

SUDAN SITUATION – Central African Republic (CAR)

16 December 2024



Sudanese refugee children and Central African children attend French class together in the primary school in Birao, Central African Republic. © UNHCR/Ying Hu

Situation and Operational Response

Highlights

- The security situation in refugee-hosting areas of Vakaga, Bamingui-Bangoran, Haute Kotto, Ouaka, Mbomou, and Haute Mbomou remains highly unstable due to the presence of non-state armed groups.
- In the reporting period, UNHCR and its partner Ecobank distributed multipurpose cash to 100 Sudanese families in Sam-Ouandja, in the Haute-Kotto prefecture, bringing the total number of assisted families (2,535 individuals) in Bria and Sam-Ouandja to 776. The total amount distributed is XAF 64,950,000 (approximately USD 108,314).
- As part of the local authorities' strategy for inclusion, sustainable response, and ownership promotion, the Sudanese refugee registration centre has been relocated from the Korsi settlement to Birao's city centre, near the Vakaga prefecture office.in the ProGRES database.

Population Movements and Registration

During the reporting period, the total number of registered individuals in Korsi increased to 16,037 individuals (6,845 families). This included 8,604 women and girls (54 per cent) and 7,433 men and boys (46 per cent). Of the registered population, 9,183 (57 per cent) were children and 6,854 (43 per cent) were adults, including 503 elderly individuals (3 per cent).

The registration team in Birao completed the biometric enrolment of 239 individuals (80 households) including 138 women and 111 men. This breakdown includes 53 children under 4 years, 76 children aged 5 to 11 years, 24 adolescents aged 12 to 17 years, 80 adults aged 18 to 59 years and six elderly persons over 60 years.

In Sam-Ouandja, Bria, and Ippy, 2,974 Sudanese individuals from 976 families were biometrically registered. This includes 2,407 individuals (81 per cent) from 751 families in Ouandja-Kotto, 278 individuals (9 per cent) from 95 families in Bria and 297 individuals (10 per cent) from 133 families in Ippy.

Protection

During the reporting period, UNHCR's partner INTERSOS (International Emergency and Relief Organization for Social Services) conducted 34 protection monitoring missions in Korsi and the host communities in Birao. These missions aimed to assess the security situation, document protection incidents and human rights violations, collect data, conduct community capacity-building, raise awareness on fire prevention and document cases of GBV. Additionally, these efforts included the provision of tailored psychological support and referred concerns to the relevant authorities and actors.

It was observed that the dry season has improved the mobility of people and goods. However, security challenges persist. Cross-border dynamics remain complex and multifaceted, requiring strengthened coordination between humanitarian actors and local authorities to anticipate needs and provide tailored responses.

INTERSOS reported 37 protection incidents in Vakaga prefecture, a slight increase from the 36 incidents reported in the previous week. The primary protection incidents continue to be property rights violations and GVB. The most affected localities were Birao, Am Dafock, and Korsi. These incidents are often attributed to opportunistic bandits, highlighting the urgent need for enhanced protection measures for women and girls. Non-state armed groups remain the primary perpetrators.

In addition, INTERSOS conducted three awareness-raising sessions on the feedback/complaint management mechanism at the information centres in Korsi. These sessions aimed to strengthen communication, address refugee concerns and encourage greater participation of refugees in humanitarian activities. A total of 411 people participated in these sessions.

Gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response

During the reporting week, the closing activities of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence took place across all the prefectures hosting Sudanese refugees. This global campaign period provided an opportunity to raise awareness and reaffirm collective commitment to fighting and preventing Gender-Based Violence (GBV).

As part of GBV prevention efforts, UNHCR's partner INTERSOS held community-based awareness-raising sessions in Korsi. These sessions focused on the physical, emotional, social, and familial impacts of violence and encouraged respectful and egalitarian behaviors within the community.

INTERSOS case management teams documented GBV cases in community safe spaces, slightly fewer than the previous week. Physical assault remains the most commonly reported form of GBV, often linked to power imbalances within marital relationships, where some men resort to violence. Women's financial dependence continues to exacerbate their vulnerabilities. In Korsi, recurring reports of

resource denial, with unemployed men seizing their wives' belongings, further worsening the precarious situation of women and children.

As part of GBV response activities, psychosocial support was provided for both new and ongoing cases. During the closing ceremony of the 16 Days of Activism, dignity kits were distributed to young women and girls. Additionally, medical and legal referrals were made to ensure GBV survivors received comprehensive support.

The Engaging Men through Accountable Practice (EMAP) programme was implemented during the reporting week. However, participation was limited to women from the Birao and Korsi communities, with no male engagement. The absence of men's involvement highlights the need to adapt the programme strategies to encourage men's involvement in future sessions. This is critical to fostering inclusive violence prevention efforts and promoting collective behavioral change.

Education

During the reporting week, 94 new refugee students were enrolled at Nguerendomo Primary School, bringing the total number of refugee students to 1,311. This marks a 40 percent increase compared to the end of the previous school year and is five times higher than the previous enrollment period.

1,053 school kits were distributed, bringing the total number of kits distributed since the start of the 2024-2025 school year to 1,053. Additionally, 162 dignity kits were distributed to schoolgirls, with further distributions planned for next week.

Youth protection focal points and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) staff organized three awareness-raising sessions for pupils at Nguerendomo Primary School. The sessions focused on school safety, peaceful conflict resolution and inclusive education, emphasizing the social acceptance of students with disabilities, advanced school-age students and student mothers. They also highlighted the importance of respecting diversity in nationalities and religions. Through these awareness-raising and question-and-answer sessions conducted in all classes at Nguerendomo School, the campaign reached 1,493 children, including 777 girls and eight teachers.

UNHCR's education activities are generously supported by Education Cannot Wait through their first emergency response grant for Sudanese refugees in the Central African Republic.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

The total number of latrines built and operational in Korsi currently stands at 190, along with 125 showers, thanks to following the construction of two additional latrines and showers during the reporting week. However, the ratio of people per latrine is still 63. The water supply remains at 70,000 litres per day, averaging 5 litres per person per day, which is below the Sphere standard of 20 litres per person per day.

UNHCR's partner the international NGO Triangle Generation Humanitaire (TGH) completed the construction of two metal water towers in the Korsi district. These towers are awaiting planking and the installation of water tanks. The construction of 32 semi-durable latrines in Korsi is 95 per cent complete, while 80 latrines are being constructed with baked-brick pits. Additionally, 308 latrine pits have been dug.

Hygiene and sanitation teams continue to clean the areas around water points. During the reporting week, they conducted awareness-raising campaigns using focus groups, block-by-block methods and door-to-door outreach, reaching 1,701 households and 2,211 people. The campaigns focused on various themes related to hygiene, sanitation and community well-being.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

The total number of emergency shelters built this year in Korsi stands at 648, with 232 still under construction. Clothing was distributed to 731 individuals (259 households) in Korsi.

Food Security

For over six months, the World Food Programme (WFP) and its partner Plan International have distributed food to 1,484 Sudanese refugees from 392 households that had not received food assistance in Zobossinda, Koundi, and Akoursoulbak, in the Bamingui-Bangoran prefecture.

Health and Nutrition

During the reporting period, in Vakaga, the medical teams from NOURRIR and the International Medical Corps (IMC), under the coordination of the Vakaga Health District, conducted 669 curative consultations. Of these, 54 (8.08 per cent) were for the host population while 615 (91.92 per cent) were for refugees in Korsi, including 118 new arrivals (17.64 per cent). Among the patients, 203 children aged 59 months and below (30.34 per cent, including 105 girls and 98 boys) were treated. Previously registered cases amounted to 30 patients. Cumulative data for 2024 indicates 35,443 curative consultations which include 2,428 follow-up cases and 3,420 consultations for the host population (9.6 per cent).

The top three causes of morbidity were malaria (275 cases, 41.10 per cent), acute respiratory infections (152 cases, 22.72 per cent) and intestinal parasitosis (86 cases, 12.85 per cent). All patients received outpatient services.

Between December 7 and 13, 28 forcibly displaced women received prenatal consultations, bringing the annual total to 1,409. Two postnatal consultations were conducted in the reporting period, bringing the cumulative total to 284 this year. Additionally, 37 women accessed gynecological consultations (1,854 cumulative cases in 2024), while 11 women benefited from family planning services through Jadel implants (310 cumulative cases).

Three deliveries were carried out in the reporting period. The annual total is 139 deliveries assisted by qualified personnel, resulting in 142 newborns (78 boys and 64 girls).

Eight patients were referred from Korsi to the Birao District Hospital. Four were discharged in good health, while four remain hospitalized. In 2024, 696 patients (approximately 2 per cent of all curative consultations) have been referred.

203 children aged 6 to 59 months were screened during curative consultations with six cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and two cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) identified and treated.

Meanwhile, 16 pregnant women received tetanus vaccines, and eight children were vaccinated with multi-antigen vaccines including one measles vaccine. As of 14 December, 610 children had been vaccinated (203 against measles) and 563 pregnant women received tetanus vaccines under routine vaccination programs.

In the Bamingui-Bangoran prefecture, Première Urgence Internationale deployed a mobile clinic to provide free targeted healthcare services for Sudanese refugees and the host population.

Meanwhile, in Ndélé, the health district and Olivier de Galilée launched a polio vaccination campaign targeting children aged 0 to under five. They also offered targeted healthcare services including anti-parasitic treatments.

Resources

- [Sudan RRP 2024 Progress Report: May-August 2024](#)
- [UNHCR Annual Executive Committee Meeting - 15 October 2024](#)
- [Sudan Emergency: Critical life-saving needs | Global Focus](#)
- [Sudan Regional Refugee Response 2024 - June revision](#)
- [Sudan Regional Response 2024 - At a glance](#)
- [UNHCR's Sudan Situation Supplementary Appeal - 2024 - June revision](#) provides weekly 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](#)

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