

## Central African Republic (CAR) – SUDAN SITUATION

10 – 16 November 2024



*Awareness-raising campaigns during cash distribution to the Sudanese refugees in Korsi, Birao. © UNHCR/Anicet NGAIDONO*

### Highlights

- The security situation in the refugee-hosting areas of Vakaga, Bamingui-Bangoran, Haute Kotto, Ouaka, Mbomou, and Haute Mbomou remains highly volatile due to the presence of non-state armed groups, with continued reports of human rights concerns and risks to civilian safety.
- In Birao, sporadic gunfire was reported near the national army base, raising concerns for the safety of nearby populations. Additionally, the presence of armed herders along the border has heightened security risks for civilians. The recent arrest of a non-state armed group leader in Birao has further escalated tensions in the area.
- In Bria, while the situation in the town remains relatively calm, travel on peripheral roads continues to pose significant risks, with incidents of violence such as murders, arson, and extortion reported. In Sam-Ouandja, non-state armed groups continue to impose unauthorized taxes on roads around the town, creating additional challenges for movement and safety. In Ippy, Ouaka prefecture, intercommunal tensions and the presence of armed groups are contributing to ongoing insecurity.
- To support the needs of newly arrived Sudanese refugees, UNHCR distributed second-hand clothing to 415 individuals (179 families) in Korsi to help them stay warm during the current rainy season. This marks 75 per cent progress toward completing the planned clothing distribution for new arrivals.

### Population Movements and Registration

A total of 98 Sudanese refugees from 36 households arrived in Korsi, Birao, Vakaga prefecture, during the reporting week, reflecting an increase of 56 individuals compared to the previous week. Ongoing attacks between conflicting parties in Sudan continue to create risks of further displacement, potentially prompting additional groups of Sudanese refugees to cross the Am Dafock border. With the end of the rainy season improving road accessibility, increased refugee arrivals in CAR, including in Korsi, are anticipated.

## Protection

This week, 27 protection monitoring missions were carried out in Vakaga prefecture to evaluate the security situation, document protection incidents and human rights violations, and assess the needs of newly arrived households in Korsi. These missions aim to provide tailored psychosocial support and relay protection concerns to the relevant authorities and stakeholders. Additionally, Project 21 (P21)<sup>1</sup> surveys were conducted with newly arrived refugee households in Korsi, and support was provided to community relays to enhance their outreach activities.

UNHCR's partner INTERSOS documented 47 protection incidents in Vakaga prefecture this week, reflecting an increase from 42 incidents the previous week. This rise is likely linked to heightened tensions following the arrest of a non-state armed group leader, as well as ongoing armed group activity in the region.

The majority of reported incidents involve violations of property rights, including extortion, theft, and the imposition of illegal taxes. Non-state armed groups remain the primary perpetrators of these violations, with local men particularly affected as they travel between major towns, exposing them to risks of banditry and attacks by armed groups.

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

During the reporting week, UNHCR's partner INTERSOS held two community-based awareness sessions in the Korsi safe space, addressing the emotional and social consequences of rape and promoting the importance of girls' education. These sessions were attended by 40 participants, including 15 women and three girls, and brought together refugees, host community members, and internally displaced people to raise awareness about the harmful impact of GBV on survivors' well-being.

In Korsi, all GBV survivors who disclosed incidents of violence received psychosocial support from UNHCR's partner INTERSOS. Additionally, 22 per cent of survivors were provided with dignity kits, 17 per cent were referred for medical assistance, and 6 per cent were referred for legal support.

Reports of GBV incidents have been recorded, highlighting key areas of concern in Ouandja-Djallé, Am Dafock, Birao, and Korsi. These reports emphasize the critical and ongoing need for prevention efforts, survivor-centered support services, and robust response mechanisms in these locations.

### **Water, Shelter, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)**

The ratio of people per latrine in Korsi remains at 62, while the ratio of people per shower stands at 58— both short of the emergency standard of 50 people per facility.

The daily drinking water supply has decreased to 88,600 litres due to the breakdown of two boreholes. With a population of 15,064 in Korsi, this equates to an average of 5.88 litres per person per day, which is far below the Sphere emergency standard of 15 liters per person per day.

UNHCR's partner, NOURRIR, along with community members, continues efforts to maintain and promote sanitation and hygiene in Korsi. Hygiene promoters reached 2,081 people from 1,905 households through focus group discussions and door-to-door awareness sessions. These sessions addressed key topics, including fire prevention around shelters, improving latrine hygiene, the dangers of open defecation, proper cleaning of jerry cans, maintaining water points, and protecting children from contaminated water.

To manage household waste, 316 refugees have been mobilized to construct four refuse pits. Additionally, the 1,250-meter drainage channel in Korsi has been completed under the supervision of the Commission Nationale pour les Réfugiés (CNR), UNHCR, and NOURRIR, improving sanitation and mitigating water stagnation.

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<sup>1</sup> Project 21, co-led by UNHCR, is a regional protection monitoring system designed to gather and analyze data on protection risks across West and Central Africa. In the Central African Republic (CAR), P21 tools have been customized to integrate local protection monitoring data into a broader regional database. This adaptation enables a more holistic understanding of protection gaps, ensuring that targeted interventions are informed by comprehensive, regionally connected insights.

Efforts to increase the water supply continue, with the NGO Triangle Génération Humanitaire, in partnership with UNICEF, constructing two water towers in Korsi. These towers aim to address the critical water shortages in the settlement.

### Education

For the 2024/25 school year, 1,003 refugee children are now enrolled in the two primary schools in Birao, marking a 7.5 per cent increase since the end of the previous school year and a fourfold rise compared to the start of the 2023/24 school year.

Recreational, educational, and psychosocial activities remain active at the child-friendly space in Korsi, engaging 218 newly arrived children this week. Activities included group therapy sessions for 36 children, individual therapy for 13 children, creative sessions such as dance, storytelling, and sketches for 70 children, sports activities like football, handball, and jump rope for 26 children, learning-focused sessions for 49 children, and life skills workshops for 32 children.

To further promote education, UNHCR partner INTERSOS, in collaboration with Parent-Teacher Associations, community relays, and refugee leaders, organized two awareness-raising sessions in Korsi and the host community. A total of 415 participants from both refugee and host communities attended, with discussions focused on the importance of education and the ongoing school year.

The construction of durable school desks for refugee-hosting schools is progressing, with 135 of the planned 216 desks now completed.

### Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

The construction of 220 semi-durable shelters in Birao is progressing, with 106 shelters currently under construction.

### Health and Nutrition

This week, NOURRIR and International Medical Corps (IMC) medical teams, operating under the supervision of WHO and the Vakaga Health District, conducted 495 medical consultations in Korsi. Refugees accounted for 443 consultations (89 per cent), while 52 consultations (11 per cent) were provided to host community members. Among the refugee consultations, 34 (12 per cent) were for new arrivals, and approximately 22 per cent of all consultations were for children aged 0-59 months.

The primary health concerns included malaria (163 cases, 39 per cent), acute respiratory infections (90 cases, 12 per cent), and intestinal parasitosis (24 cases, 5 per cent). All patients received outpatient treatment. Since the start of 2024, a total of 33,002 consultations have been conducted, with 10 per cent serving host communities.

In Korsi, 24 Sudanese women received antenatal consultations this week, bringing the 2024 total to 1,269. Seven postnatal consultations were also recorded, raising the annual total to 266. Gynecological consultations were provided to 29 women, bringing the total to 1,706 for the year, while nine women accessed family planning services, bringing the cumulative total to 259. Additionally, two babies were safely delivered this week, increasing the total to 130 deliveries and 133 newborns for 2024.

Five patients were referred this week from Korsi to Birao District Hospital for specialized care, adding to the 656 referrals made this year. No deaths were reported during the reporting period.

Malnutrition remains a critical concern, with eight cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and five cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) identified in children aged 6-59 months this week. Since the start of 2024, a total of 1,242 children have been treated for MAM, 187 for SAM, and 844 have benefited from malnutrition prevention efforts, resulting in a total of 2,273 children receiving treatment for malnutrition.

Vaccination efforts continued, with six pregnant women receiving the anti-tetanus vaccine and 11 children receiving multi-antigen vaccines, including three for measles. To date in 2024, 574 children have received multi-antigen vaccines, 196 have been vaccinated against measles, and 500 pregnant women have received the anti-tetanus vaccine as part of routine immunization programmes.



## Response Plans and Funding Situation

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

On 2 July, UNHCR and 86 organizations launched the [Regional Refugee Response Plan](#) mid-year update, with an appeal for **USD 1.5 billion, including USD 46.2 million for the Central African Republic (CAR)** to provide essential aid and protection to a total of **71,176 people** in need by the end of 2024. As of 15 November, the total reported funding for the CAR RRP reached some USD 15 million, representing **34%** of the required amount.

### UNHCR Supplementary Appeal – January - December 2024

UNHCR's total financial requirement for the 2024 [Sudan Emergency Supplementary Appeal](#), covering Sudan and neighbouring countries, was revised on 3 July. It now amounts to **USD 1.03 billion**. As of 31 October, the appeal is funded at **42%**.

## Resources

- NEW! [The Humanitarian Coordinator in Sudan welcomes the decision to keep the Adre border crossing point open for aid supplies for another three months](#)
- NEW! [Press briefing: "Unrelenting violence in Sudan drives continued refugee exodus"](#)
- NEW! [Report: No Escape - On the frontlines of climate change, conflict, and forced displacement](#)
- [Sudan RRP 2024 Progress Report: May-August 2024](#)
- [UNHCR Annual Executive Committee Meeting - 15 October 2024](#)
- [Sudan-Emergency-Critical-Life-Saving-Needs](#)
- [UNHCR Mpox Appeal 2024](#)
- [Sudan Regional Refugee Response 2024 - June revision](#)
- [Sudan Regional Response 2024 - At a glance](#)
- UNHCR's [Sudan Situation Supplementary Appeal - 2024 - June revision](#)
- [Sudan RRP 2024 Progress Report – January to April 2024](#)
- UNHCR's [Operational Data Portal \(ODP\) for the Sudan Situation](#) provides weekly updates on the refugee and returnee arrivals in Sudan's neighbouring countries.
- [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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