

SUDAN SITUATION

29 February – 6 March 2024



A family from Darfur, Sudan, at a pre-registration centre for newly arrived refugees at Adre, Eastern Chad. © UNHCR/Matthew Saltmarsh

Highlights

- Ongoing clashes between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and Rapid Support Forces (RSF) have continued for more than 307 days, since the outbreak of conflict in April 2023.
- On 5 March, the Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in Sudan [announced](#) after a meeting with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that the “Sudanese Government would facilitate humanitarian access by road from Chad through the Tina border crossing into Darfur and from South Sudan through the Renk border crossing to Kosti in White Nile State.” Humanitarian flights will also be made available through airports in Al Fasher, Kadugli and Al Obeid.
- On 3 March, General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan [met](#) with the members of the AU High-Level Panel on the Resolution of the Conflict in Sudan led by Mohamed Ibn Chambas. According to a statement from the Sovereignty Council, al-Burhan expressed “Sudan’s confidence in the AU’s potential solutions, but only if the state regains its full membership and the organization treats it as such.”
- On 1 March, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights made a [statement](#) at the 55th Session of the Human Rights Council on the situation in Sudan.
- On 29 February, the UN Secretary-General [expressed](#) his strong commitment to the people of Sudan as the UN assistance mission based there comes to an end, in line with a Security Council resolution terminating its mandate. In a call to the Sudan’s warring parties to lay down their weapons, the SG urged them to commit to “broad-based” peace talks and a transition to a civilian-led democratic government.

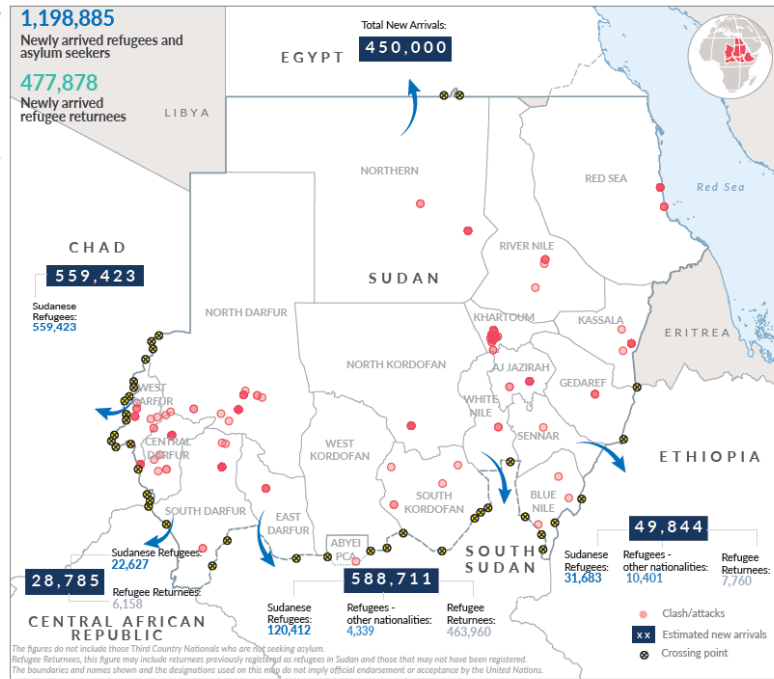
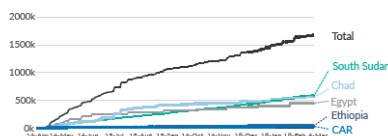
OVERVIEW: There are now 8.2 million forcibly displaced due to the outbreak of conflict in Sudan since April 2023, including 6.3 million internally and 1.7 million in neighbouring countries. Sudan and neighbouring countries were already hosting large refugee populations before this new emergency and require additional support to provide protection and critical life-saving assistance, including for those who have been secondarily displaced within Sudan. Urgent needs include 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 especially 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.

8,198,690 Forcibly Displaced
6,326,416 New IDPs in Sudan
1,676,763 Newly arrived refugees, asylum seekers and returnees
195,511 Self-relocated Refugees in Sudan

Arrivals by population and estimated gender type



New arrivals from Sudan



Situation and Operational Response

SUDAN

Highlights

- The nationwide disruption of telecommunication and internet networks since early February continues to impact UNHCR's ability to communicate with its partners and community networks, coordinate operations, and register refugees and asylum-seekers.
- The security situation in Sudan was marked by ongoing fighting and shelling in Khartoum and airstrikes in Kordofan, Darfur, and Gezira states. Incidents of violence along the Kass – El Fasher Road in North Darfur were also reported.

Population movements and Registration

Local community networks at the Tina border in North Darfur State reported that 266 Sudanese refugee returnee households arrived in Tina and Kornoi localities from Chad citing the lack of assistance in Chad as the push factor for their return.

The Commission of Refugees (COR) reports that 1,453 South Sudanese refugees have arrived to Kharasana, West Kordofan State, directly related to the ongoing conflict in neighbouring areas of South Sudan.

During the reporting period, a total of 86 refugees and asylum-seekers from Eritrea (82) and Ethiopia (4) arrived in Kassala and Gedaref States through the Gulsa entry point and the Gallabat border respectively. Also, a total of 370 individuals were registered (21 in Gedaref and 349 in Kassala) by COR and UNHCR.

It has been reported that in the last week 73 internally displaced people spontaneously returned from Gedaref State to Khartoum, Omdurman, and Sharg An Neel in Khartoum State due to limited access to essential services in displacement.

Protection

The community-based networks in Adila refugee settlement, East Darfur State, organized an awareness-raising session on improving personal hygiene, protection, and health care for children attended by over 80 women, adolescent girls and children.

UNHCR's partner Mutawinat has reported that 126 South Sudanese refugees have been detained in the White Nile State charged with different offences including participation in the ongoing conflict. UNHCR and Mutawinat are following on the cases in detention and working closely with camp managers and community-based networks in camps to sensitize refugees and others on the civilian character of asylum.

In White Nile State, reports from community-based protection networks (CBPN) and community leaders across the ten camps indicate that there is an increase in domestic violence among the refugee population. During the reporting period, 11 such cases were reported and referred to case workers for support. Food ration cuts, limited livelihood opportunities and restrictions in movement have been cited as major causes for domestic violence.

Three gathering sites hosting internally displaced people from Al-Jazirah State were opened in Rabak locality, White Nile State. It is reported that there are over 490 IDP gathering sites in the state. The growing number of IDPs in the state continues to present major challenges including competition for resources. It is also reported that the humanitarian assistance provided by partners is not sufficient to meet the needs of IDPs and hosting communities.

In White Nile State, close to 100 IDP households received cash for shelter as part of the inter-agency IDP response from Norwegian Refugee Council. Sudanese Red Crescent Society offered psychosocial support to new arrivals. Additionally, partners supporting IDPs reached 38 gathering sites in Kosti, Rabak and Tendalti.

In West Gallabat, Gedaref State, 80 people from community committees were trained on mainstreaming protection and the basics of camp coordination and camp management at Al Hourri secondary school/IDP gathering site by UNHCR and the Humanitarian Aid Commission to improve gap identification and provision of services at gathering sites.

Prevention and response against gender-based violence (GBV)

In Gedaref State, UNFPA and UNHCR trained 18 staff from various agencies working in the state on the gender-based violence (GBV) pocket guide for humanitarian practitioners, to enhance the basic knowledge on GBV response and referral procedures. Topics covered included handling case disclosure, addressing GBV incidents, providing support to survivors, and connecting with essential service providers.

In Kassala State, UNHCR discussed GBV challenges and referral mechanisms with 30 refugee women in Shagarab refugee camp, also providing information on available services for GBV survivors, legal mechanisms and reporting channels.

Child Protection

Case workers and community volunteers provided 198 at-risk refugee children with psychosocial support, health care and nutrition services in nine out of ten camps in White Nile State. In addition, case workers and community volunteers conducted 107 home visits in Um-Sangour, Alredis1 & 2, Al-Jamiya, and Alkashafa refugee camps to monitor the situation of unaccompanied and separated children fostered by other families. Case workers and community volunteers reached 3,200 people across the White Nile State camp with information on child protection issues, child rights, and detriments of encouraging child labour.

In Kassala State, UNHCR's partner Plan International conducted best interest assessments for eight at-risk children and vulnerability assessments for eight families with 30 children in Wad Sharife refugee camp. Furthermore, Plan offered psychological support counseling to 38 children at the camp. Additionally, 21 refugee children were registered at the Shagarab refugee camps with the support of COR.

Health and Nutrition

In East Darfur State 1,400 refugees and host community patients received medical consultations at public health facilities. UNHCR is supporting the Ministry of Health to provide primary health care for refugees and host community in East Darfur State.

During the reporting period, UNHCR's partner Medical Teams International (MTI) provided medical consultations to over 19,500 patients in Khor Alwarel, Aljamiya, and Dabat Bosin refugee camps in White Nile State. Additionally, 896 women received reproductive health services, including antenatal care visits, vaccinations, postnatal care, and deliveries at health facilities. Moreover, vaccination services were provided to 2,355 children. In addition, 2,696 children underwent screening using Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) at health facilities in Khor Alwaral, Aljamiya, and Dabat Bosin to assess their nutritional status.

In Kassala State, UNHCR dispatched medicines to health partners to cover the reported gap in refugee health facilities and to reposition medicine closer to refugee camps. This dispatch allowed UNHCR's health partner, Jasmar Human Security Organization, to distribute essential medicines and medical supplies to five refugee health facilities in the camps. However, there is still a shortage of drugs for people with chronic illnesses. UNHCR is exploring collaboration with different agencies like WHO and MSF to support such cases.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

In East Darfur State, 1,050 internally displaced people in El Neem camp received non-food items comprising plastic tarpaulins and mosquito nets distributed from UNHCR's partner World Vision.

During the reporting period in Gedaref, over 17,500 refugees and asylum-seekers received clothes in Babikri and in Um Rakuba refugee camps. Distribution efforts are ongoing to cover the remaining refugee population in Tunaydbah camp. Additionally, UNHCR and Sudanese Organization for Relief and Recovery (SORR) provided plastic buckets to 305 households that received dignity kits during the distribution in Babikri camp.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

In South Kordofan State, UNHCR partner International Aid Service provides safe drinking water for 6,000 South Sudanese refugees and 5,000 host community members and internally displaced people by regular maintenance of the Sirajia water system. The daily provision is 20 litres per person, in line with minimum standards.

Water delivery continues in all refugee camps. The average water provision in refugee camps in Kassala and Gedaref states stood at 21 litres/person/day and 24 litres/person/day respectively which exceeds the minimum standards and marks an improvement in Kassala relative to the previous week. However, a water shortage was reported in both Abouda and Wad Sharife refugee camps in Kassala State due to two non-functional boreholes which are being urgently addressed by UNHCR and its partner Welthungerhilfe.

In Gedaref State, during the reporting period over 17,500 refugees and asylum-seekers received 6-month provisions of soap in Babikri and Um Rakuba refugee camps and 650 women and girls of reproductive age received dignity kits comprising undergarments, disposable pads and extra soap in Babikri camp. Distribution activities are ongoing to reach the entire refugee population with the assistance. Since the distribution started last month, UNHCR has reached over 39,200 individuals (80 per cent) of the general population in the camps with assistance.

CHAD

Highlights

- UNHCR's Deputy High Commissioner (DHC) undertook a mission to Chad from 27-28 February. The main objective of her mission was to advocate at various levels and on multiple issues linked to the Sudan crisis for refugees and refugee-hosting communities and to thank the government of Chad for hosting over 500,000 new arrivals, including refugees of other nationalities. During her field visit, she met and spoke with government and local authorities, refugees, and partners.

- In the past week, security incidences in Ndjamena have led to heightened security deployments within the capital city and security patrols in certain parts of the country following an incident at the headquarters of the Socialist Party Without Borders (PSF) that led to the death of the main opposition leader, according to [media reports](#). UNHCR's office in Ndjamena activated its business continuity plan following the security incidents, closing its doors and urging all colleagues to telework on the first day, then maintaining a small number of essential staff on 29 February and 1 March. Normal operations resumed on 4 March.
- [Media reports](#) indicated that the interim President of Chad confirmed on 2 March that he will be running in the upcoming presidential elections scheduled for 6 May.

Population movements and Registration

In the last week, a total of 1,416 individuals (257 households) crossed over into Chad, predominantly women and children. This figure does not account for new arrivals who bypass official border checkpoints and head directly to the refugee spontaneous sites. The challenges faced include many porous border entry points for the operation as well as distressing accounts of rape, extortion of properties and forced labor by the fleeing refugees.

In Metché and Zabout, 66,691 individuals (16,597 households) were registered during the reporting period. This brings the number of registered refugees to 424,286 (115,052 households) since the start of the emergency.

Relocation

2,111 new arrivals (527 households) were relocated from the border areas to Milé refugee site during the reporting period. A total of 252,976 refugees (68,971 households) have been relocated since the start of emergency.

Protection

44 new incidents of gender-based violence (GBV) cases were reported during the reporting period, with all receiving psychosocial support and referrals to different service providers. During the week, 389 refugees (347 women and 42 men) received information on GBV, the services available, and the services mapping.

Health and Nutrition

A total 371,715 medical consultations have been carried out since the start of the emergency, including 15,775 during the reporting week. Malaria, acute respiratory infections (ARI), watery diarrhoea, and malnutrition remained the most common pathologies.

A total of 323,724 children were screened since the start of the emergency; of which 31,733 cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and 15,701 cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) were treated for children aged 6 to 59 months. During the reporting week, 19,166 children were screened, of which 323 cases of MAM and 186 SAM.

24,450 pregnant and breastfeeding women were screened, and 3,286 cases of MAM were treated. A total of 2,496 pregnant women were screened during the reporting week, including 169 cases of MAM.

Qualified health personnel have attended to 5,141 deliveries since the start of the emergency, with 191 deliveries recorded during the reporting week.

A total of 645 cases suspected cases of hepatitis E were recorded in three sites, namely the Adré refugee spontaneous site with 311 cases, the Ourang refugee site with 235 cases and the Metché refugee site with 99 cases. Meetings were organized with partners for coordinated a response.

During the nutrition sector meeting for February, UNICEF and WFP presented their nutritional input supply strategy to nutrition partners in which UNICEF plans to sign agreements directly with NGOs involved in nutrition and to maintain the repositioning of a contingency stock at the health district level.

119,580 refugees (25,256 households) received food assistance at the Adré refugee spontaneous site.

WFP and partners distributed XAF 93,023 (USD 154) to 13,289 individuals (2,785 households) in the Kouchaguine Moura site. In Goz-Amir and Zabout, 11,812 Sudanese refugees (old caseload) and 2,392 new Sudanese arrivals were provided with food rations.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

In Alacha, construction work for additional shelters is being finalized. Croix Rouge du Tchad (CRT) has built 800 out of the planned 1,000 shelters.

Cash Assistance and Livelihood

WFP and partners distributed cash to 38,310 individuals (8,572 households) in Kounoungou and Mile refugee sites, each receiving about 46 USD for 60 days. At the Adré spontaneous site, 9,520 individuals (2,153 households) received food.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

In Alacha, a new NGO, “Good Neighbors”, working in the WASH sector, started the knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) survey to assess the WASH needs in areas of the refugee site not yet covered by latrines and water points.

A total of 11 591 latrines have been built since the beginning of the emergency.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)

Highlights

- The Vakaga prefecture, which continues to receive most Sudanese refugees, is facing significant security challenges due to the presence of armed actors, who have been disrupting civilian lives and humanitarian efforts in the region.
- Security challenges on the Ouanda-Djallé and Am Dafock axes persist, resulting in restricted movement. Throughout February, humanitarian access to these main refugee routes was limited due to the unstable security situation caused by armed groups. Several incidents of armed robbery against road users have been reported, leading to a disruption in the supply of basic necessities, mainly in Birao. Access to essential community services, such as water, has been considerably reduced for the population.

Population Movements and Registration

From 26 February to 3 March, 579 people (230 households) arrived in the Korsi district, compared to 406 last week. There has been a slight increase in the previous four weeks. The average number of arrivals since 1 January is 116 per day.

5,703 refugees have arrived in Korsi district (2,646 households) since 1 January, totalling 8 742 people (4,047 households) living in the area. Some 10,000 Sudanese refugees are reported living in other locations, in highly vulnerable conditions and very hard-to-reach areas.

579 individuals (230 households) were registered during the reporting week. All refugees living in Korsi (8,472 people) are biometrically registered.

Protection

114 people with special needs were registered during the reporting week, some of whom were referred to INTERSOS for support.

UNHCR’s partner INTERSOS carried out 24 individual counselling sessions with 24 people with specific needs who had recently arrived in Korsi, including four orphans and 20 women at risk. Three people were referred to specialised services for appropriate care and follow-up, including two single women with children and two separated and unaccompanied children with needs requiring an urgent response to their situations.

INTEROS carried out 15 monitoring visits, including eight within the Birao community, one in the IDP site of Yata and six in Korsi, the neighbourhood hosting Sudanese refugees. As a result of the monitoring visits, A total of 40 protection incidents were identified and documented, including (i) property

rights violations, (ii) violations of the right to life/physical integrity, and (iii) sexual and gender-based violence.

Prevention & Response against gender-based violence (GBV)

INTERSOS carried out, four group discussion sessions on the mechanism for preventing GBV in the "safe space" available in Korsi. These sessions reached 158 people, including 74 women and 84.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)

In the reporting week, two life skills sessions were held with 48 women and girls in Korsi. The activities in the safe space enabled newly arrived refugees, especially women and girls, to share their thoughts and improve their emotional well-being affected by the crisis.

Education

A Community Education Forum was organized with the participation of education authorities, prefectorial authorities, refugee leaders, host community leaders, and youth to promote collaborative dialogue on UNHCR and INTERSOS' education project and ensure participation and accountability to affected populations.

The weekly mass sensitization campaigns continued encouraging refugee enrolment in local schools and launched a school kits distribution to newly enrolled students (222 students reached this week; distribution continues next week). Over the past month, refugee enrolments have increased by 29 per cent, from 532 on 1 February to 686 as of 1 March. Refugees now represent 41 per cent of the total enrolments of 1,678 students at the two schools near the site.

As part of the social cohesion of refugee students and the host community, a friendly football match between the two primary schools attended by refugees was organised, and the construction of administrative blocks and gender-sensitive latrines at three schools in Birao continued.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

Between 24 February to 1 March, UNHCR partner NOURRIR has built 150 new emergency shelters in Korsi to accommodate the new arrivals.

Mercy Corps distributed 200 CRI kits to newly arrived families in Korsi. The kits include sleeping mats, blankets, mosquito nets, buckets, kitchen set kits, jerry cans, soap, and solar panel lamps.

Health and Nutrition

NOURRIR and IMC conducted 739 curative medical consultations during the reporting week. Among them, 31 women benefited from prenatal consultations (185 overall since January) and 30 from gynecological consultations (173 overall since January).

7,159 hot meals were served to refugees at Korsi during the reporting week totalling 69,739 hot meals served since January.

To date, 869 households of 3,646 people living in Korsi have benefited from WFP dry rations of rice, beans, oil and salt.

During the week, 18 cases of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) in children aged 06 to 59 months and four cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) were recorded in Korsi. Since the beginning of the year, the nutritional management program has treated 140 children for MAMA and 29 others for SAM.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

During the reporting period, 20 emergency latrines and 20 emergency showers were built in Korsi and are operational.

NOURRIR conducted awareness-raising activities on hygiene and sanitation promotion in Korsi, benefiting 515 refugees. The week's topics included good practices in drinking water (the water chain), treatment with organic products in emergency latrines, and disinfection.

ETHIOPIA

Highlights

- Since the outbreak of conflict in Sudan, 49,844 individuals (22,244 households) crossed the border from Sudan to Ethiopia in need of international protection. 21,103 individuals crossed through the Metema entry point in Gondar, 21,387 individuals through the Kurmuk entry point in Benishangul Gumuz, 700 individuals at different entry points in Gambella (Pagak, Burbiey).

Population Movement and Registration

In Kurmuk Transit Center, L1 registration was conducted for 252 new arrivals (103 households) from Sudan.

In Metema, L1 registration was conducted at the entry point for 133 individuals.

Since April 2023, 7,760 Ethiopian refugee returnees have also crossed the Ethiopia border of which 6,654 have returned to Tigray as of 3 March 2024. The returnees include those who fled to Sudan before 1991 as well as those who fled the Tigray conflict, mostly from Western Tigray. As the conflict expands to the Eastern part of Sudan, the spontaneous return of refugees to Tigray is increasing. Most of the returnees are unable to return to their places of origin due to lack of access and insecurity. As a result, they are currently hosted in IDP settings across Tigray, often staying within host community. They are relying on the support host communities for their basic needs including food, with little to no humanitarian ongoing assistance provided to them.

UNHCR has profiled the refugee returnees and provided limited one-time cash and in-kind assistance. Resource limitations has been a serious challenge for UNHCR and partners to respond to the returnees. Thus, UNHCR has been advocating through the humanitarian coordination for their inclusion into the existing IDP response, as they haven't been able to go home and find themselves internally displaced.

Returnees have also faced challenges in transiting through the Amhara region due to the ongoing hostilities in the Amhara region. UNHCR received reports of abductions and detention of returnees by armed groups. Last week, 186 returnees were released from detention and transported to Sheraro in Tigray.

Relocation

With the opening of the new site in Awlala, Amhara region, the new arrivals are received and relocated to the transit centre, where they are registered (L3), and then immediately transferred to Awlala. So far, 1,521, individuals have been relocated to Awlala with 1 convoy per week transporting 200-300 refugees.

Protection

Child Protection

Ten separated children were identified and registered by social workers and community-based structures in Kurmuk. The cumulative number of Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC) and Other Vulnerable Children (OVC) since the beginning of the influx stands at 1,196. Of these, 1,046 are Separated Children, while 37 are Unaccompanied Minors (UAM) and 113 are OVC.

A total of 1,172 UASC and OVC children have also been reached through home-to-home visits and follow ups made through social workers and community-based structures in Kurmuk.

Child friendly space (CFS) continued provided basic literacy and numeracy activities in Kumer (126 children) and Kurmuk transit sites (649 children). The Awlala refugee location CFS is now operation, it was visited by 58 children during the reporting week.

A weekly meeting with social workers, child protection committees, foster parents' association, and child rights club was conducted at the Kurmuk transit center. Preparation and joint action plan for the distribution of 450 assorted CRIs to the most vulnerable children were discussed.

Prevention and response against gender-based violence (GBV)

A group discussion on engaging men in the prevention and response of GBV was conducted at Kumer site. The exercise aimed at promoting equitable and violence-free society, where both men and women actively contribute in the GBV prevention and response.

A two-day capacity-building training that focused on CP-GBV case management and psychological first aid was conducted in Kumer. The training was attended by local authorities, NGO's and UN agencies. The trainee's received a refresher training related to protection mainstreaming over a two-day period with to enhance the skills and knowledge of practitioners in effectively addressing gender-based violence and providing essential support to survivors.

In Kurmuk, awareness-raising sessions were conducted in various locations including water collection points, health centers, and collective meeting areas where 355 (169 women and 186 men) individuals were reached including 03 (02 female and 01 male) persons with disabilities. The topics of the sessions include early marriage and its effects as well as protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA).

Community outreach and educational awareness creation activities were conducted in Kumer, Awlala and Kurmuk. The exercise focused on available services for survivors of GBV and PSEA reporting system. Prevention of physical violence and early marriage, and the need to report GBV and PSEA in 72 hours was emphasized.

Health and Nutrition

MTI and WVE provided outpatient department (OPD) consultations to 546 adults and 100 children under the age of 5 years. The prevalent diseases in children under-five include acute upper respiratory infections (AURI), diarrhea, eye disease, and intestinal worms. For adults, acute upper respiratory infections (AURI), fungal infection, gastritis, back pain, and intestinal parasite (IP) were the most prevalent. In addition, 46 pregnant women received antenatal care follow-up service.

MTI and RRS provided OPD consultations to a total of 333 adult patients and 191 children under the age of 5 years in Kurmuk health post. Upper respiratory tract infection, malaria, and lower respiratory tract infections, and diarrhea were the prevalent diseases recorded. In addition, a total of 13 pregnant women received antenatal care follow-up services at the transit center health post.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) education sessions, Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH) and family planning consultations were conducted in both Kurmuk and Kumer.

During the reporting period, GOAL conducted screening of under five children for acute malnutrition both at Kurmuk Transit Center and Akendayo kebele 25km from Kurmuk, reaching 182 children. Among them, a total of 48 severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and 61 moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) children were identified and admitted to outpatient therapeutic and targeted supplementary feeding programs respectively. In addition, three children identified with severe acute malnutrition and medical complications were referred to the Sherkole camp stabilization center for better management.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

During the reporting week, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) provided 763 m3 of chlorinated water in the transit center and Kumer and Awlala sites. An average of 15 litres per person per day (l/p/d) of water was supplied.

In Kurmuk, 70m3 of chlorinated water was provided, with an average of 7.3 l/p/d of water supplied to refugees, the quantity of supplied water is well below UNHCR emergency standards of 15 l/p/d. This extremely low amount of water is because of the runoff water harvested during the rainy season decreasing due to water pumping; ground infiltration and high evaporation rate as the Benishangul Gumuz Region climate is hot.

In Kurmuk, five rounds of environmental cleaning campaigns were conducted with a key hygiene message including solid waste cleaning & disposal of waste material, safe latrine usage, and consultation on the possible risks associated with the practice of open defecation have been thoroughly discussed.

EGYPT

Highlights

- 450,000 Sudanese and 8,827 individuals of other nationalities, totaling 458,827 people, crossed into Egypt since the start of the Sudan crisis, according to the latest figures received by UNHCR from the Government of Egypt.
- In February, UNHCR Egypt newly registered 39,353 refugees and asylum-seekers, the highest monthly number since the start of the Sudan crisis and a nearly 10-fold increase compared to pre-crisis levels. Last week, UNHCR Egypt registered 9,100 new asylum-seekers from Sudan, bringing the total to more than 193,000 since the start of the crisis. Additionally, 15,694 individuals received registration appointments last week, surpassing 400,000 registration appointments issued since April 2023.
- On 28 February, the UNHCR Representative to Egypt travelled to the south with the US Ambassador to Egypt. The officials were accompanied by the UN Resident Coordinator to Egypt and the Deputy Minister of Social Solidarity (MoSS). The purpose of the visit was to gain a first-hand insight into the challenges, and to discuss with the national and local authorities towards overcoming them.

Population Movements and Registration

As of 29 February, UNHCR Egypt had provided pre-registration appointments to 401,410 people forced to flee Sudan since the onset of the conflict in April 2023. Of them, 193,422 individuals have already been fully registered (48 per cent). UNHCR is working to increase its capacity to meet the demand. Most of the registered population are Sudanese nationals (92 per cent), while the other main nationalities registered are South Sudanese (3 per cent), and Eritrean (3 per cent). In terms of new arrival registration trends, both female and female heads of households remain at 53 per cent. The vast majority of new arrivals registered still originate from Khartoum (89 per cent), and 21 per cent of those registered have one or more specific needs. Concerns remain about the continued rise of those who report crossing irregularly into Egypt among the new arrivals registered.

Protection

Community-based Protection

Over the last week, refugee outreach workers provided information to some 3,500 refugees and asylum-seekers from Sudan at UNHCR's Reception Centre in Greater Cairo on services, assistance, and procedures for reporting fraud and complaints. Furthermore, UNHCR partner Terre des Homme (TdH) provided basic counselling to 2,000 new arrivals and referred 23 cases for in-depth psycho-social assessment.

Infoline

UNHCR Egypt's Infoline handled 12,200 calls and provided registration appointments to 11,900 people who have fled Sudan during the reporting week. This brought the overall number of people who received registration appointments through the system to 267,220. Nine out of ten people who approached UNHCR through Infoline during the reporting week were in Greater Cairo, while 5 per cent were in Alexandria and 2 per cent in Aswan.

Prevention & Response against gender-based violence (GBV)

On 28 February, the year's first community engagement session took place at the Faisal Safe Space in Cairo. Faisal is a part of Cairo with a sizeable Sudanese refugee population. The session was attended by 32 Sudanese women, all of them new arrivals. The engagement sessions are an initiative undertaken by the GBV Sub Working Group (SWG) chaired by UNFPA and UNHCR which sees SWG members come together to offer awareness-raising sessions on GBV related topics to newly arriving Sudanese. The initiative started in August 2023. In the session, a lawyer from UNHCR's partner the Egyptian Foundation for Refugee Rights (EFRR) provided an overview of different legal procedures, including different types of police reports, birth registration, marriage certificate issuance, divorce,

custody procedures and what to do in case of arrest for lack of documentation, residency, and whether registration appointments provide legal protection against arrest/detention. After the session, a legal clinic provided consultation sessions for 38 individual cases.

Cash Assistance and Livelihood

During the reporting period, UNHCR partners conducted vulnerability assessments for 44 newly arrived Sudanese households in Cairo, bringing the total to 26,869 households since the start of the crisis in April 2023.

UNHCR partners conducted rapid needs assessments for 32 households (62 individuals) in Aswan, reaching a total of 4,085 families (11,712 individuals) since the start of the crisis. Of them, 2,743 households (8,459 individuals) have been found eligible for one-off emergency cash assistance.

In total, 20,525 registered and unregistered households (55,900 individuals) have been identified as eligible for the one-off emergency cash assistance, out of whom 16,445 households (47,359 individuals) have successfully been assisted.

SOUTH SUDAN

Highlights

- Some 588,799 individuals arrived in South Sudan since April 2023, with approximately 10,543 arriving within the reporting week. This marks an 8 per cent increase from last week. Returnees comprised 65 percent of all arrivals, continuing last week's trend of increased returnee, and fewer refugee arrivals.

Population Movements and Registration

A 7 per cent decrease in outflows from Renk back to Sudan was observed this week with 1,174 individuals departing compared with 1,255 individuals the week prior, reasons for departure remain limited access to food, family visits/reunification, medical treatment, and reluctance of refugees to relocate to the camps in Maban due to the distance from the border.

Relocation

UNHCR, with the support of IOM, initiated the relocation of approximately 1,129 refugees from Renk to Jamjang. The exercise intends to support family reunification for new refugee arrivals with preexisting familial ties to refugees in camps in Jamjang. The refugees will travel by barge to Malakal, before departing by flight from Malakal to Jamjang.

UNHCR relocated 162 individuals from Renk to Maban. 2,978 individuals have been relocated from Renk to Maban since the beginning of the year.

2,367 individuals in five boats arrived from Renk to Malakal Transit Centre, while a total of 2,498 individuals departed by air to Wau, Juba, and Rubkona and a further 395 were transported by boat to Unity and Fangak.

In Unity state, approximately 877 individuals were assisted with onward transportation from Panakuach and Yida to the reception center in Pamir refugee camp.

Protection

In Jamjang, protection actors continue to receive reports of refugee arrivals posing as South Sudanese returnees in hopes of receiving onward transportation support from Renk, to Jamjang. These families have familial ties to Jamjang and thus have a preference to be relocated there instead of to Maban. UNHCR has subsequently organised two convoys to Jamjang between 4-5 March, to facilitate this movement. To date, UNHCR has registered 5,818 refugees and asylum seekers in Jamjang since the start of the response.

In Abyei, UNHCR, received 29 new arrivals from Kaduguli, Babanusa and Khartoum, Sudan, bringing the total number of refugees at Abyei Transit Centre to 144 individuals. Relocation to Wedweil Settlement in Aweil remains on hold.

In Maban, competition over the limited number of boreholes in Doro Camp has led to fighting among refugees from different communities. UNHCR/IRC has intensified peaceful co-existence sensitisation to address this issue accordingly.

In Renk, protection actors continue to address challenges related to petty crimes/ theft, disputes at water points and GBV incidents involving returnee girls.

Health and Nutrition

In Renk, six women were supported with skilled deliveries at the transit centre. Two neonatal mortalities were reported, both related to severe pneumonia.

Respiratory tract infections remained the highest cause of morbidity with 1,006 cases (41 per cent) followed Malaria (12 per cent) acute watery diarrhea (7 per cent).

In Maban, the County Health Department in coordination with the health partners, and UNHCR initiated a mass polio campaign/vaccination. The government led program targets children aged 0-59 months from both the refugee and host community.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

In Abyei, UNISFA delivered 10,000 litres of drinking water to the transit centre, after a month delay following a deteriorating security situation and prioritisation of newly displaced populations in Abyei.

In Renk, water provision was maintained at 15 litres per person per day across the transit centre and extension site, while the reception centre at Joda Border was connected to the water pipeline and thus no longer requires water trucking.

For latrine coverage, a further drop was observed with a ratio of one latrine to 65 and 87 people at the transit and extension site respectively. Construction of an additional 20 latrines is ongoing to help close this gap.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

In Renk, shelter needs persist, with a total 118 shelters (97 communal and 21 individual) hosting 15,230 individuals, with an additional 310 shelters required to meet emergency standards.

In Malakal, the Bulukat Transit Centre currently hosts 3,997 individuals, marking a significant drop from the last headcount of 5,264 individuals.

In Maban, construction is underway for 328 emergency shelters in Doro Camp. There are over 125 unoccupied completed emergency shelters in Kaya Camp with a capacity for 625 individuals.

In Maban, Christian Aid in partnership with Smile Again Africa Organization for Development (SAADO) commenced one-off cash-based interventions for 400 persons with specific needs.

UGANDA

Highlights

- During the past week, a total of 1,667 refugees from Sudan were received in settlements. Sudanese refugees constitute the largest percentage of the new arrivals in Uganda. The increasing number of Sudanese new arrivals has increased protection needs. Cumulatively 24,747 individuals have arrived in the country since 1 January 2024, including 10,148 from Sudan.

Education

UNHCR and its partners commenced the registration and enrollment of learners among Sudanese new arrivals in the Kiryandongo settlement. Presently, 497 individuals are registered, with 400 actively participating in classes. Most of the new arrivals are Arabic speakers and to overcome the language barrier, 14 teaching assistants have been recruited to facilitate translations from English to Arabic. However, challenges such as shortage of classrooms and linguistic/cultural differences between learners and teachers or peers have hindered access to education. Consequently, the introduction of temporary structures is being considered to minimize the strain on existing infrastructure while long-term solutions are being explored.

Response Plans and Funding Situation

Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP) – January – December 2024

- On 7 February, UNHCR and 81 organization launched the [Regional Refugee Response Plan](#), with an appeal for **USD 1.4 billion** to provide essential aid and protection to **2.7 million people** expected to arrive in five neighbouring countries by the end of 2024, fleeing the ongoing conflict in Sudan.

Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) – January – December 2024

- The [Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan](#) was launched on 7 February and requires **USD 2.7 billion** to help 14.7 million people. As of 6 March, the total funding for the HRP reached some USD 107 million or **4%** of the requirements [OCHA FTS](#).

UNHCR Supplementary Appeal – January - December 2024

- UNHCR's total financial requirement for 2024 [Sudan Emergency Supplementary Appeal](#) – in Sudan and neighbouring countries – amount to **USD 988.1 million**. As of 6 March, the total available funding for the appeal is **10%** of the funding requirements.

Press release

- [UNHCR: Chad fears 'very real' prospect of more Sudanese refugee arrivals, needs support](#)

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.
- [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'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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