Sudan

March 2021

Sudan hosts **1,1 million** refugees and **2,5 million** internally displaced persons (IDPs). Recently, it saw new displacements from Ethiopia and within Darfur states.

UNHCR and partners continue responding to the needs of about **60,000 refugees** in East Sudan from Ethiopia's Tigray region and **7,000 asylum-seekers** in Blue Nile State from Ethiopia's Benishangul-Gumuz region.

In **West Darfur**, UNHCR is monitoring the situation closely with needs assessments in affected areas and assisted about **56,000 newly displaced people** with assistance since the start of the year.

KEY INDICATORS (AS OF 31 MARCH)

1,106,590

Estimated **refugees and asylum-seekers** in Sudan.

59%

Refugees and asylum-seekers who have received **individual registration** in Sudan.

109,264*

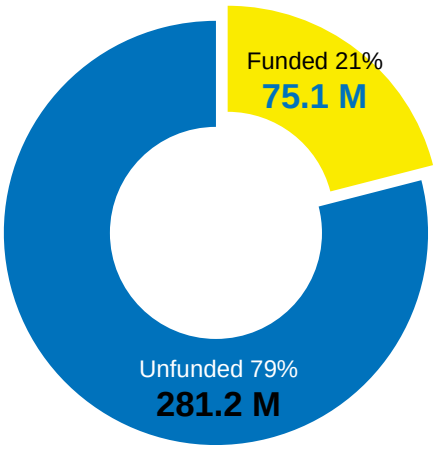
Estimated **newly internally displaced Sudanese** in West Darfur since mid-January 2021.

**The figure is based on IOM's Emergency Event Tracking (EET) 28 March.*

FUNDING (AS OF 30 MARCH)

USD 356.3 M

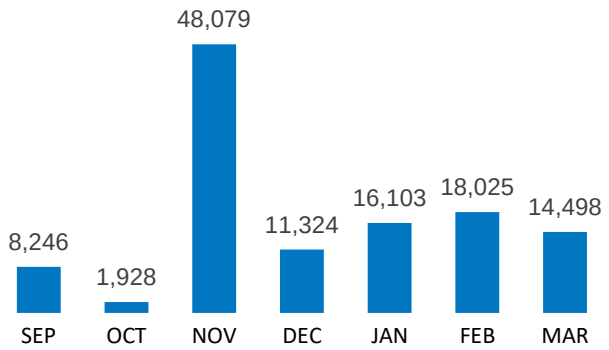
requested for the UNHCR's Sudan operation in 2021



Due to an increase in arrivals from South Sudan into White Nile State, UNHCR and partners have been preparing a new site in Algana'a. Today it hosts about 10,000 refugees.

REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS

New Monthly Arrivals



Update on Achievements

Operational Context

Sudan hosts 1,1 million refugees from South Sudan (70%), Eritrea (11%), Ethiopia (7%), Central African Republic (2%) and other countries, and 2,55 million internally displaced persons (IDPs), the majority of which are centred in the Darfur states. While the country faces various challenges, including inflation, shortages in bread and fuel, and high levels of food insecurity among the population, its border remain opens to those seeking asylum. Since early November 2020, Sudan saw the arrival of about 60,000 refugees in **eastern Sudan** from Ethiopia's Tigray region, and more than 7,000 new arrivals from Ethiopia's Benishangul-Gumuz region into **Blue Nile State.** Meanwhile, an increased number of refugees have arrived from South Sudan, reportedly mainly due to flooding, conflict and food insecurity. Since January 2021, about 12,000 individuals have crossed into **White Nile State**, mainly through Joda border point, and 18,000 individuals into **East Darfur**. For East Darfur, this is more than twice the number it received the whole of last year. At the turn of the new year, an increase in inter-communal violence in **West Darfur** led to the displacement of more than 109,000 Sudanese nationals, mainly in Geneina and surrounding areas. Since the end of 2020, violence in Gereida in **South Darfur** has displaced over 4,000 Sudanese individuals to East Darfur and other areas. In February, reports also indicated new displacements of at least 10,000 families from **East Jebel Marra** to different localities in South and North Darfur.

In Blue Nile State, UNHCR and COR completed the first voluntary relocation of the new arrivals from Ethiopia's Benishangul-Gumuz region to a newly established site further inland.

Achievements

Achievements and Impact

- In East Darfur, UNHCR and Sudan's Commissioner for Refugees (COR) registered 4,877 refugees at household level in Adila settlement. Another 1,149 refugees were identified by their biometrics and had their documents re-issued.
- In South Darfur, UNHCR and COR registered 319 refugees from South Sudan in Beliel and Nyala, and 72 refugees from the Central African Republic (CAR) in Al Amal refugee settlement.
- In East Sudan, UNHCR and COR registered 454 refugees, mainly Eritreans, at household level in the two Shagarab camps.
- In White Nile State, UNHCR and COR registered 3,830 refugees in Algana'a at household level, and another 975 refugees with biometrics (BIMS) in Um Sangour camp.
- In West Kordofan, UNHCR and COR resumed biometric verification and registration of South Sudanese refugees after being halted for a year due to COVID-19. About 980 individuals in Al Meiram were registered in the ongoing exercise.
- In Blue Nile State, COR, supported by UNHCR, completed household registration of the new arrivals from Ethiopia in six border points. A total of 7,179 individuals have been registered.
- The birth registry campaign, launched last year by UNHCR and Sudan's Civil Registry, continued. A total of 777 children in Majouk and Dereige IDP camps in South Darfur underwent birth registration.
- In White Nile State, UNHCR and COR continued to relocate new arrivals from South Sudan away from the two border points, Joda and Elmegnis, to a newly established site, Algana'a extension, further inland. As of March, nearly 10,000 refugees have been relocated.
- In Blue Nile State, UNHCR and COR completed the first relocation of the new arrivals from Ethiopia's Benishangul-Gumuz region. 75 individuals were relocated from Magano border point to a new site further inland, near Village 6, with access to tents and basic services.
- In East Sudan, UNHCR and WFP started a joint rehabilitation of more than 60 kilometres road structures to ensure access to Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah during the rainy season.
- In West Darfur, UNHCR and IOM established a Site Management Working Group to coordinate multi-sectoral services at the temporary gathering points of newly internally displaced people (IDPs). The group will work in close coordination with Sudan's Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) and OCHA.

- In Kordofan States, UNHCR and partners completed the annual participatory assessment which helps to inform decisions relating to the refugee response. 33 focus group discussions were held, and 476 refugees interviewed about challenges and solutions to their protection.
- UNHCR's partner Mutawinat provided legal counselling to about 38 cases in Kordofan and Darfur States. It also conducted a detention monitoring visit to El Fula prison in Kordofan, and four visits to Kosti and Rabak prisons in White Nile State to assess the situation of refugee inmates.
- UNHCR provided 146 consultations in Kordofan States and 1,685 consultations in East Sudan via hotlines and physical meetings. Issues were raised with regards to health referrals, gender-based violence (GBV) interventions, fire incidents, family reunifications, resettlement and distributions of non-food items (NFIs).
- In East Darfur, UNHCR's partner Alight (formerly known as ARC) completed the construction of a reception centre in Kario refugee camp. The centre will improve the camp's reception of new arrivals from South Sudan, which amounted to 4,444 of the 6,511 refugees that arrived in East Darfur in March alone.
- In East Sudan, community volunteers conducted 1,050 home visits to raise awareness about the dangers of irregular migration and misinformation in Shagarab camps. In total, they reached 5,250 individuals.
- The Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) with UNHCR's support admitted 124 new Eritrean minors to its centre for unaccompanied children (UACs) in East Sudan. In total, 181 Eritrean minors are now residing in the centre.
- UNHCR identified and referred at least 477 IDPs with specific needs to services following joint assessments to affected areas in West Darfur, including Ag Geneina.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- UNHCR and partners continued to carry out needs assessments and protection monitoring in villages, gathering points and IDP camps affected by the situation in West Darfur. At least 92 locations were assessed in March. In most of them, immediate needs were identified in basic services, such as water, food, health, and security.
- UNHCR also conducted a protection monitoring mission to El Neem camp in East Darfur, where IDPs expressed a desire to return to their home villages, however that land ownership remains a concern.
- UNHCR also joined missions to East Jebel Marra and Gereida in South Darfur. The missions found immediate needs in registration and provision of assistance.
- UNHCR met with a women's committee in Al Firdous in East Darfur which identified needs in women activities, water and health, including a lack of midwives.

Achievements and Impact

- In White Nile State, the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) distributed 9,737 school uniforms to primary students in all refugee camps. In addition, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD) distributed 70 handwashing facilities and 76 cartons of soap to the schools.
- In East Sudan, the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) established two temporary learning spaces (TLSs) with five classrooms each for children at primary education level in Um Rakuba, and a third is underway. The TLS also hosted temporary learning activities for children at secondary education level.
- In East Sudan, NRC also finalized preliminary work before the construction of semi-permanent classes can begin in Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah. Meanwhile, it finalized a registration exercise for enrolment in classes in Um Rakuba. 2,728 children of school age were registered.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- In Kordofan States, UNHCR with Ministry of Education assessed a newly established school in Shandi Foug in El Fula locality. The school, currently teaching 630 refugee children, is in need of school materials, plastic sheeting and mats for classrooms.

Achievements and Impact

- In Kordofan States, the Ministry of Health registered 98 refugee health workers and volunteers to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, scheduled to be rolled out in April.
- In East Darfur, UNHCR's partner Alight consulted 1,084 patients, with the most common diseases being respiratory infections. In addition, it provided sessions in hygiene to 1,189 individuals.
- In East Darfur, UNHCR's partner Al Manar referred 131 refugees for treatment at Ad Du'ayn Hospital, of which the majority were from Kario camp.
- In East Sudan, on 23 March, UNHCR's partner Alight and Kassala Ministry of Health started a vaccination campaign for yellow fever and polio in Shagarab, Girba and Kilo 26 refugee camps. 3,828 out of a targeted 14,086 children were vaccinated for yellow fever, and 4,231 out of a targeted 5,478 children for polio.
- In East Sudan, UNHCR distributed medical supplies, including medicines, to health partners to cover the needs of all refugee camps in Kassala for three months.
- In East Sudan, Alight provided training in detection and prevention of tuberculosis for 35 community health workers in Shagarab camp.

- In White Nile State, health facilities completed 23,653 consultations across all refugee camps, of which the majority took place in Alkashafa, Alagaya and Khor Alwaral.
- In East Darfur, UNHCR held five sessions about psychosocial support in El Nimir women center.
- In East Darfur, UNHCR's partner Alight completed the rehabilitation of an isolation centre for COVID-19 cases.
- In East Sudan, the Ministry of Health with support from UNHCR, UNICEF and Alight completed vaccination campaigns in Um Rakuba, Tunaydbah, Hamdayet and Village 8. A total of 40,728 refugees and hosts were vaccinated for cholera, and 37,062 for yellow fever.
- In East Sudan, UNHCR and partners continued biweekly malnutrition screenings among children in Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah. The latest screening identified 406 cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and 1,307 cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). All were referred for treatment.
- In Blue Nile State, UNFPA and CAFA Development Organization (CAFA) established a health facility and started provisioning medical services at the new site, near Village 6, to the new arrivals relocated from the border. The clinic is also serving host communities,

FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

Achievements and Impact

- In East Darfur, WFP distributed a one-month food ration – including cereals, pulses, oil and salt – to nearly 50,000 South Sudanese refugees in Abu Jabra, Abu Karinka, Adila, Assalaya, Abu Matariq, Kario, Muhajeria and Al Firdous. In addition, UNHCR provided about 10,000 refugees in Al Nimir with cash transfers for food purchases.
- In White Nile State, WFP provided food rations to 188,847 refugees, including the new arrivals from South Sudan in Algana'a. In South Darfur, WFP and partners distributed food rations in all refugee settlements, except Karakada and Maramosa and to newly registered refugees.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- In East Darfur, UNHCR completed an assessment of market prices in Al Nimir camp and found that prices of local food baskets had increased due to inflation and the floatation of the Sudanese Pound.

WATER AND SANITATION

Achievements and Impact

- In White Nile State, UNHCR's partner CAFOD conducted regular awareness-raising in sanitation and hygiene through 135 assigned hygiene promoters in the nine camps. Sessions included guidance on the prevention and control of COVID-19.
- In White Nile State, CAFOD completed the construction of 10 communal emergency latrines in Algana'a, hosting the new arrivals from Joda border point.
- In South Darfur, UNHCR's partner International Aid Services (IAS) completed the upgrade of a water pump to a mini water yeard in Battra village in Mershing locality.
- In South Darfur, WES and refugees conducted four cleaning campaigns in El Radoum refugee settlement. WES also conducted sessions in good hygiene to 317 food sellers in the settlement's market.
- In South Darfur, IAS, under CERF, completed a geophysical survey to identify suitable drilling sites for three water pumps in Beliel locality. It also completed the rehabilitation of four water pumps in Beleil and Mershing localities.
- In East Sudan, partners started construction work of WASH blocks, each with 2 permanent latrines and 1-2 permanent showers, in Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah ahead of rainy season. In total, they plan to construct at least 1,200 new blocks.
- In Blue Nile State, SCI completed the construction of 11 emergency latrines, and WVI of 18 communal latrines at the new site, near Village 6, to host the new arrivals relocated from the border.

SHELTER AND NFIS

Achievements and Impact

- In West Darfur, UNHCR with Save the Children International (SCI), Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) and IOM distributed NFIs to 100 internally displaced families at a gathering point in Sultan House.
- In West Darfur, UNHCR through SCI also distributed NFIs to more than 2,000 IDP families in villages outside Ag Geneina, including Shukry, El Salam and Umshijera.
- In North Kordofan, on 30 March, UNHCR distributed NFIs to 52 host families whose homes and belongings had been damaged by a fire in Abu Laota village in Um Dam locality. Likewise, in Kadugli and El Obeid, UNHCR provided NFIs to 10 refugee families affected by fire.
- In East Darfur, UNHCR's partner Alight distributed shelter kits to 17 families, affected by fire incidents and internal displacement.

- In White Nile State, UNHCR distributed emergency shelter kits to 186 refugees relocated to the new site in Algana'a. In addition, UNHCR and SRCS distributed NFIs to 171 families.
- In South Darfur, UNHCR and World Vision International (WVI) distributed 400 dignity kits and sports items to refugees in Buram.
- In South Darfur, UNHCR and partners distributed NFIs to 305 internally displaced families in Gereida locality.
- In East Sudan, the Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED) constructed 28 durable shelters, "Tukuls", benefitting 126 individuals in Tunaydbah. More durable shelters are underway in both Tunaydbah and Um Rakuba as a measure to mitigate flood risks.
- In Blue Nile State, 1,500 tents and 2,000 NFI kits arrived from Khartoum to be distributed to the new arrivals upon their relocation to the new site, near Village 6.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- In West Darfur, UNCHR and SCI assessed preliminary shelter needs in Gokar, Burtago and Njyoro villages. The missions found that most of the populations had returned and identified about 1,145 families in need of shelter and NFIs.

ACCESS TO ENERGY

Achievements and Impact

- In White Nile State, about 8,000 litres of ethanol were distributed to refugee families. It is part of an initiative seeking to replace traditional cooking stoves and fuel with ethanol stoves and alternative cooking fuel.
- In White Nile State, UNHCR and the Forest National Corporation (FNC) delivered 1,200 improved cooking stoves to Algana'a, which are expected to be distributed to the new arrivals in the coming month.
- In East Sudan, FNC distributed 2,000 improved cooking stoves to Um Rakuba which are more fuel-efficient than traditional cooking stoves. In addition, UNDP allocated 900 solar stoves for refugees and host communities in Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah.

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

Achievements and Impact

- In Kordofan States, UNHCR and COR supported the formation of a refugee committee with 70 members, representing seven blocks in Kadugli. Members will receive training in community self-management, leadership and protection principles.
- In Kordofan States, UNHCR assessed the construction of projects under the Prospects Partnership initiative. It confirmed the completion of a community centre for refugees in El Fula and a youth centre in Kharassana and Al Meiram. In addition, a secondary school in Kharassana and a registration centre in Al Meiram were nearly completed.
- In Kordofan States, UNHCR and SCI assessed the implementation of community-based support projects (CBSPs) under the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF). A community centre in Abu Kershola is completed, while rehabilitation of Abu Jubayhah Hospital and Algaa Primary School is nearly completed.
- In East Darfur, UNHCR's partner Alight trained 24 members of a community-based protection networks (CBPNs) in Maali and Alfado in GBV, psychosocial support, referrals and human rights. It also completed seven sessions in various communities in protection and GBV with a total of 238 participants.
- In South Darfur, UNHCR's partner WVI facilitated a campaign on child protection with participation of 78 refugee members of CBPNs, and another on GBV with participation of 321 refugees in Beliel refugee settlement.
- In South Darfur, UNHCR organized a two-day workshop for CBPNs in Jimmiza Arbaa and Menwashi. 40 participants attended to receive training in the role of the networks, including their support in managing cases of gender-based violence.
- In White Nile State, UNHCR helped facilitate a workshop for nine CBPNs in the refugee camps and nine child protection networks within the host communities. It included training on children's rights and protection, as well as the role of networks in child protection.

DURABLE SOLUTIONS

Achievements and Impact

- In East Sudan, UNHCR identified and referred 31 potential cases, accounting for 103 individuals from East Sudan and Khartoum, for resettlement to a third country. Meanwhile, three refugees were resettled to Sweden.

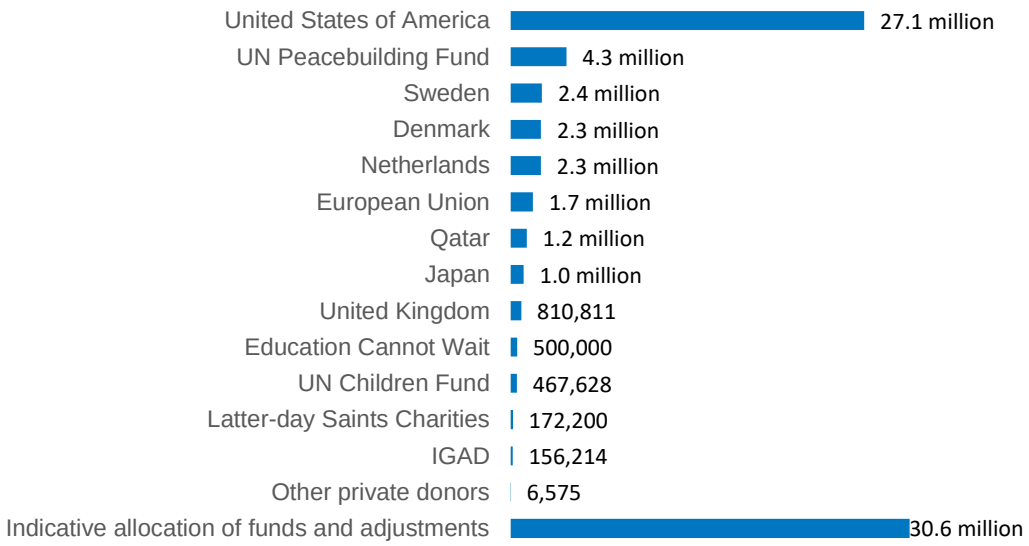
Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- In West Darfur, UNHCR accompanied community leaders to Krinding 1 and 2 IDP camps to assess the possibility of a potential return as expressed by the community. UNHCR found that 25 families had already returned to Daroti.

Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the operation as of 30 March, including earmarked and allocated flexible funds, amount to some US$ 75.1 M

Funding received | USD



External / Donor Relations

Thanks to donors of earmarked funds for the operation in 2021
Earmarked funds for the operation amount to **USD 44.5 million**.

United States of America | UN Peacebuilding Fund | Sweden | Denmark | Netherlands | European Union | Japan | Qatar | United Kingdom | Education Cannot Wait | UN Children Fund | Latter-day Saints Charities | IGAD | Other private donors

Special thanks to major donors of softly earmarked and unearmarked funds in 2021
Flexible funds allocated to the operation amount to **USD 30.6 million**.

Norway | Sweden | Germany | Netherlands | Denmark | Switzerland | Private donors Spain | Ireland | United States of America | Belgium

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LINKS

Data Portal | Twitter | Regional Website