

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)

12 – 18 January 2025



UNHCR, in collaboration with the National Commission for Refugees (CNR), is registering Sudanese refugees in Korsi and Birao, Central African Republic. © UNHCR/Ying Hu

Highlights

- While the overall security situation in Sudanese refugee-hosting areas such as Vakaga, Bamingui-Bangoran, Haute Kotto, Ouaka, Mbomou, and Haute Mbomou remained calm during the reporting week, risks persist due to the presence of armed groups. On 17 January, an exchange of fire between armed bandits and Sudanese poachers near Birao resulted in the death of a refugee motorbike taxi driver and injuries to three village residents. This incident highlights ongoing security threats from armed groups and roadblocks in the area.

Population Movements and Registration

During the reporting week, 737 new Sudanese refugees (261 families) arrived in Birao, Vakaga prefecture, a further increase from the 519 new refugee arrivals the previous week. This figure is nearly three times the average weekly arrivals recorded in December 2024, attributed to intensified airstrikes in Nyala, Darfur, and improved road conditions with the onset of the dry season.

The National Commission for Refugees (CNR) and UNHCR conducted biometric registration for 531 individuals from 189 families in Korsi during the reporting week. Of the registered individuals, 59 per cent are women and girls, and 41 per cent are men and boys. Additionally, 158 persons with specific needs were identified, including unaccompanied and separated children, women at risk, older persons, people with disabilities, and single parents. The total number of registered individuals in Korsi, since the start of the conflict in 2023, now stands at 18,176 (7,663 families).

In Vakaga, 165 newly arrived Sudanese refugees from Nyala, Rehed, and Al Fashir were registered by CNR at the Am-Dafock border during the same period.

Protection

Gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response

On 16 January 2025, 35 refugee women, members of the 'Ya Rahmane' women's association in Korsi, participated in a peer-led awareness session on gender-based violence prevention and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA). The session, facilitated by refugee women trained by UNHCR, used materials translated into Arabic, strengthening community-based GBV prevention and response efforts.

Shelters and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

To address the growing needs of refugees in Korsi, Birao, UNHCR has started constructing 50 new emergency shelters, bringing the total to 1,998 shelters in Korsi. Additionally, 220 semi-durable shelters are under construction, with 10 completed and 128 currently underway. These semi-durable shelters provide more resilient and environmentally friendly housing solutions, aligning with UNHCR's sustainable response strategies.

During the reporting week, 265 recently arrived refugees (98 families) received core relief items from UNHCR, including mattresses, blankets, jerrycans, cooking utensils, and mosquito nets, as well as dry food from WFP.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

The number of latrines in Korsi remains at 393, including 261 emergency latrines and 132 semi-durable latrines. With a refugee population of 18,176, the current ratio is 46 people per latrine. While this ratio meets the Sphere standard of 50 people per latrine during the emergency phase, it falls short of the standard for the normal phase, which is one latrine for every 20 people.

The daily water supply has been reduced further from 5 litres per person/day to 4.5 litres per person/day due to damage to the solar panel of a borehole. This supply is significantly below the Sphere standard of 15 litres per person/day. To address this, UN Women's partner, APADE, has initiated the construction of a new solar-powered borehole following an evaluation meeting with UNHCR, CNR, and refugee leaders in Korsi.

UNHCR's partner NOURRIR continues to carry out hygiene and sanitation activities, including cleaning areas around water points. During the reporting week, their teams conducted awareness campaigns using block-by-block and door-to-door methods, reaching 3,570 people (2,876 families). Topics covered included proper disposal of animal carcasses, using ashes in latrines to reduce odors, fire prevention around shelters, dangers of open defecation, proper cleaning of jerrycans, maintenance of water points, and protecting children from contaminated water.

Health and Nutrition

From 11 to 17 January, medical teams from Centre de Support en Santé Internationale (CSSI) and International Medical Corps (IMC), under the coordination of the Vakaga Health District, conducted 867 medical consultations in Korsi. Of these, 93 per cent (809 consultations) were for refugees, including 213 new arrivals, while 7 per cent (57 consultations) were for the host population. Among the patients, 259 children aged 0 to 59 months, including 124 girls and 135 boys, were treated. So far this year, 1,990 consultations have been conducted, with 10 per cent benefiting host communities. The leading causes of illness were malaria (334 cases, 39 per cent), acute respiratory infections (212 cases, 24 per cent), and intestinal parasitosis (129 cases, 15 per cent), with all patients receiving outpatient treatment.

Between 11 and 17 January, 52 forcibly displaced women received prenatal consultations, bringing the total for 2025 to 112. Two postnatal consultations were conducted during the reporting week, bringing the annual total to six, while 68 women received gynecological consultations, with a cumulative total of 136 for the year. Nine women accessed family planning services, with 27 total cases recorded in 2025. Additionally, three babies were delivered during the reporting week, adding to six deliveries and six newborns in 2025.

During the reporting period, 259 children aged 6 to 59 months were screened during curative consultations, with 13 cases of moderate acute malnutrition and two cases of severe acute malnutrition identified and treated. Eighteen patients were referred from Korsi to Birao District Hospital, bringing the total referrals for 2025 to 35. Six pregnant women received tetanus vaccinations, while 21 children were vaccinated with multi-antigen vaccines.

Response Plans and Funding Situation

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

- On 7 February, UNHCR and 81 organizations launched the [Regional Refugee Response Plan](#), with an appeal for **USD 46.2 million for the Central African Republic (CAR)** to provide essential aid and protection to 71,176 people in need, **including 39,876 refugees** fleeing the ongoing conflict in Sudan by the end of 2024. As of 18 January, the total funding for the CAR remained at some USD 16.2 million or **35%** of the requirements.

UNHCR Supplementary Appeal – January - December 2024

- UNHCR's total financial requirement for the 2024 [Sudan Emergency Supplementary Appeal](#) – in Sudan and neighboring countries – amounts to **USD 988.1 million**. As of 18 January, the total available funding for the appeal is 30% of the funding requirements.

Resources

- UNHCR dashboard: [Sudan Situation: One year on](#)
- Data story: [Sudan: One year of spiralling conflict and displacement](#)
- [End of Year Report Sudan Regional RRP 2023](#)
- UNHCR's [Operational Data Portal \(ODP\) for the Sudan Situation](#) provides daily updates on the refugee and returnee arrivals in Sudan's neighbouring countries.
- [UNHCR Global Focus Sudan Operation page](#)
- [UNHCR Sudan Emergency website](#)

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