

Ethiopia Situation Operational Update #12/2022

1 – 31 May 2022



58,604

total number of Ethiopian refugees in eastern Sudan (Kassala, Gedaref and Blue Nile) as of 30 April 2022



920

new arrivals recorded in eastern Sudan



1,817

number of tukuls constructed in Um Rakuba (1,184), Tunaydbah (607) and Babikri (26)

Operational Highlights

New Ethiopian arrivals recorded in eastern Sudan: In May, there was a slight increase in the number of new arrivals in Gedaref compared to the previous month, with 42 new arrivals recorded in Taya (29), Hamdayet Transit Centre (8) and Gallabat border crossing point (5). At the same time, new arrivals decreased in Blue Nile, with a total of 878 new arrivals registered.

Child protection coordination mechanism launched: a sub-working group, co-chaired by UNHCR, UNICEF and Sudan State Council for Child Welfare (SCCW), was established in Gedaref to coordinate and harmonize child protection activities and interventions among all stakeholders involved.

Key Achievements



PROTECTION

Results and Impact

- In Gedaref, 145 refugees were registered, including 60 new arrivals and 13 births in Um Rakuba, 52 new arrivals and 12 births in Tunaydbah and 8 new arrivals in Babikri. In Blue Nile, UNHCR and COR registered 653 new arrivals, including spontaneous arrivals and those entering via Dem Saad and Mancheleng.
- As of end May 2022, a total of 21,329 ID cards have been issued, covering 75% of the eligible population in Tunaydbah (10,407), Um Rakuba (9,902), and Babikri (1,020).
- The vulnerability assessment exercise, which was launched in April in collaboration with COR and other protection partners, was completed in Babikri. A total of 157 individuals (7% of the total population) were identified to have one or more specific needs. The exercise is expected to conclude in Tunaydbah and Um Rakuba by mid-June. The findings will help improve and harmonize data on persons with specific needs, assessment of protection risks and the provision of targeted and prioritized assistance to this population.
- In Gedaref, a total of 392 refugees (130 men and 262 women) were provided with targeted assistance and referrals through the protection desks run by ALIGHT. In Blue Nile, UNHCR's

protection desk assisted 42 refugees with regard to registration, medical referrals and core relief items among others.

- Following the conclusion of the quarterly GBV safety audit in Gedaref, an action plan has been developed on mainstreaming GBV prevention and risk mitigation in all the sectors and implementation is set to begin soon.
- NCA and UNFPA held 24 awareness raising sessions on GBV for 1,040 women, men, boys and girls in Um Rakuba (304) and Tunaydbah (736).
- UNHCR conducted a training on the management of GBV and child protection cases for 40 representatives from COR, partner organizations, military intelligence, and the judiciary to help harmonize processes and overcome bottlenecks in case management in the camps.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Strengthening the tracking of protection responses through the adequate and consistent use of the referral and tracking form is a priority to ensure the timely delivery of protection and assistance to persons of concern.



EDUCATION

Results and Impact

- UNHCR, IRW, Mercy Corps, and NRC kicked off the implementation of the education response project in Babikri, Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah which is funded by Education Cannot Wait. The project allows for the operation of secondary schools in Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah to resume and for schools to start operating in Babikri.
- Windle Trust International (WTI) has commenced preliminary work on the construction of a new school in Camp 6, Blue Nile State.



Refugee students in a primary school run by NRC in Um Rakuba
© UNHCR

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Access to tertiary education for refugee youth in eastern Sudan remains a gap. Efforts are underway to explore opportunities for enrolment in national universities and connected higher education.



HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT (MHPSS)

Results and Impact

- Six (6) suspected cases of measles were detected at ALIGHT health clinic in Tunaydbah – five (5) refugees and one (1) national. All cases were treated in outpatient care and samples have been sent to Khartoum for further testing at the National Public Health Laboratory.

- Cases of **Hepatitis E** decreased by 46%, with **21 cases reported in May** compared to 39 in the previous month. The mapping of cases is undertaken regularly and shared with WaSH actors to facilitate targeted interventions related to health and hygiene promotion and regular water quality monitoring.
- The maternity ward of the field hospital in Tunaydbah, which was established in April with support from UNFPA, is now fully operational and **two (2) caesarean sections** were conducted in this facility during the reporting period.
- **Sexual and reproductive health services** were provided, with in-kind support from UNFPA, to **792 women** in Hamdayet Transit Centre (108), Tunaydbah (510), Um Rakuba (152) and Village 8 (21) in health facilities operated by ALIGHT, MSF, PUI, SRCS and ZOA.
- In Blue Nile, CAFA Development Organization, with support from UNHCR, provided **medical consultations, some 25% of which were for individuals from the host community.**
- NCA and UNFPA held **group psychosocial support sessions** for **386 women and girls** in Tunaydbah (231) and Um Rakuba (155).

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The **capacity of the hospital in Basunda locality is limited**, therefore, surgical cases from Babikri are referred to Gedaref.
- Maintaining an **adequate supply of medicine**, including for non-communicable diseases remains a challenge. Procedural barriers to the importation of medicines as well as significant delivery delays is leading to increased risks of medicine shortage.



WATER AND SANITATION

Results and Impact

- As of end May 2022, water supply was provided at **23 litres per person per day (l/p/d)** in Um Rakuba, **23.7 l/p/d** in Tunaydbah, **24 l/p/d** in Village 8 and **30 l/p/d** in Babikri. This brings the average water supply to **25.17 l/p/d** which exceeds the SPHERE post emergency standard of 20 l/p/d.
- In Tunaydbah, CARE completed the construction of **112 household latrines** and finished **renovating 33 showers** and **89 communal latrines** that had been damaged during the storm in April.
- In Um Rakuba, WHH started the construction of **700 household latrines** while CARE completed the **desludging of 52 communal latrines.**
- In Babikri, CARE **completed drilling of the first borehole.** A geographical survey was conducted for a second borehole and drilling is slated to begin shortly. Once completed, the two boreholes will provide a more sustainable water supply for the refugee and host communities.



Household latrines constructed by CARE in Tunaydbah © UNHCR

- Solidarités International completed the construction of **60 household latrines in Babikri** which helped reduce the latrine per person ration to 1:12.
- In Blue Nile's Camp 6, World Relief Sudan conducted a vector control campaign in households and latrines, and **desludged 23 latrines**, including those in the school. Water supply was provided at **12.5 l/p/d**.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- **Additional funding** is required to ensure that the **number of household latrines** constructed is parallel with the number of tukuls planned for 2022 in Tunaydbah, Um Rakuba, Babikri, and Camp 6.
- Scaling up the **water supply provision in Camp 6** is key to reducing competition for resources and promoting peaceful co-existence between refugee and host communities.



SHELTER AND CORE RELIEF ITEMS (CRIS)

Results and Impact

- NRC constructed 184 tukuls in Um Rakuba, bringing the total number to 1,184, and completed 26 tukuls in Babikri.
- Medair built a further 68 tukuls in Tunaydbah which brings the total number to 607.
- In Tunaydbah, NRC distributed **70 sleeping mats, 30 solar lamps, 70 blankets, 36 water buckets, 36 jerrycans and 30 kitchen sets** to refugees referred by protection partners and one family that was transferred from Hamdayet.
- In Um Rakuba, NRC distributed **soap to 10,409 individuals (5,000 households) and solar lamps, kitchen sets and jerrycans to 47 households**, including the newly transferred from Hamdayet and Gallabat.



Tukuls constructed by Medair in Tunaydbah © UNHCR

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- **Shortage and increased costs of some raw materials**, as a result of inflation across Sudan, affect the construction of tukuls. In addition, the **rainy season slows brick production** due to a lengthier than usual drying process.



CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

Results and Impact

- As part of rainy season mitigation measures, the **pre-positioning of 5,000 ESKs in Babikri, Tunaydbah and Um Rakuba** is underway to help provide an immediate response in the event of damage to or destruction of shelters. UNHCR and partners, including DRC and NRC **distributed**

4,568 pre-disaster kits (PDKs), which include sandbags and steel wires, in Babikri (568) and Tunaydbah (4,000).

- Rehabilitation of four (4) km of road between El Fao and Tunaydbah was completed. Work is ongoing on 23 km of road between Mafaza and Tunaydbah as well as over 30 km of access roads to Babikri.
- ACTED and WFP distributed in-kind food assistance to 2,121 individuals (863 households) in Babikri, 20,930 individuals (8,564 households) in Tunaydbah and 14,500 individuals (7,295 households) in Um Rakuba.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Work is underway to upgrade five (5) km of internal roads in Tunaydbah as part of rainy season mitigation measures.



WORKING IN COORDINATION

UNHCR, UNDP and Sudan's Finance Ministry held the **2nd meeting of Gedaref's Solutions Working Group** with the participation of representatives from line ministries as well as humanitarians and development actors to discuss areas of support for host communities. The need for infrastructure in education, WaSH and health featured strongly in the discussion. As part of solutions, UNHCR advocated for increased access of refugees to livelihood opportunities in line with the Global Compact for Refugees (GCR), noting that this would help increase their self-reliance and ultimately enhance peaceful co-existence between refugee and host communities. To advance the solutions in a more concrete manner, it was agreed that a technical committee would be set up, led by the Sudanese government, to conduct a needs assessment in the different host communities.

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 **60,000 refugees and asylum seekers** have been welcomed in Sudan.

To deliver protection and life-saving assistance to Ethiopians displaced across the border and within their country, UNHCR launched a regional appeal in January 2022 for the prioritization of \$205 million of its existing funding needs for the northern Ethiopia emergency situation and regional preparedness in 2022. This includes \$72 million to assist the over 60,000 Ethiopian refugees who have arrived in Sudan since November 2020 and potential additional arrivals in 2022. Support is urgently needed to scale up interventions across all sectors while maintaining preparedness for any additional influx from Ethiopia.

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 Northern Ethiopia Emergency Situation Regional Appeal Funding

