2026 SUDAN REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE PLAN

January-December 2026

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COVER PHOTO: Sudanese refugees at a temporary site in Koulbous, Chad, on the border with Sudan, after fleeing the ongoing conflict that erupted in Sudan in April 2023. Close to 180,000 Sudanese refugees arrived in Chad in 2025 alone.

Foreword

2026 tragically marks the fourth year of devastating conflict and displacement for millions of Sudanese sisters and brothers, a crisis of unprecedented scale, severity, and complexity. The ongoing war, characterized by shocking loss of life, massive violations of human rights, including sexual violence, and persecution remains the primary driver of mass displacement in Africa. Compounded by widespread destruction and severe limitations to access to basic services, the crisis is placing extraordinary pressure on already overstretched capacities of host governments, communities, and humanitarian actors. Our collective responsibility to protect, assist, and empower those forced to flee Sudan is more urgent than ever.

We extend our deep appreciation to the seven neighbouring countries and the communities that continue to host over 4.4 million Sudanese refugees, sharing limited resources in a powerful demonstration of solidarity and humanity.

In 2026, the Regional Refugee Response Plan calls for USD 1.6 billion to support 5.9 million refugees and their host communities across the Central African Republic, Chad, Egypt, Ethiopia, Libya, South Sudan, and Uganda. The Plan sets out operational priorities required to save lives, protect rights, strengthen resilience, and advance sustainable responses for refugees and host communities. It reflects the close collaboration with humanitarian and development partners with an expanded partnership network, growing from 64 partners in 2023 to 123 partners in 2026, including dozens of national Non-Governmental Organizations and refugee-led organizations.

What began in 2023 as an emergency response to sudden mass displacement must now, in 2026, accelerate its transition to bridge urgent humanitarian needs with “solutions from the start” and development-oriented approaches, aligned with national systems. Greater investment in resilience and sustainable solutions will reduce aid dependency and enable communities to shape their own futures. Host governments are advancing progressive refugee policies that expand access to work, freedom of movement, and national services. We must ensure these rights become a reality for more Sudanese refugees, who beyond safety, yearn for opportunities to learn, work, contribute, and regain their self-reliance until conditions allow for voluntary repatriation or other solutions.

We must continue to walk this journey, responding to immediate needs while investing in resilience and solutions. Yet without sustained and predictable support, hard-won gains risk being reversed, onward movements further increase, along with greater risks of regional instability. While the call for peace and an end to this brutal conflict are as urgent as ever, donor and partner engagement in 2026 needs to be more decisive, not only in preserving life-saving assistance, but in safeguarding dignity, and pursuing solutions.

We remain grateful for the solidarity shown to date and call for continued partnership in the year ahead. Together, even in a time of constraints and necessary reform, we can uphold our shared commitment to refugee protection, responsibility-sharing, and the principle that no one forced to flee should be left behind.

Dr. Mamadou Dian Balde
UN Regional Refugee Coordinator for the Sudan Situation

At a Glance

Regional Planned Response

January-December 2026

4 M
Projected refugee population

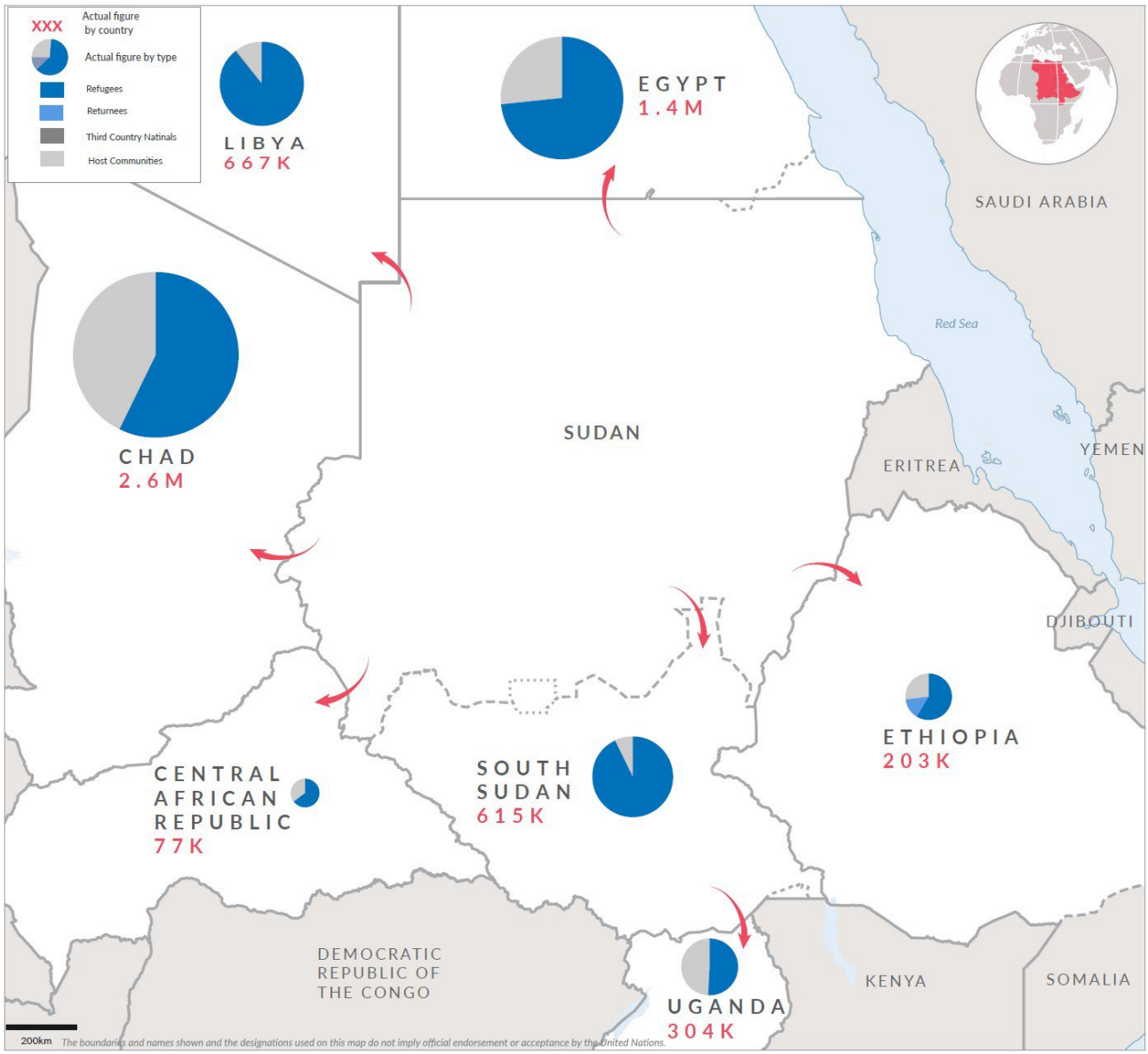
1.8 M
Projected assisted host-community

29 K
Targeted returnees

1 K
Targeted Third country nationals

1.6 B USD
Total financial requirements

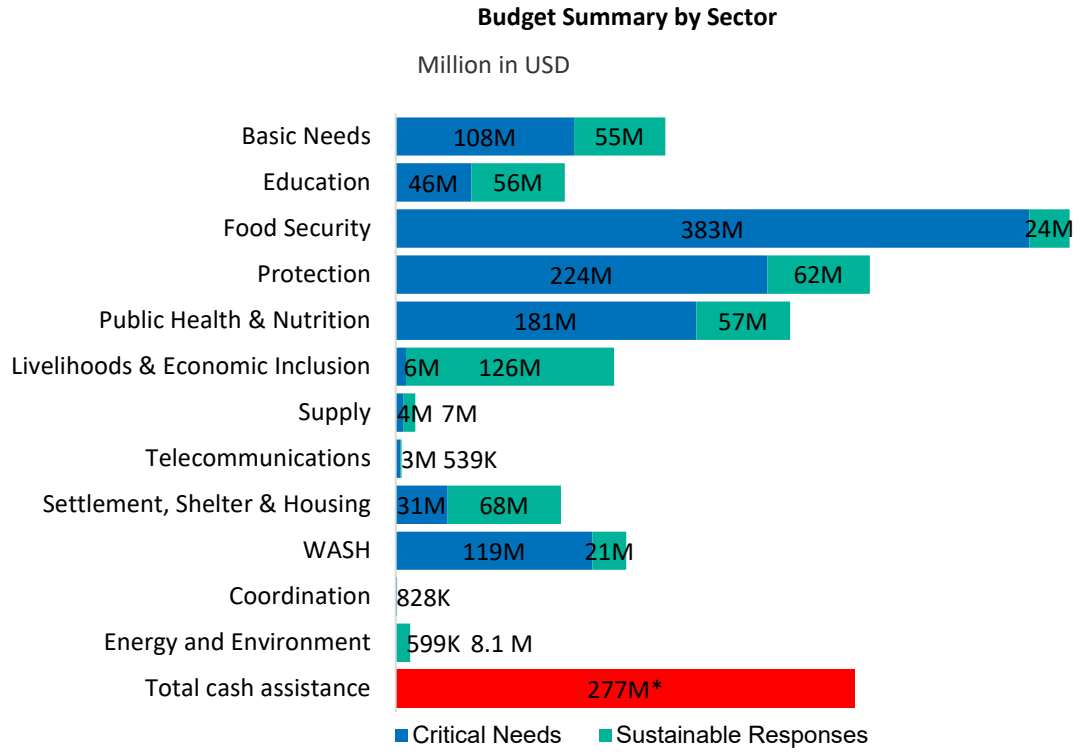
123
RRP partners



Regional Financial Requirements

Country	Financial requirements in USD	Partners involved[1]
CAR	55,183,523	9
Chad	567,656,406	34
Egypt	277,316,570	28
Ethiopia	113,747,563	16
Libya	115,549,190	14
South Sudan	362,408,373	56
Uganda	100,132,818	40
Total	**1,591,994,443**	

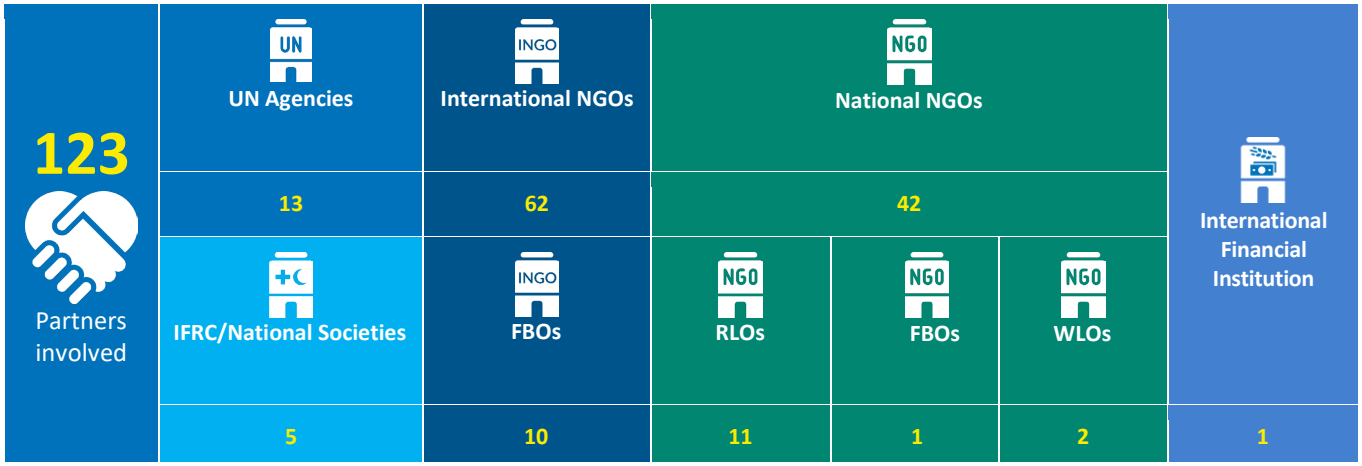
Regional Financial Requirements



These are financial requirements for cash assistance, which are included in the above total budgets (excluding the South Sudan cash budget, which is budgeted under basic needs). Cash assistance is pursued and reflected as a key modality of assistance and protection in line with UNHCR's CBI Policy 2022-2026. Cash assistance can be used as sectoral modality and as a cross-cutting modality of assistance across the various sectors and is budgeted for accordingly. Unrestricted/ multipurpose cash grants for basic needs are budgeted under the basic needs sector. As the modality of choice of the people we work for and with, cash assistance will be used as the primary means to meet immediate basic needs and to contribute to protection outcomes.

[1] UN agencies and some international NGOs are operational in more than one country but are counted only once as a partner in the RRP, although their interventions may vary by country.

Sector	Central African Republic	Chad	Egypt	Ethiopia	Libya	South Sudan	Uganda	Total
Basic Needs	4,001,057	37,062,575	53,392,288	15,884,002	17,410,000	33,802,791	1,230,000	**162,782,713**
Education	2,535,398	25,859,439	28,487,787	8,362,041	7,550,000	15,174,233	14,185,088	**102,153,986**
Food Security	22,546,879	198,259,873	76,694,691	18,132,520	24,723,320	65,162,771,	1,290,000	**406,810,054**
Protection	7,195,113	79,942,570	43,546,429	20,936,639	27,116,800	68,168,491,	39,322,620	**286,228,661**
Public Health & Nutrition	6,172,108	78,356,211	48,138,893	11,043,519	31,096,070	51,966,119	11,376,608	**238,149,528**
Livelihoods & Economic Inclusion	2,691,500	52,605,082	21,795,282	7,503,764	1,950,000	34,996,718	10,301,459	**131,843,804**
Supply (Logistics & Procurement)	1,805,708	4,868,540	3,176,201	1,997,717				**11,848,166**
Telecommunications	172,887	2,693,540		621,568				**3,487,995**
Settlement & Shelter & Housing	2,473,057	19,348,007	565,000	12,796,973		60,571,905	4,105,846	**99,860,788**
WASH	5,589,816	67,832,328	1,520,000	13,851,103	5,703,000	32,565,346	12,217,853	**139,279,446**
Coordination		828,241						**828,241**
Energy & Environment				2,617,717			6,103,344	**8,721,061**
Total	**55,183,523**	**567,656,406**	**277,316,570**	**113,747,563**	**115,549,190**	**362,408,373**	**100,132,818**	**1,591,994,443**

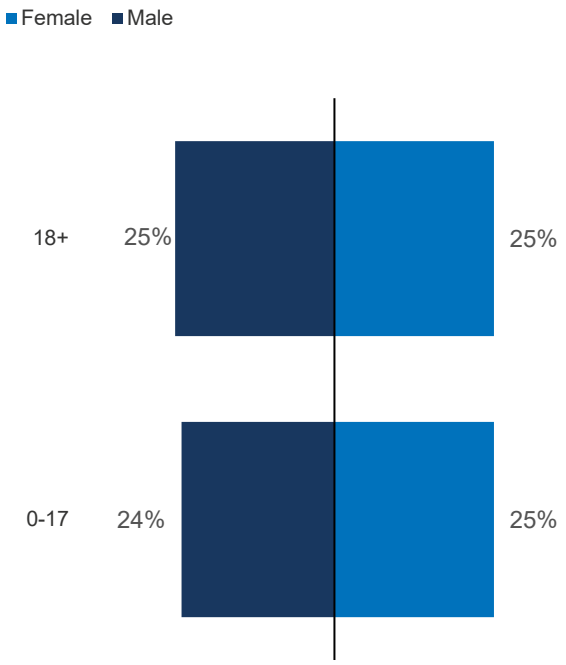


Notes: This list only includes appealing organizations under the RRP, many of which collaborate with other partners to carry out RRP activities.
IFRC: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
FBOs: Faith-based Organizations
RLOs: Refugee-led Organizations
WLOs: Women-led Organizations

Population Planning Figures[2]

Country	Refugee Population as of Dec 2025 (pre & post 2023 refugees)	Planned Refugee Population as of end of 2026	Targeted Returnees 2026	Targeted Third Country Nationals	Planned Host Community Population as of end of 2026
Central African Republic	40,814	50,000			27,000
Chad	1,312,633	1,480,700			1,105,000
Egypt	1,560,779	1,042,500			374,300
Ethiopia	94,082	119,500	29,000		54,600
Libya	538,000	596,000		1,000	70,000
South Sudan	711,497	571,900			43,100
Uganda	91,963	154,800			148,900
TOTAL	**4,349,768**	**4,015,500**	**29,000**	**1,000**	**1,822,900**

Age and gender breakdown



16%
Persons with disabilities[3]

51%
Women & girls

49%
Men & boys

49%
Children

[2] The absence of planning figures for returnee and third county nationals under most countries is due to country-specific contextual considerations whereby these population groups appear in other country level response plans.
[3] The global estimate is that 16 per cent of the population is expected to have a disability. https://www.who.int/teams/noncommunicable-diseases/sensory-functions-disability-and-rehabilitation/global-report-on-health-equity-for-persons-with-disabilities

Regional Overview

Sudan is the world's largest displacement and protection crisis, with the violence creating a humanitarian catastrophe across the country and region. After nearly three years of conflict which began in April 2023, some 4.4 million Sudanese refugees remain displaced in the Central African Republic, Chad, Egypt, Ethiopia, Libya, South Sudan, and Uganda[4]. The majority of Sudanese refugees are hosted in Egypt and Eastern Chad.

The countries of asylum host new arrivals in addition to 840,000 Sudanese refugees who were already in the region prior to April 2023, as well as receiving their own citizens returning under adverse circumstances[5]. Arrivals often enter impoverished areas with limited services and economic opportunities. Disrupted cross-border trade between Sudan and its neighbours has driven food and fuel inflation, worsening macroeconomic pressures. Food insecurity has spilled across borders, with 1 in 10 newly arrived Sudanese refugee children in Chad being malnourished. In addition to poor infrastructure in border areas, countries including the Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Libya and South Sudan face insecurity, with armed actors exacerbating instability and interrupting access for the humanitarian response. The anticipated reduction in peacekeeping capacity in the Central African Republic and South Sudan further threatens the safe movement and the delivery of assistance. Extreme weather events have compounded needs in South Sudan and Chad, causing damage to shelter and infrastructure, disrupting livelihoods, and hindering aid delivery. Concurrently, there have been cholera outbreaks in South Sudan, Chad and Ethiopia in 2025, linked to Sudan's outbreak. Uganda, despite not bordering Sudan, has received about 91,000 Sudanese refugees, adding to more than 1.9 million refugees in the country. Severe underfunding of the 2025 humanitarian response has reduced humanitarian assistance across all the receiving countries, heightening the vulnerability of refugees and the communities hosting them.

The pursuit for peace continues with multiple ceasefire attempts. The return of displaced Sudanese is ongoing[6] and expected to continue in 2026. Some are choosing to return to areas of relative calm, while others are compelled by hardship in countries of asylum. However, returnees find widespread destruction, insecurity, and at times open conflict. In 2025, Sudan was ranked as the deadliest conflict in Africa, with over 17,000 civilian fatalities between January and November 2025[7] and widespread reports of sexual violence. Essential services have collapsed, and parties to the conflict are blocking humanitarian access in some areas. Many returnees are forced to flee again, whether internally or across international borders. In October 2025, the Rapid Support Force (RSF) captured El Fasher in the North Darfur region, triggering a new surge of violence, displacement and loss of life. By December 2025, intense fighting had extended to Kordofan. Conflict and human rights violations are likely to persist into 2026, prolonging displacement and leaving over 4 million Sudanese refugees in seven countries of asylum in urgent need of assistance. The RRP countries continue to show solidarity despite overstretched resources, underscoring the need for sustained international support.

The Central African Republic hosts an estimated 40,000 Sudanese refugees across remote and insecure border prefectures where poor infrastructure, rising prices, and limited partner presence severely constrain assistance. Insecurity driven by armed actors, cross-border movements, and weak state authority heightens protection risks and restricts humanitarian access, while the UN peacekeeping mission's reduced capacity further undermines safe operations. Despite an out-of-camp policy and legal protections for refugees, funding shortfalls and growing needs

[4] https://data.unhcr.org/en/situations/sudansituation
[5] Between 2023 and 2025, approximately 870,000 refugees hosted by Sudan returned to their home countries, primarily to South Sudan, CAR, and Ethiopia. Many Chadian migrants also returned home.
[6] An estimated over 3.5 million displaced Sudanese inside Sudan and in neighbouring countries have returned to their home areas, since January 2025. This includes close to 721,000 Sudanese refugees who had fled Sudan seeking safety in neighbouring countries, mainly Egypt and South Sudan, with smaller numbers coming from Libya. More information on is available here: CORE Sudan: Sudanese returns from neighbouring countries – 31 January 2026
[7] Conflict Index | ACLED

threaten the ability to provide essential services in sectors such as health, education, WASH and livelihoods. It is urgent to provide flexible support to uphold asylum space and deliver life-saving assistance.

By the end of 2025, Chad hosted over 1.3 million Sudanese refugees. Despite the scale of humanitarian needs and the intense efforts by the Government of Chad and the RRP partners to garner resources, the response remained severely constrained by funding shortfalls. Continued violence, particularly in North Darfur and El Fasher, triggered new displacement, increased protection risks and food insecurity. The government strategy moving forward integrates humanitarian assistance with development and peacebuilding under the Humanitarian-Development-Peace nexus, aiming to strengthen resilience, promote socio-economic inclusion, and foster peaceful coexistence between refugees and host communities.[8]

According to the latest Government estimates, Egypt hosts approximately 1.5 million Sudanese refugees who fled violence in Sudan since 2023. Sudanese and all other refugees and asylum seekers benefit from the country's out-of-camp policy. The Asylum Law for Foreigners no. 164[9], enacted in December 2024, was a remarkable step towards establishing a State-led national asylum system. Under this law, RRP Partners will work closely with the Government of Egypt to support the progressive strengthening of national asylum system capacity under a joint phased and sequential plan. With the growing number of asylum-seekers and refugees, registration and services across multiple sectors were under strain throughout 2025. Refugees continued to face significant challenges in meeting their basic needs due to administrative barriers, rising living costs and limited access to formal employment opportunities. An increasing number of refugees have returned to Sudan in adverse circumstances. In 2026, the response strategy focuses on protection-sensitive, sustainable solutions through the humanitarian–development nexus, prioritizing access to essential services, inclusion and social cohesion.

Ethiopia maintained its open-door asylum policy, allowing for reception, transportation, documentation, and assistance to more than 55,000 new arrivals from Sudan between 2023 and 2025, as well as receiving more than 21,000 Ethiopians who were refugees in Sudan. With the continued conflict in Sudan, Ethiopia expects to receive additional refugees. Services during the year were disrupted by security incidents and reduced funding. In 2026, the Sudan Refugee Response Plan in Ethiopia targets over 119,000 refugees, in addition to returnees, and host communities, prioritizing life-saving assistance, protection, and socio-economic inclusion, leveraging Ethiopia's Right to Work Directive to advance self-reliance.

Libya has received more than 538,000 refugees coming from Sudan since the conflict began in April, with women and children comprising over 80 per cent of arrivals. However, only about 70,000 have been registered by UNHCR. Refugees mainly arrive through Alkufra, a remote, resource-scarce region, and then try to reach coastal cities like Benghazi and Tripoli. Refugees in Libya have struggled with shortages in shelter, healthcare, WASH, and education. The 2026 strategy focuses on enhancing protection, legal documentation, and life-saving assistance, while supporting host communities and strengthening national systems through the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus. Without adequate support, risks of onward movement, including dangerous Mediterranean crossings, remain high.

South Sudan hosts over 700,000 Sudanese refugees while grappling with worsening humanitarian conditions driven by conflict, economic decline, climate shocks, and mass displacement, including 2 million internally displaced persons and over one million refugees abroad. Since Sudan's 2023 crisis, more than 800,000 South Sudanese have returned,

[8] More information on the national plan for the east of Chad is accessible here: Plan National de Réponse à la Crise de l'Est 2025-2027 - République du Tchad | Sudan Regional Crisis - Development Action Platform

[9] UNHCR Comments to the Egypt Asylum Law No. 164-2024 | Refworld

in addition to the arrival of Sudanese refugees. This large influx added strain to the country's fragile infrastructure and economy. Despite an open-door policy and *prima facie* recognition for Sudanese refugees, insecurity, funding shortfalls, and limited services threaten protection and assistance to refugees. The 2026 response focuses on access to territory and asylum, life-saving aid, and resilience-building through an integrated humanitarian-development-peace nexus, aiming to strengthen self-reliance, social cohesion, and sustainable solutions for refugees, returnees, and host communities amid growing vulnerabilities.

By the end of 2025, Uganda hosted over 90,000 Sudanese refugees and in total, nearly 2 million refugees[10] of different nationalities. Refugees benefit from *prima facie* recognition and the progressive refugee policy framework which guarantees freedom of movement, employment, and access to national services. However, funding shortfalls combined with the high number of refugees placed significant strain on services, undermining both the quality and availability of essential assistance and efforts to build refugee and host community resilience. The 2026 plan emphasizes protection, health, food security, WASH, shelter, education, and livelihoods, while advancing localization, Accountability to Affected People (AAP), and inclusion into national systems to maintain Uganda's refugee model and promote long-term sustainability.

Regional Strategic Objectives

1. Support host countries in ensuring access to territory and asylum for all individuals in need of international protection, in compliance with the principle of non-refoulement and other regional and international obligations, including maintaining the civilian and humanitarian character of asylum.
2. Support host countries in providing critical protection and humanitarian assistance for refugees, particularly new arrivals, including food, shelter, health, and protection services.
3. Support host countries to strengthen institutional and local capacity to include refugees in national systems and services, including through access to documentation.
4. Investing in sustainable response and "solutions from the start" through engagement with development actors and the private sector to promote self-reliance.
5. Enhancing emergency preparedness and response to conflict-related displacement, outbreak of diseases and climate disasters.

The 2026 Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP) outlines a financial requirement of USD 1.6 billion to address the needs of 4 million refugees and 1.8 million host community. The response has dual delivery tracks, providing immediate critical life-saving assistance and building sustainable responses that reduce humanitarian needs in the medium to long term. Of the total appeal, USD 1.1 billion has been prioritized to cover the critical, life-saving needs of 3.4 million conflict-affected people. Among the critical needs is life-saving assistance—including food, shelter, healthcare, and protection services for the new arrivals and other vulnerable refugees. The RRP also includes emergency preparedness and rapid response to conflict-related displacement, recurrent disease outbreaks, and climate-induced disasters such as floods. Host governments will be supported in maintaining access to their territory and asylum for refugees, as well as in preserving the civilian and humanitarian character of asylum.

The Regional RRP encompasses a range of core sectors to address the needs of affected populations. These sectors include Basic Needs, Education, Food Security, Protection (including Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence),

[10] https://data.unhcr.org/en/country/uga

Public Health and Nutrition, Livelihoods and Socio-Economic Inclusion, Logistics, Telecoms and Operational Support, Settlement, Shelter and Housing, and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene. Together, these sectors form the foundation of a comprehensive response to ensure safety, dignity, and well-being for refugees and host communities.

Sustainable Responses

The pursuit of a sustainable response is informed by a Solutions from the Start approach that strengthens institutional and local capacities to integrate refugees into national systems, including through documentation and access to essential services, guided by the Global Compact on Refugees. Government leadership and the engagement of civil society, development actors and the private sector will help drive sustainability and self-reliance for both refugees and host communities. The response will continue to pursue climate-resilient and sustainable human settlements to withstand recurrent floods, drought, and other adverse climate events while promoting environmental sustainability and community participation. The aim is to create safe, liveable communities for both displaced and host populations, supporting a shift from temporary camps to integrated, long-term settlements that strengthen resilience and social cohesion.

To reinforce the humanitarian-development-peace nexus, the Development Partners Group for the Sudan Regional Refugee Crisis, established by the UN Development Coordination and UNHCR in September 2024, will continue to promote coordination and engagement with development partners across the seven countries of asylum and Sudan. The Development Action Platform for the Sudan Regional Crisis, launched in April 2025, will continue to serve as the "go to place" for development partners and other actors seeking the latest data, evidence and policy analysis on countries affected by the Sudan crisis.

CROSS-CUTTING PRIORITIES

- Age, gender, and diversity
  - Disability inclusion
  - Youth
- Accountability to Affected People (AAP)
- Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)
- Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)
- Localization
- Climate Action
- Use of Cash Assistance

Cross-Cutting Response Priorities

Age, Gender and Diversity (AGD)

RRP partners will apply rights-based, community-based, and AGD approaches including participatory methods and data disaggregated by age, sex, disability and other relevant characteristics, to promote equitable access and accountability to affected people (AAP). Communities will be engaged throughout the programme cycle, and AGD-informed monitoring will be used to identify gaps and adjust interventions. Gender equality will be mainstreamed to ensure women and girls' equal access to services, assistance, livelihoods, and protection, including documentation and GBV risk mitigation, prevention of and response.

Disability Inclusion

Recognizing that persons with disabilities constitute an estimated 16 per cent of the population and face heightened barriers in displacement contexts, RRP partners will promote disability-inclusive programming across all sectors. Efforts will focus on improved identification at registration, capacity-building for authorities and partners, inclusive education, and social and behavioural change approaches. Partnerships with national and local organizations of persons with disabilities will be strengthened to reduce access barriers and ensure meaningful inclusion.

Youth

The response seeks to address the specific needs and aspirations of youth through education, skills development and vocational training. Youth participation in decision-making will be promoted to strengthen resilience, foster leadership, and support social and economic contributions within camps and settlements. These efforts aim to meet immediate needs while investing in long-term well-being of the youth.

Accountability to Affected People (AAP)

RRP programming will be guided by the priorities, capacities and feedback of affected people, ensuring equitable and non-discriminatory access to services and solutions. Refugees, returnees and host communities will be engaged through representative and community-based structures, including refugee-led organizations. Inclusive, accessible and confidential two-way communication and feedback mechanisms will be strengthened, including digital platforms. Partners will adapt programming based on feedback and transparently communicate changes.

Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

PSEA is a core, cross-cutting priority, given heightened risks in emergency displacement contexts. Inter-agency PSEA Networks will coordinate prevention, risk mitigation, community awareness and training for all personnel and partners. PSEA messages will be systematically integrated into information and service delivery, and risk assessments will inform mitigation measures. Accessible complaints mechanisms will be strengthened, linked to GBV and child protection referral pathways, and implemented in line with survivor-centred approaches.

Sub-sector: Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)

MHPSS in response to the Sudan refugee crisis focuses on integrating mental health and psychosocial support across all sectors, strengthening family and community support systems, and promoting access to essential mental health services despite the fragile and overstretched support structure in countries of asylum. It prioritizes addressing severe psychological distress among refugees—especially children, GBV survivors, and those exposed to trauma through safe spaces, counselling, and scalable psychological interventions. The response also emphasizes multi-sectoral coordination and capacity-building for frontline workers, and integrating MHPSS into protection efforts to improve safety, resilience, and overall, well-being.

Localization

Localization is central to the response, recognizing the critical role of national actors as first and effective responders. Approximately one third of the listed partners are national NGOs, which include refugee-led, women-led and faith-based organisations. In addition, RRP partners work with additional national partners and refugee groups in the response, although they are not listed as appealing partners. The RRP partners support these actors with funding and capacity strengthening. Engagement with local and regional authorities will continue through a whole-of-society approach to promote inclusive and sustainable solutions. The response also includes four National Red Cross/ Red Crescent Society partners.

Regional Women-Led Organization Support Platform for the Sudan Regional Crisis

The Regional Support Platform was launched in March 2025 and brings together Women-Led Organizations (WLOs) responding to the Sudan regional crisis operating in Sudan and neighbouring countries of asylum and return. The platform represents women leaders in displacement and is strategically connected to the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) Women's Advisory Group operating in Sudan, enabling coordinated influence across the region. The regional platform's strategic priorities are aligned with the current Regional RRP and the Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP) for Sudan.

Climate Action

RRP partners will mainstream climate-smart and environmentally sustainable approaches across the refugee response to address heightened climate-related risks faced by displaced populations. Programming will integrate climate-resilient infrastructure, sustainable resource management and livelihoods, and low-emission solutions such as renewable energy, clean cooking, and solar-powered water systems. Transformative initiatives—including flood protection, climate-adapted shelters, and energy-efficient community facilities—will enhance safety, health and stability for refugees and host communities while reducing the environmental footprint of the response. Climate and environmental risks will be systematically analyzed, with context-specific mitigation measures applied.

Cash Assistance

Cash assistance will be a core modality of the response to meet immediate needs, support protection and solutions outcomes, and improve efficiency and impact. Unrestricted multipurpose cash grants will enhance dignity, choice and flexibility for refugees, returnees and asylum-seekers, while reducing logistical and environmental costs compared to in-kind aid. Cash assistance will enable rapid delivery of aid, stimulate local markets, and strengthen community cohesion. Expansion of cash programming will be based on context-specific feasibility, protection and risk analyses, robust delivery arrangements, and partnerships with financial service providers, supported by rapid post-distribution monitoring to enable timely programme adjustments.

Regional Partnerships and Coordination

In accordance with its mandate, UNHCR coordinates the Sudan regional refugee response. Coordination at the regional level is done by a Regional Refugee Coordinator for the Sudan Situation. At the country level, the Refugee Coordination Model (RCM) is active. The country-level Refugee Response Plan partners work closely with the Offices of the UN

Resident/Humanitarian Coordinators to enhance strategic alignment, including pursuing collective outcomes aligned with UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks. The 2026 plan has 123 partners across seven countries. The Refugee Response Plan complements Government-led efforts in each country, reinforcing rather than replacing State action.

The RRP partners, while keen to scale-up programmes in displacement-affected areas to deliver life-saving assistance, facilitate access to basic services, build community resilience, and stabilize local economies, have been constrained by the drastic reductions in funding in 2025. Projections indicate that humanitarian funding in 2026 will be under increased pressure, making partnerships and joint planning such as the RRP more critical than ever. The humanitarian response is complemented by the Development Partners Group for the Sudan Regional Refugee Crisis which is co-convened by the Regional Director for Africa of United Nations Development Coordination Office (UNDCO) and the UNHCR's Regional Refugee Coordinator for the Sudan Situation. The Secretariat for the DPG-Sudan Regional Refugee Crisis is provided by UNHCR, and the membership is open to the full range of development actors, including international financial institutions, multilateral development banks, bilateral development actors, UN agencies and embassies.

While the RRP in general continues to use the project-based costing, in line with the 2025 Humanitarian Reset, which calls for simplification efforts to streamline and reduce complexity in the way humanitarian coordination and operations are structured and managed, the South Sudan plan is piloting Activity-Based Costing, akin to the Humanitarian Needs Response Plans.

Regional Monitoring Framework

The 2026 Sudan Regional RRP includes a monitoring framework with 21 indicators covering critical needs and sustainable responses. Partners at the country level may monitor an additional set of indicators adapted to their country context.

See Annex 2 – Monitoring Results.

Central African Republic

Country Chapter

January-December 2026

Adam and Wifak from Sudan now live as refugees in the Central African Republic with their son, Abderahim. © UNHCR/Ying Hu

At a Glance

Central African Republic Planned Response

January-December 2026

50 K
Projected refugee population

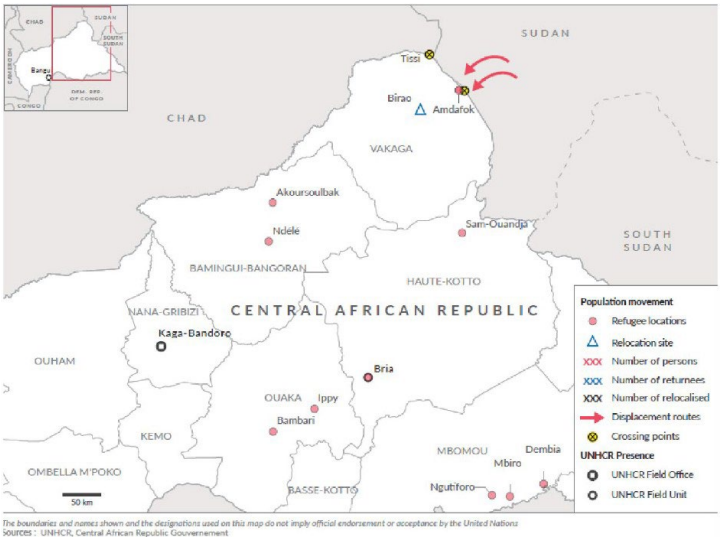
27 K
Projected assisted host-community

55 M USD
Total financial requirements

9
RRP Partners

Population Planning Figures

Population	Population as of end of 2025	Planned Population as of end of 2026
Refugees	40,814	50,000
Host Community	27,900	27,000
Total	**68,714**	**77,000**



Situation Overview

The Central African Republic continues to experience significant spillover effects from the Sudan crisis, with a steady influx of Sudanese refugees into remote northern and eastern prefectures. There was a sharp increase in refugee arrivals during 2024–2025, with approximately 40,000 Sudanese now registered across the country as of October 2025, the bulk of them women and children, settling mainly in remote and hard-to-reach prefectures. 27,000 of them are hosted in Korsi, Birao (Vakaga prefecture), and 13,351 are scattered in Bamingui-Bangoran, Haute Kotto, Mbomou, Nana Gibrizi, Ouaka prefectures and Bangui.

Security and cross-border dynamics remain a principal driver of instability, deeply affecting the Central African Republic's humanitarian and protection environment: Armed actors and cross-border movements — including fighters, weapons and opportunistic criminality originating from Sudan — are reported to exploit porous borders and rear bases, contributing to localized clashes, targeted violence and an expanding geographic footprint of insecurity.

These dynamics undermine state authority in border areas, restrict civilian movement and increase protection risks for refugees, returnees and host communities.

A combination of security risks and poor infrastructure severely constrains humanitarian access and operational reach in CAR. Large parts of the refugee-hosting areas, except the Vakaga, are hard to reach (Bamingui-Bangoran, Haute-Kotto, Ouaka, Nana Gibrizi, and Mbomou): some locations are inaccessible for extended periods due to insecurity (ambushes, roadblocks, and sporadic clashes), while others remain isolated by poor road networks and seasonal rains. In host communities, market disruption and rising prices, driven by the influx and logistics challenges, deepen the vulnerabilities of both displaced and local populations. In addition, funding/resource constraints further hinder the situation, resulting in a limited presence of partners in refugee-hosting areas and limited response to protection, registration, and light emergency assistance, leaving needs in sectors such as food security, health, housing, WASH, and livelihoods inadequately covered.

Protection risks remain elevated due to the remote location of many refugee arrivals, compounded by limitations in registration, documentation and assistance, which means that refugees, especially those in "sur-place" status, and host communities face increased exposure to rights violations, restricted access to essential services, and protracted dependence on humanitarian support.

Despite this context, Central African Republic's government and humanitarian partners have maintained an "out-of-camp" policy and legal frameworks for refugee protection; however, funding shortfalls and the growing scale of need jeopardize their ability to deliver timely and scaled support. As the conflict in Sudan persists, the pressure on the country's remote border regions is expected to increase, demanding proactive planning, strengthened protection capacity, adaptive operational strategies to uphold asylum space, preserve civilian safety and support inclusion of refugees in national systems.

Additionally, a critical operational constraint is the reduced capacity of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA), and other security partners, which has immediate ramifications for mobility and the delivery of assistance. MINUSCA has faced personnel and resource constraints this year, and potential reductions in peacekeeping capacity — alongside incidents affecting mission personnel and logistics — limit safe transport of people and cargo into insecure, remote locations. Given MINUSCA's central role in escorting convoys and providing security guarantees for humanitarian movement in several areas, any further drawdown or limitations will likely exacerbate access challenges and hinder RRP partners' ability to reach displaced populations and host communities. Immediate, flexible funding is required to maintain humanitarian access to remote host communities and to scale life-saving assistance where protection and basic needs are highest.

Country Strategic Objectives

SO1: Ensure access to asylum and protection for people fleeing the Sudan crisis.

RRP partners will support the Government of the Central African Republic in guaranteeing access to territory and asylum, while maintaining protection monitoring, individual registration, and documentation for new arrivals. Advocacy will be central to ensuring the recognition of refugee documents, improving the asylum system, and ensuring the consistent application of prima facie status for Sudanese refugees. Given limited resources, assistance will focus on life-saving and priority protection interventions for the most vulnerable, as well as access to basic social services.

SO2: Promote resilience, inclusion, and social cohesion through sustainable and localized responses.

RRP partners will emphasize the inclusion of refugees into national systems—particularly in health, education, and social protection (emergency cash transfer)—while avoiding the creation of parallel structures. Support will be targeted at national and local institutions to enhance their capacity to deliver inclusive services. Given funding constraints, interventions will focus on scalable, sustainable, and community-driven initiatives that reinforce both resilience and social cohesion.

Response strategy

In 2026, the inter-agency response to the Sudan crisis in the Central African Republic will focus on balancing life-saving assistance with sustainable, localized solutions amid a challenging financial context. Partners will continue to ensure protection and access to territory for new arrivals, including registration, documentation, and targeted assistance for the most vulnerable refugees, returnees, and host community members. Life-saving support, such as NFIs, multipurpose cash transfer, emergency shelter, and protection case management, will be delivered where needs are acute.

At the same time, efforts will increasingly focus on inclusion into national health, education, and social protection systems to reduce future humanitarian needs and ongoing costs. The response will prioritize livelihoods and economic inclusion initiatives that promote self-reliance and strengthen local markets, alongside peacebuilding and social cohesion activities led by communities, including women, youth, and persons with disabilities.

Coordination among humanitarian, development, and government actors will be streamlined to optimize resources and advocacy for inclusive policies, particularly in refugee documentation and access to services. Through this approach, the response aims to safeguard lives, preserve dignity, and lay the foundation for long-term resilience in refugee-hosting areas.

Partnership and Coordination

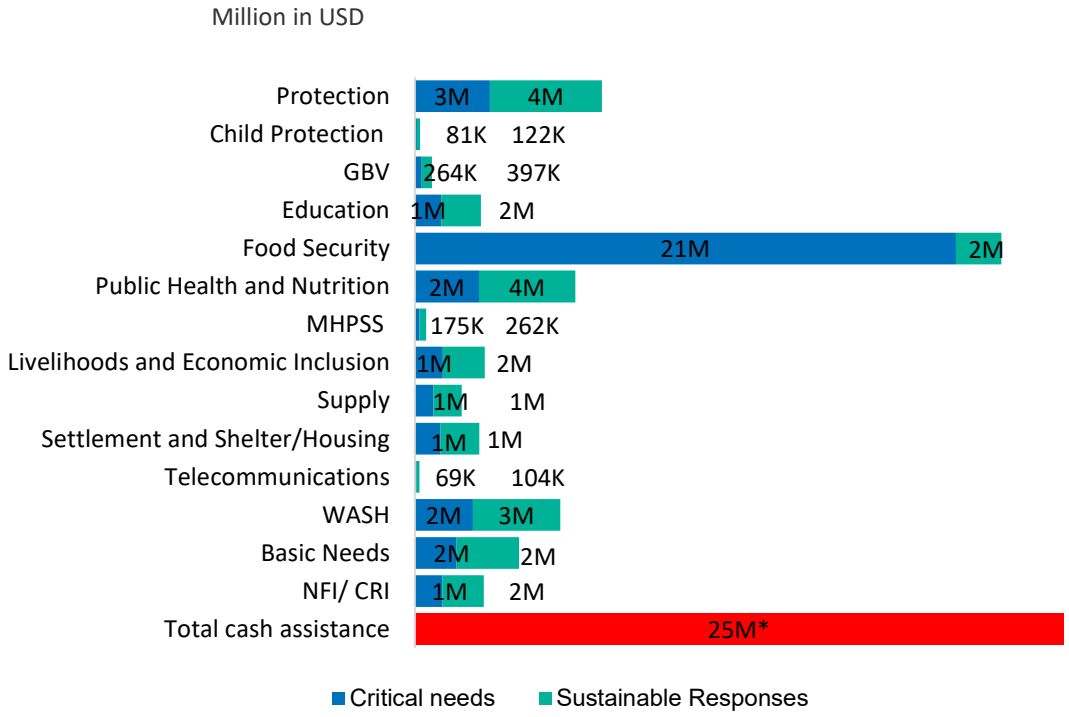
UNHCR supports government-led coordination of the Sudanese refugee response based on the Refugee Coordination Model (RCM). UNHCR and the Commission Nationale pour les Réfugiés (CNR) co-chair the coordination meetings in Bangui and in Birao. In addition to the 9 RRP appealing partners, there are more than 13 other organizations, including Refugee and Women-led organizations present in areas hosting refugees, which are involved in the response, some receiving financial and other forms of support from UN agencies. Such partnerships with community organizations, particularly those led by women, youth, and individuals with disabilities, will be strengthened to promote peaceful coexistence and community ownership. In addition, investment will be made in strengthening coordination between humanitarian partners and national authorities so as to protect civilians, maintain the civilian character of refugees' settlements, and adapt the response to evolving security constraints and seasonal access patterns. Development actors are also responding to the refugee response through dedicated programmes supporting the stabilization and recovery of refugees and their hosting communities.

Inter-Agency Financial Requirements

9 Partners involved	UN Agencies	International NGOs
	7	2
	$ 54,222,023	$ 961,500

Notes: This list only includes appealing organizations under the RRP, many of which collaborate with other partners to carry out RRP activities.

Budget Summary by Sector at Country Level



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Sector	***Critical needs***	***Sustainable Responses***	***Total in USD***
Protection	*$2,878,045*	*4317068.00*	*$7,195,113*
➢ *Of which Child Protection*	*$81,210*	*$121,814*	*$203,024*
➢ *Of which GBV*	*$264,378*	*$396,568*	*$660,946*
Education	*$1,014,159*	*$1,521,239*	*$2,535,398*
Food Security	*$20,796,936*	*$1,749,943*	*$22,546,879*
Public Health and Nutrition	*$2,468,843*	*$3,703,265*	*$6,172,108*
➢ *Of which MHPSS*	*$174,532*	*$261,798*	*$436,330*
Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion	*$1,076,600*	*$1,614,900*	*$2,691,500*
Supply - Logistics and Procurement	*$722,283*	*$1,083,425*	*$1,805,708*
Settlement and Shelter/Housing	*$989,223*	*$1,483,834*	*$2,473,057*
Telecommunications	*$69,155*	*$103,732*	*$172,887*
WASH	*$2,235,926*	*$3,353,890*	*$5,589,816*
Basic Needs	*$1,600,423*	*$2,400,634*	*$4,001,057*
➢ *Of which NFI/ CRI*	*$1,060,000*	*$1,590,000*	*$2,650,000*
Total	***$33,851,593***	***$21,331,930***	***$55,183,523***

Chad
Country Chapter

January-December 2026

Fatima fled Sudan and now lives in a refugee settlement in Chad where she heads women's associations. © UNHCR/Ala Kheir

At a Glance

Chad Planned Response

January-December 2026

1.48 M
Projected refugee population

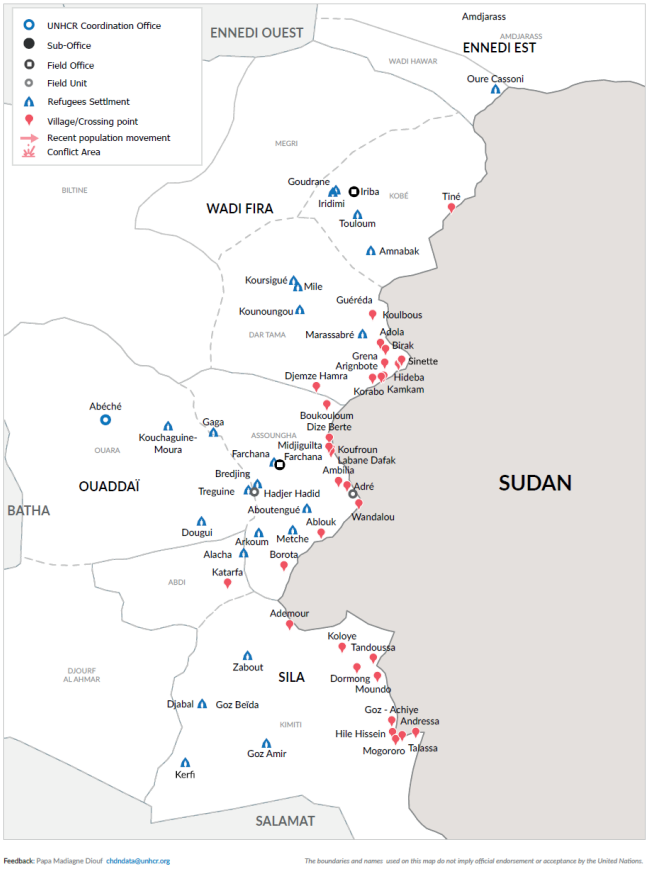
1.1 M
Projected assisted host-community

USD 567.7 M
Total financial requirements

34
RRP Partners

Population Planning Figures

Country	Population as of end of 2025	Planned Population as of end of 2026
Refugee Population[11]	1,312,633	1,480,700
Host Community[12]	167,805	1,105,000
Total	**1,480,438**	**2,585,700**



Situation Overview

By the end of 2025, Chad hosted 1.3 million Sudanese refugees with more than 900,000 refugees having crossed into Chad—mainly into the Ouaddai, Wadi Fira, and Sila provinces—from West Darfur (El Geneina, Nyala, El Fasher, Zalingei, Kabkabiya) and Khartoum since April 2023. Chad was already hosting 410,000 Sudanese refugees before 2023. Refugee arrivals from Sudan into Chad are projected to increase to 1.48 million people in 2026, driven by the unrelenting conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces

[11] This figure includes 409,819 Sudanese refugees who were in Chad before April 2023 and Sudanese refugees who continue to arrive since April 2023.
[12] The main vehicle for supporting the host community will be the *Plan National de Réponse à la Crise à l'Est 2025-2027*, developed by the Government of Chad. The Chad Refugee Response Plan is in support of this Government plan.

and the Rapid Support Forces, with violence showing no sign of abating and Sudan's humanitarian situation deteriorating with famine-like conditions.

Since the onset of the crisis in 2023, the Government of Chad has taken decisive measures to receive and assist refugees, collaborating with humanitarian actors who launched an emergency response to the influx. Emergency humanitarian response and inter-agency coordination in support of the Government of Chad have been significantly strengthened and will continue to be reinforced throughout 2026.

However, the overall funding shortfalls at the beginning of 2025, coupled with the continuing deterioration of the humanitarian and security situation in Sudan, have severely constrained the humanitarian response and increased the vulnerability of the affected populations. In 2025, despite the Government of Sudan regaining control of some areas, conflict continued, claiming tens of thousands of civilian lives, including humanitarian workers. The clashes around Zamzam resulted in massacres of civilians and triggered significant new population movements towards Chad since April. The escalation of fighting in North Darfur and El Fasher has led to a new influx of refugees into Wadi Fira and Ennedi Est. Humanitarian needs continue to rise, along with protection risks and food insecurity. Faced with growing humanitarian needs and a severe funding gap, humanitarian actors are struggling to meet even the most urgent requirements.

The Government and RRP partners continue to provide emergency assistance and life-saving services. Longer-term programmes—developed in collaboration with development actors and institutions within the humanitarian–development–peace (HDP) nexus—will be brought closer to humanitarian action to reinforce essential services, strengthen institutional capacities and resilience, support refugees and host communities through livelihood opportunities, and promote sustainable socio-economic inclusion and peaceful coexistence.

Through the HDP nexus, the strategy aims to enhance systemic resilience of refugees and host community members, community resilience, and institutional resilience, laying the foundation for a sustainable, inclusive, and locally anchored response.

Country Strategic Objectives

SO1: Humanitarian Response

The goal is to preserve the lives and dignity of affected populations while preparing for a transition to development. Enhanced coordination is planned to align humanitarian aid with resilience and social cohesion efforts. The main prioritized sectors are protection, food assistance, health, water, education, and shelter.

SO2: Support for development and strengthening resilience

This objective seeks to turn the crisis into an opportunity for local economic development. It focuses on improving infrastructure, access to basic social services, and economic inclusion. Environmental and climate concerns are addressed as cross-cutting priorities. Refugee sites will be transformed into sustainable economic hubs.

SO3: Community engagement, accountability, and social cohesion

This objective strengthens social cohesion between refugees and host communities. It promotes inclusive dialogue, civic participation, and conflict prevention mechanisms. Local governance and accountability systems are reinforced. Special attention is given to the inclusion of women, youth, and community leaders.

SO4: Coordination, monitoring, and evaluation

This objective reinforces a coherent and inclusive coordination framework aligned with national structures, the Refugee Coordination Model (RCM), the Humanitarian, Development, and Peace Nexus, and an integrated territorial approach (ATI Nexus in French). It promotes joint planning, data-driven decision-making, and inter-agency accountability. Regular monitoring and evaluation ensure transparency, learning, and adaptive response across partners.

Response strategy

The response will support and align with the Government of Chad's *National Response Plan for the East 2025–2027*[13]. The plan addresses the multifaceted crisis in the East through an integrated approach that combines humanitarian response, development, social cohesion, security, and coordination to manage the massive influx of Sudanese refugees. The plan aims to transform the crisis into a driver of sustainable development for the eastern provinces. It aligns with Chad's *National Development Plan 2030*[14] and calls for national and international mobilization to ensure effective implementation.

Partnership and Coordination

The existing coordination mechanisms will be further simplified and consolidated to ensure that humanitarian responses, longer-term development, and peace-building initiatives are coordinated in the same fora. Government-led and area-based structures will be the cornerstone for this revised coordination mechanism. The Refugee Coordination Model, the Integrated Territorial Approach (ATI) Nexus, and other coordination initiatives will support the Government in these efforts and provide the interface for coordinating the international community.

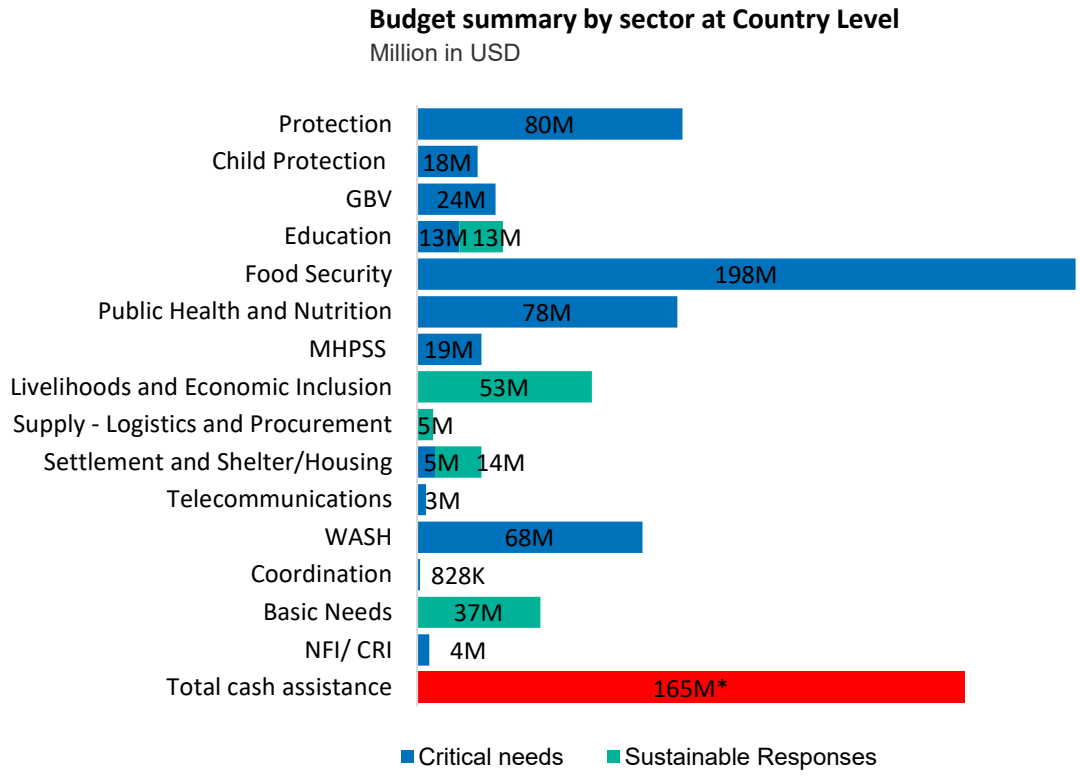
Coordination with refugees (committees, Refugee Leaders Organizations -RLOs), host communities, and local organizations remains central to the response, in line with Accountability to Affected People (AAP) principles. The response applies a gender-sensitive approach, considering the differentiated needs of women, men, girls, and boys. Women's organizations and groups working for women's rights are encouraged to play an active role in coordination processes.

Ajala, the inter-agency information management platform supporting the refugee response in Chad, will be strengthened as a shared tool for the government and its partners. It will facilitate data sharing, joint analysis and coordinated advocacy, and will support evidence-based planning, resource mobilisation and investment across emergency response, basic infrastructure and durable solutions.

[13] Plan National de Réponse à la Crise à l'Est 2025-2027, Ministry of Finance, Budget, Economy, Planning, and International Cooperation, Government of Chad. Forthcoming.
[14] Tchad Connexion 2030, Plan National de Developpement, Ministry of Finance, Budget, Economy, Planning, and International Cooperation, Government of Chad.

Inter-Agency Financial Requirements

Notes: This list only includes appealing organizations under the RRP, many of which collaborate with other partners to carry out RRP activities.
IFRC: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
FBOs: Faith-based Organizations
RLOs: Refugee-led Organizations



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Sector	Critical needs	Sustainable Responses	Total in USD
Protection	$79,942,570		$79,942,570
➢ Of which Child Protection	$18,243,661		$18,243,661
➢ Of which GBV	$23,573,079		$23,573,079
Education	$12,696,378	$13,163,061	$25,859,439
Food Security	$198,259,873		$198,259,873
Public Health and Nutrition	$78,356,211		$78,356,211
➢ Of which MHPSS	$19,372,235		$19,372,235
Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion		$52,605,082	$52,605,082
Supply - Logistics and Procurement		$4,868,540	$4,868,540
Settlement and Shelter/Housing	$5,407,882	$13,940,125	$19,348,007
Telecommunications	$2,693,540		$2,693,540
WASH	$67,832,328		$67,832,328
Coordination	$828,241		$828,241
Basic Needs		$37,062,575	$37,062,575
➢ Of which NFI/ CRI	$3,655,695		$3,655,695
Total	**$446,017,023**	**$121,639,383**	**$567,656,406**

Egypt
Country Chapter

January-December 2026

Sudanese refugee family at the UNHCR headquarters to process their identification papers. © UNHCR/ Basma Fathy

At a Glance

Egypt Planned Response

January-December 2026

1 M Projected refugee population

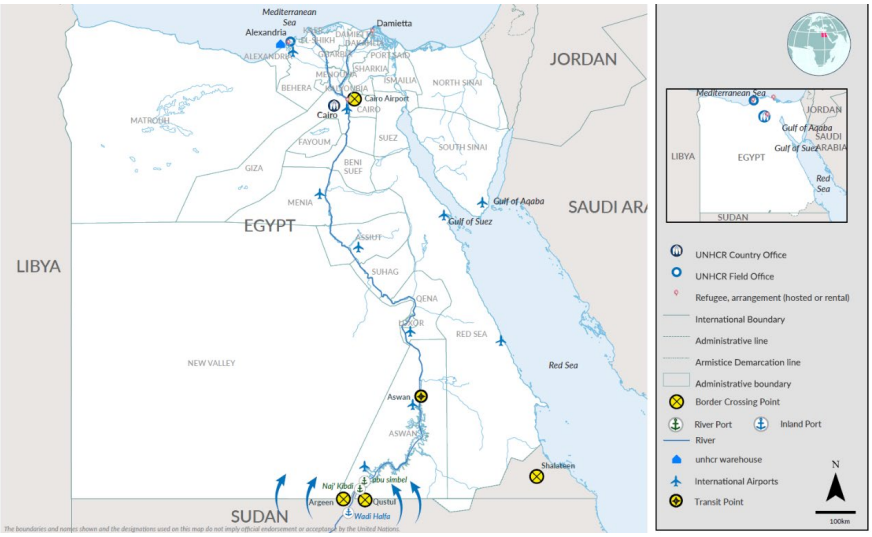
370 K Projected assisted host-community

USD 277 M Total financial requirements

28 RRP Partners

Population Planning Figures

Country	Population as of end of 2025	Planned Population as of end of 2026
Refugee Population	1,560,779	1,042,600
Host Community	345,614	374,300
Total	**1,906,393**	**1,416,900**



Situation Overview

Egypt continues its long-standing tradition of hosting refugees and asylum-seekers. The Government remains actively engaged in implementing the Global Compact on Refugees, reaffirming its commitment to international cooperation and responsibility-sharing. The Government of Egypt maintains an out-of-camp policy that allows refugees to reside in urban areas, primarily Greater Cairo, Alexandria, and the North Coast, where they live alongside host communities. These inclusive policies uphold freedom of movement and facilitate access to essential services, reflecting Egypt's enduring commitment to maintaining human dignity, non-discrimination, and the right to a decent life for all persons of concern.

The enactment of the Asylum Law for Foreigners (Law No. 164) on 16 December 2024 marked a significant milestone toward establishing a national asylum framework. UNHCR and the RRP partners work closely with the Government to support the transition to a State-led asylum system through a phased five-year plan. Strengthening national institutional capacity remains a central priority in 2026 to ensure a protection-sensitive and sustainable asylum framework.

Egypt currently hosts the largest number of refugees and asylum-seekers in its history, with over 1.1 million individuals already registered with UNHCR at the end of 2025. Sudanese make up 76 per cent of this population, followed by 11 per cent Syrians, 5 per cent South Sudanese, 4 per cent Eritreans, and Ethiopians, Somalis, Yemenis, Iraqis, and other nationalities make up smaller numbers. Additionally, the country hosts an estimated nine million migrants from 133 nationalities, according to IOM, underscoring Egypt's broader role as a regional destination and transit hub.

Country Strategic Objectives

SO1: Support the Government of Egypt to ensure refugees' access to territory, asylum, and protection in line with international standards, with particular attention to vulnerable groups, especially in the context of establishing a national asylum, focusing on a rights-based approach.

SO2: Address the basic and life-saving needs of those most at risk through sustained, coordinated, and multi-sectoral engagement with the Government of Egypt and civil society organizations, in the context of the Government's non-encampment policy and focusing on sustainable responses.

SO3: Promote a humanitarian–development nexus approach from the onset of the response, to build resilient refugee and host communities, strengthening access to national systems and with the enhancement of Government of Egypt coordination, according to its international commitments, with a focus on education, healthcare, livelihoods, and resilience interventions, and by promoting social cohesion.

SO4: Advance localization by supporting national and local civil society, refugee-led organizations, municipalities, and local authorities, strengthening partnerships, coordination, capacities, and social cohesion.

Response Strategy

In 2026, Egypt's refugee response strategy aims to deliver coordinated, inclusive, and protection-sensitive support to refugees, asylum-seekers, and vulnerable host communities. Anchored in the evolving national asylum framework, the strategy prioritizes equitable access to essential services, legal protection, and socio-economic inclusion. Sectoral working groups spanning protection, health, education, livelihoods, food security, WASH, and other areas are aligning efforts to address growing needs amid economic pressures, legal transitions, and rising refugee numbers.

Key priorities include strengthening national systems, enhancing service quality, and promoting community engagement. Protection actors focus on safeguarding rights and preventing refoulement, while health and education sectors aim to integrate refugees into public systems and expand access to care and learning. Livelihoods and food security interventions target resilience through market-aligned income opportunities and targeted assistance. WASH and nutrition sectors emphasize inclusive, climate-resilient infrastructure and malnutrition prevention.

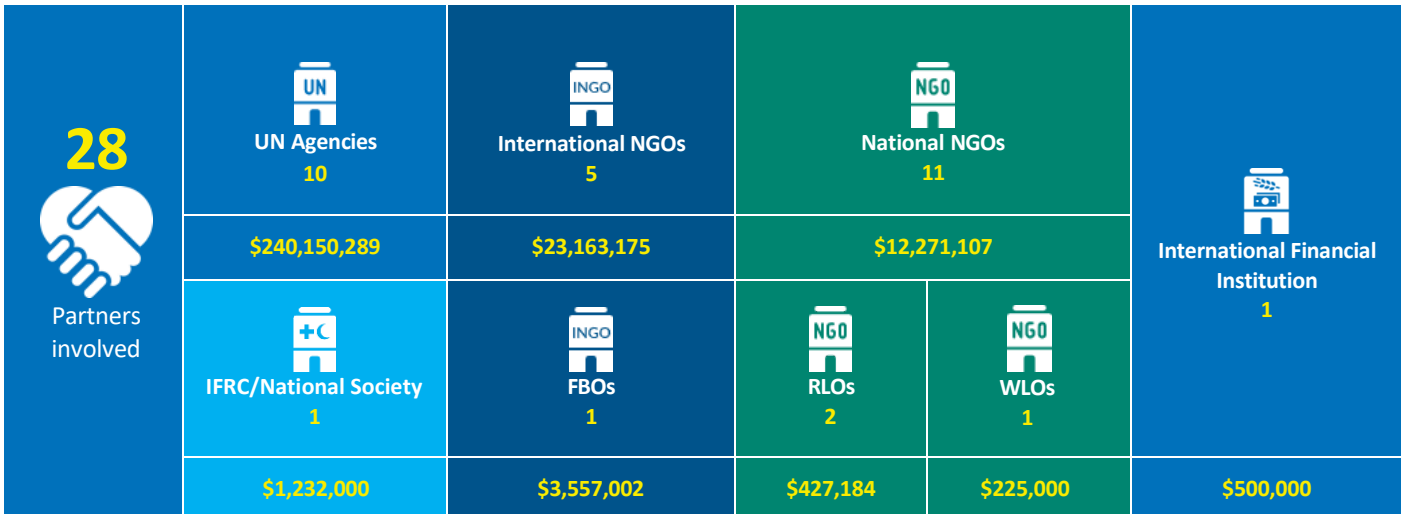
Cross-sector coordination, localization, and capacity-building are central to the strategy, ensuring that interventions are responsive, sustainable, and inclusive. The plan also emphasizes social cohesion, and the meaningful participation of refugees in shaping their own solutions.

Partnership and Coordination

The Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG) in Egypt—chaired by UNHCR and cochaired by UNDP—serves as the main strategic coordination forum of the Refugee Response Plan (RRP), bringing together UN and NGO partners, refugees, and other affected people to address policy, protection, and programmatic challenges across all nationalities. Under it, the Inter-Sector Working Group (ISWG) convenes eleven sector and subsector groups, including protection, health, education, food security, livelihoods, cash assistance, settlements/NFIs, and WASH, supported by thematic task forces such as Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) to enhance synergy and targeted interventions. These coordination structures ensure coherent and comprehensive humanitarian and resilience responses for refugees and host communities. Complementing the RRP, the Joint Platform for Refugees and Migrants (JPRM) mobilizes resources under the Joint UN Programme to help the Government

advance commitments made at the Global Refugee Forum, particularly around refugee inclusion in health and education and broader support to vulnerable groups. RRP actors also engage in wider coordination through their representation in United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) working groups and the Development Partners Group (DPG), which facilitates information sharing, joint advocacy, and monitoring of gaps across sectors, enabling timely action and the exchange of analysis on socioeconomic inclusion, health, education, refugee/migrant data, and climate-related issues.

Inter-Agency Financial Requirements



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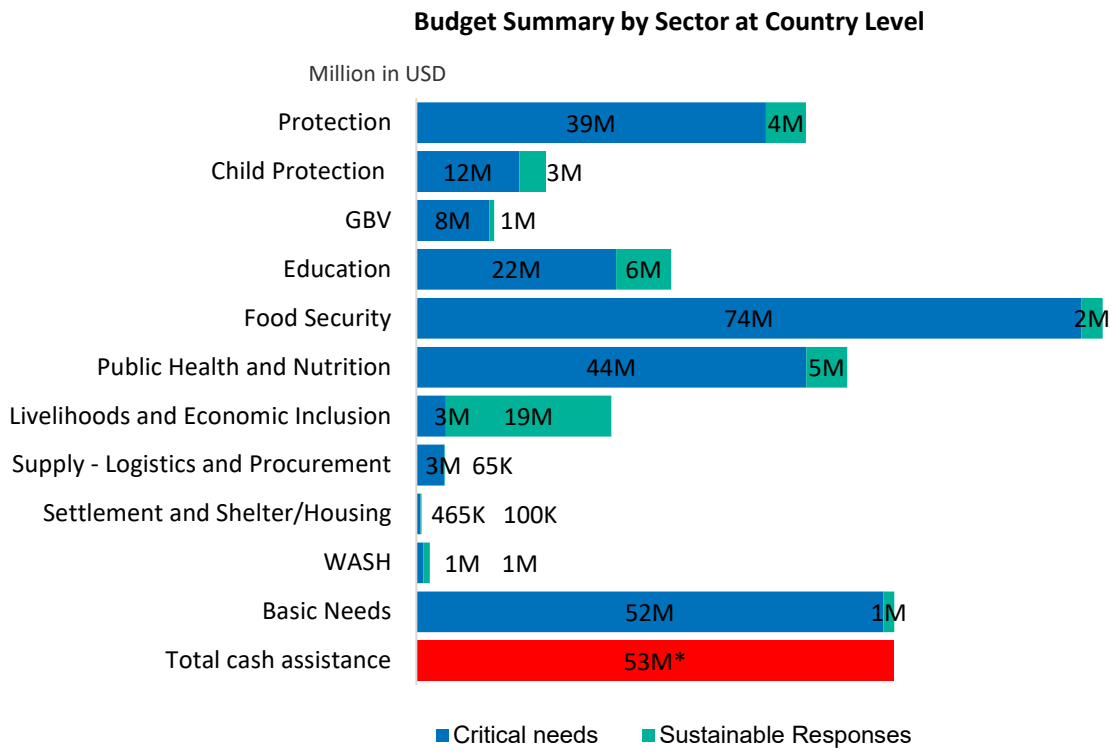

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Sector	Critical needs	Sustainable Responses	Total in USD
Protection	$39,056,169	$4,490,260	$43,546,429
➢ Of which Child Protection	$11,506,130	$2,992,000	$14,498,130
➢ Of which GBV	$8,146,775	$533,260	$8,680,035
Education	$22,322,381	$6,165,405	$28,487,787
Food Security	$74,303,829	$2,390,862	$76,694,691
Public Health and Nutrition	$43,563,224	$4,575,669	$48,138,893
Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion	$3,282,940	$18,512,342	$21,795,282
Supply - Logistics and Procurement	$3,111,201	$65,000	$3,176,201
Settlement and Shelter/Housing	$465,000	$100,000	$565,000
WASH	$780,000	$740,000	$1,520,000
Basic Needs	$52,186,788	$1,205,500	$53,392,288
Total	**$239,071,532**	**$38,245,038**	**$277,316,570**

Ethiopia
Country Chapter

January-December 2026

Sudanese refugee women in the Ura settlement, Ethiopia August 2025. ©UNHCR/Sona Dadi

At a Glance

Ethiopia Planned Response

January-December 2026

120 K
Projected refugee population

29 K
Projected Ethiopian refugee returnees

54.6 K
Projected assisted host-community members

USD 113.7 M
Total financial requirements

16
RRP Partners

Population Planning Figures

Country	Population as of end of 2025	Planned Population as of end of 2026
Refugee Population	94,082	119,500
Ethiopian Refugee Returnees	21,393	29,000
Host Community	56,000	54,600
Total	**171,475**	**203,100**

Situation Overview

Ethiopia maintains an open-door asylum policy and hosts refugees under national frameworks that ensure access to territory and protection. For Sudanese refugees, the Government supported by UNHCR and partners facilitates reception, documentation, and inclusion in essential services through favorable legislation, document provision, referrals and coordination mechanisms. The 2026 Sudan Refugee Response Plan (RRP) builds on the 2025 regional architecture while reinforcing inclusion, self-reliance, and solutions planning from the onset, in line with UNHCR's Refugee Coordination Model.

Since conflict broke out in Sudan in April 2023, Ethiopia has received 77,219 individuals in need of protection, primarily through Metema and other entry points in Amhara region (52 per cent) and Kurmuk, Gisean and Abrahamo Transit Centres, in the Benishangul-Gumuz region (48 per cent), as of mid-December 2025[15]. Refugees from Sudan are primarily hosted in three pre-existing camps Sherkole, Bambasi, and Tsore which accommodated arrivals prior to the 2023 influx, as well as in Ura Settlement in Benishangul-Gumuz and Aftit Settlement in the Amhara region, both hosting those having arrived since April 2023. Benishangul-Gumuz remains relatively stable but, in Amhara, security challenges have disrupted humanitarian movements for response assistance and delayed planned activities. Among arrivals, 21,393 Ethiopian refugees have returned, many joining IDP settings in Tigray due to insecurity in their areas of origin.

Looking ahead to 2026, Ethiopia is projected to assist over 200,000 individuals, including 119,500 Sudanese refugees (comprising 9,000 expected new arrivals, 3,000 natural growth, 49,964 pre-April 2023 refugees, and the existing population), 29,000 Ethiopian refugee returnees[16], and 54,600 host community members. The response will prioritize life-saving assistance, protection, and socio-economic inclusion, supported by Ethiopia's recent Right to Work Directive, a landmark policy advancing refugee self-reliance and economic inclusion.

The plan aligns with Ethiopia's commitments at the Global Refugee Forum and its inclusion approach (*Makatet*[17]), promoting integrated and inclusive service delivery, climate-resilient human settlements, and peaceful coexistence between refugees and host communities.

Refugees and host communities face significant socio-economic vulnerabilities, including constrained livelihoods, food insecurity, rising prices, uneven access to health and education services, as well as critical shelter needs and limited access to alternative energy sources. Language barriers, documentation gaps, and limited-service capacity affect continuity of care and learning. Protection risks remain high, with family separation, GBV, child protection concerns (school dropout, child labour, child marriage), and psychosocial distress affecting both new arrivals and protracted caseloads. WASH systems, health facilities, and schools in hosting areas, particularly in the Benishangul-Gumuz region and border sites, are overstretched, leading to congestion and service interruptions. The security situation in Amhara region remains volatile, disrupting access, while persistent underfunding across sectors amplifies these challenges.

Country Strategic Objectives

SO1: Access & Documentation

Support the Government of Ethiopia to uphold access to territory, fair and efficient asylum procedures, and timely issuance of individual documentation for refugees and asylum-seekers, ensuring compliance with international protection standards.

SO2: Protection & Life-Saving Assistance

[15] ETH Population Movement from Sudan to Ethiopia - Power BI, RRS- UNHCR, consulted on 16 December 2025.
[16] The planned refugee returnee population as of the end of 2026 is 29,016. This figure is cumulative from 2023 to 2026, including 8,000 new arrivals projected for 2026. The cumulative figure is indicated in the plan as no substantive assistance has been provided to them since arriving.
[17] "to be included" in Amharic language (the Government's working language)

Strengthen timely, efficient, and quality protection and life-saving multisectoral assistance for refugees, asylum-seekers, and vulnerable host communities, including support for reception activities and integration of MHPSS, with a focus on inclusive child protection systems, GBV survivors, and individuals with other specific needs; and build and reinforce service (response) institutional and community-based structures to enhance response efforts, including support for refugee-led organizations (RLOs).

SO3: Inclusion & Social Cohesion

Advance refugees' socio-economic inclusion by integrating refugee and host community services, embedding early solutions within emergency responses, and promoting social cohesion and peaceful coexistence, supported by strategies for a phased and sustainable transition to national systems, including digital inclusion as an enabler.

SO4: Durable Solutions

Expand access to durable solutions by facilitating voluntary repatriation in safety and dignity and sustainable reintegration of returnees, prioritizing third-country solutions including resettlement for those at heightened risk, and strengthening complementary pathways such as education, labour mobility, family reunification, and humanitarian admission, while maintaining momentum on issuing Machine Readable Convention Travel Documents.

Response strategy

The plan will stabilize life-saving services while embedding solutions from the onset. Partners will prioritize protection and multi-sectoral assistance, strengthen case management and community-based protection, and support government-led asylum and documentation processes. Investments in inclusive education, health, and WASH systems will improve service delivery for refugees and hosts, while livelihoods and market linkages will be expanded under the humanitarian-development nexus. The strategy leverages Ethiopia's Right to Work Directive to promote self-reliance and economic participation. Durable solutions including voluntary repatriation, resettlement, and complementary pathways will be advanced alongside reintegration support for Ethiopian returnees.

In 2026, the response will focus on stabilizing life-saving services across WASH, health, education, and protection, with particular attention to high-risk groups such as women, children, and persons with specific needs. Ensuring access to territory, fair asylum procedures, and timely documentation will remain a core priority, alongside strengthening socio-economic inclusion through livelihoods, market linkages, and inclusion into national services. Protection and accountability will be enhanced through improved case management, prevention and response to GBV, child protection systems, strengthening of community-based structures and community feedback mechanisms. Efforts will also advance durable solutions, including voluntary repatriation, resettlement, and complementary pathways, while supporting the reintegration of Ethiopian returnees to ensure sustainable recovery.

Partnership and Coordination

In line with the Refugee Coordination Model and the Global Compact on Refugees, Ethiopia's Refugees and Returnees Service (RRS), with support from UNHCR, leads and coordinates the national refugee response in collaboration with federal, regional, and local authorities. The 2026 Refugee Response Plan has 16 partners appealing for funds.

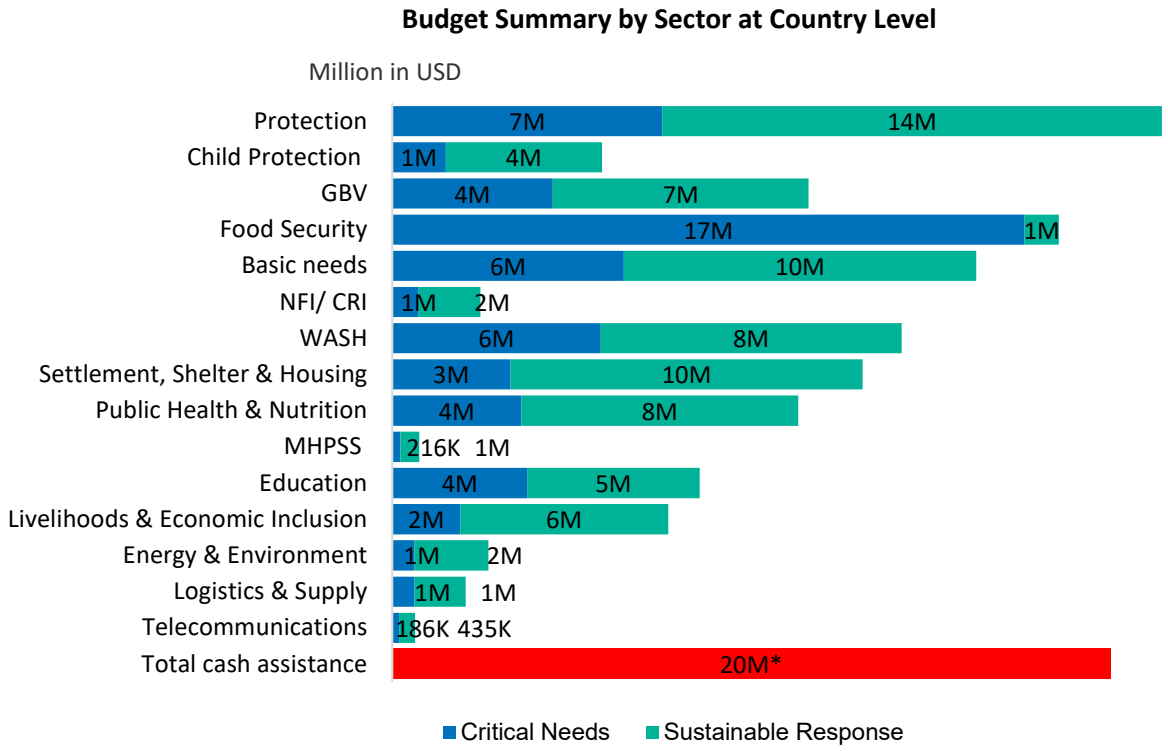
Coordination structures, co-chaired by RRS and UNHCR, operate at national and field levels through sectoral and sub-sectoral working groups covering protection, health, education, WASH, shelter, food security, energy, and livelihoods. These mechanisms ensure information sharing, quality assurance, and capacity-building for national and refugee-led institutions, promoting localization and inclusion. They also address operational gaps and strengthen response efforts, while periodic donor briefings align funding with needs and priorities.

The 2026 response is aligned with Ethiopia's Ten-Year Development Plan, the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, and Ethiopia's inclusion approach (*Makatet*), reinforcing integrated refugee assistance, socio-economic inclusion, and resilience-building within the humanitarian-development-peace nexus.

Inter-Agency Financial Requirements

16 Partners involved	UN Agencies 5	International NGOs 9	National NGOs 2
		$ 19,018,326	$ 512,500
		FBOs 1	FBOs 1
	$ 94,216,737	$ 617,074	$ 110,000

Notes: This list only includes appealing organizations under the RRP, many of which collaborate with other partners to carry out RRP activities.
FBOs: Faith-based Organizations



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Sector	Critical Needs	Sustainable Response	Total in USD
Protection	$7,346,155	$13,590,484	$20,936,639
➢ Of which Child Protection	$1,455,081	$4,250,123	$5,705,204
➢ Of which GBV	$4,368,828	$6,955,122	$11,323,950
Food Security	$17,202,520	$930,000	$18,132,520
Basic needs	$6,299,545	$9,584,457	$15,884,002
➢ Of which NFI/ CRI	$719,178	$1,678,083	$2,397,261
WASH	$5,670,849	$8,180,254	$13,851,103
Settlement, Shelter & Housing	$3,214,092	$9,582,881	$12,796,973
Public Health & Nutrition	$3,512,629	$7,530,890	$11,043,519
➢ Of which MHPSS	$215,581	$518,023	$733,604
Education	$3,671,867	$4,690,174	$8,362,041
Livelihoods & Economic Inclusion	$1,852,109	$5,651,655	$7,503,764
Energy & Environment	$599,315	$2,018,402	$2,617,717
Logistics & Supply	$599,315	$1,398,402	$1,997,717
Telecommunications	$186,470	$435,098	$621,568
Total	**$50,154,866**	**$63,592,697**	**$113,747,563**

Libya
Country Chapter

January-December 2026

Sudanese refugee children at school in Janzour, Tripoli in Libya. A decree was issued preventing non-Libyan children from going to Libyan schools unless they have a residence permit. This decree has since been lifted though some schools still prevent Sudanese children from attending. ©UNHCR/Ziyad Alhamadi

At a Glance

Libya Planned Response

January-December 2026

596 K
Projected refugee population

70 K
Projected assisted host-community

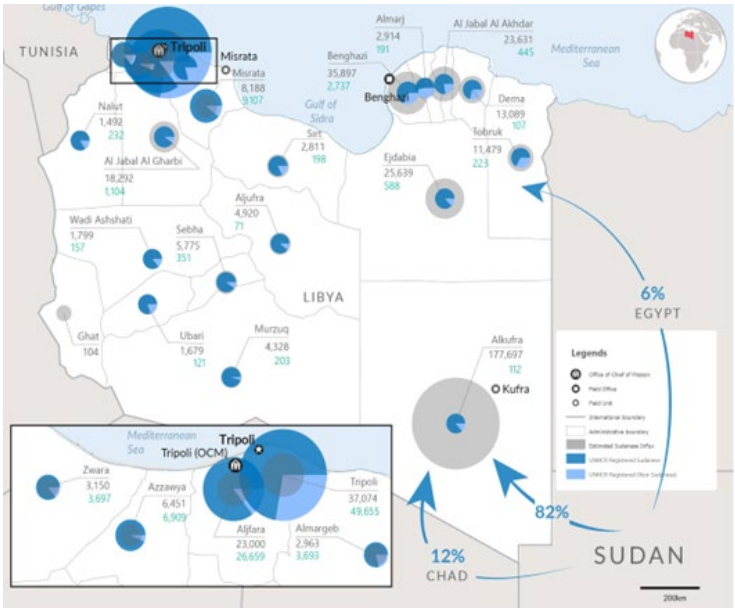
1 K
Third Country Nationals

USD 115.5 M
Total financial requirements

14
RRP Partners

Population Planning Figures

Population	Population as of end of 2025	Planned Population as of end of 2026
Refugees	538,000	596,000
Third Country Nationals	1,000	1,000
Host Community	70,000	70,000
Total	**608,000**	**667,000**



Situation Overview

Sudanese refugees arrive in Libya through key points such as Alkufra (82 per cent), Tobruk (6 per cent) and the southeastern border with Chad (12 per cent). Insecurity at the border in the Triangle area inside Sudan since March 2025, and increased border control by Libyan authorities has led refugees to take longer and more dangerous routes, and arrivals via Chad remain steady at 100-150 per day. Some refugees arriving by this route make their way to Alkufra to receive assistance. Others have remained in southern Libya, in Sabha, or are continuing to move towards the larger cities. Currently, between 40,000 and 45,000 Sudanese refugees are estimated to be living in Alkufra. Livelihood opportunities in Alkufra remain highly competitive and difficult to secure, prompting most Sudanese refugees to move on to other cities such as Ajdabiya, Benghazi, and Tripoli in search of better prospects and schooling for their children.

Refugees and asylum-seekers are registered by UNHCR in Tripoli in the West and by authorities in the East. Initially, the Security Registration Card issued by authorities in the East enabled access to public services only in the East and South of Libya, however that process has been significantly interrupted throughout 2025 for various reasons. Recent changes to the registration process in the East requiring documentation, a Libyan sponsor, and payment of Libyan Dinar (LYD) 500 per person, have made it difficult for the majority of refugees to register with the authorities, making their access to humanitarian assistance in Alkufra challenging, and leaving them at risk of arrest and deportation. In addition to these changes, only refugees medically cleared of infectious diseases can be registered with the authorities

or they are deported. In 2025, 3,642 Sudanese refugees were deported from Libya, in addition to 2,500 whose travel was organized by authorities in the East.

Reduced funding has left many destitute, compelling them to make desperate decisions, including taking the perilous journey across the Mediterranean. In 2025, Sudanese nationals were one of the top nationalities disembarked in Libya following rescue or interceptions at sea representing 10 per cent of the 26,635 migrants and refugees recorded by IOM as having been returned to Libya during the year. In addition, 3,789 Sudanese nationals arrived in Italy by sea, coming from Libya, accounting for nearly 7 per cent of the 56,065 sea arrivals recorded in 2025. This places Sudanese nationals as the fifth-largest nationality group among arrivals to Italy from Libya as of 30 November 2025. In 2025, by mid-December 17,298 people arrived in Greece from Libya embarking from Tobruk in the East; the majority are Sudanese refugees (6,581) and Egyptians (6,981).

Country Strategic Objectives

SO1: Humanitarian and protection assistance

In coordination with the State of Libya, ensure vulnerable Sudanese refugees in need of international protection are provided with basic humanitarian assistance and protection services to save lives, alleviate suffering, and uphold dignity.

SO2: Support to national systems

In collaboration with the State of Libya, support national systems to provide public services to Sudanese refugees and impacted host communities with a special focus on locations hosting large numbers of refugees.

SO3: Strengthen capacities of local institutions and host communities

In close cooperation with the State of Libya, donors, UNCT, and partners, build resilience, strengthening the capacities of local institutions and host communities, as well as refugees, and improve preparedness.

Response Strategy

The Libya chapter of the RRP for Sudanese refugees will continue to be implemented in complementarity with the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) for Libya, supporting the national response and enhancing the capacity of the government, as well as supporting host communities, especially linking with the Humanitarian-Development-Peace nexus. There has been tangible support given to national service structures in refugee-populated areas by RRP partners, mainly in the sectors of health, education and WASH and the 2026 RRP interventions will further capacitate national structures to cope with the increased demand on local services by refugee and new arrival populations and be of service to host communities as well. Skilled refugees may have access to the local labour market provided they obtain work-related residency by submitting the required documentation and paying the associated fee of 500 LYD. However, many who are not able to pursue this pathway remain without appropriate documentation that would allow access to humanitarian assistance, public services and freedom of movement, an issue that requires continued attention. Founded on data analysis, assessment and evidence-based programming, in 2026, RRP partners will continue to support the national response capacity and improve coordination with national technical departments, which will also entail the necessary capacity building and training for government officials and national partners.

The 2026 response will prioritize the most affected municipalities in Libya that host large numbers of refugees and are entry points for new arrivals. Through the RRP Inter-Agency sectoral taskforces, response capacity at the municipality level will be enhanced by implementing an area-based approach in life-saving services to refugees and in-kind assistance to relevant national service providers that cover the needs of refugees and vulnerable host communities.

Partnership and Coordination

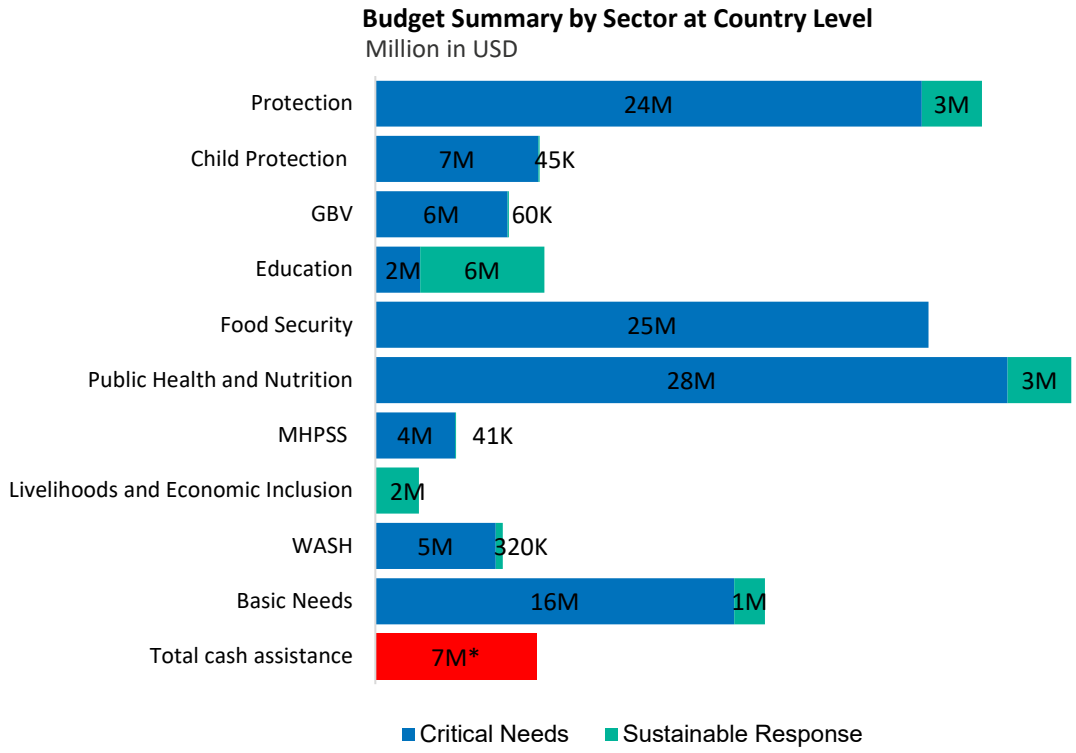
In accordance with its mandate, UNHCR leads the coordination of the Sudan Refugee Response Plan (RRP) in Libya. For advocacy and consultation purposes, UNHCR maintains close coordination with the Resident Coordinator and the

United Nations Country Team. Through the Inter-Agency Working Group chaired by UNHCR, the sectoral IAWG Taskforces are responsible for the response implementation, coordination with relevant government technical departments and Taskforce reporting. All sectoral Taskforces are led by one UN agency and one INGO, who, as Taskforce leads, ensure monitoring and progress of Taskforce workplans and provide updates and recommendations to the IAWG forum. Although national partners do not appeal through the RRP, they remain key operational actors, collaborating closely with response partners and contributing significantly to the response. Relevant national partners will take part in Taskforce meetings in 2026 to ensure their full engagement in the response. Response partners plan to scale up the delivery of lifesaving assistance, facilitate access to basic services, build community resilience, and stabilize local economies, and require flexible and predictable funding in 2026.

Inter-Agency Financial Requirements

14 Partners involved	UN Agencies	International NGOs
	7	7
	$96,109,190	$19,440,000

Notes: This list only includes appealing organizations under the RRP, many of which collaborate with other partners to carry out RRP activities.



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Sector	Critical needs	Sustainable Responses	Total in USD
Protection	$24,416,800	$2,700,000	$27,116,800
➢ Of which Child Protection	$7,290,000	$45,000	$7,335,000
➢ Of which GBV	$5,903,500	$60,000	$5,963,500
Education	$2,002,000	$5,548,000	$7,550,000
Food Security	24,723,320		$24,723,320
Public Health and Nutrition	$28,259,070	$2,837,000	$31,096,070
➢ Of which MHPSS	$3,564,400	$40,800	$3,605,200
Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion		$1,950,000	$1,950,000
WASH	$5,383,000	$320,000	$5,703,000
Basic Needs	$16,040,000	$1,370,000	$17,410,000
Total	**$100,824,190**	**$14,725,000**	**$115,549,190**

South Sudan
Country Chapter

January-December 2026

Solar-powered water points are improving access to safe, reliable water for refugees and the host community in Maban, South Sudan. © UNHCR/Philip James Lukudu

At a Glance

South Sudan Planned Response

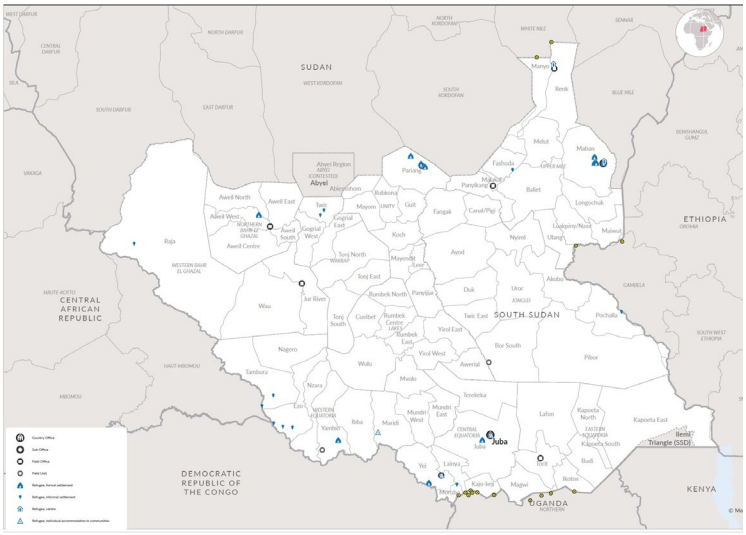
January-December 2026

572 K
Projected refugee population

43 K
Projected assisted host-community

USD 362 M
Total financial requirements

56
RRP Partners



Population Planning Figures

Population	Planned Population as of end of 2025	Planned Population as of end of 2026
Refugees	711,497	571,900
Total		
Host Community	66,978	43,100
Total	**778,475**	**615,000**

Situation Overview

Fourteen years after gaining independence, including seven years after signing the most recent peace agreement, people in South Sudan continue to face deteriorating humanitarian conditions amidst a worsening economy. Conflict, subnational violence, public health challenges, climatic shocks, and large-scale displacement have severely affected people's livelihoods and hindered access to essential services. Forced displacement in South Sudan is highly complex, with large numbers of internally displaced persons, refugees, and returnees living side by side with host communities. With an estimated 2 million people displaced within South Sudan[18] and another 2.3 million South Sudanese refugees in neighbouring countries[19].

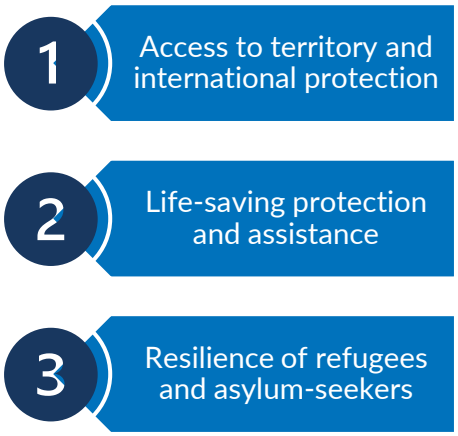
Before the Sudanese conflict erupted in 2023, South Sudan hosted 300,600 refugees and asylum-seekers, primarily from Sudan. Between April 2023 and December 2025, an additional 880,000 South Sudanese returnees and at least 420,000 refugees and asylum-seekers had arrived from Sudan[20]. Projections indicate that more refugees and returnees will continue to come in 2026. Newly arrived Sudanese are transferred to existing refugee settlements in Upper Nile and Ruweng Administrative Area and to a newly established settlement in Aweil, Northern Bahr el Ghazal.

[18] South Sudan: Humanitarian Snapshot (September 2024)
[19] UNHCR Operational Data Portal: South Sudan
[20] South Sudan Joint Border Monitoring

South Sudan faces a volatile operational environment driven by overlapping crises, fragile infrastructure, and limited resources, with the sustainability of the refugee response hinging on stable funding, essential services, and security. Key risks include heavy reliance on humanitarian financing for health, education, WASH, and protection services; minimal contingency capacity to absorb new shocks such as influxes or emergencies; and growing insecurity due to reduced United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) presence, which threatens access and safety. The conflict in Sudan has had a catastrophic impact on South Sudan, disrupting trade and leading to a rise in food and commodities prices. This price surge exacerbates protection risks and vulnerabilities, further straining access to essential goods and services. It has also increased these communities' food insecurity, harmful coping mechanisms, and humanitarian needs. On top of this, climate change poses a significant additional threat to South Sudan. Funding shortfalls remain a critical concern, risking ration cuts, service gaps, and heightened tensions with host communities if support does not improve.

Despite facing significant development challenges, including the impacts of climate change and high levels of displacement—particularly in border areas—the Government of South Sudan has upheld an open-door policy, allowing access to its territory for all individuals arriving from Sudan, including Sudanese refugees, other refugees, returnees, and third-country nationals. The Government has granted *prima facie* status recognition to all Sudanese affected by the current crisis. This conducive policy environment creates momentum to support development approaches that benefit local authorities, host communities, and forcibly displaced and returnee populations. Indeed, up to 58 per cent of new arrivals from Sudan reside in towns and peri-urban areas, benefiting from freedom of movement and access to livelihoods, and a growing number are unregistered. However, if perceptions of Sudanese communities deteriorate or local tensions rise, these communities may require protection interventions, including registration and documentation.

Country Strategic Objectives



1: Support the Government of South Sudan in ensuring safe access to territory and asylum for all those in need of international protection, in full respect of international principles, including non-refoulement and the civilian and humanitarian character of asylum

RRP partners will continue to support the Government of the Republic of South Sudan in ensuring safe and unhindered access to territory and asylum for all individuals in need of international protection, particularly those fleeing the conflict in Sudan. The Government will grant access to territory and determine refugee status in line with national legislation and international standards, including the principle of non-refoulement. Joint border monitoring with the Commission for Refugee Affairs (CRA), Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC), and partners will remain essential to track new arrivals, identify vulnerabilities, and trigger an appropriate and timely humanitarian response. Partners will also strengthen the capacity-building of border and protection actors, ensuring that border management respects the civilian and humanitarian character of asylum and safeguards against refoulement, exploitation, and human rights violations.

2: Ensure timely, life-saving protection and humanitarian assistance for refugees and asylum-seekers, with a particular focus on the most vulnerable and at-risk groups

With continued arrivals from Sudan, RRP partners will sustain and expand reception and transit capacities in key border areas and refugee-hosting locations to deliver life-saving protection and humanitarian assistance. Priority will be given to identifying and supporting the most vulnerable and at-risk groups, ensuring their safe relocation from transit sites to designated camps and settlements, where they can access protection, shelter, education, health, and livelihood opportunities.

Recognising that many refugees choose to live outside camps, partners will adopt a whole-of-society and area-based approach to extend services and inclusion to urban and out-of-camp populations, integrating them into national and local systems wherever feasible. In light of severe funding constraints, partners will enhance prioritization and targeting, promoting efficiency and sustainability by strengthening links between humanitarian assistance and national service delivery systems, particularly in health and education.

3: Strengthen resilience, self-reliance and inclusion of refugees and asylum-seekers, contributing to sustainable development, peace and human rights in South Sudan

Building on South Sudan's progressive legal framework, which grants refugees the right to work, access to services, and recognition of education qualifications, RRP partners will support efforts to enhance resilience, self-reliance, and local inclusion. Through area-based and settlement approaches, partners will promote livelihood opportunities, access to land, and local economic participation, especially in Maban, Jamjang, and Aweil, where the Government has generously allocated agricultural land.

The response will aim to reduce future humanitarian needs and ongoing costs and strengthen community ownership, local governance, and self-management, in close collaboration with local authorities and host communities. In 2026, the response will advance the implementation of multi-year strategies in Maban, Jamjang, and Renk, linking humanitarian, development and peace interventions to support coexistence, local service delivery, and long-term inclusion.

The South Sudan chapter of the Sudan RRP is part of the South Sudan Country Refugee Response Plan, which outlines the planned response for all refugees hosted in South Sudan is an appeal for the refugee response 2026

Response Strategy

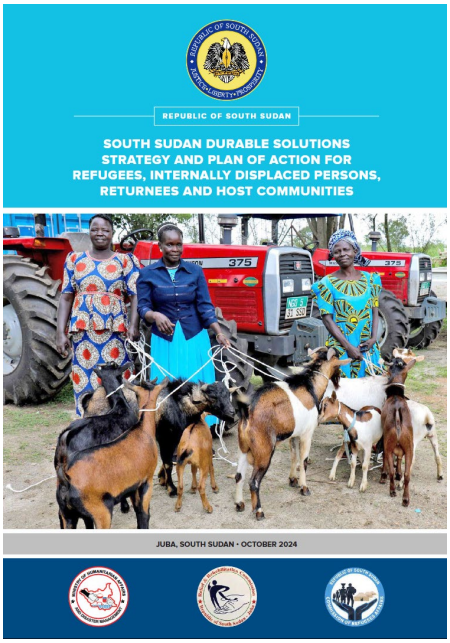
The 2026 RRP is structured around a dual focus on critical needs and sustainable responses, prioritising life-saving protection and assistance while planning and implementing interventions that reduce humanitarian needs in the medium to long terms, strengthen resilience, and advance pathways toward solutions. Humanitarian partners continue to address immediate protection and life-saving needs, including access to territory and asylum, emergency shelter, food, sanitation, health, and education. At the same time, development actors lay the foundation for resilience, inclusion, and self-reliance through investments in skills development, livelihoods, and access to national systems. Wherever possible, humanitarian interventions are designed with a development lens, ensuring that short-term responses contribute to long-term, sustainable and resilient outcomes for both refugees and host communities. The strategy also builds on the interconnectedness of humanitarian assistance, development, and peacebuilding, recognising that durable solutions for displaced populations can only be achieved through coordinated and complementary implementation.

The peace component of the nexus is important given the protracted nature of the Sudan conflict and limited prospects for return. With new arrivals and constrained resources, the potential for inter-community tensions remains high. To mitigate these risks, RRP partners facilitate community dialogues, joint planning platforms, and conflict-resolution training, building trust and cooperation among refugees, returnees, and host communities. The United Nations Country Team (UNCT) and Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) have agreed on joint outcomes that directly support the nexus approach, focusing on rapid response, solutions, and peacebuilding. Refugees and asylum-seekers are explicitly included within these outcomes, ensuring that refugee response priorities are integrated into broader UN planning, complementing national and local development frameworks and enabling coherent engagement across humanitarian, development, and peace actors.

Furthermore, equitable resource distribution and inclusive service delivery are prioritised to reduce competition, strengthen social cohesion, and foster mutual support. Community-led conflict prevention mechanisms help identify and address grievances early, ensuring that tensions are managed constructively.

By linking humanitarian response with development and peacebuilding efforts, and aligning with UNCT–HCT joint outcomes, the RRP contributes to a cohesive, stable, and forward-looking refugee response, advancing protection, resilience, and inclusion while supporting South Sudan's broader pathway toward sustainable peace and development.

In October 2023, the South Sudan Commission for Refugee Affairs (CRA) and the South Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC) presented the National Durable Solutions Strategy and Action Plan for Refugees, Returnees, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), and Host Communities, which the Council Ministers subsequently approved. This strategy, rooted in the 2017 National Framework for Return, Reintegration, and Relocation, as well as the South Sudan Action Plan for Return and Recovery, provides a comprehensive guide to addressing the challenges faced by displaced persons returning to their places of origin, integrating into host communities, or seeking refuge in South Sudan. The strategy aligns with Chapter 3 of the 2018 Peace Agreement on Humanitarian Assistance and Reconstruction. It is grounded in principles of development-oriented, area-based, and rights-based approaches, emphasising national ownership and the active participation of affected communities.



National Durable Solutions Strategy and Action Plan for Refugees, Returnees, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), and Host Communities

Objectives

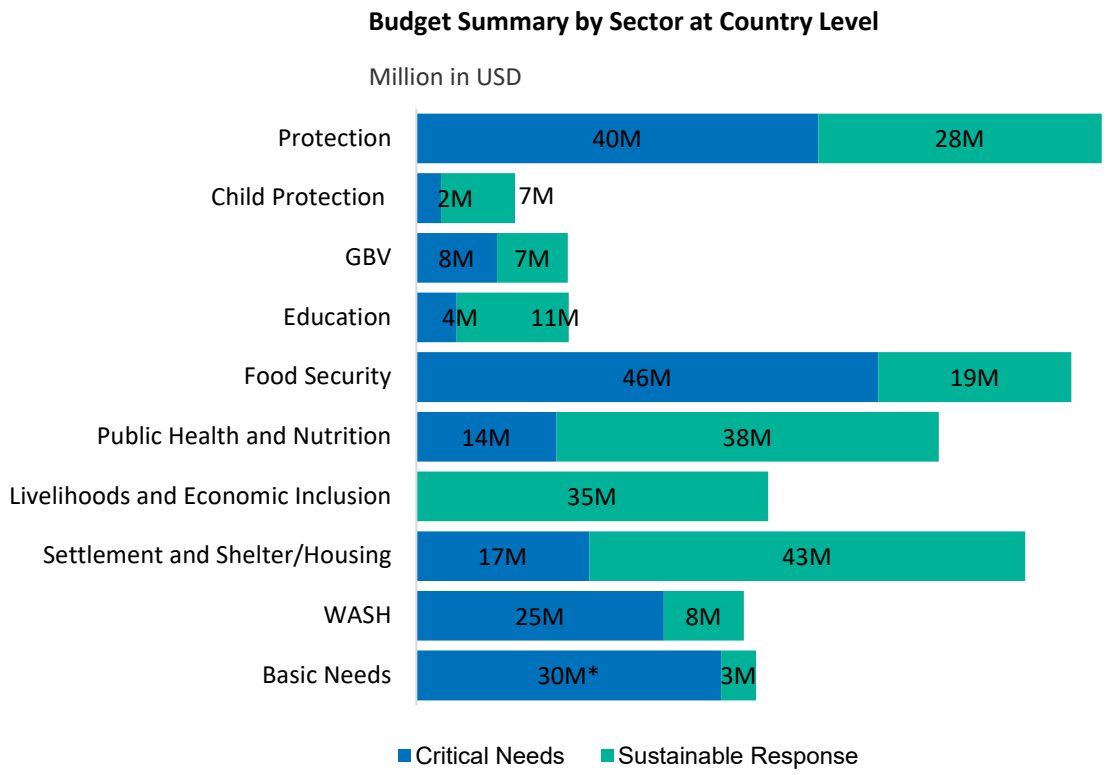
1. Creating a safe environment for durable solutions
2. Providing basic services to support returns and integration
3. Promoting social integration and livelihoods for refugees, IDPs, returnees, and host communities
4. Strengthening government capacity at all levels
5. Enhancing government ownership and coordination for effective interventions.

Partnership and Coordination

The Commission for Refugee Affairs (CRA) under the Ministry of the Interior retains primary responsibility for the management and coordination of refugee and asylum matters, including preparedness, registration, and reception.
In 2025, under the leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator/ Residence Coordinator (RC/HC), South Sudan rolled out an Area-Based Coordination Model nationwide, operationalising the humanitarian–development–peace (HDP) nexus at the subnational level. Within this framework, UNHCR leads coordination in Upper Nile State, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, and the Ruweng Special Administrative Area—three areas hosting the largest concentrations of refugees. Additionally, UNHCR leads deep-field coordination in Renk and Maban, serving as critical hubs for cross-border response and local integration efforts. This model allows partners to strengthen area-based approaches, moving beyond a purely refugee-centred response toward joint programming that benefits both displaced and host populations, reinforces local governance, and enhances community resilience. Sustained and inclusive collaboration between humanitarian, development, and peace actors will be essential to address both critical protection and assistance needs and to lay the foundation for resilience, inclusion, and long-term stability in refugee-hosting areas.

Inter-Agency Financial Requirements[21]

Notes: This list only includes appealing organizations under the RRP, many of which collaborate with other partners to carry out RRP activities.
IFRC: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
FBOs: Faith-based Organizations
RLOs: Refugee-led Organizations



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[21] South Sudan Response Plan is piloting an activity-based costing model akin to the Humanitarian Needs Response Plans as an effort to standardize the approaches in the humanitarian system. Therefore, budgets are allocated at the sector level and are currently not available by partner.

Sector	Critical needs	Sustainable Responses	Total in USD
Protection	$39,987,728	$28,180,763	$68,168,491
➢ Of which Child Protection	$2,460,244	$7,337,031	$9,797,275
➢ Of which GBV	$8,023,258	$7,029,406	$15,052,664
Education	$4,003,063	$11,171,171	$15,174,234
Food Security	$45,967,545	$19,195,227	$65,162,772
Public Health & Nutrition	$13,939,037	$38,027,082	$51,966,119
Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion		$34,996,718	$34,996,718
Settlement and Shelter/Housing	$17,189,680	$43,382,225	$60,571,905
WASH	$24,621,795	$7,943,551	$32,565,346
Basic Needs	$30,317,943	$3,484,847	$33,802,790
Total	**$176,026,791**	**$186,381,582**	**$362,408,373**

Uganda

Country Chapter

January-December 2026

Sudanese refugee women collect water from a community tap in Kiryandongo refugee settlement. UNICEF, UNHCR, and the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) are working together to expand access to safe, potable water for refugees. Through this collaboration, three new water systems now serve approximately 26,000 Sudanese refugees. @UNICEF/ Bamulanzeki

At a Glance

Uganda Planned Response

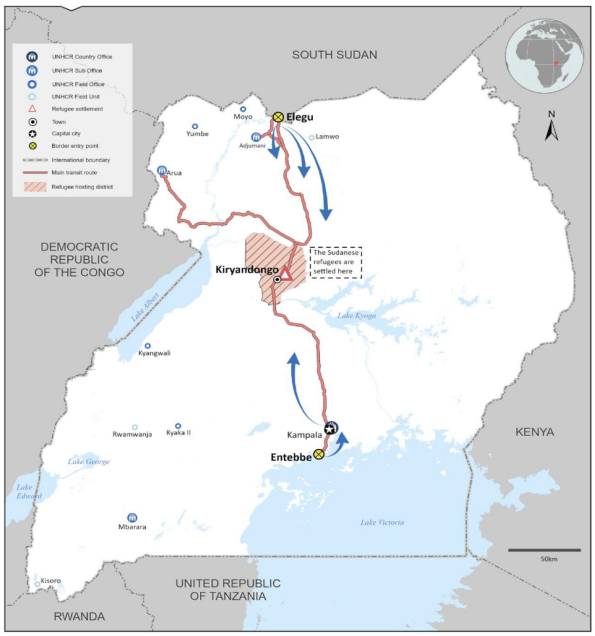
January-December 2026

155 K
Projected refugee population

149 K
Projected assisted host-community

USD 100 M
Total financial requirements

40
RRP Partners



Population Planning Figures

Population	Population as of end of 2025	Planned Population as of end of 2026
Refugees	91,963	154,800
Host Community	148,900	148,900
Total	**240,863**	**303,700**

Situation Overview and Country Response

At the end of December 2025, Uganda hosted over 1.96 million refugees and asylum seekers, with an estimated 92,700 Sudanese refugees and asylum seekers. 85 per cent of Sudanese refugees reside in Kiryandongo Refugee Settlement, the designated primary reception and registration point for Sudanese refugees since 2023. 10 per cent of Sudanese refugees live in Kampala city, and the remaining 5 per cent (mostly those who sought asylum in Uganda before 15 April 2023) are in other settlements across the country. Refugees in Kiryandongo receive food, education, health care, emergency shelter and other forms of humanitarian assistance. Urban refugees are expected to be self-reliant and are only supported through policy and advocacy to reduce barriers to accessing jobs and livelihoods.

The Government of Uganda approved *prima-facie* status for Sudanese refugees, and the globally acclaimed Refugee Framework, underpinned by the Refugees Act (2006) and Regulations (2010), guarantees refugees essential rights, including freedom of movement, employment, and access to national services. This progressive approach, coupled with the explicit inclusion of refugees in Uganda's Fourth National Development Plan (NDP IV) 2025/26 –2029/30, which is conducive for investment in development.

Country Strategic Objectives

SO1: Uganda's asylum space is strengthened and unhindered; access to territory is preserved; and international protection standards are upheld, with attention to specific protection needs.

SO2: Urgent and life-saving needs of refugees and asylum seekers are prioritized and addressed in a timely and targeted manner, ensuring that the most vulnerable are reached first and that basic needs are consistently met across sectors.

SO3: Refugees and host communities access essential services (e.g., protection, health, education, and water services) through strengthened national and local systems, with a focus on localization and stronger humanitarian–development linkages to ensure continuity and sustainability.

SO4: Refugees and host communities live together peacefully and actively participate in creating inclusive and sustainable livelihoods opportunities that enhance self-reliance and reduce dependency.

SO5: Refugees and stateless persons access durable solutions, including voluntary return and third-country options, while promoting local engagement and exploring context-appropriate pathways that support long-term inclusion.

Response strategy

Uganda stands at a critical juncture. Over the last five years, an average of 120,000 people arrived in the country seeking asylum. This steady inflow of refugees, combined with climate shocks, reduced staffing, and volatile funding—has pushed the response capacity to its limits. Increasingly earmarked humanitarian financing leaves little room to adapt to the fast-changing needs, and deep funding reductions have forced abrupt programme cuts across food assistance, protection, and essential services. Stringent prioritization, renewed investment, and greater reliance on empowered communities, district authorities, and development partners to safeguard resilience and keep vital services functioning. The 2026 Uganda refugee response will apply a tiered, data-driven prioritization approach. This approach will ensure that life-saving and protection-critical interventions are delivered first, while pursuing long-term elements for sustainability, integration, and resilience, recognizing that these are essential for maintaining Uganda's refugee model and reducing the long-term humanitarian costs.

The three -tiers are life-saving protection and emergency assistance; sustaining essential basic services; and strengthening resilience and feasible inclusion into national systems. The life-saving and critical assistance tier covers seven sectors: protection activities, including reception, registration, critical case management, GBV response, child protection, legal assistance, and strengthened community-based safety mechanisms. Health and nutrition programmes include disease outbreak response, primary health care, emergency reproductive health, treatment of severe malnutrition and anaemia, and essential medicine supply. Food security includes targeted food and cash assistance for the most vulnerable as a priority. WASH programming includes providing 15 litres of clean water per person per day, emergency sanitation, water quality monitoring, desludging, and hygiene promotion. Shelter and NFIs provision will include emergency shelter kits, site planning, and core relief items, targeting mainly new arrivals. A minimum set of livelihood activities will be in this tier, covering emergency household food production and immediate income-generation support. Education activities in the first tier include emergency enrolment, learning materials, and limited teacher recruitment in high-influx sites.

The second tier includes essential services in health, protection, education, and livelihoods services that will continue but with scaled-back coverage and reduced quality. The third tier covers resilience and systems strengthening and inclusion. Some of the activities under this tier include environmental management, land planning, and early self-reliance initiatives to be implemented based on funding availability.

Based on the above-tiered approach, assistance will be targeted to prioritized groups of refugees. The targeting is informed by severity-of-needs analysis, multisector assessments, and community consultations. This includes village-

level targeting in high-influx areas and prioritization of newly arrived refugees at points of entry, and extremely vulnerable households. Urban refugees with limited access to national services also remain a priority.

The response will advance localization by reinforcing the leadership and capacity to community structures, refugee-led organizations, and district authorities aiming for a responsible transition of ownership over time. Targeting and registration systems will be streamlined to reduce duplication and improve accuracy, while cash-based assistance will be increased where market conditions and funding allow. Digital platforms and community feedback mechanisms will strengthen accountability, transparency, and cost-efficiency.

Partnership and Coordination

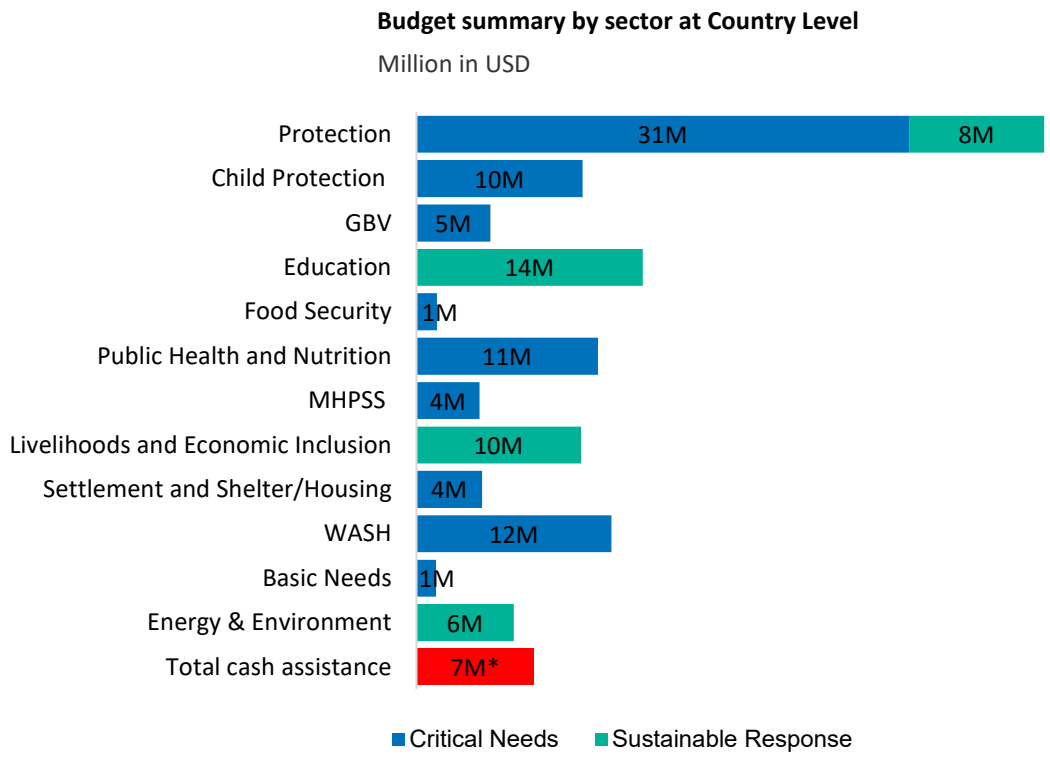
The Uganda chapter of the Sudan RRP is part of the Uganda Country Refugee Response Plan (UCRRP) which outlines the strategic priorities identified by the Government and its partners. Uganda's refugee response is co-led by UNHCR, the Department of Refugees within the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) and the Ministry of Local Government (MoLG). The response is coordinated through a multi-stakeholder forum, the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) Steering Group, which is a policy and decision-making body for the implementation of the CRRF. The Steering Group is co-led by the Office of the Prime Minister and the Ministry of Local Government, in a national arrangement that fulfils commitments outlined in the Global Compact on Refugees. Membership of the CRRF Steering Group includes government departments and agencies, local authorities, development and humanitarian donors, UN agencies, NGOs, the private sector, and international financial institutions. Importantly, affected populations are also represented in the group by six Ugandan nationals and two refugees who represent the Refugee Engagement Forum (REF) and the District Engagement Forum (DEF). The REF and the DEF will be held biannually to bring together refugee leaders from all settlements along with representatives from refugee-hosting districts to Kampala. These forums take place ahead of the CRRF Steering Group meetings and provide a platform for communities to amplify their voices and raise important issues for timely consideration by the Steering Group.

Additionally, the National-level Inter-Agency Coordination Group is activated and convenes monthly to provide strategic oversight and alignment of the Uganda Comprehensive Refugee Response Plan (UCRRP). Sectoral and intersectoral coordination is strengthened through routine coordination meetings that foster collaboration among partners and stakeholders. Monitoring of the UCRRP is implemented through the ActivityInfo platform, where partners report quarterly on resources received and milestones achieved, enabling transparent progress tracking and informed decision-making.

Inter-Agency Financial Requirements

40 Partners involved	UN Agencies 9	International NGOs 22	National NGOs 8	
	$71,093,769	$ 18,796,865	$8,312,184	
	IFRC/ National Society 1	FBOs 3	RLOs 3	WLOs 1
	$1,930,000	$3,751,692	$962,010	$1,100,000

Notes: This list only includes appealing organizations under the RRP, many of which collaborate with other partners to carry out RRP activities.
IFRC: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
FBOs: Faith-based Organizations
RLOs: Refugee-led Organizations



** These are financial requirements for cash assistance which are included in the above total budgets. Cash assistance is pursued and reflected as a key modality of assistance and protection in line with UNHCR's CBI Policy 2022-2026. Cash assistance can be used as sectoral modality and as a cross-cutting modality of assistance across the various sectors and is budgeted for accordingly. Unrestricted/ multipurpose cash grants for basic needs are budgeted under the basic needs sector. As the modality of choice of the people we work for and with, cash assistance will be used as the primary means to meet immediate basic needs and to contribute to protection outcomes.*

Sector	Critical needs	Sustainable Responses	Total in USD
Protection	$30,864,333	$8,458,287	$39,322,620
➢ Of which Child Protection	$10,412,044		$10,412,044
➢ Of which GBV	$4,640,311		$4,640,311
Education		$14,185,088	$14,185,088
Food Security	$1,290,000		$1,290,000
Public Health and Nutrition	$11,376,608		$11,376,608
➢ Of which MHPSS	$3,940,473		$3,940,473
Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion		$10,301,459	$10,301,459
Settlement and Shelter/Housing	$4,105,846		$4,105,846
WASH	$12,217,853		$12,217,853
Basic Needs	$1,230,000		$1,230,000
Energy & Environment		$6,103,344	$6,103,344
Total	**$61,084,640**	**$39,048,178**	**$100,132,818**

Annex 1 – Regional Budget by Partner and Country

Agency Type	Partner	CAR	Chad	Egypt	Ethiopia	Libya	South Sudan [22]	Uganda	Grand Total
International Financial Institution	African Development Bank			500,000					500,000
IFRC/Natl Society	Egyptian Red Crescent			1,232,000					1,232,000
IFRC/Natl Society	Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge		627,250						627,250
IFRC/Natl Society	Italian Red Cross - CRI		600,000						600,000
IFRC/Natl Society	South Sudan Red CROSS								
IFRC/Natl Society	Uganda Red Cross Society							1,930,000	1,930,000
NNGO	Action for the Needy in Ethiopia				402,500				402,500
NNGO	Action pour la protection de la santé, de l'environnement et la lutte contre la pénurie alimentaire		500,000						500,000
NNGO	Action pour le Développement, l'Humanitaire, l'Education, la Solidarité et la Cohésion Sociale		3,000,000						3,000,000
NNGO	Africa Development Aid								
NNGO	African Women and Youth Action for Development							1,100,000	1,100,000
NNGO	Agency for Cooperation and Research in Development							800,000	800,000
NNGO	Al Gad			317,184					317,184
NNGO	Arab Women			225,000					225,000
NNGO	Association pour la Cooperation Internationale au Développement		875,000						875,000
NNGO	Association Pour Le Soutien des Enfants de Rue, Orphelins et Enfants Vulnérables		52,000						52,000
NNGO	Bunyan			23,500					23,500
NNGO	Care Egypt Foundation			967,200					967,200
NNGO	Center of Egyptian Family Development Foundation			260,000					260,000
NNGO	Coalition for Humanity								
NNGO	Comité Local d'Etude, d'Execution, d'Evaluation et d'Accompagnement des Projets		1,640,000						1,640,000
NNGO	Community Engagement Network								
NNGO	Community In Need Aid								
NNGO	Education for Youth Empowerment Uganda							65,000	65,000
NNGO	Egyptian Association for Comprehensive Development			300,000					300,000
NNGO	Give Directly							5,000,000	5,000,000
NNGO	Hold the Child								
NNGO	Impact for Community Development			260,820					260,820
NNGO	Life Makers Foundation			8,900,000					8,900,000
NNGO	National Initiatives for Development Organization								
NNGO	Network for Environment Programs								
NNGO	NIRVANA		1,895,857						1,895,857
NNGO	ONG Guéra Touristique		500,000						500,000
NNGO	PsychoPlus							32,000	32,000
NNGO	Refugee Central Committee-South Sudan								
NNGO	Refugee Development Organisation								
NNGO	Regional Psychosocial Support Initiative							47,010	47,010
NNGO	Solidarité et Développement au Sahel		1,650,000						1,650,000

[22] South Sudan Response Plan is piloting an activity-based costing model akin to the Humanitarian Needs Response Plans as an effort to standardize the approaches in the humanitarian system. Therefore, budgets are allocated at the sector level and are currently not available by partner.

Agency Type	Partner	CAR	Chad	Egypt	Ethiopia	Libya	South Sudan	Uganda	Grand Total
NNGO	Tafawol Association for Special Needs & Development			110,000					110,000
NNGO	Tchad Health Foundation		896,976						896,976
NNGO	The Egyptian Food Bank			873,903					873,903
NNGO	The Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church Development and Inter-Church Aid Commission				110,000				110,000
NNGO	Uganda Refugee Disaster and Management Council							418,174	418,174
NNGO	Watan for Social and Cultural Development			33,500					33,500
NNGO	Women and Girls Development Organisation								
NNGO	Women Empowerment Network Organization								
NNGO	Youth Association For Peace and Development Organization								
NNGO	Youth Social Advocacy Team							850,000	850,000
INGO	ACROSS								
INGO	Action African Help International								
INGO	Action Against Hunger							1,250,000	1,250,000
INGO	Adventist Development and Relief Agency								
INGO	Africa Humanitarian Action							35,000	35,000
INGO	African Initiatives for Relief and Development		7,599,998						7,599,998
INGO	Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development		9,032,556						9,032,556
INGO	Alight								
INGO	Alliance for International Medical Action		1,636,654						1,636,654
INGO	Alliance Forum for Development							80,000	80,000
INGO	Caritas Internationalis								
INGO	Catholic Relief Services			3,557,002					3,557,002
INGO	Cheshire Services Uganda							457,212	457,212
INGO	ChildFund International							55,000	55,000
INGO	Comitato Internazionale per lo svilippo dei popoli				2,460,000				2,460,000
INGO	Concern Worldwide		324,889						324,889
INGO	Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere		2,900,000						2,900,000
INGO	Cooperazione E Sviluppo					5,800,000			5,800,000
INGO	Danish Refugee Council		6,343,273		1,316,000	2,205,800		148,561	10,013,634
INGO	Finn Church Aid							1,770,000	1,770,000
INGO	GOAL				1,200,000				1,200,000
INGO	Health Link								
INGO	Humanitarian and Development Consortium								
INGO	Humanitarian Assistance and Development Services							600,000	600,000
INGO	Humanity & Inclusion		3,900,000	266,294				1,300,000	5,466,294
INGO	Humanity worldwide								
INGO	INKOMOKO								
INGO	Innovative Humanitarian Solutions.				90,000				90,000
INGO	International Medical Corps	935,000	1,100,000						2,035,000
INGO	International Rescue Committee		5,431,870		1,186,390	2,310,000			8,928,260
INGO	INTERSOS					3,684,200			3,684,200
INGO	Jesuit Refugee Service							50,000	50,000
INGO	LM International		204,940						204,940
INGO	Lutheran World Federation							1,951,692	1,951,692

Agency Type	Partner	CAR	Chad	Egypt	Ethiopia	Libya	South Sudan[23]	Uganda	Grand Total
INGO	Médecins Du Monde	26,500							26,500
INGO	Medical Teams International				435,677			145,418	581,095
INGO	Mentor Initiatives								
INGO	Norwegian Church Aid								
INGO	Norwegian Refugee Council		7,296,383		10,189,250	4,100,000		2,625,000	24,210,633
INGO	Oxford Committee for Relief Famine		574,009						574,009
INGO	Peace Winds Japan								
INGO	Plan International			7,161,182	1,523,935				8,685,117
INGO	Relief International								
INGO	Samaritans Purse								
INGO	Save the Children International			11,775,697				2,013,750	13,789,447
INGO	Secours Islamique - Tchad		520,844						520,844
INGO	Société de Développement International		496,500						496,500
INGO	Solidarités International		6,409,876						6,409,876
INGO	Street Child							250,000	250,000
INGO	Strong Minds Uganda							259,232	259,232
INGO	Terre Des Hommes International			403,000					403,000
INGO	Terre Des Hommes Italy					1,200,000			1,200,000
INGO	Transcultural Psychosocial Organization							76,000	76,000
INGO	WAMY		320,000						320,000
INGO	War Child Alliance							550,000	550,000
INGO	War Child Holland								
INGO	Water Mission Uganda							200,000	200,000
INGO	WeWorld					140,000			140,000
INGO	Windle International Uganda							4,500,000	4,500,000
INGO	Windle Trust International								
INGO	World Vision International		31,500,000		617,074			30,000	32,147,074
INGO	World Youth Organization Limited							450,000	450,000
UN Agency	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations		20,914,740					2,511,750	23,426,490
UN Agency	International Labour Organization			5,047,155				400,000	5,447,155
UN Agency	International Organization for Migration			18,950,065	3,600,000	14,000,000			36,550,065
UN Agency	United Nations Children's Fund	10,496,784	59,153,353	10,570,000	4,005,078	15,600,000		1,783,988	101,609,203
UN Agency	United Nations Development Programme	586,500		5,000,000		630,000		1,500,000	7,716,500
UN Agency	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	18,236,032	185,954,775	100,150,415	67,087,399	25,000,000		46,923,811	443,352,432
UN Agency	United Nations Human Settlements Programme			200,000					200,000
UN Agency	United Nations Population Fund	1,500,000	7,943,600	4,416,385	1,500,000	5,627,000		1,975,000	22,961,985
UN Agency	United Nations World Food Programme	22,546,879	186,509,063	75,321,269	18,024,260	24,342,190		5,791,450	332,535,111
UN Agency	United Nations Mine Action Service								
UN Agency	United Nations Office for Project Services								
UN Agency	UN-WOMEN	560,000		1,100,000				1,207,770	2,867,770
UN Agency	World Health Organization	295,828	9,352,000	19,395,000		10,910,000		9,000,000	48,952,828
Grand Total		**55,183,523**	**567,656,406**	**277,316,570**	**113,747,563**	**115,549,190**	**362,408,373**	**100,132,818**	**1,591,994,443**

[23] South Sudan Response Plan is piloting an activity-based costing model akin to the Humanitarian Needs Response Plans as an effort to standardize the approaches in the humanitarian system. Therefore, budgets are allocated at the sector level and are currently not available by partner.

Annex 2 – Hyper Prioritized Populations and Budgets

Country	Total planned population	Total requirements (US$)	People urgently prioritized	Urgently prioritized / Critical needs requirements (US$)
CAR	50,000	55,183,523	40,000	33,851,593
Chad	2,585,700	567,656,406	1,070,850	446,017,023
Egypt	1,416,800	277,316,570	1,042,550	239,071,532
Ethiopia	203,100	113,747,563	174,050	50,154,866
Libya	667,900	115,549,190	597,000	100,824,190
South Sudan	615,000	362,408,373	362,200	176,026,791
Uganda	303,700	100,132,818	126,500	61,084,640
Total	**5,842,200**	**1,591,994,443**	**3,413,150**	**1,107,030,635**

Annex 3 – Regional Monitoring Framework by country[24]

SECTOR	INDICATOR	CAR	CHAD	EGYPT	LIBYA	ETHIOPIA	SOUTH SUDAN	UGANDA
		TARGET VALUES						
Protection	Number of people registered/verified on an individual basis	10,500	180,000	161,174	39,200	75,534	606,975	172,672
	Number of people who received protection services	44,000	2,600	106,617	186,410	89,205	344,512	154,785
	Proportion of people who have access to safe feedback and response mechanisms	100%	70%	50%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Sub-Sector: Child protection	Number of children and caregivers who received child protection services	10,000	300,000	-	20,970	13,670	41,824	5,772
	% Unaccompanied minors receiving child protection services	100%	100%	30%	17%	100%	43%	100%
Sub-sector: Gender based-violence	Number of identified Gender-Based Violence (GBV) survivors and persons at risk assisted with appropriate support	3,000	2,600	69,620	5,510	32,992	105,262	152
	Number of people reached through GBV prevention activities	26,000	80,000	32,657	2,900	92,427	52,142	30,000
Basic Needs	Number of people benefiting from multipurpose cash assistance	9,000	N/A	231,985	5,000	35,846	13,224	50,000
Education	Proportion of children enrolled in primary education	3,026	19,436	50%	N/A	98%	27%	24%
	Proportion of children enrolled in secondary education	970	6,595	46%	N/A	36%	25%	3%
	Number of children enrolled in tertiary education	30	12	N/A	39,200	180	584	300
Food Security	Number of people receiving food assistance	50,500	435,713	217,760	221,300	82910	278,921	54,147
Public Health & Nutrition	Number of individual consultations supported in health care services	40,000	1,294,858	267,750	384,000	119,485	292,736	59,000
	Proportion of births attended by skilled health workers	100%	95%	90%	N/A	N/A	95%	97%
	Number of children admitted to Therapeutic Feeding Programs (TFP)	1,500	102,856	N/A	14,400	391	10,676	575
Livelihoods & Economic Inclusion	Number of people who received livelihood support	5,000	3,450	27,962	1,280	7,678	98,008	670
Settlement & Shelter/Housing	Number of emergency shelters provided/maintained	2,500	50,000	N/A	N/A	200	190	10,000
	Number of people who received non-food/core relief items	10,500	200,000	N/A	180,000	22,585	83,382	10,000
	Number of people supported with more sustainable shelter/ housing	1,000	37,500	N/A	10,000	285	45,751	0
WASH	Number of people per communal toilet/latrine	20	28	N/A	N/A	N/A	20	50
	Average number of litres of potable water available per person per day	20	15	N/A	N/A	15	15	15

[24] Certain indicators are marked as not applicable due to the specific operational context and the nature of interventions in each country. In these cases, the activities or conditions required to measure the indicator are not present or relevant within the current response framework.

SUDAN EMERGENCY

REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE PLAN

CONTACT:

rbesa-ee@unhcr.org

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