Darfur and Kordofan Situation

1 – 28 February 2026

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

- The security situation in Darfur and Kordofan states was volatile in February, with persistent drone strikes and armed clashes reported in several locations, disrupting civilian movement and hindering humanitarian access. Specifically in North and South Kordofan States almost daily drone attacks affected several towns and villages, damaging civilian and humanitarian infrastructure, including a UN warehouse in Kadugli that sustained structural damage, and causing civilian casualties along some major routes. Telecommunications infrastructure in Tendalti, El Rahad locality was also affected further limiting access to communication services. Drone strikes were also reported in parts of North and South Darfur states including in areas near the Sudan–Chad border and key urban centres. These incidents damaged public facilities disrupted markets and transport routes and contributed to a deteriorating protection environment. Toward the end of February, a major assault on Misteriya in Kebkabiya locality, North Darfur State triggered significant new displacement and damaged buildings in residential areas.

- The Goz Al Salam gathering site in Kosti, White Nile State is severely overcrowded. Approximately 80% of the displaced population are women, children, elderly persons and persons with disabilities, who are facing significant unmet needs, particularly food assistance and mobility support.

- Urgent needs at the site include strengthened referral pathways, enhanced child protection services, and improved care for severe cases, as well as accelerated rainy-season preparedness. These priority gaps were further confirmed during the Humanitarian Coordinator's recent visit to the site, which highlighted the ongoing constraints posed by overcrowding and limited access.

Protection Concerns and Gaps

- In Tawila, North Darfur State, shortages of basic necessities are leaving displaced families increasingly vulnerable, particularly newly displaced people who fled with minimal supplies. The lack of sufficient food and essential items is a key factor in escalating protection risks, driving reliance on harmful coping mechanisms and heightening exposure to sexual and other forms of exploitation and abuse.

- In Babanusa town, West Kordofan State over 1,000 families are reported to have spontaneously returned to date, but essential services like water, health care, shelter, and markets are operating at minimal capacity. A rapid needs assessment by UNHCR's partner and other actors highlighted significant gaps in assistance for returnees.

- In affected areas, priority needs for displaced people and hosting communities are protection, food, safe water and sanitation facilities, health care services, and mental health and psychosocial support. Gaps in the provision of basic services increase protection risks, particularly for women, children, and people with disabilities.

Population Movements

- IOM DTM Update No. 5 reports that over 132,000 people were displaced in the Kordofan States between October 2025 and February 2026.

- More than 4,500 civilians were newly displaced between 23 and 28 February from Misteriya to locations across Kebkabiya locality and into neighbouring localities including As Serief and Saraf Omra, all in North Darfur State. UNHCR protection monitoring also indicates that a further 450 people were displaced to Kutum locality in North Darfur.

- UNHCR's partner reported the regular arrival of displaced families into Tawila from surrounding locations. Approximately 160 households fled heightened insecurity and violence in Garni, Donkey Shatta, Shangil

Tobaya, El Fasher and Korma in North Darfur and Khazan Jadeed in East Darfur State. Many of the newly displaced reported multiple displacements, loss of property, and limited access to essential services prior to flight, and are now in urgent need of humanitarian assistance and protection support.

- Over 5,500 people fleeing insecurity in Kordofan were recorded by HAC to have arrived in White Nile State between January and February, with daily arrivals continuing at the Goz Al Salam gathering site in Kosti and in Rabak.

UNHCR Response

Darfur States

- In Tawila, North Darfur State, UNHCR's partner provided protection services to some 2,000 displaced people at the Protection Desk at the Daba Nira IDP camp. Activities included awareness-raising on gender-based violence and other protection risks, psychosocial support, recreational activities for children, and individual protection counselling which contributes to early identification and referral of vulnerable cases. The Rwanda Multi-Purpose Community Centre (MPCC) in Tawila was fully operational serving as a safe and accessible space for displaced families to receive protection services, psychosocial support, and referrals. In February, the Tawila MPCC was accessed by close to 4,000 IDPs.
- Other MPCCs in West Darfur State (Umdewein), Central Darfur State (Zalengei), South Darfur State (Beliel and Auttash) and East Darfur State (Ed Daein and As Salam) and in Al Lait locality in North Darfur reached over 5,000 people with a range of services and assistance.

- In East Darfur State, UNHCR's partner distributed non-food item kits to 1,000 IDP and host community families in Khazan Jadeed and Sha'ria localities.

Maryam fled Kadugli, South Kordofan State end-January with her four children. She is among the displaced families who received essential NFI kits in recent weeks. ©UNHCR/A. Vadal

Kordofan States

- Insecurity in Kordofan continued to limit access for humanitarian partners in some areas, affecting in-person protection monitoring and other activities. Despite these constraints, MPCC activities took place in Mereim and Keilak (West Kordofan State), while mobile activities took place in Sheikan and Um Rawaba (North Kordofan State).
- UNHCR also strengthened remote monitoring by mobilising additional personnel and enhancing coordination with partners to undertake field missions when conditions allow to ensure timely in-person oversight of emerging protection needs in the Kordofan States.

White Nile State

UNHCR's partner distributed over 600 non-food item kits comprising blankets, mosquito nets, solar lamps, plastic sheets, kitchen sets, sleeping mats, and jerry cans to IDP households who had recently arrived at the Goz Al Salam site.

Financial Information

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Flash Updates: Flash Update #1 (3 November); Flash Update #2 (17 November); Flash Update #3 (1 December) Flash Update #4 (11 December); Flash Update #5 (15 January) and Flash Update #6 (30 January)