

SUDAN: South Sudanese Refugee Response

31 January 2018

NFI distribution planned for Khartoum in February.

Rising food prices driving increased food insecurity for refugees and host communities across Sudan.

Critical anti-malarial drug shortage in White Nile refugee camp clinics.

5,770

New arrivals in January 2018

5,770

Total new arrivals in 2018

767,425

South Sudanese refugees in Sudan

(*Additional sources estimate that there are 1.3 million South Sudanese refugees in Sudan; however, data requires verification.)

Population and demographic update can be found on page 7.

FUNDING REQUIRED IN 2018

BY ALL PARTNERS IN SUDAN UNDER THE REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE PLAN (RRRP)

USD 327.2 M

NEW ARRIVALS BY STATE IN 2018 (INDIVIDUALS)

STATE	JAN
EAST DARFUR	2,285
WEST KORDOFAN	1,430
SOUTH DARFUR	1,199
SOUTH KORDOFAN	129
TOTAL	5,770

Key Developments

- **NEARLY 5,800 REFUGEES ARRIVE IN SUDAN** – An estimated 5,770 refugees newly arrived in Sudan over January, with the majority arriving in East Darfur (2,285), West Kordofan (1,430) and South Darfur (1,199).
- **2018 SOUTH SUDAN REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE PLAN (RRRP) FINALIZED** – The multi-sectoral Sudan Country Plan of the RRRP includes 30 NGO, INGO and UN partners appealing for a total of \$327.2 M to support an estimated 677,000 South Sudanese refugees in Sudan in 2018. This includes an anticipated 200,000 new arrivals across White Nile, South Kordofan, West Kordofan, East Darfur, South Darfur and North Darfur. State-level projections for new arrivals are outlined below.

WHITE NILE	64,793
EAST DARFUR	50,534
SOUTH DARFUR	30,544
SOUTH KORDOFAN	29,194
WEST KORDOFAN	14,389
NORTH DARFUR	10,546
TOTAL	200,000

- **ACCESS TO EDUCATION A KEY STRATEGIC PRIORITY FOR THE REFUGEE RESPONSE IN 2018** – UNICEF and education partners under the RRRP are appealing for USD 26.8 M to support access to quality education for refugee children and vulnerable host community children in 2018. An estimated 60% of refugee basic-school aged children are out of school, with children living in South Darfur and West Kordofan among the hardest hit at over 90% out of school. The majority live in areas where host community children also face education challenges. According to UNICEF, for every 1 South Sudanese refugee child, there are 3 host community children in need of education support, highlighting the importance of integrating refugee students within national school systems to support sustainability and enhanced investment in education for all children.
- **RISING FOOD PRICES COULD EXACERBATE REFUGEE AND HOST COMMUNITY FOOD INSECURITY** – According to WFP, the price of sorghum (Sudan's main staple) has increased by 47% across Sudan from the last week in December 2017 to the end of January 2018. Consequently, only 1% of refugees can afford the local food basket. In some states, WFP was able to deliver just 60% of planned goods in January, due to import restrictions, pipeline breaks and general slowing of goods distribution and service delivery. Given the timing of the situation with the end of the main agricultural season, limited livelihood opportunities could make the situation challenging for refugees, especially those living in out of camp areas, with an increased risk of tensions with host communities.
- **NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI) DISTRIBUTION PLANNED FOR KHARTOUM 'OPEN AREA' SETTLEMENTS** – UNHCR and the Government of Sudan's Commission of Refugees (COR) are planning to distribute NFIs, including blankets and plastic sheets, to over 8,400 South Sudanese refugee households (over 50,000 refugees) and 850 host community households (5,100 people) living across 9 'open areas' in Khartoum in February. The NFI distribution is an interim assistance measure to support refugees and host communities during the winter season while inter-agency partners await the Government's finalization of the findings of the inter-agency needs assessment mission that took place in December 2017.
- **ONGOING MOSQUITO NET DISTRIBUTION TO REFUGEE AND HOST COMMUNITY HOUSEHOLDS ACROSS SUDAN** – Nearly 76,000 refugee and host community families received mosquito nets across West Kordofan, South Darfur and East Darfur. The nets were distributed by UNHCR and UNDP through the Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS), as part of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria's support for the scale-up of malaria prevention in Sudan.

State Updates

White Nile

- **Pipeline Breaks Interrupt General Food Distribution (GFD)** – According to WFP, there was a shortfall of approximately 245 MT of pulses and approximately 101 MT of oil that impacted planned GFD across all 8 refugee camps. By 31 January, reduced rations consisting of sorghum and salt had been distributed to just over 89,000 refugees across the state's 8 refugee camps, with 63% coverage of refugees targeted for food assistance. The breaks can be linked to recent import restrictions and overall slowing of the distribution of goods within Sudan. Distribution is ongoing to cover 100% of the planned beneficiaries by February 7, as part of their January entitlement.
- **Critical Shortage of Anti-Malarial Drugs in Camp Clinics** – According to MSF-Spain, recent patient deaths at the Al Kashafa clinic are mainly due to a lack of anti-malarial drugs and late arrivals of complicated medical cases. There has increased incidence of malaria cases in January, with a 2% increase in January to over 5,700 cases identified across refugee camp clinics (9% of all clinical consultations). The majority of cases are concentrated in Al Redis I and II camps, likely linked to stagnant water. Increased vector control coverage is needed to eradicate mosquito breeding sites near camps. WHO and other health partners are mobilizing to address the drug gap.
- **Ongoing Cleaning Campaigns Improve Camp Sanitation** – Over 79MT of garbage was safely collected and disposed of during CAFOD's cleaning campaigns across all camps in January, in addition to latrine dislodging activities in Alagaya, Dabat Bosin and Al Redis II. Garbage disposal and latrine dislodging are important interventions to reduce flies and other disease vectors for improved health outcomes for refugees at each site. Support is needed to scale up vector control activities across all camps to mitigate disease risk ahead of the rainy season.
- **Over 32,000 Refugees Benefit from Jerry Can Cleaning and Hygiene Promotion** – Plan International Sudan led jerry can cleaning and hygiene promotion activities in Jouri, Al Kashafa and Al Redis I and II camps. Plan also initiated the formation of latrine management committees in each camp as part of broader community-led total sanitation (CLTS) efforts across refugee camps in the state.
- **UNDP Expanding Access to Irrigated Farming for Refugees and Host Communities** – UNDP and the Department of Irrigation at the State Ministry of Agriculture (SMoA) are rehabilitating 8 irrigation schemes. Once rehabilitated, UNDP will provide seeds, tools, farm machinery and equipment to refugees and to the host community to support their use of irrigation farming. UNDP will also support capacity building for refugees and host communities on rain-fed agriculture, vocational skills and small business start-ups. The initiative is part of UNDP's plan to improve refugee farmers' access to the means of production they need to pursue their livelihoods while in Sudan. The livelihood initiatives were identified and prioritized by refugees and host communities during UNDP's economic opportunity mapping completed in December 2017.
- **Short-Term Funding Limits Alternative Livelihood Opportunities** – Alternatives to agricultural livelihoods are needed to enhance refugee resilience across state camps. ADRA is pursuing this through employment of refugees in stove making and school uniform production instead of hiring contractors. However, the short-term nature of funding makes it difficult to provide refugees with adequate training to ensure that they have sufficient capacity. For example, tailoring programmes require at least 8 months of training time to provide refugees with a solid skill set that they can use to seek gainful employment in the trade; however, funding is often limited to 6 months, which limits opportunities for follow-up and support as refugees find their footing with their new livelihoods.

South Kordofan

- **Primary Health Services for Refugees Now Available in Kadugli** – Services will be delivered through local health centres to an estimated 1,700 refugees living in Kadugli. The health centres are currently supported by Care International Switzerland (CIS) and Save the Children. UNHCR will lead awareness campaigns on service availability within the refugee settlement.

- **SUSTAINABLE WATER SUPPLY LIMITED BY LACK OF GROUNDWATER** – According to CIS, a lack of sufficient groundwater is the main challenge to meet growing water supply needs for both refugees and host communities across the state. An over reliance on boreholes places pressure on limited groundwater supply, and many boreholes have dried up entirely or do so on a seasonal basis. Despite higher construction costs, haffirs provide a viable alternative that protect the water table and support the state's resource management and conservation efforts. There is also a need for greater investment in capacity building of local institutions, host communities and refugees, especially on integrated water resource management (IWRM) approaches to empower communities and support sustainable, long-term access to water supply for all users.
- **IMPROVED NUTRITION SERVICE ACCESS FOR 2,500 REFUGEE AND HOST COMMUNITY CHILDREN IN NEED** – Concern Worldwide completed the rehabilitation of the outpatient treatment programme (OTP) centre at the Dar Batti refugee settlement in December 2017. The rehabilitation of the centre is part of the ongoing expansion of health services available to both communities at the Dar Batti settlement.
- **STABILIZATION CENTRE (SC) AT EL LERI HOSPITAL IN NEED OF REHABILITATION** – The SC has been deemed by nutrition partners as inadequate and in need of rehabilitation. The SC provides care for malnourished children with medical complications from the Dar Batti refugee settlement and the host community, and is currently unable to meet the needs of the current caseload.

West Kordofan

- **REFUGEE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE INCREASES FOLLOWING GFD IN KHARASANA** – Reports indicate an increase in school attendance among refugee children in Kharasana school, with a total of 1,900 refugee students attending school in the last week of January, compared to 1,033 recorded in the previous week. This follows a typical pattern observed in previous months, where children attend school more regularly during the first two weeks following monthly GFD, with sharp decreases in attendance noted in the 3rd and 4th weeks as household food rations decline. The refugee community has requested school feeding programmes, which are currently being explored by UNHCR and WFP.
- **URGENT NEED FOR AMBULANCE SERVICES IN KHARASANA** – A lack of ambulances is making it difficult to ensure access to care for critical medical cases among refugees in Kharasana. UNHCR has allocated 2 ambulances to address the issue, which will be handed over to the State Ministry of Health (SMoH) in February; however, support for operational costs is needed to ensure ambulances remain in service over the long term.
- **ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER A CRITICAL GAP IN MAIN REFUGEE SETTLEMENTS** – According to Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW), water supply is between 4 – 10L per person per day across El Meiram, El Tiboon and Kharasana. Protection is a key concern, with women and children traveling long distances to queue for water for over 1 hour. The situation highlights the importance of tailoring water interventions to the protection needs of children, women, elderly people and people with disabilities. Given the challenges partners face retaining technical staff and the impact of rising inflation on project costs, improved water pumps and integration of solar technology will decrease the operational costs of water points. IRW is also exploring the potential for cash-based programming for WASH and IWRM approaches to support sustainable access to water for all users, including host communities.

East Darfur

- **PROTECTION COUNSELING AND IMPROVED COMPLAINT MECHANISMS INITIATED AT KARIO AND AL NIMIR CAMPS, AND AT EL FERDOUS SETTLEMENT** – Refugees can now report issues and seek guidance on assistance or protection concerns directly to UNHCR at each site. UNHCR will also provide mobile phones to community mobilisers, and a hotline has been established to ensure refugees can access counseling support when services are closed. Additionally, suggestion boxes are also being set up at the sites in coordination with COR. These measures are intended to strengthen complaints mechanisms for refugees.

- **LACK OF EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES AT EL FERDOUS SETTLEMENT IS A KEY DRIVER OF MOVEMENTS TO AL NIMIR CAMP** – An estimated 1,100 refugees moved from El Ferdous settlement and reception centre to Al Nimir camp in January, citing a lack of education facilities for their children at El Ferdous. UNHCR and UNICEF are working to address the education gap at the settlement. Temporary learning spaces have been established at El Ferdous that will provide Arabic language classes for refugee children ahead of the next school year to support their assimilation within the local school system.
- **MEASLES VACCINATION CAMPAIGN REACHES OVER 19,000 CHILDREN IN KARIO CAMP AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES** – MSF-Switzerland, in collaboration with SMoH, UNHCR and UNICEF, conducted a measles vaccination campaign in Kario camp and the surrounding villages. The campaign was initially planned to target 13,600 children aged 9 months to 15 years; however, vaccination teams reached over 19,000 children, and covered 46% more children than those recorded by the EPI programme.
- **MUAC SCREENING AT KARIO CAMP INDICATES 'ACCEPTABLE' GAM AND SAM PREVALENCE** – MSF-Switzerland, in coordination with UNHCR and SMOH, conducted a mass MUAC screening for 7,995 children under 5 years of age in Kario camp and surrounding villages. The current estimated GAM prevalence is 5.6% and SAM is 0.62%, which are near or below the 'acceptable' range for GAM (< 5%) and SAM (<1%). Children identified with SAM and MAM were already enrolled in nutrition programmes. This marks an improvement in nutrition outcomes for refugee and host community children. In August 2017, GAM in the camp was 'serious' at 13.3% ($\leq 10\% \leq 14.9\%$), with 'critical' SAM of 4.7% ($\geq 3\%$).
- **ESTIMATED 13L PER PERSON PER DAY AT KARIO AND AL NIMIR CAMPS** – Access to sufficient water supply in Kario refugee camp remains a challenge due to limited storage capacity. CIS is constructing a new water tank to address this. Once complete, water availability will be closer to the UNHCR standard of 20L per person per day. At Al Nimir camp, Oxfam has completed the installation of a new borehole, and work to prepare a water yard and tap stands is ongoing, which will improve water access to meet the standard. In El Ferdous, CIS and Oxfam's work over the last 3 months to increase water supply has improved access to 19L per person per day, with sufficient capacity to absorb new arrivals in coming months.

South Darfur

- **NEARLY 800 REFUGEE CHILDREN IDENTIFIED AT RISK IN EL RADOM** – This includes 150 orphans, over 200 unaccompanied and separated children (USC) and 18 children living with disabilities who are currently accessing child friendly spaces. Global Aid Hand is engaged in ongoing monitoring and is adapting its service provision to meet these protection needs; however, additional funding to support child protection initiatives in the settlements is needed to ensure full coverage of refugee children.
- **WFP RUB HALL INSTALLED IN BURAM** – The new rub hall will support the prepositioning and safe storage of up to 850MT of food supplies for refugees at the Buram settlement. WFP is also planning to install additional rub halls at the settlement at El Radom reception centre. The rub halls are an important preparedness measure to ensure sufficient food assistance capacity in anticipation of new arrivals and the 2018 rainy season, when sites become inaccessible due to flooded roads.
- **EXPANDED COVERAGE OF HEALTH AND NUTRITION ACTIVITIES AT EL RADOM SETTLEMENT** – World Vision is now supporting the scale-up of services along with Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) and American Refugee Committee (ARC) to meet the needs of a growing refugee population. World Vision will provide primary health and nutrition services via a mobile health clinic available to refugees and host communities three times per week, and has allocated a vehicle for use as an ambulance to support referrals.
- **URGENT NEED OF WASH PARTNER IN BURAM** – There is still an urgent need for a WASH partner to support access to safe water supply and the provision of a complete WASH package to the refugee settlement at Buram. UNHCR continues to truck 20,000 L per day to Buram, and the Department of Water, Energy and Sanitation (WES) will soon begin borehole drilling and construction of water points to support expanded supply.

- **ONGOING SHELTER DISTRIBUTION IN EL RADOM, WITH SHELTER GAP OF 3,300 REFUGEE HOUSEHOLDS** –SRCS is currently distributing shelter kits to 1,700 refugee households in El Radom. However, an estimated 3,300 additional kits are needed for refugee households without shelter in the locality. The gap has emerged due to delivery delays of shelter materials from suppliers. UNHCR is exploring cash assistance options to empower refugees to purchase locally available shelter materials.

North Darfur

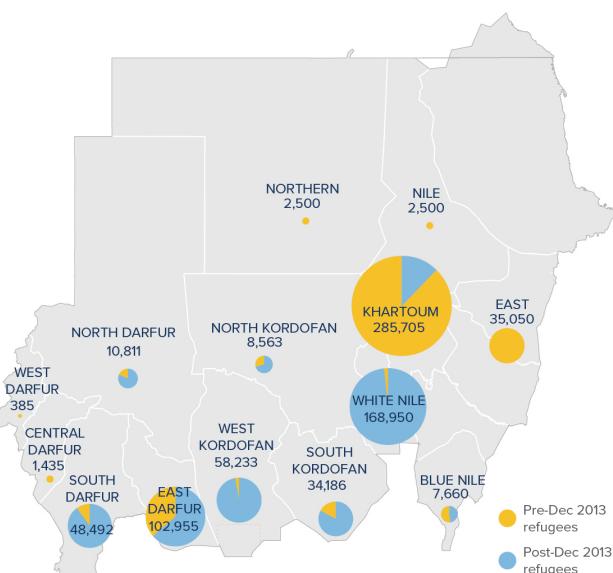
- **BIOMETRIC REGISTRATION COMPLETED IN NORTH DARFUR** – Biometric registration outcomes indicate that children make up 47.6% of the South Sudanese refugee population, with 5.5% of households having special needs. Older persons are the largest group with special needs (35%), followed by single parents/caregivers (17.8%), USC (13%), persons with disabilities (11.5%), at-risk and single women (10.7%), and children with protection concerns (4.8%). Additionally, the average household size is 2.2, and nearly 30% are single-person households. This suggests that some families are either split or separated. Given that refugees are reportedly passing through East Darfur and West Kordofan to reach North Darfur, some refugees may have remained in camps or settlements while family members seek agricultural work opportunities in North Darfur. Further analysis of internal population movements are needed, including seasonal movements from East Darfur, namely from Kario camp, for cultivation purposes.
- **REFUGEES' ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE IS IMPROVING ACROSS AL LAIT** – UNICEF is supporting the SMoH to operate 3 clinics in the locality, where a total of 1,637 refugees received outpatient medical consultations in January. Community Development Organization (CDO) and IOM have established five additional health facilities in Dalil Dukhri, Shag Allayoun, Habib Dorma, Abu Jarra and Abu Sofyan. UNFPA also completed rehabilitation of Allait Maternity Hospital and provided maintenance to the ambulance. Due to the dispersed nature of the refugee population, upgraded health facilities are still needed in additional villages, particularly Joddat and Hillat Ali. While the SMoH agreed in 2017 to provide South Sudanese refugees in the state with free access to health care at assigned health facilities, the Medical Referral Cases Agreement (between SMoH, WHO, COR and UNHCR) has not yet been finalized.
- **SAM AND MAM IN AL LAIT WITHIN 'ACCEPTABLE' RANGE** – A routine MUAC screening was conducted for 2,890 children across Al Lait, with 16 SAM and 38 MAM children identified and referred for treatment. This indicates SAM prevalence of 0.55% and GAM of 1.87%, both well below emergency thresholds and within 'acceptable' ranges. Additionally, 144 lactating mothers received individual counselling on infant and young child feeding (IYCF) and another 819 individual received health and nutrition education. CDO has also established two additional OTPs in Al Lait Town and Abu Jarra.
- **RISING FOOD PRICES MAIN CONCERN AMONG REFUGEES IN EL FASHER TOWN** – Refugees have reported that high food prices on local markets is one of their main concerns in El Fasher. This is likely compounded by their lack of access to GFD. WFP is considering applying an urban distribution policy for the refugees, which may include cash based assistance modalities to support their food security.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

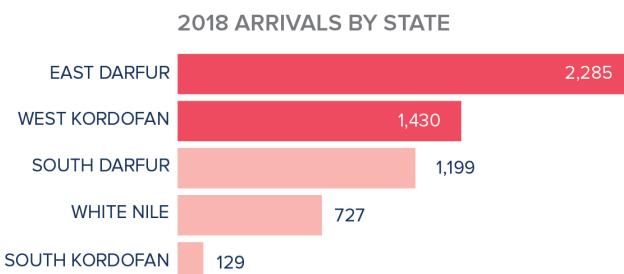
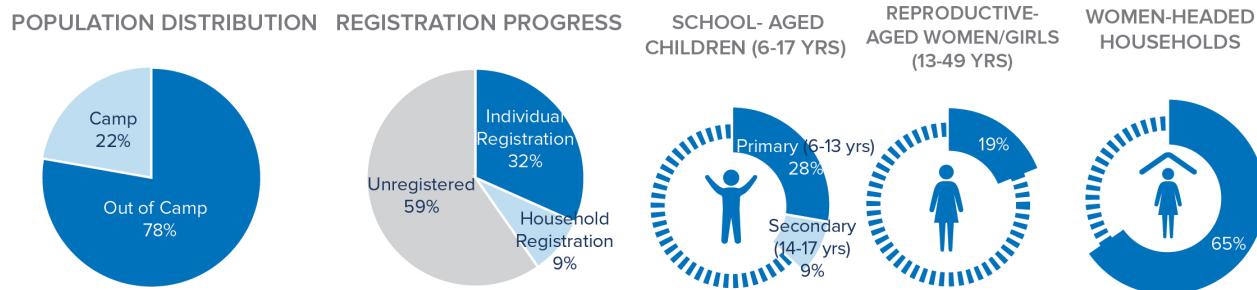
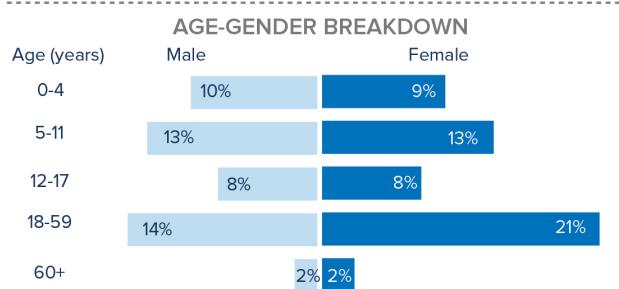
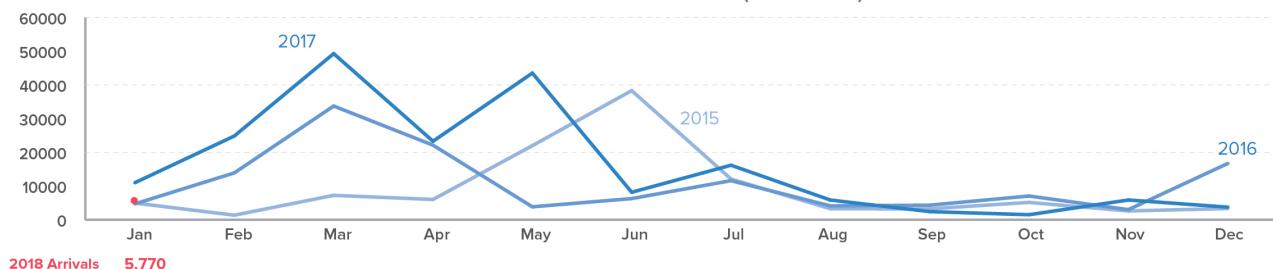
Lindsey Amèrica-Simms, Associate Reporting Officer: americas@unhcr.org

LINKS

UNHCR Data Portal for the South Sudan Situation: <http://data.unhcr.org/SouthSudan/country.php?id=204>
2017 South Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan: <http://data.unhcr.org/SouthSudan/download.php?id=3165>


POPULATION BY STATE


*Additional sources estimate a total of 1.3 million South Sudanese refugees in Sudan; however, data requires verification.


MONTHLY ARRIVAL TRENDS (2015-2018)


The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Creation date: 13 February 2018

Sources: UNHCR, COR, HAC, IOM, SRCS

Feedback: tuladhar@unhcr.org