

# Weekly Gedaref Operational Update #5/2022

27 January – 3 February 2022



**51,207**

total number of Ethiopian refugees in eastern Sudan (Kassala & Gedaref) as of 31 January 2022



**13**

new arrivals recorded in Hamdayet Transit Centre (9) and Taya border entry point (4)



**574**

number of tukuls (durable shelters) completed in Um Rakuba in total

## Operational Highlights

**Qemant asylum seekers relocated to Babikri:** UNHCR, Sudan's Commission for Refugees (COR) and partners relocated **74 Qemant asylum seekers (39 families)** from Um Rakuba camp to Babikri settlement. This group had previously indicated during focus group discussions their desire to relocate to Babikri to be closer to their relatives. For the relocation, ALIGHT provided an **ambulance with medical staff** to escort the convoy. Upon arrival, the newly relocated were assigned **shelters**, set up by NRC, and provided with **hot meals** and **water** by Muslim Aid and Solidarités International. UNHCR and DRC **assisted persons with specific needs** and MSF Switzerland provided **medical assistance** to vulnerable asylum seekers. A **protection desk** has been set up in Babikri settlement to address protection issues and facilitate referrals to the different service providers.



Final checks of the manifest and luggage list with the asylum seekers before their departure from Um Rakuba © UNHCR

**Fire safety awareness and trainings conducted for refugees:** UNHCR, DRC and Gedaref Fire Brigade held **two (2) fire safety trainings** in Tunaydbah for **39 members of the refugee fire safety committee**. In Um Rakuba, following the fire safety trainings in December 2021, DRC has launched a **dynamic sensitization efforts** in Tigrinya to raise awareness on fire hazard, practice different fire scenario and immediate measures to extinguish the fire.



Refugee volunteers receiving fire safety training in Tunaydbah ©DRC

**New Ethiopian arrivals recorded in eastern Sudan:**

There was an increase in the number of new arrivals compared to the previous week, with **nine (9) new arrivals** recorded in Hamdayet Transit Centre and **four (4) new arrivals** reported crossing the Taya border entry point.

## Key Achievements



### PROTECTION

#### Results and Impact

- A total of **93 refugees were individually registered** in Tunaydbah (70) and Um Rakuba (23), including **73 newborns**. UNHCR and COR issued **722 ID cards** to registered refugees in Tunaydbah (448) and Um Rakuba (274). As of end January 2022, a total of **10,826 ID cards** have been issued for registered refugees aged 16 and above in Um Rakuba (**6,513**) and Tunaydbah (**4,313**), covering **48 and 32 per cent of beneficiaries** respectively.
- The **gender-based violence (GBV) sub-working group** launched the **inter-agency GBV action plan** for the first quarter of 2022 and reached consensus to **deploy the GBV Information Management System (GBVIMS) tool** to harmonize GBV data collection and case management.
- UNICEF, UNHCR and Sudan's State Council for Child Welfare **reunited eight (8) unaccompanied and separated children with their families** in Um Rakuba (4) and Tunaydbah (4). To date, a total **900 boys (558) and girls (342)** have received family tracing and reunification services.
- UNHCR, in collaboration with COR, DRC and Muslim Aid, conducted a **vulnerability verification exercise in Babikri** and assisted **124 persons with specific needs**, including pregnant women and unaccompanied and separated children.
- ALIGHT held **two (2) awareness raising sessions on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA)** for 20 refugee women and girls in Um Rakuba. The sessions focused on the **rights of refugees, expected standard behaviors of humanitarian actors, modalities for reporting SEA incidents and available services for survivors**.



*Refugee women and girls participating in PSEA awareness sessions in Um Rakuba ©ALIGHT*

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- **Family tracing services** need to be **scaled up at Hamdayet Transit Centre** to improve and expedite family reunification.



### EDUCATION

#### Results and Impact

- UNHCR conducted a **rapid education needs assessment in Babikri**, holding **three (3) focus group discussions** with **30 youth, boys and girls**. The preliminary findings indicate that over **40 per cent of primary school age children** were not previously enrolled in schools. The outcomes of the needs assessment will inform the education response in Babikri.
- In tandem with the rapid education needs assessment, UNICEF, UNHCR and COR conducted a **joint site evaluation** in Babikri and identified **suitable locations for school facilities and child friendly spaces**, taking into account protection considerations.

- NRC recruited **ten (10) youth facilitators** to assist with **mobilizing the enrolment of** and subsequently **conducting skills training** for **300 refugee youth** at the recently completed multi-purpose youth centres in Tunaydbah and Um Rakuba.

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- **Procuring furniture and equipment** for the multi-purpose youth centres is a priority.
- More **funding** is needed for the operation of the **secondary schools** in Tunaydbah and Um Rakuba camps.
- **Accreditation of vocational education and trainings** is key to improving youth **access to livelihood opportunities** in the medium to long-term.



### HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT (MHPSS)

#### Results and Impact

- UNFPA provided **four (4) post rape treatment kits** for ALIGHT, MSF Holland, PUI and ZOA clinics in Tunaydbah, Um Rakuba and Village 8. **Each kit** is used to assist **45 survivors**. In addition, UNFPA also provided **three (3) sexually transmitted infection management kits** for ALIGHT, MSF Holland and ZOA clinics in Tunaydbah and Um Rakuba. Each **kit** is used to assist **250 individuals**.
- UNICEF, UNHCR and partners, undertook routine nutrition screening of a total of **1,394 children** under-five at health facilities in Tunaydbah and Um Rakuba. Of this number, **seven (7)** were identified with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and **six (6)** with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). All **13 children** are receiving treatment.
- In complement, Concern Worldwide and ZOA conducted mass MUAC nutrition screening for **739 children** in Um Rakuba, of whom **one (1) (0.1%)** was identified with SAM and **22 (3.0%)** with MAM. This is below the Global Acute Malnutrition emergency standard of 15%. All the children identified with malnutrition have been enrolled in the nutrition programme.
- UNFPA provided **sexual and reproductive health services** to **262 refugee women** in Hamdayet Transit Centre (17), Tunaydbah (158) and Um Rakuba (74) and Village 8 (13), through ALIGHT, MSF, PUI and ZOA clinics, and carried out **30 facility-based deliveries**.
- **Two (2) positive cases of COVID-19** were reported in Village 8. The individuals have been placed in isolation and are receiving medical assistance.
- SRCS held **56 awareness sessions on Hepatitis E** in Tunaydbah for **964 refugee women (600), men (321) and children (43)**, sharing information about personal and community hygiene practices.
- ALIGHT conducted **three (3) mental health awareness sessions** for **43 men (20) and women (23)** in Um Rakuba, focusing on depression and prevention of suicide. In Tunaydbah, **psychosocial support** was provided for **two (2) refugees** and **four (4) follow-up visits** were conducted.

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Establishing **referral pathways for tertiary health care** is a priority.
- **Scale-up** of referrals for **persons with visual impairments** is needed.



## WATER AND SANITATION

### Results and Impact

- Water supply was provided at 21 litres per person per day (l/p/d) in Um Rakuba, 21 l/p/d in Tunaydbah, 26 l/p/d in Village 8 and 19 l/p/d in Babikri. This brings the average available water supply to 22 l/p/d, which exceeds the *SPHERE post emergency standard* of 20 l/p/d.
- The person to latrine ratio was at 1:19 in Um Rakuba, 1:12 in Tunaydbah and 1:19 in Babikri, which is below the *SPHERE minimum standard* of one (1) communal latrine for every 20 people (1:20 ratio).

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The construction of additional showers and latrines with lighting in Babikri and installation of latrines in the multi-purpose youth centres in Tunaydbah and Um Rakuba are a priority.
- Maintenance of latrines in Tunaydbah need to be strengthened.



## SHELTER AND CORE RELIEF ITEMS (CRIS)

### Results and Impact

- In Um Rakuba, NRC completed the construction of a further 70 *tukuls* (durable shelters), bringing the total number of *tukuls* to 574, of which 174 have been handed over to refugee families.
- NRC distributed 350 emergency shelter kits to vulnerable refugee families in Tunaydbah and pitched 30 tents for newly arrived refugees.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The completion and transfer of over 4,400 *tukuls* is expected by the end of 2022 in Babikri, Tunaydbah and Um Rakuba. More funding is required to build an additional 7,900 *tukuls* for the remaining refugee families in the three locations.



## CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

### Results and Impact

- In Um Rakuba, DRC and WFP conducted four (4) focus group discussion with a total of 40 refugee representatives on grinding mills, the outcomes of which will inform the standard operating procedures for their operation in the camp.
- UNHCR, COOPI, IOM and NRC distributed 6,240 bars of soap and 1,685 female dignity kits to 1,560 refugee women and girls in Um Rakuba. The distribution will continue in order to meet the target of 33,552 bars of soap and 4,476 female dignity kits.



A focus group discussion with refugee representatives on the operation of the grinding mills in Um Rakuba © DRC

- DRC completed the installation of **45 solar lights in Um Rakuba** (31 in the camp and 14 in host communities) and **44 in Tunaydbah** (30 in the camp and 14 in host communities).

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- **Flood preparations** at household and camp levels, in collaboration with local authorities and partners, is a priority.



## COMMUNICATING WITH COMMUNITIES

### Results and Impact

- As part of efforts to prevent onwards movements, UNHCR met with **11 refugee youth and leaders** (2 women and 9 men) in Babikri to **formulate strategies for raising community awareness** about risks of onward movements. In addition, **more trafficking posters** were put up in visible locations across the settlement.
- In Um Rakuba, ALIGHT conducted **four (4) community awareness sessions** on trafficking for **38 refugee women (31) and men (7)**. Participants were provided with information on how to report trafficking, identify victims and refer them to available services in a confidential manner.



*Meeting with refugee youth and leaders in Babikri on trafficking and onward movements ©UNHCR*

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Establishing **youth initiatives in Babikri** is a priority to help reduce the incentive for onward movements.



## WORKING IN COORDINATION

In response to the Ethiopia situation in eastern Sudan, UNHCR is working with authorities and over 40 partners to provide lifesaving assistance and protection to Ethiopian refugees and asylum seekers as well as host communities. UNHCR and COR co-chair the Inter-Agency Refugee Working Group (RWG), which meets on a bi-weekly basis, to strengthen coordination of the response. One of the priorities of the RWG for 2022 is to consolidate and scale up support to host communities in refugee affected areas. In this respect, members of the RWG, led by UNHCR and COR, met with representatives of host communities in six localities neighbouring Tunaydbah camp to discuss needs and potential solutions.

As a next step, UNHCR and COR will work with the office of the Governor (Wali) to identify areas where the needs of host communities could be addressed by the ongoing activities of RWG members. UNHCR is also collaborating with UNDP to establish a solutions working group to increase the resilience of local communities affected by the refugee crisis and foster peace co-existence, in alignment with State and local development plans.

## Situation in eastern Sudan

In early November 2020, clashes in Ethiopia’s Tigray region sparked an outflow of refugees into eastern Sudan via Hamdayet, Lugdi/Village 8 and Al Asera border points. Since then, some **59,000 refugees and asylum seekers** have been welcomed in Sudan.

In late November 2020, UNHCR launched the Inter-Agency Refugee Emergency Response Plan, which was then revised in May 2021 with **USD 182 million** required for the response – an increase of **USD 33 million** – to incorporate additional flood mitigation and the response for Ethiopian asylum seekers in Blue Nile State, as well as a reprioritization of the original requirements. A new Inter-Agency Response Plan for 2022 will be launched in the coming weeks.

We are grateful to the following donors for supporting the Ethiopian Emergency situation in eastern Sudan with **critical funding in 2021** enabling the scale up of the delivery of basic and essential services:

Canada | Czech Republic | Denmark | ECHO (EU) | Finland | Germany | Ireland | Italy | Japan | New Zealand | Norway | Qatar | Sweden | Switzerland | United Arab Emirates | United Kingdom | United States of America | United Nations CERF | United Nations SHF | Private Donors

## UNHCR Country Appeal Funding (as of 2 February 2022)

USD 348.9 M required

