

SUDAN SITUATION

15 – 21 December 2024

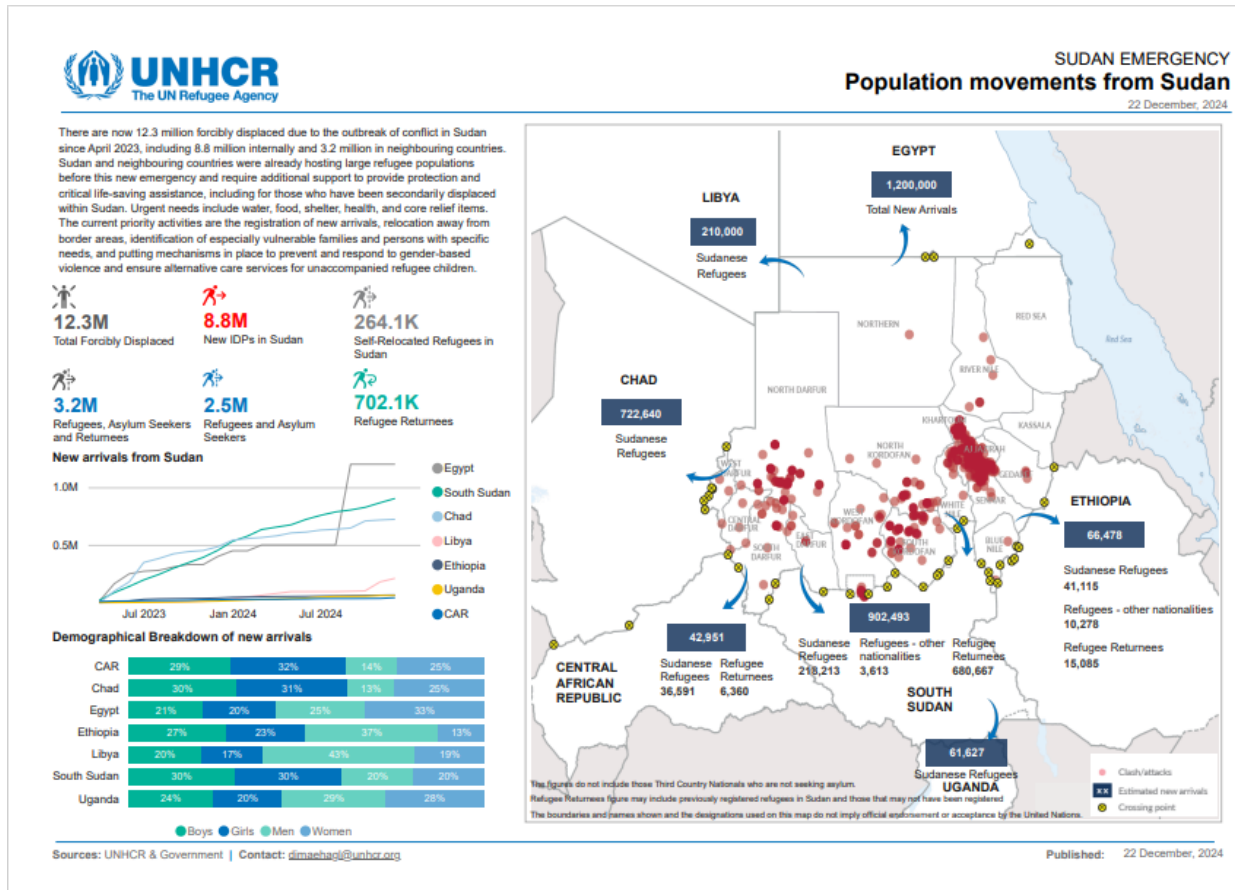


Newly arrived Sudanese refugees being relocated to Aweil and Ajoung Thok, South Sudan, to ease congestion in Renk Transit Centres. © Reason Moses Runyanga

Highlights

- UNHCR has [reported](#) a sharp rise in the number of Sudanese refugees arriving in Libya, with daily arrivals reaching 400 and over 210,000 refugees now in the country. The Sudan crisis has caused widespread displacement, straining resources in Libya, particularly in remote areas like Alkufra, where refugees face high food prices, fuel shortages, and poor living conditions. UNHCR has provided lifesaving assistance, including healthcare, relief supplies, and support for documentation, while also strengthening access to local services. However, urgent needs for winter supplies such as blankets, warm clothing, and shelter materials are needed. UNHCR has called for increased international support to improve living conditions and expand humanitarian efforts, especially in health and education, to address the growing needs of refugees and host communities.
- In less than three weeks, over 80,000 people have sought safety in South Sudan due to the escalating violence in Sudan's White Nile, Sennar, and Blue Nile States. This has resulted in more than a threefold increase in the average number of daily arrivals compared to previous weeks. The majority of those arriving are women and children with urgent humanitarian needs. They are primarily entering through remote and hard-to-reach border crossings and settling in small border villages. Among those fleeing the latest wave of violence in Sudan are not only Sudanese nationals but also South Sudanese refugees who had been living in Sudan's White Nile State, an area that had been relatively safe since the onset of the conflict.

- During an [interview](#) with Agence France-Presse (AFP) at UNHCR's Geneva headquarters on 16 December 2024, Mamadou Dian Balde, the Regional Refugee Coordinator for the Sudan Situation, emphasized the international community's insufficient recognition of the severity of Sudan's ongoing conflict. He noted that UNHCR and partners have only received 30% of the USD \$1.5 billion requested for 2024 to support the now over 3 million refugees forced to flee the conflict. He also highlighted the crisis's impact beyond regional borders, with refugees reaching as far as Uganda and Libya, as well as Europe, underscoring the situation's global implications.



Situation and Operational Response

SUDAN

Highlights

- The conflict continues unabated with reported escalation of aerial strikes and artillery in Khartoum, White Nile, Sennar, Blue Nile, North Darfur and West Darfur States. The indiscriminate attack resulted in civilian casualties, displacement and damage to public structures worsening the dire humanitarian situation in the country.
- The security situation in White Nile State remains volatile following the escalated conflict reported at Joda border crossing points and incursion by armed actors in the eastern refugee camps early December. Access to Alagaya, Dabat Bosin, and Alganaa camps is still restricted. UNHCR together with the Commission of Refugees (COR) are coordinating with the high-level security committee to ensure ongoing protection and lifesaving services for refugees in the camps, including advocacy for safe access to camps, strengthening camp security and maintaining the civilian character of the camps.

- Switzerland's Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa, H.E. Sylvain Astier visited Kassala and Girba Town in Kassala State last week. The delegation met with local authorities, visited Girba and toured Kilo 26 camp, talked to displaced communities and service providers in the camps. The mission aimed to gain firsthand insight into humanitarian operations and challenges, potentially enhancing future humanitarian assistance and targeted interventions.

Population Movements and Registration

During the reporting period, UNHCR and the Commission of Refugees (COR) received 69 individuals from Ethiopia and Eritrea seeking asylum in Kassala State. Close to 950 Eritrean, South Sudanese, Ethiopian refugees and asylum-seekers were registered in Kassala, Gedaref, Khartoum, Blue Nile and Red Sea States in the last week. Also, over 1030 refugees in Gedaref, Khartoum and Red Sea states received identity documents including photo slips.

Over 264,300 refugees have been secondary displaced within Sudan from conflict hotspot areas like Khartoum, Kordofan States since the outbreak of conflict in April 2023.

In East Darfur State, community leaders reported the displacement of 150 households from Um Sagrmoon village in Sheria locality to nearby satellite villages due to clashes between farmers and pastoralists. In North Darfur State, community networks reported the displacement of 500 Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) households from El Fasher and Zamzam IDP camp to Salouma village within the State. Similarly, around 600 households reportedly displaced from Kebkabiya locality to Bardi village, with some reported to cross into Chad via Tina locality.

Protection

Protection monitoring via community networks, community leaders and partners reported the widespread fear among the IDP and host communities in El Fasher, North Darfur State due to reported restricted movement from the Zamzam camp to safe places, insecurity leading to an increasing criminal incident among others. Similarly in West Darfur State, tension was reported between agriculturalists and pastoralists in the Jebel Moon area due to the lack of crop protection committees in the area.

In Gedaref State, a government delegation led by Deputy Governor visited Um Rakuba camp and observed ongoing bank opening exercise for refugees and to promote the exchange of new banknotes in Doka locality. During the observation, the delegation emphasized the need to accelerate Identity card issuance for the refugees. So far, 24 bank accounts have been opened, with ongoing efforts supported by the Agricultural Bank's mobile services. Community leaders helped mobilize the population, but the process has not yet started in Um Gargour. The integration of refugees into Sudan's banking system aims to improve their economic well-being and local integration.

In Kassala State, UNHCR is coordinating with local authorities and partners to support over 360 IDP families who were forced to move from Hospital gathering site to West Airport gathering sites in an uncoordinated relocation exercise by the authorities. Vulnerable families are encountering sanitation challenges, limited food and healthcare access, potentially worsening their traumatic experience impeding potentially their recovery. Meanwhile, a UNHCR partner provided psychosocial support to over 110 individuals in Al Karama, West Airport and Omer Al Haj Musa gathering sites which focused to support the IDPs develop social coping mechanism and personal resilience enabling them to overcome the traumatic experience.

In East Darfur State, a UNHCR partner provided supplementary food support (lentils, rice, wheat flour and sugar) to seven vulnerable IDPs in El Daein and El Ferdous settlements as part of individual protection assistance.

In North Darfur State, UNHCR conducted a virtual protection training to 18 members community-based protection network (CBPN) members from various settlements in El Al'ait locality. The focus was on preventing sexual abuse and exploitation (PSEA), identification and reporting mechanisms, accountability to the affected population (AAP), and the importance of communication with the community (CwC).

In East Darfur State, a UNHCR partner conducted two entertainment and psychosocial support (PSS) sessions for 137 children at multipurpose community centre (MPCC) in El Nimir refugee Camp and provided training on prevention from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and accountability of affected population (AAP) to 18 committee members from refugee lead. In South Darfur State, 36 IDPs, refugees and host community individuals were supported to access protection counselling services from Belil MPCC. In Central Darfur State, over 500 individuals benefitted from PSS and recreational activities at Zalingei and Nertiti MPCC during the reporting period.

In River Nile State, a UNHCR protection partner organized group PSS session and recreational activities for children in two gathering sites (Gangary and Block 37) in Al Damar locality reaching over 290 IDPs.

In Blue Nile State, a UNHCR partner distributed clothes to 59 vulnerable IDPs as a part of the individual protection assistance.

In Gedaref State, the protection desks provided counselling to over 200 refugees and referred 25 refugees from targeted assistance for shelter, non-food items and child protection specialized services.

Legal

In White Nile State, a UNHCR partner organized a workshop to enhance the skills and knowledge about birth registration and legal documentation of 25 midwives and community leaders among South Sudanese refugees. The workshop focused on the significance of legal identity, access to essential health services, the legal frameworks that govern birth registration and highlighted the importance of collaboration among health providers, community leaders, and civil authorities to streamline birth registration.

During the reporting period, a UNHCR partner provided legal awareness sessions and counselling close to 37 refugees and IDPs about importance of travel permits, Sudan laws and regulations applicable to displaced people in Blue Nile, South Kordofan States.

Gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response

In North Darfur State, a UNHCR partner together with Family Planning Association in Al'lait settlement conducted a two-day workshop on early marriage awareness and FGM, reaching 52 individuals from the refugee communities. Similarly, a community paralegal conducted four outreach legal awareness sessions on GBV, the implications of alcohol brewing and associated legal consequences reaching out to over 300 beneficiaries from Al'lait, Abu Jara, Dalil Babiker and Haskanita refugee settlements.

In Kassala State, a minor GBV survivor from West Airport gathering site received medical, legal and psychosocial services in Kassala town.

In Gedaref State, a UNHCR partner conducted five awareness sessions on GBV and SEA topics reaching 92 participants across all camps with information on prevention of GBV and SEA and available reporting mechanisms and referral pathways in the camps. Refugees were also reminded that all services provided in the camps by all service providers are free of charge.

Child Protection

In East Darfur State, a UNHCR partner conducted entertainment and psychosocial support sessions for 106 children in the Kario refugee camp and Sharif refugee settlement. Additionally, 102 children participated in similar sessions at El Nimir MPCC in East Darfur State. Similarly, over 50 refugees living in Tunaydbah, Um Rakuba and Babikri camps in Gedaref State participated in three child protection awareness raising sessions.

In the previous week, around 85 refugee children-at-risk underwent best interest determination procedures in Gedaref and White Nile States by UNHCR's partner and were referred to receive appropriate assistance.

In Kassala State, UNHCR organized an awareness raising session in Wad Sharifey refugee camp for 30 community networks and women's group members, focusing on child-friendly feedback and complaint mechanisms (CFFCM). The session disseminated knowledge to protect vulnerable children, enhancing community-based protection mechanisms.

Health and Nutrition

In Gedaref State, the number of cholera cases continued to decrease during the reporting period. In Um Gargour refugee camp, there was one case reported with cholera and managed at the clinic.

During the reporting period close to 3,900 outpatient consultations took place in primary health care facilities in the refugee camps in Blue Nile, Gedaref and East Darfur states. In South Darfur State, the health cluster together with health partners are assessing the suspected measles cases in the State.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

In South Darfur State, a UNHCR partner distributed Non-Food Item (NFI) kits (plastic sheet and mosquito nets) to 125 refugees in Alamal settlement during the reporting period.

In River Nile State, a UNHCR partner distributed NFI kits (sleeping mats, blankets, solar lights, mosquito nets, plastic sheets and cooking sets) to 4,500 IDPs from Al Jazirah State had have recently arrived in Al Matama, Ad Damar, Abu Hamad, and Shendi localities.

In Blue Nile State, a UNHCR partner pitched 130 tents at new IDP site in Damazine.

In Gedaref State, UNHCR provided core relief items to 65 refugee households and emergency shelter kits to 21 refugee households. Similarly, close to 650 IDP households (2,422 IDPs) in Alsalamabi IDP gathering site received clothes assistance.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

In White Nile State, UNHCR partners rehabilitated 100 latrines enhancing latrine coverage for an additional 500 refugees living in camps.

In Kassala State, a UNHCR partner conducted a training to 16 individuals from refugee led organizations from Shagarab and Abuda camps on the operation and maintenance of WASH facilities. The training equipped them with essential skills for managing water, sanitation, and hygiene infrastructure, promoting self-reliance and potentially improving sanitation and health in the camps.

Cash Assistance

During the reporting period, a UNHCR partner provided cash assistance SDG 275,000 to 218 IDP households living in Ed Daein town, Kalma, Otash and Deriege IDP camps in East Darfur State.

Site Management

During the reporting week, UNHCR conducted site mapping of the newly established Mohamedab IDP site in Al Matama locality which is hosting over 760 IDPs (130 families). The site lacks latrines, clean water, NFIs, and healthcare services. Young girls are reportedly exposed to the risks of harassment and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) incidents. Similarly, site mapping in Alrabobab IDP gathering site in Shendi locality showed that the site currently hosts pver 3,000 IDPs and has no access to latrines and sufficient water.

Livelihoods

In Gedaref State, a UNHCR partner handed over 154 sheep to the refugees participating in the sheep rearing livelihoods project in Tunaydbah camp. The partner also handed over the start-up kits and shops to four groups comprising 15 refugees in Um Gargour camp.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)

Highlights

- In Sudanese refugee-hosting areas including Bamingui-Bangoran, Haute Kotto, Ouaka, Mbomou and Haute Mbomou, the security situation was calm in general due to deterrent patrols by security forces in the city and along key routes such as Ippy, Aigbando, Ouadda, and Irrabanda. However, the situation remains uncertain and unpredictable in many regions due to the presence of activists and incursions by armed elements linked to rebel groups. Meanwhile, the security situation in Vakaga prefecture remains concerning, with ongoing movements of armed elements from the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) and the Popular Front for the Renaissance of the Central African Republic (FPRC) along the Ildriss-Tissi Fongoro axis.
- A total of 621 new refugees, representing 255 households, arrived this week in Korsi, Birao (Vakaga Prefecture). Biometric registration was completed for 514 individuals from 218 households, accounting for 83 per cent of the new arrivals, and will continue next week. In total, 16,551 refugees from 7,063 households are registered in Korsi. Among them, 8,896 are women and girls (54 per cent) and 7,655 are men and boys (46 per cent). Children make up 57 per cent of the population (9,475), while adults total 7,076, including 516 elderly individuals (7 per cent).
- Regarding other prefectures, UNHCR partner, CNR, reported 364 new arrivals, comprising 105 households, in the town of Sam-Ouandja from Sudan. As for the biometric registration of Sudanese refugees in Sam-Ouandja, Bria, and Ippy, a total of 2,974 refugees were registered across 976 households, including 2,407 individuals from 751 households in Ouandja-Kotto, 278 individuals from 95 households in Bria, and 297 individuals from 133 households in Ippy.
- Kits of non-food items (NFIs) and dry food rations were distributed to 90 households, comprising 268 individuals. In total, 2.773 tons of dry food, 90 blankets, 90 mats, 133 mosquito nets, kitchen sets, jerrycans, buckets, and flashlights were distributed. This distribution was carried out for the new arrivals from December 11-13, 2024, in the Korsi area, achieving a 100 per cent coverage rate.
- As part of the MasterCard Foundation project, an official launch ceremony was held for the French language learning program aimed at facilitating the potential integration of refugees into the formal education system at the secondary and high school levels. A total of 289 students registered during the first week of classes. Additionally, as part of the Education Cannot Wait project, dignity kits were distributed to 138 female students this week, bringing the total number of kits distributed since the beginning of the school year to 300.

Population Movements and Registration

During the reporting period, the total number of individuals registered in the Korsi neighborhood in Birao reached 16,551 persons from 7,063 households. Among them, 9,475 are children (57 per cent) and 7,076 are adults (43 per cent) including 516 elderly individuals (7 per cent).

A total of 621 new refugees arrived in Birao, of whom 514 individuals (218 households) have already been registered. Some 215 family composition cards were distributed. The average weekly arrival rate in December is 251 individuals, marking an increase compared to the average of 239 arrivals per week in November, 63 per week in October, 53 per week in September and 27 new arrivals per week in August.

Regarding other prefectures, UNHCR's partner the National Commission for Refugees (CNR) reported 364 new arrivals from Sudan, comprising 105 households, in the town of Sam-Ouandja (Haute Kotto). As for the biometric registration of Sudanese refugees in Sam-Ouandja, Bria (Haute Kotto) and Ippy (Ouaka prefecture), a total of 2,974 refugees were registered across 976 households including 2,407 individuals from 751 households in Ouandja-Kotto, 278 individuals from 95 households in Bria and 297 individuals from 133 households in Ippy.

Protection

In Birao, Vakaga, the identification of individuals with specific needs was completed and blankets were distributed to them by MERCYCORPS to help protect them during the cold weather. UNHCR and its partners monitored refugees detained at the Gendarmerie and Police in Birao to assess their detention conditions.

During the reporting week, 65 protection incidents (all involving residents) were reported and documented in Haute-Kotto prefecture. These incidents include 49 violations of property rights, 12 violations of the right to freedom of movement, 3 violations of physical integrity and one case of gender-based sexual violence.

In Ouaka, the field team, through community structures, recorded 90 protection incidents across various localities. These incidents are categorized as follows: 47 violations of property rights, 18 violations of the right to freedom, 17 cases of GBV and eight violations of the right to life and physical integrity.

Gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response

UNHCR, in collaboration with its partner INTERSOS, conducted a sensitization session for female leaders on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) to enhance their knowledge and enable them to plan awareness-raising activities with the support provided by UNHCR.

During the reporting week, UNHCR organized two meetings with the refugee women's association, "YA RAHAMANE," to prepare to receive funds to carry out activities aimed at preventing GBV as well as income-generating activities.

INTEROS 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.

Education

During the reporting period, no new registrations were recorded in primary education under the Education Cannot Wait (ECW) program. To date, 1,311 refugee students have enrolled at Nguerendomo School in Birao, representing a 40 per cent increase compared to the end of the 2023/24 school year and a fivefold increase compared to the previous school term.

In secondary education, a formal launch ceremony for a French language learning program, funded by the MasterCard Foundation (MCF), was held. The event was attended by key stakeholders including local authorities, refugee and host community leaders, and humanitarian partners such as OCHA, Finn Church Aid (FCA) and INTERSOS. In collaboration with FCA, UNHCR has engaged six qualified teachers and two focal points (one from the host community and one from the refugee community) to ensure smooth implementation. A total of 289 students registered in the first week, with registrations ongoing.

Regarding tertiary education, the screening, verification, preselection, and evaluation processes for 30 candidates under the new French language learning scholarship program, funded by the MasterCard Foundation, were completed. This initiative aims to enhance Sudanese refugees' access to higher education in CAR. The final list of scholarship recipients will be announced next week.

Regarding educational materials, a total of 1,053 kits were distributed as of 21 December with no additional school kits distributed during the reporting week under the ECW and MCF programs. However, the distribution of 350 school kits for secondary students is planned for the week after 21 December. 138 dignity kits were distributed to students from refugee and host communities this week to support girls' education and attendance, marking a total of 300 kits distributed since the school term began, funded by Education Cannot Wait.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

During the reporting week, 11 emergency latrines and 11 showers were constructed thus the cumulative figure for 2024 is 201 latrines and 136 showers. In Korsi, the number of latrines has increased to 261, slightly improving the ratio from 63 to 60 people per latrine. The ratio remains well above the recommended standard of 20 people per latrine. On the other hand, the number of emergency showers has reached 264, with a ratio of 57 people per shower.

The potable water supply remained insufficient during the reporting week, with 66,000 litres of water provided daily for 16,037 people, equating to just 5 litres per person, far below the minimum of 20 litres per person per day as recommended by Sphere standards. TGH has completed the construction of two metal water towers in Korsi, awaiting the installation of water tanks. Additionally, sanitation work continues, with 43 semi-durable latrines almost finished and 114 others under construction.

Hygiene teams maintained their efforts to improve public health including by conducting awareness sessions that reached 46 per cent of the population on topics such as the dangers of open defecation, maintaining water points and proper water storage. The construction of waste disposal pits has been completed and is now in use by the refugees, with four additional pits planned for 2024. Furthermore, the UNHCR's partner APADE has initiated the installation of a solar-powered borehole in Korsi, which is expected to be operational next week.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

During the reporting week, 50 new emergency shelters were constructed, bringing the total number of emergency shelters built in 2024 to 710, with 149 pending completion. The total number of emergency shelters in Korsi remains at 1,948.

The construction of 220 semi-durable shelters continues, with 108 shelters under construction. Of these, 8 are fully completed, and 100 are awaiting the installation of doors and windows. Material supply is ongoing, and 10 semi-durable shelters have been plastered to serve as finishing models for the 108 shelters currently under construction.

As for infrastructure and Buildings, a technical inspection of two school buildings was conducted with local authorities, UNHCR and its partner NOURRIR. Corrective work on 84 tables in the old school building at Nguerendomo has been completed.

Additionally, two school office buildings were also inspected and received with some reservations. Work on the administrative building of the Academic Inspection of Vakaga has been temporarily halted after completing the first coat of lime paint on both interior and exterior walls. Work on the health centre building is paused due to a shortage of cement, with delivery expected from Chad to resume the foundation work, which is 90 per cent completed. Lastly, an installation workshop for solar-powered drilling is underway at the health centre in the Igoumbi area.

Food Security

During the reporting week, a total of 2,773 tons of dry food were distributed to 90 households, benefiting 268 individuals. The recipients are the new arrivals from 11 to 13 December, in the Korsi area, achieving a 100 per cent coverage rate.

Health and Nutrition

From 14 to 20 December, a total of 779 curative consultations were conducted by the medical team (UNHCR's partners NOURRIR and IMC under the supervision of WHO and the Vakaga Health District). Of these, 78 consultations were for the host population (10.01 per cent), while 701 were for refugees in Korsi (89.99 per cent). Among the refugees, 169 were new arrivals (21.69 per cent). A total of 234 children aged 0 to 59 months received the outpatient services (30.03 per cent), including 124 girls and 110 boys. Cumulative data for 2024 shows 36,222 curative consultations, with 2,459 being follow-up cases (6.78 per cent) and 3,498 consultations for the host population (9.66 per cent).

The three leading causes of morbidity were malaria (343 cases, 44.03 per cent), acute respiratory infections (159 cases, 20.41 per cent), and intestinal parasitoses (109 cases, 13.99 per cent). The majority of these cases were treated on an outpatient basis in Korsi by the medical staff. Only 7 patients (0.9 per cent) were referred from Korsi to the Birao District Hospital for further treatment.

As for Gynecological and Maternal Health Services, 33 displaced women received prenatal consultations, bringing the cumulative total for 2024 to 1,442 cases. Three postnatal consultations were conducted, totaling 287 for the year. Additionally, 46 women received gynecological consultations, with a cumulative 1,900 for the year. Eight women received family planning services, bringing the total for 2024 to 318 women.

Two deliveries were carried out. The total for 2024 as of 21 December was 141 deliveries, with 144 newborns including two through caesarean sections, three twin births and 136 single deliveries. Seven patients were referred from Korsi to Birao District Hospital, representing 0.9 per cent of the total consultations. Of these, three patients have been discharged after recovery and four remain hospitalized. There were no deaths reported this week, with the total for 2024 standing at 15.

Nutrition monitoring and vaccination activities also took place during the reporting week. 234 children aged 6 to 59 months were screened for malnutrition during curative consultations, resulting in six cases of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) and three cases of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM). The previous mass nutritional screening campaign took place on April 17 with 801 children screened, identifying 88 cases of MAM and 8 cases of SAM. Routine vaccinations were administered to eight pregnant women with tetanus vaccines and four children with multi-antigen vaccines, including one dose against measles. In 2024, as of 21 December, 614 children had received multi-antigen vaccines, including 204 against measles and 571 pregnant women had received tetanus vaccines.

CHAD

Highlights

- On 18 December, UNHCR participated in a workshop aimed at developing the Provincial Plan for durable solutions for displaced persons in Sila Province for the period 2025–2030. The plan focuses on three key areas: protection of displaced persons, basic social services and sustainable reintegration. Organized by the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Decentralization in collaboration with IOM, the workshop brought together more than 30 participants. These included community members and representatives from local, provincial, and departmental action committees, as well as national and international NGOs.
- Amid the ongoing conflict in Sudan, UNHCR, the Commission Nationale pour l'Accueil et la Réinsertion des Réfugiés et des Rapatriés (CNARR), and the Association pour la Promotion des Libertés Fondamentales au Tchad (APFLT) launched an awareness campaign on 19 December 2024 at the Zabout refugee site. The campaign aimed to prevent the recruitment of refugee children by armed groups in Chad. Targeting youth, parents and community leaders, the initiative emphasized education, livelihoods and community action as essential measures to discourage recruitment.

Population Movements and Registration

From 16 and 20 December, 537 individuals (152 households) fleeing insecurity in Sudan entered Chad, primarily through the Tine, Moudeina and Adré border entry points. Since the beginning of the conflict, the Government of Chad has received over 722,000 new Sudanese refugees (approximately 201,000 households), including nearly 238,000 arrivals in 2024, alone.

During the reporting period, a total of 2,289 individuals including 1,558 births, were registered at the Arkoum, Alacha, Metché, Farchana and Aboutengué refugee sites. This is a reflection of the ongoing efforts to document and manage the refugee population effectively.

The registration of asylum-seekers in Amdjarasse also continued. As of 29 December, 3,836 asylum-seekers have been granted refugee status.

Relocation

From 18 to 21 December, UNHCR and its partners relocated 885 individuals (283 households) from Tine and Adré to Kourisigou and Dougui, respectively.

Protection

Gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response

UNHCR and other UN agencies participated in a training-of-trainers programme on the clinical management of rape and intimate partner violence in N'Djamena from 10 to 17 December. The training aimed to strengthen the capacity to address Gender-Based Violence in refugee settings.

Legal protection

UNHCR and its partners continued the fight against statelessness. A total of 268 birth certificates were issued to refugee children through the Agence Nationale des Titres Sécurisés du Tchad (ANATS). Additionally, 80 new births were registered, and their birth certificates will be issued. Furthermore, 59 children who exceeded the legal registration deadline were registered at the Metché refugee site to facilitate the establishment of supplementary judgments.

Community-based protection

UNHCR's partner, the Association pour la Promotion des Libertés Fondamentales au Tchad (APLFT), conducted awareness raising sessions in Bredjing and Treguine refugee sites on the risks linked to the movement of young people to gold mining areas. The sessions focused on the consequences and dangers young gold miners face in Kouri.

The distribution of INDITEX clothing began on 21 December at the Farchana Extension II, Farchana, Metché, Alacha and Dougui refugee sites. Each refugee aged 6 and above receives four clothing items, while babies under 5 receive two items.

Child protection

From 16 to 18 December, UNHCR organized two training sessions on child protection in humanitarian action for 40 participants from various partner groups. The sessions improved the participants' understanding of child protection, its integration across humanitarian sectors and strategies to prevent and respond to risks such as Gender-Based Violence (GBV), family separation and child labour.

During the reporting period, 123 children at risk were identified. Best interest assessments were conducted for four children and 76 received cash assistance of XAF 25,000 (approximately USD 39.68) per child. Additionally, 115 children at risk were provided with material and food assistance across the Zabout, Goz-Amir, Djabal and Kerfi refugee sites.

Education

During the reporting period, 51 teachers were trained at the Iridimi refugee site. The training, funded by the Education Cannot Wait (ECW) programme, focused on inclusive education, the Chadian curriculum and accelerated education.

Two new temporary learning space (TLS) classrooms were completed at the Iridimi refugee site during the reporting week, bringing the total to twelve classrooms planned for this site. Ten additional TLS are under construction in Touloum. At the Goz-Amir refugee site, 20 TLS have been completed across five schools. These additional spaces mark significant progress in improving local educational infrastructure and providing an optimal environment for pupils to learn.

Coordination

In preparation for a smooth start to the upcoming program year, the current UNHCR partners have begun the handover process to the newly selected partners. This process includes discussions on areas of intervention and staffing as well as the transfer of UNHCR's assets and vital documents.

Health and Nutrition

Between 18 and 22 December, a catch-up campaign for pneumonia, along with campaigns for pneumococcal meningitis and deworming with albendazole were launched in the areas covered by the Adré health district.

Since the onset of the Sudan situation, 1,010,550 medical consultations have been conducted including 11,679 during the reporting week. The main health concerns remain malaria, acute respiratory infections (ARI), watery diarrhoea, and malnutrition. As of 21 December, 71,592 children had been treated for moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and 31,700 for severe acute malnutrition (SAM). During the reporting week, the screenings of 16,162 children identified 630 new cases of MAM and 291 cases of SAM. 110,031 pregnant and breastfeeding women screened since the beginning of the conflict with 8,225 cases of MAM treated.

Mental health services have been accessed by 18,247 individuals, with 95 new cases recorded during the reporting week. A total of 13,612 births attended by qualified health personnel have been recorded since the emergency began, including 177 during the reporting week. 530 children were vaccinated for all antigens combined, with 40 children receiving the measles vaccine.

From 19 and 21 December, during the nutrition cluster coordination meeting in Adré, the results of the SMART/SENS survey were presented. They will inform the 2025 activity plans. The overall nutritional situation in the refugee sites in eastern Chad is concerning, with an average global acute malnutrition prevalence of 10.5 per cent. Six refugee sites in the Iriba region reported prevalences exceeding the critical 15 per cent threshold.

The general food distribution for the November and December cycles started on 25 November and ended on 21 December in the Adré, Metché and Alacha refugee sites. The distribution assisted 325,936 individuals (81,836 households). Additionally, 7,063 children aged 6 to 23 months and 4,482 pregnant and lactating women each received 12 kg of Super Cereal Plus to prevent acute malnutrition.

Cash Assistance

WFP's cash assistance was provided to new Sudanese refugees relocated to the Farchana Extensions I and II refugee sites. A total of 19,392 refugees received XAF 16,000 (approximately USD 25.40) each for the November and December cycle.

Through the RESPECT project, IRC provided cash assistance to 100 flood-affected refugee households in the Iridimi refugee site. Each household received XAF 48,000 (approximately USD 76.17) and an 8 kg blanket.

From 17 to 20 December, 93 market gardening households (60 refugees and 33 members of the refugee-hosting community) received XAF 50,000 each for purchasing inputs. Additionally, 60 refugee households received XAF 100,000 each for income-generating activities, totaling XAF 10,650,000 distributed across the Iridimi, Touloum and Amnabak refugee sites and surrounding host communities.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

On 18 December, 1,147 individuals (274 households) at the Goz-Amir refugee site received core relief items (CRIs).

A total of 662 new emergency shelters were constructed and 1,337 shelters were rehabilitated in the Arkoum and Alacha refugee sites, achieving a 100 per cent completion rate.

Water, Shelter, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

During the reporting period, the Programme for the Empowerment and Development of Communities (PEDC) completed the construction of 120 family latrines in Zabout.

The drilling of two large-diameter boreholes was completed in Zabout and the data is currently being processed.

EGYPT

Highlights

- On 16 December, Egypt's new Asylum Law was published in the Official Gazette, establishing a Permanent Committee for Refugee Affairs (PCRA) to oversee refugee-related matters and regulate access to key services such as healthcare, education and employment, while streamlining asylum processes. Discussions on the bylaws for the law's implementation are expected to follow, with UNHCR providing technical expertise to build a government-led asylum framework aligned with international and regional standards.
- On 17 December, UNHCR and its education partner, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), hosted a ceremony in Cairo to honor the graduation of 135 scholars under the Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative (DAFI) and to welcome a new cohort of students. The event featured speeches from representatives of the German Embassy, UNHCR and CRS, who highlighted the achievements of the graduates and emphasized the program's impact on empowering refugee youth through education. Scholars representing DAFI graduates, high achievers and alumni shared inspiring stories of how the DAFI scholarship has positively influenced their academic and professional journeys. Recognized as one of the top-performing programs globally, the ceremony celebrated the scholars' contributions to their communities and reaffirmed the importance of higher education in fostering resilience and opportunities for displaced populations.
- On 17 December, the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Cairo announced a USD 1.9 million contribution to support Egypt's response to the Sudan situation in 2025, marking Norway's first direct funding to UNHCR since 2019. This contribution underscores Norway's strategic collaboration with UNHCR and strengthens efforts to address the humanitarian needs arising from the Sudan crisis.
- In response to harsh economic challenges and the onset of winter, UNHCR is delivering critical support to over 66,000 vulnerable families through one-time winter cash assistance to meet essential needs such as electricity, clothing, blankets and heaters. The initiative prioritizes families classified as extremely poor or poor, including 43 per cent Sudanese new arrivals and 63 per cent female-headed households.

Population Movements and Registration

As of 22 December, UNHCR had provided registration appointments to 847,113 individuals forced to flee Sudan since the onset of the conflict in April 2023. Of these, UNHCR registered 529,606 individuals for assistance and protection, representing 62 per cent of the total. Most of the newly registered population arriving from Sudan are Sudanese nationals (96 per cent), followed by Eritrean nationals (2 per cent) and South Sudanese nationals (2 per cent).

Protection

Community-based protection

During the reporting period, 2,937 refugees and asylum-seekers received information about services, assistance and procedures for reporting fraud and complaints from outreach community workers at UNHCR's Reception Centre in 6th of October City, Greater Cairo. Additionally, UNHCR's partner Terre des Hommes (TdH) provided on-the-spot basic psychosocial support to 2,937 individuals, with 21 cases referred for in-depth psychosocial assessment.

Legal and physical protection

During the reporting period, UNHCR and its partners provided legal counselling to 83 individuals including 67 Sudanese who received legal aid on matters such as early and late birth registration, filing legal reports, divorce, custody and legal representation.

Infoline

During the reporting week, an average of 1,141 individuals per day fleeing the conflict in Sudan secured registration appointments through UNHCR's Infoline. Since the beginning of the crisis, 577,877 individuals have scheduled appointments via the Infoline.

Education

As of 21 December, UNHCR's partner, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) had registered 79,345 refugee and asylum-seeker children including 50,339 Sudanese children for education cash grants in Egypt.

Cash Assistance

As of 21 December, UNHCR has conducted vulnerability assessments for 128,864 newly arrived Sudanese individuals since the beginning of the crisis. In November and December, 32,222 of them were supported with Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA). 72,356 individuals in highly vulnerable situations remain on the MPCA waiting list.

In Aswan, UNHCR has assessed 14,521 individuals for Emergency Cash Assistance (ECA) since the beginning of the crisis, with 73 per cent found eligible. Nationwide, 99,162 newly arrived individuals have been identified as eligible for one-time ECA and 83 percent of them have successfully received assistance at the beginning of the crisis.

ETHIOPIA

Highlights

- During the reporting week, the security situation in the Amhara region remained volatile but allowed humanitarian operations to continue. The reopening of the Gondar-Metema highway for public transport has improved access. Despite these positive developments, reports indicate that the risk of extortion and harassment targeting UN convoys and public transport still persists.
- In the Benishangul-Gumuz region, the security situation at the Kurmuk Transit Centre, Ura and Sherkole refugee sites remains calm and stable.

Population Movements and Registration

During the reporting period, 251 individuals from 77 households completed household-level registration in the Benishangul Gumuz region, bringing the cumulative number of registered individuals to 28,399 since 15 April 2023.

In the Amhara region, household-level registration remains on hold due to security concerns at the Metema entry point. Since the onset of the conflict in Sudan, a total of 21,771 individuals have been registered in the region.

Relocation

In the Benishangul Gumuz region, UNHCR in coordination with the Refugee and Returnee Service (RRS) and partners, facilitated the relocation of 167 individuals (52 households) from the Kurmuk Transit Centre to the Ura refugee site. Additionally, 84 individuals from 25 households spontaneously relocated during the reporting period. This brings the cumulative number of relocated refugees to 8,773 individuals from 3,341 households since the beginning of the relocation exercise.

Protection

In the Amhara region, UNHCR continued community engagement with refugees through the Refugee Central Committee (RCC) members and partners in Aftit and at the Metema Transit Centre. The protection desk remains operational, providing crucial information about available services within the refugee settlement including access to health services and responses to other protection needs.

During the reporting week, 26 individuals received counseling at the protection desk in Aftit. In the Benishangul Gumuz region, protection counseling was provided at the Kurmuk Transit Centre and Ura refugee settlement, where a total of 19 individuals received appropriate protection counseling and services.

UNHCR's partner, the Rehabilitation and Development Organization (RADO), conducted the registration of Persons with Specific Needs (PSN) in Aftit Settlement. Home visits were made by incentive social workers and psychosocial support was provided for the elderly, persons with disabilities and others with specific needs. As a result, refugees under the PSN category received Non-Food Items (NFIs) in Aftit. Additionally, in cooperation with the West Gondar Zone and Metema Woreda Women and Children Affairs Office, the partner provided NFIs, such as bed sheets, elbow crutches, and wheelchairs, to the most vulnerable in Aftit Kebele.

Gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response

In the Amhara region, UNHCR's partner, the Development and Inter-Church Aid Commission (DICAC), and Medical Teams International (MTI) provided GBV prevention and response services in Aftit. GBV survivors were enrolled in comprehensive case management, and follow-up care was conducted for other GBV survivors and women at risk to monitor their recovery and provide continued support.

An awareness-raising session was held with male Gender and Peace ambassadors, including religious leaders and model men from the Aftit refugee community. The session focused on reinforcing survivor centered GBV principles safety, respect, dignity, non-discrimination, and confidentiality encouraging ambassadors to apply these principles in their mediation work to better support survivors.

Additionally, MTI conducted awareness-raising sessions on Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) and GBV at the Aftit health post.

Child protection

In Aftit, Innovative Humanitarian Solutions (IHS) and Plan International Ethiopia (PIE) provided Child Protection services. Home visits were conducted for 80 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) who were provided with cash assistance at the Aftit Settlement. Best Interest of the Child assessments (BIA) were conducted for five UASC.

Additionally, the partners coordinated the distribution of 12 kgs of high-energy flour (Fafa) to two unaccompanied minors at the Metema Transit Center, providing essential nutritional support to vulnerable children. On average, 322 children accessed the Child Friendly Space (CFS) in Aftit.

Health and Nutrition

In Metema Transit Centre and Aftit settlement, UNHCR's partner, Medical Teams International (MTI), and WHO's Mobile Health and Nutrition Team (MHNT) provided Outpatient Department (OPD) consultations. MTI conducted OPD consultations to 276 refugees and host community members including 56 children under 5, in Aftit. MHNT provided OPD consultations for 364 refugees at the Metema Transit Centre. The prevalent diseases included acute febrile illness, non-bloody diarrhoea, urinary tract infections, pneumonia and bloody diarrhoea/dysentery. Nutrition screening was also conducted for children as well as pregnant and lactating women (PLW). Among the children, 26 cases of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) and 15 cases of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) were identified while 15 cases of MAM were found among the PLW. These cases were admitted to the outpatient therapeutic program and targeted supplementary feeding program, respectively.

A psychiatric nurse from MTI conducted 15 Mental Health and Psychosocial Support consultations at the Aftit Health Centre and 73 consultations at the Metema Transit Centre, identifying four new mental health cases.

UNHCR's partner MTI also provided OPD consultations to 928 refugees and host community members in the Ura refugee site and Kurmuk Transit Centre. The prevalent diseases included malaria, lower respiratory tract infections, upper respiratory tract infections, and diarrheal diseases. Nutrition screening was conducted by UNHCR's partner GOAL for 231 children under 5 and 76 PLW. Among the children, one case of SAM and 10 cases of MAM were identified. The cases were admitted to the outpatient therapeutic program and targeted supplementary feeding program, respectively.

Education

In Aftit, the teaching and learning process is ongoing for 811 primary school refugee students and 535 host community children. 61 incentive refugee teachers and 19 national teachers are facilitating the teaching and learning process at the Aftit Primary School. The construction of two blocks with eight classrooms, one block with four classrooms and one block with three administrative offices is progressing rapidly. In addition, the construction of two latrines and a 500-metre fence around the school is nearing completion. A total of 270 refugee students regularly attend secondary school at the Gende Wuha/Metema host community secondary school. UNHCR's partner Development and Inter-Church Aid Commission (DICAC) continues to provide buses for students to attend school at Gende Wuha secondary school.

In Ura, the teaching and learning process is taking place at the Akuda-Tumet Primary School through UNHCR's partner Plan International Ethiopia (PIE) for 2,327 refugee students and 1,352 host community students. Early Childhood Care and Development is being provided for children aged 4-6 years at the Child-Friendly Space (CFS) at Ura refugee site.

Water, Shelter, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

In the Amhara region, UNHCR's partner Innovative Humanitarian Solutions (IHS) provided 70,429 litres of chlorinated water per day for refugees in Metema Transit Centre and Aftit Settlement, with an average of 15.3 litres per person per day (l/p/d) for refugees at the Transit Centre and 7.4 l/p/d for refugees in Aftit. During the reporting week, there was a decrease in water provision by 12,428 litres at an average of 70,429 litres compared to the previous week's average provision of 82,857 litres. The amount provided at the Aftit Settlement is below the UNHCR emergency standard of 15 litres per person per day.

Through UNHCR's partner International Rescue Committee (IRC), a significant improvement in water access has been achieved, providing 180,000 litres of water per day to more than 8,400 refugees in Ura, which is about 14.3 l/p/d. This represents an increase from the 120,000 litres of water distributed in the previous week. The increase is attributed to the construction of additional water distribution points, bringing the total to 11 across Zones A, B, and C in the Ura refugee settlement.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

In Aftit, labeling works for shelter units across zones, blocks and communities for two blocks have been completed, while work for the remaining zones is ongoing. In addition, joint site monitoring for shelter modifications by refugees has been conducted. Refugees have improved their floors and front yards with selected materials and have installed extension framing structures for shops and related commercial activities.

In Ura, a total of 30 shelters were completed and handed over to beneficiaries during the reporting period. This brings the total number of completed shelters in Ura to 1,864.

LIBYA

Highlights

- On 19 December, a high-level UN delegation including UNHCR representatives visited Kufra in eastern Libya to assess and enhance humanitarian support for Sudanese refugees, reviewing progress under the UNHCR-led Sudanese Refugee Response Plan. The delegation's visit underscores the ongoing commitment to address the needs of refugees fleeing conflict and seeking safety in Libya.

Population Movement and Registration

Sudanese refugees continue arriving through the border with Sudan with approximately 500 daily arrivals according to Sudanese community representatives in Alkufra. UNHCR estimates that over 210,000 Sudanese refugees have arrived in Libya since April 2023. This includes 36,960 individuals who were registered with UNHCR post-conflict¹. According to local authorities, 173,000 Sudanese have arrived

¹ The total number of Sudanese refugees registered by UNHCR at its registration centre in Tripoli stands at 57,056, including 37,495 who've arrived post-conflict.

through Alkufra. Of this number, 125,000 refugees received health certificates from the health authorities in Alkufra. Nonetheless, due to the irregular nature of entry, the ad hoc data shared by authorities and the vast remote land border with Chad, Egypt and Sudan, combined with movements towards cities along the coast, it remains challenging to provide an accurate number of Sudanese refugees.

Registration by authorities in Alkufra continues with a capacity of 600-1,000 individuals per day, and around 800 cards are collected daily. The backlog caused by a lack of printing equipment in November has decreased from 6,000 to fewer than 1,000 cards. The security registration cards help prevent arrest and provide access to public services in eastern and southeastern Libya.

Relocation

Desperate refugees and migrants including Sudanese, continue to attempt crossing the Mediterranean Sea to reach Europe. As of this year, 21,088 individuals have been rescued or intercepted at sea and returned to Libya compared to 15,271 in 2023. This represents a 38 percent increase in the number of people rescued. Sudanese nationals are the third-highest nationality among those rescued, with a total of 1,752 individuals as of 21 December. Those intercepted and detained in Libyan detention centres are often quickly released.

Protection

On 19 December, in Alkufra, UNHCR in coordination with the Libyan Red Crescent (LRC), conducted a Focus Group Discussion (FGD) on living conditions, challenges and future intentions. During the session, visitors from the UN mission had the opportunity to attend part of the discussion and interact with the refugees in person. A report on the findings is being compiled and will be shared internally.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

On 19 December, through its partner LibAid, UNHCR distributed full sets of CRIs and Hygiene Kits (HKs) to 3,487 Sudanese refugees in Alkufra. The Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator, along with heads of UN agencies, visited the distribution site.

On 21 December, through partner LibAid, UNHCR began a distribution in Ajdabiya of full sets of CRIs and HKs, targeting more than 4,300 Sudanese refugees. As of December, 2,648 refugees had been reached.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

The needs in eastern Libya continue to escalate with the ongoing arrival of Sudanese refugees. Significant gaps remain in health, WASH, cash, food and shelter services. The overstretched WASH infrastructure heightens the risk of disease outbreaks, underscoring the urgent need for improved access to clean water and latrines.

Health and Nutrition

Many refugees arrive in poor health, requiring immediate medical and nutritional assistance. Local authorities play a crucial role in providing access to public health services and facilitating school enrolment for refugee children. However, as refugees increasingly move towards coastal cities, continued support for host communities across Libya remains vital. Tailored protection measures, particularly for female-headed households are also urgently needed.

Cash Assistance

UNHCR, in partnership with the Norwegian Refugee Council and the European Commission for Social Integration and Voluntary Initiatives, has provided cash vouchers to 83 recently arrived Sudanese families (267 refugees), enabling them to purchase food, medicine and household items. As of 21 December, over 5,000 Sudanese refugees had received cash assistance.

SOUTH SUDAN

Highlights

- In less than three weeks, over 80,000 people have sought safety in South Sudan due to the escalating violence in Sudan's White Nile, Sennar and Blue Nile States. This has resulted in more than a threefold increase in the average number of daily arrivals compared to previous weeks. The majority of those arriving are women and children with urgent humanitarian needs. They are primarily entering through remote and hard-to-reach border crossings and settling in small border villages. Among those fleeing the latest wave of violence in Sudan are not only Sudanese nationals but also South Sudanese refugees who had been living in Sudan's White Nile State, an area that had been relatively safe since the onset of the conflict.

Population Movement and Registration

In Renk, 2,710 households, comprising returnees, asylum seekers and refugees, crossed into South Sudan through the Joda/Wunthau border points. A total of 2,582 individuals from 720 households crossed through the unofficial crossing points of Gerbena (Gongbar and Omdulis). As of 22 December, Renk's cumulative refugee population stands at 99,238 individuals (23,010 households), excluding those relocated to Maban, Jamjang, Yambio and Aweil.

During the reporting week, UNHCR received 1,024 refugees from Renk for onward transportation to Aweil (Ajuong Thok refugee camp).

Since the start of the influx from Sudan, 16,700 refugees and asylum seekers have been registered and 9,930 returnees have been recorded in the Ruweng Administrative Area.

Relocation

In Renk, a total of 1,024 individuals (586 households) were relocated to Aweil and Jamjang during the reporting period: 1,010 individuals to Aweil and 14 individuals to Jamjang. Since the beginning of the response in 2023, a cumulative 12,602 individuals (5,029 households) have been relocated from Renk. This includes 1,174 individuals (685 households) who were relocated to Maban in 2023.

During the reporting week, UNHCR received 1,024 refugees from Renk for onward transportation to Aweil (Ajuong Thok refugee camp).

In Abyei, the 16th relocation from the Abyei Transit Centre to Wedwil refugee camp was facilitated on 20 December, with 212 individuals (126 households) relocated. Some of the relocated individuals have relatives already in the camp.

Health and Nutrition

In Renk, a total of 6,118 health consultations were carried out during the reporting week. Acute respiratory infections, malaria and acute watery diarrhoea remain the top three causes of morbidity. With the increase in new arrivals from Sudan, the number of daily health consultations continued to rise.

Vaccines were administered to 2,086 children including 882 for polio (39.4 percent), 1,140 for measles (54.7 percent) and 124 for other vaccines (5.9 percent).

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

In Renk, UNHCR, through its implementing partners, is upgrading 22 communal shelters in TC2², improving living conditions for refugees and returnees. Additionally, the side drainage concrete works, aimed at properly collecting and channeling rainwater and greywater from within TC2, are progressing well and are expected to be completed by the end of the year.

² TC2 refers to a specific transit center or area within a refugee settlement in Renk, South Sudan.

In Malakal, on 17 December, a distribution of non-food items (NFIs) was conducted in Ruplet to ensure easy accessibility for vulnerable groups. As a result, 100 households (85 females/15 males) received NFIs, including soap, plastic sheets, buckets, blankets, and mosquito nets. The distribution targeted communities affected by floods to provide essential items that support survival and improve living conditions.

In Longechuk, seven transitional shelters have been completed with the remaining three expected to be finished by 27 December.

UGANDA

Highlights

- Since the onset of the conflict in April 2023, a total of 61,627 refugees from Sudan have been registered in Uganda.
- Since January 2024, 49,964 individuals from Sudan have sought asylum and been registered in Uganda.
- As of 20 December 2024, Uganda had 1,126 confirmed cases of Mpox since the outbreak began in July 2024. Of these, 117 are currently admitted, 1,003 have recovered, and six fatalities have been recorded. There was no new case among the refugees, keeping the total of seven individuals (1 in Adjumani, 1 in Bidibidi, 1 in Nakivale, and 4 in Kampala) that have tested positive, received treatment, and recovered. Partners continue Mpox surveillance, with a particular focus on new arrivals.

Population Movements and Registration

During the reporting week, a total of 651 Sudanese new arrivals were received in the settlements due to violence and insecurity in Sudan. Sudanese account for the largest number of new arrivals this year.

Out of the 65,474 Sudanese refugees registered in Uganda, 9,652 (15 per cent) are urban refugees. No new arrivals from Sudan were registered in the urban this week.

Relocation

797 Sudanese have been relocated from Nyumanzi, Kiryandongo, Imvepi, and Ocea reception centres this week.

Protection

Access to Territory

Prima facie recognition for Sudanese asylum seekers remains in force. General violence and insecurity resulted in 651 new Sudanese arrivals in Uganda this week.

Reception Centres

60 per cent (1,541 out of 2,554 individuals) of the refugees hosted in Adjumani SO, Ocea and Kiryandongo reception centers are Sudanese nationals.

Urban relocation

Since the setup in March 2024, of the registration desk in Kiryandongo for Sudanese refugees choosing to reside in Kampala, 1,193 Sudanese individuals in 573 households have requested relocation to Kampala. No new arrivals opted for Kampala Urban Settlement during the week.

Legal and Physical Protection

A day's training on alternative dispute resolution was held in Magamaga for 94 participants including cultural, opinion and cluster leaders (23 nationals and 71 refugees) to enhance their conflict management skills in the community.

People with Specific Needs

The construction of 28 single-room shelters for extremely vulnerable individuals under the L2 Emergency Funding is progressing. The construction of walls for 23 shelters is complete and foundation work for five others is ongoing. Completion is expected in the middle of the following week.

At the Reception Centre, 39 PSNs were issued with PSN cards to facilitate quicker access to services such as registration, hot meals and accommodation. The cards also enable referrals to protection partners for additional support as they settle into their plots.

Gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response

In Kiryandongo, 35 community GBV structures were engaged through SASA! methodology training at the female safe space in Cluster A to enhance their capacity to implement community based GBV prevention and response activities.

A Girl Shine training of trainers was also conducted in Kiryandongo, facilitated by IRC and an external consultant for staff from Refugee-led Organizations (RLOs), UNHCR, LWF and partners, equipping them to manage adolescent-focused programs. Trainees will support Girl Shine Mentors in delivering sessions within the community.

Child protection

In Kiryandongo, 283 community members participated in awareness sessions led by para-social workers and partner staff. The sessions focused on child rights, responsibilities, and the importance of birth registration.

Three girls at risk due to teenage pregnancy, forced marriage, and unmet basic needs were assessed, with action plans developed and counselling provided to both the children and their caregivers. Shelter, psychosocial, medical, educational, and legal support were some of the needs identified in the assessment.

Health and Nutrition

Nine suspected cases of public health concern were recorded in Kiryandongo, including five Mpox cases from a single family, with samples sent to UVRI for analysis. Additionally, four suspected measles cases remain under isolation for monitoring and treatment.

A total of 12,419 Outpatient Department (OPD) consultations were recorded this week across Kiryandongo (3,253), Adjumani (4,657), Palorinya (2,327), and Palabek (2,182). Malaria accounted for 26 per cent of cases, Respiratory Tract Infections (RTI) for 24 per cent, and diarrheal diseases for 3 per cent. Lamwo reported the highest malaria burden with 1,103 cases (51 per cent) while Kiryandongo recorded the highest RTI cases at 1,063 (29 per cent).

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Five environmental health and hygiene campaign sessions were conducted at the reception center by the Village Health Team (VHT), reaching 1,203 new arrivals. Additionally, 32 water user committee members 37 received training in effective water management practices by health assistants. The training emphasized clean water availability and the sustainability of water systems, preparing for the utility approach and ensuring long-term access to safe drinking water.

Energy and Natural Resources

In Kiryandongo, forty-six model households, all refugees from Ranch 1 and 37, received solar lanterns to enhance lighting. This was intended to motivate households to adopt tree planting, use Lorena stoves for cooking, and improve hygiene practices, setting an example for other community members to follow.

Challenges

Community leaders report rising school dropout rates due to overcrowding, insufficient parental support, inadequate meals, and neglect. Many parents leave their children unattended while seeking livelihood opportunities.

There is an urgent need for at least two medical tents, mobile sanitary facilities, cholera beds, and rapid test kits to enhance isolation capacity. A UNICEF team has assessed the situation, and deployment of these supplies needs fast-tracking.

Individuals with serious medical conditions at reception centers struggle with inadequate diets, as the daily food provided (Posho/rice and beans) does not meet their nutritional needs.

Women of reproductive age face persistent challenges due to insufficient dignity kit supplies. New arrivals receive initial support, but many lack access to sanitary materials as they adapt to living in a settlement.

Many community members avoid meetings, citing unresolved key issues such as reduced food assistance, unmet shelter needs, and limited livelihood opportunities.

There is a growing need for assistive devices and shelter for Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs). These individuals, often without caregivers, stay longer in reception centres due to their inability to construct shelters independently.

Insufficient material for household latrine construction remains a pressing challenge, particularly for new arrivals.

Production wells and hand pumps are being damaged by silting, risking pump functionality. Additionally, frequent breakdowns of aging water infrastructure disrupt water production and supply.

Increasing demand for latrine emptying in reception centers (Elegu, Nyumanzi, and Kiryandongo) due to growing populations. In addition, flooding and latrine collapses caused by heavy rainfall are worsening sanitation challenges. Furthermore, vandalism of communal facilities undermines sanitation management efforts.

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** to provide essential aid and protection to a total of **3.3 million people** in seven countries by the end of 2024. This includes 2.8 million refugees, returnees, and others who have fled the ongoing conflict in Sudan and 500,000 host community members. As of 21 December, the total reported funding for the RRP reached some USD 450.65 million, representing **30%** of the required amount.

Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) – January - December 2024

The [Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan \(HRP\)](#) was launched on 7 February and requires **USD 2.7 billion** to assist **14.7 million people**. As of 21 December, the total funding for the HRP reached USD 1.71 billion, covering **63.4%** of the requirements. Access OCHA's Financial Tracking Service here: [OCHA FTS](#).

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 21 December, the appeal is funded at **42%**.

Resources

- [NEW! UNHCR scales up response for Sudanese refugees arriving in Libya amid growing humanitarian needs.](#)
- [NEW! UNHCR and partners rush aid as Sudan arrivals overwhelm South Sudan border.](#)
- [UNHCR Sudan Situation Appeal 2025](#)
- [UNHCR raises alarm on the surge of new arrivals in South Sudan](#)
- [South Sudan: Inter-Agency Update on the Surge in Arrivals to South Sudan](#)
- [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 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](#)).