

SUDAN SITUATION

28 March-3 April 2024



This is Zakia's first Ramadan in Egypt, away from home. She holds on to a picture of her father, who disappeared when they were fleeing the conflict in Sudan. © UNHCR/Pedro Costa.

Highlights

- Ongoing clashes between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and Rapid Support Forces (RSF) have continued since the outbreak of conflict in April 2023.
- US Special Envoy for Sudan, Tom Perriello [expressed](#) on X that Sudanese civilians continue to bear the brunt of this heinous war, especially as the two main warring parties conduct attacks in and around civilian areas.
- Following a US congressional trip to the Chad border with Sudan, Representatives Barbara Lee (D-CA) and Sara Jacobs (D-CA), and Senator Cory Booker (D-NJ), Chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on Africa issued the following joint [statement](#) urging the international community, including the U.S. government, to provide significantly more aid to help meet the basic survival needs of refugees that will alleviate the preventable suffering taking place.

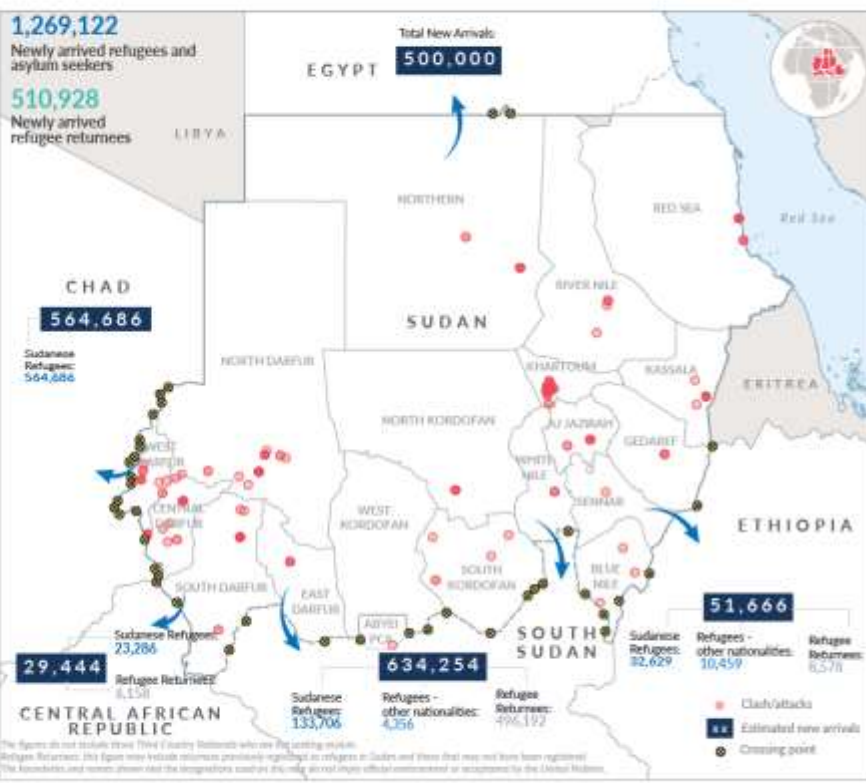
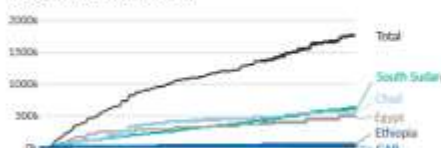
OVERVIEW: There are now 8.5 million forcibly displaced due to the outbreak of conflict in Sudan since April 2023, including 6.5 million internally and 1.8 million in neighbouring countries. Sudan and neighbouring countries were already hosting large refugee populations before this new emergency and require 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.

8,549,939 Forcibly Displaced
6,552,118 New IDPs in Sudan
1,780,050 Newly arrived refugees, asylum seekers and returnees
217,771 Self-relocated Refugees in Sudan

Arrivals by population and estimated gender type



New arrivals from Sudan



Situation and Operational Response

SUDAN

Highlights

- The armed conflict continues unabated. Alignment of non-state actors with the two main warring parties poses additional challenges to humanitarian service delivery and is affecting the protection of civilians in conflict-affected communities mainly in Darfur, Kordofan and Khartoum.

Population movements and Registration

During the reporting period, close to 200 IDP families from North and South Darfur States have arrived at Tina transit center with the intention to cross into Eastern Chad.

The Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) reported 15 Sudanese refugee households returned from Goz Beida camp, Chad to Forobaranga, West Darfur State citing lack of assistance there. UNHCR is coordinating with partner including Commissioner of Refugees (COR), Sudanese Organization for Relief and Recovery (SORR) and HAC to monitor the cross-border movement of refugee and refugee returnees. UNHCR Sudan is regularly sharing movement information with its offices in South Sudan and Chad to monitor the cross-border movement of refugees and returnees.

The Al Alagaya refugee camp in White Nile State received 106 secondarily displaced refugee families (812 individuals) during the reporting period. Since mid-December 2023, White Nile refugee camps have received over 4,000 refugee families (close to 30,000 individuals) from Jazirah and Khartoum states. UNHCR together with COR is verifying and conducting household-level registration of these population to include them in humanitarian services.

In the Eastern States, 53 Eritreans arrived in Kassala via Galsa border crossing point and eight Ethiopian in Gedaref via Gallabat border. During the reporting period, UNHCR/COR joint registration team registered 200 refugees and asylum-seekers in Kassala (47) and Gedaref (154).

Protection

UNHCR with support from community networks is increasing awareness about the Civilian and Humanitarian Character of Asylum by distributing leaflets, sending bulk SMS to displaced communities and posting information in community centres in Darfur States.

In Darfur states, the lack of humanitarian assistance to IDPs, persistent fear of reprisal and assault, lack of livelihood opportunities were the main findings from the protection monitoring done by UNHCR's partner Hope in Kreneik locality, West Darfur State. These findings are presented to partners and authorities to coordinate the appropriate responses.

In Wadi Halfa, Northern State, 18 community-based protection network (CBPN) members attended a refresher session on code of conduct, and referral mechanisms for protection and other protection cases conducted by UNHCR which aims to strengthen the members capacity to engage with displaced community. In Gedaref State, UNHCR's protection partner ALIGHT conducted a capacity-building session for 30 CBPN members in Um Rakuba refugee camp. The training focused on community-based protection, protection principles, peacebuilding, protection from sexual exploitation and abuse, among others. ALIGHT also conducted two sessions on community rules in Babikri refugee camp, reaching 32 CBPN members.

Prevention and Response against gender-based violence (GBV)

In Gedaref State, UNHCR's partner ALIGHT conducted six awareness raising sessions on gender-based violence prevention and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse in the women's centers in Um Rakuba, Tunaydbah, Babikri and Um Gargour camps, reaching 158 women and 12 men. The sessions aimed at raising awareness of reporting mechanisms in place in the camp to respond to incidents of GBV. In Tunaydbah refugee camp, the sessions focused on imparting the refugee youth with knowledge to protect themselves from the risks of alcohol and substance abuse due to the rise of substance abuse issue in the camp which was also linked with the increase in GBV incidents.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

In White Nile State, COR has obtained additional land to relocate close to 23,000 secondary displaced refugees and asylum-seekers who are currently living inside schools in Alagaya, Umsangur, and Khor Alwaral refugee camps. UNHCR will provide materials support to families to set-up shelters.

UNHCR's partner Sudanese Red Cross Society (SRCS) distributed clothes to 15,580 secondary displaced refugees and asylum-seekers (approximately 3,100 families) in Dabat Basin refugee camp, White Nile State. The distribution will continue in other refugee camps and IDP locations in the State and will reach over 392,000 individuals.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

In Kassala State, UNHCR's partner Welthungerhilfe commenced distributing soap and personal hygiene kits to refugees and asylum-seekers in Abouda refugee camp reaching 2,500 refugees and asylum-seekers so far.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)

Highlights

- The security situation remains volatile in the Vakaga prefecture which hosts most Sudanese refugees in CAR. It continues to face considerable security problems due to the activities of non-state armed groups and allegations of the presence of the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), disrupting the lives of civilians and humanitarian efforts in the region. MINUSCA's presence in Am Dafock has mostly secured the border area with Sudan. However, a few security incidents have been reported this week.
- On 26 March, UNHCR partners reported the presence of more Sudanese arrivals at Sikikide in the Ndah locality of Vakaga prefecture. As the area around Sikikide is experiencing substantial security issues, physical access for humanitarian actors into the area has been hindered following an attack on the locality by unidentified armed men on 7 March, resulting in the death of more than 50 civilians. A joint assessment mission of key actors, to be led by the National Refugee Commission (CNR) and under a MINUSCA armed escort, is planned for the area as soon as security restriction is lifted.

Population Movements and Registration

Sudanese refugees continue to arrive in CAR, through several border entry points. The majority are crossing through Am Dafock (situated 65 km from Birao town) in the Vakaga prefecture. As of 31 March, the population in Korsi has reached 10,883 refugees (4,704 households).

Since January, 7,718 Sudanese refugees (3,427 families) have arrived in Korsi (Birao town), mainly from Darfur. In sum, 29,444 forced displaced people from Sudan have arrived in CAR since April 2023, including 23,286 Sudanese refugees and 6,158 Central African returnees (former CAR refugees in Sudan). 14,858 (5,181 households) Sudanese refugees have been biometrically registered and live in 13 localities, mostly in hard-to-reach locations outside Vakaga prefecture and need protection and assistance. Biometric registration is underway for the rest of the Sudanese Refugees already pre-registered.

This week, UNHCR and partners biometrically registered 215 new arrivals (96 families).

Protection

Protection monitoring

UNHCR partner (INTERSOS) identified and registered 37 persons with special needs, including single-headed households, women/girls at risk, separated children, persons living with disabilities, children at risk, and the elderly. INTERSOS referred eight single parents, along with their children and an elderly person, to specialized care. Additionally, INTERSOS conducted a needs assessment for 32 individuals at the listening center.

Prevention and Response against gender-based violence (GBV)

During the week, INTERSOS documented and managed eight GBV cases at the safe space in Korsi. These cases included denial of resources and opportunity, five cases of physical violence, and two cases of psychological violence. As a response, survivors received psychosocial support and needs assessment to tailor the response better. Two survivors of physical violence received cash for protection and two women with special needs received dignity kits. Additionally, INTERSOS made 13 medical referrals to the Birao district hospital. 24 individual counselling sessions and four group sessions were conducted on the consequences of forced marriage, physical violence, and denial of resources, reaching a total of 103 people, including 73 women and 30 girls.

UNFPA's partner, Olivier Homme de Galilée, raised awareness on GBV prevention at the Birao Hospital safe space, reaching 131 people, including 33 refugees. Furthermore, six individuals, including a refugee, benefited from various GBV support services at the safe space and were referred to service providers for medical, psychosocial, and shelter support. Lastly, 30 people, including four refugees, participated in group therapy sessions.

Education

During the week, UNHCR partner INTERSOS organized a community-led assessment on child protection risks and gender-based violence in schools and within the community. The aim was to involve beneficiaries in identifying risks and suggesting solutions for school protection. A total of 35 people, including nine women, participated, including local leaders, officials, parents' associations (APE), and representatives from the Korsi refugee settlement. All education activities in Korsi are supported by 'Education Cannot Wait's' First Emergency Response grant for Sudanese refugees in the Central African Republic.

Health and Nutrition

NOURRIR and International Medical Corps (IMC) completed 616 medical consultations, benefiting 18 host community members and 598 refugees, including 74 new arrivals to Korsi. Since the beginning of the year, 9,545 curative consultations have been carried out in Korsi.

During the week, 15 patients were referred from the Korsi neighbourhood hosting area to Birao District Hospital.

Seventy-five children suffering from Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) and four cases of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) were documented and treated this week, bringing the total to 390 children treated for MAM and 41 for SAM since January. Continuous malnutrition screening has enabled the identification of 154 new cases of children at risk of malnutrition in addition to the 360 children already identified, totalling 514 children in the prevention program. Additionally, 749 children benefited from nutritional inputs and support from WFP, including 514 in the malnutrition prevention program and 235 in the SAM treatment programme.

WFP began the March dry food ration distribution, which will benefit 9,712 people in Korsi. This week, 455 people (148 families) were provided with their food rations. The distribution will continue next week. WFP and UNHCR introduced a new magnetic card system to improve distribution efficiency.

NOURRIR distributed 8,112 hot meals with food donated by the World Food Programme (WFP) and prepared and served 6,595 breakfasts supported by UNHCR.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

The total number of usable latrines and showers in Korsi remains 74, with 147 people per latrine. However, as the population has tripled and exceeded capacity, the ratio of water dispensed per person per day has dropped to 12 liters.

Hygiene promotion activities continue in Korsi to ensure that refugees live in a healthy environment. This is done by promoting the cleaning of community spaces (latrines and showers, health centres and water distribution points).

CHAD

Highlights

- On 31 March, US Senator Cory Booker, accompanied by Representatives Barbara Lee and Sara Jacobs, as well as the United States Special Envoy for Sudan, Tom Perriello, and the American Ambassador to Chad, Alexander Laskaris, carried out a one day mission in Abéché and Adré (Ouaddaï Province). The mission visited the Adré refugee spontaneous site, the UNHCR registration center, the border entry point and interacted with the new Sudanese refugee arrivals. They highlighted the most pressing need to invest in humanitarian interventions to alleviate the current suffering.
- The British Minister of State for Development and Africa, Andrew Mitchell, visited the Adré refugee spontaneous site on 28 March. The Minister visited the Adré border entry point and held a meeting with the cross-border teams and the newly arrived refugees. At the border, he was briefed by UNHCR on the stages of welcoming refugees from the border to the information center. At the end of the visit, the Minister promised continued support for the Sudan crisis.
- On 25 March, the Rome-based organization Sant Egidio visited the Arkoum refugee site and met various stakeholders, including refugees, community leaders, joint committees for peaceful

cohabitation, and local authorities. The objective of this visit was to assess the living conditions of the refugees and, where possible, provide assistance with non-food items.

Population movements and Registration

During the week under review, 2,821 individuals (717 households) crossed into Chad mainly through the Adré border crossing point (Ouaddai province). Most of them are women and children. They are reported to have fled due to insecurity, human rights abuses, and lack of food (as a consequence of the conflict) and the search for family reunification. The Government of Chad has counted a total of 564,686 individuals to have crossed into Chad since the start of the emergency of which 81,110 have crossed into Chad since the beginning of the year.

Biometric registration of Sudanese refugees continues at the Metché refugee site. During the reporting week, 2,870 individuals (701 households) were registered. To date, 40,633 individuals (10,464 households) have been registered, representing 97% of the target for the refugee site.

In the Sila Province, the registration activity at the Zabout camp was concluded. A total of 49,102 individuals (12,059 households) were registered.

Relocation

5,037 individuals (1,271 households) were relocated from Adré spontaneous site to Farchana site.

Protection

Prevention and Response against gender-based violence (GBV)

17 new gender based violence (GBV) incidents were recorded in the three Provinces (Ouaddaï, Wadi-Fira and Sila) during the reporting period. All survivors benefited from psychosocial support, and some benefited from medical and legal services. To date, 919 GBV incidents have been recorded among the new Sudanese caseload.

Six awareness sessions were organized on available services in the various refugee sites to respond to GBV incidents. Other themes during the sensitizations included excision, domestic violence, and other harmful practices. At least 209 individuals, including women, men, boys, and girls, took part in each of the sensitizations.

Education

Two new school buildings have been constructed and handed over to the school authorities for use by the students in Zabout refugee site as part of the establishment of educational infrastructures.

Health and Nutrition

431,157 medical consultations have been carried out since the start of the emergency, including 6,028 over the past week. Malaria, acute respiratory infections (ARI), watery diarrhea and malnutrition remain the main pathologies.

Since the start of the crisis, 378,329 children have been screened for malnutrition; 35,233 cases of MAM and 16,905 cases of SAM were treated for children aged 6 to 59 months. Over the past week, 4,291 children were screened, including 605 MAM and 281 SAM.

33,594 pregnant and breastfeeding women were screened, and 4,260 cases of MAM were treated. In the past week, 975 pregnant women were screened, including 215 cases of MAM.

5,767 deliveries attended by qualified health personnel have been recorded since the start of the emergency, including 40 deliveries last week.

Although Chadian authorities have not officially declared an epidemic, the number of hepatitis E cases is increasing. To date, 1,222 cases have been recorded in the four refugee sites (Adré, Aboutengué, Metché, and Alacha) in the Wadi-Fira and Ouaddaï provinces. Strengthening hygiene measures and raising awareness among the population continues.

A total of 1,413 Hepatitis E cases were recorded in the Adré spontaneous site, Aboutengué, Metché and Alacha refugee sites. The competent authorities have not still declared the epidemic.

IRC has installed two tents to serve as health posts to improve access to health care-nutrition services for refugees relocated to Farchana refugee site Extension II.

From March 28-29 March, general food distribution to refugees at the Ambelia site took place. In total, 2,360 individuals (9,840 households) received WFP food assistance for the month of March.

749 children aged 6 to 23 months and 302 pregnant and lactating women received additional nutritional assistance (Plumpy nut for children and Supercereal for pregnant and lactating women) to prevent acute malnutrition.

WFP's targeted cash distribution to households in Farchana and Gaga refugee sites started. The monetary assistance of 7,000 XAF (approx. USD 12) per person per month for the month of April targets 18,868 individuals (4,743 households) in Farchana and 18,915 individuals (4,771 households) in Gaga site.

991 children were vaccinated against measles, polio, and administered dewormers.

Capacity building for mental health and psychosocial (MHPSS) focal points was organized to better support students and teachers facing mental health problems. The training covered key concepts in MHPSS and first aid.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

From 25-28 March, Better Shelter, Ikea and Sweden for UNHCR visited UNHCR operational areas in Farchana (Ouaddaï Province). The mission's objective was to document how refugees in Chad transform their emergency shelters into permanent shelters.

In Farchana, 1,500 shelters are being built to accommodate refugees relocated from Adré (Ouaddaï Province). This is in addition to the 1,000 shelters already constructed. The companies responsible for constructing shelters, latrines, and showers are considering termite control measures.

INTERSOS installed and allocated 143 family tents (Global Shelter box) at the Kerfi site.

1,000 shelters were allocated to relocated refugees in Farchana,

59,811 shelters have been built since the start of the emergency.

EGYPT

Highlights

- The number of Sudanese registered with UNHCR in Egypt increased by 2% over the past week.
- UNHCR Egypt continues to register at decreased capacity during the holy month of Ramadan. A total of 6,598 refugees and asylum seekers (a 4% increase compared to the previous week) were registered last week. Of them, some 5,800 were new arrivals from Sudan. It is worth noting that in previous years, the no-show rate during Ramadan was around 45%, but this year, the no-show rate during Ramadan is at around 17% for all registration services – showcasing the pivotal importance of UNHCR Registration in the current context and the increased demand due to the Sudan crisis. Additionally, 12,600 individuals received registration appointments last week, totaling 460,000 since April 2023.

Population Movements and Registration

508,827 people, including 500,000 Sudanese and 8,827 individuals of other nationalities, crossed into Egypt between April 2023 and March 2024, according to latest figures received by UNHCR from the Government of Egypt. UNHCR expects the numbers arriving to Egypt from Sudan to significantly increase as the conflict entrenches and intensifies.

As of 28 March, UNHCR Egypt had provided pre-registration appointments to 460,231 people forced to flee Sudan since the onset of the conflict in April 2023. Of those, 219,172 individuals have already been registered (48%). UNHCR is working to increase its capacity to meet the increasing demand for registration. Most of the newly registered population arriving from Sudan are Sudanese nationals (93%), followed by South Sudanese (3%), and Eritrean (3%). In terms of new arrival registration trends,

females remain at 53%. The great majority of new arrivals registered originate from Khartoum (88%), and 21% of those registered have one or more specific needs. Concerns remain due to the continued rise of reported irregular crossings into Egypt.

Protection

Community-based protection

On 30 March, UNHCR joined community leaders from Sudan, South Sudan, Yemen, and Syria as part of a community engagement 'Iftar' series during Ramadan. Many of the concerns raised by the refugees who attended the event related to the the long wait times to access residency and regularization of stay.

Over the last week, refugee outreach workers provided information to some 3,103 refugees and asylum-seekers at UNHCR's Reception Centre in Greater Cairo on services, assistance, and procedures for reporting fraud and complaints. 1,450 individuals were also provided with basic psychosocial support.

Key trends identified among the people approaching UNHCR Egypt include difficulty accessing medical care, safety concerns due to bullying, unmet basic needs including food and shelter insecurity and language barriers to accessing services.

Infoline

Last week, UNHCR Egypt's Infoline handled 8,176 calls and provided new registration appointments to 3,516 people who have fled Sudan. The proportion of callers from Greater Cairo, including Giza and 6th October City, this week was 85%, 5.5% for Alexandria, 3.5% for Aswan, and 6% for other cities. Since the start of the conflict to date, 310,190 new arrivals from Sudan, comprising 116,637 cases, have received appointments via Infoline since the commencement of the crisis.

98% of registration appointments for new arrivals from Sudan were allocated to Sudanese individuals, while 2% were designated for Third Country Nationals (TCNs). Among those seeking registration appointments from the new arrivals in Sudan, females represented 60% and males 40%.

81.79% of the total inquiries were related to registration, followed by 7.92% for assistance, 3.27% for protection, 3.19% for phone verification, 1.21% for RSD, 0.97% for durable solutions, and 0.72% for legal protection. Additionally, Infoline booked an average of 703 appointments per day for an average of 1,835 individuals.

Prevention of and Response to gender-based violence (GBV)

Over the past week, UNHCR assisted 45 individuals at UNHCR's Reception Centre in Greater Cairo. 19 cases were recognized as emergency cases and handled on the spot, while 36 were considered of normal priority and added to the screening list for further needs assessment.

Legal and physical protection

During the reporting week, 89 cases were referred to legal partners for legal assistance. In addition, 244 cases received legal counselling through UNHCR and legal partners.

Cash Assistance and Livelihoods

In the period 24 – 30 March, a further 70 newly arrived Sudanese families were assessed for vulnerability to assess their eligibility for bimonthly cash support. The total number of Sudanese families assessed by UNHCR since the beginning of the crisis is now 27,227. Currently, 20,244 assessed newly arrived families, or 56,371 individuals, are on the waiting list, categorized as poor or extremely poor. The number of newly arrived Sudanese households who have received assistance is 3,602, or 15,774 individuals.

A total of 20,649 registered and unregistered households (56,202 individuals) have been identified as eligible for the one-off emergency cash assistance, out of whom 16,445 families (47,359 individuals) have successfully received their assistance.

UNHCR also conducts rapid needs assessments in Aswan and during the reporting period, 16 households, 37 individuals, were assessed bringing the total to 4,173 families, 11,949 individuals, since the beginning of the crisis in Aswan. 14 households (35 individuals) were found eligible as per the rapid

needs assessments criteria in the past week. To date, 2,812 families comprising of 8,651 individuals have been found eligible for one-off Emergency Cash Assistance through this assessment modality.

ETHIOPIA

Highlights

- Since the outbreak of conflict in Sudan in April 2023, a total of 51,666 individuals (23,008 households) in need of international protection crossed the border from Sudan to Ethiopia. 21,401 individuals crossed through the Metema entry point in Amhara, 22,093 individuals through the Kurmuk entry point in Benishangul Gumuz, and 700 individuals at different entry points in Gambella (Pagak, Burbiey). Some 7,472 Ethiopian refugee returnees also arrived.

Population Movement and Registration

In Benishangul Gumuz region, L1 registration was conducted for 197 individuals (62 households) at Kurmuk Transit Centre. The total L1 registration for new arrivals in March is 707 individuals (265 households) reaching a cumulative total of 22,093 since the start of the conflict in April 2023.

In Amhara region, L1 registration was conducted at Metema entry point for a total of 62 individuals (29 households). To date, a total of 23,134 individuals have undergone L1 registration since the start of the conflict. L3 registration is interrupted due to a fuel shortage arising from the region's volatile security situation. Nevertheless, UNHCR has issued updated proof of registration factsheets for 89 families and 338 individuals following biodata verification and corrections conducted in the Kumer refugee site.

Relocation

Relocation of refugees from Kumer transit site to Awlala refugee site is ongoing since 16 February 2024 reaching a cumulative total of 2,018 refugees (885 households) that have been relocated. During the reporting period, 241 individuals were relocated to Awlala site and provided shelters in close coordination with UNHCR, the governments Refugee and Returnees Service (RRS), IOM, Refugee Central Committee (RCC) and Action for the Needy (ANE).

Protection

UNHCR and RRS continue to monitor the border and receive refugees and asylum seekers at the Metema entry point with an average of 10 to 15 individuals seeking asylum daily. Plan International Ethiopia continue to provide hot meals, which are replaced by lunch boxes during Ramadan. Hot meal provision at the Metema entry point will cease by the end of the month. IOM has suspended transport to refugees from the entry point to the refugee locations Kumer and Awlala as their budget for this service has come to an end on 31 March 2024.

UNHCR continue to provide counseling and support to refugees, addressing their daily inquiries in Kumer, Awlala and Kurmuk. The primary concerns of refugees in the Kumer and Awlala were security, freedom of movement, and health issues.

The joint UNHCR-RRS Participatory Assessment exercise was completed in Kurmuk during the reporting period. Mapping of persons with specific needs residing at the Kurmuk transit center and surrounding kebeles was conducted as part of the preparation phase for the relocation exercise to Ura refugee settlement. To date, some 367 persons with specific needs have been identified.

Ramadan food basket distribution was carried out in Kurmuk transit center and surrounding kebeles by the Innovative Humanitarian Solution (IHS) Ethiopia through Secours Islamique France (SIF) through which various food items were provided to refugees including pregnant and lactating women, single mothers, elderly, people with disability and child-headed households. As of 31 March 2024, 1,400 households have been reached out of the targeted 2,000. Each household has been provided with 9 items weighing 15kg in total (wheat flour-5kg, rice-2kg, pasta-2kg, peas-2kg, sugar-1kg, salt-500gm, tea pack-100gm, dates-2kg and 1litre of cooking oil).

Child Protection

Seven separated children were identified and registered at Kurmuk. The cumulative figure of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) and other vulnerable children since the beginning of the influx totals 1,230 (554 girls and 676 boys). Of these, 1,080 (491 girls, 589 boys) are separated children, while 37 (9 girls, 28 boys) are unaccompanied children and 113 (54 girls, 59 boys) are other vulnerable children.

Child friendly spaces continued to provide basic literacy and numeracy activities in Kumer and Awlala and Kurmuk transit sites. The CFS provides a safe and nurturing environment for children, promoting their well-being and allowing them to participate in educational, recreational, and psychosocial activities.

Rapid Best Interests Assessments (BIAs) have been initiated for a total of 7 separated children. Cumulatively, a total of 985 (402 girls, 583 boys) cases of UASC and OVC have been addressed through rapid BIAs.

The Innovative Humanitarian Solutions (HIS) protection help desk received a total of 40 cases. The main issues raised by children and their care givers relate to shelter, physical abuse, health, non-food items and registration. All the cases were referred to partners for further assistance.

Gender-based Violence (GBV)

Four GBV cases were reported in Kumer and Kurmuk during the reporting week. The cases were supported through multisectoral response mechanisms, guiding them toward the necessary services in addition to psychosocial well-being of the survivors. In addition, four vulnerable women received additional psychological counseling.

At Kurmuk transit center, the International Rescue Committee (IRC) and MTI continued to provide awareness sessions focusing on sexual and domestic violence, early marriage, and PSEA at the Women and Girls Safe Spaces (WGSS). A total of 150 individuals were reached. In Kumer and Awlala, DICAC conducted similar awareness sessions reaching over 914 individuals.

Approximately 150 information, education, and communication (IEC) materials on GBV were distributed at the Awlala refugee site and Metema Point of Entry (POE).

In addition, home visits were also carried out by the two partners (IRC and MTI) reaching a total of 173 individuals through the dissemination of information on available services for GBV survivors and the effects of sexual, emotional, and physical violence in Kurmuk.

Awareness-raising sessions were conducted in Kumer, Awlala and Kurmuk on early marriage and its effects as well as on PSEA. Discussions focused on available services for survivors of GBV and the PSEA reporting system. Emphasis was placed on the prevention of physical violence and early marriage, underscoring the importance of reporting GBV and PSEA within 72 hours.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) were provided to GBV survivors in Kumer and Kurmuk.

Education

As of 29 March 2024, 276 school-age children (153 boys, 123 girls) attended Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) in Kumer. Additionally, 1,119 children (598 boys and 521 girls) attended primary school. The total number of children attending pre-primary and primary education combined is 1,395 (751 boys, 644 girls). Scholastic materials, such as school bags, exercise books, pens, pencils, erasers, and sharpeners, were distributed to 133 children this week.

Clubs for environmental protection, gender, music and drama, sports, debating, and child rights are established with appointed leaders while members are registered in Kumer. Further, Department heads are assigned to natural science, social science, mathematics, language, and sports. An experienced unit leader is selected from available teachers to provide instructional leadership.

Education in Emergency (EiE) program continued at Kurmuk transit center and a total of 190 students (53 girls, 137 boys) are attending in grades 1 and 2. This intervention covers only 3% of the needs.

The rapid assessment conducted by Plan International Ethiopia in December 2023 indicated that more than 6,126 children (3,039 girls, 3,187 boys) have no access to any form of education. These included

1,781 (782 girls, 999 boys) children in pre-primary age, 3,770 (1,877 girls, 1893 boys) children of primary school age, 570 (girls 320, 250 boys), children in middle-level and 105 (60 girls and 45 boys) children were of secondary school age.

Health and Nutrition

MTI and World Vision Ethiopia (WVE) are supporting the provision of health services through mobile health and nutrition teams in Kumer and Awlala.

MTI and WVE provided outpatient department (OPD) consultations to 443 individuals/adults (refugees and host community). Additionally, 35 consultations were extended to adults, and 18 consultations provided for children under 5 years from the host community. The prevalent diseases in children under-five include acute upper respiratory infections (AURI), diarrhea, eye disease, and intestinal worms. Among adults, OPD cases commonly involve acute upper respiratory infections (AURI), fungal infection, gastritis, back pain, and intestinal parasite (IP).

MHPSS education sessions and Sexual Reproductive Health sessions were conducted in both Kumer and Kurmuk. Family planning consultations and contraceptives and male condoms were distributed.

In Kumer and Awlala, MTI and WVE conducted nutritional screening for 70 children under 5 and 145 adults with no cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and severe acute malnutrition (SAM).

In Kumer and Awlala, shortage of fuel is affecting health and nutrition service delivery and implementation of partners' activities in nearby kebeles where refugees reside.

In Kurmuk and Akendayo Kebele, screening of under five children, pregnant and lactating women for acute malnutrition was conducted by GOAL. A total of 25 children were reached. Among them 2 children with moderate acute malnutrition were identified and admitted to targeted supplementary feeding program. Cumulatively, a total of 570 children have been screened in 2024 to date.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

UNHCR's partner ANE erected 50 family tents at the Awlala refugee site which were handed over to 144 households (241 individuals). A total of 453 tents have installed and handed over to 885 households (2,018 individuals) at Awlala since the start of the relocation.

Installation of two solar streetlights at Kumer Health Center to enhance health and safety services has commenced.

ANE installed two tents at the Kumer site for vulnerable families with damaged shelters.

The solid waste disposal site in Awlala was handed over to HIS by the UNHCR shelter team.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

In Kumer, 15 m³ of chlorinated water was distributed, including 8 m³ to the Kumer Host community and health post and 7m³ to the Federal Police. Refugees received an average of 15.5 liters per person daily, with variations between sites.

In Kurmuk, the dry and hot season continues to pose a challenge in the provision of water, it is also causing tension between refugees and their host community. 7m³ of chlorinated water was distributed in Kumer during the reporting week.

WASH activities progressed at the new Ura settlement site during the reporting week. IRC delivered required construction materials to the riverside, and the pump and generator house construction as part of the clean water supply project has started.

SOUTH SUDAN

Highlights

- Some 634,254 individuals have arrived in South Sudan as of 31 March, with 8,065 individuals arriving in the reporting week. South Sudanese returnees comprised 90 percent of all arrivals this week.
- Moreover, some 138,062 refugees and asylum-seekers have been recorded/registered in South Sudan to date.

Population Movement and Registration

In Renk, 1,671 individuals were recorded departing South Sudan, marking a 3 percent increase from last week. Reasons cited included family visits, medical treatment, family reunification, and a reluctance to be relocated to Maban camps due to its distance from the Sudan border and perceived limited services.

In Unity State, fewer and fewer returnees are arriving (in Rotriak) via the Panakuach border, with only 22 arrivals recorded this week - all from Kharasana, Sudan. It is believed that returnees are opting to travel via alternatives routes (Joda/Renk) to avoid theft and harassment reported at multiple checkpoints along the Kharasana and Panakuach entry routes.

In contrast, there is a continued increase of returnees arriving in Unity State having entered South Sudan via the Joda/Renk border, travelling onwards to Malakal, before taking an IOM chartered flight from Malakal to Unity State. Some 244 individuals arrived using this route this week, with a total of 1,836 arriving via this route since beginning of the year, compared to only 439 individuals who arrived through the Panakuach border entry point.

In Malakal, 980 returnees (2 boats) arrived from Renk to Malakal Transit Centre (TC), while 2,368 individuals departed by air to Wau, Juba, and Rubkona.

Relocation

UNHCR continues to observe reluctance among new arrivals in Renk to be relocated to Maban. This has inevitably stalled relocation efforts as sign-up numbers are below the minimum required to form a convoy. Moreover, in Abyei, approximately 450 refugees remain stuck at the transit centre awaiting relocation to Wedwil Refugee Settlement. This exercise has been paused since December 2023 amid security concerns.

Protection

In Aweil, UNHCR noted increased arrivals via irregular entry points, information gathered during protection assessments indicate that most are fleeing violence, but also food shortages and widespread food crisis particularly in the Darfur region. As a result, UNHCR in Aweil is anticipating an uptick in arrivals via the Makok and Kiir Adem entry-points.

Health and Nutrition

In Renk, a total of 5,010 consultations were across the transit centres and Joda/Wunthau reception centre, of which 23% were refugees. Respiratory tract infections (35%), malaria (11%), and acute watery diarrhoea (4%) remain the leading causes of morbidity.

In Renk, health actors facilitated 26 births by skilled delivery and 166 pregnant women were provided with antenatal care. A total of 2,736 children were vaccinated against polio and measles, while COVID-19 vaccines were given to 629 new arrivals.

In Renk, of the 2,362 children under five-years-old screened for malnutrition, 47 were severely malnourished and admitted to the Outpatient Therapeutic Program (OTP) of which 2 were later referred to the Nutrition Stabilization Centre at Renk Civil Hospital.

In Malakal, the leading morbidities were respiratory tract infection, diarrhoea, and eye infections.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

In Renk, the latest headcount (from transit centres including communal and family shelters) conducted showed that there was a total population physically present in transit centres and immediate surroundings of 14,695 individuals. Of these individuals 74% are South Sudanese returnees.

Meanwhile the latest headcount in Malakal, confirms a population of 3,997 individuals present at the Bulukat Transit Centre. Both transit centers (Renk and Bulukat) remain overcrowded and are hosting populations beyond their intended capacity.

Abyei transit centre currently hosts 450 refugee new arrivals, all awaiting relocation to Aweil which has been on hold since December 2023. Conditions have worsened with extreme heat and limited access to water. Pressure is mounting to ensure that this population is relocated as soon as possible.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

In Renk, there are currently 118 communal shelters and 21 individual shelters, with the capacity to accommodate 3,547, however an additional 293 shelters are required to meet current needs.

The current latrine ratio in Renk stands at one latrine per 42 individuals, and 1:71 individuals at the extension site. A further 204 communal shelters are required to meet the current needs.

In Wedwil, construction of six household latrines was completed while, pit excavation work for 15 household latrines ongoing.

Water provision remain steady across all transit centers at 15 liters of water per person per day.

UGANDA

Highlights

- Out of the 35,871 new arrivals to Uganda in 2024, 40 per cent are from Sudan. 12,804 of the Sudanese arrivals have been received in the settlements and 1,649 have sought asylum in Kampala. In total, there are 14,453 new arrivals from Sudan since the start of the year.
- A delegation from USA-PRM conducted a field visit to Kiryandongo from 25-26 March. The delegation toured the Kiryandongo reception center, held a meeting with the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), UNHCR and partners, conducted focus group discussions with newly arrived Sudanese individuals, and visited Ematong Primary School and a health center. The mission highlighted the issues surrounding Sudanese arrivals and the need to adapt the response for a new population with different needs than the regular flow of new arrivals into Uganda.
- Following discussions between the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) and UNHCR, two registration desks were established in Kiryandongo settlement. One desk serves individuals opting to remain in Kiryandongo, while the other caters to those who wish to register for residence in Kampala. This has streamlined the registration process, enabling formal residency for refugees in Kampala and ensuring targeted assistance for those residing in the settlement.

Population Movement and Registration

During the week, a total of 996 Sudanese new arrivals were received in Adjumani, Lamwo and Kiryandongo representing 53.3 per cent of the individuals (1,867) received through those districts. 569 new arrivals from Sudan were received in Kampala.

Most Sudanese who arrive in Uganda are from Khartoum and almost 7,500 have a university level education. Additional support is urgently required to ensure those who can be self-reliant are provided with the relevant support, for example livelihood opportunities, scholarships to complete university, and access to jobs based on previously obtained qualifications.

Relocation

As of 28 March, the Kiryandongo transit centre was housing 5,382 asylum seekers, for a capacity of only 500 individuals. 1,317 individuals (403 households) were relocated from Kiryandongo reception centre to their designated plots in the settlement. Efforts to expedite relocation will increase as more buses become available to alleviate overcrowding and reduce new arrivals' stay at reception centres.

Protection

Sudanese asylum seekers have continued to receive prima facie recognition courtesy of the open-door policy and the declaration of status in November 2023.

In Kiryandongo, 42 persons with specific needs (PSNs) among the Sudanese new arrivals were identified, assessed, and supported to access services.

Education

In Kiryandongo, 4 tents donated by UNICEF were erected in Ematong Primary School to address the challenge of congestion in schools following the arrival of Sudanese refugees.

Health and Nutrition

All new arrivals have received comprehensive health screenings.

Response Plans and Funding Situation

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

- On 7 February, UNHCR and 81 organization launched the [Regional Refugee Response Plan](#), with an appeal for **USD 1.4 billion** to provide essential aid and protection to **2.7 million people** expected to arrive in five neighbouring countries by the end of 2024, fleeing the ongoing conflict in Sudan. As of 3 April, the total funding for the RRP reached some USD 84 million or **6%** of the requirements.

Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) – January – December 2024

- The [Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan](#) was launched on 7 February and requires **USD 2.7 billion** to help 14.7 million people. As of 3 April, the total funding for the HRP reached some USD 145.2 million or **5.4%** of the requirements [OCHA FTS](#).

UNHCR Supplementary Appeal – January - December 2024

- UNHCR's total financial requirement for 2024 [Sudan Emergency Supplementary Appeal](#) – in Sudan and neighbouring countries – amount to **USD 988.1 million**. As of 29 February, the total available funding for the appeal is **11%** of the funding requirements.

Resources

- **NEW!** [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 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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