

## SUDAN SITUATION

5 – 11 January 2025

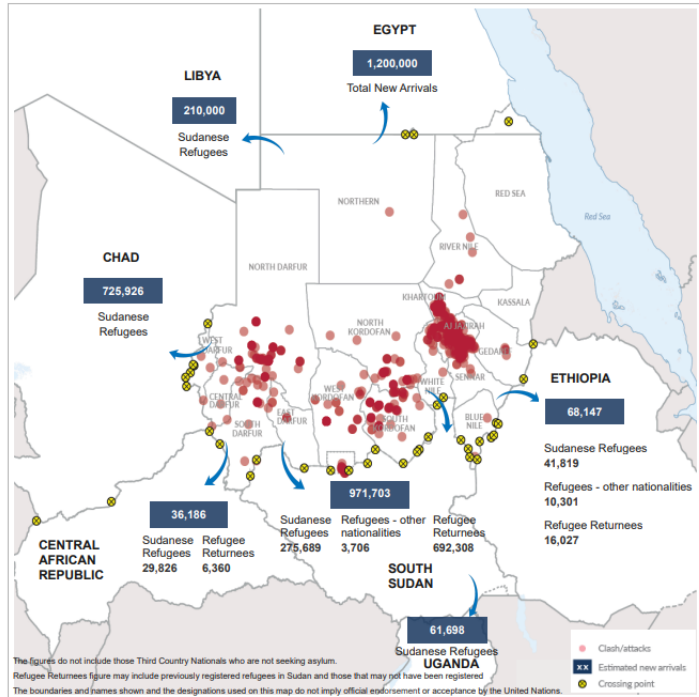
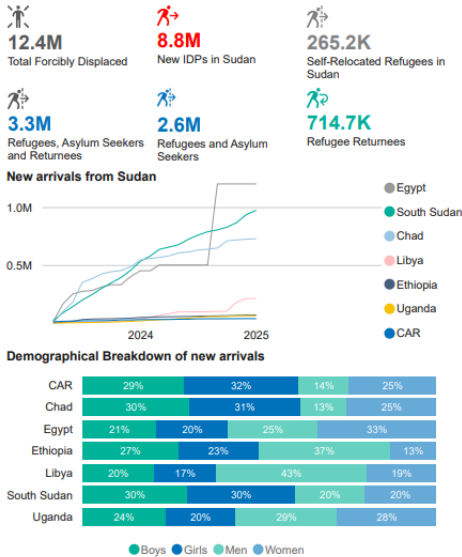


The recent surge in arrivals in Renk, South Sudan, stems from escalating fighting in Sudan. UNHCR and its partners like IOM are relocating those forced to flee their homes to Aweil and Ajoung Thok in Jamjang. © UNHCR/Reason Moses Runyanga

### Highlights

- The conflict in Sudan continues unabated, 21 months on, with tens of thousands of lives lost, over 12 million people displaced, and the nation teetering on the edge of famine.
- In South Sudan, over 120,000 individuals have [arrived](#) in Renk County due to escalating violence in Sudan's White Nile, Sennar, and Blue Nile States since early December 2024. As of 11 January, daily arrivals still average 1,400 people, including those using informal border crossings. Many returnees and refugees are also crossing back into Sudan to gather food or seek medical treatment in nearby villages and towns, underscoring the fluid nature of these population movements. In response to the influx, critical sectors such as Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH), health, nutrition, and protection have been scaled up. However, resources are dwindling, and UNHCR and partners urgently need support to continue their response efforts, particularly in the communities that are newly hosting individuals arriving through informal crossings.
- In Chad, 113 refugee students at El Geneina University and 1,300 students at Abéché institutions received financial support from UNHCR and its partners to improve access to higher education. Additionally, three refugee groups in Abéché were supported with materials and funding to establish income-generating activities, creating livelihood opportunities for over 40 refugees and promoting integration in urban settings.

There are now 12.4 million forcibly displaced due to the outbreak of conflict in Sudan since April 2023, including 8.8 million internally and 3.3 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.



Sources: UNHCR & Government | Contact: dimaehag@unhcr.org

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## Situation and Operational Response

### SUDAN

#### Highlights

- The security situation in Sudan remains tense, with ongoing clashes reported across Khartoum, Al Jazirah, White Nile, Blue Nile, North Kordofan, and Darfur States. These conflicts continue to disrupt humanitarian efforts and worsen conditions for displaced and vulnerable populations.
- On 11 January, the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) entered and **regained** control of Wad Madani, the capital of Al Jazirah State, which has been under Rapid Support Forces (RSF) control since December 2023.

#### Population Movements and Registration

In South Darfur State, refugee leaders in Beileil camp reported the return of over 100 households who had previously fled the settlement. These families, who had sought refuge in various locations within East and South Darfur States, returned following the recent delivery of humanitarian assistance to the camp.

In North Darfur State, key informants revealed that more than 140 families from El Fasher crossed into Chad through the Tine border crossing. Meanwhile, families from Al Zorug village in North Darfur have been displaced by recent conflicts, relocating to Tarshana and Galala nomadic settlements in Kreneik locality, West Darfur State.

#### Protection

Protection monitoring conducted by partners, community networks, and local leaders across the Darfur States highlights a worsening protection situation in the region. In East Darfur State, the absence of security personnel in refugee camps has led to an increase in nighttime crimes in camps and settlements such as Kario, El Nimir, and El Ferdous. The surge in criminal activity across the Darfur States is attributed to rising unemployment, inflation, deteriorating living conditions, and a breakdown of law and order.

In Blue Nile State, four refugee shelters in Camp 6 were destroyed by fire during the reporting week. UNHCR will provide shelter and non-food items (NFIs) to support the affected families.

In North Darfur State, unexploded ordnance (UXO) tragically claimed the lives of three children and injured two others in the Abu Shouk IDP camp, in El Fasher. In response, UNHCR is coordinating with partners to implement mine-risk awareness programmes aimed at educating children and communities about the dangers of UXOs and encouraging safer behaviour.

During the reporting week, multi-purpose community centres (MPCCs) in River Nile, Central, East, and South Darfur States were utilized for various activities aimed at supporting displaced and host communities.

In Central Darfur State, UNHCR's partners conducted psychosocial support (PSS) sessions and recreational activities in Zalengei, benefiting over 450 IDPs and members of the host community. A community meeting was also facilitated to encourage dialogue and participation.

In East Darfur State, a partner organized entertainment and PSS sessions for 170 children at the El Nimir refugee camp MPCC, providing a safe space for emotional and social development.

In South Darfur State, 15 members of the Community-Based Protection Network (CBPN) were trained on child protection referral pathways in Kalma IDP camp, enhancing local capacity to address child protection concerns.

In North Darfur State, a partner conducted awareness sessions in Tawila IDP camps, training 200 participants in conflict resolution and mediation techniques to foster peaceful coexistence and resilience within the community.

In River Nile State, UNHCR's partner held three PSS sessions at the Al Shedinab MPCC for IDPs and host communities, reaching 120 participants. These sessions offered mental health support, stress management tools, and strategies to cope with trauma, empowering participants to better navigate challenges.

#### Legal

During the reporting period, UNHCR's partners conducted legal awareness sessions and provided counseling to approximately 40 IDPs across Blue Nile, East Darfur, North Darfur, and South Darfur States. These sessions focused on laws and regulations relevant to displaced populations, enhancing their understanding of their rights and available protections.

Additionally, partners carried out field visits and detention monitoring in Al Lait, North Darfur, and Damazine, Blue Nile States, to assess conditions and advocate for the rights of detained individuals.

#### **Health and Nutrition**

During the reporting period, nearly 2,020 outpatient consultations were conducted at primary healthcare facilities in refugee camps across Gedaref State. Among the patients, 44 per cent were treated for acute respiratory infections, followed by cases of malaria and diarrhea.

Additionally, approximately 170 mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) consultations were provided, addressing the psychological well-being of individuals in the region.

#### **Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)**

In Gedaref State, UNHCR pitched 50 tents to accommodate IDPs relocated from primary schools ahead of the planned school examinations. This brings the total number of tents pitched in the state this month to 220, providing essential support to IDPs displaced from schools.

During the reporting week in Blue Nile State, UNHCR's partner distributed non-food items (NFIs), including blankets, solar lamps, kitchen sets, and mats, to approximately 50 vulnerable IDP families. Additionally, nearly 40 tents were pitched to support displaced families. Over 30 refugee households received

emergency shelter kits containing local shelter materials and plastic sheets to support them in constructing their shelters.

### **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)**

In Gedaref State, nearly 20,000 refugees in the Tunaydbah refugee camp received soap distributed by UNHCR's partner. Additionally, more than 6,100 women and girls of reproductive age were provided with personal hygiene kits containing soap and sanitary napkins to support their hygiene needs.

In East Darfur State, UNHCR's partner completed the construction of 80 latrines in Adila, Abu Jabrah, and Abu Matariq refugee camps. To further promote hygiene and improve access, nearly 160 latrines were rehabilitated in these camps, benefiting refugee communities.

### **Site Mapping**

In River Nile State, UNHCR, in collaboration with the State Ministry of Social Welfare, identified 13 IDP gathering sites across five administrative units in the Ad Damar locality. These sites accommodate approximately 75,000 displaced individuals.

## **CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)**

### **Highlights**

- While refugee-hosting areas in Vakaga, Bamingui-Bangoran, Haute Kotto, Ouaka, Mbomou, and Haute Mbomou remain generally calm, the risk of security deterioration persists. In Bamingui-Bangoran, cross-border movements of non-state armed groups between CAR, Sudan, and Chad have been reported since the start of the year, increasing insecurity risks in the coming months.

### **Population Movements and Registration**

During the reporting week, 519 new refugees from 202 families arrived in Birao, located in the Vakaga prefecture. This number increased from 410 in the previous week. Korsi currently hosts a total of 17,645 Sudanese refugees from 7,474 families. Among these refugees, 54 per cent are women and girls, 46 per cent are men and boys, and 58 per cent are children.

The steady increase in new arrivals in Birao is driven by the onset of the dry season, the ongoing conflict in Sudan, and improved transportation options from the border. However, some refugees are forced to use unofficial and hazardous border crossings due to non-state armed groups in Sudan blocking their escape. These dangerous routes further underscore the growing vulnerability of refugees arriving in Birao.

The National Commission for Refugees (CNR) and UNHCR conducted biometric registration for 355 individuals from 136 families in Korsi during the reporting week. Among them, 47 individuals with specific needs were identified, including unaccompanied and separated children, women at risk, older persons, people with disabilities, and single parents.

### **Protection**

UNHCR established a protection monitoring mechanism through community structures in Vakaga prefecture together with the newly selected protection partner. During the reporting week, two protection incidents involving physical aggression against men were reported, linked to opportunistic bandits. These incidents highlight the urgent need for enhanced security measures for both host and refugee communities.

### **Gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response**

The refugee women's association in Korsi conducted an awareness-raising session on GBV prevention, sexual abuse, and harassment, using materials translated into Arabic. The session will continue next week to ensure all 30 association members are reached.

### **Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)**

UNICEF's partner, Triangle Génération Humanitaire (TGH), completed 132 latrines during the reporting week, bringing the total in Korsi to 393 (261 emergency and 132 semi-durable latrines). With 17,645 refugees, the ratio improved to 45 people per latrine, meeting the Sphere emergency standard (50 people/latrine) but falling short of the normal phase standard (20 people/latrine).



Due to a malfunctioning borehole, the daily water supply decreased from 85,000 litres (5.5 litres/person) to 70,000 litres (5 litres/person), significantly below the Sphere standard of 15 litres per person/day. Refugees are supplementing their needs by collecting water from host community water points near Korsi.

UNHCR's partner NOURRIR conducted awareness campaigns through focus groups, block-by-block visits, and door-to-door outreach, reaching 3,679 individuals from 2,976 families. Key topics included fire prevention around shelters, latrine hygiene, dangers of open defecation, jerrycan cleaning, water point maintenance, and protecting children from contaminated water.

### Shelter and Non-Food Items

On 6 January 2025, six fire incidents caused by a wildfire affected five Sudanese refugee families. In response, UNHCR, in collaboration with the CNR, provided tarpaulins to assist the families in constructing emergency shelters.

To meet the immediate needs of newly arrived refugees, UNHCR and WFP distributed 4.4 tons of dry food to 204 refugee families (549 individuals). Additionally, UNHCR provided 192 families (524 individuals) with core relief items, including mattresses, blankets, jerry cans, solar lamps, and cooking utensils.

### Durable Solutions

The AZIZA Foundation, a local NGO, organized an awareness session in Bamingui Bangoran prefecture to inform refugees about computer training and driving lessons available for Sudanese refugees. Of the 500 refugees who attended, 300 were women.

### Health and Nutrition

From 4 to 10 January 2025, medical teams from Comité de Secours et de Solidarité Internationale (CSSI) and International Medical Corps (IMC), under the coordination of the Vakaga Health District, carried out 824 curative consultations in Korsi. Of these, 89 consultations (11 per cent) were for the host population, while 735 (89 per cent) were for refugees, including 117 new arrivals (14 per cent). Among the patients, 250 children aged 0 to 59 months (30 per cent, including 112 girls and 138 boys) were treated. So far in 2025, a total of 1,123 consultations have been conducted, with 12 per cent serving host communities. The leading causes of illness remain malaria (327 cases, 40 per cent), acute respiratory infections (176 cases, 21 per cent), and intestinal parasitosis (84 cases, 10 per cent), with all patients receiving outpatient treatment.

During the same week, 42 forcibly displaced women received prenatal consultations, bringing the total to 60 to date in 2025. Three postnatal consultations were conducted, bringing the total to four so far this year, while 52 women underwent gynecological consultations, with a cumulative total of 68 to date. Thirteen women accessed family planning services, bringing the total to 18 to date. Additionally, two babies were delivered this week, resulting in three deliveries and three newborns reported so far in 2025.

In terms of nutrition, 250 children aged 6 to 59 months were screened during curative consultations between 4 and 10 January. Among them, 16 cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and two cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) were identified and treated. In total, 349 children have been screened in 2025, with 18 cases of MAM and three cases of SAM treated.

During the reporting week, 13 patients were referred from Korsi to Birao District Hospital, adding to the annual total of 17. Vaccination efforts included 22 pregnant women receiving tetanus vaccines and 12 children vaccinated with multi-antigen vaccines.

## CHAD

### Highlights

- The Commissioner of the Commission Nationale pour l'Accueil et la Réinsertion des Réfugiés et des Rapatriés (CNARR) has invited partners to collaborate with the Prefect, CNARR, and UNHCR to raise awareness among refugees about relocating to consolidated sites instead of the spontaneous Adré site near the border. He cited increased insecurity, prolonged occupation of

agricultural land with landowners requesting its return, and the need to maintain an acceptable distance of 50 km from the border for refugee sites as reasons for the initiative. This message aligns with the visit of the Governor of Ouaddaï and the commander of the Chad-Sudan joint force to Adré on 6 and 7 January. During their visit, the delegation emphasized the importance of relocation for better management and improved border security. For more details, please visit Chad's coordination tool [here](#).

### **Population Movements and Registration**

Between 6 and 12 January 2025, Chad received 1,972 new arrivals, bringing the total to 2,384 so far in 2025. Since the start of the conflict on 15 April 2023, a total of 725,923 Sudanese refugees have sought refuge in Chad. General violence and human rights abuses, including the forced conscription of children into fighting forces, remain the primary reasons for their flight.

From 7 to 10 January, a joint mission by UNHCR, CNARR, Association pour le Développement Economique et Social (ADES), African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD), Nirvana Association, and Chadian Red Cross (CRT) visited the Tine border crossing point. The mission facilitated the screening and pre-registration of new arrivals, pre-registering a total of 1,578 individuals (517 households).

### **Relocation**

A total of 482 refugees (144 households) were relocated from the Adré spontaneous site to the Dougui refugee site, and 14 individuals (5 households) were relocated to Abougoudam.

On 8 January, 577 new arrivals (191 households) were temporarily relocated from Tine to the Mile refugee site. This group is expected to be transferred to the new Koursigue refugee site once additional shelters are constructed.

### **Protection**

#### Child protection

On 11 January, UNHCR facilitated a capacity-building session in Guereda on "Civil Status: Issues and Challenges of Birth Registration." The session was attended by 64 participants from various sectors, including protection, justice, education, health, social work, and religious and community leaders. It aimed to enhance understanding of civil status issues, covering international, regional, and national standards, the process of issuing birth certificates for refugee and host community children, the importance of birth registration, and the risks of non-declaration. A presentation on the birth registration process was also included.

In Aboutengué, the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) organized a mobile hearing with the president of the Adré court and judicial staff to issue birth certificates to children outside the legal deadline through supplementary judgments. As a result, 320 refugee children in the Aboutengué refugee site received birth certificates.

### **Education**

At El Geneina University, 113 refugee students received 460,000 XAF (approximately 744 USD) each to support their educational and internship needs.

UNHCR, in partnership with Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS), provided 1,300 students at Adam Barka University, the Higher Normal School, and the National Institute of Science and Technology in Abéché with 460,000 XAF each. This initiative aims to improve access to higher education for young refugees and local Chadian students in eastern Chad, while also addressing migration risks in high-risk areas.

In Abéché, three refugee groups, comprising Central African and Sudanese refugees, received materials and financial support from UNHCR through its partner Association pour la Promotion des Libertés Fondamentales au Tchad (APLFT) to start income-generating activities. These initiatives include establishing two hairdressing salons and a tailoring workshop, creating livelihood opportunities for over 40 refugees, and fostering integration in urban settings.

### Health and Nutrition

During the reporting week, 336 children were vaccinated for all antigens combined, including 70 who were vaccinated against measles.

Since 30 December 2024, health centres in Bredjing and Tréguine, with support from refugee leaders and management committees, have been distributing nutritious food, including supplements and fortified cereals, to children aged 6 to 23 months, as well as pregnant and breastfeeding women. To date, 4,950 individuals in Bredjing and 3,700 in Tréguine have received assistance.

### Cash-Based Interventions (CBI)

WFP's cash distribution began in the Djabal refugee site on 7 January 2025, covering two months. A total of 8,185 individuals (2,283 households) received cash assistance at a rate of 16,000 XAF (approximately 26 USD) per person, distributed in two installments of 8,000 XAF for each 30 days.

In Tréguine, the Chadian Red Cross, in partnership with WFP, CNARR, and Express Union, completed cash-based food assistance distribution, supporting 2,321 households. Similarly, 4,075 households were assisted in Bredjing.

### Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

On 9 January, UNHCR and partners completed the distribution of core relief items to 5,283 new arrivals (1,890 households) in the Oure Cassoni refugee site.

In the Mile refugee site, 415 out of 600 shelters have been completed, with 268 already allocated to new arrivals.

Between 6 and 8 January, a total of 5,872 flood victims (971 households) in the Goz-Amir refugee site received core relief items.

## EGYPT

### Highlights

- In 2024, UNHCR supported 48 public schools in Giza, Alexandria, and Damietta through maintenance and training initiatives. These schools are part of the Instant Network Schools (INS) programme, led by UNHCR and the Vodafone Foundation, serving 63,100 students, of whom approximately 10 per cent are refugees. Each INS school is equipped with internet connectivity, a local content server, and a dedicated classroom featuring a projector, laptop, speaker system, and tablets for students. To expand the INS project, UNHCR is collaborating with the General Authority for Educational Buildings (GAEB) and International Computer and Communication Consultation Cairo (ICCC) to refurbish 22 additional classrooms in Sharqia (Greater Cairo). Solar panels are also being installed to provide sufficient energy for the classrooms.
- On 22 December 2024, UNHCR and the Bibliotheca Alexandrina held the closing ceremony of the "Sanctuary" project. The initiative supported 145 participants, including refugees from Sudan, other nationalities, and Egyptians, by enhancing their vocational and technical business skills. The training was tailored to meet local labour market demands, improving participants' living conditions, increasing their opportunities to establish and manage small businesses, and promoting social integration. Each participant received a toolkit to launch their business, and the three best business projects were awarded financial support.

### Population Movements and Registration

As of 12 January, UNHCR Egypt has provided registration appointments to 862,800 people forced to flee Sudan since the onset of the conflict in April 2023. Of these, UNHCR has registered 546,700 individuals (63 per cent) for assistance and protection. The majority of the newly registered population are Sudanese nationals (96 per cent), followed by Eritreans (2 per cent) and South Sudanese (2 per cent).

## Protection

### Community-based protection

During the reporting week, 3,700 refugees and asylum-seekers, including new arrivals from Sudan, received information on services, assistance, and procedures for reporting fraud and complaints through outreach community workers at UNHCR's Reception Centre in the 6th of October City, Greater Cairo. Additionally, UNHCR's partner Terre des Hommes (TdH) provided basic on-the-spot psychosocial support to 2,650 individuals, referring 17 cases for in-depth assessments and fast-tracking 116 for urgent assistance.

### Child Protection

On 29 and 30 December, UNHCR organized a workshop in Cairo on refugee protection and services, attended by 30 staff members from the national hotlines of the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM) and the National Council for Women (NCW). In 2025, follow-up workshops will focus on case studies, referral pathways, and improving coordination between UNHCR, NCCM, NCW, and other stakeholders. These sessions will also evaluate the service criteria provided by NCCM and NCW to identify and address gaps in coordination and service delivery.

### Legal and physical protection

During the reporting period, 320 individuals, including 280 Sudanese, received legal counselling through UNHCR and its partners. The sessions addressed issues such as early and late birth registration, filing legal reports, divorce, custody, and legal representation.

### Infoline

During the reporting week, UNHCR Egypt's Infoline responded to 8,000 inquiries. On average, over 3,000 individuals per day fleeing the conflict in Sudan secured registration appointments through the Infoline. Since the onset of the crisis, a total of 586,900 people have successfully scheduled appointments using this system.

## Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion

In the second half of December 2024, UNHCR supported Sudanese refugees in showcasing and selling their products at various livelihood events. From 12 to 21 December, UNHCR participated in the "TURATHNA Exhibition for Handicrafts and Heritage" in Cairo, featuring creations by 21 refugees and asylum-seekers in collaboration with three local social enterprises—Yadawee, Threads of Hope, and Samar Hakeem—under the [MADE51](#) initiative.

On 19 December, UNHCR and its partners hosted a refugee celebration event in Cairo to promote social cohesion. The event highlighted the exceptional talents of refugees through music, art, and craftsmanship, alongside displays of handmade goods and other products. These initiatives emphasized the resilience of refugees and their valuable contributions to the community.

## Health and Nutrition

During the reporting week, UNHCR conducted four training sessions for Mersal Foundation's newly recruited staff on refugee protection and UNHCR's operations in Egypt. Mersal's call center number has been widely shared within the refugee community, and its operators are now scheduling appointments for refugee patients in Cairo. UNHCR also participated in community meetings to explain recent changes and their impact on primary healthcare support for refugees. As UNHCR's new partner, Mersal will oversee primary healthcare services in Greater Cairo, including the provision of medications for chronic conditions.

## ETHIOPIA

### Highlights

- The security situation in the Amhara region remains volatile, though humanitarian operations are ongoing. While the Gondar-Metema highway remains open, risks of extortion, robberies, and harassment targeting UN convoys and public transport continue to pose significant concerns.
- The Galabat-Metema border point has been open since 22 October 2024, but government services such as immigration, visas, and customs have yet to resume due to vandalism and



damage to offices. Material support is urgently needed to restore these services. Cross-border movements have been reported in both directions.

- In the Benishangul Gumuz region, the security situation in Kurmuk Transit Centre, Ura, and Sherkole refugee sites remains calm and stable.

### Population Movement and Registration

In the Benishangul Gumuz region, 107 individuals from 37 households underwent household-level registration, including 17 individuals from 4 households who entered through the Gissan entry point. Since 15 April 2023, a total of 29,205 individuals have been registered at the household level.

In the Amhara region, household-level registration remains on hold at the Metema entry point due to the security situation. The cumulative total of individuals registered at the household level stands at 21,772 since the start of the conflict.

### Relocation

In the Benishangul Gumuz region, UNHCR, in coordination with the Refugees and Returnees Service (RRS) and other partners, relocated 326 individuals from 98 households from the Kurmuk Transit Centre to the Ura refugee site. An additional 122 individuals from 43 households spontaneously relocated during the reporting week, bringing the total number of refugees relocated to 10,224 individuals from 3,790 households.

In the Amhara region, UNHCR, RRS, and IOM plan to begin relocating 2,294 individuals from 1,115 households from the Metema Transit Centre to the Aftit site on 16 January. The relocation will occur in phases over the coming weeks.

### Protection

In the Amhara region, UNHCR and its partners conducted protection activities, including counseling, feedback, response, and referrals for 15 individuals. Additionally, UNHCR and the Refugees and Returnees Service (RRS) facilitated the election process for the Refugee Central Committee (RCC) at Aftit settlement, ensuring compliance with Accountability to Affected People (AAP) principles of participation, inclusion, communication, and transparency. The newly elected committee members will be announced to the community in the coming weeks.

In the Benishangul Gumuz region, protection counseling was provided at the Kurmuk Transit Centre and Ura refugee settlement.

### Gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response

In the Amhara region, UNHCR's partners, the Development and Inter-Church Aid Commission (DICAC) and Medical Teams International (MTI), provided GBV services in the Aftit settlement.

The protection team delivered essential information and psychosocial support, while several women and girls received personalized counseling to address emotional and psychological needs. Follow-up support was provided to GBV survivors, with their recovery being closely monitored. Dignity kits were also distributed to women at risk.

Additionally, a GBV awareness session tailored for children was conducted at the Innovative Humanitarian Solution (IHS) child-safe space, empowering young participants.

### Child Protection

In Aftit, Innovative Humanitarian Solutions (IHS) and Plan International Ethiopia (PIE) provided Child Protection services. The Child-Friendly Space hosted various activities promoting social interaction, creativity, and physical well-being, engaging many children throughout the week. Follow-up and home visits were conducted for unaccompanied and separated children under case management to provide psychosocial support and ensure their well-being. Additionally, group PSS sessions were facilitated by community social workers, offering children emotional support to cope with trauma and build resilience in a safe environment.

At the Ura refugee site, PIE continued identifying, verifying, and registering UASC and other vulnerable children. Case follow-ups and Best Interest Assessments (BIA) were carried out for children under care, alongside the provision of psychosocial support to help them navigate challenges and enhance their emotional well-being.

### **Health and Nutrition**

In Metema Transit Center (TC) and Aftit settlement, MTI and WHO's Mobile Health and Nutrition Team (MHNT) provided outpatient consultations. MTI attended to refugees and host community members in Aftit, with additional tetanus-diphtheria vaccinations provided to pregnant women. At Metema TC, MHNT focused on common illnesses, including respiratory infections, pneumonia, acute diarrhea, malaria, and intestinal infections.

Nutrition screening for children and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) was conducted at both locations. Targeted and blanket supplementary feeding programmes supported malnourished individuals, while broader nutrition services reached a larger group of children and PLW.

Mental health support in Aftit included consultations led by a psychiatric nurse, while in Metema TC, MHNT screened individuals for mental health concerns, provided psychoeducation, and identified new cases for follow-up care.

In the Benishangul Gumuz region, MTI conducted outpatient consultations at the Akuda health post in Ura, addressing common illnesses and providing prenatal, labour, and delivery care. UNHCR's partner GOAL conducted nutrition screening, admitting children and PLW with moderate acute malnutrition to a supplementary feeding programme.

### **Education**

In Aftit, the educational process continues for 811 primary school refugee students and 535 host community children. Teaching for Grades 1–6 at Aftit Primary School is progressing smoothly. At Gende Wuha/Metema Secondary School, an average of 263 refugee students attend classes, while 240 students regularly participate in tutorial sessions held on weekday afternoons and Saturday mornings. Attendance has increased during the reporting week with exams approaching.

In Ura, education at Akuda-Tumet Primary School, supported by Plan International Ethiopia (PIE), serves 2,327 refugees and host community students, including 1,352 refugees. Early Childhood Care and Development are provided for children aged 4–6 years at the Child-Friendly Space (CFS) at the Ura refugee site.

### **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)**

In the Amhara region, Plan International Ethiopia (PIE) provided an average of 73,428 liters of chlorinated water per day for refugees in Metema Transit Center (TC) and Aftit Settlement. Refugees at the TC received 15 liters per person per day (l/p/d), meeting the UNHCR emergency standard, while those in Aftit received 7.9 l/p/d, falling below the standard. This week's water provision decreased by 13,571 liters compared to last week's average of 87,000 liters per day.

In the Benishangul Gumuz region, 180,000 liters of water per day were distributed to refugees in Ura, meeting the 15 l/p/d emergency standard. Efforts are underway by the Ethiopian Electric Utility (EEU) to install an electric transformer at the river to reduce power outages and enable increased water pumping capacity in Ura.

### **Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)**

During the reporting period, 15 shelters were under construction at the Ura refugee site, bringing the total number of completed and handed-over shelters to 1,922. Shelter upgrading activities are ongoing, with 175 beneficiaries receiving bamboo and grass for improvements.

In Aftit, construction of the police post is progressing, with blocks halfway completed. Other projects, including the Outpatient Department (OPD), are also underway.

## LIBYA

### Highlights

- The Department for Combatting Illegal Migration (DCIM) introduced a temporary registration process in Alkufra, but high renewal fees for Security Registration Cards and limited income opportunities pose challenges for refugees.
- Overstretched WASH infrastructure and increasing needs in health, shelter, and food risk worsening conditions, particularly as refugees move toward coastal cities.
- Refugees reported barriers to education in Al-Marj due to overcrowded classrooms, highlighting the need for improved access.

### Population Movement and Registration

As of 6 January 2025, a total of 39,230 Sudanese refugees who arrived in Libya since April 2023 have been registered with UNHCR at its registration center in Tripoli. The daily influx of new arrivals from Sudan remains steady at approximately 500 individuals per day.

The Department for Combatting Illegal Migration (DCIM) has introduced a temporary procedure for newly arrived refugees. Refugees must complete a form at the DCIM office in Al-Jouf (downtown Alkufra) and undergo a blood test for a health certificate at the Libyan Red Crescent (LRC) clinic. The health certificate, stamped by both the LRC and DCIM, allows freedom of movement within Alkufra. However, this process costs 160 LYD (around 32 USD), unlike the free Security Registration Card (SRC).

### Protection

During the recent distribution of core relief items (CRI) in eastern Libya, UNHCR personnel engaged with Sudanese refugees to understand and map their protection concerns, aiming to better inform UNHCR's response and enhance coordination with relevant actors.

A significant concern raised by refugees was the lack of freedom of movement. The government-issued Security Registration Card, valid for six months and issued in Alkufra, requires renewal for 501 LYD (approximately USD 100 USD), which many refugees cannot afford. This financial barrier limits their ability to travel and access essential services.

Refugees also reported [challenges](#) in meeting basic needs, such as purchasing food and paying rent, due to limited income opportunities. These economic vulnerabilities highlight the urgent need for livelihood support to reduce protection risks.

Protection assessments at the distribution site revealed access difficulties, especially for elderly individuals and children, due to the rough terrain around the warehouse and the presence of sewage holes, which pose significant hazards. While some recommendations from previous CRI distributions have been implemented, protection teams will continue monitoring needs during future distributions to ensure improved accessibility.

### Education

During a recent distribution in Al-Marj, eastern Libya, Sudanese refugees reported that local schools have asked Sudanese students not to return. Although no formal explanation was provided to parents, overcrowded classrooms were cited as the likely reason. This issue has been referred to the Education Taskforce for follow-up action.

### Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

In Al-Marj, UNHCR, through its local partner LibAid, distributed full sets of CRIs—including blankets, kitchen sets, plastic sheets, solar lamps, jerry cans, and male and female hygiene kits—to 388 Sudanese families (1,760 individuals) and 42 families from the host community. Priority was given to elderly individuals, pregnant women, and others with specific needs.

### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

The continuous arrival of Sudanese refugees has significantly increased needs in the east of the country, particularly in health, WASH, cash, food, and shelter. Many refugees are in poor health and require

immediate assistance, including nutritional support. Overstretched WASH infrastructure poses a heightened risk of disease outbreaks, necessitating urgent interventions to improve access to water and latrines.

Local authorities are providing critical support, such as access to public health services and education enrolment. However, additional assistance is needed for host communities and refugees, especially as Sudanese refugees move toward coastal cities. Tailored protection assistance for female-headed households is crucial to ensure no one is left behind.

## SOUTH SUDAN

### Highlights

- As of 12 January, nearly 990,000 individuals have arrived in South Sudan, with a 43 per cent increase in weekly arrivals. UNHCR estimates 38,000 households of unregistered Sudanese new arrivals at unofficial entry points, while health, shelter, and protection services are strained by the continued influx.
- Cholera deaths in Unity State have decreased due to vaccination efforts targeting 320,000 individuals, with 40 per cent vaccinated so far. In Renk, malnutrition screening identified 17 per cent of children as moderately malnourished and 9 per cent as severely malnourished, while health consultations surged, highlighting the need for strengthened services.

### Population Movement and Registration

As of 12 January, 989,408 individuals have arrived in South Sudan through official entry points, including 7,572 new arrivals recorded in the last week—a 43 per cent increase compared to the previous week. Since the start of the response, 198,802 refugees and asylum-seekers from Sudan have been registered in South Sudan.

Outflows through the Joda/Wunthau crossing points have also increased during the reporting week, with 1,510 households, including both Sudanese and South Sudanese nationals, leaving to seek job opportunities and food for their families. This rise in outflows is likely tied to monthly food distributions in camps in Sudan.

### Relocation

In Abyei, 166 individuals have been registered at the Transit Center and are scheduled for relocation to Wedweil refugee settlement in Aweil on 17 January.

### Protection

UNHCR and border monitoring teams assessed the feasibility of mobile registration at unofficial entry points in Renk, including Jerbena, Duk Duk, Atam, Chemedi, and Bobnis. The assessment involved engaging local Payam and Boma administrators to identify potential registration sites, estimate the number of unregistered new arrivals, and discuss community leadership structures and mobilization support.

In Northern Bahr El Ghazal State, arrivals to Aweil through the entry points of Majokyithiou and Kiir-Adem reported ongoing fighting in neighboring Sudanese states. They recounted experiences of torture and looting within Sudanese territories while fleeing intensified conflict in the Darfur region. A total of 61 arrivals were recorded during the reporting period.

### Health and Nutrition

A significant drop in cholera deaths has been reported in Unity State, attributed to coordinated efforts by the State Ministry of Health, WHO, and health partners. An oral cholera vaccination campaign launched on 7 January is targeting 320,000 individuals, with 40 per cent vaccinated so far. Unity State remains one of the hardest-hit areas, hosting thousands of South Sudanese arrivals who are returning or transiting to their final destinations.

In Renk, 5,678 health consultations were conducted, with returnees accounting for 56 per cent, refugees 36 per cent, and the host community 7.6 per cent. The primary illnesses treated include acute respiratory infections, malaria, and watery diarrhea. The influx of new arrivals from Sudan has significantly increased



consultations, straining referral systems, and Renk Hospital's capacity. Additionally, the Renk Nutrition Program screened 2,821 children under five for malnutrition, identifying 17 per cent as moderately malnourished and 9 per cent as severely malnourished.

The cholera vaccination campaign in Renk continued, targeting 155,885 individuals. With 147,392 people vaccinated so far, the campaign has achieved a coverage rate of 94.6 per cent.

### **Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)**

In Gorom, UNHCR distributed unconditional cash assistance to more than 1,700 households with specific needs.

In Aweil, the construction of 232 shelters under the community labour programme is 45 per cent complete and is expected to be finalized by the end of the month. Additionally, the construction of five communal shelters at the transit site is 85 per cent complete and anticipated to be finished within a week.

### **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)**

In Malakal, 102 women and girls of reproductive age received dignity materials, including soap and mosquito nets, through the protection desk in the town. Similarly, in Renk, 158 dignity kits were distributed to women and adolescent girls with the support of UNHCR's partners.

## **UGANDA**

### **Highlights**

- The continuous influx of Sudanese refugees has severely strained facilities and resources in Uganda, with overcrowding at transit centers, inadequate water supply, and sanitation challenges at key points.
- Overcrowded classrooms and insufficient teaching capacity in Kiryandongo are hampering access to quality education, further exacerbated by long travel distances for new arrivals.
- Critical gaps in health services include rising Mpox cases among refugees, inadequate water supply increasing the risk of water-borne diseases, and overwhelmed healthcare infrastructure due to the growing population.

### **Population Movements and Registration**

During the reporting week, 535 new arrivals from Sudan entered Uganda, fleeing general violence and insecurity. They included individuals from Khartoum, Kordofan, Darfur, and Sennar States. Since the onset of the conflict in April 2023, a total of 65,542 refugees from Sudan have been registered in Uganda, including 9,654 (15 per cent) as urban refugees.

As of January 2025, 14 Sudanese individuals have sought asylum and been registered. A backlog in the registration of new arrivals, caused by delays at the end of 2024, is expected to be resolved in the coming weeks.

### **Relocation**

The official re-opening of Karuma Bridge by the Government on 20 December 2024 allowed UNHCR and its partners to resume the relocation of Sudanese new arrivals from the Nyumanzi Reception Centre via this route on 7 January 2025. The re-opening is expected to enhance relocation efficiency to Kiryandongo settlement by reducing logistics costs, travel time, and increasing frequency.

### **Protection**

#### Access to Territory

Prima facie recognition for Sudanese asylum seekers remains in place.

#### Reception Centres

At Kiryandongo Reception Center, 521 Sudanese new arrivals from 280 households were received, averaging 74 individuals and 40 households daily. Insecurity remains the primary reason for flight.

No new arrivals chose Kampala Urban Settlement during the reporting week. Since the establishment of the Kampala and Kiryandongo Desk on 25 March 2024, 1,193 individuals from 573 households have opted to live in Kampala.

Sudanese nationals currently make up 72 per cent (1,335 out of 1,854 individuals) of the refugees hosted in Adjumani and Kiryandongo reception centers.

### **Health**

As of 12 January, Uganda has recorded 1,830 confirmed cases of Mpox since the outbreak began in July 2024, including 112 active cases, 1,830 recoveries, and 10 fatalities. During the reporting period, two new cases were confirmed among refugees, raising the total to nine. The affected individuals are receiving treatment and recovering. UNHCR and partners continue to work with the Ministry of Health on Mpox surveillance efforts.

### **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)**

Support for sanitation improvements focused on upgrading water infrastructure and addressing waste management to enhance hygiene among new arrivals, with particular emphasis on improving the water supply at Kiryandongo Reception Center.

Latrine emptying needs have become overwhelming at Elegu Collection Point, Nyumanzi, and Kiryandongo Reception Centers due to increasing populations.

### **Critical Gaps**

#### Overcrowding in classrooms

In Kiryandongo, overcrowded classrooms are severely impacting the quality of education due to the influx of new arrivals enrolling in schools. Limited classroom space, inadequate seating, and long travel distances discourage attendance. Many schools are located in areas occupied by earlier arrivals, forcing new arrivals to relocate further away, leading to lengthy daily commutes for attending students.

Before the Sudanese influx, the pupil-to-teacher ratio in the Kiryandongo settlement was already high at 60:1, significantly exceeding the recommended standard of 40:1. The situation has since worsened, with the ratio now at 85:1, straining the education system further.

#### Overcrowding at transit centres

The continuous influx of new arrivals, primarily from Sudan, has caused severe overcrowding at the Kiryandongo Transit Center. As of 11 January, the center was operating at 255 per cent capacity, accommodating 957 individuals despite a maximum capacity of 375. This overcrowding has significantly deteriorated reception conditions, particularly affecting Health, Protection, and WASH services for new arrivals.

#### Water Shortage

In Kiryandongo, the supply of clean water has reached critically low levels. Per capita water availability dropped from 14 liters per person per day (l/p/d) in January 2024 to 9 l/p/d by December 2024. Despite investments in water infrastructure, resources have not kept pace with the growing number of new arrivals. This shortage poses significant health risks, particularly by increasing the likelihood of water-borne diseases.

## Response Plans and Funding Situation

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

On 2 July, UNHCR and 86 organizations launched the [Regional Refugee Response Plan](#) mid-year update, with an appeal for **USD 1.5 billion** to provide essential aid and protection to a total of **3.3 million people** in seven countries by the end of 2024. This includes 2.8 million refugees, returnees, and others who have fled the ongoing conflict in Sudan and 500,000 host community members. As of 21 December, the total reported funding for the RRP reached some USD 450.65 million, representing **30%** of the required amount.

### Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) – January - December 2024

The [Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan \(HRP\)](#) was launched on 7 February and requires **USD 2.7 billion** to assist **14.7 million people**. As of 21 December, the total funding for the HRP reached USD 1.71 billion, covering **63.9%** of the requirements. Access OCHA's Financial Tracking Service here: [OCHA FTS](#).

### UNHCR Supplementary Appeal – January - December 2024

UNHCR's total financial requirement for the 2024 [Sudan Emergency Supplementary Appeal](#), covering Sudan and neighbouring countries, was revised on 3 July, amounting to **USD 1.03 billion**. As of 21 December, the appeal was funded at **42%**.

## Resources

- [NEW! Inter-Agency Update on the surge in arrivals to South Sudan](#)
- [UNHCR Sudan Situation Appeal 2025](#)
- [Sudan-Emergency-Critical-Life-Saving-Needs](#)
- [UNHCR Mpox Appeal 2024](#)
- [Sudan Regional Refugee Response 2024 - June revision](#)
- [Sudan Regional Response 2024 - At a glance](#)
- UNHCR's [Sudan Situation Supplementary Appeal - 2024 - June revision](#)
- [Sudan RRP 2024 Progress Report – January to April 2024](#)
- UNHCR's [Operational Data Portal \(ODP\) for the Sudan Situation](#) provides weekly 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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