

SUDAN SITUATION

1–7 August 2023



Awatif sits outside a shelter with her children at the UNHCR-supported Korsi site, near Birao, Central African Republic. They are among the many Sudanese refugees who have settled at the newly established site and are now receiving food, relief items and psychosocial support.
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Highlights

The deadly clashes between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and Rapid Support Forces (RSF) that started in Sudan on 15 April 2023 have continued for 114 days as of 7 August.

The Troika countries (Norway, the United Kingdom, and the United States) [condemned](#) in the strongest terms the ongoing violence in Darfur, especially reports of killings based on ethnicity and widespread sexual violence, and called on all parties to immediately cease attacks and prevent the further spread of fighting.

The United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS) is [gravely concerned](#) about the severe impact of the fighting on civilians in the Darfur region.

OCHA [reports](#) that almost 6.3 million people in Sudan are one step away from famine as a result of conflict, mass displacement and economic decline as 42 per cent of the country's population is experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity.

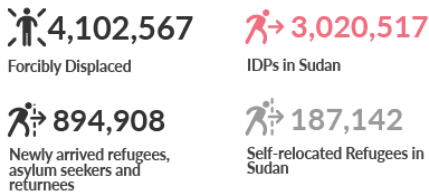
FAO [said](#) 20.3 million individuals in Sudan face severe hunger, a figure that has nearly doubled since last year.

The latest [data](#) from IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) indicates that the clash between the Sudanese army and paramilitaries has uprooted a staggering number of people, with more than 926,000 seeking refuge abroad and over 3 million internally displaced.

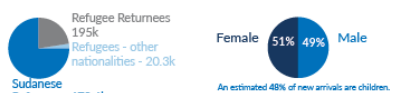
Amnesty International has released a [report](#) documenting mass civilian casualties in both deliberate and indiscriminate attacks by the parties to the conflict in Sudan.

Human Rights Watch has [called on](#) the UN Security Council and the US Government to take robust measures in response to the ongoing violence in Darfur.

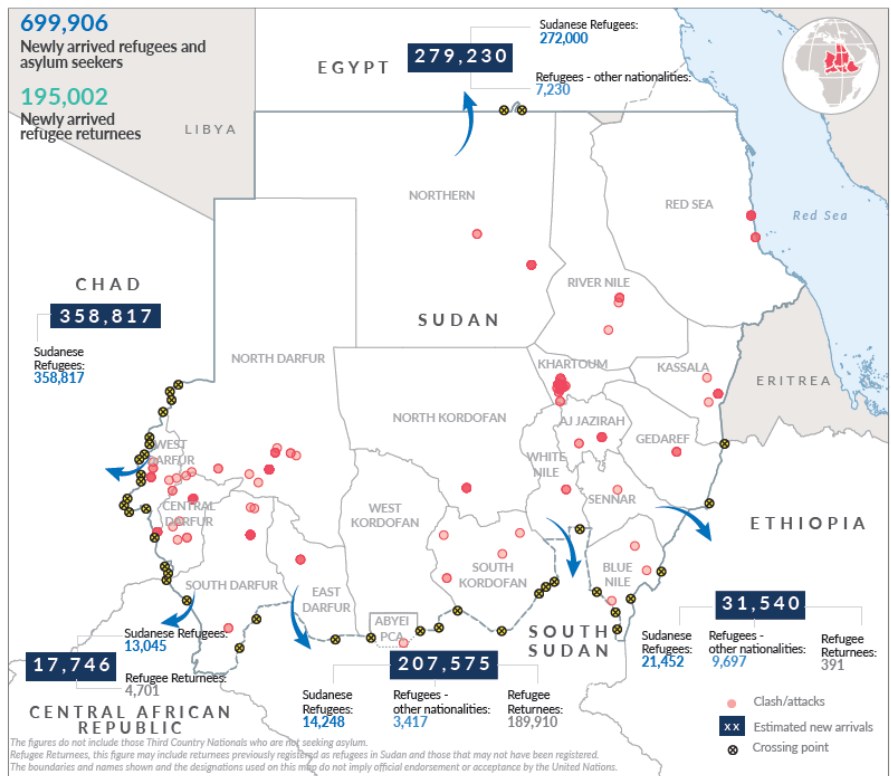
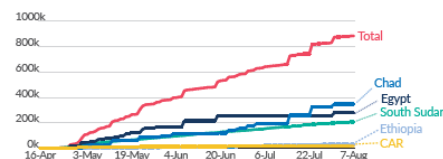
OVERVIEW: There are now over 4 million forcibly displaced due to the recent outbreak of conflict in Sudan, including 3,020,517 internally and 894,908 in neighbouring countries. Sudan was already hosting large refugee populations before being impacted by this new emergency and, like hosting countries, need additional support to provide protection and critical life-saving assistance. The most basic needs are urgently needed, including water, food, shelter, health, and core relief items. The current priority activities are the registration of new arrivals, relocation away from border areas, identification of specially vulnerable families and persons with specific needs, and putting mechanisms in place to prevent and respond to gender-based violence and ensure alternative care services for unaccompanied refugee children.



Arrivals by population and estimated gender type



New arrivals from Sudan



Situation and Operational Response

SUDAN

Highlights

- IOM DTM reports that the number of internally displaced in Sudan has passed 3 million, with a total of 3,020,517 individuals now displaced in the country because of the conflict that started on 15 April.
- The UN Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Sudan (DSRSG/RC/HC), Clementine Nkweta-Salami, visited Kassala and Gedaref states. In Kassala, the situation of IDPs into the state and the situation of refugees in Wad Sharife camp were assessed. In Wad Sharife, the DSRSG met with Commissioner for Refugees (COR) and camp management committee and visited the reception center for new arrivals and other areas in the camp. In Gedaref, she met with local authorities and humanitarian organizations and visited two IDP gathering sites.
- The security situation remains tense in South and Central Darfur where clashes and fighting continued to be reported.
- In North Darfur, food insecurity has led to an increase in malnutrition and deaths linked to malnutrition.
- Across the Darfur region, UNHCR has received reports of abduction and gender-based violence affecting civilians, including refugees and internally displaced persons.
- In West Kordofan, the security situation for South Sudanese refugees in An Nuhud locality continues to deteriorate, with several attacks, threats and assaults reported.
- In Blue Nile State, shelling has resumed in Kurmuk locality and activities remain suspended due to the security developments.
- In White Nile State, access to the camps continues to be challenging due to the rains.
- In Wadi Hal in the Northern Stet, UNHCR continues to receive reports that people are deported daily for illegal entry/stay and criminal acts in Egypt.

Updates by Location

Darfur

UNHCR has received reports of abduction and gender-based violence (GBV), affecting civilians including refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) across the region.

Internal displacement of refugees has been reported from Abu Karinka and Jadesid in East Darfur to Al Lait settlements in North Darfur, following an attempted kidnapping of a refugee girl, which led to refugee deaths, GBV cases, burning of houses and looting of property of refugees.

The security situation remains tense in South Darfur and Central Darfur where clashes and fighting continued to be reported.

In West Darfur, the de facto Wali has negotiated a peace agreement.

The situation of three refugee youngsters detained by SAF has been monitored. Reportedly, they were not able to present their identity documents to SAF. Communications with communities will be enhanced to raise awareness in response to reports of arrests and detentions.

In Central Darfur, child recruitment by conflict parties has been reported.

In North Darfur, the food insecurity situation has led to an increase in malnutrition and deaths linked to malnutrition.

Kordofan

The security situation for South Sudanese refugees in An Nuhud locality continues to deteriorate, with several attacks reported, including burning of houses and looting of possessions in addition to verbal threats and assaults. So far, more than 1,000 households have left the town, mostly to return to South Sudan while 18 households have fled to El Fula.

In North Kordofan, partner Save the Children distributed non-food items (NFIs) to unaccompanied and separated children and items for income generating activities to South Sudanese refugee GBV survivors.

In South Kordofan, partial NFIs were distributed to refugee households that have recently arrived in Kadugli because of the ongoing conflict in the country.

WFP intends to start distributing food assistance to refugees in West Kordofan in the accessible settlements, considering the onset of the rainy season and depending on the ability to move supplies from Kosti to West Kordofan.

Blue Nile State

Authorities are looking at alternative routes for the return of those who had crossed into Ethiopia following recent clashes in Kurmuk locality and do not intend to stay in Ethiopia.

UNHCR and partners are reassessing programs in Kurmuk to determine which activities could resume. Following reports of spontaneous arrivals to the camp and new arrivals at the border, based on initial information from a recent COR mission, prospects of more arrivals from Ethiopia is possible.

UNHCR continues to work on the IDP response in line with the interagency approach and with the Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC), including in joint assessments.

Shelling has resumed in Kurmuk locality and activities remain suspended due to the security developments. In Camp 6, 49 new spontaneous arrivals have been reported in addition to 435 individuals arriving in Demsaad border area in recent days after fighting in some areas of Benishangul Gumuz. COR has deployed teams to the border locations to monitor possible new arrivals and provide support for their relocation to the camp.

White Nile State

Access to the camps continues to be challenging due to the rains, disrupting planned activities including community-based protection trainings, registration, protection monitoring and site development of Abu Dolou.

Distribution of plastic sheets in Jouri and Um Sangour camps is ongoing.

Meanwhile, the individual registration process experienced resistance from refugees and camp management, who believe that Level 1 registration should resume considering the new arrivals. Discussions and information campaigns with community leaders and camp managers are ongoing.

The number of IDPs in the state continues to rise and UNHCR continues to engage various actors to coordinate efforts and participate in interagency assessments.

The onset of the rainy season has affected more than 1,000 households in Aj Jabalain locality and is impacting UNHCR's access and mobility. Flood coordination has resumed led by OCHA and HAC, with an assessment to take place beginning 7 August.

UNHCR teams have tried to cross to the camps on the western bank of the river to access the camps. Although the ferry enabled access to the area, the poor road conditions prevented access to the camps.

Accessibility also remains an issue in Abu Dolou settlement. Technical teams have assessed that the road cannot withstand the movement of heavy trucks, which would make the road eventually inviable for transportation of food assistance, water trucking, and relocation of refugees.

On the IDP response in White Nile State, the Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) for IDP protection with Plan International has been finalized to cover El Deweim, Aj Jabalain and Khor Ajwal.

Level 2 registration commenced in Dabat Bosin camp on 3 August, while registration in Alagaya camp will commence on 6 August.

WASH interventions continue to expand, including the construction of latrines in Alagaya and Dabat Bosin; upgrade of water supply in Dabat Bosin; and conduct of cleaning campaigns and vector control activities. In Abu Dolou settlement, UNHCR intends to conduct shelter and WASH assessments to inform site setup but was hindered by water blockage/impassable roads.

Phase 1 of the relocation plan for Abu Dolou settlement will commence, following a meeting between UNHCR and COR. Measures will be taken to follow up on establishment of the road network and water supply as conditions for Phase 2 to proceed.

UNHCR and partners met with the newly appointed HAC Commissioner and assured commitment to stay and deliver in the White Nile State in response to the emergency.

Gedaref

UNHCR is scaling up border monitoring due to developments in Gondar, Ethiopia, with mission to Gallabat border planned this week. Contingency plans are being adjusted in preparation for a response in case of a potential influx from Ethiopia. The return intention surveys in the camps will be paused given the current developments in Ethiopia.

Two Ethiopian asylum-seekers who were detained on their way to Khartoum have been sentenced to a fine of SDG 500,000 (\$800) and a month in prison, after which they are to be deported. UNHCR's legal partner has appealed the court decision and is following up on the case.

UNHCR is providing cash-based initiatives (CBI) assistance to 34 households/95 refugees displaced from Khartoum who have relocated to Tunaydbah and Um Gargour. The group previously received CBI in Khartoum and will be supported with multi-purpose cash assistance covering three and a half months.

Kassala

UNHCR continues to receive requests from refugees for repatriation to various countries.

WFP indicated that it intends to conduct blanket distribution of food assistance to 65,000 IDPs in Kassala state and 41,500 in New Halfa locality around Girba.

WFP indicated that it will be conducting food distribution to IDPs in the state starting 7 August.

Wadi Halfa (Northern State)

UNHCR continues to receive reports that 40 persons are deported daily for illegal entry/stay and criminal acts in Egypt. Intelligence authorities report that they are overwhelmed with the high volume of deportees and urge humanitarian actors to scale up support to relocate individuals deported to their regions of origin.

On 4 August, a strong sandstorm hit Wadi Halfa, disrupting activities and damaging IDP shelters.

UNHCR participated in the first UN mission to Argeen border crossing point, the alternate entry into Egypt. Some 227 individuals, including 17 South Sudanese refugees, were found stranded at the border, with the majority being women, children, and elderly, in dire conditions, especially in terms of WASH. The border crossing is otherwise open and functional, although there are reports of possible deportation from Egypt and Libya as well as human trafficking and smuggling especially at Ed Dabba locality southwest of Merowe involving Ethiopian and Eritrean nationalities.

Vulnerable individuals with chronic medical conditions have been increasingly desperately looking for alternatives to cross into Egypt, including through smugglers. Deportation from Egypt continues to be reported, including of people who have recently crossed the border to seek asylum, as well as some individuals who have been living in Egypt for a longer period.

Dongola (Northern State)

UNHCR, OCHA and HAC visited five sites to assess the protection situation and other needs of the displaced population. Some IDPs families said that they were stranded at Argeen border crossing before moving back to Dongola. Some families have also raised the need for psychosocial support as most of them had fled Khartoum.

Port Sudan (Red Sea State)

COR reports that thousands of individuals have newly arrived in the area, believed to be triggered by the establishment of passport production in Port Sudan as well as misinformation that UNHCR is facilitating resettlement/solutions there.

Four Central African refugees from South Darfur have been arrested and detained as they did not have the proper authorization to travel out of state.

A total of 14 gathering sites continue to be reported in Port Sudan, hosting some 4,300 people. Additionally, there are reports that there are gathering sites outside Port Sudan.

UNHCR has highlighted to HAC some of the operational constraints faced by agencies in Port Sudan, including challenges around the offloading of supplies, which has affected the distribution of material support.

Wad Madani (Jazirah State)

HAC has expressed challenges in collecting data and has therefore proposed to conduct a joint assessment to verify the numbers of forcibly displaced persons in 173 gathering sites.

UNHCR has received reports from refugees in Khartoum that some organizations have provided support to Sudanese nationals which did not extend to refugees because of their status.

Refugee leaders have reported four deaths among the elderly, allegedly due to hunger.

Central African Republic (CAR)

Highlights

- As of 7 August, a total of 1,468 individuals (657 households) have relocated to Korsi, of which 70 per cent are women and children.
- Protection monitors from the Commission Nationale des Réfugiés (CNR) and INTERSOS have reported that to avoid the current dire security situation in Am-Dafock, characterized by violence and theft, people are starting to travel on the Nyala-Um Dhukun-Birao axis, avoiding going through Am-Dafock.
- 833 Central African returnees have been registered in the city of Birao.
- INTERSOS carried out a community awareness session on human rights and peaceful coexistence targeting community relays in the different districts of Birao. A total of 524 people took part in the activity.
- UNHCR, INTERSOS and the CNR distributed clothes to 516 people.
- 80 m3 of drinking water are distributed every day (80,000 liters) through the water point installed by Triangle Génération Humanitaire (TGH).

Response Overview

Since the beginning of the crisis, an estimated number of 17,746 persons have arrived in CAR from Sudan, including 13,045 Sudanese refugees and 4,701 Central African returnees. The majority are women and children, who upon arrival stayed with host families, or in makeshift shelter and in schools in Am-Dafock, Vakaga region, where UNHCR and partners provided protection and life-saving assistance.

To date, a total of 1,468 individuals (657 households) have settled in Korsi. As the roads to Am-Dafock have become impassable due to the rains, the assisted relocation exercise has been temporarily placed on hold, though self-organized relocations continue. CNR and INTERSOS have deployed staff in Am-Dafock to conduct border and protection monitoring and provide information.

Construction works for family and community shelters, latrines and showers continues in Korsi. Family biometric registration remains ongoing. Psychosocial support and holistic services is being provided to GBV survivors at the listening centre and through a mobile unit and a hotline that facilitates remote case management and psychosocial support.

Awareness raising sessions on GBV, protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), and child protection are also taking place, as well as healthcare and distribution of food and Core Relief Items (CRIs). In Bangui and Birao, coordination efforts are led by CNR and UNHCR.

Registration

In Korsi, UNHCR continues to support CRT to enhance monitoring and registration mechanisms for new arrivals.

A total of 656 persons have been registered in Ndele and 1,440 in Sam-Ouandja.

A total of 833 Central African returnees have been registered in the city of Birao.

Relocation

As of 7 August, a total of 1,468 individuals (657 households) have relocated to Korsi, of which 70 per cent are women and children. Self-organized relocations continue.

A total of 619 individuals have arrived by their own means since the last relocation convoy and were registered and provided with assistance.

Protection

CNR and INTERSOS staff deployed in Am-Dafock continue to conduct border and protection monitoring. They have reported that armed groups control the village of Am-Dafock. The same armed groups carry out lootings in neighboring villages, reportedly seizing essential goods, food, livestock, and vehicles, subjecting the civilian population to different types of violence and GBV.

It has been reported that to avoid violence and theft, people fleeing are starting to travel on the Nyala-Um Dhukun-Birao axis, avoiding going through Am-Dafock.

INTERsos has organized individual psychosocial counseling sessions for women, including GBV survivors and women at risk and children (child marriage).

INTERsos carried out a community awareness session on human rights and peaceful coexistence targeting over 500 persons in the different districts of Birao.

INTERsos identified 16 GBV survivors in Korsi last week and were referred to relevant services.

UNHCR, INTERsos and CNR have distributed clothes to 516 people.

INTERsos continues to raise awareness on the Information and Feedback Center and the complaint management mechanism set up in Korsi. Eight focal points have been identified for the referral of complaints, suggestions, and feedback.

Health

During the reporting period, NOURRIR, MSF-Spain and IMC carried out 306 medical consultations; 19 prenatal consultations, 13 gynecological consultations and 3 post-natal consultations. A total of 7 cases have been referred to the District Sanitaire in Birao due to their critical condition.

A Tetanus and diphtheria vaccination campaign has taken place in Korsi. NOURRIR, IMC and MSF-Spain targeted 298 women of childbearing age (15-45 years), 30 pregnant women, and 65 breastfeeding women.

Shelter, CRIs and Food Distribution

NOURRIR has completed 431 shelters in Korsi and WFP and NOURRIR have prepared a new food distribution plan which will target 1,363 people.

WASH

The construction of five durable latrines and showers by TGH and UNICEF is ongoing.

Some 80 m³ (80,000 liters) of drinking water is distributed every day through the water point installed by TGH.

A total of 204 households have been sensitized on hygiene measures.

Education

Data collection has been taking place to identify teachers and school-aged children to plan for an appropriate education response.

CHAD

Highlights

- As of 7 August, 358,817 refugees have been counted in eastern Chad. In mid-July, IOM estimated that 48,180 Chadian migrants had returned from Sudan.
- As of 7 August, a total of 207,154 refugees were counted in the town of Adré (Ouaddaï province). Despite the significant progress made in the relocation to the newly established Ourang camp, and the mobilization of WASH and health partners, the situation in Adré remains critical. The needs remain vast in view of the number of refugees arriving.
- An additional camp is currently being established in Miète (Ouaddaï province).

Response Overview

Relocation

As of 7 August, UNHCR and partners AIRD, CIAUD, CNARR, CRT, IRC, and Les Forces Françaises au Tchad have relocated 116,610 individuals (33,064 households). A total of 30,844 refugees were relocated to the new camp of Zabout (Sila province); 25,264 were relocated to the extension areas of existing camps in Ouaddaï (Gaga, Farchana), Sila (Djabal, Goz Amir), and Wadi Fira (Mile, Kounoungou, and Iridimi). Additionally, 34,203 people were relocated to the new camp of Ourang (Ouaddaï) from Adré and 3,958 from Adré to Ambilia; and 22,341 refugees were relocated to the new camp of Arkoum (Ouaddaï).

Protection

In the Gaga, Farchana, and Abéché camps, 14,134 individuals (4,239 households) were registered, of which 87 per cent is women and children and 19 per cent have specific needs.

As part of the Inter-Agency Protection Monitoring (*Project 21*), a total of 4,745 households have been interviewed in 15 villages in the provinces of Ouaddaï Wadi Fira and Sila. Of the interviewees, 15 per cent are victims of physical aggression on the Sudanese side during their flight to Chad; 23 per cent indicated that family members have remained in Sudan and that they will travel to Chad once the situation allows; 62 per cent said they do not feel safe on the streets due to the risks of exposure to gender-based violence and 2 per cent of households say that there are risks of GBV to which girls and women are mainly exposed.

Furthermore, 66 per cent do not intend to return to Sudan even if the situation improves in the coming months and 71 per cent said they feel integrated thanks to good cohabitation with the host community. The remaining 29 per cent mentioned not feeling integrated with the host community and, out of them, 23 per cent referred to potential tensions arising from access to resources and 64% to intercommunal tension as a possible reason impeding integration.

Food distribution

As of 3 August, 319,137 refugees, Chadian migrant returnees, and vulnerable people from host communities have received food from WFP: 266,209 in Ouaddaï, 43,490 in Sila and 12,451 in Wadi Fira.

As of 4 August, UNHCR and CRT partners have provided hot meals to 127,064 refugees during their relocation from various spontaneous arrival sites to the camps in eastern Chad (79,200 in Ouaddaï, 39,464 in Sila and 8,400 in Wadi Fira).

Health and Nutrition

- UNHCR and health partners have set up 17 mobile clinics in Adré, Ambilia, Arkoum, Borota, Dizé-Berté, Gongour, Koufroune, Labandafack, Mahamata, Midjiguilta, Toumtouma (Ouaddaï); Adémour (Sila); Birack, Djimeze, and Tiné (Wadi Fira).
- 42,385 medical consultations have been carried out since the beginning of the crisis. The three main pathologies identified are acute respiratory infections (ARI), watery diarrhoea, and malaria.
- 26,553 children have been screened for malnutrition; 5,273 cases of moderate acute malnutrition; and 2,326 cases of severe acute malnutrition have been treated.
- 5,585 pregnant and breastfeeding women have been screened for malnutrition and 437 cases of moderate acute malnutrition have been identified.
- 3,815 mental health cases have been received and treated.
- 304 births were assisted by qualified personnel.

- UNICEF, through the CRT, have reached a total of 107,382 persons in the three provinces through sensitizations sessions on nutrition, breastfeeding, and peaceful cohabitation.
- Since the start of the emergency in eastern Chad, the Adré health district with the support of the MSF- F has vaccinated 91,432 children; of whom 80,869 have received deworming treatment and 24,591 have received Vitamin A supplement. In addition, MSF France is continuing vaccination at the Lycée d'Adré sites and at the Ambelia transit centre.
- In Zabout camp (Sila province), General Food Distribution (GFD) and malnutrition prevention activities through blanket feeding have continued. A total of 32,714 persons have so far benefited from the GFD and the general food distributions, including 4,781 children and 1,520 pregnant and breastfeeding women.
- A total of 2,495 cases of gunshot wounds have been recorded by MSF France, Première Urgence (PUI), and the Hadjer Hadid health district (Ouaddaï).
- UNICEF has opened a 30-bed Therapeutic Nutritional Unit (UNT) at Adré Hospital for the care of children suffering from severe acute malnutrition with complications.

Shelters, infrastructure, and WASH

As of 5 August, in Eastern Chad, 18,853 family shelters, 136 hangars, 3,303 latrines, and showers have been built, and 20 boreholes are currently functional (15 in Ouaddaï and 5 in Sila).

ETHIOPIA

Highlights

- As of 6 August, 15,779 families (31,540 individuals) in need of international protection have crossed the border from Sudan to Ethiopia.
- With the escalation of clashes between the federal government forces and the regional Amhara militia Fano, the security situation in the Amhara region, in northern Ethiopia, has been rapidly deteriorating. Road blockages and disruption of internet services have negatively affected delivery of services by UNHCR and humanitarian partners.
- Settlement and camps are facing a severe energy crisis, security issues, and a shortage of food and medicines.

Response Overview

The security situation in Gondar and other parts of Ethiopia's Amhara region has severely deteriorated in recent days, compelling UNHCR to suspend staff travels between border point Metema and Gondar. Within West Gondar, however, the situation is calmer, allowing access to refugee sites.

Mobile internet services have been disrupted due to the security situation in Amhara, making communication, access to online resources, and operations very difficult.

There are insufficient resources to respond to the needs on the ground, especially for WASH, health, and food interventions. In addition, only a few partners are operational on the ground. This creates a lot of pressure, prompting disputes among refugees.

Operational Response

Population movements

A total of 15,779 families (31,540 individuals) in need of international protection have so far crossed the border from Sudan to Ethiopia. Of these, 57 per cent crossed through the Metema entry point in Amhara, 41 per cent through the Kurmuk entry point in Benishangul Gumuz region, and two per cent through different entry points in Gambella (Pagak, Burbiey).

Protection

UNHCR at the Metema entry point, Transit Center and the permanent Kumer site counselled some 200 refugees and asylum-seekers seeking guidance and advice on registration, relocation, lost documents, travel, medical services, resettlement, family reunification, shelter, CRIs (Core Relief Items), as well as on food shortages.

UNHCR's partner, Innovative Humanitarian Solutions (IHS) set up Child-Friendly Spaces at the Metema transit center and in Kumer site. Over 700 children benefitted from the activities, such as learning the alphabet and playing/games.

At Kumer site, 30 assessments of unaccompanied and separated minors were conducted. At the Metema entry point, the total number of unaccompanied and separated children is now 169 (138 separated and 31 unaccompanied).

IHS has also organized foster care arrangements for 21 unaccompanied and separated children at the Metema transit center and Kumer site. IHS helped returning separated children to their families and transferred sick children for medical care. At Kumer, IHS and UNHCR have set up a Child Welfare Committee. A total of 77 adults and children, including the new arrivals, have received psychosocial first aid. IHS also held community awareness-raising sessions for 60 people (including 40 women).

UNHCR's partner DICAC (Development and Inter Church Aid Commission) organized activities to prevent and

So far, 576 people with specific needs (PSNs) have been counselled and benefitted from various services. Elderly people and those with disabilities are given priority for shelter. Rehabilitation and Development Organization (RaDO) Volunteers and Rehabilitation Workers are regularly conducting home visits to these PSNs providing advice and guidance.

UNHCR has been working with refugees and asylum-seekers in Metema entry point, the transit center, and Kumer site to make sure that they are aware of fraud or abuse pitfalls, as well as of mechanisms of protection from sexual exploitation and abuse.

However, the sites/camps are facing a severe energy crisis due to insufficient solar lighting. There is a shortage of medicines in the adjacent health facilities, inadequate food supply, high need for clothes, milk and diapers for the children, lack of education and work opportunities, lack of soap, NFIs and of disability-friendly WASH facilities.

Health

Medical Teams International (MTI) provided health care services at Kumer health post. 440 adults and 97 children under five were seen for out-patient consultations, 94 children were screened for malnutrition (seven were identified Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) cases, and one as Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM), 19 pregnant and lactating women were screened for malnutrition (eight identified as MAM). In the reporting period, MTI referred 21 refugees from Kumer site to the Metema general hospital.

UNICEF's Mobile-Health and Nutrition team (MHNT) provided emergency clinical services at the Metema transit center. UNICEF and IMC have done a total of 3,254 consultations at the site so far.

The Refugee and Returnee Service (RRS) arranged for an ambulance from Alemwach to transport patients to Gendawuha and Gondar hospitals. However, there is a shortage of ambulances to transport patients and medicines at both the transit centre and Kumer site, plus inadequate nutrition supplies for children under 5 and pregnant and lactating women.

WASH

At the Kumer site, HIS have been providing nine liters of water per person per day to 8,679 people. There are currently nine water tanks with a total capacity of 15,000 liters and 30 water taps in Kumer. Ten latrines with five drop holes each have been constructed, with eight of them still functional. Ten blocks of showers are in use, while five latrine and shower blocks are under construction. Four solid waste pits are located throughout the site, but none are fenced. There are 16 community hygiene promoters in the settlement, providing key WASH-related information through house-to-house visits and weekly latrine and jerrican cleaning campaigns.

At Metema Transit Center, there are two water tanks with a total capacity of 10,000 liters, one with the capacity of 5,000 liters, and 18 water taps providing 20 liters of water per person per day to 2,500 individuals. There are six latrines and six blocks of showers. In addition, four community hygiene promoters are regularly informing the community about WASH and organizing latrine and jerrican cleaning campaigns.

EGYPT

Highlights

- Many of the newly arrived Sudanese are struggling to find affordable housing in Cairo due to the exponential more than 400 per cent increase in rental rates. To mitigate the risks of homelessness, UNHCR is providing housing grants and capacity-building training to three refugee-led organizations (RLOs) under its community empowerment programme. RLOs are often the first to respond to the shelter needs of the new arrivals, resulting in many RLOs depleting their resources fast and being at risk of collapse. The three RLOs are expected to provide housing solutions for more than 100 newly arrived families in the next three months. Additionally, the Psycho-Social Services and Training Institute in Cairo (PSTIC)-Terre des hommes (TdH) has joined UNHCR as a part of the Registration-Protection Reception process to enhance identification and support to vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers regarding housing and other urgent services.
- Refugees and asylum-seekers registered with UNHCR are entitled to a six-month residence based on their asylum status in the country. However, for new arrivals and the existing Sudan population who present themselves to Immigration to renew residency, there are increasing cases of three-month renewal periods. Moreover, for refugees, residency procedures are centralised in one location in Cairo, for which registered refugees and asylum-seekers residing elsewhere in the country must travel to; refugees find it often difficult to pay for the required transportation fees and accommodation. 600 individual slots per day are allocated for the asylum-based residence, which in turn has created a waiting period of 66 days in average as of 3 August. The current waiting-time period marks an increase from 47 days on 30 June and 36 days on 30 May. The increased waiting period also corresponds to the increase in new registration due to the Sudan Situation and the increased demand due to the start of the academic year in September. UNHCR is in discussion with the Egyptian authorities on possible solutions to the above challenges.
- The Information Management Working Group (IMWG) in Egypt has been established, co-led by UNHCR and UNICEF. The IMWG aims to: 1) Coordinate IM activities including 3Ws and 5Ws, conduct population trend analysis, manage data portals, 2) Support in assessment activities using solid data collection tools, such the Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessment (MSNA) and new-arrival profiling, 3) Coordinate IM activities at the inter-agency level between partners within the context of the sector coordination groups in Egypt.
- A Sudan-Egypt Cross Border meeting was held on 7 August to coordinate cross-border aspects of the response and to ensure an aligned and consistent planning process, also taking into account the situation in Wadi Halfa where UNHCR Sudan has recently established presence.
- 272,000 Sudanese and 7,230 individuals of other nationalities (total of 279,230 new arrivals) have crossed into Egypt since the start of the crisis, according to the latest data received from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Registration

UNHCR is focusing on improving its reception facilities and securing an additional site to expand registration activities. With summer temperatures reaching forty-plus degrees celsius, the Office has made available additional mist fans in waiting areas and has purchased more wheelchairs. Additional work is underway on critical infrastructure expansions and disability-friendly improvements. A new rubhall is also under construction in the external plot adjacent to the UNHCR Office, which will be utilized to solely issue registration appointments and serve an estimate of 700-900 appointments per day.

Cash Assistance

People fleeing Sudan continue to arrive in Egypt daily, facing significant vulnerabilities. To help them meet their basic needs in a dignified manner, UNHCR continues to provide them with one-off emergency cash assistance.

To date, a total of 26,180 registered and unregistered individuals (9,033 households) have been identified by UNHCR as eligible for the emergency cash assistance. Of those, some 10,823 individuals (3,874 households) have already been assisted since the start of the Sudan conflict. Age and gender trends remain consistent, with the majority of assessed families being female headed (73%), and the vast majority (80%) being between 18-59 years of age.

A slightly higher prevalence of vulnerability continues to be noticed in Aswan compared to Alexandria and Cairo, as 67 per cent of those assessed in Aswan are found to be eligible, compared to 62 per cent and 61 per cent of those assessed in Greater Cairo and North Coast respectively. Vulnerable cases include, among others, lactating women, elderly, people with disabilities and single parents with children.

Health

On 30 July, UNHCR trained medical staff in Alexandria in protection and GBV to facilitate the roll-out of Safe Women Clinics and ensure the inclusion of new arrivals. UNHCR conducted a training session for the medical staff of Alexandria University Medical Hospital as part of a two-day training programme being delivered by UNFPA and the National Council of Women to facilitate the roll-out of Safe Women Clinics in different university hospitals around Egypt. The session included sensitization on general protection, GBV risks facing women in Egypt, and the different forms of support provided by the authorities in coordination with UNHCR. The session also specifically covered the status and context of newly arriving refugees from Sudan, including the need for new arrivals to have access to services, and UNHCR's role in providing support through registration, referrals and assistance.

Main Needs and Gaps

Access to territory under the latest admission restrictions implemented as of June remains a major concern and is a factor in slowing the rate of new arrivals. Once admitted to Egypt, Sudanese nationals can continue to apply for a residency subject to the presentation of a notarized rent contract and further approval by State security. With these changes in place, an increase in the number of people who approach UNHCR protection services has been noticed and is projected to continue as is or rise even further. This is due to the fast-approaching six-month mark of the Sudan crisis, when the first new arrivals may now have financial and documentation limitations to renew their initial six-month entry visa.

The Sudanese community has also reported challenges in registering their children in public schools in Egypt. Many Sudanese reported that there was an expectation from some school administrations that parents would pay a contribution or donation, in the form of material support, to ensure the admission of their children. Many members of the Sudanese community lack the resources to pay for such a contribution or donation, while Egyptian nationals are not required to make such donations or contributions according to the information received. UNHCR is in discussion with the Egyptian authorities on possible solutions to the above challenges.

SOUTH SUDAN

Highlights

- As of 7 August, a cumulative number of 47,757 households / 208,215 individuals have arrived in South Sudan, with 1,881 households/7,796 individuals arriving during the reporting period. This marks a 30% decrease on last week. Most new arrivals are South Sudanese returnees (91%) followed by Sudanese (7%) and Eritrean (1%) refugees. Some 88% arrived through Joda/Renk border point in Upper Nile State.
- Increased Onward Moving Returnees and Refugee Arrivals: Despite an overall decrease in new arrivals recorded across the country, a 135 per cent increase of returnees arriving from border points to Unity State has been noted over the last two weeks of July, when compared with the first half of July. Meanwhile, Wedwil Refugee Settlement noted a six per cent increase in new arrivals.
- Physical Protection: UNHCR and protection actors continue to respond to continued reports of refugees, and returnees being beaten, robbed, sexually assaulted, and harassed during their flight from Sudan, most notably among those arriving in Abyei and Panakuach. In Panakuach, UNHCR noted a trend of male youths leaving their families behind in Khartoum and Darfur while they sought safety in South Sudan.
- Safe Passage: UNHCR in coordination with the Ruweng Administrative Area (RAA), negotiated the rescue of a truck, that broke down in Kharasana, Sudan while transporting 261 refugees from Khartoum. This follows a trend of increased delays in Kharasana with trucks reportedly asked to pay exorbitant fees to authorities or offload their passengers to board new trucks to South Sudan. This alleged fee is discouraging truck drivers from facilitating safe transportation for new arrivals to the Panakuach border crossing.
- Maban/Gendrassa Reception Centre: A new reception centre has been established in Gendrassa Refugee Camp to receive newly arrived refugees from Renk and Paloich. This will allow more space for protection desks and medical screening in addition to those at Doro Reception Center.
- Access to Goods: Intensified fighting in Darfur and poor road conditions have hampered the supply route for goods from Sudan into South Sudan. This has significantly increased the price of goods and services available across markets in Abyei.

Protection

This week, some 710 persons with specific needs were identified among new arrivals across all locations, with the majority (567 individuals) identified during vulnerability assessments in Abyei. UNHCR in Abyei has thus renewed calls for more partners, particularly GBV actors to cover this gap.

In Panakuach and Abyei, returnees and refugees continue to report assault, robbery, and harassment during their flight to South Sudan. Women arriving in Panakuach report being taken into bushes and sexually assaulted while young men were stripped naked and brutally beaten.

Renk Transit Center has established a women's support network comprised of 40 women. The network will provide a safe space for women to share their experiences and access support. However, there is still an urgent need for a child friendly space at the transit center.

Health

Acute respiratory infection, acute watery diarrhoea and malaria were the top three leading morbidities identified among new arrivals to South Sudan.

A total of 15 deaths were reported across all reception and transit centers, nine of which were attributed to measles in Joda/Renk (7) and Rortriak (2). The cases in Rortriak were of two children under the age of two, who are believed to have died prior to arriving at the transit center. There is a need for increased medical screening at Joda to ensure earlier identification and treatment of measles.

In Maban, measles outbreak interventions also continued, with 82 confirmed cases supported thus far; 71 discharged, nine in admission and two referred to Bunj Hospital for further management.

Food Security and Nutrition

In Renk, 36 per cent of all children screened, were diagnosed with severe/moderate malnutrition. UNHCR is working with WFP and partners to improve the distribution speed of high-energy biscuits and cash assistance.

WFP has revised its token distribution mechanisms to mitigate members from the host community posing as new arrivals at Joda Border Point in Upper Nile. Token distribution has now been centralized in Renk, where a cumulative total of 53,577 have been assisted with food cash assistance. In Wau, there is a need for biometric registration to mitigate fraud during distributions.

Intensified fighting in Darfur and poor road conditions have hampered supply routes and increased the price of goods available at markets in Abyei.

Water and Sanitation

In Joda, monitoring teams reported inadequate water provision at the reception center due to a technical problem with water trucking. Moreover, poor drainage systems are impacting access to the reception center after heavy rain.

Shelter and NFI

Abyei Transit Center now hosts some 379 refugees which exceeds its intended capacity of 250 individuals. UNHCR is putting in place a plan to build additional communal shelters to accommodate new arrivals who are currently sleeping out in the open.

In Maban, 26 household shelters with complete superstructures were constructed in Doro Zone for new arrivals.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

In Renk, consultations between county authorities and UNHCR are ongoing for the extension of the transit center. UNHCR has already obtained permission from the local community and engaged them accordingly. Construction work will commence as soon as the green light is given by Renk authorities.

Response Plans and Funding Situation

Refugee Response Plan (RRP)

- The revised inter-agency [Sudan Emergency Refugee Response Plan – May-October 2023](#) seeks **USD 566.4 million** to support refugees, returnees and host communities in CAR, Chad, Egypt, Ethiopia and South Sudan. As of 7 August, the RRP has reached a funding level of **31%** (\$174.8 million) as reflected in the [Refugee Funding Tracker](#).
- [Sudan Emergency Regional Refugee Response – June 2023 Progress Report](#)

Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP)

- The revised inter-agency [Humanitarian Response Plan \(HRP\) for Sudan – May-December 2023](#) requires **USD 2.56 billion** to help 18 million people.

UNHCR Supplementary Appeal

- UNHCR's [Sudan Emergency Supplementary Appeal – May-October 2023](#) was revised in June to reflect the needs of **USD 277.4 million** that are also within the RRP and HRP. As of 20 July, UNHCR's Supplementary Appeal has reached a funding level of **34%** (\$95.7 million): [Sudan Situation Funding Update](#)

Resources

- UNHCR's [Operational Data Portal \(ODP\) for the Sudan Situation](#) provides daily updates on the refugee and returnee arrivals in Sudan's neighbouring countries.
- [Overview of Refugees and Asylum-Seekers Distribution and Movement in Sudan Dashboard](#) (as of 30 July).
- [UNHCR and IOM Joint Dashboard](#) of arrivals to South Sudan, including data on returnee intentions, onward movements, and numbers and locations of returnees in and around Renk.
- [UNHCR Global Focus Sudan Operation page](#)
- [UNHCR Sudan Emergency website](#)
- [UNHCR Health and Nutrition Update for the Sudan Situation – July 2023](#)
- [UNHCR Protection Brief on South Sudan – July 2023](#)
- [UNHCR Protection Brief on Sudan – July 2023](#)
- [UNHCR Protection Brief on Chad – July 2023](#)
- UNHCR's HELP site for Refugees and Asylum-Seekers in Sudan provides information to individuals seeking information and support inside Sudan (in [English](#) and [Arabic](#)).

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