ETHIOPIA

New Population Movement from Sudan

As of 24 December 2023

Key figures

40,911
Total new arrivals in need of international protection

36,687
Sudanese and Non-Sudanese refugees/asylum seekers

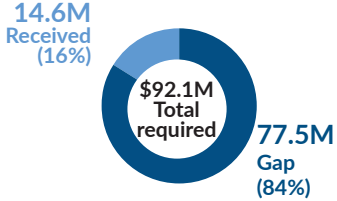
4,224
Ethiopian refugee returnees

Relocation

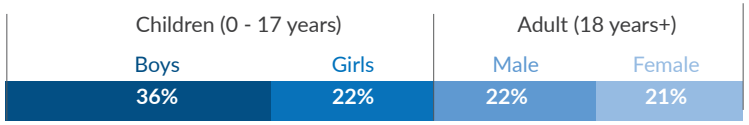
10,109
Individuals relocated from Metema TC to Kumer site

1,528
Individuals relocated from Kurmuk TC to Sherkole camp

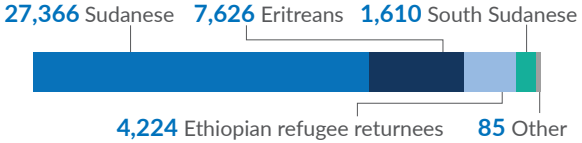
Funding



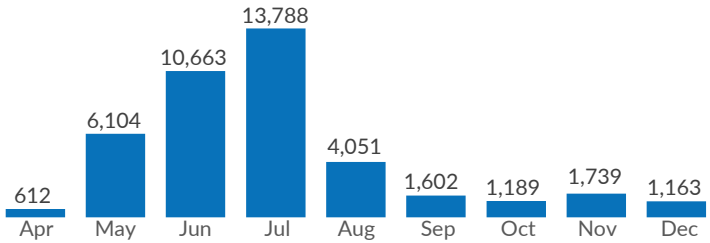
Gender breakdown



Nationality breakdown



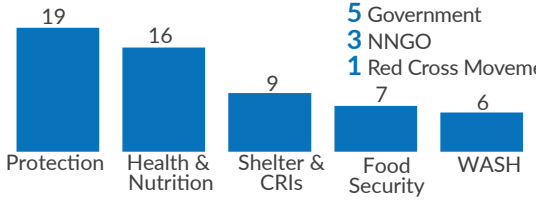
Monthly arrival trends | April - December 2023



Partnership

32 Organizations responding to the emergency

17 INGO
6 UN Agencies
5 Government
3 NNGO
1 Red Cross Movement



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Context and methodology

Following the outbreak of armed conflict in Sudan on 15 April 2023, Ethiopia is receiving thousands of forcibly displaced people at three main points of entry along the land border between Sudan and Ethiopia. The Government's Refugees and Returnees Service (RRS) and UNHCR are coordinating the response to the new refugee inflows, including daily border monitoring, screening for asylum-seekers and refugees, and coordinating the provision of basic services, such as food, water, temporary shelter as well as emergency healthcare, together with partners.

RRS and UNHCR screen Sudanese and Non-Sudanese new arrivals who are seeking international protection in Ethiopia and Ethiopian refugees returning to Ethiopia. Data is collected at household level, while individual registration procedures will be conducted with biometrics. Category of persons screened and recorded by RRS/UNHCR include:

- Ethiopian refugee returnees: previously registered as refugees in Sudan. UNHCR collects information like refugee ID number, camp names, etc
- Sudanese refugees/asylum seekers: UNHCR identifies both Sudanese previously registered as refugees in Ethiopia and Sudanese newly arrived in need of international protection
- Non-Sudanese refugees/asylum seekers in need of international protection include mainly Eritreans and South Sudanese.

The methodology and tools developed by UNHCR and RRS help among others to: i) profile new arrivals (intention of return, persons with specific needs..), ii) record refugee ID numbers of all forcibly displaced persons previously registered as refugees in Sudan with the purpose of reconciling data to ultimately help in maintaining its integrity across the two countries and iii) identify Ethiopian refugee returnees from Sudan in order to provide the necessary return assistance.

Sector	Response	Priorities / Challenges	Partners
Protection	• In coordination with partners and refugees in Metema, Amhara region and Kurmuk, Benishangul Gumuz region (BSG), the 16 Days of Activism campaign against Gender-Based Violence (GBV) was commemorated. This annual international campaign is a key moment to call for an end to violence against women and girls. • In coordination with protection partners, the first GBV safety audit assessment was conducted in Metema, and analysis of the findings is ongoing. Safety audits are carried out in camps or settlements during displacement to assess safety and security concerns for women and girls to enable humanitarian actors to identify and observe risks and barriers. • Awareness sessions on GBV were provided to a total of 2,106 individuals at entry points, transit centres and Kumer settlement in Metema, Amhara region, and Kurmuk, BSG. 4 mobile outreach campaigns were also held in similar topic in Tigrigna and Arabic languages. Survivors at Metema area including Mandefro transit centre in Amhara region and Kurmuk area received dignity kits, counselling and case management services. • A total of 648 Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC) and Other Vulnerable Children (OVC) have been identified in Kurmuk so far and are receiving necessary assistance. 173 extremely vulnerable children received Core Relief Items (CRIs) in Kumer refugee site. • Level 3 biometric individual registration of refugees is ongoing and 1,519 in Metema transit centre and 2,719 in Kumer settlement, Amhara region registered so far. UNHCR and Refugees and Returnees Service (RRS) staff are available at the litigation desk to solve registration cases including family reunification, double registration, merging/splitting of cases and pass permits for medical referrals to Gondar and Addis Ababa. • In Kurmuk, 2,158 families were identified for cash assistance. UNHCR registration team is verifying the families against the Level 1 household registration data as a requirement for the distribution.	• In Kumer, shortage of firewood for cooking and absence of post-secondary education opportunities for the youth are among concerns raised by refugees.	RRS, UNHCR, RaDO, DICAC, PIE, IOM, UNICEF, IHS, DRMO, EMT, ANE, GOAL, NRC, IRC, WVI, Red Cross, Community volunteers, Solidarity International, Benishangul Gumuz Development Association
Food Security	• Newly arrived refugees in Kumer settlement, Mandefro transit centre, and Kurmuk transit centre received food assistance. • November food distribution is ongoing in Metema and Kumer reaching 5,742 so far, and in Kurmuk it is planned for third week of December. • High Energy Biscuits (HEB) were distributed for 313 refugees and returnees, and hot meals for 204 new arrivals.		UNHCR, IHS, ANE, RRS, GOAL, WFP, Samaritan's Purse
Education	• In Kurmuk, children aged 7-8 years old have access to education services with an attendance rate of 92%. Education partner covers the expense of incentives for 6 teachers, scholastic supplies, textbooks, and plastic chairs, while facilitating coaching and mentoring sessions. • In Kumer, 120 children attended weekly socio- emotional learning		UNHCR, RRS, PIE, UNICEF, SCI and Protection partners

Sector	Response	Priorities / Challenges	Partners
Health & Nutrition	• In Kurmuk transit centre and Kumer settlement, refugees, asylum seekers and host community members are receiving health services. Sexual and reproductive health services continued to be offered at the transit centre. In Kumer, mental health counselling and support was provided to adults and psychosocial support to children in need. • 119 individuals, including children under five, pregnant and breastfeeding women were identified in Kumer and Kurmuk as malnourished and referred for treatment. The Global Acute Malnutrition prevalence in Kurmuk has been reported to be 26% showing critical situation against UNHCR standard of < 10%.	• In Kurmuk, challenges include substantial lack of healthcare staff, translators, and support staff for clinic maintenance. While in Kumer, medications for chronic and mental illnesses, inadequate diagnostic capacities, and security challenges preventing nighttime duty services were are among the concerning issues. • In Kurmuk and Kumer, supplementary feeding, including the shortage in Plumpy'Nut, is affecting the treatment of malnutrition. • The ambulance service in Kurmuk was interrupted due to lack of budget for fuel.	GOAL, Emergency Medical Team (MoH), WHO, UNICEF, RRS, MSF-H, CUAMM, IMC, CVT, DICAC, RaDO, PIE, MTI, IRC, IOM, EMT, Kurmuk Woreda health office.
Shelter/ Core Relief Items (CRI)	• A new site, located in Akuda Tumet Kebele in Ura Woreda, has been identified by the authorities in BSG for newly arrived refugees staying in Kurmuk transit centre. A team comprising of UNHCR and RRS, technical experts, district officers, and community leaders carried out an initial site visit followed by comprehensive assessment. • In collaboration with RRS and shelter partner, shelter assessment was conducted in Kumer settlement and 41 empty family tents have been identified. Some vulnerable families are planned to be relocated from the hangars at the entry point to the empty tents. This will enable new arrivals to be accommodated in the hangars.	At Kurmuk, limited resources have prevented the installation of partitions in the communal shelters and construction of hangars. This has led to multiple families being forced to share a single large space and provide for their own shelter needs. The absence of communal kitchens has also forced hangar occupants to cook inside posing a fire hazard, health risks and contributing significantly to leaks in the roof, affecting the sustainability of the hangars.	UNHCR, RRS, ANE, UNFPA, IHS, IOM, NRC, PIE, IRC
WASH	• In Kumer settlement, the daily water provision to refugees and host communities stands at 12.56 litres per person per day (l/p/d), while in Kurmuk it is 10 l/p/d. • In Kumer, for water storage and distribution capacity, a total of nine water tanks (eight with capacity of 10,000 litres and one with 5000 litres were installed for a total of 54 water taps. • The process of replacing nine filled-up latrines in Kurmuk transit centre has started. • WASH assessment for the newly identified location in BSG was conducted.	• The water provision in Kurmuk and Metema area is below the emergency standard of 15 l/p/d. • In Kurmuk, as it is a dry season, the level of water at the pond is dramatically decreasing and will likely not last until the next rainy season. Limited availability of water is likely to affect the peaceful coexistence between communities. • The current latrine to beneficiary ratio in Kurmuk and Metema area is below the emergency standard of 1:50. The rapid filling of latrines and the slow pace of replacements in Kumer remain a significant challenge posing health risks.	IHS, Oxfam, UNICEF, ANE, IRC, PIE, CISP