

## Central African Republic (CAR) – SUDAN SITUATION

23 – 29 August 2024



*In Korsi, MSF Spain distributed hygiene kits to pregnant women to prevent the hepatitis E epidemic, of which several cases have been recorded. ©UNHCR*

### Highlights

- In Birao, Vakaga prefecture, WFP moved from in-kind provision of food to cash distribution, which increases independence and may contribute to greater self-reliance. In preparation, UNHCR and WFP organized meetings to present the objectives, identify the distribution site, and brief local authorities. An informational session was held in Korsi to inform beneficiaries about the shift to cash assistance. The distribution, targeting 14,148 individuals (6,184 households) began on 24 August at Nguerendomo School covering 4,622 people (2,235 households) by 25 August. Cash is distributed at the same time to the targeted host population.
- In Haute Kotto prefecture, 110 households who had undergone protection interviews with the National Commission for Refugees (CNR) received asylum seeker certificates, valid for three months and renewable, allowing them to move freely until they receive family composition documents or refugee cards. Additionally, on 19 August, in collaboration with the Education Inspector of Bria, UNHCR and CNR organized an awareness session to inform the Sudanese asylum seekers about the importance of education, especially with the upcoming school year in September. Later, on 23 August, UNHCR and CNR assisted WFP in distributing SCOPE cards to asylum-seeking households in Bria, while also raising awareness about the significance of these cards for accessing assistance.
- In Bamingui-Bongoran, Nana Gribizi and Ouaka prefectures, while the overall security situation in Kaga Bandoro remained calm, the area was impacted by several armed incursions in Batangafo and Mbrés, and an attack on the Central African Armed Forces (FACA) position in Ndélé, leading to human rights violations and preventive population movements. Additionally, heavy rains have caused road degradation, increasing the risk of landslides and accidents, necessitating heightened caution during field missions.

## Population Movements and Registration

This reporting week, the team registered 32 individuals (3 households) marking a significant decrease compared to 97 individuals (32 households) last week and 116 individuals (25 households) the week before. The arrival trend for August is 106 per week, down from 124 in July, 204 in June, and 231 in May. The total population in Korsi now stands at 14,404 individuals (6,209 households) with 54 per cent female (7,730 individuals) and 46 per cent male (6,674 individuals).

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

The biometric registration of Sudanese refugees in Ouandja-Kotto, Bria, and Ippy reveals a total of 2,974 Sudanese refugees (976 households) including 2,407 refugees (751 households) in Ouandja-Kotto, 270 refugees (94 households) in Bria, and 297 refugees (133 households) in Ippy.

## Protection

In Vakaga, of the 31 incidents related to human rights violations, one case of assault and battery was referred to the Birao District Health Centre, where the victim received medical treatment. However, the other cases could not be referred due to their occurrence in remote and dangerous localities.

In the reporting week, two awareness-raising sessions were conducted in Birao within the host community and at the Korsi site reaching 218 people. These sessions were organized following an analysis of incidents collected in recent weeks, which showed a trend towards property rights violations. In collaboration with community relays, the monitoring team planned these sessions to inform participants about potential theft and robbery risks during their movements along various routes.

In Haute Kotto, 14 protection monitoring visits were conducted in Bria and Sam Ouandja, focusing on gathering information on security conditions, identifying protection incidents, and assessing multisectoral needs. Similarly, in Ouaka, 20 visits were carried out, with activities including the collection of protection incident data and perception surveys. Additionally, monitoring in return areas in Bria revealed that some returnees need food, livelihood support, and increased security patrols, while in Ouaka, returnees face challenges such as inadequate shelter kits and limited access to healthcare due to financial constraints.

The field team conducted 10 border monitoring visits to assess the conditions of spontaneous returnees and new arrivals, finding that many live in inhumane conditions, with some having lost their homes and others lacking financial resources to restart their lives. Perception surveys in Haute Kotto and Ouaka identified key needs such as access to food, clean water, shelter, healthcare, and education. Additionally, protection surveys were conducted among Sudanese refugees and asylum seekers, highlighting the need for CRIs, shelter, and improved medical and food assistance, particularly in Ippy, where refugees continue to struggle with basic necessities.

## Prevention against gender-based violence (GBV)

Psychosocial support was provided to 23 GBV survivors at safe spaces in Korsi, the Vakaga District Health Centre, and Am-Dafock Hospital. Of these survivors, 13 were referred for further care, including 11 for medical treatment and 2 for legal assistance. Additionally, follow-up on 19 previous cases led to the closure of 17, as the survivors regained psychological stability. CRIs and dignity kits were distributed to 8 individuals, including 7 in the host community and 1 in Korsi.

Group and individual therapy sessions were conducted, with 6 individuals receiving counseling in Korsi. Four educational sessions were held in Korsi on topics such as GBV case management, hygiene, and child protection during the rainy season, reaching 220 women and girls. A group therapy session in Am-Dafock focused on the consequences of rape, involving 59 participants, including 29 women, 21 girls, and 9 men.

In Haute Kotto, 21 referrals were made this week, including 18 for medical care, 1 for legal assistance, and 2 for psychosocial support, with Bria recording 15 referrals and Sam-Ouandja 6. The cases involved physical assaults, rape, and denial of resources, affecting mostly women, as well as one man and one girl. Additionally, five dignity kits were distributed in Bria to five women, including IDPs and survivors. Prevention activities included 11 awareness sessions in Bria, reaching 361 people on the consequences of rape, physical assault, and female genital mutilation (FGM).

In Ouaka, three medical referrals were made in Kouango, involving a case of rape and 2 physical assaults, all directed to the Kouango secondary hospital for medical care. 8 follow-ups on previous cases were also conducted, addressing issues like rape, physical assault, sexual assault, and psychological violence. 6 prevention sessions were held across intervention zones, reaching 461 people. These sessions focused on the consequences of physical aggression, early marriage, psychological violence, and divorce, aiming to raise awareness and prevent gender-based violence in the region.

### Education

In Vakaga, French and academic support classes continued during the summer holidays in collaboration with the Academic Inspectorate and school district. This week, preparations are underway for future distributions of new school kits. Child and English clubs continued to offer support through community focal points, incorporating recreational and psychosocial activities for children. Three group therapy sessions were held at Korsi, benefiting 63 children, with a focus on strengthening therapeutic bonds and sharing experiences.

Community mobilization efforts included two awareness sessions at Korsi and within the host community, reaching 86 people on themes of peaceful coexistence and the importance of living together. The Education Cannot Wait (ECW) team monitored prevention of exploitation and abuse (PEA) classes in two schools, addressing challenges faced by teachers. Construction work progressed in three classrooms at Nguerendomo School, with 72 concrete tables built, and plastering and finishing of walls continued at both Nguerendomo and the Prefectoral School.

In Bria, Haute Kotto prefecture, 300 out-of-school children were identified for enrollment in remedial classes, which are scheduled to start by September. These classes aim to bridge the education gap caused by displacement. As significant progress was made in Bria, 2 new school buildings were completed, including latrine facilities to improve sanitation for students.

3 new classrooms were constructed in Kaga Bandoro to accommodate the growing number of school-age children, as well as an additional 12 durable latrines constructed across various schools in the region to enhance the learning environment.

### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

In Vakaga, a total of 175 emergency latrines and 241 emergency showers were constructed for 14,404 refugees, with ratios of 82 people per latrine and 58 people per shower. Water supply remained at 140,000 liters from three boreholes, providing 9.7 liters per person per day, below the emergency standard. Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) installed a platform and connected water bladders to pumps, while Triangle Génération Humanitaire (TGH) /UNICEF reviewed plans for new water points. Hygiene promotion focused on viral hepatitis E prevention, reaching 945 people. In addition, MSF distributed 100 additional hygiene kits to pregnant women, and UN Women is planning to construct a new latrine block and an additional borehole on-site.

In Bria, the water supply remains a critical issue, with only 12 liters per person per day available for the refugee population. Efforts are underway to increase this supply, with plans to drill 3 new boreholes by the end of the year.

In Kaga Bandoro, hygiene promotion activities reached 1,200 individuals, emphasizing the prevention of waterborne diseases.

### Food security

During the reporting week, WFP moved to cash distribution in Birao, which increases independence and may lead to increase self-reliance. The distribution, targeting 6,184 households (14,148 individuals), began on 24 August at Nguerendomo School, covering 2,235 households (4,622 individuals) by 25 August.

Food distribution activities have been scaled up across all three regions. In Bria, 1,200 households received monthly food rations, while in Kaga Bandoro, 850 households benefited from supplementary feeding programs targeting malnourished children. The distributions are coordinated by NOURRIR, with food supplies provided by WFP.

Efforts to promote agricultural activities among refugees are ongoing. In Bria, 150 households received agricultural tools and seeds to start small-scale farming, aiming to reduce dependency on food aid and improve food security in the medium and long-term.

### Health and Nutrition

This reporting week, the medical teams of NOURRIR and International Medical Corps (IMC) conducted 870 curative consultations, of which 121 benefited the host population of Birao and 749 to Sudanese refugees living in Korsi. 76 patients were new arrivals. Other medical interventions included gynecological, prenatal, and postnatal consultations for 77 Sudanese refugee women. This week, 18 patients were referred from Korsi to the Birao District Hospital for better care. In Birao, to respond to the increase in malaria cases (882 cases recorded this week compared to 726 cases last week), UNHCR donated CRIs to the Birao District Hospital.

In Kaga Bandoro, 900 medical consultations were conducted, with a focus on maternal and child health. In Bria, 700 consultations were recorded, with a significant portion of the cases being related to malaria and respiratory infections. Vaccination campaigns are also ongoing, with a particular emphasis on measles and tetanus.

Regarding nutritional health, in Birao, eleven (11) cases of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) were reported among children aged 6 to 59 months, along with five (05) cases of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM). As of 8 August, a total of 1,155 children with Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) have been treated, along with 125 children with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM), and 844 cases of moderate malnutrition prevention. In total, 2,124 children aged 0 to 59 months have received treatment for malnutrition.

Nutritional screening in Bria identified 20 new cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and 10 cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) among children. Treatment for these cases is ongoing, with support from UNICEF and other partners. In Kaga Bandoro, nutritional support was extended to 300 pregnant and breastfeeding women.

## 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 29 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 22 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](#)

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