

Ethiopia Situation Operational Update #10/2022

24 March – 7 April 2022



58,401

total number of Ethiopian refugees in eastern Sudan (Kassala, Gedaref and Blue Nile) as of 31 March 2022



412

new arrivals recorded in eastern Sudan



79

number of tukuls (durable shelters) completed in Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah

Operational Highlights

New Ethiopian arrivals recorded in eastern Sudan: In Gedaref State, a total of **28 new arrivals** were recorded: **19** at Hamdayet Transit Centre, **eight (8)** at Taya border entry point and **one (1)** at Gallabat border crossing point. In Blue Nile State, **384 new arrivals** were recorded: **189** at the Yabacher border entry point and **195** spontaneous new arrivals to Camp 6.

A new round of vaccination is held to protect refugees against COVID-19: A total of **13,147 refugees** received a dose of the COVID-19 vaccine – **3,015** their first dose and **10,132** their second dose – in a new round of vaccination campaign in Babikri, Tunaydbah, Um Rakuba and Village 8 led by the Ministry of Health and IRC, in collaboration with UNHCR. With this, the cumulative number of refugees who received the first dose reached **20,872**, representing **45 per cent** of the target population of 18 and above while the **10,132** who were vaccinated with the second dose constitute **21 per cent** of the target population.



Refugees receiving a dose of COVID-19 vaccine in Tunaydbah as part of a new round of vaccination campaign © IRC

Key Achievements



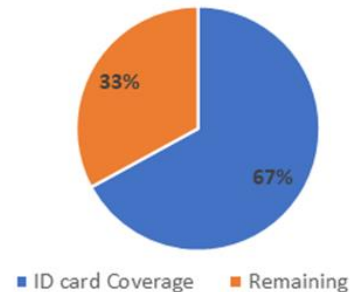
PROTECTION

Results and Impact

- Gedaref's Gender-based Violence (GBV) sub-working group launched **data collection** in Babikri, Tunaydbah and Um Rakuba for a **safety audit** aimed at assessing GBV-related risks through observation and focus group discussions with refugees. The assessment's findings will further inform mitigation measures.

- UNHCR and Sudan's Commission for Refugees (COR) **individually registered 48 refugees** in Um Rakuba, Tunaydbah and Babikri settlement in Gedaref State, and **384 refugees** in Camp 6 in Blue Nile State. By end March 2022, a total of **18,107 ID cards** were issued to registered refugees in Tunaydbah (8,841) and Um Rakuba (9,266), covering 67 per cent of the population in both camps.
- UNHCR and COR provided assistance to **10 refugees in Um Rakuba** through **the litigation desk** in relation to registering additional family members and recording family separations.
- UNHCR provided **targeted assistance to 22 refugees** through its protection desk in Camp 6, including in relation to registration and Core Relief Items (CRIs).
- As part of UNHCR's border monitoring activities in Blue Nile State, **189 refugees** (63 households) **were transferred** from Yabacher border entry point to Camp 6. This group and the 195 spontaneous new arrivals to the camp were all provided with food assistance, emergency shelter and core relief items.
- In Village 8, Plan International provided **food assistance to 66 children in vulnerable situations**, including unaccompanied and separated children as well as children with disabilities. Of this group, **39 unaccompanied and separated girls** of reproductive age also received **dignity kits**.
- DRC conducted a **GBV awareness session** in Village 8 for **24 refugee women (17) and men (7)** focused on **fundamentals of GBV, modalities for reporting incidents and available services for survivors**. It is expected to help **chip away at social stigma** and taboos around GBV and foster an enabling environment for **survivors** to speak up.

Percentage of refugees with ID cards in Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah



Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- **Child friendly spaces** and **recreational activities for children** need to be scaled up in **Village 8** and **Camp 6** to help mitigate protection risks, including child labour.



EDUCATION

Results and Impact

- In Camp 6, **104 children** from among recently arrived refugees were enrolled in primary education and provided with catch-up courses.
- Save the Children International set up **a dedicated classroom** in Camp 6 for **20 Tigrayan students** and provided them with educational materials.
- DRC conducted **a life-skills training** in Village 8 for **20 refugee girls** between the ages of 14 and 18 aimed at to help prepare them in transitioning from childhood to adulthood.
- Plan International launched **sport activities for children** in Babikri to help improve their physical and psychosocial well-being. A total of **four (4) soccer and volleyball teams** have been created and children participate in sport activities in morning and evening shifts.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- **Funding is required** to resume the operation of secondary schools in Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah camps. Schools have been closed since January 2022 due to the funding gap.

- Additional funding is needed to expand learning spaces in Tunaydbah camp to accommodate a greater number of refugee students.



HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT (MHPSS)

Results and Impact

- ALIGHT referred **nine (9) emergency cases** from Um Rakuba (5), Tunaydbah (3) and Babikri (1) for **secondary care support** and **18 chronic non-emergency cases** (14 refugees and 4 nationals) from Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah to Gedaref. WEDCO provided support with the care and treatment for the 14 chronic non-emergency cases.
- A total of **29 mental health** cases were reported by ALIGHT in Tunaydbah (5) and Um Rakuba (24). This is a slight increase **compared to 27** reported in the previous two weeks.
- **Eleven (11) cases of Hepatitis E**, all refugees, were reported by MSF-OCA in Tunaydbah, representing a slight increase compared to the previous two weeks. As part of **prevention and mitigation measures**, community awareness and mobilization on improved hygiene practices is conducted.
- UNFPA contibuted, through in-kind support, to the provision of **sexual and reproductive health services** to **546 women** in Hamdayet Transit Centre (73), Tunaydbah (291), Um Rakuba (64) and Village 8 (118), in clinics operated by ALIGHT, MSF, PUI, SRCS and ZOA. In addition, UNFPA and SRCS provided **antenatal care services** to **25 women** in Hamdayet Transit Centre. **Ten (10) individuals** also received **consultation and treatment** for sexually transmitted infections provided by UNFPA, ALIGHT and ZOA.
- CAFA Development Organization, with support from UNHCR, provided **medical consultation** in Camp 6 to **812 individuals**, of whom **24 per cent belong to the host community**.
- As part of its nutrition programme, CAFA Development Organization, with support from UNFPA, provided **supplementary feeding** to **146 children** under 5 and **43 pregnant and lactating** women in Camp 6.
- PUI conducted a total of **1,528 medical consultations** in Village 8, of which approximately 14 per cent were for refugees and 86 per cent for host communities. In addition, **15 cases were referred** to health facilities in Gedaref, with patients transferred via PUI's ambulance.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- **Additional funding is required to scale up the capacity of CAFA health clinic to provide services** to refugees and host community members in Camp 6.



WATER AND SANITATION

Results and Impact

- **24 litres of water per person per day (l/p/d)** were provided in Um Rakuba, **30 l/p/d** in Tunaydbah, **26 l/p/d** in Village 8, and **29 l/p/d** in Babikri. Water supply was provided at **15 l/p/d** in Camp 6 in Blue Nile State.
- The person to latrine ratio stands at **1:18 in Um Rakuba**, **1:14 in Tunaydbah** and **1:17 in Babikri**, which exceeds the SPHERE standard of one (1) communal latrine for every 20 people (1:20 ratio).

- In Um Rakuba, CARE and UNICEF started [supplying water to zone 4](#) from the recently completed water network, providing an [increased quantity of water](#) (20 cubic metre) to the residents through 10 water distribution points.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The [construction of household latrines](#) in Babikri, Tunaydbah and Um Rakuba is a priority.
- Scaling up the [water supply provision in Camp 6](#) is key to reducing competition for resources and promoting peaceful co-existence between refugee and host communities.



SHELTER AND CORE RELIEF ITEMS (CRIS)

Results and Impact

- Following the completion of 1,000 durable shelters (*tukuls*) in Um Rakuba, NRC commenced the next phase of the project, preparing the [foundation of 65 new tukuls](#). The target is to build an additional 500 *tukuls* in the camp.
- In Tunaydbah, Medair and ACTED completed a further [79 tukuls](#), bringing the total number of *tukuls* to [529](#). After completing 200 *tukuls*, Medair started building the [foundation of 40 new tukuls](#) as part of the next phase of the project which aims to deliver an additional 650 *tukuls* in Tunaydbah.
- In Camp 6, ACTED pitched [131 tents](#) to accommodate the newly arrived refugee families.
- As part of rainy season preparations, UNHCR and NRC distributed [930 emergency shelter kits \(ESKs\)](#) to refugees in Tunaydbah. The ESKs contain wooden poles, plastic sheets and grass mats which allow refugees to strengthen their shelters to better withstand weather elements, including heavy rain and strong winds. In addition, 601 ESKs have been delivered to Babikri and will be distributed to refugees in the coming days.



Refugees receiving ESKs in Tunaydbah to strengthen their shelters against weather elements ©UNHCR

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- [More funding is required](#) to enable the construction of [additional tukuls](#) for the remaining refugee families in refugee-hosting locations in Gedaref and Blue Nile States.



CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

Results and Impact

- In Tunaydbah in March, UNHCR, COOPI and NCA distributed [dignity kits](#) to [7,440 refugee women and girls](#). IRC provided [multi-purpose cash assistance](#) to [21,381](#) refugees. NCA and IHH (The Foundation for Human Rights and Freedoms and Humanitarian Relief) distributed charcoal to [18,744](#) refugees while WFP provided [in-kind food assistance](#) to [20,801](#) refugees.

- In Babikri in March, UNHCR and UNFPA distributed [solar lamps](#) to [1,562](#) refugees and WFP provided [in-kind food assistance](#) to [2,105](#) refugees. Solidarités International distributed [personal hygiene kits](#) to [2,066](#) refugees and UNHCR provided [soap](#) to [2,039](#) refugees.
- In Um Rakuba in March, WFP distributed [in-kind food assistance](#) to [15,364](#) refugees.
- UNHCR and ACTED provided [121 core relief item kits](#) to [384](#) newly transferred refugees and spontaneous arrivals in Camp 6.
- In preparation for the rainy season, [11,000 pre-disaster kits](#) that include sandbags, steel wires and various tools, such as shovels and hoes, have been procured and will be distributed to refugee families in Babikri, Tunaydbah and Um Rakuba to help them [mitigate the impact of heavy rains and strong winds](#). Work on [rehabilitating](#) and [desilting drainages](#) (roadside, secondary and tertiary drains) in Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah is ongoing by DRC which will help to [safely evacuate surface water](#) from the camps. In Blue Nile State, refugees, with support from UNHCR including through trainings, are [plastering their tukuls](#) to prevent and mitigate damage from rainwater.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- [Additional funding and support](#) are required to address gaps in preparations for the rainy season in all refugee-hosting locations, including the construction of additional drains and pedestrian bridges.



COMMUNICATING WITH COMMUNITIES

Results and Impact

- In Tunaydbah, UNHCR and COR, in collaboration with ACTED, ALIGHT, IRC, Medair and Plan International, held [two \(2\) meetings](#) with the participation of [114 refugees from 14 blocks](#) to discuss [key community concerns](#), GBV-related issues and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA). The [need for creating income generating activities](#), particularly for women and girls and [providing additional milling machines](#) in the camp were among the issues highlighted by participants.



Community meeting with refugees in Tunaydbah ©UNHCR

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Scaling up [livelihood activities for women and youth](#) is key to mitigating protection risks, including those associated with GBV and onward movements.



WORKING IN COORDINATION

In response to the Ethiopia situation in eastern Sudan, UNHCR is working with authorities and partners to provide lifesaving assistance and protection to Ethiopian refugees and asylum seekers as well as host communities. UNHCR and COR co-chair the Inter-Agency Refugee Working Group (RWG), which meets on a bi-weekly basis, to strengthen coordination of the response. In addition, UNHCR contributes to other thematic working groups, including on health and cash which are chaired by designated partners. In March, members of the Cash Working Group harmonized wage rates for unskilled (\$4-\$6 per day), semi-skilled (\$5-\$8) and skilled (\$6-\$10) labourers for all Cash for Work activities in Gedaref State, particularly in Tunaybah and Um Rakuba camps and the neighbouring host communities. The harmonized wage rates were endorsed by COR Gedaref and will be implemented moving forward. The agreed rates are based on a labour market assessment in eastern Sudan which was conducted by Mercy Corps and CARE International in October 2021. The harmonization of the wage rates helps minimize unintended economic consequences such as price fluctuation and competition with other organizations and/or local employers.

Situation in eastern Sudan

In early November 2020, clashes in Ethiopia's Tigray region sparked an outflow of refugees into eastern Sudan via Hamdayet, Lugdi/Village 8 and Al Asera border points. Since then, some **60,000 refugees and asylum seekers** have been welcomed in Sudan.

To deliver protection and life-saving assistance to Ethiopians displaced across the border and within their country, UNHCR launched a regional appeal in January 2022 for the prioritization of \$205 million of its existing funding needs for the northern Ethiopia emergency situation and regional preparedness in 2022. This includes \$72 million to assist the over 60,000 Ethiopian refugees who have arrived in Sudan since November 2020 and potential additional arrivals in 2022. Support is urgently needed to scale up interventions across all sectors while maintaining preparedness for any additional influx from Ethiopia.

We are grateful to the following donors for supporting the Ethiopian Emergency situation in eastern Sudan with critical funding in 2021 enabling the scale up of the delivery of basic and essential services:

Canada | Czech Republic | Denmark | ECHO (EU) | Finland | Germany | Ireland | Italy | Japan | New Zealand | Norway | Qatar | Sweden | Switzerland | United Arab Emirates | United Kingdom | United States of America | United Nations CERF | United Nations SHF | Private Donors

UNHCR Northern Ethiopia Emergency Situation Regional Appeal Funding

USD 205.4 M required

