

Sudan

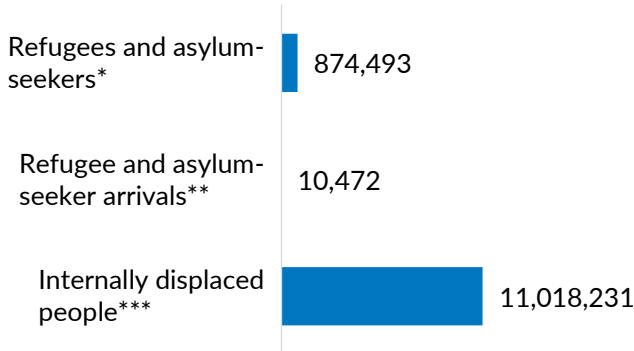
October 2024

The conflict in Sudan has led to **the world's largest displacement crisis**. Over **11 million people** are internally displaced in Sudan of whom **8.3 million** are displaced since April 2023. Another **2.3 million people** have sought safety in neighbouring countries.

Sudan hosts close to **875,000 refugees and asylum-seekers**, many of whom have faced multiple displacements due to the conflict. Despite the conflict, **close to 10,500 people** have sought international protection in Sudan since January 2024.

Half of Sudan's population, over **25 million people, are food insecure** with 800,000 at critical levels. Food insecurity, fuel shortages, flooding and a cholera outbreak are causing the situation to deteriorate further.

FORCIBLY DISPLACED POPULATION



Sources:

*UNHCR ProGres September 2024

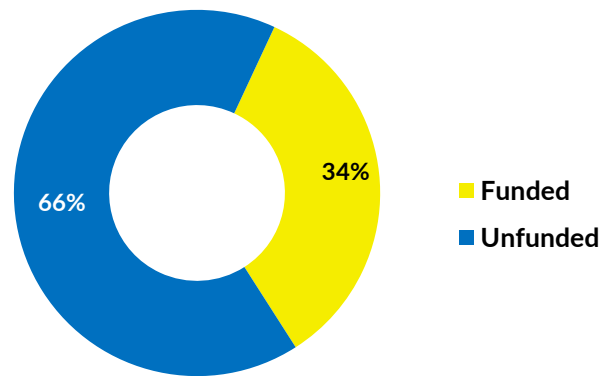
**UNHCR (Arrivals January – October 2024)

*** IOM DTM Sudan Mobility Update (10) as at 22 October 2024 including pre-April 2023 caseload (<https://dtm.iom.int/reports/dtm-sudan-mobility-update-10>)

FUNDING (AS OF OCTOBER 2024)

USD 424 million

requested for the Sudan Operation in 2024



A young boy stands in front of his family's tent in Gedaref State after fleeing recent violence in Al Jazirah. ©UNHCR/A. Nasrullah



Operational Context

In October 2024, the conflict escalated once more in Al Jazirah State displacing and over 130,000 people in only a few days into neighbouring Kassala, Gedaref and River Nile States. Grave violations of International Humanitarian Law were reported including the indiscriminate killing of civilians and violence against women and children. Initial assessments show a high level of trauma and psychological distress among the forcibly displaced who have witness atrocities, the majority of whom are women, children and older people. By **end-October 2024, over 11 million people** were internally displaced in Sudan, of whom close to 3 million were displaced prior to April 2023. Another **2.3 million people have sought safety in neighbouring countries**.

Between June and September 2024, UNHCR conducted a **survey for the South Sudanese refugees** as part of a regional initiative to gather quality data and evidence to inform solutions programming for this particular refugee group. The final **survey covered 1,910 households** of whom some 68% were female head of household. Key findings showed that the vast majority **fled South Sudan owing to general violence (45%)** or attacks on their villages or communities (43%) with very few citing absence of livelihood options, crop failure or a search for better conditions. Similarly almost **half (49%) of the interviewed households cited have no intention** to return in the near future with about 12% still undecided. Of those citing a wish to return to South Sudan (39%), the majority households could consider this within the next three months followed by those considering return in the next four to 12 months. The results of this survey in all countries hosting South Sudanese refugees is being aggregated for a comprehensive outlook for durable solutions planning in the region.

Under the Inter-agency Standing Committee Framework for IDP emergencies, UNHCR leads the Protection, Shelter and Non-food Items and Camp Coordination and Camp Management Clusters at national and sub-national level in Sudan. UNHCR leads the inter-agency refugee response with the Commission of Refugees (COR) to address the protection and assistance needs of refugees and asylum-seekers in Sudan.

End-October 2024, UNHCR had **82% of its 424-strong workforce based inside Sudan**. The others are either working from the Chad, South Sudan and Nairobi Support Hubs or from other locations for a variety of reasons like footprint reduction or inaccessibility due to the conflict. UNHCR has **12 operational offices in Sudan and two cross-border offices** in Farchana, Chad and Renk, South Sudan. Five offices in Sudan are either temporarily or permanently closed due to inaccessibility. UNHCR is working within the UN common system to establish presence in Hubs in key hard-to-reach areas across the country.

Achievements



PROTECTION

- Throughout October, community-based protection networks (CBPN) and key informants in the Darfur region reported **incidents of farm destruction and impeded access to farmland** which has led to disputes between nomadic pastoralists and local farmers and severely affecting the food security and civilian protection situation. In West Kordofan State, to address disputes during the harvest season, authorities in El Nuhud formed a legal committee chaired by the senior prosecutor, which is expected to address disputes between refugees and local host community farmers. Further, CBPNs in North Darfur State have reported **a lack of safe passage for civilians from areas of active fighting and continued incidents of violence**, including over 20 reported cases of rape. Three CBPNs comprising 55 members in Otash, Deriag, and Gerida IDP camps in South Darfur received **refresher training on case identification, referral pathways, and the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse**.
- In Karari, Khartoum State, UNHCRs partner **trained ten community outreach volunteers** from IDP communities on child protection and mental health issues to support improved communication and information sharing. It is expected these volunteers will also help communities identify critical protection and assistance needs requiring support from UNHCR and other partners working in the area.
- UNHCRs partner conducted **group psychosocial support activities for over 500 people** at the Zalingei multi-purpose community centre (MPCC), Central Darfur. The sessions focused on how to identify and manage emotions, learning healthy stress management techniques, and practicing breathing exercises. In addition, individual psycho-social support and counselling sessions are provided on as needed. Also, about 160 community members were informed of the available psycho-social services available at the Zalingei MPCC.
- During October 2024, UNHCRs partners in South and East Darfur and West Kordofan provided **targeted assistance to more than 800 refugees and IDPs** with specific protection concerns. The assistance includes supplementary food such as flour, sugar, cooking oil, and rice, or non-food items such as plastic sheets and jerry cans for water collection.
- In Kadugli, South Kordofan State, UNHCRs partner held an **awareness-raising session for 15 social workers, refugee volunteers, the authorities and humanitarian organisation staff** on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse and available reporting mechanisms.
- Also in October, UNHCR and its partners **rehabilitated two MPCCs in Al-Banjadeed and Al-Gasam IDP gathering sites, Blue Nile State** where communities can gather and access services and assistance. The MPCCs are fully managed by the community members, enable equitable access to assistance and services and strengthens social cohesion between communities in areas of displacement.

- In Wadi Halfa, Northern State, **UNHCRs partners have monitored some 1,400 IDPs and host community members** to identify the critical needs for protection services and assistance making referrals and providing counselling where needed. The IDPs reported assistance **needs in civil documentation, livelihoods, education, health, WASH, and access to legal aid services**. Also, UNHCRs partner monitored ten IDP gathering sites where over 50 children with disabilities and close to 400 people needing mental health and psychosocial support were referred to specialised partners for targeted assistance and support.
- UNHCRs partner conducted four **awareness raising sessions** for about 250 IDPs and host community members **on the risks of irregular movement** in Wadi Halfa, Northern State. The sessions aimed at raising awareness among IDPs given the prevalent of human smuggling and trafficking in the area.



Registration of Ethiopian refugees at Um Rakuba Camp, Gedaref State. ©UNHCR/A. Nasrullah



Registration and Documentation

- As the rainy season in Sudan comes to an end, **UNHCR and the Commission of Refugees (COR) registration teams are scaling up their presence** for the anticipated increase in the number of refugees and asylum-seekers presenting themselves for registration. Annual rains, flooding and impassable roads traditionally people from accessing registration or transit centres. In White Nile State for example, the western side of the state, hosting seven camps, is not accessible in the rainy season. As part of the scale-up, UNHCR will train Blue Nile State registration teams in early November and assessments in River Nile and Northern State are being finalised to determine the registration needs of refugees and asylum-seekers who have moved there.

- In October 2024, close to **1,000 new asylum claims were submitted** to COR and UNHCR in Kassala, White Nile, Red Sea and Kordofan States and close to **2,600 refugees and asylum-seekers were registered** in Kassala, Gedaref, Khartoum and White Nile States during October the majority South Sudanese, followed by Eritrean and Ethiopians. It must be noted that most of the South Sudanese have not newly arrived in Sudan but have recently presented themselves for registration following the deteriorating security and protection environment. Also, some **7,300 refugees** in Gedaref, Khartoum, Kassala and Red Sea States **were verified** and their details updated an almost 10,000 refugees received update documentation in Gedaref, Khartoum, Kassala, Red Sea, and White Nile States.
- Since August 2024, when registration resumed in **Khartoum State, almost 1,600 refugees and asylum-seekers** presented themselves for **registration, 5,000 refugees** were **verified** and over **2,000 received refugee ID cards**.
- UNHCR has noted over **258,000 secondary internal movements of refugees and asylum-seekers** within the country since the conflict began in April 2023. Of this number White Nile State has received the majority of secondary movers at 79% followed by Red Sea and Gedaref States.



Resettlement

- In October, **two cases comprising six Ethiopian and Eritrean refugees departed** on resettlement to Canada. Since January 2024, over 80 cases comprising 273 refugees have departed on resettlement. Also, UNHCR counselled and provided resettlement case status feedback was provided both to some 150 cases comprising over 730 refugees during October.



Child Protection

- In Khartoum State, UNHCRs partner identified **16 children in need of specialised protection services** and assistance of whom four were referred to Al Naw hospital for mental health and psycho-social support. Two venues to establish child-friendly spaces were identified at IDP gathering sites in Karari, Khartoum State and rehabilitation works have begun to make them operational. During protection monitoring in Karari, mothers highlighted a growing concern of addiction among youth and requested targeted information and awareness raising for this group.
- Caseworkers monitored the situation of 145 unaccompanied and separated refugee children in Kario camp and Adila settlement, East Darfur State providing information on child rights and promote good hygiene practices among children and their caregivers. Community-based protection networks across Blue Nile State conducted **awareness raising sessions on the importance of education, child rights, violence against children**, child labour and implications of early marriage to almost 500 refugees and internally displaced people during October.

- In El Meriam West Kordofan State, UNHCR partner's caseworkers identified **15 South Sudanese refugee children who were separated** from their families. Best interest determination procedures were undertaken to enable the partner to provide necessary needs-based assistance, continue case management services and refer them for additional assistance and services. Also, UNHCRs partner identified **14 refugee children at risk in Blue Nile State**, conducted best interest assessments and provided psycho-social counselling. Eight refugee children received targeted assistance like school materials to address their specific protection concerns.
- During October, over **200 children participated in sports and recreational activities** organised at child friendly spaces in Blue Nile State and over 1,300 refugee and IDP children in East, North, Central and West Darfur States attended recreational and group psycho-social sessions for. These activities include storytelling, sports, painting and aimed at promoting their emotional well-being and provide a safe space for them to express themselves.



Gender-based Violence

- UNHCRs partners have undertaken several **virtual focus group discussions with refugee women in Al Lait, North Darfur State to identify protection needs and concerns**. The women have revealed that sexual and gender-based violence incidents are underreported, medicines are in short supply and there is overall insufficient capacity to provide psychosocial support to survivors.
- In Khartoum State, UNHCRs partner organised **four awareness-raising sessions for some 300 IDPs at the two gathering sites in Karari** covering gender-based violence, child protection and mental health issues. Similar sessions were held at IDP gathering sites in Blue Nile State for some 400 internally displaced people and 900 IDP women, men, and girls in East, Central and West Darfur States.
- UNHCR conducted an **online GBV case management refresher training sessions** for 40 GBV operational partner staff and case workers to strengthen their capacities to deliver better quality GBV responses. The training focused on improving GBV case documentation and data protection using standard tools. UNHCR also held a **five-day training for over 20 partner personnel** in Zalingei, Central Darfur covering topics on **conflict-related sexual violence, GBV, PSEA, and psychosocial support** for survivors to enhance reporting, response, referral pathways and support. In El Meriam, West Kordofan, over 20 community-based protection network members also participated in similar awareness raising sessions, aimed to build and strengthen the capacity of CBPNs to prevent and respond to GBV cases, as well as raise awareness among their community on GBV.



Legal Assistance

- During October, UNHCRs partner provided over 700 forcibly displaced people with a range of legal aid services such as legal representation and counselling. For example, **legal aid services were provided to over 40 refugees** in Karari, Khartoum State. In addition, monitoring visits to courts, detention centres, and police stations in Karari took place which highlighted the need for documentation among detainees and will be addressed with the scaled-up registration activities. In North, South, and East Darfur, and Kordofan States about **200 refugees received legal aid services such as counselling, representation in courts**. In **Blue Nile State**, over 40 **internally displaced people** living in Ar Rusayris, Banjadeed, Wad al Mahi and Damazine gathering sites **received legal assistance** on civil documentation, criminal and personal law issues. Since the start of the year, some 11,000 people have been supported with legal assistance.
- Also, UNHCRs partner conducted awareness raising sessions targeting refugee communities reaching more than 500 people across the country. In East Darfur State, UNHCRs partner organised a workshop in Ed Daein for 40 refugee community leaders and Sultans aimed at **strengthening their understanding of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, relevant legal frameworks** to support them to lawfully address community concerns. In Blue Nile State, a workshop was held for 25 government officials on civil and criminal law and procedures, rights and obligations of refugees, asylum-seekers and IDPs, emphasizing on the need for facilitation of issuance and re-issuance of documentations for IDPs. In Port Sudan, Red Sea State, a workshop for government officials took place in October.
- In Kordofan States, UNHCRs partner and the Commission of Refugees launched the third **awareness and sensitization campaign** targeting South Sudanese refugees and asylum-seekers in various locations in El Fula locality **on maintaining the civilian character of asylum** and not engaging in the conflict. Also, UNHCRs partner provided legal assistance and **legal counselling to about 200 forcibly displaced people** in Wadi Halfa, Dongola, and Al Dabbah localities, Northern State.



CASH-BASED ASSISTANCE

- From January to October 2024, UNHCR and partners have provided some **17,400 refugee and IDP households across Sudan with multi-purpose and sector-specific cash assistance** to meet their basic needs. UNHCR provides to vulnerable forcibly displaced people based on agreed criteria and in line with cash working group guidelines. **In October alone**, UNHCR and partners distributed cash assistance **to close to 3,000 households** comprising more than 8,600 individuals across Sudan.
- For example, UNHCR and partners distributed protection cash assistance of **USD 180 to more than 230 deportees in Northern State** to support their immediate protection and basic needs upon return to Sudan. Since January **over 3,300 forcibly displaced people** in River Nile, White Nile, the Darfur, Kordofan and Red Sea States **received cash assistance** to address their specific protection needs, some of whom were also affected by flooding during September.

- Due to supply chain disruptions due to the conflict, UNHCR and partners have reconsidered the in-kind delivery modality for non-food items in the Kordofan States. In October, some **1,500 households in North and South Kordofan States received cash for non-food items**, a one-off payment in Sudanese pounds equivalent to USD 142 per household. Since the beginning of the year more than 3,500 households in North and South Kordofan have benefitted from the cash for non-food items programme.



A refugee university student in Port Sudan receives cash assistance to support her education. ©UNHCR/A. Nasrullah



EDUCATION

- In Town 6, Blue Nile State, community-based protection networks held awareness raising sessions on the importance of school attendance for some 200 internally displaced women, men and children.
- Also in October, **70 university students received cash assistance** to support their university education. Each student receives a one-off payment of USD 262 to cover expenses and sundries for four months.



HEALTH AND NUTRITION

- During October, **27 new cases of cholera were reported in various refugee camps**, bringing the cumulative total up to 400 cases and nine deaths among refugees since the outbreak started in August 2024. By end-October, all refugees in Girba and Kilo 26 Camps in Kassala State received oral cholera vaccination from the Ministry of Health with support from WHO. Since the last month, a cholera outbreak has been reported in White Nile State.
- In October an outbreak of **acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) was reported in Gedaref State** while the conjunctivitis outbreak persisted in East, North and Central Darfur among refugees and asylum-seekers. In Gedaref State refugee camps, close to 100 cases of AWD were reported and treated by health partners while UNHCRs implementing partner continued risk communication and community engagement on good health practices. Also in October, some 620 cases of conjunctivitis were reported and treated among refugees in Darfur States bringing the cumulative number to over 3,800 cases among refugees since the onset of the outbreak. The conjunctivitis response in Darfur is implemented through UNHCR partnership agreement with the Ministry of Health.
- During October **some 58,700 outpatient consultations** took place in refugee camp and settlements health care facilities in Kassala, Gedaref, Blue Nile, East Darfur and Kordofan States. Health care facilities are open to refugees, asylum-seekers and host community members alike although October saw a **significant decrease in host community consultations** (18%) when compared with the previous two months (36%). Malaria is still the leading ailment in all locations representing 38% of consultations, a slight increase from September, followed by upper and lower respiratory tract infections. It has also been noted that the number of pregnant women attending antenatal care at health care facilities has decreased from 3,100 in September to 2,800 in October. This negative trend could be attributed to several reasons such as the lack of medicines and intermittent service provision particularly in the Darfur and Kordofan States.
- Specialized medical treatment for patients requiring **mental health and psychosocial treatment** is provided at selected health facilities in Kassala State. In October, **nine new patients were referred** in comparison with close to 400 during September. Similarly the number of re-visits declined in October from over 880 in September to just under 150 in October.
- In Khartoum State, protection monitoring of the population identified over 20 refugees and host community members in need of mental health and psychosocial assistance who were referred to Al Naw Hospital in line with agreements with the authorities.



LIVELIHOOD

- In Blue Nile State, **70 refugees and host community members** completed a two-week sewing workshop comprising theoretical and practical training to support their livelihood aspirations. Also, in Baw town, Bulung, Abiguo and Town 7, UNHCR and its partner held **brick-making training for some 120 refugee returnees, IDPs and host community** members comprising technical guidance and provision of start-up materials to start production.

NFI**NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI)**

- During October, UNHCR and its partners distributed non-food items (NFI), cash and in-kind, to over **4,000 IDP households** comprising over 20,150 people in Gedaref, Kassala, Northern, South Kordofan, South Darfur, and West Darfur States. For example, close to 600 flood-affected families in Wadi Halfa, Northern State received non-food items kits which include basic and essential items.
- Since January 2024, over **25,300 IDP and host community households received NFI** assistance from UNHCR and its partners in 14 states. This includes cash assistance for NFIs to some 1,500 households in South and North Kordofan States.



Over 250 displaced Sudanese families in Al Rabwa displacement site in Gedaref town, Gedaref State, received essential relief items provided by UNHCR. ©UNHCR/A. Nasrullah



SHELTER

- In Kassala State, UNHCR and its partners provided **emergency shelter assistance** to some **890 IDP households** comprising over 4,450 people. This includes the pitching of over 550 tents for IDPs displaced by the recent conflict in Sennar State. Another 270 tents were installed in Red Sea State, while in Gedaref State close to **70 households received cash for shelter**. In the Al Buhayra neighbourhood in El Geneina, West Darfur State 250 households affected by flooding received plastic sheets to strengthen their shelters.
- Since January 2024, UNHCR and its partners have supported **5,307 IDP households** (26,535 individuals) with emergency shelter assistance across Gedaref, Kassala, Red Sea, River Nile, and White Nile states. This assistance included the provision of tents, cash for shelter, of these, 1,922 households in Gedaref and River Nile received cash-based shelter assistance.



WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

- UNHCR and its partners provide **safe drinking water** in refugee camps and settlements across Sudan to over **680,000 forcibly displaced and surrounding hosting communities**. For example, in East Darfur State, UNHCR's partner operates and maintains two water yards in Abu Jabrah and Abu Matariq ensuring regular water treatment and chlorination. Also, two hand pumps were rehabilitated in Um Shalaya refugee camp, Central Darfur improving the water supply to both refugees and host communities in the area.
- Throughout October, over **300 latrines were desludged and disinfected** in eastern Sudan and Darfur States while close to 200 latrines were rehabilitated in White Nile and East Darfur States. Increasing the number of functioning latrines through cleaning and rehabilitation improves the overall sanitation conditions in camps, especially important to avoid disease outbreaks such as cholera and other water-borne diseases.
- To encourage better hygiene practices, hygiene promoters in camps hold individual and group awareness-raising sessions and community clean-up campaigns. During October, some 100,000 refugees, asylum-seekers and host community members were reached in refugee camps and settlements.



REFUGEE CONSULTATION FORUM

- The Refugee Coordination Forum (RCF) is an inter-agency forum led by UNHCR together with the Commission for Refugees which is the Government of Sudan's body responsible for refugee affairs to coordinate the refugee response in the country. During October the planning process for the 2025 Sudan Country Refugee Response Plan commenced with partner consultations, validating planning scenarios, strategic objectives, timelines, and discussing key findings from the 2024 Multi-Sector Needs Assessment, the latter which took place during August and September. Sector-specific discussions followed to define the framework to align sector responses, address cross-cutting themes and define resource requirements to address the most urgent needs of refugees across Sudan.



TRI-CLUSTER ACHIEVEMENTS

- During October, the 2025 Sudan Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan was finalised. As lead agency of the Protection, Shelter/Non-food Items and CCCM Clusters, UNHCR has submitted the respective projected people in need, target population and funding requirements. In 2025, it is projected that some 30.4 million people will be in need of humanitarian assistance, a 22% increase from 2024.
- The Protection Cluster started the [review its draft cluster strategy](#) soliciting feedback from AoRs at the national level before initiating consultations at the sub-national level. Also, the Protection Cluster, Cash Working Group, Cash Consortium of Sudan and key protection partners convened to discuss the [use of cash for protection outcomes](#) with the aim of developing a guidance note in the coming months.
- By end-October 2024, some [27 shelter and NFI cluster partners](#) provided various forms of assistance to over [1 million Sudanese and over 320,000 refugees in all 18 states](#). Persistent security and access issues including rain-damaged infrastructure have affected the movement of supplies and delivery of humanitarian assistance into and within the Darfur and Kordofan regions exacerbating hardships. Also access to people affected by the collapse of the Arbaat Dam and heavy rainfall in Red Sea state have resulted in less timely distributions of assistance.
- During October, CCCM partners continued [assessing gathering sites](#) in multiple locations, identifying [critical needs to share with other clusters for assistance](#). Site management training sessions were held aimed at strengthening the capacity of site committees and volunteers to identify needs in sites. For example, in White Nile State, community engagement enabled forcibly displaced people to voice concerns regarding the high cost of medicines and other gaps in accessing health care.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

As of October 2024

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