

## Central African Republic (CAR) – SUDAN SITUATION

29 February – 6 March 2024



*Sudanese refugees fetching water at a water distribution point in Kors, Birao. @UNHCR*

### 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 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 55<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Situation and Operational Response

### 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.

INTERSOS 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 MAM 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.

### Coordination

UNHCR supports the Commission Nationale pour les Réfugiés (CNR) to lead and coordinate the Sudan refugee response. In Birao, whereby regular meetings with all relevant actors intervening in the area can exchange on the opportunities, challenges, and solutions vis a vis refugees living in Korsi and the areas nearby.

## Response Plans and Funding Situation

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

- On 7 February, UNHCR and 81 organizations launched the Regional Refugee Response Plan, with an appeal for **USD 46.2 million for the Central African Republic**, to provide essential aid and protection to 71,176 people in need, **including 39,876 refugees** fleeing the ongoing conflict in Sudan by the end of 2024.

### UNHCR Supplementary Appeal – January - December 2024

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

## 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 Global Focus Sudan Operation page](#)

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