement areas in South Darfur, North Darfur and the Kordofan States were the worst affected by irregular general food distribution (GFD). GFD was relatively sustained for refugee camps in White Nile and East Darfur.

Local procurement options and multi-purpose cash initiatives are being pursued to mitigate pipeline breaks in 2019 and beyond.

Health & Nutrition

 **15,069**
Children (6-59 months)
and **2,318** pregnant and
lactating women received
malnutrition interventions
and treatment.

 **581,577**
consultations
made in 2018.

 **Critical funding gaps
driving pipeline breaks
for nutrition supplies
in out-of-camp locations**

Nearly 607,000 health consultations were provided in health clinics in refugee camps and large out-of-camp settlements, including an estimated 16 per cent of consultations provided to host communities. The leading causes of morbidity in 2018 include respiratory tract infections, malaria and acute diarrhoea. Approximately 63 per cent of refugee births were assisted by skilled health personnel in health facilities. Nearly 5,000 refugees were provided secondary and tertiary health care services as needed.

Over 63,000 refugee children aged 6-59 months were screened for malnutrition, with over 5,000 treated for malnutrition. An additional 2,318 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) were treated for malnutrition. Nearly 100,000 refugee children aged 6-59 months and PLW were provided with nutritional supplements to reduce their risk of

malnutrition and support improved nutrition outcomes for refugee households.

In Khartoum's 'open areas', more than 23,000 refugees received primary, secondary or tertiary health services for the first time since 2016. Available funding could not fully cover all refugee health service needs.

Poor infrastructure, insufficient staff and lack of basic equipment were major gaps throughout 2018 that hindered provision of quality health services in refugee locations. Sudan's economic situation has resulted in a significant increase (more than 50 per cent) in cost of medicine, negatively impacting the ability of refugees to meet their health needs. Refugees living in out of the camp locations and in urban areas where there are no health facilities directly supported by humanitarian actors are required to pay for health services themselves. However, a lack of livelihoods is compounded by rising inflation and increased cost of living, which has further limited refugees' access to healthcare in underserved out-of-camp and urban locations.

Livelihoods & Environment



43,680
Refugees received
livelihood assistance



1,256
hectares of forest
planted to support
**environmental conservation
and income generation**



90%
South Sudanese
refugees
living **below
the poverty line**

In 2018, approximately 44,000 refugees received some form of livelihood assistance, including vocational training, business start-up grants and support, and fisheries and agricultural extension. Over 100,000 refugees were employed during the harvest season with extensive support provided by partners on legal protection and negotiation with landowners, and on peaceful coexistence with host communities.

In Khartoum's 'open areas', 300 refugees received vocational and skills development training, with start-up kits provided to refugees upon their successful completion of the programme. This is the first time livelihoods assistance has been delivered for refugee living in the 'open areas' since 2016. This initial project has supported the development of strategic partnerships with partner organizations with the capacity to support the scale-up of livelihoods interventions in the 'open areas' in the coming years.

Recent livelihoods assessments indicate that an estimated 90 per cent of South Sudanese refugees in Sudan are living below the poverty line, with monthly income ranging between SDG 500-1,500. A key driver of this situation is refugees' limited access to work permits, financing and other documentation needed to access livelihoods and public services, including travel permits, land, capital and market access. This also limits the availability of livelihoods data as it relates to formal and informal employment.

Expanded access to energy was a key focus of the response in 2018, with 12,356 camp-based refugee households gaining access to energy efficient stoves and charcoal provision. However, this represents just 20 per cent of the total population. Access to energy was also integrated within environmental conservation initiatives, including the planting of 1,256 hectares of forest in East Darfur and White Nile States, including quick-growing species for cooking fuel and Gum Arabic for income generation. These activities also provided 600 jobs for refugees and host communities.

Ongoing fuel shortages have prompted a renewed focus on the use of solarized systems for lighting and generators to ensure sustainability of energy initiatives over the longer term.

Shelter & NFIs

79%
of all new refugee arrivals
received NFI assistance



529
durable shelters
constructed in
White Nile camps,
providing over **1,800**
refugees with shelter.



>70%
Refugees in
areas with active
response **lack**
access to
adequate shelter



An estimated 79 per cent of all new arrivals received NFI assistance (over 98,085 individuals) across the response. UNHCR reached 78,589 'newly accessed' refugee households (who had not yet received assistance due to access restrictions, registration issues and the rainy season) in Al Lait, North Darfur; El Radom, South Darfur; and smaller out-of-camp settlements in West Kordofan. Over 20,000 households in North Darfur and White Nile States received NFI replenishment, including approximately 10-15 per cent host community distribution.

A total of 28,788 refugee and host community households (over 111,000 individuals) received shelter assistance helping to protect them from the elements, and ensuring physical protection, from the harsh weather conditions in East, South, and North Darfur, West and South Kordofan and White Nile States. This brings total shelter coverage to 28 per cent for South Sudanese refugees living in states with an active refugee response.

Durable shelter construction is planned for all refugee households in Al Jameya camp and White Nile camps with land extensions planned, as well as for land extensions in Al Nimir and Kario camps in East Darfur. In Al Jameya camp in White Nile, 529 durable shelters were constructed and allocated to 1,851 refugee families. Progress has been slow due to limited funding, which remains a key barrier to expanding durable shelter coverage for all camp-based households. The economic situation has also hindered service delivery across the response due to fuel shortages, as well as liquidity issues slowing the purchase of local materials on local markets.

WASH



2 hafirs constructed
in South Kordofan.
Access to safe water for
25,000 refugees and host
communities improved.

1,830 
household latrines
constructed in out-of-camp
Refugee locations

57%
of refugee
households have
no access to latrines.

In East and South Darfur, two water supply systems were upgraded to solarized systems, in line with the sector's strategy to transition to more sustainable systems. In White Nile, two new water treatment plants were constructed in Al Redis II and Al Jameya camps. Two new hafirs will improve safe water supply access for nearly 25,000 refugees and their host communities in South Kordofan. These will be jointly managed to support peaceful coexistence between refugees and host communities.

Construction of low-cost household latrines was also prioritized to address open defecation and improve latrine access through a transition away from communal latrines and support greater ownership, use and maintenance of latrines by refugee communities, especially in out-of-camp locations. Approximately 12,232 refugees living in out-of-camp locations gained access to household latrines in East, North and South Darfur States, and West and South Kordofan. Over 15,000 camp-based refugees in East Darfur and White Nile also gained access to household latrines in 2018. Scale-up of hygiene promotion campaigns was prioritized to address open defecation and improve latrine use. This contributed to the elimination of open defecation in Buram and El Radom in South Darfur, and Al Nimir camp in East Darfur.

Despite these efforts, an estimated 57 per cent of refugee households are still without access to a latrine. The suspension of latrine desludging activities in White Nile aggravated the latrine gap across all camps except for Al Jameya. Over 64,000 latrines are needed across the response to address the latrine gap, however lack of land in camps and a lack of landowner permission in out-of-camp locations are key challenges. Lack of soap access undermines hygiene promotion, with just 47 per cent of South Sudanese refugee households receiving regular

soap supplies. Average safe water supply access remains well below the standard a 12 litres per person per day across the response.

RRP PARTNERS*

- Adventist Development and Relief Agency
- Almanar
- American Refugee Committee
- Care International Sudan
- Concern WorldWide
- Cooperazione internazionale
- El Ruhama
- Food and Agriculture Organisation
- Friends of Peace & Development Organization
- Global Aid Hand
- International Organisation for Migration
- Islamic Relief Worldwide
- NADA Elazhar Organization for Disaster
- Prevention and Sustainable Development
- Norwegian Church Aid
- OXFAM America
- Plan International Sudan
- Save the Children International
- United Methodist Committee on Relief
- United Nations Children's Fund
- United Nations Development Programme
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- United Nations Population Fund
- World Food Programme
- World Health Organisation
- World Vision International

FOR MORE INFORMATION

South Sudan Data Portal - <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/southsudan>

Noriko Yoshida, Representative to Sudan, yoshida@unhcr.org; **Elizabeth Tan**, Deputy Representative <tan@unhcr.org>;

Miranda Gaanderse, Liaison Officer gaanders@unhcr.org; **Aung Thu Win**, IM Officer, wina@unhcr.org