

## CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)

9 – 22 March 2025



*Women's group activity sessions at the safe space in the Korsi district, Birao (CAR). UNHCR/Stella FATIME*

### Highlights

- In Vakaga, Bamingui Bangoran, Haute Kotto and Ouaka prefectures, which host the majority of Sudanese refugees in CAR, the security situation on the roads and in the sub-prefectures is characterized by human rights violations by armed men, who perpetrate torture, inhuman treatment, assault, battery, and extortion of property.
- In the Prefecture of Ouandja-Kotto, a joint military operation by the Armed Forces of the Central African Republic (FACA) and allied forces has reportedly been underway for a week against the positions of armed elements in the outskirts and in the town of Ngarba, 125 kilometres from Ndélé in Bamingui-Bangoran. Military combing operations are also underway against armed elements who hinder the free movement of people. Humanitarians suspended their movements during the joint military operation of the FACA and allied forces, which aimed to facilitate the free movement and security of agents from the National Elections Authority (ANE) to continue their registration activities on the electoral list.
- MINUSCA, through the Zambian Battalion, has distributed 50,000 litres of drinking water to Sudanese refugees in the Korsi neighborhood in response to the lack of fuel for the generator that powers the two borehole' pumps at Korsi.

### Population Movement and Registration

The conflict in Sudan continues to drive refugee arrivals into CAR. In the past two weeks, 2,391 new Sudanese refugees from 616 families arrived in Birao. Korsi is currently hosting 23,757 Sudanese refugees from 9,524 families, 56 percent being women and girls.

In the past two weeks, UNHCR and the National Commission for Refugees (CNR), conducted biometric registration for 1,262 individuals from 440 families in Korsi. Among those registered, 110 individuals with specific needs were identified, which include unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), women at risk, older individuals, people with disabilities, individuals with serious medical conditions, and single parents.

## Protection

UNHCR's partner, Le Comité International pour l'Aide d'Urgence et le Développement (CIAUD), continued to record protection incidents in the Vakaga region including robbery, physical assault, and extortion, mainly attributed to non-state armed groups. In addition, individual protection interviews with more than 22 individuals continued in Korsi, particularly regarding documentation, food and non-food items.

### Gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response

Survivors of GBV in Korsi, Birao came forward this week, reporting incidents of physical assault, forced marriage, and denial of resources. All survivors received psychosocial support at the Korsi safe space.

To provide more effective humanitarian assistance to refugees, UNHCR's partner, CIAUD, conducted an awareness-raising session on sexual abuse and exploitation in the Korsi safe space. The aim of this initiative was to inform participants about their rights, inappropriate behaviour, reporting mechanisms and prevention measures with 71 people in total (26 women, 19 men, 12 girls and 14 boys). Follow-up will be carried out to measure the impact of this activity and reinforce protection actions in the community.

### **Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)**

Due to critically limited funding, no new emergency shelters were constructed in the past two weeks, despite the continuation of daily refugee arrivals in Birao. As a result, there is a severe shortage of shelter for newly arrived refugees. Some continue to temporarily stay in the Korsi safe space and the Information and Feedback Centre, the former registration centre, while others sleep in the open.

During the reporting period, 408 refugee families comprising 1,246 individuals received non-food items (NFIs) including mattresses, blankets, jerrycans, buckets, cooking utensils, and mosquito nets from UNHCR in Korsi, Birao.

A total of 274 family composition tickets were generated and given to the heads of households to benefit from assistance in shelters and NFI kits.

### **Food Security**

During the week of 17 to 23 March, the World Food Programme (WFP), in collaboration with UNHCR and CNR, distributed food to 1,265 refugee families in Korsi, Birao.

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

The absence of fuel in a generator that powers the two pumps of the two boreholes at Korsi (Birao), prevented the distribution of water during the week of the 17<sup>th</sup>. In response, MINUSCA, through the Zambian Battalion, distributed 50,000 litres of drinking water to Sudanese refugees in the Korsi neighborhood. The daily water supply dropped from 11 litres per person per day, to 10.5 litres last week. This remains below the Sphere standard of 15 litres per person per day.

In terms of sanitation, the number of latrines in Korsi has remained at 393 since early February (261 emergency and 132 semi-durable ones) due to a funding freeze that stopped new latrine construction by UNICEF's partner, Triangle Génération Humanitaire (TGH). With the growing refugee population in Korsi and no new latrines, the latrine-to-person ratio has further increased from 53 to 56, exceeding the Sphere emergency standard of 50 people per latrine. More than 10,000 refugees are in urgent need of 710 latrines. Hygiene and sanitation teams from UNHCR's partner, NOURRIR, continue to conduct awareness campaigns within the refugee community. They are engaging with households through focus groups, block-by-block activities, and door-to-door outreach, reaching 5,672 households in Korsi in the past two weeks. These campaigns cover various topics, including water point management, the maintenance of sanitary facilities, and hygiene practices within households.

Over the past two weeks, thirty handwashing buckets with taps have been installed at the registration center, health centre, and across various blocks in Korsi to enhance hygiene conditions.

## Health and Nutrition

From 10 to 15 March, medical teams from the Centre de Support en Santé Internationale (CSSI) and International Medical Corps (IMC), under the coordination of the Vakaga Health District, conducted 805 medical consultations in Korsi. Of these, 85 consultations (11 per cent) were for the host population, while 720 consultations (89 per cent) were for refugees, including 126 new arrivals (16 per cent). Among the patients, 212 children aged 59 months and below (26 per cent) received treatment. So far in 2025, 10,099 consultations have been conducted, with 11 per cent provided to host communities.

The most diagnosed illnesses were acute respiratory infections, with 279 cases (35 per cent), followed by malaria with 168 cases (21 per cent), and intestinal parasitic diseases with 75 cases (6 per cent). Most patients received outpatient treatment in the Korsi neighborhood, with 25 patients referred to the Birao District Hospital. The cumulative total for 2025 is 201 referrals.

Between 17 and 22 March 2025, 16 forcibly displaced women received prenatal consultations, bringing the total to 423 for 2025. Additionally, two postnatal consultations were conducted, raising the total to 22. Meanwhile, 10 women received gynecological consultations, bringing the cumulative total to 516 for 2025. Seven women accessed family planning services, bringing the total to 104 for the year.

During the same period, two babies were delivered, bringing the total numbers in 2025 to 32 deliveries and 40 newborns (20 girls and 20 boys). There were no cases of cesarean sections or twin births.

During the week of 17 to 22 March, 212 children aged six to 59 months were screened for malnutrition during medical consultations, with 12 cases of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) and nine cases of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM). The cumulative total for 2025 is 114 cases of MAM and 22 cases of SAM, out of 2,982 children screened during consultations, with a mass screening campaign planned for later in the year.

Eight pregnant women received tetanus vaccines, and ten children were vaccinated with multi-antigen vaccines. So far, in 2025, 117 children have been vaccinated.

Four new cases related to mental health were recorded, including three refugees and one member of the host community. The cumulative total for 2025 stands at 82 cases comprising (Refugees: 25 men and 28 women) and (Host Community Members: 15 women and 13 men).

## Response Plans and Funding Situation

### Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP) – January – December 2025

The [Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan 2025](#), launched on 17 February 2025, is an appeal for **USD 1.8 billion to support 111 partners in providing** essential aid and protection to a total of **5 million people** in seven countries by the end of 2025. This includes 4 million refugees, returnees, and others who have fled the ongoing conflict in Sudan and over 800,000 host community members. Access UNHCR's Refugee Funding Tracker [here](#). In CAR, **USD 76,436,290** is needed to support **80,357 people**, including host community members.

### UNHCR Supplementary Appeal – January - December 2025

UNHCR's financial requirement for 2025 for the [Sudan situation emergency response](#) – in Sudan and RRP countries – amounts to **USD 1.1 billion**.

## 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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