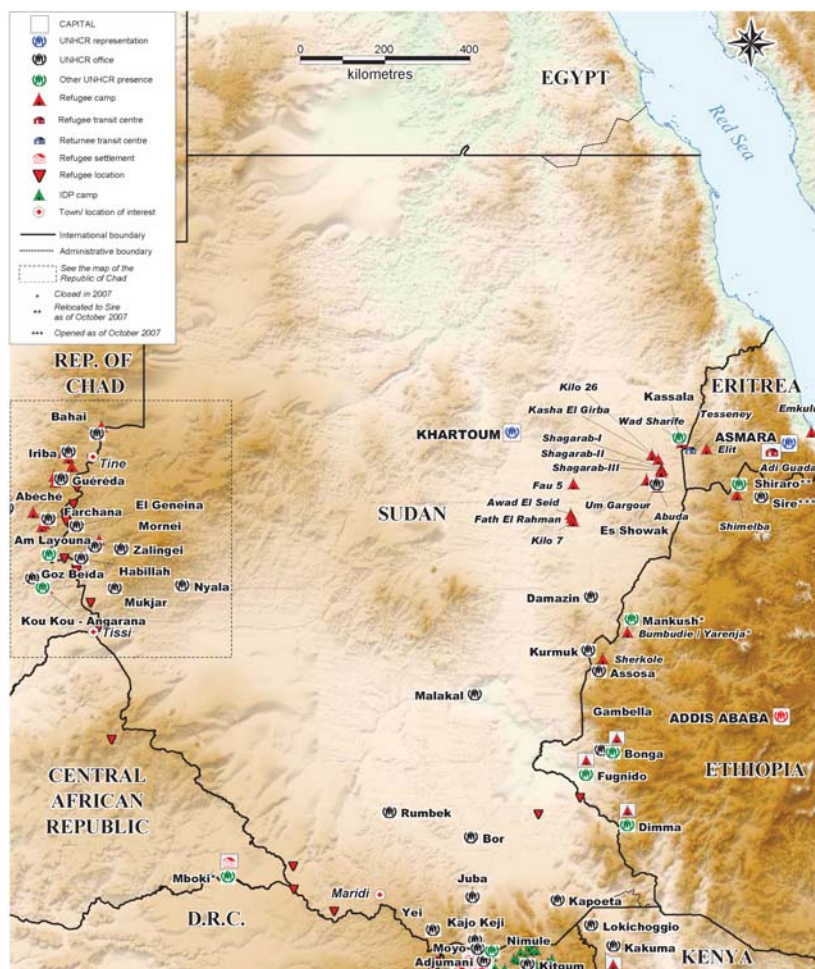


Sudan

Operational highlights

- UNHCR strengthened its lead role in coordinating protection in West Darfur. The Office chaired the protection working groups in El Geneina, Zalingei and Mornei.
- In October, UNHCR began leading the camp management and camp coordination cluster in West Darfur.
- In Khartoum and eastern Sudan, the Office coordinated protection activities within the protection working group.
- September saw UNHCR and the Government of Sudan agree on a strategy to find durable solutions for the protracted refugee situation in eastern Sudan. This includes a shift from care and maintenance activities to projects aimed at promoting self-reliance. The agreement also called for improvements to the asylum system, a strengthening of the authorities' refugee status determination (RSD) capacity, the integration of services within local government departments, and a strategy for resettlement.



Persons of concern

Type of population	Origin	Total	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Per cent female	Per cent under 18
Refugees	Eritrea	160,500	108,900	50	38
	Chad	45,000	36,000	50	-
	Ethiopia	11,400	1,400	50	-
	DRC	2,700	210	52	-
	Central African Republic	2,500	-	50	-
	Somalia	600	250	31	31
Asylum-seekers	Ethiopia	4,000	140	49	-
	Eritrea	3,000	1,200	35	27
	Somalia	280	210	23	-
	Various	10	-	-	-
Returnees (refugees)	From Ethiopia	23,000	23,000	-	-
	From Kenya	19,200	4,800	-	-
	From Uganda	76,600	17,300	-	-
	From Central African Republic	6,500	6,500	-	-
	From DRC	3,700	1,900	-	-
	From Egypt	1,600	1,600	-	-
	Various	210	210	-	-
IDPs		1,250,000	1,250,000	50	-
Returnees (IDPs)		84,800	84,800	50	-
Total		1,695,600	1,538,420		

- In the last quarter of the year, the Office began a verification exercise to determine the number and profile of refugees in camps, settlements and urban areas in Khartoum.
- In Southern Sudan and in Blue Nile State, the Office worked to find repatriation and reintegration solutions. UNHCR's protection monitoring in areas of displacement and return (the latter for both refugees and IDPs) was instrumental in setting priorities for early reintegration projects.

Working environment

The conflict in Darfur continued in 2007, and the security situation deteriorated further, as well as in neighbouring countries. More people were internally displaced and new refugees moved from Chad and the Central African Republic (CAR) to Darfur. Humanitarian workers were also targeted more often. Peacekeepers of the United Nations-African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) were in place by the end of December 2007; however, they lacked equipment and sufficient numbers to be effective.

In Khartoum, there was an increase in random identity checks, arrests of refugees and asylum-seekers, and prosecution for illegal movement from the camps. The fragile relationship between Ethiopia and Eritrea continued to deteriorate and provoked an influx of more than 10,000 Eritrean asylum-seekers into eastern Sudan. The eastern region remained relatively stable following the withdrawal of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A) forces and the signing of the peace agreement between the Sudanese Government and the Eastern Front in 2006.

In the northern part of Blue Nile State, UNHCR began protection monitoring and community-based reintegration projects for IDPs, linked to their voluntary repatriation.

The year 2007 witnessed various challenges in the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in Southern Sudan. Most notable was the suspension of SPLM participation in the Government of National Unity in September 2007. As a result, the population in Malakal, the capital of Upper Nile State, faced particularly severe economic hardships due to the embargo imposed by the northern authorities. However, following intensive consultations between the two parties in December 2007, the SPLM returned to the Government. Both sides have expressed their commitment to the peace accord.

Achievements and impact

Main objectives

UNHCR's main objectives in Darfur were to ensure that international standards of protection were met, and to prevent further displacement and involuntary return. The Office also aimed to prepare a contingency plan for an influx of refugees as a result of the deteriorating security situation in eastern Chad. Another goal in Darfur was to support limited community-based projects for refugees and IDPs who had returned spontaneously to West Darfur.

In east Sudan and Khartoum, UNHCR's objectives were to advocate for institutional reforms to develop the national asylum system; strengthen access to protection and durable solutions; ensure gender equity, paying special attention to the needs of refugees at risk; and shift from an assistance programme to self-reliance by improving livelihoods. Furthermore, the Office sought to improve coexistence between refugees and host communities through area development. A final aim was to pursue durable solutions such as local integration and a multi-year resettlement plan.

In Southern Sudan and Blue Nile State, the goals were to provide protection, especially to people with specific needs and victims of sexual and gender-based violence; facilitate voluntary repatriation from countries of asylum; and assist returning refugees and IDPs to reintegrate into their communities. UNHCR planned to create a protective environment to prevent further displacement and involuntary returns, monitor protection, and set up community-based reintegration projects.

Protection and solutions

The operation in Darfur focused on the protection of IDPs and refugees. Physical insecurity, massive displacement and the occupation of land remained major challenges. Particular attention was paid to preventing and responding to sexual and gender-based violence, which continued to be prevalent. UNHCR led the protection working groups which coordinated protection activities among UN agencies, NGOs and the African Union (AU). In October, UNHCR also began leading the coordination of camp management issues in West Darfur.



UNHCR/K. Gebre Eziablier

Repatriation of Sudanese refugees from Western Ethiopian camps.

In Khartoum, UNHCR trained staff and partners to include age, gender and diversity considerations in protection and use the *proGres* registration software. The Office reviewed Best Interest Determination procedures for separated and unaccompanied children.

In Blue Nile State, UNHCR and its partners assessed conditions in the areas of refugee and IDP return through participatory assessments, focus group discussions and individual interviews.

In Southern Sudan, the operation focused on facilitating the voluntary return of Sudanese refugees from the CAR, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda. Plans were made for the voluntary repatriation of more than 100,000 people, and some 70,000 returned. Some 2,500 Congolese refugees from the DRC residing in Southern Sudan also received UNHCR's protection.

Activities and assistance

Community services: Some 10,000 women, 6,000 young people and 200 elderly persons participated in activities at 34 community centres for women in West Darfur. In east Sudan, UNHCR conducted some 40

awareness-raising sessions on sexual and gender-based violence, female genital mutilation and HIV and AIDS in refugee communities. Sanitary napkins were provided for 55,000 women of reproductive age – and more than 400 women were engaged in preparing and sewing the napkins under an income-generation scheme. Some 320 orphans were supported in seven camps. In Southern Sudan, the specific needs of some 600 individuals were addressed. Returnee women and adolescent girls were counselled on reproductive health issues.

Crop production: In east Sudan, refugee farmers in 10 camps had access to rented land, more than 1,200 people received crop loans, and cooperatives and agriculture committees received training.

Domestic needs and household support: Non-food items were provided to some 160,000 refugees and IDPs with specific needs in Darfur. Similar assistance was given to more than 10,000 asylum-seekers and refugees in east Sudan and all returnees in Southern Sudan.

Education: In Darfur, UNHCR rehabilitated 43 children's centres and six schools, benefiting some 3,500 pupils. More than 30 parent-teacher associations

were trained in the management of school funds, child protection and hygiene. In east Sudan, nearly 9,000 refugee children were enrolled in primary schools and some 40 students received scholarships for secondary and tertiary education. In Southern Sudan, UNHCR built five primary schools, one secondary school for girls and completed the construction of a teacher's college.

Food: Food was distributed regularly in Um Shalaya camp in Darfur. More than 6,000 Chadian refugees received monthly food rations. In east Sudan, 50 per cent of the refugees received a half ration of food. People with specific needs benefited from supplementary feeding programmes in all camps. In Southern Sudan, returnees received food rations for three months as part of their return package.

Forestry: Some 120,000 seedlings were planted in three nurseries in Darfur. Furthermore, more than 80,000 tree seedlings were distributed to IDP families. In east Sudan, more than a thousand hectares of forest was planted, including 160 hectares of agro forestry farms. Some 2,300 improved stoves were fabricated or repaired. UNHCR conducted a workshop to address environmental management in refugee situations.

Health and nutrition: In Darfur, nearly 800 patients with eye ailments received treatment. Furthermore, some 3,000 elderly patients received medical attention. About 90 people attended HIV and AIDS awareness workshops and more than 100 mothers participated in weekly sessions on health issues. Refugees in east Sudan were provided with anti-malaria treatment and mosquito nets. The general acute malnutrition, rate in the area is critical – above 20 per cent for children under five years old. Three ambulances were delivered to implementing partners. In Southern Sudan, health activities in returnee areas and in way stations included primary health care as well as awareness sessions on issues such as HIV and AIDS and safe motherhood.

Income generation: The Office implemented livelihood activities in Kassala and Gedaref State camps to improve production in agriculture and animal husbandry. Some 1,300 refugees were assisted to produce items to sell in the market and to set up small businesses. Others participated in a revolving fund scheme.

Legal assistance: In Darfur, a profiling exercise was conducted in some 300 villages during the year. The resulting data was shared with other humanitarian organizations and will be used to coordinate protection and assistance by aid agencies. Community leaders were trained to prevent and respond to sexual and

gender-based violence. In Southern Sudan, UNHCR's monitoring strengthened the protection of returnees.

Livestock: In east Sudan, more than 1,300 beneficiaries received assistance to engage in market-oriented production or to set up small businesses.

Operational support (to agencies): Partner agencies received enough support and equipment to allow them to run their projects without interruption.

Sanitation: Hygiene awareness raising sessions were conducted in all camps in east Sudan. Garbage collection and disposal continued throughout the year. Some 200 pit latrines were installed in five camps. Sanitation activities in Southern Sudan focused on creating a more hygienic environment in areas of return, way stations and schools, and controlling disease outbreaks.

Shelter and other infrastructure: In Darfur, shelter materials for some 1,100 houses were provided to IDPs and returnees. Some 750 shelters were constructed for refugees in Um Shalaya camp. In east Sudan, classrooms and wards in clinics were constructed or rehabilitated to accommodate new arrivals. The RSD centre in Wad Sharife was replaced by a new one in Shagarab. Four way stations were set up in Southern Sudan to accommodate returnees at the initial stage of their return. Mobile warehouses were installed in all way stations to store food and non-food items.

Transport and logistics: Refugees and returnees as well as non-food items were transported and vehicle fleets were kept in good condition in all locations. UNHCR aircraft and additional passenger planes transported returnees from CAR to Western Equatoria.

Water: In Darfur, 18 wells were rehabilitated, four hand pumps repaired and 11 water points maintained. Eighteen water-management committees were formed and trained. In east Sudan, water was supplied at an average of 14 litres per person per day. A rainwater collection point was constructed in Um-Gargour Camp. Safe drinking water was made available in Southern Sudan to approximately 20,000 people, reducing the incidence of water-borne diseases. The provision of more and better water has mitigated water-related conflicts between returnees, IDPs and host communities. Some 40 new boreholes were drilled for communities in Jonglei, Eastern and Central Equatoria states, and 38 water committees were formed to train members to manage the resource in a sustainable way.

Constraints

The volatile security situation in Darfur provoked new displacements, presenting a major challenge to UNHCR's operation. Furthermore, long distances and bad roads hindered humanitarian access to the area.

The volatile political situations in neighbouring countries increased the number of asylum-seekers in eastern Sudan. However, UNHCR was frequently denied access to refugee camps. The lack of NGOs with expertise in refugee and IDP issues presented another obstacle to providing services for people of concern.

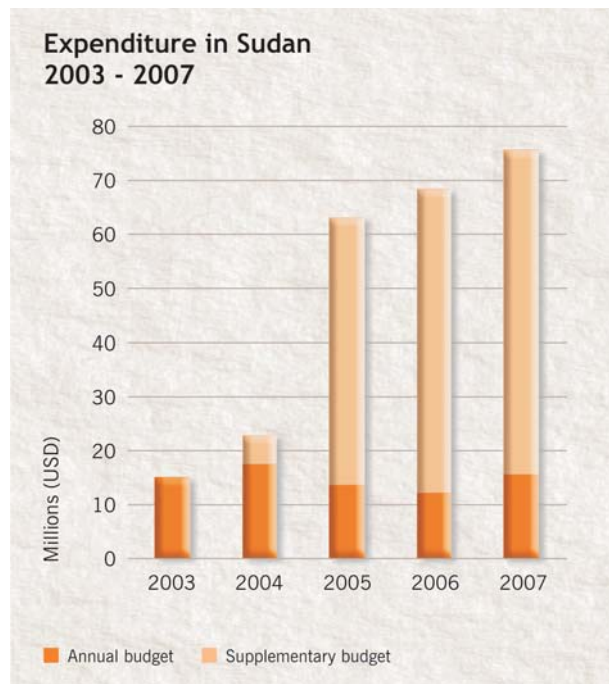
The power-sharing arrangement between the Government of Sudan and the SPLM/A in Blue Nile State created a complex political situation. The absence of rule of law, frequent land disputes and the presence of mines constituted some of the major security challenges in the area.

Disputes over migration routes and grazing rights triggered conflicts in several locations hindering the effective implementation of planned activities. In addition, several attacks allegedly carried out by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) on civilians in Central Equatoria State undermined security in the south, with the presence of mines and unexploded ordnance further complicating the situation. Other challenges included the vast terrain, poor infrastructure, logistical difficulties and recurring epidemics.

Financial information

Against the overall budget of USD 20.2 million for Darfur, UNHCR received contributions of USD 19.4 million, including the carry-over from the previous year. Of the USD 15.8 million requested to implement its activities in eastern Sudan, UNHCR spent USD 15.6 million. UNHCR also received USD 54 million, including USD 10.9 million in carry-over, against an approved budget of USD 56.1 million for Southern Sudan.

In the south, the earmarking of funds for specific activities reduced the flexibility of the Office to channel resources to the neediest areas to face evolving operational realities.



Organization and implementation

Management

Under the supervision of the Representation Office in Khartoum, UNHCR operated in Darfur through the sub-office in El Geneina and field offices in Mukjar, Habilla, Zalingei, Mornei and Nyala. A total of 123 staff, including 33 international and 83 national staff, seven UNVs and secondees worked for UNHCR operations in Darfur.

In eastern Sudan, UNHCR operated with a sub-office in Es-Showak and a field office in Kassala. A total of 152 staff, including 32 international and 104 national staff, and 16 UNVs or secondees were employed.

With regard to Southern Sudan, UNHCR operated through sub-offices in Juba, Damazine, Malakal and Yei, field offices in Bor, Kajo-keji, Kapoeta and Kurmuk, and field units in Nimule, Mabaan, Pagak and Rumbek. In 2007, a total of 109 staff including 26 internationals, 71 nationals and 12 UNVs or secondees were deployed.

Working with others

UNHCR implemented its activities in collaboration with the Government of Sudan, the Government of Southern Sudan, local and international NGOs, IOM and ICRC, as well as UN agencies and the UN Mission in Sudan (UNMIS). The Office was party to the UN Work Plan, which sets out the United Nations programme in Sudan. UNHCR also participated in the UNDAF process in south Sudan with the UN Country Team.

Overall assessment

There were few returns of refugees and IDPs to villages of origin in Darfur. Some refugees returned from Chad, driven by insecurity in eastern Chad. Insecurity in the rural areas of Darfur remained a key obstacle to return. Nonetheless, UNHCR strengthened its protection capacity. The deployment of UNAMID peacekeepers may improve security in Darfur, both for the displaced and humanitarian workers.

In September 2007, UNHCR reviewed the situation in east Sudan in order to direct resources towards filling the basic needs of refugees, in addition to the existing self-reliance programmes in agriculture and livelihood.

In the Blue Nile State, due to the mine clearance activities along voluntary repatriation route, the return movements started only a few weeks before the onset of the rainy season, requiring the Office to provide shelter or way stations for returnees during the journey.

Partners

Implementing partners

Government Agencies: Agency for Cooperation and Development in Research, Commissioner for Refugees, Gedaref State Government, Global Health Foundation, National Forestry Corporation, South Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission, Sudan Health Association, Sudan Social Development Organization, Sudan Open Learning Unit, Water Environmental Sanitation, World Conservation Union

NGOs: Adventist Development and Relief Agency Japan, African Development and Emergency Organisation, *Aktion Africa Hilfe*, American refugee committee, Association for Aid and Relief Japan, Association of Christian Resource Organization for South Sudan, Atlas Logistique, Church Ecumenical Action in Sudan, Concern, Counterpart International, Danish De-mining Group, Danish Refugee Council, German Development Service, Handicap International, Help Age International, Human Appeal International, International Medical Corps, International Rescue Committee, Intersos, Islamic Relief Worldwide, Japan International Volunteer Centre, Peace Winds Japan, Mine Advisory Group, Norwegian Refugee Council, Save the Children (Spain, USA), Sudanese Red Crescent Society, Tear fund, *Terre des Hommes*, *Triangle Generation Humanitaire*

Others: *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit*, IOM

Operational partners

Government Agencies: Al Manar Voluntary organizations, Humanitarian Affairs Commission, Refugee Counselling Service, Sudan Health Association

NGOs: ADR, ATLAS France, Medair

Others: AU, FAO, ICRC, OCHA, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNJLC, UNMIS, UNV, WFP, WHO, UN-HABITAT

Budget, income and expenditure (USD)

	Final budget	Income from contributions	Other funds available	Total funds available	Total expenditure
Annual budget	15,839,403	11,012,559	4,340,234	15,352,793	15,336,319
Darfur SB	18,101,968	16,277,747	6,277,101	22,554,848	17,601,426
South Sudan and IDP SB	43,402,481	26,560,681	20,245,233	46,805,914	42,641,941
Total	77,343,852	53,850,987	30,862,568	84,713,555	75,579,686

Note: Supplementary programmes do not include seven per cent support costs that are recovered from contributions to meet indirect costs for UNHCR. Income from contributions includes contributions earmarked at the country level. Other funds available include transfers from unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions, opening balance and adjustments.

Financial Report (USD)

Expenditure breakdown	Current year's projects			Previous years' projects
	Annual budget	Supplementary budget	Total	Annual and supplementary budgets
Protection, monitoring and coordination	3,370,685	26,310,399	29,681,084	0
Community services	286,778	1,838,168	2,124,946	683,460
Crop production	50,000	82,087	132,087	64,775
Domestic needs and household support	186,153	459,876	646,029	7,400
Education	349,451	741,878	1,091,329	721,810
Food	50,226	121,290	171,516	16,447
Forestry	429,998	23,270	453,267	333,278
Health and nutrition	1,114,469	2,054,193	3,168,662	1,544,068
Income generation	98,989	132,767	231,755	17,492
Legal assistance	629,167	2,820,944	3,450,111	1,133,897
Livestock	0	1,024	1,024	0
Operational support (to agencies)	1,968,841	7,326,882	9,295,723	1,557,099
Sanitation	79,156	229,931	309,087	47,906
Shelter and infrastructure	555,041	596,712	1,151,753	501,226
Transport and logistics	739,000	6,725,405	7,464,406	1,238,392
Water	482,678	1,009,295	1,491,973	130,425
Instalments with implementing partners	2,627,354	6,762,896	9,390,251	(7,997,676)
Sub-total operational activities	13,017,986	57,237,017	70,255,003	0
Programme support	2,318,333	3,006,350	5,324,683	0
Total expenditure	15,336,319	60,243,368	75,579,687	0
Cancellation on previous years' expenditure				(718,509)
Instalments with implementing partners				
Payments made	6,363,505	18,873,617	25,237,122	
Reporting received	(3,736,151)	(12,110,721)	(15,846,872)	
Balance	2,627,354	6,762,896	9,390,251	
Previous years' report				
Instalments with implementing partners				
Outstanding 1st January				12,973,501
Reporting received				(7,997,676)
Refunded to UNHCR				(1,052,032)
Adjustments				328,393
Balance				4,252,186