

Central African Republic (CAR) – SUDAN SITUATION

30 May – 5 June 2024



Newly arrived Sudanese refugees were reported in Bria. They are being registered by the government and UNHCR. ©UNHCR CAR

Highlights

- Media reports this week focused on renewed fierce fighting in [El Fasher](#) (North Darfur) and Al Jazirah state, where hundreds of people have been reportedly killed. Violent clashes between the warring parties are also reportedly ongoing in [Khartoum](#), the country's capital, where half of the city's hospitals have been closed and most banks looted. The intensifying conflict comes in the wake of extreme hunger and deepening malnutrition unfolding across the country due to severe food shortages.
- This week, WFP continued the general food distribution for May in Korsi, during which 6,513 refugees from 2,784 families were assisted.
- The registration of an estimated 3,500 newly arrived refugees continues in Bria and Sam Ouandja (Haute Kotto prefecture), Ippy in Ouaka prefecture and Mboki in Haut-Mbomou prefecture. As of 1st June, UNHCR and the National Commission for Refugees (CNR) have registered 565 Sudanese refugees (225 families), among which 268 refugees (92 families) are in Bria and 297 refugees (133 families) in Ippy. Finally, UNHCR recorded the presence of 33 refugees in the village of Amkourmai in the Vakaga region. They had already been registered in Am Dafock in 2023.

Security and Operational context

Security remains a concern in the prefectures hosting Sudanese refugees, including Vakaga, Haute-Kotto and Nana Gibrizi, with protection and security incidents reported due to the presence and activities of non-state armed groups in several localities. A joint UNHCR -NGOs-OCHA mission went to the border area with Sudan of Am Dafock to conduct a multisectoral assessment. The mission found that the civilian protection environment remains concerning in Am Dafock, Dangoré, and Amkourmai due to the presence of non-state armed groups, particularly on the main roads. Their presence and activity increase the risks to civilian protection. For example, last week, cases of robbery, murder, kidnapping, and torture were reported, along with several protection incidents, including the robbery of a national education official coming from Birao who was heading to Am Dafock to deliver the examination papers for the entrance exam to the 6th grade.

Population Movements and Registration

This week, 213 new arrivals (91 families) were recorded in Korsi, Birao, bringing the number of refugees to 12,748. All new arrivals were biometrically registered. Since January, 8,972 new arrivals have been registered in Korsi.

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This week, a local NGO returning from a mission in Ouada in the Haute-Kotto prefecture alerted on the arrival in CAR of some 75 Sudanese whose list was shared with UNHCR. In the coming weeks, a joint UNHCR-CNR mission will visit the area to confirm the number and status of these people. It should be noted, however, that Ouadda is one of the most hard-to-reach areas for security and logistical reasons.

Since April 2023, 31,649 forcibly displaced people from Sudan have arrived in CAR, including 25,491 Sudanese refugees and 6,158 Central African returnees (former CAR refugees in Sudan). 16,968 (6,764 households) Sudanese refugees have been biometrically registered and live in 13 localities, mostly in hard-to-reach locations outside Vakaga prefecture and need protection and assistance.

Protection

This week, WFP continued the general food distribution for May in Korsi, during which 6,513 refugees from 2,784 families were assisted.

Protection monitoring activities continued. In Birao and Korsi in Vakaga, INTERSOS conducted 11 monitoring visits, which enabled the collection of 107 protection incidents, the supervision and coaching of community relays on protection issues, the implementation of perception surveys on the humanitarian response provided, and the organization of focus groups discussions with refugees and host communities on the human rights situation. In the Haute Kotto prefecture, perception surveys were conducted with 49 Sudanese refugees living in host communities in Sam Ouandja and Ippy. The results enabled the identification of their needs (access to food and drinking water, shelter and protection, health care, education, security, and assistance with agricultural products and farming tools), which will permit advocacy efforts within the humanitarian community.

In addition, community relays conducted three awareness sessions last week, with support from the protection monitoring team for Sudanese refugees in Sam-Ouandja and the host community of Ippy (Haute-Kotto), on the importance of biometric registration and the education of young girls. 862 people were reached, including 179 men, 282 women, 162 girls, and 239 boys.

Three awareness-raising sessions were conducted in Am Dafock and Korsi (Vakaga), reaching 292 people, including 89 men, 129 women, 29 boys, and 45 girls. These sessions focused on disseminating rights and encouraging the reporting of rights violations.

UNHCR and INTERSOS organized a series of community consultations with the participation of 57 refugee youth (25 women) on the creation of a Youth safe space in Korsi. A “design competition” was organized in which youth teams designed and drew concept floorplans for the youth space and then presented them to peers for feedback and debate. The proposed designs will be amalgamated into one

final plan approved by the youth before setting up the safe space.

Twelve sessions of life skills activities were conducted with women at the safe space in Korsi, with 99 participants (60 women and 39 girls). The various activities helped unite women and improve their emotional state, which had been affected by the crises in Sudan. To date, 400 people (155 girls and 250 women) have visited the safe space in Korsi, including 20 new participants, 12 women and eight girls.

This week, refugee leaders were involved in preparing the organization of the World Refugee Day. Other refugees from the vigilance and distribution committees were involved in distributing food rations. In addition, an information meeting was organized with refugee leaders in Korsi to ensure their involvement in the whole process of the agricultural project that FAO will implement.

Child Protection

The joint UNHCR-NGOs-OCHA mission to Am Dafock found that children are victims of economic exploitation because they are forced to work. Some parents say this is due to a lack of resources to meet their basic needs. This situation encourages these children to drop out of school and engage in juvenile delinquency. The presence of unaccompanied and separated children was also reported. In Dangoré, for example, there is no school in the village, and parents are afraid to send their children to Am Dafock for safety reasons.

Prevention against gender-based violence (GBV)

To respond to the GBV cases identified during the week, INTERSOS provided psychosocial support to survivors and ensured follow-up on the cases. This allowed some survivors to express what they had experienced, while others reported progress in their health and well-being. However, this week, an increase in the number of reported GBV cases was observed compared to the previous week. Contributing factors include the abusive consumption of alcohol and drugs, as well as the abuse of power by men over women (preventing women from engaging in income activities, participating in group activities, etc.).

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Services (MHPSS)

Recreational and psychosocial support (PSS) activities continued in the Korsi Children's Friendly Space, with 160 refugee children participating.

Education

UNHCR finalized the May data collection exercise in Birao public schools and updated refugee student databases. Between January and May 2024, refugee enrolment quadrupled in Birao, reaching 933 refugees enrolled in primary school, compared to just 230 refugees enrolled at the beginning of the year, an increase of 306 per cent in five months. In Korsi, the gross enrolment rate of refugees at the primary level has improved to 43 per cent, compared to 31 per cent at the beginning of the year.

For informal education, UNHCR and its partner INTERSOS are continuing preparations to organize remedial and French classes during the summer holidays. The goal is to support refugee children's transition to the Central African curriculum and strengthen their integration into local public schools.

UNHCR and its partner INTERSOS organized a series of meetings with the Academic Inspectorate and head of primary education to publish a call for applications for summer school teachers and discuss the issue with school directors. The goal was to identify more than 250 students needing extra support classes.

Education and MHPSS-in-schools activities are made possible thanks to support from Education Cannot Wait's First-Emergency Response Grant to the Central African Republic, which is part of their support for the Sudan Situation.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

This week, efforts to improve sanitation conditions in Korsi continued. Twenty new emergency latrines and twenty emergency showers were built, bringing the total number of usable emergency latrines to 224 and 222 emergency showers. The ratio is now 57 people per latrine and shower, compared to 70 last week.

Hygiene and sanitation promotion activities continue in Korsi, Birao. This week, refugee hygiene promoters trained by UNHCR's partner NOURRIR cleaned community spaces such as latrines,

showers, the health center and water distribution points. Door-to-door awareness campaigns reached 753 people who were educated on maintaining hygiene in households and community spaces. The water supply was 10.2 liters per person/day this week, compared to 10.4 liters per person/day last week.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

This week, NOURRIR constructed 43 new emergency shelters, bringing the number of operational and habitable shelters in Korsi to 1,746.

Food security

This week in Korsi, NOURRIR distributed 5,995 hot meals with food donated by WFP and 5,944 breakfasts with food donated by UNHCR.

Health and Nutrition

This week, NOURRIR and IMC completed 583 medical consultations at the Korsi health centre, focusing on common health issues and maternal healthcare. The consultations benefitted 48 host community members and 535 Sudanese refugees living in Korsi. Since January 2024, 15,446 medical consultations have been carried out in Korsi.

The medical team conducted nutritional screening on children and pregnant and lactating women. Sixteen cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and five severe acute malnutrition (SAM) were recorded, affecting children aged 06 to 59 months. Since January 2024, 1,018 children suffering from MAM and 72 children suffering from SAM have been treated.

During the week, 10 pregnant women were vaccinated against tetanus, bringing the total to 97 since the beginning of the year. In addition, four children received multi-antigen vaccines. Since January, 157 children have received the multi-antigen vaccine.

Response Plans and Funding Situation

Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP) – January – December 2024

- On 7 February, UNHCR and 81 organizations launched the [Regional Refugee Response Plan](#), with an appeal for **USD 46.2 million for the Central African Republic (CAR)** to provide essential aid and protection to 71,176 people in need, **including 39,876 refugees** fleeing the ongoing conflict in Sudan by the end of 2024. As of 29 May, the funding for the CAR remains some USD 3.7 million or **8%** of the requirements.

UNHCR Supplementary Appeal – January - December 2024

- UNHCR's total financial requirement for the 2024 [Sudan Emergency Supplementary Appeal](#) – in Sudan and neighboring countries – amounts to **USD 988.1 million**. As of 31 May, the total available funding for the appeal is **16%** of the funding requirements.

Resources

- UNHCR dashboard: [Sudan Situation: One year on](#)
- Data story: [Sudan: One year of spiralling conflict and displacement](#)
- [End of Year Report Sudan Regional RRP 2023](#)
- 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 Global Focus Sudan Operation page](#)
- [UNHCR Sudan Emergency website](#)

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