Refugee Consultation Forum

SUDAN

COUNTRY REFUGEE RESPONSE PLAN ADDENDUM

January – December 2023

Refugee Consultation Forum

FRONT COVER PHOTOGRAPH:

South Sudanese refugees fleeing Khartoum and other unsafe areas arrived in many parts of White Nile State.

Photo: UNHCR/Ibrahim Mohamed

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At a Glance

Key Figures of the CRP Addendum

	Initial CRP	*May 2023 revision of the CRP*
Involved[1] partners	**41**	**41**
People in Need	**926,245**	**1,095,161**
Targeted host community members	**230,000**	**350,000**

Financial requirements

Original CRP	**$ 556 M**
Funding received up to April 2023	**$ 78 M**
Funding required after review	**$ 492 M**
Combined funding required in 2023[2]	**$ 570 M**

[1] *The original PIN of the CRP was calculated based on an estimation for end of 2023 that included a verification. After the conflict started the verification is postponed and the PIN is calculated based on the figures on 12 May 2023.*
[2] *The original 2023 CRP was reviewed and reprioritized following the conflict outbreak in April 2023. The reprioritization focuses on critical protection and life-saving services, identifying an added funding need of 14M USD to the initial 556M USD, for a total 2023 appeal of 570M USD.*

South Sudanese refugees and asylum seekers secondarily displaced from Khartoum and other unsafe areas continue to arrive in White Nile State. Photo: UNHCR/Nora Ochieng

Part 1: Current Situation

Crisis Overview

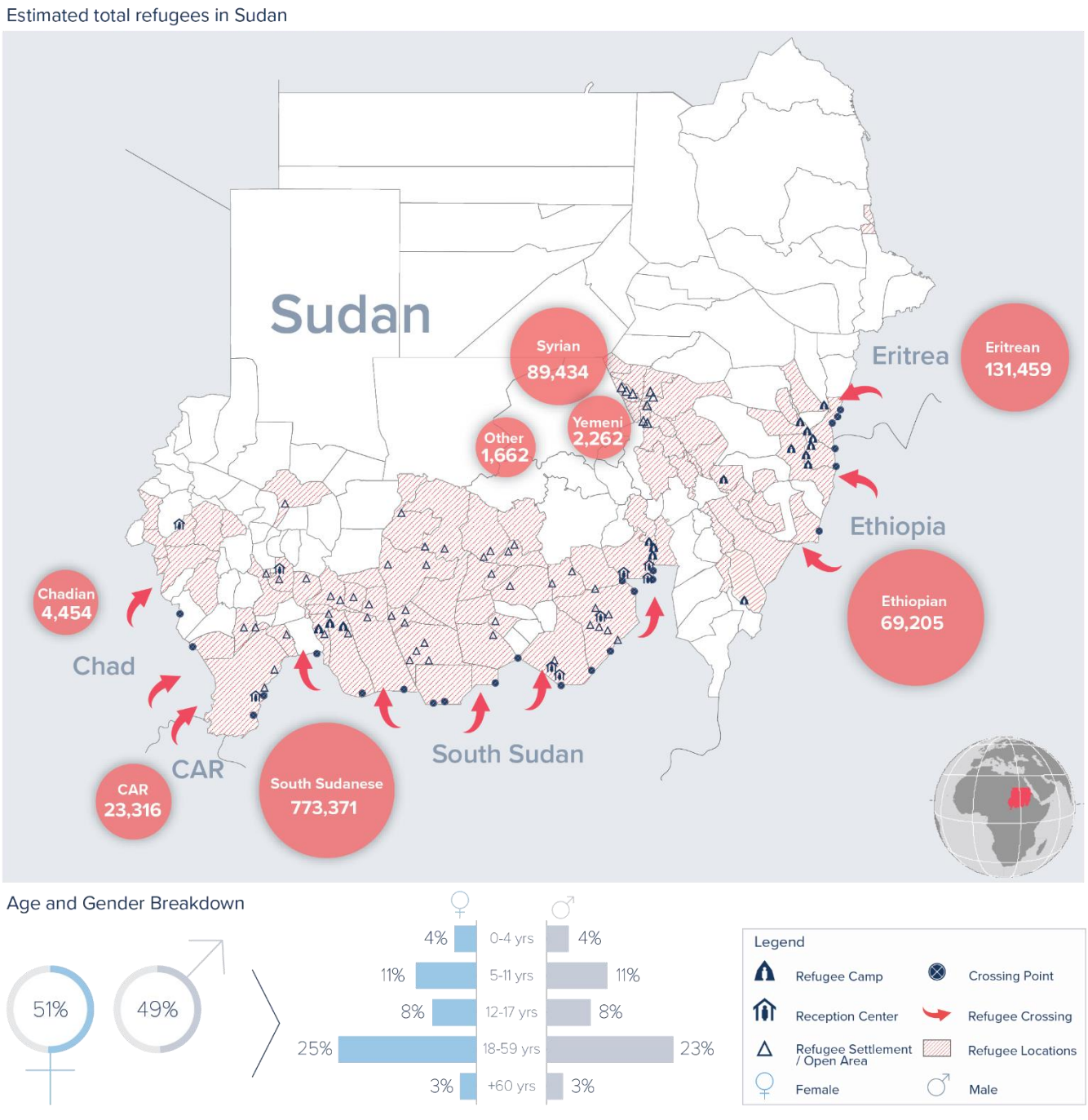
On 15 April 2023 fighting broke out in Khartoum and other parts of the country between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF). Over the first two weeks of the conflict according to the Sudanese Ministry of Health at least 528 people were killed and over 4,599 injured because of the fighting. Based on statements by the WHO, 61 hospitals have lost their capacity to provide health services. Despite several attempts to broker a ceasefire to provide urgently needed humanitarian aid and allow civilians to move out of conflict zones, the fighting has continued unabated including in densely populated areas in Khartoum and cities in Darfur. Heaviest fighting has been witnessed in Khartoum, in North, West, Central and South Darfur as well as in North Kordofan which forced partners to temporarily suspend activities. Other areas in Sudan have so far been less affected and despite a reduction of staff and capacities, basic assistance is ongoing.

Apart from the conflict that has forcibly displaced populations and severely reduced the ability of humanitarian agencies to respond, supply chains are also disrupted, and critical infrastructure has been destroyed. This has caused price increases of essential goods such as drinking water, lack of fuel and critical shortages in medical supplies. Additionally, the closure of banks has severely restricted access to cash. This adds to the existing economic crisis in Sudan that has already been characterized by high inflation, rising commodity prices and few economic opportunities.

The timing of the eruption of the conflict aligns with annual rainy season preparedness activities undertaken by humanitarian actors. Disruption in these preparedness measures has caused breaks in prepositioning of essential goods and flood mitigation measures at camp level and is expected to further increase humanitarian needs over the coming months. Negative impacts on preparedness capacities are further compounded by loss of prepositioned humanitarian stock due to heightened criminality across conflict-affected areas.

As populations affected by conflict are fleeing their homes in search of safety the widespread violence especially in Khartoum, Darfur and Northern Kordofan has forced humanitarian agencies to scale down their operations in these

locations. The areas under restricted access previously hosted over 500,000 refugees. However, in areas that have been less affected by the conflict, like Blue Nile, South and West Kordofan, White Nile, Gedaref and Kassala hosting over 590,000 refugees, operations continue albeit with reduced presence of staff and capacities, and despite heightened challenges caused by impact of conflict on national infrastructure and government services.



The above figures reflect the refugee populations in Sudan as of mid-May 2023, updated following the outbreak of conflict on 15 April 2023 with respect to emerging internal and cross-border movement trends of refugees fleeing hotspot areas in the first weeks of the conflict. It should be noted that figures will be reviewed and adjusted as the context evolves.

Affected populations

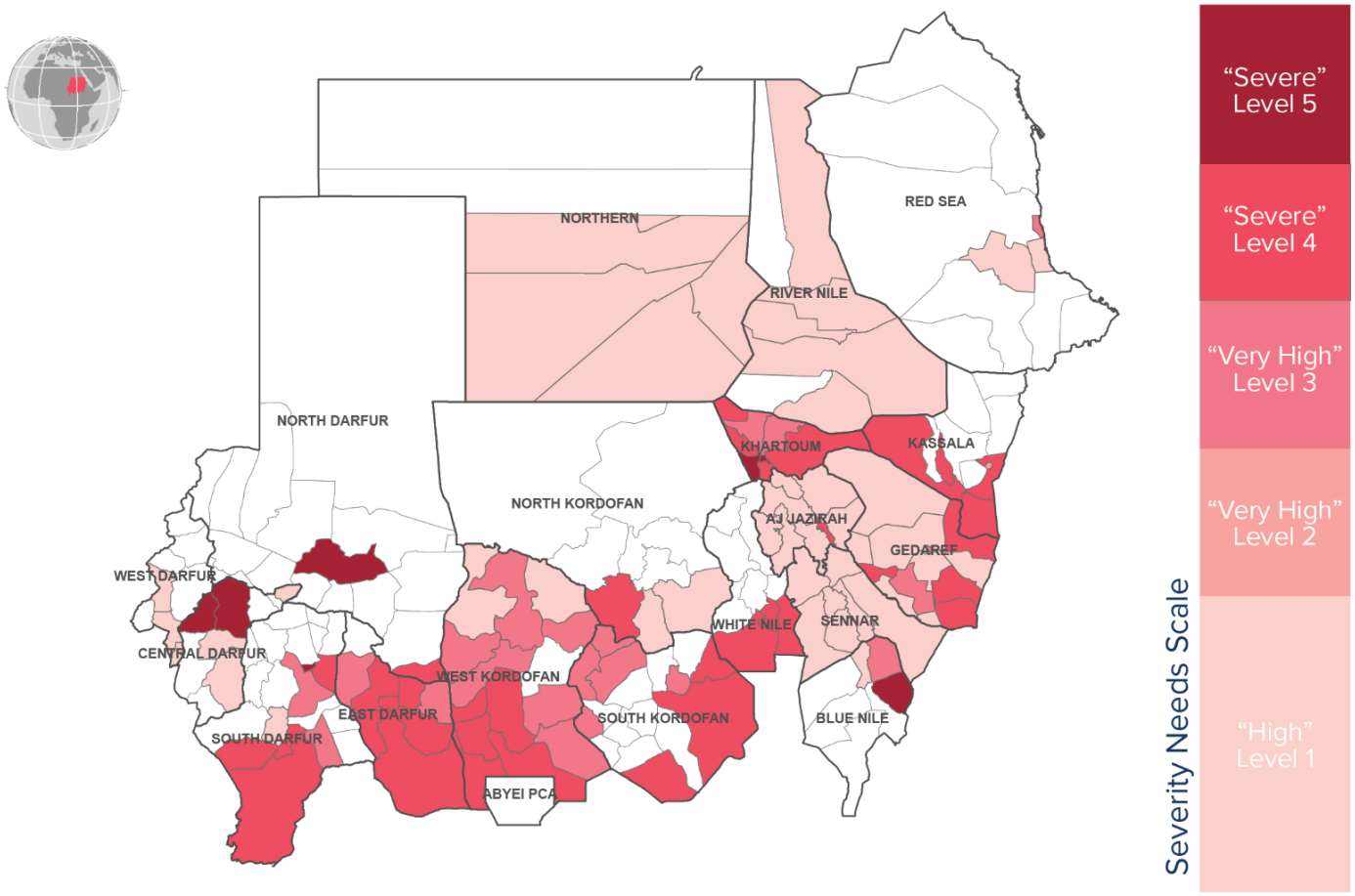
Country	Population as of March 2023	Population as of 12 May	Estimated population end of 2023
South Sudan	796,831	773,371	706,720
Ethiopian	70,978	69,205	69,162
Eritrea	134,714	131,459	136,179
Syria	93,478	89,434	95,908
Central African Republic	24,369	23,316	24,125
Chad	4,657	4,454	4,503
Yemen	2,329	2,262	2,378
other	1,734	1,662	5,356
Total refugees	**1,137,663**	**1,095,161**	**1,044,331**

UNHCR estimates that by end May 2023, 159,499 refugees and asylum-seekers have fled the conflict in Sudan but stayed within the country. This reflects secondary movements of South Sudanese refugees to White Nile and other nationalities to Eastern Sudan.

Estimated number of refugees and asylum-seekers having undertaken secondary movement by end May within Sudan to:

1.	White Nile State (primarily South Sudanese)	134,232
2.	Gedaref (primarily Ethiopian, Eritrean)	6,082
3.	Kassala (primarily Eritrean)	2,780
4.	Aj Jazira (various nationalities)	405
5.	Port Sudan (various nationalities)	16,000
Total		**159,499**

Multi-sectoral severity mapping



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
Abyei region: Final status of the Abyei area is not yet determined.

Main humanitarian and protection needs and risks

Death and injury due to active fighting. From 15 April to 30 April 528 casualties have been reported. Tragically, at least five humanitarian workers have been killed since the start of the hostilities. UNHCR also received reports of several refugee and IDP deaths and injuries as result of the fighting. Figures are likely to grow in the coming days and weeks as the conflict continues. Critically, fuel and medical supply shortages are contributing to sharply reduced access to health facilities in conflict affected areas. In Khartoum, only 16 per cent of hospitals are operating as normal, 23 per cent are partially operational and 61 per cent are closed. Hospitals across Darfur states have also reportedly suffered critical supply line breaks as well as loss of medical supplies and equipment due to looting, inundating operational capacities.

Outflow, secondary movements, and returns. The unprecedented deterioration of the security situation in Sudan resulted in massive displacement of civilians including refugees both internally in Sudan and crossing to third countries, namely Chad, South Sudan, Egypt and Ethiopia increasing risks of premature returns to countries of origin. Before the conflict started, Khartoum hosted 308,698 refugees – the largest number in Sudan. UNHCR in discussion with partners is preparing for an outflow from Sudan of over one million individuals including Sudanese refugees, refugee returnees,

Refugees and asylum seekers fleeing Khartoum and other unsafe areas arrived in Um Gulja, an old settlement in Gedaref state. Photo: UNHCR/Abubakr Mohamed

migrant returnees and third country nationals into neighbouring countries[3]. Additionally, by end-May 2023 UNHCR estimates that 159,499 refugees have moved away from conflict areas, including 134,232 South Sudanese that have arrived in White Nile state, 6,082 Ethiopian and Eritrean refugees in Gedaref, 2,780 primarily Eritrean refugees in Kassala, 405 refugees of mixed nationality in Aj Jazira and 16,000 refugees of mixed nationality in Port Sudan.

Multisectoral needs among refugees and host communities. Significant parts of the affected population in Khartoum and Darfur will not be able to leave their homes, resulting in significant risks to life, struggles to meet daily needs and humanitarian access problems. Communities may be caught amid fighting, requiring assistance for basic items, such as materials to cover damages to their homes, fuel, food items, medical assistance and protection services. Dramatic price hikes are reported for food, fuel and other basic goods across the country, further making essential goods unaffordable to many even in locations where mobility to markets is possible. In addition, refugees residing in camps or settlements across the country remain largely dependent on aid to meet basic needs. Urgent unmet needs are expected to rise quickly as responding agencies are facing various levels of interruption in response programming within the current operational context.

Continuous protection needs in existing refugee sites. In addition to the increasing multi-sectoral humanitarian needs in Sudan due to the conflict and new displacement, Sudan hosted over 1 million refugees prior to the conflict outbreak. This refugee population was already facing high levels of protection risks, notably in the context of the encampment policy requiring refugees to obtain travel permissions to legally move outside of refugee camps or any designated area of residence, often implemented in a restrictive manner and in some areas implying fee payments. Following the recent outbreak of conflict, protection risks facing refugees have amplified, including heightened risks of detention and extortion for those without documentation, increased risks of human trafficking and smuggling, and inflated risks of exposure to GBV as well as sexual exploitation and abuse. Child protection risks have equally seen a sharp rise, with unaccompanied and separated minors at explicit risk. Many of the refugee hosting sites in Sudan have faced prolonged funding gaps and require substantial support to provide protection and basic assistance. Moreover, as host communities are facing additional hardship alongside refugee communities, response support must be extended to address needs more holistically on the ground and avoid increasing tensions.

[3] *Document - Sudan Regional Refugee Response - May to October 2023 (unhcr.org)*

The disruption and collapse of essential public services and infrastructure causes multi-sectoral needs. The destruction of health facilities, the closure of banks and schools and the disruption of supply lines for essential goods is making a sustained humanitarian response in Sudan extremely difficult and costly. With only three border customs points operational as of early May, processes for clearing imports are anticipated to remain challenging and significant price hikes are expected, compounding hardship of refugees and host communities when accessing essential goods. Further, challenges faced in customs for imported humanitarian goods followed by access constraints when dispatching stock to hotspot locations throughout the country will significantly impact operational costs for humanitarian actors.

Access and response capacities

By early May, the conflict in Sudan has forced humanitarian actors to largely suspend operations in Khartoum, the Darfur states and Northern Kordofan. Security considerations in these states are too high to enable effective and unhindered humanitarian service provision in the interim. International staff have been largely evacuated and national staff relocated from these areas.

Locations less affected by the conflict, including Blue Nile, Gedaref, Kassala, South Kordofan, West Kordofan, and White Nile States have however benefited from continued CRP partner presence – if at lower capacity. Critical international staff capacities have been retained where possible in these areas, alongside national staff. Operational capacity constraints are largely derived from gaps and shortages in fuel and cash, depletion of stocks, reduced access to supply top-ups, and breaks in national infrastructure including mobile and internet services. Security considerations have also intermittently interrupted partner access to refugee camps and settlements. Despite the restrictive operational environment, CRP partners continue to provide the most essential services to refugees and asylum seekers in these locations. Furthermore, by retaining presence on the ground in key locations RCF partners are ready to scale up the response as soon as the operational context allows, including return to hotspot areas security permitting.

Funding availability remains critical with the 2023 CRP funded 13 per cent by May 2023. Limited access funding for the response will continue to hamper partners' abilities to meet growing needs and urgent gaps on the ground.

An interagency assessment was conducted to ascertain the situation and protection concerns of refugees and asylum seekers who fled to Medani, Jazirah state. Photo: UNHCR/Abubakr Mohamed

Part 2: Sudan Protection and Solutions Strategy

Strategic Objectives

SO1. Strengthen the protection environment for refugees and asylum-seekers

SO2. Enable access to timely protection interventions and lifesaving assistance for refugees and host communities

SO3. Provide equitable access to basic services for refugees and strengthen opportunities for resilience and self-reliance while finding lasting solutions for refugees

Response Strategy

The revision of the 2023 CRP focuses on SO1 and SO2 with a focus on lifesaving activities to protect and assist refugees and host communities that are affected by the conflict. This includes an increased response in areas that have received additional refugees from within the country and assistance to refugees in conflict areas.

Due to the encampment policy refugee who are living in refugee sites for several years must receive continuous support as their coping mechanisms are restricted and dependency levels are high. This includes a significant number of refugees who do not possess documentation confirming their status as refugees or asylum seekers, exposing them to protection risks, including detention, extortion, and possible deportation. Other protection risks affecting refugees and asylum-seekers in Sudan are human trafficking and smuggling. Partners have been working on addressing the involvement of refugees and asylum seekers in risky mixed movements, and their vulnerability to smuggling and trafficking. Registration and verification will further be prioritized to strengthen refugee protection as well as ensure access to service provision in locations of arrival.

A surge in the number of cases of sexual violence has been reported. Due to the restricted movements, GBV survivors have limited access to GBV services. UNHCR and GBV partners will coordinate referrals and provide responses and support to survivors. UNHCR will work closely with concerned partners and local actors to ensure lifesaving, confidential and survivor-centred services to those who face gender-based violence including psychosocial support.

In the current circumstances, children are at heightened risk of separation from family and exposed to abuses and risks. In collaboration with partners, UNHCR will reinforce its monitoring to prevent, mitigate or respond to child protection cases, and strengthen referral pathways and family reunification.

Refugees who fled to White Nile State received lifesaving assistance through core relief items and emergency shelter. Photo: UNHCR/Mosab Talballa

Through the CRP, response partners are planning to undertake the following activities in key sectors:

PROTECTION

- Protection/border monitoring, including help desk/case management/referral and intervention
- Registration/documentation to resume to a certain extent in White and Blue Nile states and Eastern part of the country
- Emergency protection services including mental health and psychosocial support and referrals
- Development/ strengthening of community structures
- Protection analysis and advocacy
- Establishment/ coordination of services along dangerous movement routes
- Provision of multi-purpose cash grant (MPCG)
- Facilitate access to solutions, including VolRep and relocation for onward active resettlement and complementary pathways cases
- Establish communication with communities (CwC)/community outreach
- Engaging Community-Based Protection Networks in addressing SEA, GBV and CP, engage local actors and provide support to strengthen their capacity to deliver services on the ground

Refugees and asylum seekers who sought safety in Um Gulja settlement, Gedaref undergoing verification and registration before relocation to other camps in Gedaref and Kassala states. Photo: UNHCR/Abubakr Mohamed

EDUCATION

- Education in Emergencies Programming
- Establishment of Temporary Learning Spaces (TLSs)
- Provision of teaching and learning materials
- Basic youth programming
- Advocate for the inclusion of Early Childhood Education and care (ECCE) in relevant sectors
- Emergency WASH in school interventions
- Advocate for psychosocial support (including Child Friendly Spaces)

WASH

- Continued WASH support in refugee locations
- Construction of emergency latrine and showers for new arrivals
- Water trucking for new arrivals (only if required)
- Distribution of hygiene items
- Hygiene promotion
- Desludging
- Solid waste collection and disposal
- Repair and maintenance of infrastructure

HEALTH & NUTRITION

- Provision of primary health care services, including supply of medicines and medical supplies to PHCs in the refugee camps and basic medical commodities to referral hospitals with depleted stock
- Inclusion of refugees in vaccination programmes
- Medical referrals to state hospitals
- Regular GAM monitoring
- Treatment of SAM and MAM

SHELTER AND NFIS

- Provision of critical NFI kits
- Provision of emergency shelter (family tents, plastic sheets, cash)
- Rehabilitation/repair/upgrading of collective shelter

FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- Provision of food assistance

Refugee children have resumed education at the Camp 6 school in Blue Nile State. Photo: UNHCR/Sharaf Eldin El Sharif

Cross-Cutting Response Priorities

All CRP partners are committed to ensure that planned interventions are based on beneficiaries' needs, preferences and priorities, and that these are reflected in the programme design and implementation. Monitoring frameworks will continue to be deployed to ensure quality of programming and services. For an effective response, partners will follow an age, gender and diversity (AGD) approach by using participatory methodologies to promote the inclusion of women, girls and boys of all ages and backgrounds in response planning and implementation. Under the umbrella of the PSEA Network in Sudan, the RCF remains committed to prevent, mitigate and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), and will continue close engagement with the PSEA network and field-level PSEA working groups to ensure protection of those served as well as access to transparent and accountable reporting mechanisms.

Coordination and Partnership

In accordance with the Refugee Coordination Model the Refugee Consultation Forum (RCF) remains the national refugee coordination forum and continues to be chaired by COR and UNHCR. The forum will convene virtually until an alternate modality can be found. Refugee Working Groups will continue to coordinate the operational aspects of the refugee response at state level. Where needed those will shift to a virtual modality. In locations where IDPs and refugees are hosted UNHCR and OCHA are cooperating in line with the Joint UNHCR and OCHA Note on Mixed Situations[4].

[4] *Document - Joint UNHCR and OCHA Note on Mixed Situations*

Financial Requirements

The conflict that started on 15 April did not only cause widespread displacement and secondary movements of refugees mostly from Khartoum to neighbouring states but also disrupted an economy that was already in crisis with high inflation rates and rising costs of basic commodities. The revised financial requirements take into account that increased costs to operate in Sudan including rising costs for transportation as well as expanding operations to new areas such as Wad Madani and Port Sudan. While there is an urgent need to support refugees that have left their homes in Sudan and moved to other states existing refugee camp situations still require significant support based on the reliance of humanitarian aid compounded by the encampment policy. Funding increases in the financial request are mostly stemming from setting up operations in new areas to provide protection and assistance and secondly, increased costs in White Nile and Eastern states due to arriving refugees from Khartoum.

At the time of issuing the revision of the 2023 Sudan Country Refugee Response Plan partners have received **$78,298,024**. Therefore, $492,220,483 are still required to meet the needs of refugees and host communities in Sudan. The combined requirements for 2023 are: **$570,518,507**.

An interagency assessment was conducted for the refugees arriving in White Nile State. Photo: UNHCR/Sabah El Basha

Detailed budget overview

Partner	Protection	Education	FSL	Heath & Nutrition	Shelter/NFI	WASH	Energy & Environment	Revised TOTAL
ACTED	$0	$0	$0	$0	$1,500,000	$0	$0	$1,500,000
ADRA	$651,000	$420,000	$340,000	$0	$0	$335,000	$0	$1,746,000
Almanar	$794,653	$0	$0	$500,585	$0	$0	$0	$1,295,238
ARC/Alight	$685,250	$0	$0	$1,102,600	$399,375	$665,300	$0	$2,852,525
AORD	$408,500	$188,000	$152,900	$0	$0	$250,000	$0	$999,400
CAFOD	$449,041	$0	$140,000	$0	$168,000	$1,070,000	$200,000	$2,027,041
CARE	$0	$0	$1,286,000	$1,840,281	$0	$1,610,000	$0	$4,736,281
Concern	$0	$0	$450,000	$790,000	$0	$416,000	$0	$1,656,000
COOPI	$0	$0	$500,000	$0	$2,667,000	$750,000	$0	$3,917,000
DRC	$1,400,000	$0	$0	$0	$150,000	$350,000	$0	$1,900,000
FPDO	$383,600	$0	$369,134	$234,891	$0	$0	$0	$987,625
GAH	$159,915	$225,000	$100,000	$0	$0	$80,000	$0	$564,915
HOPE	$0	$0	$350,000	$0	$0	$700,000	$0	$1,050,000
HA	$381,057	$0	$323,070	$0	$0	$0	$0	$704,127
HFO	$0	$0	$0	$200,000	$0	$0	$0	$200,000
IOM	$0	$0	$0	$300,000	$7,200,000	$13,000,000	$0	$20,500,000
IRC	$2,390,704	$0	$0	$2,000,000	$0	$1,058,405	$0	$5,449,109
IRW	$492,800	$700,000	$0	$621,600	$0	$845,600	$0	$2,660,000
JASMAR	$189,440	$117,900	$0	$0	$0	$151,300	$0	$458,640
Medair	$0	$0	$0	$750,000	$2,215,000	$0	$0	$2,965,000
MTI	$0	$0	$0	$2,733,500	$0	$0	$0	$2,733,500
MC	$200,000	$400,000	$500,000	$400,000	$300,000	$800,000	$0	$2,600,000
Mutawinat	$1,071,615	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$1,071,615
NCA	$0	$0	$0	$300,000	$0	$95,119	$0	$395,119
NRC	$4,450,000	$4,000,000	$900,000	$0	$6,500,000	$3,000,000	$0	$18,850,000
Plan Int.	$1,510,000	$364,364	$1,000,000	$800,000	$0	$250,000	$260,000	$4,184,364
PA	$0	$0	$485,000	$0	$0	$1,242,000	$450,900	$2,177,900
PUI	$0	$0	$0	$850,000	$0	$0	$0	$850,000
RI	$0	$0	$0	$900,000	$0	$1,177,253	$0	$2,077,253
SCI	$165,600	$365,000	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$530,600
SRCS	$99,400	$0	$0	$0	$0	$93,000	$100,000	$292,400
UNFPA	$9,844,825	$0	$0	$17,331,969	$0	$0	$0	$27,176,794
UNHCR	$100,377,879	$16,353,318	$3,578,248	$21,281,486	$53,674,945	$26,011,636	$0	$221,277,511
UNICEF	$5,350,000	$8,440,000	$0	$19,780,000	$0	$6,563,200	$0	$40,133,200
UNOPS	$0	$0	$0	$2,000,000	$0	$0	$0	$2,000,000
UPO	$300,000	$0	$200,000	$0	$0	$500,000	$0	$1,000,000
WFP	$0	$0	$162,346,606	$2,459,124	$0	$0	$0	$164,805,730
WHH	$772,000	$0	$70,000	$120,000	$465,000	$280,000	$350,000	$2,057,000
WHO	$0	$0	$0	$13,500,000	$0	$950,000	$0	$14,450,000
WVI	$710,700	$345,230	$338,000	$817,890	$0	$270,800	$0	$2,482,620
ZOA	$0	$0	$1,204,000	$0	$0	$0	$0	$1,204,000
								Total: $570,518,507

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COUNTRY REFUGEE RESPONSE PLAN ADDENDUM

January – December 2023

Refugee Consultation Forum

Refugee Consultation Forum (RCF)
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data.unhcr.org/en/country/sdn
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