

Central African Republic (CAR) – SUDAN SITUATION

30 November 2024



Sudanese refugees, local community unite to end violence against women and girls in Birao – ©UNHCR Stella Fatime

Highlights

- The security situation in refugee-hosting areas across Vakaga, Bamingui-Bangoran, Haute Kotto, Ouaka, Mbomou, and Haute Mbomou remains highly unstable due to non-state armed groups, with reports of ongoing human rights abuses.
- This week, 345 refugees from 122 households arrived in Korsi, Birao, Vakaga prefecture—a sharp increase compared to earlier weeks. November's weekly average of 198 arrivals is more than three times the October average of 63, nearly four times the September average of 53, and seven times the August average of 27 arrivals per week. Improved road conditions post-rainy season and the ongoing conflict in Sudan drive this surge.
- UNHCR provided core relief items to 492 refugees (169 households) in Korsi and distributed five tonnes of dry food with WFP. In Mbrès, Bamingui-Bangoran prefecture, 32 Sudanese refugees and 13 vulnerable individuals from host communities received non-food items, such as mats, 10L buckets, loincloths, and blankets.
- UNHCR and its financial partner, Ecobank, distributed multi-purpose cash assistance to 773 Sudanese refugee households and 21 Central African returnee households in Bria and Ouandja Kotto, with 431 households scheduled for next week. This marks the first such assistance in previously hard-to-reach areas.
- UNHCR's partners, NOURRIR and International Medical Corps (IMC), under the supervision of WHO and the Vakaga Health District, conducted 745 medical consultations in Korsi, with 90 per cent of consultations serving refugees and 10 per cent of consultations serving host communities. The 89 per cent increase from last week reflects the health needs of new arrivals.

Population Movements and Registration

This week, the Commission Nationale pour les Réfugiés (CNR) and UNHCR biometrically registered 294 newly arrived Sudanese refugees (from 9 households) in Korsi, bringing the total in the district to 15,798 individuals (6,765 households), Women and girls make up 54 per cent, and children 57 per cent. In Nana-Gribizi prefecture, specifically Mbrès sub-prefecture, the CNR, UNHCR, and INTERSOS registered 32 refugees (17 households), including one previously registered refugee in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Protection

46 protection monitoring missions were carried out in Korsi and Birao to evaluate the security situation, document protection incidents, and human rights violations, and assess the needs of newly arrived households. Tailored psychosocial and protection referrals were provided, and Project 21 (P21)¹ surveys were carried out to enhance their outreach activities.

UNHCR's partner INTERSOS documented 36 protection incidents in Vakaga prefecture, a decrease from the 52 incidents reported the previous week. Most reported incidents involved violations of property rights, including extortion, theft, and illegal taxation, primarily by non-state armed groups. Local men remain particularly vulnerable as they travel between major towns, exposing them to risks of banditry and attacks by armed groups.

INTEROSOS organized three awareness-raising sessions in Korsi, focusing on the feedback/complaint management mechanism. The sessions aimed to strengthen communication, address refugee concerns, and encourage greater participation of refugees in humanitarian activities. A total of 411 people attended.

Gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response

During the reporting week, UNHCR's partner INTERSOS held three community-based awareness sessions in the Korsi safe space. These sessions engaged refugees and host community members and focused on raising awareness about the consequences of physical aggression.

In Korsi, there has been a slight decrease in the disclosed cases of GBV this week. However, domestic violence remains a concern, accounting for the majority of cases. This is largely due to unequal power dynamics within couples and varying social and economic pressures. Survivors of GBV received assistance from INTERSOS, including individual counseling, psychosocial support, medical and legal referrals, and dignity kits.

As part of the rollout of the Engaging Men through Accountable Practice (EMAP) programme, a focus group discussion was held in Korsi and within the host community to deepen understanding of gender dynamics.

In the Bamingui-Bangoran prefecture, six group counseling sessions were held with Sudanese refugees from Ndélé, Zobossinda, Koundi, and Akroussoulbak. These sessions highlighted the 'Importance of Dignity Kits,' raising awareness among girls about menstrual hygiene and the consequences of early marriage. Discussions revealed that early and forced marriage is influenced by several factors, including limited parental support for education, children's lack of agency, alcohol and drug abuse, and domestic violence. Survivors of GBV in Bamingui-Bangoran prefecture received assistance, including medical referrals and cash support to cover medical expenses.

Water, Shelter, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

This week, 11 new emergency latrines were constructed, bringing the total for 2024 to 188. However, the current ratios of 63 people per latrine and 59 people per shower exceed the emergency standard of 50 per unit.

Water supply challenges persist due to a borehole breakdown, generator disruptions, and high water demands for durable shelter construction. As a result, the daily drinking water supply has dropped to 70,000 liters, reducing the per-person average from 5.88 liters to 5 liters—well below the Sphere standard of 15 liters per person per day.

UNHCR's partner, NOURRIR, and community members continue efforts to improve sanitation and hygiene in Korsi. Hygiene promoters conducted focus group discussions and door-to-door awareness sessions, reaching 2,315 people (1,715 households). Topics covered included fire prevention near shelters, latrine hygiene, risks of open defecation, jerry can cleaning, water point maintenance, and protecting children from contaminated water.

The NGO Triangle Generation Humanitaire (TGF), a UNICEF partner, completed the construction of two water towers in Korsi this week to address water shortages. Additionally, four refuse pits were completed by refugees under the supervision of CNR, UNHCR, and NOURRIR, and are now in use in Korsi.

Education

This week, 108 newly arrived Sudanese refugees enrolled in primary schools in Birao. To date, 1,123 refugee students have enrolled in the two primary schools in Birao (Nguerendomo and Préfecturale), reflecting a 20 per cent increase compared to the end of the 2023/2024 school year and a fourfold rise since the start of the previous school year.

185 Sudanese refugees, including 89 girls, received school kits from UNHCR's partner INTERSOS this week at Nguerendomo school. The kits included backpacks, notebooks, pens, pencils, crayons, erasers, and personal chalkboards with chalk. Additionally, ten teachers received pedagogical kits with teaching tools, markers, notebooks, chalk, and attendance registers.

In Korsi, two awareness-raising sessions engaged 57 adolescents, focusing on tertiary education opportunities and secondary-level French language courses.

Recreational, educational, and psychosocial activities continue at the child-friendly space in Korsi, with 189 children participating in life skills classes and literacy sessions this week.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

This week, 20 emergency shelters were constructed, bringing the total number of shelters built this year to 570. In total, there are now 1,893 emergency shelters in Korsi.

Food Security

UNHCR's partners, WFP and Plan International, distributed food to 1,484 Sudanese refugees from 392 households in Zobossinda, Koundi, and Akoursoulbak, in Bamingui-Bangoran prefecture.

Health and Nutrition

This week, out of the 745 medical consultations conducted in Korsi, around 29 per cent were for children aged 0-59 months. The leading illnesses included malaria (301 cases, 40 per cent), acute respiratory infections (222 cases, 30 per cent), and intestinal parasitosis (145 cases, 19 per cent). All patients received outpatient care. So far in 2024, 34,142 consultations have been conducted, with 10 per cent for host communities.

In Korsi, 52 Sudanese women received antenatal consultations this week, bringing the 2024 total to 1,342. Postnatal consultations now total 279, gynecological consultations 1,770, and family planning services (Jadel implant) 286 for this year.

Eight patients, including an abandoned newborn, were referred from Korsi to Birao District Hospital, raising the referral total for 2024 to 672.

Response Plans and Funding Situation

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

- On 07 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 30 November, the total funding for the CAR remained at some USD 16.2 million or **35%** 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 30 November, the total available funding for the appeal is **30%** 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](#)

Contacts:

Stella Fatime_Public Information Associate (fatime@unhcr.org);

Ying HU_Associate External Relations Officer (huyi@unhcr.org);

Gloria Ramazani_External Relations Officer (ramazang@unhcr.org).

Follow us on our [X \(twitter.com\) UNHCR Centrafrique | Bangui | Facebook](#)