

## **SUDAN SITUATION**

**18-24 January 2024**



*Refugees and returnees crossing into South Sudan via Joda crossing point, South Sudan ©Marie-Helene Verney*

### **Highlights**

Ongoing clashes between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and Rapid Support Forces (RSF) have continued since the outbreak of conflict in April 2023.

On 20 January, Sudan [suspended its membership](#) in the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) regional bloc following the participation of the RSF Commander Mohamed Hamda Daglo (“Hemedti”) in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Extraordinary Assembly of the IGAD Heads of State and Government held on 18 January and its [communique](#) that called for a meeting between the two warring sides.

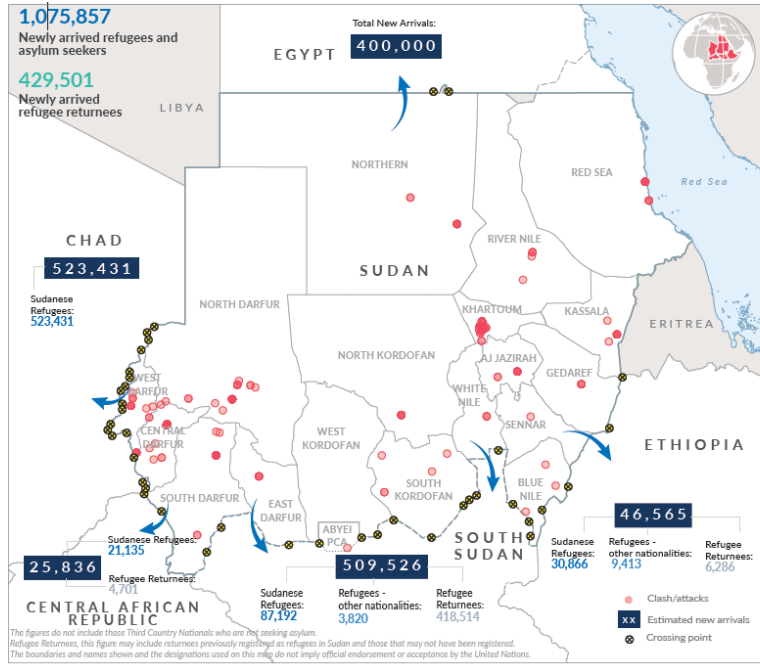
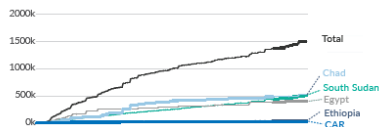
**OVERVIEW:** There are now 7.7 million forcibly displaced due to the outbreak of conflict in Sudan since April 2023, including 6 million internally and 1.5 million in neighbouring countries. Sudan and neighbouring countries were already hosting large refugee populations before this new emergency and require additional support to provide protection and critical life-saving assistance, including for those who have been secondarily displaced within Sudan. Urgent needs include water, food, shelter, health, and core relief items. The current priority activities are the registration of new arrivals, relocation away from border areas, identification of especially vulnerable families and persons with specific needs, and putting mechanisms in place to prevent and respond to gender-based violence and ensure alternative care services for unaccompanied refugee children.

**7,756,618** Forcibly Displaced  
**6,055,749** New IDPs in Sudan  
**1,505,358** Newly arrived refugees, asylum seekers and returnees  
**195,511** Self-relocated Refugees in Sudan

**Arrivals by population and estimated gender type**



**New arrivals from Sudan**



## Situation and Operational Response

### SUDAN

#### Highlights

- Gedaref has seen increased security measures, including inspections of INGO offices and UN personnel houses.
- The ongoing disruption in fuel supplies is having a significant impact on operations in White Nile State, interrupting the regular distribution of core relief items (CRIs). The fuel shortages are also having an impact on provision of health services, with insufficient fuel for ambulances, generators and pre-positioning of drugs. Until the end of January, UNHCR has allocated its remaining fuel stock to support water supply and health services. UNHCR is in consultation with other stakeholders to ensure sufficient supplies are available to sustain services.

#### Population Movement and Registration

A steady inflow of secondarily displaced South Sudanese refugees and asylum-seekers is being observed from conflict-affected areas such as Al Jazirah, Sennar, and Al Getena in White Nile State. While some have crossed the border into South Sudan, the majority are presenting themselves at existing refugee camps and settling in with the surrounding host community. Since mid-December 2023, close to 1,900 households comprising 12,800 people have arrived in five camps of White Nile State, with the majority approaching Alagaya camps. The Commission of Refugees (COR) is recording and mapping new arrivals, and continues with the help of community-based structures to provide basic, life-saving assistance to the new arrivals.

IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) reports close to 232,000 forcibly displaced persons in Red Sea State, an increase of approximately 13,000 from the previous week.

According to community networks and host community members from Kario camp in East Darfur, refugees are spontaneously returning to South Sudan due to instability, hunger, and inadequate humanitarian support.

UNHCR is conducting an intentions survey in Um Shalaya camp, Central Darfur, in response to persistent requests from refugees to return to Chad or move to regions with a larger Chadian refugee population. UNHCR will respond and support refugees as feasible based on the survey results.

### Relocation

UNHCR registered and verified 171 refugees and asylum-seekers displaced from Wad Madani and Khartoum to Gedaref before facilitating their relocation to Um Gargour or Tunaydbah refugee camps during the reporting week. In total, 700 refugees and asylum-seekers were registered and their relocation to the camps started on 22 January. In addition, refugees and asylum seekers displaced from Wad Madani and Khartoum continue to be reported arriving spontaneously in the camps. 105 individuals were registered in Tunaydbah and received CRIs assistance while 60 were registered in Um Gargour.

### Protection

In White Nile State, Child protection programmes continue to support children who require specialized assistance. UNHCR and its partners also conducted awareness-raising sessions on child rights for over 2,600 refugees in the seven camps.

UNHCR resumed protection counselling through a hotline in Al Jazirah State, responding to calls seeking information on voluntary repatriation, medical assistance, financial support and resettlement.

### Health and Nutrition

Medical Teams International (MTI) trained health personnel on cholera case definition, infection prevention, and control to improve disease surveillance and active case detection. The refugee camps have not had cholera cases since the outbreak, although Eldweim, Algetina, Umremta, Kosti, Guli, and Rabak in White Nile have over 1,600 cases.

More than 3,800 outpatient consultations were done at health facilities in White Nile refugee camps during the reporting week. Medecins Sans Frontiers started a blood bank and transfusion services to support anemia cases reported at the nutrition stabilization centre to support the Kosti hospital.

UNHCR gave Khashm El Girba hospital in Kassala State an ambulance to transport secondary referrals and other patients, improving emergency response. UNHCR also gave JASMAR Human Security Organisation malaria, acute respiratory infection, and diarrhea drugs to give to five health institutions serving 70,000 refugees and asylum-seekers.

### Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

17 trucks carrying essential relief items and hygiene kits from Ethiopia were cleared by Sudanese Customs at the Gallabat border and arrived in Gedaref. Eight of 11 trucks offloaded in the customs dry port have gone to Port Sudan.

UNHCR installed 50 tents in Shagarab Reception Centre, in Kassala State, providing shelters for nearly 300 individuals. This helped to decongest the centre which was crowded due to the increased influx of people in December. According to the last head count there are 1,984 individuals accommodated at the Reception Centre.

### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

In White Nile State, the Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) has rehabilitated a 2.1km water pipeline in Kashafa and Redies camps and is concluding similar work on the water supply networks in Alagaya and Dabat Bosin camps. This will help reduce significant water loss from the pipeline, thereby increasing the availability of water for the camp population and surrounding communities.

UNHCR has provided Water, Environment and Sanitation (WES) in White Nile State with 10,000 liters of fuel to ensure an uninterrupted water supply for refugees and host communities in ten camps. This fuel supply will keep water systems operational until end-January.

## Cash Assistance

In Al Lait, North Darfur, UNHCR's partner Sudanese Organization for Relief and Recovery (SORR) distributed multi-purpose cash assistance to nearly 16,600 South Sudanese refugee families and 1,755 host community families. Multi-purpose cash allows recipients to meet their most urgent needs, promoting self-reliance and market activity.

## CHAD

### Highlights

- Security measures have been reinforced on the Chadian side of the border, particularly in Tissi and Sido.
- Around 16,290 individuals (3,661 households) reportedly crossed over into Chad in the Ouaddai, Sil, and Wadi Fira Provinces during the reporting period. UNHCR and partners carried out assessment missions to these locations.

### Population movements and Registration

Since the onset of the emergency in April 2023, a total of 331,586 individuals (91,209 households) have been biometrically pre-registered and registered.

The Chadian Red Cross (CRT) and UNHCR conducted a joint monitoring mission at the Mamata, Barata, Wandalou, Adre/Arikong, and Borota-Goungour borders in an effort to enhance arrival early warning systems. A collaborative effort between the Migration Police and a tripartite mechanism (Commission Nationale d'Accueil et de Réinsertion des Réfugiés (CNARR)-CRT-UNHCR) has been established to enhance data collection on age, sex, and origin. In addition, a referral system for children at risk at the border has been established in collaboration with MSF and child protection partners.

In Arkoum, Ouaddai Province, a total of 4,157 individuals (1,147 households) were biometrically registered, making a total of 48,038 individuals (13,280 households), including 8,706 people with specific needs.

Biometric registration was completed in Touloum Refugee Camp (Wadi-Fira Province). In total, 9,986 individuals (3,080 households) were registered.

### Relocation

A total of 40,239 individuals (11,234 households) were relocated from Adré to Alacha, which has exceeded its reception capacity. 730 individuals (202 households) were relocated from Adré to Metché. In close collaboration with the government authorities, UNHCR will increase the capacity of other existing camps to house additional refugees, prepare to expand the Farchana refugee camp for a third time, and continue its quest for new sites.

The relocation of new arrival of Sudanese refugees from the Dornong village to Kerfi site continues. 1,742 individuals were relocated from border villages to Kerfi in the Sila Province.

### Protection

UNHCR organised training sessions for the CNNAR officials on camp management to strengthen their skills in administration, management, and protection of refugees.

#### Child Protection

The Chadian Red Cross (CRT) launched an awareness-raising campaign at the Metché Camp on access to child protection services, reaching 450 people. The CRT also began the construction of a child-friendly space in Metché, while continuing their mobile interventions.

Plan International finalized the construction of a Child-Friendly Space in Ourang.

### Education

NRC has completed the construction of three temporary learning shelters in Metché.

In collaboration with NRC, the Ministry of Education trained 51 refugee teachers on the Chadian curriculum.

### Health and Nutrition

273,511 medical consultations have been carried out since the start of the emergency, including 15,128 during the reporting week. Malaria, acute respiratory infections (ARI), watery diarrhea and malnutrition remain among frequent diseases.

216,901 children were screened. 24,806 cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and 13,173 cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) were treated among children aged 6 to 59 months.

18,376 pregnant and breastfeeding women were screened. 2,587 cases of MAM were treated. 449 pregnant women were screened during the reporting week, including 49 MAM.

3,916 deliveries attended to by qualified health personnel have been recorded since the start of the emergency, including 216 deliveries during the reporting week.

### Shelter

247 refugee housing units (RHUs) and 268 tents were erected in the new Alacha camp. In total, 53,000 shelters, 2,633 RHUs and 727 tents have been erected since the beginning of the emergency.

### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

A total construction of 123 latrines/showers by OXFAM and LMI in Alacha

A total construction of 35 latrines/showers by Help Tchad in Farchana extension.

A total construction of 200 latrines is in progress by CRT in Alacha

A total distribution of 600 WASH kits by OXFAM in Alacha

The construction of water distribution networks in Ourang, Metché, and Arkoum continues.

### Cash Assistance

WFP will be the co-lead of the Cash Working Group, which is responsible for coordinating the operational aspects of the cash based response during the refugee influx.

### IT and Telecoms

UNHCR is working on extending connectivity for biometric registration in the Zabout refugee camp.

The Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) local mobile network remains challenging. UNHCR team is working with the operators to enhance GSM networks in the refugee sites in the Ouaddai Province.

## Central African Republic (CAR)

### Highlights

- By means of the Commission Nationale pour les Réfugiés (CNR) negotiations, the local authorities granted 50 hectares of additional land through a municipal decree, thereby increasing the capacity of the Korsi's site to accommodate a maximum of 10,000 refugees.

### Population Movements and Registration

Korsi hosts 6,379 Sudanese refugees (3,132 households), the majority being women and children. An average of 176 refugees are received at Korsi on a daily basis. In addition to residing in Korsi, refugees also live in small villages situated in various prefectures, with the exception of Vakaga. With an anticipated daily average of 176 arrivals, the population of Korsi is projected to reach 10,000 by February, 15,000 by March, and 30,000 by June.

CNR and UNHCR have registered 12,124 Sudanese individuals (4,098 households), using biometrics.

## Protection

By constructing five hangars, UNHCR enhanced the capacity of the Transit and Registration Centre. These structures will enhance the efficacy of the registration process and improve reception conditions.

Protection programmes targeting persons with specific needs, GBV prevention and response and general case management continue to serve refugees.

## Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

54 shelters were constructed and allocated to refugee families (cumulative 391 families since 1 January)

UNHCR and its partners distributed CRI kits to 217 households with a total of 479 individuals (cumulatively, 576 households and 1,218 individuals since 1 January). The CRIs include mats, blankets, mosquito nets, kitchen and soap kits, and solar lamps.

## Health and Nutrition

UNHCR's partner NOURRIR distributed six times more hot meals compared to the beginning of January. The total number of meals served during the reporting week is 26,458 hot meals.

WFP arranged for four trucks of dry food to arrive in Korsi to commence the monthly distribution at the location.

The nutrition team enrolled 14 new people (cumulative 36 since 1 January) in the malnutrition treatment programme.

The NOURRIR and IMC medical team working at the health centers in Korsi provided 668 medical consultations (1,773 since 1 January), of which 92% were for refugees and 8% for the host community. Children younger than five who sought medical consultations comprised 228 patients, or 34%, (705 since 1 January).

The obstetrics and gynaecology team provided 39 consultations (cumulative 89 since 1 January), including 22 antenatal consultations (cumulative 24 since 1 January) and 24 gynecological consultations (cumulative 38 since 1 January), as well as four deliveries (cumulative 05 since 1 January).

## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

NOURRIR constructed 17 emergency latrines (cumulative 60 since 1 January) and 17 emergency showers (cumulative 60 since 1 January).

UNHCR and its partners have been working to improve the Korsi site's water supply. A new 30kVA generator was installed in Korsi to increase the water pumping capacity from 60 m<sup>3</sup> to 80 m<sup>3</sup> per day, improving the ratio from 10.8 liters of water per day to 12.5 liters of water per day per person, which is still below the emergency standard of 15 liters.

By installing a solar pump with a capacity of 7 m<sup>3</sup>/hour in a secondary borehole, water availability was increased and congestion around the primary borehole was reduced.

NOURRIR conducted awareness-raising activities on hygiene and sanitation promotion in six blocks of Korsi, benefiting 603 refugees. Since 1 January, 1,418 refugees have been reached through hygiene promotion and sanitation awareness campaigns.

## ETHIOPIA

### Highlights

- The Sudanese authorities have implemented a movement ban at the Gallabat entry point to Metema since 22 January, in response to allegations of violence against Sudanese nationals. According to the border's officials, the closure is temporary, whereby both authorities are currently engaged in efforts to rectify the situation and restore normalcy to the cross-border movements.

## Population Movement and Registration

In Benishangul Gumuz region, 560 individuals (175 families) crossed through Kurmuk and other entry points during the reporting period. L1 registration was conducted for all families. Among the registered 560 individuals, close to 100 individuals have been residing with the host community in different districts since June 2023. Females head 50% of the families, while 61% of them are children under the age of 18. Additionally, three unaccompanied and separated children were registered among the new arrivals. Distribution of high energy biscuits (HEBs) is ongoing to the new arrivals.

In Metema, in Amhara region, L1 registration was conducted at the entry point for 254 individuals (99 families) that consist of Sudanese, South Sudanese, and Eritrea asylum seekers. L3 registration was conducted for 512 individuals (240 families) at Kumer refugee site. On entry and at the transit center HEBs are provided by WFP.

In Addis Ababa, UNHCR's urban protection team is working closely with the Government's Refugees and Returnees Service (RRS) to communicate with Sudanese refugee community on the steps to seek international protection. The RRS is currently providing pass permits to asylum seekers to travel to Sherkole and Metema for registration.

## Relocation

Relocation of new arrivals from Metema entry point to Kumer refugee site continues on a daily basis. Following L1 registration at the entry point, refugees are provided with hot meals or HEBs before they are transferred by IOM to Kumer refugee site.

In Benishangul Gumuz, only new arrivals crossing the Ethiopian border through Gisan entry point are relocated to Sherkole camp by IOM for registration and other services. Kurmuk Transit Center continues to host refugees until the new allocated land by the regional government is developed into a settlement for refugees from Kurmuk to be relocated. Road construction is currently underway by the road transport bureau to access the land.

## Protection

In interviews with new arrivals in Kurmuk, it was reported that some individuals are unable to pay exit fees to cross the border, and that some youths are being conscripted by armed forces. Key protection issues highlighted by the new arrivals include lack of basic services, such as health and shelter, severe levels of trauma, GBV, torture and the presence of extremely vulnerable children (UAMs, children with specific needs)

### Community-based Protection

In Kumer, UNHCR convened a meeting with 28 members of the Women Protection Group and the Women and Gender Representative from the Refugee Central Committee to deliberate on matters pertaining to leadership structure, women's participation, and various protection concerns. Due to the volatile security situation in the region, fetching water from the river, which poses a risk of violence, is one of the protection concerns that have been raised.

### Child Protection

Social workers and community-based structures continue to identify and register newly separated and Other Vulnerable Children (OVC) in Kurmuk. The total population of vulnerable children so far, totals 1,096. A total of 947 children have gone through best interests' assessments (BIA).

### Gender-based violence

The GBV response services by World Vision Ethiopia continue to support identified survivors with psychosocial support together with provision of material assistance in the form of dignity kits.

Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials on GBV and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) were distributed in three languages (Arabic, English and Tigrigna) to 100 new arrivals at the Metema entry point.

Awareness raising was conducted for the newly arrived asylum seekers on GBV, PSEA Mental Health and Psychosocial support (MHPSS) and basic services was provided in Kumer and Kurmuk.

## Health and Nutrition

Medical Teams International (MTI) and World Vision Ethiopia (WVE) are supporting through Mobile Health and Nutrition Teams (MHNTs) in Kumer. UNICEF's Mobile Health and Nutrition Team (MHNT) is also complementing MTI and WVE in providing primary health and nutrition services at the transit site.

Outpatient department (OPD) consultations were provided in Kumer to 891 adults of whom 249 from the refugee and 56 from the host communities and 133 children under the age of five.

The prevalent diseases among children under-five include acute upper respiratory infections (AURI), diarrhea, pneumonia, malaria, and intestinal worms. For adults, the prevalent diseases are acute upper respiratory infections (AURI), malaria, dyspepsia, intestinal worms, diarrhea, and intestinal parasite (IP).

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) education sessions and Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH) were conducted in both Kumer and Kurmuk.

In Kumer, malnutrition screening was conducted for 18 pregnant and breastfeeding women and 116 children under five.

In Kurmuk, 21 children under five were screened for acute malnutrition.

## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

With an average of 12.9 L/P/D (Liters per Person per Day), the quantity of supplied water is below UNHCR emergency standards (15 L/P/D).

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) provided 690 m<sup>3</sup> of chlorinated water in the transit center and Kumer sites.

All latrines in Kumer are cleaned daily by refugee workers who receive a small incentive.

The new water filling station at Gundewuha municipality is operational since 12 January 2024.

## EGYPT

### Highlights

- 400,000 Sudanese and 9,000 individuals of other nationalities, totaling some 409,000 people, have crossed into Egypt since the start of the Sudan crisis, according to the latest figures shared by the Government of Egypt.
- UNHCR observed an important increase in the number of Sudanese approaching its office in Alexandria seeking registration services.

### Population Movements and Registration

During the three first weeks of January, 1,170 Sudanese new arrivals approached UNHCR Field Office Alexandria, marking a noteworthy surge compared to the same period in December (420 people), with most applicants arriving in buses from Cairo and Aswan. The influx resulted in a 35% increase in scheduled registration appointments compared to December, and a 119% increase compared to November. The surge in Sudanese new arrivals has also had an important impact on the Alexandria office Infoline, with its call volume increasing 218% compared to December. According to refugee outreach volunteers consulted by UNHCR, one of the reasons for this increase is the extended waiting period to obtain a registration appointment from UNHCR Cairo, and possibly linked to an increase in irregular entries to Egypt following an escalation in the conflict in Sudan. As a result, UNHCR Alexandria is further enhancing its capacity to respond to the demand in consultation with community leaders and local authorities to mitigate possible social tensions.

UNHCR teams maintained their monitoring visits to official crossings on the Egypt-Sudan border to interact with officials and assist refugees. Officials have told UNHCR they expect more Sudanese refugees to enter Egypt.



As of 19 January, UNHCR Egypt had provided pre-registration appointments to 271,457 newly arrived people from Sudan (119,206 households), of whom 148,566 (70,550 households), i.e., 55%, were already registered. Most of the registered population are Sudanese nationals (91%), while the other main nationalities registered are South Sudanese (4%), and Eritrean (3%).

## Protection

### Community-based protection

Refugee outreach workers provided support to around 4,270 newly arrived people from Sudan at UNHCR's 6 October Reception Centre in Cairo on services, assistance, and procedures for reporting fraud and complaints. Basic counselling was provided by UNHCR's partner Terre des Homme (TdH) to 2,080 refugees and asylum-seekers.

UNHCR participated in three information sessions for 107 Sudanese refugees who had arrived in Egypt. During these meetings, refugees complained about street harassment of Sudanese children, the lack of financial aid to cover rising food and housing costs, and long residency appointment wait times. Several people were also concerned about the detention of Sudanese who had entered Egypt irregularly.

### Infoline

There was a 43% increase in the number of inquiries handled by UNHCR's Infoline during the reporting week. In total, 17,483 calls were answered, and registration appointments were given to 15,836 people who have fled Sudan. This brings the overall number of people who received registration appointments through the system to 167,534. Following the merging of the Cairo and Alexandria lines and the hiring of additional agents, the average number of calls per day has almost quadrupled compared to pre-crisis levels.

## SOUTH SUDAN

### Highlights

- The influx of people from Sudan who entered Renk during the reporting period (9,375 individuals) is leading to challenges such as a lack of available rental accommodations, rising commodity prices, and increased commercial flight ticket prices. Additionally, some returnees are reportedly opting for buses on their own as an alternative means of transportation from Renk to Malakal.

### Population Movements

In Renk, a total of 49,387 individuals from 9,943 households have been biometrically registered. Since the beginning of January, the average number of new arrivals has increased, resulting in a backlog of around 3,000 refugees waiting for registration due to an insufficient number of registration clerks. Females make up 58% of the population while males constitute 42%. During the reporting period, 5,736 individuals from 1,329 households were registered and cash assistance reached 7,405 individuals from 1,426 households.

1,422 individuals arrived on four boats from Renk to Malakal Transit Centre (TC), while 1,919 individuals departed by air to Wau, Juba, and Rabkona. Cumulatively 108,402 returnees have transited from Renk to Malakal TC. Data from a headcount conducted on 13 January 2024 found the population of Malakal TC to be 5,264 individuals; the population continues to fluctuate daily depending on the constant flow of new arrivals and departures.

In Bentiu, four returnee households comprising 15 individuals arrived in Rotriak, having entered South Sudan through the Panakuach border entry point. In addition, 25 households comprised of 142 individuals landed at the Rubkona airstrip. They came through Renk/Malakal via an IOM chartered flight between 15 -17 January 2024. Returns through the Panakuach border entry point have decreased compared to the previous weeks. The main reasons according to the returnees are financial constraints, harassment and extortion at the checkpoints. In Panyijar County, UNHCR's partner Hope Restoration South Sudan (HRSS) recorded three households with 28 individuals (returnees who came from Sudan to Renk, then to Tayar/Panyijar via Malakal using a commercial boat. The returnees continue to lack

basic needs such as food, shelter and CRIs. In Mayjendit County, HRSS also recorded five households with 35 returnees from Sudan who travelled through El Obeid, Kadugli, Karasana and Panakuach to Rotriak and again to Rubkona by minibus, and then to Mayjendit on foot.

In Aweil, an estimated 221 individuals arrived in the Wedweil settlement during the reporting week. A total of 6,369 refugees (3,173 households) were biometrically registered and 11,690 individuals (5,907 households) were profiled in the Wedweil Refugee Settlement. Refugees are self-relocating from the Transit Centre to the Settlement as a result of overcrowding.

In Jamjang, 188 new arrivals (75 households) were received. Among them, 11 returnees and 171 asylum-seekers/refugees arrived at the Panakuach border point and 64 asylum-seekers/refugees arrived at the Yida Reception Centre. Cumulatively, since the start of the influx from Sudan, 4,107 refugees and asylum-seekers have been registered in UNHCR Sub-Office Jamjang and 1,753 returnees have returned to Ruweng.

### Relocation

UNHCR, its partners and CRA continued with the relocation of the refugees and asylum-seekers from Renk to Maban. Two relocations of 472 individuals (198 households) took place where the necessary services were provided.

54 individuals (19 households) self-relocated from Blue Nile State via the Elfoj border crossing point to Maban and 303 individuals (97 households) were self-relocated from Yabus entry point to Doro. Subsequently, 829 refugees (314 households) from Gendrassa and Doro Reception Centres were further relocated to their allocated plots in Kaya's new site and Doro camp, respectively. The total number of registered relocated population from Renk covering the period 2 to 18 January has reached 1,326 individuals (539 households).

UNHCR's partner, Action Africa Help International (AAHI), assisted 36 households with onward transportation from Panakuach to the Reception Centre in Pamir refugee camp to receive additional support, while the returnees were transported to Lalop by IOM. In addition, 59 Households of 153 newly arrived individuals (63 from Yida, 90 from Pamir Reception Centre) were relocated to the camps.

### Protection

Key protection concerns of the new arrivals are registration and documentation, the need for core relief items, food, and a source of livelihood.

In Renk, following the increase in new arrivals at the end of December and in early January, figures have started to decrease, with 2,346 households and 9,375 individuals newly arriving during the reporting period.

South Sudanese account for 57.6% of the new arrivals, while Sudanese/other nationalities account for the remaining 42.4%, which shows an increase in the percentage of refugees entering the country following the expansion of the conflict area towards the south. The Protection Vulnerability Assessment team recorded 827 people with special needs.

Looting, detention and torture remained an issue facing the returnees/refugees as they crossed to South Sudan. Usage of unofficial border entry points by the Sudanese refugees was observed by partners.

In Aweil, new arrivals waiting to be relocated to Wedwil Refugee Settlement experienced a lack of clean water, food, NFIs and tents at the border. The poor facilities and safety infrastructure in the new settlement are posing GBV risks to women and girls due lack of street solar lights and security.

### Health and Nutrition

Across most transit centres, the leading causes of morbidity are still acute respiratory tract infections, malaria, acute watery diarrhoea, and non-communicable diseases.

In Bulukat TC in Malakal, over 3,000 returnees who were not registered during biometric registration conducted in the period between September – December 2023 have not yet received any food assistance, making their situation more vulnerable.

In Gorom refugee camp outside Juba, there are several new arrivals patients among the Sudanese with serious medical conditions.

### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

In Bulukat, WASH and solid waste management in the Transit Centre (TC) remains a key challenge, as onward transportation of returnees to the final destination of choice via air is slow.

In Renk, TC1 is facing issues with open defecation, while the TC2 is unable to provide adequate water supply due to the large number of people it accommodates, over five times its capacity.

In Maban, to enhance the capacity of water supply in the camps, upgrading work for two solar water systems was completed in Gendrassa and Doro refugee camps. The installation of water storage tanks is ongoing in Kaya and Doro extension sites. Borehole drilling is ongoing in Doro.

### Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

In Bentiu, despite a reduction in the number of new arrivals in Rotriak, several household members are still sleeping outside in the open due to lack of shelter accommodation. Their situation has been referred to the Shelter/NFI Cluster by UNHCR Protection, for immediate assistance.

In Gorom, there are several new arrivals among the Sudanese who have not received shelter.

In Jamjang, 59 households of 153 newly arrived individuals (63 from Yida, 90 from Pamir Reception Centre) were relocated to the camps and provided with shelter plots. New arrivals were also supported with CRIs such as laundry soaps, sleeping mats, blankets, kitchen sets, jerry cans, buckets, and mosquito nets, and women of reproductive age were provided with sanitary kits.

In Renk, the results of the headcounts conducted by ACCEM revealed a total of 4,689 households, encompassing approximately 23,445 individuals located across the TC, its adjacent areas, and the new extension site. However, the available shelters in both locations (old TC and TC extension) can only accommodate 3,728 individuals as per the UNHCR minimum standards. UNHCR/AIRD completed the construction of an additional 3 communal shelters at the extension site bringing it to a total of 25 shelters completed by UNHCR. Limited funding remains an obstacle to completing the construction of communal shelters at the extension site. The population currently residing in the transit centre is facing the harsh impact of cold weather. Regrettably, ACTED is experiencing a shortage of NFIs to adequately meet the needs of the affected population.

In Maban, 404 individuals (201 households) at Gendrassa Reception Centre and 303 individuals (90 households) at Doro Reception Centre received core relief items (CRIs) before being relocated to their plots in Kaya and Zone D in Doro. The distributed CRIs include blankets, mosquito nets, sleeping mats, buckets, jerry cans, kitchen sets, and soap.

In Bentiu, four shelters housing 28 individuals were destroyed in separate fires from different blocks at the returnee's settlement in Rotriak. Incidents occurred while the adults were not present and only minors were at home. UNHCR protection and its partner DRC referred the affected households to relevant stakeholders for immediate assistance.

## Response Plans and Funding Situation

*\*The 2024 Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan and the 2024 Humanitarian Response Plan for Sudan will be jointly launched on 7 February 2024.*

### Revised Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP) – May-December 2023

- On 4 September, UNHCR and 64 partner organisations published a revised inter-agency [Sudan Emergency Regional Refugee Response Plan – May to December 2023](#), which appealed for **USD 1,004,761,770** to provide essential aid and protection to over 1.8 million people projected to arrive in five neighbouring countries by the end of 2023. As of 24 January, total funding of USD 378 million has been recorded or **38%** of the funding requirements ([Refugee Funding Tracker](#)).

### Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) – May-December 2023

- The revised inter-agency [Humanitarian Response Plan \(HRP\) for Sudan \(May-December 2023\)](#) required **USD 2.57 billion** to help 18 million people. As of 24 January, the total funding for the HRP reached some USD 1.10 billion or **42.9%** of the requirements ([OCHA FTS](#)).

### Revised UNHCR Supplementary Appeal – May-December 2023

- On 4 September, UNHCR issued a revised [Sudan Emergency Supplementary Appeal \(May-December 2023\)](#) to reflect increased needs of **USD 506,528,613**. As of 24 January, the total available funding for the appeal was USD 182.5 million or **36%** of the funding requirements ([Sudan Situation Funding Update](#)).

## Resources

- UNHCR's [Operational Data Portal \(ODP\) for the Sudan Situation](#) provides daily updates on the refugee and returnee arrivals in Sudan's neighbouring countries.
- [UNHCR and IOM Joint Dashboard](#) of arrivals to South Sudan, including data on returnee intentions, onward movements, and numbers and locations of returnees in and around Renk.
- [UNHCR Global Focus Sudan Operation page](#)
- [UNHCR Sudan Emergency website](#)
- UNHCR's HELP site for Refugees and Asylum-Seekers in Sudan provides information to individuals seeking information and support inside Sudan (in [English](#) and [Arabic](#)).

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