

# **SUDAN SITUATION**

20 - 26 October 2024



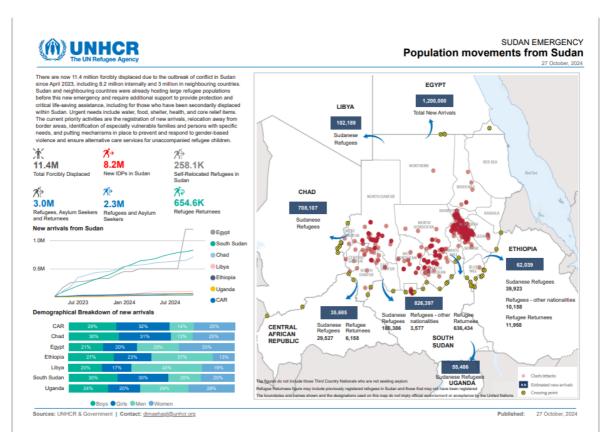
Sudanese refugees in their shelter at the Kurmuk transit centre in Benishangul-Gumuz region, northwestern Ethiopia. © UNHCR/Tiksa Negeri

# **Highlights**

- The humanitarian situation in Sudan continues to deteriorate, with over 11 million people displaced and millions more in extreme vulnerability, particularly children. Severe restrictions on access to basic services have led to alarming levels of food insecurity, affecting 13 million people. UN agencies are urgently calling for safe access to communities in need and are urging the Sudanese government to streamline aid delivery and reopen UN offices in affected regions. This crisis is particularly dire for more than 10 million internally displaced people (IDPs) and 800,000 refugees, who are in urgent need of protection and legal support. In a joint statement on 25 October following a high-level mission to the country, UNHCR and UNICEF reiterated their commitment to delivering essential services but stressed the need for sustained international support to address the root causes of the conflict and protect civilians from severe rights violations, including sexual and gender-based violence. Immediate and collective action is critical to an effective response to this escalating crisis.
- The border between Ethiopia and Sudan at Metema-Gallabat <u>reopened</u> on 21 October, after being closed since 2 September due to security concerns linked to militia activities in Metema. The reopening followed weeks of discussions between Ethiopian and Sudanese officials, supported by local communities, and included the establishment of a joint temporary security force to maintain stability and facilitate trade and movement across the border. Residents of Metema expressed their commitment to supporting stabilization efforts and fostering positive relations with Sudan. The border crossing through which thousands of Sudanese nationals have entered Ethiopia since the Sudan conflict began in April 2023 has faced frequent closures due to localized tensions and accusations of cross-border violence.
- Heavy rains have led to devastating flooding in South Sudan, impacting over 1 million people, according to findings from OCHA. As of 18 October, the floods have displaced approximately 271,000 individuals across 42 of the country's 78 counties, with Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Unity



states accounting for 40 per cent of those affected. The UN warns that unprecedented flooding could affect up to 3.3 million people between September and December, raising concerns that many areas may become inaccessible due to rising water levels.



# **Situation and Operational Response**

# **SUDAN**

# **Highlights**

- During the reporting week, conflict intensified across Khartoum, Al Jazirah, Blue Nile, West Darfur, North Darfur, and Gedaref states. Clashes in several regions resulted in significant casualties, displacement, and infrastructure damage with significant humanitarian implications.
- From 21 to 25 October, UNHCR Assistant High Commissioner for Operations and UNICEF Deputy Executive Director <u>visited</u> Port Sudan and Kassala State, accompanied by the UNHCR Sudan Representative and Director of the New York Office. The mission aimed to highlight the needs and dire humanitarian situation resulting from the ongoing conflict in Sudan, as well as to assess the current response, challenges, and potential opportunities. During their visit, the delegation met with key authorities, humanitarian organizations, and IDP-led groups, and held discussions with refugees and IDPs at gathering sites. A <u>joint UNHCR-UNICEF statement</u> was issued following the conclusion of the mission.
- During the reporting period, two new cholera cases were reported among refugees in the Kilo 26 camps in Kassala, with no new fatalities. The incidence of new cases has shown a slight decline compared to the previous week. This brings the total to 410 cholera cases among refugees since the outbreak began in mid-August 2024. UNHCR, the Ministry of Health, and health partners continue to implement cholera prevention and treatment measures across all refugee camps. As part of these efforts, community health workers and volunteers visited 3,020 households, reaching 8,256 individuals with cholera awareness messages.
- In Kassala State, over 12,000 refugees in Girba and Kilo 26 camps received one dose of the Oral Cholera Vaccine (OCV). This vaccination campaign was conducted by the Ministry of Health with support from WHO, UNHCR, and other partners.



## **Population Movements and Registration**

During the reporting period, UNHCR and the Commission of Refugees (COR) received 157 new asylum claims in Kassala, White Nile, and Kordofan States. The applicants were from Eritrea, Ethiopia, and South Sudan. Notably, the individuals from South Sudan had already been residing in Sudan and sought registration due to worsening security and protection environment.

UNHCR and COR registered 374 refugees and asylum-seekers from Eritrea, South Sudan, and Ethiopia across Kassala, Gedaref, Khartoum, and White Nile States. In addition, over 1,400 refugees were verified in Gedaref, Khartoum, Kassala, and Red Sea States. Nearly 1,400 refugees and asylum-seekers received identity documents in Gedaref, Khartoum, Kassala, and White Nile States.

By the end of September, internal movement data showed that around 258,000 refugees and asylum-seekers had relocated within Sudan in search of safety, with the highest numbers in White Nile State, followed by Red Sea and Gedaref States. During the reporting period, approximately 220 internal movements were documented across Gedaref, White Nile, and Northern States.

#### **Protection**

During the reporting period, UNHCR's partner provided counseling to nearly 195 individuals in Gedaref State, addressing protection concerns as well as needs for core relief items and shelter assistance.

In Kassala State, UNHCR provided counseling to 36 refugees at protection help desks located in various camps and at the Girba office. Refugees raised concerns about medicine shortages, worsening economic conditions, inadequate food assistance, resettlement inquiries, GBV, and other protection issues.

UNHCR's partner in Kassala provided counseling to around 400 IDPs across six gathering sites (Omar Al Haj Musa, Al Salam, Altabari, Ehmidi, Alhaykal, and the West Kassala airport).

54 refugees from the Tunaydbah, Um Rakuba, Um Gargour, and Babikri camps were referred by UNHCR's partner for specialized support to meet their specific needs.

In the Tunaydbah and Um Gargour camps, UNHCR's partner held two community-based protection sessions for 82 refugees, promoting peacebuilding, community engagement, and peaceful coexistence. Additionally, protection training was provided for 16 refugee volunteers and Community-Based Protection Network (CBPN) members in Tunaydbah camp.

Protection Action Groups (PAGs) in all camps conducted household visits, reaching 1,053 individuals to document needs and complaints. Key needs reported included food assistance, fuel (such as charcoal and firewood), cash support, and shelter/non-food item (NFI) assistance.

At the Women's Centre in Camp 6, UNHCR's partner held two group counseling sessions focusing on women's journeys from Ethiopia to Sudan, the challenges they faced, and potential improvements to camp services.

#### <u>Legal</u>

UNHCR's partner provided legal assistance to 38 refugees in Kassala, addressing issues related to personal status, documentation, civil and criminal cases, passports, and migration. Services were offered in Kassala town, Wedelhiloo, New Halfa, and Girba. Additionally, 25 individuals received counseling on general protection, health, and procedures for relocation to refugee camps, with referrals made for further assistance where necessary. To enhance awareness, nine informational sessions were conducted for 110 refugees in Shagarab and Wadi Sharifey camps. These sessions covered refugee rights and obligations, Muslim personal status laws, and Sudan's emergency laws, aiming to help refugees understand and comply with local regulations to prevent legal issues and financial penalties.

UNHCR's partner organized a one-day workshop for 25 state government officials and law enforcement agents, including judges, prosecutors, and police officers. Participants from the civil registry, Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC), COR, and police headquarters discussed civil and criminal law procedures, as well as the rights and responsibilities of refugees, asylum seekers, and IDPs. The workshop emphasized



improving documentation processes for IDPs. In addition, UNHCR's partner provided legal assistance to 14 refugees and held three legal consultations for IDPs in Damazine and Ar Rusayris.

UNHCR's legal partner represented three South Sudanese refugees in court and conducted three legal consultations on movement restrictions and lawsuit procedures. These sessions reached 250 participants, including paralegals, to empower refugees with essential legal knowledge.

Legal services were provided to 84 refugees, including consultations, legal representation, and general legal aid.

# Prevention against gender-based violence (GBV)

In Kassala State, UNHCR's partner identified three GBV cases in the Wed Sharifey and Kilo 2 camps. Survivors received psychosocial support and were informed about available medical and legal services.

In Kassala, UNHCR's partner organized a psychological debriefing session for girls at the West Airport IDP gathering site, focusing on coping mechanisms for dealing with trauma and stress from displacement. Additionally, a two-day training workshop was held for 16 members of the Community-Based Protection Network (CBPN) at the Alkarama gathering site. The training covered GBV awareness, prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), case identification, referral pathways, and roles and responsibilities within the community. Trained CBPN members are expected to actively identify and refer cases, as well as raise awareness of these issues within their communities.

In Gedaref State, over 670 women and girls accessed protection services, including psychosocial support and case management for GBV survivors, across five women's centers in Tunaydbah, Um Rakuba, Babikri, and Um Gargour camps. Empowerment activities included crochet sessions with 14 participants.

In Central Darfur, a psychosocial campaign reached 160 displaced and host community members at Zalingei Multi-Purpose Community Centre (MPCC), and Community-Based Protection Networks (CBPNs) in Beleil and Kalma provided GBV awareness sessions to 600 people, also addressing risks from unexploded ordnance.

In South Darfur, 30 GBV survivors in Dereig and Kalma IDP camps received dignity kits and psychosocial support.

Across multiple states (Kassala, Gedaref, Blue Nile, East Darfur, Central Darfur, West Darfur, and White Nile), UNHCR and its partners conducted awareness sessions on GBV prevention, sexual exploitation, child marriage risks, harmful practices like female genital mutilation, and referral services.

### **Child Protection**

In Gedaref State, UNHCR's partner identified and assessed 14 children at risk during the reporting period, providing case management services, best interests assessments (BIA), and best interest determinations. These refugee children were referred for medical assistance and shelter support.

UNHCR's partner held three awareness sessions for over 80 children in Tunaydbah, Babikri, and Um Rakuba camps, in Gedaref State, focusing on domestic violence, child labor risks, and self-protection. The Babikri camp hosted capacity-building training on child protection for 15 participants, including refugee volunteers and members of the Protection Action Group (PAG).

Additionally, in Gedaref State, seven unaccompanied children were identified and reunited with family members, while twelve others received clothing and nutritional items. Key concerns noted at the protection desks included the need for medical assistance, shelter, food, non-food items (NFIs), and general protection support. Referrals were made to specialized partners for assistance in these areas.

In Kassala, UNHCR's partner conducted BIAs for five children at risk in Shagarab and Kilo 26 camps. UNHCR's partner also visited 13 children under alternative care arrangements in Shagarab 2 Camp to follow up on their care.

In Blue Nile State, three new cases of at-risk children were identified and assessed. Additionally, UNHCR's partners conducted activities at the Youth Centre, including an awareness session with 11 refugees on



child abuse and household labor risks. During a focus group discussion with 18 participants, the team addressed challenges at the Centre, such as the need for fence repairs, limited solar power, and inadequate space for children's activities.

In White Nile State, UNHCR and its partners identified 69 at-risk children in refugee camps, conducting BIAs and referring 40 of them for specialized services, including medical assistance, psychosocial support, nutrition, education, and shelter.

### **Health and Nutrition**

In Kassala and White Nile States, health facilities in refugee camps provided over 10,500 and 13,800 medical consultations, respectively. Refugee camps in Kassala State saw a slight decrease in consultations compared to the previous week, primarily due to fewer cases of diarrheal and acute respiratory infections. Additionally, 43 individuals with serious medical conditions were referred for secondary healthcare.

During this reporting period, nearly 1,500 refugee households in Girba camp, Kassala State, received their food rations for October and November. In South and Central Darfur, around 4,000 refugees in the Beleil refugee camp received food assistance. In the Um Shalaya camp, 1,300 households were provided with food aid, while general food distributions were completed in the Kario camp and Abu Jabrah refugee settlements in East Darfur.

## **Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)**

In Northern State, UNHCR in collaboration with the Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) and IDP leaders, distributed non-food items to approximately 220 flood-affected IDP households in Wadi Halfa IDP gathering sites. The kits included jerry cans, mosquito nets, cooking sets, sleeping mats, blankets, plastic sheets, and solar lamps.

In South Darfur State, over 2,000 IDP households in Kalma and Otash camps received non-food item kits.

In Central Darfur State, UNHCR's partner distributed 1,000 plastic sheets to flood-affected IDPs in Abatta and Waranga.

In Kassala State, UNHCR and its partner distributed new clothing to 501 South Sudanese refugee households in Shagarab camps. They also provided tents to 300 flood-affected IDP households at the West Airport IDP site and installed 12 solar streetlights at this gathering site.

In Gedaref State, UNHCR and its partner distributed core relief items to 155 IDP households in the Abu Rakham community. They also provided core relief items to 52 refugee households and distributed emergency shelter kits to 28 households that were secondarily displaced.

# Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

In Gedaref State, UNHCR's partner has dislodged over 200 latrines in the Tunaydbah and Um Rakuba refugee camps. Desludging efforts are ongoing in the Um Rakuba, Um Gargour, and Tunaydbah camps. Hygiene promotion activities are also underway at the household level, including awareness-raising on latrine maintenance and the use of chlorine for water treatment. These activities have reached nearly 7,000 households in the Kassala, Gedaref, and White Nile camps.

In Kassala State, UNHCR's partner conducted general clean-up campaigns and spraying in the Shagarab, Kilo 26, Wad Sharifey, and Girba camps to improve environmental health conditions. Approximately 210 tons of garbage and solid waste were collected and disposed of in designated areas.

In White Nile State, community-led clean-up campaigns, organized by hygiene promoters and community members took place in ten refugee camps.

In Kordofan States, the operation and maintenance of water facilities continue to ensure access to potable water for nearly 40,000 South Sudanese refugees and host community members. This includes four water facilities in Sarajia and Dar Batti in South Kordofan, as well as Ghubaish and Kharasana in West Kordofan.



# Cash Assistance

UNHCR provided cash assistance to 16 deported households with specific protection needs to help cover their most urgent expenses upon their return to Sudan.

In Gedaref State, UNHCR distributed multi-purpose cash assistance to over 18 IDPs at the Al Houri IDP gathering site. In Blue Nile State, UNHCR's partner provided multi-purpose cash assistance to 600 IDP households.

In East Darfur, UNHCR's partner distributed in-kind support to 100 vulnerable displaced individuals in Abu Dangal, Khazan Jadeed. Additionally, individual protection cash assistance was provided to 90 refugees with specific protection concerns in the Beleil refugee settlement.

### **Energy and Environment**

In Gedaref State, a solar-powered refrigerator was provided to five beneficiaries from the host community in Babikri village to support income-generating activities.

UNHCR's partner conducted a workshop for 27 refugees involved in animal husbandry projects in the Babikri and Tunaydbah camps. The training covered management and bookkeeping skills, and participants received livestock for a sheep breeding project.

In Tunaydbah, 36 individuals who had previously received sheep for the animal husbandry project participated in a follow-up training session.

An additional workshop on entrepreneurship was held for 15 refugees and 11 host community members selected for income-generating projects.

# CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)

### **Highlights**

- The security situation in Vakaga, Bamingui-Bangoran, Haute Kotto, and Ouaka prefectures remains tense, with non-state armed groups active in these areas. This ongoing instability continues to affect humanitarian access and the safety of refugees and host communities.
- This week, 112 new Sudanese refugees (49 households) arrived in Korsi, Birao, reflecting similar arrival patterns from previous weeks. The new arrivals are in urgent need of emergency shelter, food, and core relief items. UNHCR distributed core relief items—such as sleeping mats, blankets, kitchen sets, solar lamps, soap, and jerrycans—to 188 Sudanese refugees (87 households). Additionally, WFP provided a total of 1.9 tonnes of dry food rations. Currently, Korsi hosts 14,931 refugees (6,448 households), with children making up 57 per cent of the population.
- Heavy rains in Ndélé have caused extensive damage, impacting 990 individuals (173 households), including 51 households of Sudanese refugees. Many homes, particularly in areas housing both refugees and IDPs, were destroyed by the floods, exacerbating the community's vulnerability.
- On 22 October, armed elements carried out a raid near Kartoua village, along the Ngarba road in Bamingui-Bangoran, detaining and robbing traders. Growing insecurity along the Ngarba axis has led to further displacement; the Commission Nationale pour les Réfugiés (CNR)registered 20 Sudanese refugees from 6 households who fled from Zobossinda, Koundji, and Akroussoulbak to Ndélé. These refugees now face limited access to essential services and have minimal livelihood support.

# **Population Movements and Registration**

Last week, the CNR and UNHCR initiated the biometric registration of Sudanese refugees in Rafaï, a city in southern CAR near the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) border. This registration aims to collect data on the refugees, assess their specific needs, and facilitate their access to essential services.

### **Protection**

The resumption of hostilities in Sudan has led to additional waves of refugees entering neighboring countries, including CAR. However, rising water levels on the Am Dafock-Birao route have slowed new arrivals, as the flooding makes the movement of people and goods challenging.



This week, 20 protection monitoring visits were conducted, including 15 to Korsi and 5 to the safe area around Birao Hospital within host communities. These visits allowed UNHCR's partner, INTERSOS, to gather information on the security situation, provide psychosocial support to survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) in Korsi's safe space, identify people with special needs, monitor the protection environment, assist WFP with cash distributions to refugees, conduct surveys among new arrivals, and support community outreach activities through trained local relays.

INTERSOS documented 46 protection incidents in Vakaga prefecture this week, slightly up from 35 the previous week. Most cases involved property rights violations, followed by incidents of GBV and restrictions on freedom of movement and physical integrity. Hotspots included Sikikedé, Am-Dafock, and Gordil. Local men, particularly those traveling between major towns, remain especially vulnerable to banditry and attacks by non-state armed groups.

From 21 to 23 October, three awareness-raising sessions were held in Korsi as part of the Programme d'Accompagnement des Populations (PAP). These sessions focused on issues like promoting education for young girls and managing community complaints. The aim was to encourage families to enroll young girls for the new school year and to inform the community about their rights and responsibilities in humanitarian services. A total of 282 people attended these sessions.

# Prevention against gender-based violence (GBV)

From 14 to 22 October, UNHCR's partner INTERSOS held 13 GBV prevention activities in Korsi, reaching a total of 257 people. These activities included therapy sessions for women and girls on issues like denial of resources and rape, individual counseling for GBV survivors, group therapy on the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), and guidance on using the Hotline and other emergency communication channels. Group discussions focused on topics relevant to children, including schooling, and a dedicated focus group on child protection.

During the reporting week, several GBV cases were reported in Korsi, showing a slight decrease from the previous week, although underreporting remains a significant issue. Most incidents involved male perpetrators, often from non-state armed groups. INTERSOS provided psychosocial support, conducted seven listening sessions, and referred two cases of physical assault for further assistance. Additionally, 40 dignity kits were distributed, and follow-ups with GBV survivors showed signs of recovery, with some survivors ready to close their cases.

### Child protection

At the child-friendly space in Korsi, 460 Sudanese children, including 376 new arrivals, participated in various activities this week. These activities included group therapy, leisure activities like dancing and painting, sports such as football, handball, running, and skipping, as well as learning sessions and life skills training in areas such as literacy, health awareness, and hygiene. The number of new children attending these sessions increased by 57 compared to last week, reflecting the ongoing influx of refugees in the area.

### Water, Shelter, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

This week, the number of emergency latrines in Korsi has increased to 237, improving the ratio to 62 people per latrine, up from 65 last week. However, this is still below the recommended standard of 20 people per latrine. The number of emergency showers remains at 251, with a ratio of 58 people per shower. The daily drinking water supply has dropped from 130,000 to 110,000 liters due to a borehole breakdown. With 14,819 people in Korsi, this equates to an average of 7.5 liters per person per day, which is below the Sphere standard of 20 liters.

UNHCR's partner NOURRIR, together with community members, is continuing sanitation and hygiene promotion efforts in Korsi. The team cleaned washing areas, treated water with chlorine, and conducted hygiene awareness sessions that reached 6,416 people. Topics covered in these sessions included removing donkey excrement, conserving water properly, using ashes in latrines to reduce odors, and draining stagnant water to help prevent malaria.

In Birao, the construction of 220 semi-durable shelters is underway. So far, 43 shelters have been started, with seven fully completed and 36 still under construction. This project aims to provide safer and more resilient housing options for the displaced population in the area.



### Education

During the reporting week, four awareness-raising sessions focused on the importance of education and the upcoming school year were held in Korsi and surrounding host communities, reaching 522 people. Since the beginning of the year, a total of 16,459 people have participated in these educational awareness sessions, reinforcing the value of schooling and encouraging enrollment in the new academic term.

#### **Health and Nutrition**

During the reporting week, the medical team from NOURRIR and International Medical Corps (IMC), under the supervision of WHO and the Vakaga Health District, conducted 476 consultations in Korsi. Of these, 425 (89.3 per cent) were for refugees, including 88 newly arrived individuals, and 51 (10.7 per cent) for members of the host community. Young children (ages 0-59 months) made up about 35 per cent of all cases. Malaria was the most common illness, with 253 cases (53.2 per cent), followed by acute respiratory infections (62 cases, 13 per cent) and intestinal parasitosis (20 cases, 4.2 per cent). All patients received outpatient treatment. To date, a total of 31,604 consultations have been conducted in 2024, with 10 per cent involving host community members.

From 5 to 11 October, 27 Sudanese women received antenatal consultations, bringing the annual total to 1,196. Additionally, seven postnatal consultations were conducted, totaling 246 for the year. Gynecological consultations reached 34 this week, raising the annual count to 1,613, while eight women received family planning services, totaling 239 in 2024. One baby was delivered this week, adding to the 125 deliveries and 128 newborns recorded so far this year.

Eleven patients were referred from Korsi to Birao District Hospital this week for specialized care, increasing the cumulative referrals to 634 in 2024.

This week, two cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and one case of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) were identified among children aged 6 to 59 months. In 2024, a total of 1,226 children have been treated for MAM, 169 for SAM, and 844 cases have involved malnutrition prevention efforts. In total, 223 children under five have received treatment for malnutrition this year.

This week, nine pregnant women received tetanus vaccinations, and ten children received multi-antigen vaccines, including two for measles. Since the start of 2024, 552 children have been vaccinated with multiple antigens, including 190 for measles, and 472 pregnant women have received a tetanus vaccine as part of routine immunization efforts.

# CHAD

# **Highlights**

- In total, 708,107 Sudanese refugees have entered Chad since the emergency began on 15 April 2023, with 223,157 arriving in 2024, due to ongoing violence in Sudan. During the reporting week, 15,391 refugees (2,829 households) crossed into Chad through the Adré, Tiné, and Birak entry points a 143 per cent increase from the previous week. This surge is largely concentrated in the Koulbous and Birak areas in Wadi-Fira Province, which has seen over 50,000 new arrivals in October. Many of the refugees, predominantly women and children, have endured severe violence. UNHCR, in collaboration with local authorities and partners, is providing emergency assistance at the border and planning relocations, initially to Koursigue village, and later to a more consolidated refugee site.
- The Assistant High Commissioner for Operations is currently on a week-long mission to Chad to assess the situation of newly arrived Sudanese refugees and reinforce UNHCR's response. He will meet with senior government officials, UN Country Team members, development partners, local authorities, refugees, UNHCR personnel, and other organizations operating in eastern Chad. The discussions will focus on the evolving Sudanese refugee crisis. He is joined by the Director of the UNHCR Division of External Relations (DER), the Director of the UNHCR New York Office, and the UNHCR Representative in Chad.



### **Population Movements and Registration**

The biometric registration of refugees relocated from Tine to the Touloum refugee site was completed on 21 October, with a total of 4,565 individuals (1,411 households) registered.

#### Relocation

During the reporting period, 957 refugees (549 households) were relocated from the Tiné and Birak border points to the Milé refugee site. To support the sustainable relocation of refugees currently at the Adré spontaneous site, a joint mission by UNHCR, the Chadian National Commission for the Reception and Reintegration of Refugees and Returnees (CNARR), and WASH partners assessed new potential relocation sites, focusing on water availability and consultations with local authorities. Two sites, Konada and Bourkat in Mabrone, Ouaddaï province, were identified as options. This effort aims to address the relocation needs of over 230,000 refugees currently living in precarious conditions in Adré.

Relocation of new arrivals from Adré to Dougui, the sixth new refugee settlement in eastern Chad, resumed on 29 October, after being temporarily halted due to poor road conditions. The recent convoy transported 154 individuals (54 households) to the settlement.

#### **Protection**

# Prevention against gender-based violence (GBV)

During the period, 25 survivors of GBV received psychological counseling, as well as medical and physical support through law enforcement agencies.

Humanity and Inclusion, Association pour la Promotion des Libertés Fondamentales au Tchad (APLFT), and Croix Rouge du Tchad (CRT) distributed 347 dignity kits to individuals with disabilities and newly identified beneficiaries at the Farchana Extension I and II refugee sites.

To prevent GBV, 20 awareness campaigns were held across refugee sites in eastern Chad, covering topics like physical aggression, denial of resources, and available referral pathways. These sessions reached over 2,000 people.

### **Child protection**

A preparatory meeting for the 2025 Regional Refugee Response Plan with Child Protection partners in eastern Chad highlighted the need to strengthen cash-based assistance and support households with children through income-generating activities. The absence of this support in the 2024 response plan has contributed to increased protection risks, including child labour, exploitation, and detention, as families struggle to cope.

CRT and UNICEF have established a Child Protection team at the new Dougi refugee site, in eastern Chad, where relocations have resumed. The team includes four agents and six community animators to provide dedicated support for children in the settlement.

During the reporting week, 21 children at risk were identified with serious medical conditions, such as impaired vision, physical disabilities, and hearing deterioration. Measures are being taken to assess their best interests and respond to their needs. Some children have already been referred to IRC and JRS for medical and educational assistance.

# Legal protection

UNHCR's partners APLFT and CRT documented 181 protection incidents this week, including both criminal cases (theft, physical assault) and civil issues (child support claims, divorce). The protection teams actively follow up to ensure that refugees' rights are protected, and appropriate actions are taken.

In a significant step to combat statelessness, supplementary birth certificates were issued for refugee children born in Chad between 2013 and 2024 at the Oure Cassoni refugee site in Ennedi Est province. This initial phase provided legal documentation for 859 children.

Protection teams also conducted visits to detention and remand centers, as well as to the Détachement pour la Protection Humanitaire et les Réfugiés (DPHR) locations. Currently, twelve refugees are in custody for various offenses, including illegal arms possession, assault, manslaughter, robbery, and rape. A major



concern identified in some detention centers is the lack of separate facilities for minors, posing risks to their safety and well-being.

### Community-based protection

To improve accountability to affected populations, UNHCR and INTERSOS are building two additional Information and Feedback Centers (IFCs) at the Zabout refugee site.

During the reporting period, 903 complaints and requests were received at the existing IFCs. The main concerns include family reunification, health services, food assistance, resettlement, education, documentation, and shelter. Some requests have already been addressed, while others are currently under follow-up.

### Coordination

The Departmental Action Committee (DAC) of Kobe in Iriba, Wadi-Fira Province, held a pre-validation workshop organized by the International Rescue Committee (IRC), Concern Worldwide, and Search for Common Ground. The workshop aimed to review and approve community infrastructure project proposals under the RESPECCT project, funded by the French Development Agency and the EU. Key proposals include the construction of water supply systems, market gardening sites, pastoral wells, school infrastructure, and reforestation areas across the rural sub-prefectures of Amnaback, Bagourfou, Erre, and Iriba.

The project is budgeted at 20.9 billion FCFA (approximately EUR 31 million) over three years and is aligned with the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus approach to support sustainable development and resilience in the region.

### **Health and Nutrition**

Since the start of the emergency, a total of 889,234 medical consultations have been conducted, with 20,560 new consultations in the past week alone. Malaria, acute respiratory infections (ARI), watery diarrhea, and malnutrition remain the most common health issues among the population.

For malnutrition, 65,138 cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and 29,169 cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) have been treated among children aged 6 to 59 months. In the past week, 16,360 children were screened, identifying 631 new cases of MAM and 257 of SAM. Among pregnant and breastfeeding women, 97,879 have been screened since the emergency began, with 7,604 cases of MAM treated. Last week, 2,268 pregnant women were screened, revealing 110 cases of moderate malnutrition.

Mental health support has been provided to 17,495 individuals, with 120 new cases receiving consultations and treatment last week. Additionally, there have been 11,808 births assisted by qualified health personnel, including 185 deliveries in the past week.

A total of 2,956 suspected Hepatitis E cases have been recorded, including seven deaths (two of which were pregnant women).

In terms of food assistance, WFP's general distribution in Adré reached 226,375 refugees. As part of this distribution, 9,942 children (ages 6 to 23 months) and 5,290 pregnant and lactating women received nutritional supplements (Plumpydoz for children and Super Cereals+ for women) to prevent acute malnutrition. Additionally, in Dougi, 3,530 individuals (996 households) received their monthly food assistance for October.

# Livelihoods, Energy, and Cash-Based Interventions (CBI)

WFP's cash distribution efforts continued in the Iridimi and Amnabak refugee sites, where 13,948 individuals (7,069 households) each received 8,000 XAF (about USD 13) per person for the month.

# **Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)**

UNHCR's partner CRT distributed core relief items to 186 newly relocated households (555 refugees) from Tiné on October 22. A total of 775 shelters have been completed, with an additional 15 nearing finalization. Additionally, 1,228 refugees (414 households) were transferred from communal shelters to family shelters built by the Association pour le Développement Économique et Social (Association for Economic and Social Development) (ADES).



#### **Environment**

UNHCR and its partners remain dedicated to environmental sustainability efforts. In line with this commitment, 681 desert-adapted tree seedlings were distributed to Iridimi and Kouchaguine-Moura refugee sites, as well as to nearby host communities, for planting. The distribution included awareness sessions on planting techniques and proper maintenance to ensure the seedlings' growth and survival.

# Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Of the planned 250 latrines and showers to be constructed by ADES, 50 are nearing completion, while excavation work is underway for an additional 50.

# **EGYPT**

# **Highlights**

- On 22 October, Egypt's Defence and National Security Committee approved a draft national asylum law for plenary discussion in the House of Representatives. A <u>published</u> extract reveals that the law will establish a formal framework for processing refugees and asylum-seekers in Egypt, with the Government of Egypt (GoE) assuming responsibility for the asylum process. Since 1954, UNHCR has managed refugee registration on behalf of the GoE under a Memorandum of Understanding. UNHCR is now supporting the GoE to ensure a smooth transition and ongoing access to international protection.
- From 25 to 27 October, UNHCR Egypt <u>participated</u> in the 7th Gouna Film Festival (GFF) to highlight forced displacement issues and the impact of regional conflicts. The partnership included a two-day <u>workshop</u> for emerging storytellers, including refugee participants from Sudan, Somalia, and Syria, and a <u>panel</u> led by UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador Raya Abi Rashed, featuring conflict-affected filmmakers from Palestine, Sudan, Lebanon, Yemen, and Syria. The UNHCR Representative to Egypt also spoke on how cinema can reshape public perceptions and inspire social impact. During the festival, the UNHCR Representative to Egypt <u>met</u> with the co-founder of GFF and chairman of Orascom Development Holding, reinforcing the ongoing collaboration between UNHCR and the Sawiris Foundation for Social Development, which began in 2020.
- On 21-22 October, UNHCR joined Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning sessions in Cairo as part of the Dutch-funded Prospects partnership. Since 2019, Prospects has focused on enhancing refugee registration, educational access, and skill-building for refugees, migrants, and host communities in Egypt to promote self-sufficiency and resilience. This initiative, supported by the Netherlands, underscores a shared commitment to responsibility-sharing in response to the Sudan crisis, the world's fastest-growing displacement emergency. Other partners, including the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, UNICEF, the International Finance Corporation (IFC), and ILO, also participated in the sessions.<sup>1</sup>

# **Population Movements and Registration**

As of 27 October, UNHCR has provided registration appointments to 775,700 individuals who fled Sudan since the conflict began in April 2023. Of these, 461,600 people (60 per cent) have been fully registered for assistance and protection. The majority of the newly registered population are Sudanese nationals (95 per cent), with smaller groups of South Sudanese (2 per cent) and Eritreans (2 per cent).

# **Protection**

# Community-based protection

Over the past week, 4,910 refugees and asylum-seekers received information on available services, assistance, and reporting procedures for fraud and complaints through outreach community workers at UNHCR's reception centre in the 6th of October City, Greater Cairo. Additionally, UNHCR's partner Terre des Hommes (TdH) provided basic on-the-spot psychosocial support to 3,530 individuals, with 36 cases referred for further in-depth assessments.

From 21 to 26 October, outreach volunteers in Southern Egypt held 21 information sessions for approximately 200 newly arrived Sudanese individuals in Aswan, Edfu, and Karkar. These sessions

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Within the Sudan situation, the Prospects partnerships are also active in Sudan, Ethiopia, and Uganda.



covered details about UNHCR's services, registration processes—including how to book appointments online—and the support available through UNHCR and its partners.

### Legal and physical protection

During the reporting period, 375 individuals received legal counselling from UNHCR and its partners. Additionally, 105 cases were referred to the Egyptian Foundation for Refugee Rights (EFRR) for legal assistance on issues such as birth registration, filing legal reports, divorce, custody, and legal representation.

On 23 and 24 October, UNHCR took part in three legal clinics organized by EFRR in Nasr Nuba and Karkar. Around 390 Sudanese refugees in the Aswan governorate attended these sessions to learn about accessing their basic rights in Egypt.

# Infoline

Last week, UNHCR's Infoline handled 10,450 inquiries, allocating 1,840 new registration appointments for 4,650 individuals who fled the conflict in Sudan. Most inquiries came from Greater Cairo (85 per cent), followed by Aswan (5 per cent) and Alexandria (4 per cent). Of the new appointments for Sudanese arrivals, 97 per cent went to Sudanese nationals, with women making up 60 per cent of those seeking registration.

The main topics of inquiry were registration (62 per cent), protection (10 per cent), and assistance (9 per cent). On average, the Infoline scheduled 367 appointments daily, covering around 930 individuals. Since the start of the conflict, a total of 527,630 new arrivals from Sudan have received appointments through the Infoline.

#### **Education**

In 2024, UNHCR's partner Catholic Relief Services (CRS) registered approximately 72,300 refugee and asylum-seeker children in Egypt for education cash grants, including 45,300 Sudanese children.

# **Health and Nutrition**

From 21 to 25 October, UNHCR, in collaboration with other UN agencies, took part in the Global Congress on Population, Health, and Development in Egypt's New Capital. UNHCR provided informational materials and digital content, engaging with attendees on refugee issues. The congress included multiple panel discussions, notably covering Egypt's new Health Strategy for 2024-2030. This strategy outlines a specific goal to enhance refugee access to comprehensive healthcare, with concrete actions and measurable indicators. This development marks a significant step forward, aligning with UNHCR's ongoing advocacy for integrating refugees into Egypt's national healthcare system.

### **Cash Assistance**

As of 26 October, UNHCR has conducted vulnerability assessments for 37,186 newly arrived Sudanese households (114,011 individuals) since the start of the crisis. In October, 6,092 households (27,985 individuals) received Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA), covering 33 per cent of the 18,305 households assisted to date. However, 23,142 families (63,723 individuals) remain on the MPCA waiting list due to their high vulnerability.

From 20 to 26 October, 12 households in Aswan were assessed for emergency cash assistance (ECA), bringing the total to 5,002 households (14,289 individuals) since the beginning of the crisis. So far, 68 per cent of these households have been deemed eligible for one-time ECA support.

Since April 2023, 57,799 individuals (21,182 households) across Egypt have been identified as eligible for one-off ECA. Of these, 17,023 households (49,100 individuals) have successfully received their assistance.



# **ETHIOPIA**

# **Highlights**

- The security situation remains volatile, with armed groups present along parts of the Gondar-Metema highway, including checkpoints. Movement along the highway is generally possible, but humanitarian workers remain restricted, except for authorized convoys coordinated by the United Nations Department for Safety and Security (UNDSS). Although the Galabat-Metema border reopened on 22 October, government services like immigration, visas, and customs have yet to resume due to extensive vandalism that damaged essential equipment. While no new arrivals have been recorded seeking international protection, reports indicate that individuals of various nationalities have continued to cross the border.
- UNHCR and its partners continue to provide essential services at the Aftit refugee settlement and Metema transit center, despite the challenging security conditions. A protection desk and mobile communication systems have been established to engage community structures and ensure ongoing support; even as direct access remains restricted. During the reporting week, the General Food Distribution (GFD), which began the previous week, was completed at the Metema transit center.
- On 23 October, a UN team, including representatives from OCHA, Department of Safety and Security (DSS), WFP, IOM, and UNHCR, conducted a three-day security assessment along the Gondar–Metema highway in response to increasing attacks by armed groups. The mission aimed to identify key access and security challenges, engage with local community leaders to advocate for safe humanitarian access, and raise awareness among armed groups about the Humanitarian Code of Conduct to ensure the safe passage of humanitarian personnel and supplies.
- The security situation in refugee sites at Kurmuk, Ura, and Sherkole remains unpredictable due to spillover from conflicts in the neighboring Amhara and Oromia regions. The Ethiopian government has set up a command post to manage the instability, which has severely impacted transportation and supply routes. A State of Emergency declared on 7 October in the Metekel zone (around 400 km from Assosa), remains in effect, further complicating access to the region.

### **Population Movement and Registration**

In the Benishangul Gumuz region, 471 individuals from 361 households were registered at the household level this week, bringing the total number of people registered since 15 April 2023 to 27,925.

In the Amhara region, household-level registration is currently paused due to security issues at the Metema entry point. Since the start of the conflict in Sudan, a total of 22,624 individuals have completed household-level registration in the region.

# Relocation

In the Benishangul Gumuz region, on 22 October, UNHCR, in coordination with the Refugee Response Support (RRS) and other partners, relocated 535 individuals from 232 households from the Kurmuk Transit Centre to the Ura refugee site. This brings the total number of refugees relocated to Ura to 5,563 individuals from 2,193 households.

# **Protection**

In the Amhara region, UNHCR continued its community engagement efforts with refugees through the Refugee Central Committee (RCC) members, partners, and regular phone contact in Aftit and at the Transit Center. The protection desk remains active, offering essential information about available services within the settlement, including health services and other protection support.

UNHCR's partner, the Rehabilitation and Development Organization (RADO), conducted home visits through trained social workers and held awareness sessions for elderly individuals, people with disabilities, and those with other specific needs. Additionally, RADO provided bed sheets, large mats, and body soap to five individuals with specific needs.

## Prevention against gender-based violence (GBV)

In the Amhara region, UNHCR's partner, the Development and Inter-Church Aid Commission (DICAC), provided follow-up support for six GBV cases. One survivor was referred to RADO for material assistance,



while dignity kits were provided to one survivor and one woman at risk to support their hygiene, safety, and dignity.

Awareness sessions on GBV prevention and response services were held, with 46 participants, including women and girls at risk. These sessions covered topics such as the definition and types of violence, contributing factors, consequences, Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), and reporting mechanisms. To promote a deeper understanding of gender dynamics, male engagement sessions were conducted with 30 men and boys, focusing on power imbalances and gender inequalities to encourage behavioral change and foster gender equality.

Additionally, home visits were conducted for 16 women in Aftit by trained social workers to provide further support and guidance.

# **Child Protection**

In Aftit, Innovative Humanitarian Solutions (IHS) provided group counseling sessions for 63 children and conducted home visits for 58 unaccompanied and separated children, orphans, and other vulnerable children. Children also engaged in a variety of age-appropriate activities at the Child-Friendly Space, where six sports groups were formed this week. To support these activities, IHS distributed sports equipment, including basketballs, footballs, volleyballs, nets, pumps, and sports apparel. These initiatives aim to create a safe, supportive environment for refugee children, fostering their physical, mental, and social well-being.

Additionally, "coffee sessions" were held with 67 caregivers, focusing on harmful traditional practices such as early marriage, female genital mutilation, and various forms of child abuse. These discussions not only raised awareness but also encouraged community-driven solutions, empowering caregivers to advocate for positive changes within their families and communities. In support of accountability and transparency, both IHS and Plan International Ethiopia (PIE) are in the process of establishing complaint and feedback mechanisms in Aftit.

# **Health and Nutrition**

At the Metema Transit Centre and Aftit settlement, Medical Teams International (MTI) and WHO's Mobile Health and Nutrition Team (MHNT) conducted outpatient consultations for refugees and host community members. In Aftit, MTI provided consultations for 456 individuals, including 95 children under five. Meanwhile, MHNT assisted 460 refugees at the Metema Transit Center. Common illnesses included acute febrile illness, non-bloody diarrhea, upper respiratory infections, pneumonia, and bloody diarrhea/dysentery.

Additionally, nutrition screening was conducted for 598 children and 214 pregnant and lactating women (PLW). Among them, 67 cases of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) were identified in children, along with 44 cases in PLW. All identified cases were enrolled in the outpatient therapeutic programme and targeted supplementary feeding programme as appropriate.

#### Education

In Aftit, 1,006 refugee children have been enrolled in pre-primary and primary education at Aftit primary school. The Amhara Region Education Bureau and the West Gondar Zone Education Office have also accredited the educational credentials of 110 refugee children, allowing them to attend secondary school at the host community's secondary school in Gendawuha town. Although classes have not yet begun at Aftit primary school, Plan International Ethiopia (PIE) has indicated that teaching will start by mid-November.

To support these efforts, the construction of five classroom blocks (20 classrooms total) and an administration block with three rooms is underway, with completion targeted before the school year begins. Additionally, DICAC has procured all necessary scholastic materials for refugee children entering secondary education, and distribution is planned to coincide with the school start date in mid-November 2024.

### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

In the Amhara region, Innovative Humanitarian Solutions (IHS) supplied a daily average of 86,286 liters of chlorinated water to refugees at the Metema Transit Centre and Aftit Settlement. This equates to an



average of 15 liters per person per day (I/p/d) at the Transit Centre and 10 I/p/d at Aftit. While the water supply has increased by 36,572 liters compared to the previous week, it still falls short of the UNHCR emergency standard of 15 I/p/d for all locations.

### **Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)**

In Aftit, UNHCR's partner Action for the Needy (ANE) has completed 58 emergency shelters, bringing the total to 106. Additionally, pit excavation has been finished for over 100 shelters, and framing work is underway. Site clearance covering 2,640m² has been completed to prepare 30 more shelter plots. Road construction is also progressing, with 1km of excavation completed this week, adding up to a total of 2.5km excavated and 2km compacted to date.

# **LIBYA**

# **Highlights**

On 26 October, UNHCR took part in a joint planning consultative meeting organized by eastern-based authorities in Benghazi. This gathering included representatives from various ministries, official institutions, UN agencies, and international NGOs, aimed at showcasing each organization's work and identifying key priorities for humanitarian and development efforts. Authorities expressed gratitude for ongoing support and emphasized the need to strengthen partnerships with national organizations and focus on capacity-building. Key areas for future collaboration include women's empowerment, support for people with disabilities, small business development, and environmental preservation. Participants agreed to hold regular follow-up consultations to track progress and address any challenges.

# **Population Movement and Registration**

Since the conflict in Sudan began in April 2023, UNHCR estimates that 102,189 Sudanese refugees have arrived in Libya. Of these, 31,417 individuals were registered after the conflict started, bringing the total number of Sudanese refugees registered by UNHCR in Libya to 50,800.

Movement of people from Libya in mixed migration flows continues, with many traveling by land to Tunisia and by sea to Italy and Greece. In 2024, Sudanese refugees represent 3 per cent of arrivals in Italy and 4 per cent in Greece. So far this year, the Libyan Coast Guard has intercepted 1,522 Sudanese refugees at sea an 83 per cent increase from the same period in 2023, when 831 Sudanese were intercepted. This rise is largely due to the ongoing conflict in Sudan and the resulting influx of Sudanese refugees into Libya.

# **Protection**

UNHCR's protection outreach has reached 31,000 newly arrived Sudanese refugees, helping to assess and address their immediate protection needs. To date, over 14,500 refugees have participated in protection surveys that gather information on their travel routes, family composition, and future plans. Additionally, nearly 4,000 Sudanese refugees have undergone in-depth protection assessments, enabling UNHCR to identify specific needs and provide targeted assistance as needed.

#### **Health and nutrition**

UNHCR has provided medical supplies and equipment to support hospitals and health centers, reaching a total of 100,000 Sudanese refugees and members of host communities. This includes 15,000 people in Az-Zawiyah, 20,000 in Tripoli, 20,000 in Benghazi, 7,000 in Shahat, and 40,000 in Alkufra. Monthly medical care is provided to around 1,000 Sudanese refugees, totaling over 16,000 consultations since the beginning of the year.

# **Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)**

More than 15,500 Sudanese refugees have received essential non-food items, including blankets, mattresses, hygiene kits, and kitchen sets, to help them cope with challenging living conditions.

# **Education**

In 2024, UNHCR completed three Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) focused on education. Two schools in Benghazi and one in Tajoura were rehabilitated through partner ACTED, benefiting over 3,400 students, including Sudanese refugees.



#### **Cash Assistance**

Since the beginning of 2024, cash assistance has been provided to 2,000 Sudanese refugees to help meet their basic needs.

# **SOUTH SUDAN**

### **Highlights**

As of 27 October, 49 suspected cholera cases have been reported in South Sudan, with 25 confirmed positive through Rapid Diagnostic Testing (RDT). Among these, seven cases were recent arrivals from the Renk transit center. The Ministry of Health officially declared a cholera outbreak in Renk on 28 October. In response, two cholera treatment units have been established—one at the Joda entry point and another at Renk Civil Hospital. UNHCR has provided medical supplies, and WHO has deployed rapid response teams to support the emergency response. Additionally, cholera kits and rapid diagnostic tests have been distributed to healthcare partners, facilities, and communities, including transit centers.

## **Population Movement and Registration**

As of 21 October, 832,330 individuals have arrived in South Sudan, with 5,508 new arrivals recorded in the past week. This marks a 6 per cent decrease in total arrivals compared to the previous week. South Sudanese returnees make up the majority (77 per cent), with the remaining 23 per cent comprising refugees and asylum seekers. Since the beginning of the Sudan crisis, a total of 182,390 refugees and asylum-seekers from Sudan have been registered in South Sudan.

### Relocation

During the reporting week, 750 individuals were relocated from Renk to Wedweil Refugee Settlement in Aweil, via Malakal. So far in 2024, 9,115 refugees have been relocated from Renk to various camps and settlements, including Maban, Yambio, Jamjang, and Aweil.

#### Protection

In Renk, 98 individuals arriving through unofficial crossing points were assessed and recommended for registration and assistance. Many of these individuals reported choosing these routes to avoid checkpoints where they risked robbery and extortion. Meanwhile, in Maban, 119 individuals, including both refugees and South Sudanese, left for Sudan and Ethiopia, citing various reasons such as resource shortages in camps, family visits, livelihood needs, and other personal matters. However, the outflow has slowed due to movement restrictions imposed by the Sudan People's Liberation Army-North (SPLA-N) and deteriorating road conditions. UNHCR's partners in Maban also conducted verification of returnees sheltering in public facilities, identifying key challenges such as a lack of shelter and food shortages. Many of those interviewed reported being stranded as floodwaters had cut off routes to their intended destinations.

# **Health and Nutrition**

As of 27 October, 49 suspected cholera cases have been reported, with 25 confirmed positives, including seven recent arrivals from Renk Transit Centre. On 28 October, South Sudan's Ministry of Health declared a cholera outbreak in Renk. In response, cholera treatment units were established at Wunthou and Renk Civil Hospital, with UNHCR providing medical supplies and WHO deploying rapid response teams. Rapid diagnostic tests and cholera kits have also been distributed to partners, health facilities, host communities, and transit centers.

In Aweil, 72 children were screened for acute malnutrition, with three found to be severely malnourished and eight moderately malnourished. In Abyei, 37 refugees were referred to the Primary Healthcare Centre, where many tested positive for malaria, while others presented mild illnesses related to their challenging journey from Sudan. All patients were treated and discharged. UNHCR has increased requests for additional handwashing facilities at the Abyei transit center to address a rise in Hepatitis E cases, which has reached 58 confirmed cases with three fatalities. Health partners are also conducting hygiene awareness campaigns to prevent further spread.



In Renk, 6,408 health consultations were conducted, with returnees accounting for 66 per cent of patients, refugees for 24 per cent, and the host community for 11 per cent. The main health issues were acute respiratory infections, malaria, and acute watery diarrhea, with a recent rise in viral conjunctivitis cases.

### **Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)**

In Aweil, shelter upgrades continued with 57 new shelters completed, although the supply of construction toolkits remains insufficient to help families transition from temporary to semi-permanent shelters. In Abyei, communal shelter capacity remains inadequate despite the addition of four family tents to house the growing number of asylum seekers arriving daily. This shortage has been exacerbated by the suspension of relocations to refugee settlements due to flooding and poor road conditions. As a result, some refugees are forced to sleep on verandas or outdoors, leaving them exposed to cold weather conditions.

# **UGANDA**

### **Highlights**

Uganda is currently managing an Mpox outbreak, which the World Health Organization declared a
Public Health Emergency of International Concern on July 23, 2024. This week, 167 Mpox cases
were recorded, including one case involving a refugee and one fatality. UNHCR, along with the
Ministry of Health, district surveillance teams, and other partners, is coordinating the response, with
screening measures in place for all new arrivals.

### **Population Movements and Registration**

Since the conflict in Sudan began in April 2023, Uganda has registered a total of 59,251 Sudanese refugees, with 43,882 arriving since January 2024 alone.

Over the past week, 94 new Sudanese refugees arrived in Uganda, marking Sudanese nationals as the largest group of new arrivals this year. In urban areas, 22,665 individuals have been registered since January, of which 44 per cent are Sudanese. Only two new Sudanese arrivals were registered in urban areas during the reporting week.

# Relocation

UNHCR and its partners, in coordination with the Office of the Prime Minister, relocated 245 Sudanese refugees (67 households) from reception centres in Ocea and Kiryandongo, Western Uganda, to allocated plots of land.

Due to the closure of the Karuma bridge, relocations continue via Murchison Falls National Park with authorization from the Uganda Wildlife Authority, despite increased travel time and costs.

# **Protection**

#### Access to Territory

Sudanese asylum seekers are granted prima facie recognition upon arrival.

# **Reception Centres**

Sudanese nationals make up 75 per cent (996 of 1,333 individuals) of the population at the Adjumani, Arua, and Kiryandongo reception centers. However, Kiryandongo and Nyakabande transit centers are severely overcrowded, which has impacted Health, Protection, and WASH services for new arrivals.

### Urban relocation

Since March 2024, 1,196 Sudanese individuals (573 households) in Kiryandongo have requested relocation to Kampala through a newly established registration desk.

#### Community-led Awareness

Para-social workers conducted child protection awareness sessions in Palabek and Kiryandongo, reaching 113 community members.



# Legal and Physical Protection

Two Mobile Legal Aid Clinics in Kiryandongo registered 16 cases on issues such as health, in-kind support, violence, and legal disputes. A total of 133 participants, including refugees and host community members, received guidance on legal concerns and warnings against illegal land transactions.

#### **Health and Nutrition**

Malaria remains a major concern in the Adjumani region, with a prevalence as high as 54 per cent. Expanded funding could enhance malaria prevention in Palabek and Kiryandongo by supporting Village Health Teams (VHT) in managing common childhood illnesses like malaria and pneumonia.

In Kiryandongo, VHTs reached 1,193 children; 705 tested positive for malaria and were treated at the community level, while 170 children were referred to health facilities.

Malnutrition screening of 5,448 individuals in Kiryandongo identified 11 cases of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and 15 cases of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM).

# Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Three environmental health and hygiene sessions were conducted at the Kiryandongo reception center, reaching 860 new arrivals. Topics included food hygiene, waste management, handwashing, water safety, and personal hygiene.

To improve sanitation, 92 dome-shaped latrine slabs were distributed in Kiryandongo, bringing the total to 1,070 slabs distributed and 987 households with latrines. An additional 1,140 slabs have been cast for future use.

Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) trucked 140,000 liters of water to Kiryandongo and provided 240 liters of fuel to support water production systems for various clusters within the settlement.

Hygiene promotion activities reached 4,014 people, emphasizing handwashing.

UNICEF's motorized borehole water system in Kiryandongo's Cluster L is almost complete. Pipelines, tap stands, a guardhouse, a reservoir, a tank tower, and a pumphouse have been installed and tested. Once complete, this system will provide much-needed clean water to the settlement, alleviating pressure from the increased refugee influx.

# **Response Plans and Funding Situation**

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

On 2 July, UNHCR and 86 organizations launched the <u>Regional Refugee Response Plan</u> mid-year update, with an appeal for **USD 1.5 billion** to provide essential aid and protection to a total of **3.3 million people** in seven countries by the end of 2024. This includes 2.8 million refugees, returnees, and others who have fled the ongoing conflict in Sudan and 500,000 host community members. As of 10 October, the total funding for the RRP reached some USD 413.51 million, representing **27%** of the required amount.

# Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) – January - December 2024

The <u>Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP)</u> was launched on 7 February and requires **USD 2.7 billion** to assist **14.7 million people**. As of 31 October, the total funding for the HRP reached USD 1.52 billion, covering **56.6%** of the requirements. Access OCHA's Financial Tracking Service here: OCHA FTS.

# **UNHCR Supplementary Appeal – January - December 2024**

UNHCR's total financial requirement for the 2024 <u>Sudan Emergency Supplementary Appeal</u>, covering Sudan and neighbouring countries, was revised on 3 July. It now amounts to **USD 1.03 billion**. As of 17 October, the appeal is funded at **42%**.



# Resources

- Sudan RRP 2024 Progress Report: May-August 2024
- ➤ UNHCR Annual Executive Committee Meeting 15 October 2024
- Sudan-Emergency-Critical-Life-Saving-Needs
- South Sudan: Refugee figures hit the half-a-million mark as thousands arrive, fleeing conflict in Sudan.
- UNHCR Mpox Appeal 2024
- 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
- ➤ UNHCR's Operational Data Portal (ODP) for the Sudan Situation provides weekly updates on the refugee and returnee arrivals in Sudan's neighbouring countries.
- <u>UNHCR and IOM Joint Dashboard</u> of arrivals to South Sudan, including data on returnee intentions, onward movements, and numbers and locations of returnees in and around Renk.
- UNHCR Global Focus Sudan Operation page
- UNHCR Sudan Emergency website
- ➤ UNHCR's HELP site for Refugees and Asylum-Seekers in Sudan provides information to individuals seeking information and support inside Sudan (in <u>English</u> and <u>Arabic</u>).

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