EASTERN CHAD

01 November 2025

SUDANESE SITUATION – FLASH UPDATES #4

Key numbers

1,463,233
Refugees and asylum seekers - 30 September 2025[1]

882,456
New Sudanese refugee arrivals - 26 October 2025[2]

158,917
New Sudanese refugees registered since January 2025

Funding

$701.4 M requested for the Sudanese Emergency Interagency Regional Refugee Response Plan - Jan- Dec 2025

[1, 2] UNHCR TCHAD| Population des personnes en déplacement forcé au Tchad (septembre 2025) Afflux des Réfugiés Soudanais
[5] Chad Funding Update 30 September 2025

Security and Humanitarian Context

Reports indicate that the Rapid Support Forces have entered the city of El Fasher, the capital of North Darfur on 24 October. The city has been under siege for 18 months and hosts an estimated 300,000 civilians in dire conditions. This development has triggered large-scale displacement, including movements toward Chad.

On October 29 and 31, drone strikes targeted the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) in Tina, Sudan, and a drone flew over the central market of Tiné, Chad, on October 29, causing panic among the local population. These developments significantly increase the risk of a mass influx of refugees into Chad**.**

Government Response

The Chadian Government, officially alerted on October 28, established a national monitoring team led by the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, with support from UNHCR and humanitarian partners. A national coordination meeting was held to assess developments, identify response gaps, and consider activation of the inter-agency contingency plan.

Humanitarian Response

The inter-agency contingency plan, developed by UNHCR in collaboration with 20 partners (UN agencies, government entities, and NGOs), aims to respond to a potential arrival of 90,000 refugees and 30,000 returnees between October and December 2025. It targets strategic entry points such as Tiné, Kulbus, Birak, and Adré, and provides immediate assistance in protection, health, WASH, shelter, and relocation to safer sites. The plan follows an integrated approach, emphasizing host community resilience, community mobilization, and enhanced border monitoring.

It is estimated that responding to this emerging crisis will require a total budget of USD 52.2 million to support 90,000 individuals. To address the immediate needs of 20,000 people expected to arrive in the initial weeks, a minimum of USD 7.5 million is urgently needed. To ensure a timely, effective, and coordinated response, it is imperative that all humanitarian actors actively contribute. A strong advocacy effort is essential to mobilize resources across all partners and support multi-sectoral interventions during this critical phase, in order to meet the escalating needs of forcibly displaced populations.

Coordination

Humanitarian response coordination is led nationally by the Chadian Government, through the Ministry of Social Action, Solidarity and Humanitarian Affairs (MASSAH), in close collaboration with UNHCR and other humanitarian actors. Two coordination meetings have already been held

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under the leadership of the Director General of Humanitarian Affairs, during which contingency plans related to the Sudanese crisis were reviewed and validated: UNHCR's plan for refugees and IOM's plan for returnees. Humanitarian actors were urged to quickly position themselves across key sectors, including water and sanitation, shelter, health, and livelihoods.

On October 29, 2025, a weekly coordination meeting co-chaired by UNHCR and the National Commission for the Reception and Reintegration of Refugees and Returnees (CNARR) brought together donors, humanitarian partners, and government authorities. The meeting focused on field developments, response gaps, and the potential activation of contingency plans. Despite limited financial resources, partners reaffirmed their commitment to supporting the humanitarian response and strengthening intersectoral coordination.

Local coordination meetings continued on October 29 and 30, focusing on site preparation, border monitoring, relocation, and protection services in Wadi Fira and Ennedi East.

Current Situation of Arrivals

Although no **mass influx** has been observed to date, **regular refugee arrivals continue**. On 31 October, **234 individuals** (89 families) were registered, mainly in the provinces of Ennedi Est, Wadi Fira, and Ouaddaï. Between October 25 and 31, 2,051 individuals from 721 families were registered and assisted by humanitarian teams.

Based on trends observed during previous influxes, it is estimated that the first significant wave of arrivals linked to the El Fasher crisis could occur as early as the week of 10 November 2025. Movements toward the border remain slow and discreet, as refugees travel primarily at night to avoid security risks and remain stationary during the day. Additionally, intense fighting in border areas is significantly slowing down movements.

Ongoing Preparations

- **Ourecassoni Site**: Validated by local authorities, this site is being prepared to host a transit center equipped for screening, pre-registration, and orientation of new arrivals.
- **Reorganization of Tiné Site**: Efforts are underway to reorganize the Tiné transit site in anticipation of new waves of displaced persons. This reorganization is urgent due to the deteriorating security situation at the border, particularly in Tina, Sudan, where bombings have been reported.
- **Strengthening Preparedness**: UNHCR, in close collaboration with its partners, is intensifying resource mobilization. An appeal to donors has been launched to strengthen reception and response capacities in border areas.
- **Land Negotiations**: Discussions are ongoing between UNHCR, CNARR, local authorities, and traditional leaders for the allocation of land needed to establish new reception sites.

Key Recommendations

- **Identification of suitable relocation sites**: Sites must have secure access to water, adequate space, and conditions conducive to the installation of essential services for refugees and host communities.

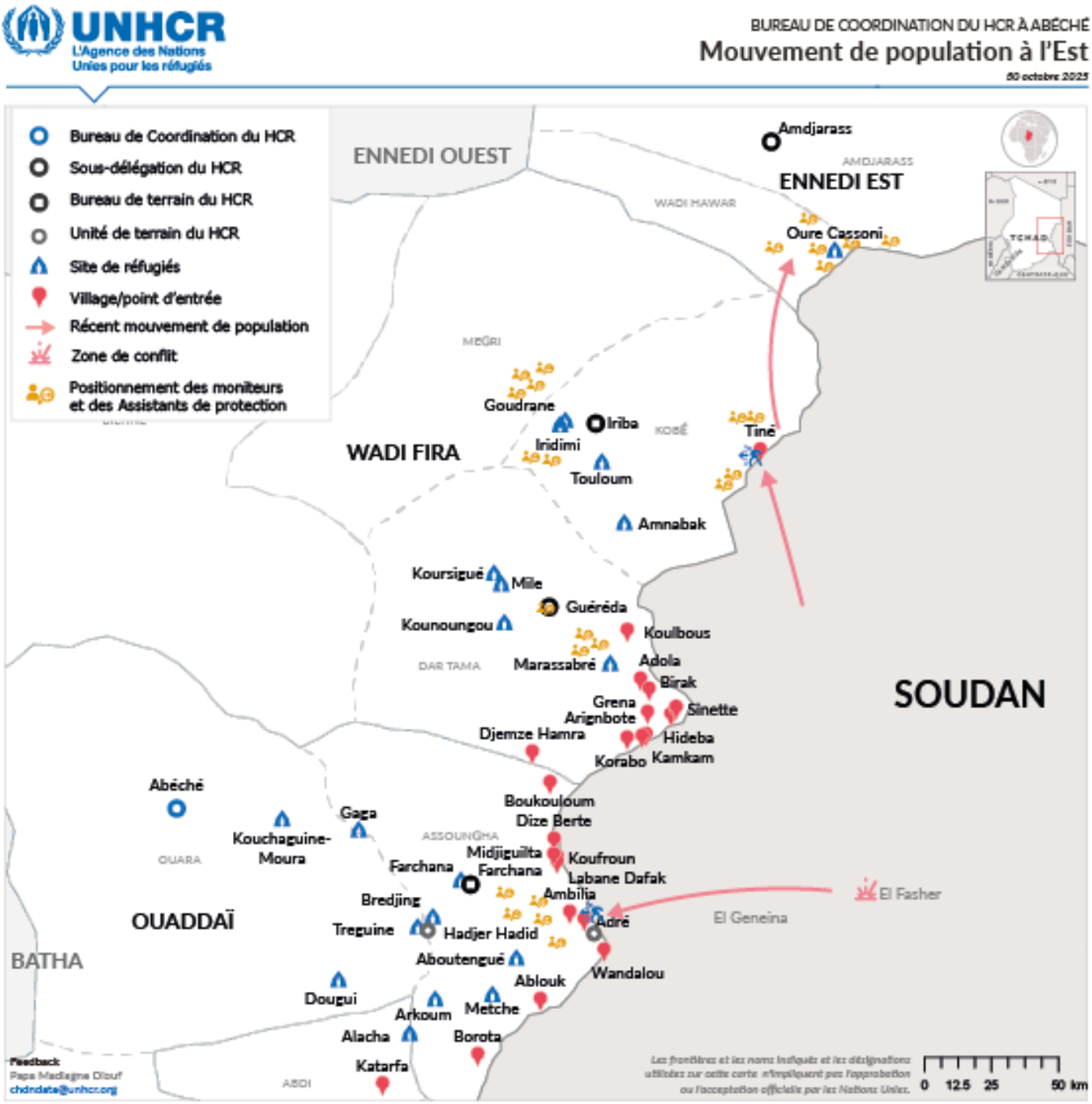
- **Urgent establishment of a rapid response mechanism**: An operational system must be activated to enable immediate intervention in the event of a mass influx, ensuring swift and coordinated support for new arrivals.
- **Strengthening intersectoral coordination**: Close coordination across sectors (health, WASH, shelter, protection, nutrition) is essential to ensure an effective**,** coherent, and sustainable response.
- **Major health concerns**: The risk of cholera transmission, already reported in Darfur, requires enhanced preventive measures to protect displaced populations and host communities.

Priority Actions to Strengthen the Humanitarian Response

- **Advocacy for secure land access**: Accelerate negotiations for land allocation for new reception sites, ensuring legal and social security.
- **Health coverage reinforcement**: Urgent provision of cholera treatment kits and medical tents to strengthen treatment units.
- **Health services**: Deployment of mobile clinics and medical specialists (surgeons and trauma experts) in district hospitals, along with additional ambulances for emergency transfers.
- **Shelter and essential household items**: Rapid deployment of emergency shelters and distribution of non-food items (NFIs) including blankets, jerrycans, and cooking utensils.
- **WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene)**: Provision of sanitation kits, water treatment products, latrine maintenance equipment, and construction of boreholes, latrines, and showers in transit and reception sites.

Budget and Funding

The estimated budget to meet the needs of **90,000 refugees** is **USD 52.2 million**.



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