

Weekly Gedaref Operational Update #6/2022

3 – 10 February 2022



51,207

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



27

new arrivals recorded in Taya border entry point (19) and Hamdayet Transit Centre (8)



690

number of tukuls (durable shelters) completed in Um (674) Rakuba and Tunaydbah (16) in total

Operational Highlights

New Ethiopian arrivals recorded in eastern Sudan: There was a slight uptick in the number of new arrivals compared to the previous week with **27 new arrivals** recorded: **19** in Taya border entry point and **8** in Hamdayet Transit Centre.

Inter-agency response to fire in Tunaydbah camp:

UNHCR and partners came together to provide assistance and support to 36 families affected in a fire in Tunaydbah camp on 4 February which resulted in one casualty. Refugee volunteers recently trained in fire-safety and response were quickly mobilized and provided psychological first aid. A joint needs assessment was coordinated by UNHCR, Sudan's Commission for Refugees (COR) and partners following the blaze. MSF provided medical assistance while NRC cleared the ground, pitched tents and distributed core-relief items (CRIs) to the fire-affected families. Muslim Aid provided hot meals on the day of the fire prior to the provision of one-month food rations by WFP. UNICEF also distributed shoes, t-shirts and scarves to children. UNHCR issued fire-affected families with new photo slips. Investigations are underway to determine the exact cause of the fire. Fire-preparedness and community mobilization remains a priority.



COR, UNHCR and partners convene a brief meeting at Tunaydbah ahead of the joint needs assessment. ©UNHCR

Key Achievements



PROTECTION

Results and Impact

- During the reporting period, UNHCR and COR issued **678 ID cards** to registered refugees in Tunaydbah (466) and Um Rakuba (212). As of end of January, **10,826 ID cards** have been issued to registered refugees aged 16 and above in Um Rakuba (**6,513**) and Tunaydbah (**4,313**), covering **48** and **32 per cent of beneficiaries** respectively.
- UNHCR, Sudan's State Council for Child Welfare (SCCW) and Plan International conducted **vulnerability assessments for 28 children** affected by the recent fire in Tunaydbah to ensure assistance from service providers is timely and in the children's best interest.
- UNHCR held a meeting with community leaders and eight (8) block leaders from Um Rakuba's Zone 3 **on children's rights and how they can better support unaccompanied and separated children placed in the alternative care arrangements**. The meeting also touched on the various risks children face, including onward movement.
- **Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) posters were distributed** in key locations in Tunaydbah, including the COVID-19 centre, registration centre, market, WFP store and early childhood care and development centres. These posters contain important information on the reporting mechanisms and hotlines inside the camp.



Meeting with community leaders in Um Rakuba © UNHCR

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- **Increasing training sessions for COR staff** on various protection-related topics.
- **Scaling up recreational activities** available to children and youth to reduce the likelihood of both groups resorting to negative coping mechanisms.



EDUCATION

Results and Impact

- **Over 300 youth from both camps registered for soft skills trainings** by NRC. These workshops are planned for later this month and will cover leadership, business and time-management skills. Registration closes next week.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- **Scaling up WaSH facilities inside schools is a priority.**
- **Procuring furniture and equipment** for the multi-purpose youth centres.



HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT (MHPSS)

Results and Impact

- WHO provided two (2) supplementary inter-agency emergency health kits (IEHK), two (2) basic IEHKs and one (1) rapid response kit to partners, including ZOA, Sudan Family Planning Association (SFP) and Première Urgence Internationale (PUI). WHO also provided Early Warning, Alert and Response System reporting books which will be distributed by Sudan's Ministry of Health to 16 health facilities.
- There was a decline in the number of Hepatitis E cases reported with four (4) cases – two (2) refugees and two (2) from the host community compared to eight (8) in the previous reporting period. To-date, 1,580 cases have been recorded since the epidemic started in June 2021.
- 1,131 children under-five were screened for malnutrition in all refugee-hosting locations – of which 10 with severe acute malnutrition and 11 with moderate acute malnutrition were identified and referred for treatment. In addition, 437 pregnant and lactating women were screened with 283 women receiving infant and young children feeding counselling.
- UNFPA supported the delivery of sexual and reproductive health services to 190 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 12 facility-based deliveries.
- 52 refugees in Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah received mental health and psychosocial support from ALIGHT. This support entailed assessment, treatment and counselling.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Limited testing capacity for COVID-19 due to a nation-wide shortage of PCR sample collection swabs.
- A shortage of oxygen supplies in Gedaref State is a challenge. As a result, oxygen supplies are obtained from Kassala to treat respiratory illness as a result of COVID-19 and other medical conditions.



WATER AND SANITATION

Results and Impact

- Water supply was provided at 35 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 25.25 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).
- SRCS carried out awareness sessions on COVID-19, Hepatitis E, solid waste management, food hygiene and diarrhea, reaching 2,725 individuals in Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah. In addition, menstrual hygiene sessions were held in both locations, reaching 1,100 women and girls.
- In coordination with UNHCR, UNICEF provided 500 jerry cans with a 20 liter capacity in Babikri.

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.
- Scaling up efforts to provide waste management services in Babikri. Solidarités International has constructed a waste disposal site and a similar one household waste is planned.



SHELTER AND CORE RELIEF ITEMS (CRIS)

Results and Impact

- In Um Rakuba, NRC completed the construction of a further **100 tukuls (durable shelters)**, bringing the total number of *tukuls* in the camp to **674**. In Tunaydbah, **16 tukuls** were completed by ACTED and Medair.

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.



Tukuls provide refugees with more security and protection ©UNHCR



CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

Results and Impact

- In Um Rakuba, UNHCR, through NRC, concluded **a blanket distribution of female dignity kits** to 4,476 women and girls and distributed soap to 21,888 individuals.
- In Tunaydbah, **NRC distributed 38,940 bars of soap and completed the distribution of 450 emergency shelter kits**. Plan International distributed various CRIs, including 114 beds, mattresses and sheets to unaccompanied and separated children.

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

- In Tunaydbah, eight (8) members from the camp's University Association started awareness raising as **peer-to-peer educators on the dangers of onward movement**. This initiative is intended to complement the Telling the Real Story volunteers who work in the camp. A similar initiative is planned in Um Rakuba.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Establishing [youth initiatives across all locations](#) is a priority to help reduce the incentive for onward movement.



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.](#) UNHCR and COR are working closely with the different actors from the RWG to map humanitarian interventions in the host community so as to understand the existing gaps and provide targeted support to the host community living nearby the refugee camps. A broader meeting on the same is planned within the week [together with UNDP and the relevant government line ministries.](#) 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, as well as a reprioritization of the original requirements. A new Inter-Agency Response Plan for 2022 will be launched in the coming weeks.

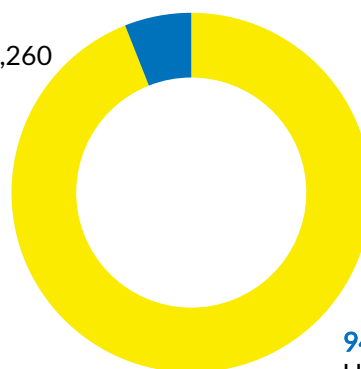
We are grateful to the following donors for supporting the Ethiopian Emergency situation in eastern Sudan with critical funding in 2021 which enabled the delivery of basic and essential services:

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

6% Funded
USD 19,481,260



94% Unfunded
USD 329,413,099