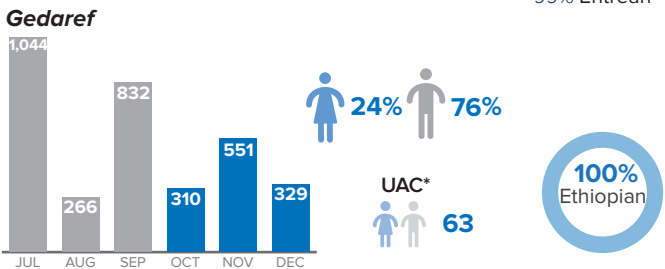
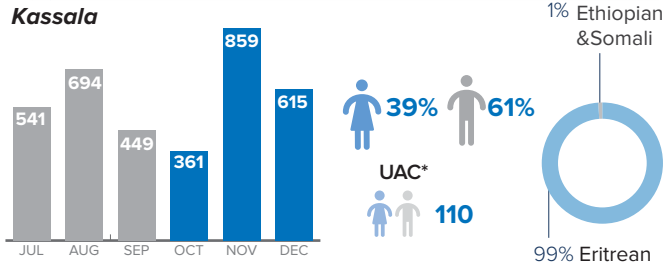


**INTRODUCTION**

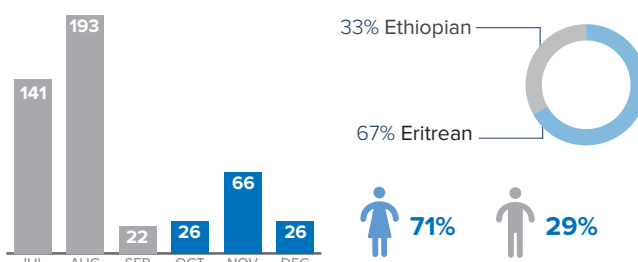
In the aftermath of the military coup on 25 October 2021, UNHCR worked to ensure continuity of efforts to address mixed movements and human trafficking at the systemic level, and to understand the immediate effect on refugee communities and possible changes to their intentions related to human trafficking. The period saw significant staff turnover within key counterparts, creating a need to re-capacitate major stakeholders. Following the coup, the National Committee for Combatting Human Trafficking (NCCT) undersecretary was removed and replaced, and Technical Committees at the State Level were dissolved. In early December 2021, the NCCT sent an official letter to UNHCR to announce the postponement of National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking (NAP) roll out to early 2022 due to the political situation. At community level, the coup did not have major effects on refugee intentions to engage in onward movements, although it can contribute indirectly through the seemingly deteriorating economic situation.

**New Arrivals**



The number of new arrivals during Quarter 4 was within the average quarterly level for Kassala. In Gedaref, the number of new arrivals per quarter has been up and down during 2021, as quarter 1 started with 766 and then quarter 2 had 1094.

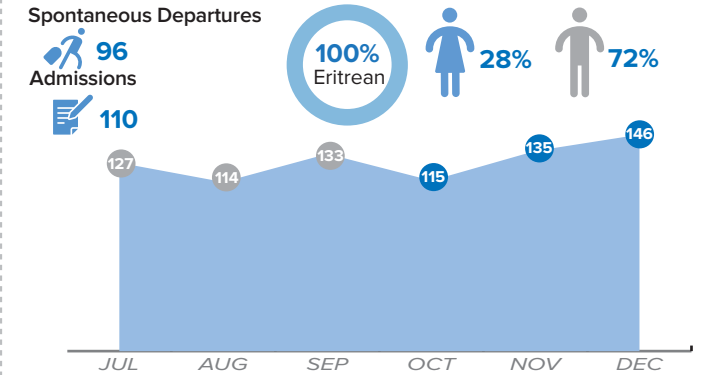
**Khartoum**



In December, four interpreters and four social workers were recruited and deployed to the Alien Monitoring Department and the Counter-Trafficking Unit (CTU) in Khartoum to ease language barriers and provide psychosocial support to POCs in detention.



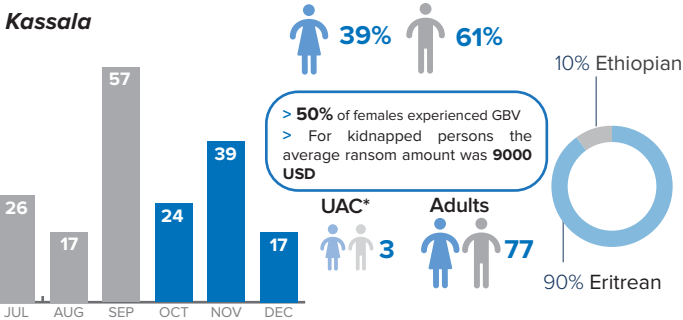
**Unaccompanied Children (UAC) Center in Kassala**



An event was held at the UAC Centre in Kassala for **Universal Children's Day**. Activities were geared towards creating awareness on the Convention on the Rights of the Child as well as on the dangers of irregular movement and heightened risk of trafficking in children.

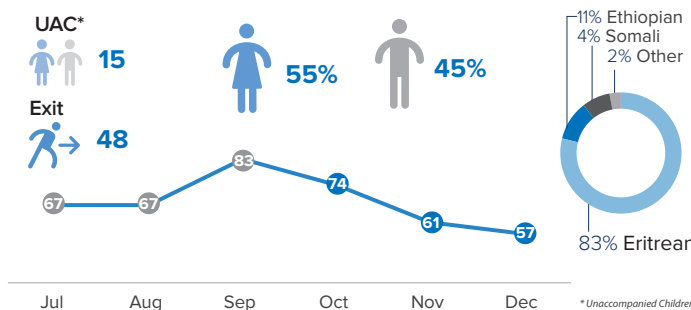


**Detention Monitoring and Legal Aid (Trafficking and Smuggling Incidents)**



\*UAC: Unaccompanied Children

**Victims of Trafficking (VOT) Accommodated in Kassala Safehouse**



\* Unaccompanied Children

PROGRESS TOWARDS STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

**1** Protection Based Solutions for persons affected by mixed flows



TRS refugee community volunteers pose for a photo with the Girba FR expert (in UNHCR visibility) after a workshop conducted at the Shagarab I Camp.

> **Mission to Northern State:** Starting 12 October 2021, UNHCR conducted a weeklong mission to Dongola and Al Dabbah in Northern State, two hotspots for Human smuggling and trafficking. During the mission, one workshop on Telling the Real Story (TRS) messaging on the risks of onward movement was conducted for Ethiopian Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) volunteers in Dongola. Furthermore, meetings and discussions were held in Al Dabbah with Ethiopian community members, SRCS volunteers, local commissioner and police. Unfortunately, this is the second time UNHCR conducted a mission to Northern State in 2021 and both times the project has failed to meet with Eritreans. However, through this mission, UNHCR managed to agree with SRCS and its volunteers to share TRS messaging, establish contact with authorities in Al Dabbah and to start WhatsApp groups with Ethiopian community members.

> **Community empowerment:** In order to support community capacity and initiatives, the TRS project in Gedaref funded 16 groups between 500-900 SDG to carry out their own protection initiatives to mitigate onward movement. Moreover, the project also supported 25 sports teams from the camps and the host community with sports merchandise. Sports activities attracts a lot of youth, which act as a good opportunity for TRS volunteers to raise awareness on risks and dangers of onward movement.

> **Family Reunification (FR) outreach:** In Shagarab I camp, TRS project staff, along with Girba's Family Reunification expert, conducted two workshops for refugee volunteers on existing opportunities to reunite with family members in a safe, regular, and systematic way. Thanks to this work, refugee volunteers identified 198 cases for further screening and assessment.

> **Art exhibition:** In Khartoum, a project was held through the Shani Cultural Club, where 21 female Victims of Trafficking attended art and handicraft sessions led by a certified art therapist. This allowed the participants to use different forms of expression, build their capacity within art and provide them a new livelihood alternative. The project ended with the public exhibition "Nostalgia and Hope" on 4 December.



**Mission to Northern State**



**2** Capacity Building, Partnership and Coordination


> On 17 and 18 October, UNHCR conducted a Workshop on Mixed Movements & International Protection for 14 COR staff in Khartoum. Participants were trained on international protection and human trafficking issues in Sudan. They were trained on the national and international laws relevant to human trafficking and smuggling. The participants also received training on identification of Victims of Trafficking within mixed flows, and the referral mechanism available to registration and assistance.


> On 16th December UNHCR organized a workshop for interpreters and social workers deployed at the Alien Detention Facility and Counter Trafficking Unit in Khartoum. The participants were trained on the definitions of trafficking and smuggling in international and national law. The social workers and interpreters were also provided with a directory of services providers for quick reference to assistance and support.

> UNHCR completed the procurement of 14 motorbikes in Kassala which will be distributed to the office of the Wali, state police and the military intelligence, who undertake key efforts in identifying and intercepting traffickers.

**3** Information Management, Advocacy & Awareness Raising

Telling the Real Story project

Persons reached through face-to-face communication  **21,095**

Information, Education and Communication materials distributed  **5,320**

TRS community outreach volunteers  **58**

> Two workshops on smuggling and trafficking targeting refugee leadership structures in the Kilo 26 Camp, and social workers at the UAC Centre in Shagarab were conducted. This was in order to enhance awareness raising efforts on issues related to the risks associated with irregular movement.

> Through Open Media & Culture Agency, TRS has started a community empowerment film project for 23 refugee youth. The intense course has helped the youth learn and develop essential skills within filmmaking. During the project 5 short films will be produced by the participants, which will depict the stories important to them.

**Identified Gaps, Needs and Opportunities**

**Reinforcing systemic response to onward movement:**

Throughout Sudan, advocacy continues to include refugees in the national systems, as pledged during the 2019 Global Refugee Forum.

**Responding to the needs of Victims of Trafficking:**

Accommodation for victims of trafficking released from detention in Khartoum and Northern State remain challenging. UNHCR encourages strengthening the government response to needs of victims of trafficking, including shelter.

**Capacity building of law enforcement:**

High turnover of the most trained and experienced law enforcement actors, especially judges, brings a gap in provision of protection and assistance to persons of concern who are victims of trafficking or have other specific needs.

**Family reunification and complementary pathways:**

Expansion of family reunification and other complementary pathways project in Sudan will facilitate persons of concern to reach third countries through legal channels and will reduce risk of onward movement.

**Concerns of youth in Sudan:**

Youth among refugee communities need support for their active engagement and participation in community initiatives and to enhance their leadership role. Establishment of community spaces for Refugee Youth (such as community centers, youth clubs and sport clubs) in Sudan will promote their development and address issues of idleness in the camps and risk of onward movement.

**Engagement in Northern State:**

In the upcoming period, UNHCR will work to reinforce the existing capacity to address onward movement in the Northern State. This will ensure that those engaged in onward movement towards Libya, Egypt or Chad have adequate access to assistance and asylum procedures.