OVERVIEW: Countries neighbouring Sudan impacted by this new emergency are already hosting large refugee and internally displaced populations. The majority remain severely underfunded. Hosting countries will need additional support to provide protection and critical life-saving assistance. Initial assessments show that the new asylum-seekers, refugees, refugee returnees and other arrivals’ most urgent needs identified to date are water, food, shelter, health, and core relief items. In terms of protection, the current priority activities are the registration of new arrivals and ensuring that mechanisms are in place to try and prevent and respond to gender-based violence and ensure alternative care services for refugee children.

Arrivals by population type

Sudanese Refugees: 591
Refugees - other nationalities: 1,386
Refugee Returnees: 13

Refugees and asylum-seekers in Sudan by country of origin before 15 April 2023

1.13 million existing refugee population in Sudan

South Sudan
Chad
Syrian Arab Rep.
Ethiopia
Various

Refugees and asylum-seekers in Sudan neighboring countries before 15 April 2023

Ethiopia
Chad
South Sudan

Sources: UNHCR, IOM, MFA, South Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission

*Returnees, this figure may include returnees previously registered as refugees in Sudan and those that may not have been registered. The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

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The priority needs identified include food, water, sanitation and hygiene promotion, health and nutrition, shelter, core relief items and the delivery of protection services. The provision of protection services to newly arrived refugees is key, including child protection, family reunification, protection risk mitigation, referral pathways and community engagement. Due to the vulnerable situation of the refugees (45% are women and girls), protection risks, including family separation, gender-based violence, exploitation and sexual abuse, are high with the urgent need for the establishment of mitigation and response mechanisms.

**ETHIOPIA:**

Many arrivals are very vulnerable, exhausted and in need of immediate assistance. Most of them also need support to continue their journey to intended destinations in South Sudan. The vast majority of people are arriving in Renk by boat on the river Nile, making the emergency response and onward movement logistically challenging. South Sudan already faces a challenging humanitarian situation in which peace and security remain fragile. Intercommunal violence, food insecurity, and the severe impact of climate change present constant challenges. Protection concerns remain high for people of all genders and ages and South Sudan remains one of the worst food insecurity emergencies in the world.

**SOUTH SUDAN:**

Emergency teams have been deployed. A rapid assessment among the new arrivals was conducted with a team of local actors to identify arrivals and emergency needs. The major needs at this stage are emergency shelter, food, health, WASH, core relief items and relocation, as moving people away from the border to more secure locations will mitigate some of the protection challenges.

**CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC:**

Urgent actions are needed to provide essential protection and humanitarian assistance, maintain vital assistance to vulnerable communities in eastern Chad, and avoid inter-community tension. Authorities have requested assistance in relocating the new arrivals to camps far from the border.

**CHAD:**

Based on initial information, access to territory and asylum procedures can be challenging for people forced to flee Sudan, particularly for third-country nationals, those without valid travel documents, and those who are unable to obtain visas. This has resulted in family separation, breakdown of support systems, and a high number of unaccompanied and separated children and female-headed households. Some of the people fleeing Sudan have resorted to try and enter through irregular pathways, which exposes them to risks of exploitation.