

Ethiopia Situation Operational Update #9/2022

10 – 24 March 2022



60,167

total number of Ethiopian refugees in eastern Sudan (Kassala, Gedaref and Blue Nile) as of 28 February 2022



393

new arrivals recorded in eastern Sudan during the reporting period



144

number of tukuls (durable shelters) completed in Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah during the reporting period

Operational Highlights

Refugee Working Group Workshop: On 23 March, Gedaref’s Refugee Working Group discussed the lessons learned in the last quarter of 2021 and priorities for the first quarter of 2022. 25 partners participated in the workshop, which was aimed at consolidating services and protection systems, strengthening existing information systems and developing new ones, transitioning to a solutions-focused approach, and enhancing accountability to affected populations. Key takeaways from last year include the importance of pre-positioning supplies in preparation for the fast-approaching rainy season, enhancing referral/tracking systems, and linking emergency relief with support for development for both the refugee and host communities. A similar workshop is planned for the next quarter.



Refugee Working Group Workshop in Gedaref ©UNHCR

New Ethiopian arrivals recorded in eastern Sudan: There was a slight decline in the number of new arrivals compared to the *previous reporting period*. In Gedaref State, **27 new arrivals** were recorded: **18** at Hamdayet Transit Centre, **six (6)** at Taya border entry point and **three (3)** at Gallabat border crossing point. In Blue Nile State, **366 new arrivals** were recorded: **278** at the Menza border crossing point and **88** spontaneous new arrivals to Camp 6.

Key Achievements



PROTECTION

Results and Impact

- Between 15–17 March, representatives from Sudan’s PSEA Network visited Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah camps to **assess and evaluate last year’s PSEA campaign and identify the best**

practices to be adopted for this year's campaign. The delegation, led by the PSEA Network Coordinator, met with the UNHCR protection team and other protection partners to assess where technical support and recommendations could be provided. The delegation also participated in discussions with women, youth and community leaders.

- To commemorate Sudanese Mother's Day, SCCW conducted a GBV awareness raising session in Um Rakuba, which was attended by 64 children (30 girls and 34 boys) aged between 13 and 17 years old. The session sought to increase participants' knowledge of GBV and the available services.
- Preparations are underway by Gedaref's GBV sub-working group to conduct a GBV safety audit for the first quarter of the year so as to ensure GBV risks are mitigated and prevented in refugee hosting locations. Tools incorporating questions on education and nutrition and a dashboard to facilitate data collection are currently being drafted by members. This activity follows the previous safety audit carried out in September 2021 and is part of a wider and sustained response to addressing GBV.
- As part of capacity building efforts, UNHCR conducted an orientation session for child protection partners on 17 March to discuss the protection indicators partners are expected to report on. Child protection partners will begin reporting on these new indicators this month.
- UNHCR and Sudan's Commission for Refugees (COR) individually registered 102 refugees in Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah camps and Babikri settlement. In addition, 2,060 ID cards were issued to registered refugees in Um Rakuba (1,089) and Tunaydbah (971).
- In Blue Nile, UNHCR and COR held two meetings with 50 refugees from various refugee committees in Camp 6 on preparedness for the rainy season, tukul/plastering and fire prevention and mitigation measures.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Scaling up access to livelihood opportunities will be critical to strengthening refugees' self-reliance and reducing protection risks, including the risks associated with onward movement.
- Ensuring children's access to safe environments and promoting their psychosocial well-being in Camp 6 via the operation of child-friendly spaces in Camp 6 is a key priority.



EDUCATION

Results and Impact

- NRC distributed 1,140 student kits to students in Tunaydbah camp during the reporting period. The kits contain assorted learning materials, including school bags, pencils, sharpeners, exercise books, rubbers and water bottles.
- 427 new students were enrolled in Tunaydbah camp, bringing the total number of students enrolled at the primary education level to 2,167 students.
- NRC carried out Teacher in Crises Context (TiCC) trainings for 122 teachers (75 in Um Rakuba and 47 in Tunaydbah). The training sought to build the basic teaching competencies for unqualified or under-qualified teachers who were recruited to teach in the camp. NRC also collaborated with UNHCR and GBV partners to integrate GBV and PSEA into the training.
- Windle Trust International met with various stakeholders in Damazine, Wad Al Mahi and Camp 6 to introduce UNHCR-supported education programmes which will address the current education gaps for Ethiopian refugees.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- More funding is needed to **scale up assistance to secondary schools** in Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah camps. Schools have been closed since January due to the funding gap.
- More funding is required to **establish additional learning spaces and expanding existing spaces** in Tunaydbah camp in order to accommodate more children.



HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT (MHPSS)

Results and Impact

- ALIGHT **referred nine (9) emergency cases** from Um Rakuba (6) and Tunaydbah (3) for secondary care support and 14 chronic non-emergency cases (10 refugees and 4 Sudanese nationals) from Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah to Gedaref. The non-emergency cases were provided with the necessary diagnostic, care and treatment by WEDCO, whose four-month project aims to support 120 cases.
- **Eight (8) cases – (all refugees) – of Hepatitis E were recorded** in Tunaydbah. This was a similar number compared to the previous two weeks. Case line lists are maintained by MSF-OCA and MSF-CH. As part of prevention and mitigation measures, community awareness and mobilization on improved hygiene practices continue.
- Through monthly mobile services, **SFPA supported delivery of HIV and TB treatment** and follow up on few cases in Babikri camp. The delivery of routine HIV services continued in the other locations.
- During the reporting period, CAFA Development Organisation **provided medical consultations to some 400 patients in Camp 6** – of which 25% were from the nearby host community.
- **Save the Children provided psychosocial support** to five (5) refugee students in Camp 6.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Additional funding is required to **scale up the capacity of CAFA health clinic** to provide services to refugees and host community members in Camp 6.
- Efforts are underway to establish **referral pathways for tertiary health care** in Gedaref State.
- There is a shortage of **Bacillus Calmette–Guérin (BCG) syringes** at the Gedaref state and national level which has interrupted the BCG vaccination roll out against TB. Follow up is currently being made.



WATER AND SANITATION

Results and Impact

- Water supply was provided at **22 litres per person per day (l/p/d)** in Um Rakuba, **30 l/p/d** in Tunaydbah, **26 l/p/d** in Village 8, and **29 l/p/d** in Babikri. This brings the **average available water supply to 27.5 l/p/d** which exceeds the **SPHERE post emergency standard** of 20 l/p/d. Water supply was provided at **16 l/p/d** in Camp 6 in Blue Nile State.
- UNHCR constructed **ten (10) emergency latrines in Camp 6** to meet the needs of new arrivals. Work is underway to build durable latrines and showers.

- As part of efforts to promote good hygiene practices, **10,930 soap bars** were distributed in Blue Nile. In addition to this, **ten (10)** hygiene promotion sessions were conducted by 12 volunteers, including in schools, reaching an estimated 330 people in total.
- Solidarités International **conducted two (2) hygiene promotion campaigns** in Babikri, reaching some 900 people.
- CARE **rehabilitated 100 communal latrines and 49 showers** Tunaydbah while SRCS **constructed 40 latrines and 40 showers** in both Tunaydbah and Um Rakuba.
- WHH **collected 6.0 tons of solid waste** for disposal and reached 6,500 people in hygiene promotion campaigns in Um Rakuba.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The construction of household latrines in Babikri, Tunaydbah and Um Rakuba remains a priority.
- **Scaling up the water supply provision in Camp 6** will be critical to reducing competition for resources and promoting peaceful co-existence.



SHELTER AND CORE RELIEF ITEMS (CRIS)

Results and Impact

- In Um Rakuba, NRC completed the construction of a further **27 tukuls**, bringing the total number of *tukuls* to **1,000**.
- In Tunaydbah, a further **117 tukuls** were built by ACTED and Medair, bringing the total number of *tukuls* to 450.
- In Camp 6, **66 tents** were pitched to accommodate the newly arrived refugee families.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The completion and transfer of over **4,400 tukuls** is expected by the end of 2022 in Babikri, Tunaydbah and Um Rakuba. **More funding is required to build additional tukuls** for the remaining refugee families in refugee-hosting locations in Gedaref and Blue Nile States.



CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

Results and Impact

- In Tunaydbah, **DRC distributed fire safety materials**, including buckets, extinguishers, fire safety gloves, helmets, masks and megaphones during the reporting period. These items were distributed between the fire safety committee and to specific points in each block as agreed with COR, community leaders, and the fire safety committee.
- In Babikri, **DRC set up a fire-safety committee** to help mitigate the risk of any fire in the settlement.



Distribution of fire-safety materials ©DRC

- In conjunction with partners, NCA carried out a blanket distribution of 50kg of charcoal, 900 dignity kits and 2,200 potties for children under 5 in Tunaydbah.
- DRC distributed footballs, volleyballs, football/volleyball nets, sports kits to various sports teams in the camps.
- In collaboration with COR, 5,240 soap bars was distributed to 2,620 individuals in Village 8.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Additional funding and support are required to address gaps in preparations for the rainy season in Babikri, Tunaydbah and Um Rakuba, including the construction of additional drains and pedestrian bridges.



COMMUNICATING WITH COMMUNITIES

Results and Impact

- In Um Rakuba, ALIGHT held three (3) awareness sessions on human trafficking, prevention and response, reaching 31 women and girls.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Scaling up support for livelihood activities to reduce the risk of onward movement is a priority.



WORKING IN COORDINATION

In response to the Ethiopia situation in eastern Sudan, UNHCR is working with authorities and partners to provide lifesaving assistance and protection to Ethiopian refugees and asylum seekers as well as host communities. UNHCR and COR co-chair the Inter-Agency Refugee Working Group (RWG), which meets on a bi-weekly basis, to strengthen coordination of the response. 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. Please consult the list of partners involved in the refugee response in Sudan and their activity areas at "*Partner Coverage, Who, Does What and Where (3W) – National Level*" which may be found on *UNHCR Sudan data portal*.

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 **60,000 refugees and asylum seekers** have been welcomed in Sudan.

To deliver protection and lifesaving assistance to Ethiopians displaced across the border and within their country, UNHCR launched a regional appeal in January 2022 for the prioritization of \$205 million of its existing funding needs for the northern Ethiopia emergency situation and regional preparedness in 2022. This includes \$72 million to assist the over 60,000 Ethiopian refugees who have arrived in Sudan since November 2020 and potential additional arrivals in 2022. Support is urgently needed to scale up interventions across all sectors while maintaining preparedness for any additional influx from Ethiopia.

We are grateful to the following donors for supporting the Ethiopian Emergency situation in eastern Sudan with critical funding in 2021 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

UNHCR Northern Ethiopia Emergency Situation Regional Appeal Funding (as of 22 March 2022)

