

## Central African Republic (CAR) – SUDAN SITUATION

9 – 15 August 2024



*In addition to attending French language classes at the local school during the week, Sudanese youth and adolescents are leading an “English Club” on the weekend to keep learning seven days a week. ©UNHCR/ Ph. Coco Elizabeth*

### Highlights

- In Birao (Vakaga prefecture), a UNDP mission took place in the framework of an African Development Bank (AfDB) funded stabilization programme to support the region, which has welcomed some 15,000 Sudanese refugees. In coordination with UNHCR, a series of meetings took place with governmental and humanitarian partners to discuss the implementation of the stabilization programme to support the resilience of refugees and the host community.
- To strengthen partners' capacity for international protection, UNHCR organized a training session for 24 staff members from its partners, including government partners, the National Commission for Refugees (CNR), the Support Project for the Return and Reintegration of Central Africans (PARET), and the NGOs NOURRIR, INTERSOS, and the African Initiative for Relief and Development (AIRD).
- During the reporting week, a relative calm has been observed in the prefectures of Haute Kotto and Ouaka hosting refugees, primarily due to the deterrent patrols conducted by the police forces and the Central African Armed Forces (FACA). However, the security situation remains concerning due to the increased incursions and activities of non-state armed groups targeting the civilian population. Cases of theft, robbery, extortion, illegal taxation, incursions, and forced labour are regularly reported.

## Population Movements and Registration

The Central African borders remain open for Sudanese fleeing Sudan. This week, 25 families (116 Sudanese) were registered in Korsi/Vakaga. To date, 6,174 families (14,275 Sudanese) are living in Korsi. Among them, 7,658 are women. In August, the arrival trend is 110 individuals per week compared to 124 in July, 204 in June, and 231 in May. The decrease is due to the rainy season. As of 11 August, the Central African Republic was host to 28,871 registered Sudanese refugees since April 2023.

In the Bamingui-Bangoran prefecture, the number of registered Sudanese refugees remains at 682 families (2 399 individuals) in Ndélé, Akroussoulbak, Koundi and Zobossinda.

In the Haute Kotto prefecture, the biometric registration of Sudanese refugees in the Ouandja Kotto, Bria, and Ippy records 976 families (2,974 individuals). This week, the National Commission for Refugees (CNR) conducted protection interviews with the newly arrived Sudanese, identifying 77 families (371 individuals).

## Protection

In Vakaga prefecture, UNHCR's partner INTERSOS, through its protection monitors, conducted 32 protection monitoring visits in Birao and Korsi, enabling the team to collect information relating to the protection situation. INTERSOS monitors also conducted perception surveys among newly arrived refugees in Korsi, provided psychosocial support to gender-based violence (GBV) survivors visiting the safe space, identified people with specific needs (PSNs), monitored the protection environment, supported community relays in conducting proximity awareness-raising, and held a coaching session with community relays. Following these visits, 72 protection incidents were identified and documented, including 45 cases of property rights violations, six violations of physical integrity and cases of gender-based violence (GBV). These incidents affected 68 members of the host community and four Sudanese refugees.

In addition, INTERSOS in Am Dafock carried out seven border monitoring visits. These visits enabled the team to monitor the protection environment, collect protection incidents in the area, conduct household surveys among returnees, provide psychosocial support to GBV cases in the safe space of Am Dafock, and identify PSNs.

INTERSOS conducted 12 perception surveys in Korsi with newly arrived refugee families. The protection issues identified during these surveys are linked to the living conditions in Korsi, the need to consider asylum procedures, and the provision of food assistance to benefit from food aid.

UNHCR's governmental partner Projet d'Appui au Retour et à la Réintégration (PARET) continues to monitor the spontaneous returns of CAR refugees from Sudan. This reporting week, PARET registered five families of 25 returnees in Birao. Since the beginning of the Sudan crisis in 2023, PARET has registered 1,736 families of 6,231 returnees from Sudan. Among these families, only 396 of 1,233 people have received cash assistance from UNHCR due to resource limitations.

UNHCR provided in-kind clothing assistance to six PSNs in Korsi. Additionally, INTERSOS conducted two educational sessions in Korsi's safe space, focusing on protecting children against malaria and personal hygiene. Forty-seven women and girls attended these sessions.

### Prevention against gender-based violence (GBV)

In the Haute Kotto prefecture, INTERSOS ensured the referral of documented cases of gender-based violence (GBV) to appropriate services, particularly to Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) and International Medical Corps (IMC), for medical, legal, and psychosocial support to survivors.

This week, UNHCR's partner, INTERSOS, in collaboration with community structures in Bria and Ouandja-Kotto, conducted eight awareness-raising sessions on the consequences of female genital mutilation (FGM), the types of GBV, and their consequences, reaching 230 people.

In the Vakaga prefecture, GBV incidents affecting refugees and host communities have been identified and documented in safe spaces within the Vakaga prefecture, including Birao and Am Dafock. Case managers provided psychosocial support to GBV survivors in safe spaces; 13 medical referrals were made to IMC clinics in Am Dafock and Birao for better care; two referrals were made to the Police Office station in Birao for juridical support; and one case was referred to the Birao Health District for psychosocial

support.

To strengthen accountability towards refugees, UNHCR's partner INTERSOS conducted three awareness sessions for refugees in Korsi on the collective feedback mechanism, complaint management, and procedures during distributions. This activity aimed to educate refugees about their rights and responsibilities in humanitarian activities and encourage responsible behavior during distribution of assistance. These sessions reached 321 individuals.

### Education

The academic support classes for learning French during the summer holidays continued in collaboration with the Academic Inspectorate and the Birao School District; 762 refugee, IDP and host community children attended classes. In addition, UNHCR's education partner INTERSOS completed the recruitment of additional teachers to strengthen teaching and reduce class sizes.

UNHCR's partner NOURRIR started the construction of 126 concrete desks in the existing classrooms at the Nguerendomo School in Birao. Simultaneously, six classrooms, two directors' offices with storage, and an administrative building for the Academic Inspection are underway.

Additionally, there has been a significant increase in enrollments at the Korsi child-friendly space, with 226 children participating this week, including 125 girls (55%), compared to 172 children (45% girls) the previous week. Recreational activities continued, and three group therapy sessions were held for these children. These activities took place in children's clubs and were facilitated by ten young volunteers, including six Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) focal points and four community relays, mobilized from the refugee, internally displaced (IDP), and host communities.

Education activities are supported by Education Cannot Wait's First Emergency Response Grant for the Central African Republic, which is part of the support for the Sudan Situation.

### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

This reporting week, 11 additional operational emergency latrines were constructed in Korsi, totaling 174, with 81 persons per latrine compared to 86 last week and 90 the previous week. However, the number of showers remains at 241, with 58 persons per shower.

The potable water supply for 14,275 refugees is 140,000 litres from three functional boreholes in Korsi. The average per-person quantity remained at 9.9 litres/person/day, below the emergency standard of 15 l/p/d.

A training session for hygiene promoters focused on viral hepatitis E marked the week in Korsi. In addition, awareness activities reached 945 people on methods to prevent viral hepatitis E, maintain domestic hygiene, and ensure the cleanliness of water points, latrines, and showers.

### Food security

NOURRIR provided 4,595 hot meals to new arrivals and refugees without a ration card using food donated by WFP and 4,386 breakfasts with food donated by UNHCR. A significant decrease has been observed compared to the previous week, with 11,424 hot meals and 11,267 breakfasts provided, mainly due to the World Food Programme (WFP) distribution of dry food. Once the new arrivals receive these dry food rations, they no longer benefit from hot meals.

### Cash Assistance

WFP provided conditional cash assistance for food to 302 families of 886 Sudanese refugees in Ndélé in the Bamingui-Bangoran prefecture.

### Health and Nutrition

This reporting week, the medical teams of NOURRIR and IMC conducted 1,133 curative consultations, of which 98 benefited the host population of Birao and 1,035 to Sudanese refugees living in Korsi. Among the latter, 102 patients were new arrivals. Other medical interventions included gynecological, prenatal, and postnatal consultations for 77 Sudanese refugee women. Additionally, five secure deliveries were

assisted this week in Birao, bringing the total to 89 deliveries and 92 births since the beginning of the year. This week, 13 patients were referred from Korsi to the Birao District Hospital for better care.

Regarding nutritional health, this week, 15 new cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) affecting children aged six to fifty-nine months and five cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) were screened and taken care of. Since the beginning of the year, 1,133 children have been screened and assisted for MAM, 116 children for SAM, and 844 cases have benefited from preventive malnutrition assistance. Finally, 19 pregnant women received the tetanus vaccine, and 35 children were vaccinated with multi-antigens, including six against measles. In total, 456 children have been immunized with multi-antigens, including 169 against measles, and 280 pregnant women have received tetanus vaccines for routine vaccination since the beginning of the year.

In Birao, to respond to the increase in malaria cases (882 cases recorded this week compared to 726 cases last week), UNHCR donated 20 mattresses, 50 insecticide-treated mosquito nets, 25 mats, and 1,200 masks to the Birao District Hospital.

## Response Plans and Funding Situation

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

On 7 February, UNHCR and 81 organizations launched the [Regional Refugee Response Plan](#), with an appeal for **USD 46.2 million for the Central African Republic (CAR)** to provide essential aid and protection to 71,176 people in need, **including 39,876 refugees** fleeing the ongoing conflict in Sudan by the end of 2024. As of 15 August, the total funding for the CAR RRP remained at some USD 6.1 million or **13%** of the requirements.

### UNHCR Supplementary Appeal – January - December 2024

UNHCR's total financial requirement for the 2024 [Sudan Emergency Supplementary Appeal](#) – in Sudan and neighbouring countries was revised on 3 July. It now amounts to **USD 1.03 billion**. As of 15 August, it was funded at **33%**.

## Resources

- Data story: [Sudan: One year of spiralling conflict and displacement](#)
- [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](#)
- [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 Global Focus Sudan Operation page](#)
- [UNHCR Sudan Emergency website](#)

**Contacts:** **Stella Fatime** – Public Information Associate ([fatime@unhcr.org](mailto:fatime@unhcr.org)); **Gloria Ramazani** – External Relations Officer ([ramazang@unhcr.org](mailto:ramazang@unhcr.org)).

Follow us on our [X \(twitter.com\)](#) [UNHCR Centrafrique | Bangui | Facebook](#)