

## Central African Republic (CAR) – SUDAN SITUATION

6 – 12 June 2024



*The construction of two school buildings with three classrooms each is underway in Birao, thanks to Education Cannot Wait's First Emergency Response Grant to the Central African Republic. ©UNHCR CAR*

### Highlights

- The Central African Republic (CAR) has continued to keep its borders open to allow entry of forcibly displaced populations into its territory. Wherever the presence of new arrivals has been reported, notably in the Mbomou/Rafai prefecture (Mbiro, Ngutiforo and Dembia), the Bamingui-Bangoran prefecture (Ndele, Akoursoulbak Zobossinda, Koundji), Haute-Kotto (Sam-Ouandja and Bria) and the Ouaka prefecture (Bambari and Ippy), UNHCR and the Government via the National Refugee Commission (Commission Nationale pour les Réfugiés -CNR), along with the local authorities have deployed teams to conduct pre-registration and ensure some form of documentation of the new arrivals.
- During the reporting week, in Birao, a Sudanese armed group ambushed an NGO vehicle 20km from Délémbé (85km west of Birao) on the Tiringoulou axis. However, calm was maintained, likely due to the dissuasive patrols conducted by MINUSCA and governmental military and police forces in urban centres and on certain main roads.
- This week, two social cohesion and peaceful cohabitation consultations were held in Birao. First, a workshop on peaceful conflict resolution, organized by UNHCR's partner PARET, the MINUSCA and UNHCR, brought together diverse communities living in Birao (refugees, returnees, internally displaced persons, and the host community) who discussed in focus groups. Secondly, fruitful discussions among community leaders, religious representatives, youth, women's organizations, and group leaders were organized on the peaceful management of inter-community conflict, thanks to the MINUSCA's Civil Affairs section.
- This week, WFP continued the general food distribution for May in Korsi, during which 6,513 refugees from 2,784 families were assisted.

## Population Movements and Registration

This week, 268 new arrivals (109 households) were registered in Korsi, Birao, bringing the total number of refugees to 13,016 in Korsi. Since January, 9,240 new arrivals have been registered in Korsi. Furthermore, registration continued outside of Korsi, in other locations hosting Sudanese refugees, including Bria and Sam-Ouandja (Haute-Kotto), where 1,007 people in 257 households have been registered. Registration has been ongoing for about two weeks in these areas, and 1,572 Sudanese have been registered in very challenging logistics and access conditions.

In the Mbomou and Haut-Mbomou prefectures, UNHCR has received reports of an estimated 4,769 Sudanese arriving in Dembia (292), Mbiro (2,104), Ngutiforo (1,805) and Mboki (568). However, the dire security situation in these areas does not allow for verification and registration.

In the Bamingui-Bangoran prefecture, to facilitate access to services for Sudanese refugees who have settled in the area, UNHCR, together with the National Commission for Refugees (CNR), reinforced its presence in Ndélé and set up a humanitarian coordination to respond to the situation. The Sudanese refugees reported in the area are mainly concentrated in Ndélé (751), Akroussoulbak (855), Koundi (277) and Zobossinda (208), for a total of 2,091 pre-registered and pending biometric enrolments in the mentioned localities.

## Protection

Protection monitoring activities continued this week. In Birao and Korsi in Vakaga prefecture, UNHCR partner INTERSOS conducted 22 monitoring visits, which enabled the collection of 73 protection incidents, the supervision and coaching of community relays on protection issues, the implementation of perception surveys on the humanitarian response, and the organization of focus group discussions with refugees and host communities on the human rights situation. All victims of protection-related incidents received psychosocial support from Protection Monitors and Psychosocial workers trained by UNHCR partner INTERSOS.

During the registration of Sudanese refugees in Ippy (Haute-Kotto) between 24 to 30 May 2024, UNHCR organised focus group discussions with children, women, men, the elderly, and people with disabilities to identify their specific needs. The discussions identified key priorities and formulated the following recommendations: advocacy with the WFP for urgent food aid, advocacy with local authorities to allocate land to promote agriculture, advocate for the distribution of seeds and agricultural tools, advocate for the inclusion of children in the Central African education system and bring back normalcy to children by setting up recreational and protection activities.

Two awareness-raising sessions on the rights and duties of refugees were held this week in Am Dafock and Korsi in the Vakaga Prefecture, reaching 292 people, including 89 men, 129 women, 29 boys, and 45 girls.

This week, five perception surveys were carried out among newly arrived families in Korsi. The concerns raised were related to insufficient food assistance compared to family size, delays in the allocation of shelters, and insufficient water supply, which caused minor conflicts around water points due to long queues.

### Child Protection

This week, GBV cases affecting children have been documented in the Vakaga Prefecture. The cases involving children are much more related to customary practices such as early marriage to avoid unwanted pregnancies. This is a widespread cultural practice in the prefecture. Despite numerous awareness-raising campaigns by protection service providers, the practice persists.

### Prevention against gender-based violence (GBV)

In the safe space in Korsi, UNFPA, through its partner Olivier Homme de Galilée, carried out awareness-raising activities for 269 people, including 60 refugee participants. The NGO also provided individual psychosocial support sessions for 115 people, including 20 refugees. The team referred three cases to other services for appropriate care.

Cases of GBV were documented this week in Korsi, Am Dafock and the host community of Birao in the Vakaga prefecture, with most cases being domestic violence. Factors leading to this violence included men's abuse of women, family disagreements and misunderstandings within the household, and alcohol and drug abuse. Victims and survivors received psychosocial support from UNHCR partner INTERSOS case managers and psychologists. In addition, some survivors were referred to the International Medical Corps (IMC) health centres in Am Dafock and Korsi, and others to the Birao Health District for medical care.

19 women and three girls received dignity kits distributed by UNHCR thanks to a donation from UNFPA.

### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

During the week, seven emergency latrines and 10 emergency showers were built in Korsi, bringing the number to 211 usable emergency latrines and 232 emergency showers. The ratio is now 62 people per latrine and 56 people per shower, a slight increase compared to last week (57 people per latrine and shower) because 20 unusable latrines were closed.

This week, construction work continued in Birao, finishing the construction of latrines made of durable materials for schools financed by ECW.

In Korsi, the water distributed this week was 10 litres per person daily. This is half the standard of at least 20 litres per person daily in an emergency. UNHCR and UNICEF plan to work together to increase the production and distribution of drinking water for the refugees.

### Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

The construction of 50 new family emergency shelters began this week in Korsi. Once these shelters are completed, there will be 1,796 operational and habitable shelters. In addition, the structure of four community shelters has been strengthened to accommodate new arrivals better before they benefit from family shelters.

Construction of a school building in Birao continued this week. Preparations for the start of construction of the school inspectorate building also continued. These buildings are made possible thanks to support from Education Cannot Wait's First-Emergency Response Grant to the Central African Republic, which is part of their support for the Sudan Situation.

### Food security

This week in Korsi, UNHCR partner NOURRIR distributed 6,559 hot meals donated by WFP and 6,341 breakfasts donated by UNHCR.

WFP food distribution continues for May and June. This week, 2,043 families, or 3,877 individuals, were served in coordination and with the participation of refugees in the distribution process. Since the general food distribution began, 10,390 individuals or 4,827 families received their food ration.

### Health and Nutrition

This week, NOURRIR and IMC completed 784 medical consultations at the Korsi health centre, focusing on common health issues and maternal healthcare. The consultations benefitted 726 Sudanese refugees and 58 host community members. Twenty patients have been referred from Korsi to the district hospital in Birao for more appropriate care. Since January 2024, 15,725 medical consultations have been carried out in Korsi.

The medical team conducted nutritional screening on children and pregnant and lactating women. Seventeen cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and seven severe acute malnutrition (SAM) were diagnosed, affecting children aged 06 to 59 months. Since January 2024, 1,035 children suffering from MAM and 79 children suffering from SAM have been treated.

During the week, 12 pregnant women were vaccinated against tetanus, bringing the total to 109 since the beginning of the year. In addition, nine children received multi-antigen vaccines, including four measles vaccines. Since January, 166 children have received the multi-antigen vaccine, including 122 measles vaccines.

## 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 (CAR)** 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. As of 12 June, the total funding for the CAR remained at some USD 3.7 million or **8%** of the requirements.

### UNHCR Supplementary Appeal – January - December 2024

- UNHCR's total financial requirement for the 2024 [Sudan Emergency Supplementary Appeal](#) – in Sudan and neighboring countries – amounts to **USD 988.1 million**. As of 12 June, the total available funding for the appeal is **16%** of the funding requirements.

## Resources

- UNHCR dashboard: [Sudan Situation: One year on](#)
- Data story: [Sudan: One year of spiralling conflict and displacement](#)
- [End of Year Report Sudan Regional RRP 2023](#)
- 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](#)
- [UNHCR Sudan Emergency website](#)

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