

Darfur and Kordofan Situation Update

Overview

- One month after the takeover of El Fasher, North Darfur, and the escalation of armed clashes in Kordofan states, displacement has increased. Civilians, including previously displaced families and refugees, have been forced to flee to relatively safer states and localities. Initially, movements were localized within North Darfur, but now people are displaced across multiple states, including to Northern, Khartoum, Kassala, White Nile, Gedaref and Red Sea States. Some civilians remain trapped in El Fasher, and there is little information about their wellbeing, safety and security.
- Areas that have hosted large numbers of IDPs since the conflict began in 2023 are now experiencing a new surge of arrivals from El Fasher. This trend is significantly increasing the pressure on already overstretched resources and services in host communities. For example, as of September, Tawila locality in North Darfur, hosted over 652,000 IDPs, and since late October, has received more than 13,000 additional individuals from El Fasher, according to reports by local authorities. Similarly, in Ad Dabbah locality, Northern State, which previously hosted over 115,000 IDPs, the Emergency Committee has recorded over 7,000 new arrivals, and the number of IDPs in Wasat Jabal Marra in Central Darfur nearly doubled with 5,844 new arrivals. Smaller hosting areas with even more limited capacity, such as Melit and Saraf Omra in North Darfur, are also reporting new arrivals. The influx of IDPs is creating urgent gaps in shelter, healthcare, protection, and other basic services.
- The main needs identified through protection monitoring are for psychosocial support for traumatized families and family tracing for unaccompanied and separated children, as well as shelter and non-food items (NFIs), cash assistance to meet basic needs, healthcare, and food. Help obtaining personal identity documents is also a sharply growing need as many IDPs lost their documents during flight.

Population Movements

- According to IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), between 26 October and 24 November, more than 106,000 people were displaced from El Fasher town and surrounding villages. Around 70,000 of them have gone to locations within El Fasher locality in North Darfur, while others moved on to Tawila, Melit and Saraf Omra localities. Individuals and families have also fled to different states across Sudan, including Central Darfur, East Darfur, South Darfur, West Darfur, Northern State, West Kordofan, and White Nile.
- Between 26 October and 18 November following the escalation of insecurity and armed clashes in Kordofan, nearly 40,000 individuals were displaced from Ar Rahad, Bara, Gharb Bara, Sheikan, Um Dam Haj Ahmed and Um Rawaba localities in North Kordofan to neighboring localities as well as other states including White Nile, Khartoum and Aj Jazirah.



UNHCR is putting up tents at Al Afadh IDP gathering site in Ad Dabbah to provide shelter to new arrivals from El Fasher
 ©UNHCR/Lomuya Tobias Khamusa

UNHCR Response

Darfur

- A UNHCR convoy carrying 746 NFI kits and an additional 1,500 plastic sheets, crossed the Chad–Sudan border at Adré on 20 November, heading to Khazan Jadid, East Darfur, to respond to the needs of people displaced from El Fasher. The NFI kits include blankets, mosquito nets, cooking utensils, jerry cans, solar lamps, and plastic sheets. Additionally, 1,000 NFI kits reached Mellit, North Darfur, on 25 November for distribution among newly arrived families.
- In Tawila, UNHCR and AHA distributed 35 family tents to highly vulnerable South Sudanese refugee families who fled El Fasher.
- More supplies from UNHCR stocks in Port Sudan, consisting of 2,500 NFI kits, 2,500 plastic sheets and 2,000 family tents, from UNHCR stocks in Port Sudan are enroute to Darfur to reinforce the response.
- Also, in Tawila, UNHCR's partner HOPE operates Protection Desks that provide urgent psychological first aid, register unaccompanied and separated children, support family tracing, and make referrals for specialized services. So far, HOPE has registered over 200 unaccompanied children, most of whom have been successfully reunited with their families, and referred more than 700 individuals for specialized services, especially survivors of sexual and gender-based violence.
- As Protection Cluster lead, UNHCR is coordinating efforts to map protection services available in order to strengthen response in Tawila and other localities that have received IDPs from El Fasher. UNHCR is also holding ongoing bilateral meetings with protection partners, including other UN agencies, to enhance protection monitoring and continually update the mapping of services.

Ad Dabbah

- UNHCR and its partner ADD are pitching 500 family tents at Al Afadh IDP gathering site to accommodate new arrivals from Darfur. UNHCR teams are also meeting new IDPs at reception centers and gathering sites, conducting protection interviews, and coordinating with partners to address urgent needs.
- UNHCR, as Protection Cluster lead, convened the first coordination meeting with humanitarian actors (UN agencies and other operational and local partners) at Al Afadh IDP gathering site to strengthen collaboration to address needs, including medical referrals, water and sanitation services, assistive devices for persons with disabilities. Through an upcoming training on Case Management and Referrals, UNHCR is also leading efforts to build partner' capacity.

Kordofan

- UNHCR's partners are conducting protection monitoring across all states to identify urgent needs and risks among newly displaced families. To address a gap, in protection capacity in Kordofan, UNHCR has engaged a national non-governmental organization to strengthen its protection response.
- Preparations are underway to distribute 500 NFI kits in Sheikan locality, North Kordofan, complementing the 750 NFI kits already distributed in Kadugli as part of the response to recent IDP arrivals.
- As part of a planned interagency mission, UNHCR will transport 1,000 NFI kits (500 to Kadugli and 500 to Dilling) from Port Sudan to South Kordofan to respond to new IDP arrivals.

Financial Information

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RESOURCES

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