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Refugee influx from CAR arrives to Um Dukhun, Central Darfur State

A joint UNHCR, COR (Commission for Refugees) and HAC (Humanitarian Aid Commission) monitoring mission was deployed between 15 and 18 September in response to the arrival of new CAR refugees into Um Dukhun locality in Central Darfur, near Sudan's borders with Chad and CAR. As of 16 September, COR reports 174 households registered (approximately 620 individuals with an average family size of 3.56), at a rate of 25 new households entering daily. The great majority of the population are women, children, and elderly individuals who fled CAR due to continuing inter-communal conflict in Birao locality near the CAR-Sudan borders. Thus far, 13,000 people have been displaced within CAR, with some crossing into Sudan through the initial entry point of Abujarada. Refugees and host community leaders are updating COR daily on new arrivals for physical verification and official registration. As the influx began in mid-August 2019, the Ministry of Health and the local authorities have initially provided food assistance, medicines, and NFIs, with actors such as Trinagle, IMC, and local charities planning more support to the new arrivals from CAR.

The monitoring team met with the new arrivals and community leaders and noted the following urgent needs:

- Emergency shelter: refugees are living in the open air or in makeshift shelters that offer little protection.
- Food: as no food provisions are available, the host community is sharing scarce supplies with refugees.
- Health: With no health facility in the area, coverage is limited to an IMC run clinic in Garaya (15km away).
- Documentation: majority of the refugees are without documentation.
- WASH: no latrines or clean water supplies are available.
- Security Risks: as the site is 5km from the CAR border, there is a risk that the conflict may cross the border.



Most new CAR refugees to Um Dukhun are women and children. ©UNHCR/Sep/2019



UNHCR's immediate response during the monitoring mission consisted of NFIs for 42 households (clothes, plastic sheeting, jerry cans, etc.), out of which 34 were newly arriving women households. Refugee community leaders believe that the displacements into Sudan will continue as the fighting is still on-going and likely to intensify. Previously in mid-August, UNHCR led an interagency humanitarian convoy to Um Dafuq (100 km south of Um Dukhun) where CAR refugees entered to flee the same intercommunal conflict that caused this recent influx. UNHCR is working with partners to organize an inter-sectoral assessment mission and address the identified needs and risks during the monitoring mission.



Initial NFI distributions by UNHCR and COR during the monitoring mission. ©UNHCR/Sep/2019

Emergency Shelter and NFI Flood Response in Sudan

As of 18 September 2019, the floods in Sudan have affected an estimated 364,200 individuals in 17 states, with reports of more than 45,104 homes destroyed and more than 27,742 damaged (OCHA/HAC). The rains and the associated floods are expected to continue into late September, with an anticipated increase in impacted individuals and humanitarian needs. The identified needs at this point are mainly emergency shelter and non-food items (ES/NFIs), water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), food and agricultural aid, health and vector control. Sudan's Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) continues to lead the Floods Task Force, which is coordinating and facilitating response efforts across the country.

As of 19 September 2019, the ES/NFI Sector has responded to the needs of some 28,126 households or 140,630 individuals (44% of the estimated 321,289 persons in need) through 10 Sector partners across 11 states out of 13 that were impacted. Through the NFI Core Pipeline managed by UNHCR, the Sector has responded to the needs of some 8,630 households or 21,211 individuals since the beginning of the flooding season in July 2019. UNHCR has contributed approximately USD 1.2M in resources, including NFIs, transportation and logistics, and partner support since July 2019. An additional 10,000 full NFI kits have been allocated for affected families in Sennar, White Nile State, Kassala, and North Kordofan states.

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With only 44% of those in need reached through the ES/NFI Sector, key gaps remain in White Nile and Khartoum states. Moreover, gaps in shelter present a serious challenge to be prioritized as it is pivotal to restore a minimal sense of dignity and protection against the elements, and to mitigate health risks and provide some privacy and security.

Emergency Shelter and NFI Flood Response by State (as of 15 Sep 2019)				
State	Interagency Response (as reported by the ES/NFI sector)		UNHCR Supported (through Core NFI Pipeline)	
	Households	Individuals	Households	Individuals
Khartoum	2,675	13,375	1,500	7,500
White Nile	17,029	85,145	3,000	15,000
Red Sea	1,977	9,885	1697	8485
N. Darfur	2,473	12,365	1022	5110
E. Darfur	34	170	34	170
S. Darfur	900	4,500	400	2000
W. Darfur	153	765	52	260
Kassala	1,135	5,675	855	4275
S. Kordofan	270	1,350	70	350
Sennar	1,380	6,900	-	-
Gezira	100	500	-	-
Total assisted	28,126	140,630	8,630	43,150

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