

Issue No. 8 – 13 November 2019

## Over 6,800 additional refugees from CAR seek safety in Sudan

**6,800+**

CAR Refugees arrived in Sudan  
in October 2019

**11,400+**

Individuals arrived from CAR  
to Sudan since 2014

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Renewed inter-tribal violence in areas of Birao locality in north-eastern Central African Republic (CAR) since mid-October 2019 continued to force people to flee their homes and seek safety in Darfur, Sudan. An influx of some 11,435 individuals (10,083 in Um Dafoug and 1,352 in Um Dukhun) arrived in Sudan, joining over 2,000 individuals who had arrived between June 2014 and July 2019. An estimated one million people are internally displaced in CAR due to the fighting, out of whom 410,000 people are still displaced, including more than 15,000 individuals in Birao.
- By end- 2020, nearly 18,000 CAR refugees are anticipated to live in Central and South Darfur.
- A joint team of UNHCR, COR (Commission for Refugees), WFP and Unicef conducted a rapid assessment mission in Um Dafoug, South Darfur State, from 3 to 7 November. Emergency food and non-food assistance such as plastic sheeting, jerry cans and other supplies have been dispatched.
- As Um Dukhun, Central Darfur State, is only about five kilometers away from the CAR border and the incursion of armed elements cannot be ruled out, the relocation of CAR refugees to the Um Shalaya refugee camp is being considered.



Refugees fleeing inter-tribal clashes in their home villages in CAR arrived safely in Um Dafoug in South Darfur State  
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## CAR refugee arrivals in Um Dafoug, South Darfur State

As of 6 November 2019, the total number of new CAR refugees in Um Dafoug Locality, about 260km southwest of the South Darfur capital Nyala, has surpassed the 10,000 mark. The majority are women and children and more people are expected to arrive as conflict in CAR continues.

Focus group discussions were conducted with CAR community leaders and mothers, during which they mentioned that some families had walked for three to four days on foot to reach safety. Arrivals reported that some women were raped and witnessed killings and looting. Refugees said violence forced them to flee their homes and farms in the middle of the cultivation season.



*CAR refugee women and children arriving in Um Dafoug in the wake of renewed violence in their home villages.*  
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The new arrivals are being hosted by the refugee community who arrived earlier this year and by the local community. They are in need of food and emergency shelter assistance as they are living in a limited number of overcrowded shelters, with four to five families in one shelter, poor sanitary conditions, and using unsafe water sources.

### Coordination and Response

UNHCR's Field Office Nyala has been coordinating the Refugee Working group (RWG) for the response to the CAR situation, with several agencies pledging assistance.

COR, UNHCR, Unicef and the NGO Refueda Health Foundation (RHF) conducted a first rapid assessment mission to Um Dafoug from 12 to 21 October to verify the numbers of arrivals and assess needs. The mission visited some 13 households and screened 62 children under five years as well as 34 lactating and pregnant mothers for malnutrition and infant and young child feeding (IYCF) indicators. Beside stress, the common diseases among children and women were mild diarrhoea, cough, fever and eye



infections. Mothers and children reported that they have received no routine vaccination in CAR. Ten babies were born in this refugee community since they arrived in Sudan.

UNHCR, COR, WFP and Unicef dispatched a second joint mission to Um Dafoug on 3 November 2019. As of 6 November, some 1385 households, 7173 individuals have been registered.

UNHCR dispatched NFIs on 12 November, including some 2,800 blankets and mosquito nets as well as 1,400 kitchen sets. Unicef has started delivering medical supplies, hygiene items and supplementary food for children.

WFP sent seven trucks with food on 11 November. The food and NFI and food distributions will start as of 15 November.

RHF is currently providing health and nutrition services assistance to the CAR refugees in Um Dafoug.



*Majority of CAR refugees in Abu Jaradil in Central Darfur State are women and Children who fled violence in CAR.*  
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### **CAR refugee arrivals in Um Dukhun, Central Darfur State**

The first CAR influx in Um Dukhun locality (Abu Jaradil area) arrived on 1 September 2019, following the inter-ethnic conflict between the Rounga and Kara tribes that broke out in Birau (CAR). Most of these first arrivals are from both rival tribes. The second wave of influx in Um Dukhun began following inter-ethnic conflict that erupted on 15 October 2019 in Um Dafok (on the CAR side of the border) and most of are from Howsa tribe.

As of 8 November, COR has registered 1,352 individuals (about 341 households) in Um Dukhun (88 households/389 individuals) and AbuJaradil (253 households/963 individuals).

The new arrivals in Um Dukhun are being hosted by the local community, whereas those that have arrived in Abu Jaradil live out in the open without any shelter. Only few have Rakuba (grass covered shelters) that have to be shared between two to three households. These makeshift shelters are prone to wind, fire, sun and rain damage.

The host communities are sharing their already scarce food supplies and resources with the new arrivals. Refugees are in need of food, material emergency assistance, access to safe water and sanitary service.

### Coordination and Response

- UNHCR conducted two monitoring missions in Um Dukhun and Abu Jaradil, ten kilometres from the border area to assess the situation and coordinate the response with the humanitarian agencies in the area. State level and locality level RWG coordination mechanisms were activated since mid-October 2019.
- So far, the following assistance has been provided to the newly arrived CAR refugees in Um Dukhun locality:-
  - UNHCR distributed NFIs including kitchen sets, plastic tarpaulins, blankets, sleeping mats, mosquito nets to over 40 households.
  - The Ministry of Health and International Medical Corps (IMC) distributed mosquito nets and soap;
  - Danish Refugee Council has provided NFIs to about 200 individuals;
  - The Government of Sudan and Sudanese Charity Organization provided food;
  - Preparation is underway by WFP to provide food assistance to Um Dukhun in the course of the current week.
  - World Relief distributed soap and water chlorination;
  - UNICEF, through its partner IMC, provided reproductive health services reaching over 200 women, over 800 patients benefited from medical consultations and treatment, including nearly 300 children under-5 and over 200 pregnant and lactating women.
  - Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is opening a primary health clinic in Abu Jaradil. CRS will also start an (OFDA) funded integrated health, nutrition and water/sanitation/hygiene (WASH) project, including Abu Jaradil as one of the target locations.
  - WHO provides vaccines to the Ministry of Health and is actively monitoring the health situation and will request, if needed, one of its health partners to launch a mobile clinic.
  - Triangle Génération Humanitaire (TGH) distributed NFI kits, over 1000 pieces of soap as well as chlorine tablets and is planning to provide safe water very soon through an emergency water system. It is setting up 50 units of latrine and hygiene kits.

### For more information:

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