

Weekly Gedaref Operational Update #2/2022

6 – 14 January 2022



50,710

total number of Ethiopian refugees in eastern Sudan as of 30 November



35

new arrivals from Ethiopia crossed via Taya border entry point



302

number of tukuls (durable shelters) completed in Um Rakuba

Operational Highlights

New Ethiopian arrivals recorded in eastern Sudan: 35 new arrivals crossed into eastern Sudan via Taya border entry point and no new arrivals were recorded in Hamdayet Transit Centre during the reporting period. UNHCR continues to provide protection and assistance to new arrivals in close coordination with partners while also scaling up preparedness measures in the event of a new influx from Ethiopia.

Inter-agency response to fire incidents in Um Rakuba camp: UNHCR, local authorities and partners are working together to **scale up fire-preparedness in response to a fire in Um Rakuba** on 13 and 14 January which affected 17 individuals. This group received new shelters, emergency food assistance and life-saving items, including blankets, solar lights, soap, jerry cans and kitchen sets. In addition, some 40 refugee volunteers received advanced fire safety training from the Gedaref Fire Brigade. Sessions for an additional 60 volunteers in Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah camps and Babikri settlement are planned. Efforts are also ongoing to increase refugees' fire-safety awareness and to bolster the preparedness capacity of the local Fire Brigade to respond to future incidents.



The distribution of life-saving core-relief items to fire-affected households
© UNHCR

Key Achievements



PROTECTION

Results and Impact

- During the reporting period, UNHCR, the National Council for Child Welfare (NCCW), Save the Children and UNICEF held case conference meetings for critical child protection cases. Various cases related to low school attendance and follow up modalities for unaccompanied and

separated children were examined with support provided to refugees in line with the recommendations made by the team.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- To enhance and streamline protection reporting, partners continue to be encouraged to use the reporting template when handling protection cases.
- Efforts are ongoing to strengthen communication with communities in order to ensure refugees receive the right information in a timely manner, preserve their protection and well-being, and prevent fraud and protection risks. UNHCR, NCCW and UNICEF are also looking into establishing a community-based protection network in Um Rakuba.



EDUCATION

Results and Impact

- NRC upgraded and fenced two (2) temporary primary education learning spaces in Um Rakuba. As of 31 December, over 1,200 children were enrolled in schools. Efforts are also ongoing to enrol unaccompanied and separated children who were recently relocated from Hamdayet Transit Centre.
- Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW) completed six (6) additional classrooms – three (3) in each camp – bringing the total number of classrooms for secondary school students to 15. IRW has also begun furnishing schools, mobilizing teachers and conducting awareness raising sessions on the importance of education.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Upgrading existing temporary learning facilities with more durable materials will be a priority ahead of the upcoming rainy season.
- More funding is needed to scale up the provision of learning facilities in Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah. A double-shift system is currently being employed in the interim to tackle overcrowding.



HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT (MHPSS)

- ALIGHT donated various medical equipment to Gedaref Hospital as part of ongoing efforts to support the host community and strengthen the capacity of the existing national healthcare system. Equipment included blood count machines, microscopes, surgical sets and water containers.
- Close to 550 children were reached via a mass acute



Handover of medical equipment to Gedaref Hospital © ALIGHT

malnutrition screening campaign in Tunaydbah led by ALIGHT. Of this figure, 3 children were identified with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and 11 children with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) – both below the *emergency nutrition thresholds* of <2%, and >10%. Those identified with malnutrition were subsequently referred to outpatient therapeutic feeding programmes and supplementary feeding programmes respectively.

- ALIGHT completed construction and fencing work on storage facilities, nutrition shelters and ventilated improved pit latrines in COVID-19 isolation centres in Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah.
- Concern Worldwide completed construction work on a semi-permanent clinic in Um Rakuba. Services include a medical ward, pharmacy and an expanded programme on immunization in primary health care centres.
- UNFPA continued to provide sexual and reproductive health services to refugees in Um Rakuba, Tunaydbah, Hamdayet and Village 8. Some 30 facility-based deliveries were carried out and over 330 women accessed family planning services during the reporting period.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Efforts are ongoing to ensure 24-hour coverage for emergency services in Babikri.



WATER AND SANITATION

Results and Impact

- Water supply was provided at 21 litres per person per day (l/p/d) in Um Rakuba, 33 l/p/d in Tunaydbah, 26 l/p/d in Village 8 and 19 l/p/d in Babikri. This brings the average available water supply to 26 l/p/d, which exceeds the *SPHERE post emergency standard* of 20 l/p/d.
- In Tunaydbah, CARE rehabilitated close to 95 latrines and desludged 16 latrines in Um Rakuba. In Um Rakuba, IOM constructed 16 latrines and 20 showers.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Efforts are ongoing to scale up the provision of WaSH facilities in Babikri via the construction of 10 communal latrines which will serve 200 people and 30 showers which will serve 600 people by Solidarités International.
- Ensuring gender-segregated latrines are available across all locations remains a key priority.
- The person to latrine ratio currently stands at 1:19 in Um Rakuba, 1:18 in Tunaydbah and 1:19 in Babikri, which is just below the SPHERE minimum standard of one (1) communal latrine for every 20 people (1:20 ratio).
- Increasing the supply of cleaning kits to support latrine and reduce the risk of a disease outbreak is another priority.



SHELTER AND CORE RELIEF ITEMS (CRIS)

Results and Impact

- During the reporting period, NRC constructed **127 tukuls (durable shelters)** in Um Rakuba, bringing the total number of completed *tukuls* to 302. The construction of an additional 214 *tukuls* is ongoing in Tunaydbah camp.



Tukuls provide refugees added protection and security ©UNHCR

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The handover of more *tukuls* in Tunaydbah, Um Rakuba and Babikri before the start of the rainy season is a priority.



CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

Results and Impact

- As part of ongoing efforts to scale up support to Sudanese communities near Um Rakuba, DRC has begun rehabilitating several buildings and procuring materials, including solar lights and panels, sports equipment, baking equipment and art kits, for various quick impact projects. These interventions were informed by the findings of a technical assessment and focus group discussions with the host communities.
- Work is ongoing to install 31 solar lights in Um Rakuba and 14 in the nearby host community villages by DRC. The activity is expected to be finalised in one (1) month and will provide both groups added protection and security.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- UNHCR, local authorities and partners are continuing to work together to scale up fire-preparedness.



COMMUNICATING WITH COMMUNITIES

Results and Impact

- UNHCR and IOM held their first meeting on mixed movement to discuss areas of collaboration on issues related to mixed migration, human trafficking and smuggling. Discussions focused on how to conduct joint analysis, report on migration patterns and document possible victims of trafficking in order to better address these issues.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Scaling up support for community-led livelihood initiatives, particularly for youth, continues to be a priority.



WORKING IN COORDINATION

As part of the response to the Ethiopia situation in eastern Sudan, UNHCR has been actively supporting the authorities, at their request, with service mapping and inter-agency coordination. UNHCR works with over 40 partners to provide lifesaving assistance and protection to the thousands of Ethiopian women, men and children who crossed into the country in search of safety. UNHCR and Sudan's Commission for Refugees (COR) co-chair the Inter-Agency Refugee Working Group.

This forum meets on a bi-weekly basis and brings together actors active in Gedaref, ranging from other UN agencies to NGOs and volunteer groups. UNHCR also chairs the protection working group and co-chairs all sub-working groups but food security and livelihoods. In addition, UNHCR participates in thematic working group meetings on WaSH, Health and Education chaired by designated partners. Together, we work to provide refugees and others of concern the assistance and protection they need.

Situation in eastern Sudan

In early November 2020, clashes in Ethiopia's Tigray region sparked an outflow of refugees into eastern Sudan via Hamdayet, Lugdi/Village 8 and Al Asera border points. Since then, some **50,000 refugees** have been welcomed in Sudan.

In late November 2020, UNHCR launched the Inter-Agency Refugee Emergency Response Plan, which was then revised in May 2021 with **USD 182 million** required for the response – an increase of **USD 33 million** – to incorporate additional flood mitigation and the response for Ethiopian asylum seekers in Blue Nile, as well as a reprioritization of the original requirements. A new Inter-Agency Response Plan for 2022 will be launched in the coming weeks.

One year on, we are grateful to the following donors for supporting the Ethiopian Emergency situation in eastern Sudan with critical funding enabling the scale up of the delivery of basic and essential services:

Canada | Czech Republic | Denmark | ECHO (EU) | Finland | Germany | Ireland | Italy | Japan | New Zealand | Norway | Qatar | Sweden | Switzerland | United Arab Emirates | United Kingdom | United States of America | United Nations CERF | United Nations SHF | Private Donors

Funding (as of 31 December 2021)

USD 182 M

