



UNHCR Sudan Operations

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*UNHCR registers a refugee child at Abuda Camp, Eastern Sudan.
Photo: UNHCR, Davies Kamanu.*

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The September/October issue of *Foreign Affairs* includes an essay by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, António Guterres. In ‘Millions Uprooted: Saving Refugees and the Displaced’, Guterres explains how war and human rights violations are scattering millions of people across the world in search of safety. Meanwhile, globalisation, with its attributes of economic expansion, unresolved poverty and enduring insecurity, is prompting many people to leave their homes in search of a better life. Climate change and environmental degradation are also exacerbating these trends. You can download the article at www.foreignaffairs.org

General Developments

Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)

A UNHCR SGBV resource person completed a mission to support the Sudan operation to deal with challenges in addressing sexual and gender based violence (SGBV). The mission engaged different stakeholders (government, NGOs, CBOs, community leaders, UN agencies) to establish mechanisms for the prevention and response to SGBV, conduct training on SGBV guiding principles and case management procedures and reach consensus on roles and responsibilities of different actors.



The mission also facilitated the drafting of SGBV Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the South and East of Sudan and Blue Nile State. The process involved discussions and negotiations with relevant stakeholders using a cooperative multi-sectoral approach. A number of gaps and challenges were identified during the process: lack of safe places or friendly environments accessible to survivors to report to and receive adequate assistance; lack of trained and competent staff to deal with SGBV incidents and provide emotional support to survivors and family members; limited facilities available at hospitals to treat SGBV survivors; harmful traditional beliefs and cultural practices in the communities; lack of coordination among stakeholders and lack of referral systems and appropriate information sharing. Plans of action were developed to address these challenges and to ensure full implementation of the SOPs.

*A Women's group in Jalimo village, Kajo Keji County in South Sudan performing a drama about domestic violence.
Photo: UNHCR, M. Veenma.*

Khartoum

Protection

UNHCR conducted 21 refugee status determination interviews and gave legal counselling to 224 individuals. Some 30,000 refugees and asylum seekers, mainly from Eritrea, Somalia and Ethiopia, but also from Uganda, Chad and the Democratic Republic of Congo currently reside in Khartoum. The only durable solution for the majority of refugees in Khartoum is resettlement to third countries. In August, 22 Ethiopian and Eritrean refugees departed to Canada.

Continuing collaboration between UNHCR and the Commission for Refugees led to the release of 307 refugees and asylum seekers from detention centres around Khartoum during the month of August.

Eastern States

The High Commissioner's Special Projects

In 2008, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees revived a global initiative for protracted refugee situations, linked directly to the Agenda for Protection, which was adopted in December 2002. In the case of Sudan, the project seeks to improve the situation of long-staying Eritrean refugees in the Eastern states of Gedaref and Kassala. The initiative will be a primary focus for the December 2008 meeting of the High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges. It is hoped that the process will reinvigorate possibilities for solutions to one of the most protracted refugee situations in Africa.



*A refugee being registered by UNHCR at Abuda Camp, Eastern Sudan.
Photo: UNHCR, Davies Kaman.*

Meanwhile, the High Commissioner has put at the disposal of the Sudan operation additional resources to improve health, nutrition and the response to sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) in refugee camps. The mortality rate of under-fives in East Sudan has decreased from formerly critical to acceptable levels. Malaria morbidity and mortality also display a significant reduction in the region.

Registration

UNHCR completed refugee registration at ten camps in Eastern Sudan: Abuda, Um Gargur, Fau V, Awad El Sid, Fath El Rahman, Kilo 7, Shagarab I, II, III, and Girba. Staff are currently working in Kilo 26 camp, where they have registered 3,184 refugees. The cumulative number of registered refugees reached 39,194 since the process began in March. A verification centre is under construction at Wad Sharife, in preparation for the registration process which will begin at the camp in the coming months.

Darfur

Security

The security situation across Darfur remained volatile. There were a number of high-level UN visits to Kalma IDP camp following violent clashes with Government security forces on 25 August that left 31 IDPs dead, including ten women and seven children. Another death and several injuries occurred at Um Shalaya refugee camp on 2 September when a riot broke out following a demonstration against a temporary food reduction in the camp. The reduction was due to the inability to safely transport food, highlighting the repercussions of the poor security environment in the region.

Registration

61 new Chadian arrivals settled in Um Shalaya refugee camp and 14 refugees fleeing general insecurity in the Bolong Dagal and Tissi areas of Chad were registered at Mukjar refugee camp. In South Darfur, 87 households arrived at Kalma camp, fleeing from Tulus reportedly due to insecurity caused by tribal tensions. The significant drop in reported displacement in South Darfur can be attributed to the reduction in fighting between semi-nomadic groups.

As part of the overall strategy for identification of Chadian and CAR refugees in Um Dukhun (West Darfur), joint assessment missions were undertaken by UNHCR Mukjar, together with WFP, CoR and CARE, to pre-register the Chadian and CAR refugees who arrived between 2006 and 2008. The Head of UNHCR Mukjar Field Office went to Um Shalaya refugee camp to observe operations between UNHCR, CoR and NGO implementing partners with a view to exploring opportunities for commonality of approach in Mukjar's fast growing refugee camp.

Education

There was significant progress made in educational activities. UNHCR provided plastic sheets to more than 116 classrooms in 12 schools which needed urgent renovation in Kalma camp and schools in Zalingei benefited from plastic mats given to UNICEF by UNHCR. 13 Mornei schools (Wuhda, El Wadi, Tanako, Sisi Hajar Tama, Gendrni, Dor Shari, Romaila, Mandi, Kanjeltouri, Nabagaya, Melmalie and El Nahda) received plastic sheeting and UNHCR provided assistance to the Ministry of Education in Mukjar for the rehabilitation of 23 rural schools. UNHCR similarly supported five IDP schools in the Habila area with materials. At the end of August, six pre-school Child Friendly Centres funded by UNHCR, through implementing partner, SRC, became operational in Mukjar, with 636 pupils (332 boys and 304 girls) registered. Rehabilitation is ongoing in three other Centres, with UNHCR providing NFIs to support to the project.



*The donkey ambulance at Mukjar Camp.
Photo: UNHCR, Damian Rance.*

Health

UNHCR officially handed over a Donkey Ambulance to the refugee community in Mukjar camp. UNHCR Nyala assisted asylum seekers and refugees to obtain medical care, due to the difficulties in finding French-speaking doctors and psycho-social support for asylum-seekers from Central African Republic who do not speak Arabic. In Mornei, West Darfur, UNHCR assisted refugee patients referred from Um Shalaya with cash for transportation and food. The cost of transportation has risen significantly due to the difficulties associated with poor road conditions during the rainy season.

UNHCR worked with InterSOS in Garsila and Um Kheir for hygiene information sessions and the distribution of sanitary materials for persons of concern. In Habila town, UNHCR and its partner Help Age International (HAI) distributed plastic sheets to Community Centres. Two of the Centres subsequently hosted a joint initiative of UNHCR

and HAI for 'Hygiene Promotion & Nutrition', which was attended by 300 elderly people.

Capacity Building

UNHCR continued capacity building activities for partners and government actors across the three Darfurs. In Mukjar, UNHCR supported a one-day 'Training of Trainers' workshop focusing on basic human rights concepts and training techniques, including the designing and organizing workshops, leading discussions, presentation skills and evaluation skills. Also in Mukjar, UNHCR, together with the Ministry of Education and Sudanese Red Crescent (SRC), conducted a three-day training for 28 employees of the 11 Child Friendly Spaces that were recently rehabilitated by UNHCR and SRC.

UNHCR conducted a one-day workshop on Child Protection for its operational partners in Mukjar town, including for Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health representatives. The workshop identified gaps in protection and ways to improve collaboration between UNHCR, its partners and the Sudanese government. In Nyala, UNHCR designed and delivered training on the IASC Guidelines relating to SGBV, which was funded by UNFPA and organised by Amal Centre.

UNHCR in Nyala referred the issue of increased domestic violence in camps that was raised by the Sheiks to the GBV Working Group. The Working Group then shared its operational recommendations with UNFPA (United Nations Population Fund). At the request of INGOs, and recognising the links with protection, UNHCR convened a coordination meeting to share information on water, sanitation and hygiene promotion activities implemented in the Mukjar and Bindisi localities. UNHCR highlighted the need to closely monitor population movements in rural areas during and after the cultivation season.



Monitoring

UNHCR undertook missions across West Darfur to Tendelti, Adikon and Talhaya, and joint missions with HAC to Kharouba, Dassa and Gobe, in order to monitor and assess new arrivals and returns of IDPs and refugees. UNHCR supported persons of concern with material assistance (plastic sheets and sleeping mats) and liaised with WFP for a rapid food needs assessment.

UNHCR went on an inter-agency mission to Tawilla to lay the groundwork for the establishment of a GBV State Committee representation. UNHCR El Fasher and UNAMID went to five villages in the Kafod area to verify reports of clashes that had caused significant displacement in the area. UNHCR also conducted eight missions to the Nyala camps, including Kalma, Al Salam, Dereig and Beleil, and fielded a mission to Nertiti to monitor the relocation of the South Camp.

UNHCR Geneina fielded 14 missions to Saleah, Hajilija, Masteri, Krenek, Um Tajouk, Adikon, Sirba, Abu Sourouj, Kondobe, Bir Dagig and Tendelti to monitor IDPs, verify returns and assess the protection and NFI situation. Of particular significance was the UNHCR/OCHA joint mission to Hajilija (15 km north of Saleah), which has long been out of reach of humanitarian actors due to security concerns. UNHCR was also able to visit Um Tajouk for the first time in two years.

Heavy rains caused flooding in four IDP camps around Nyala, namely Kalma, Beleil, Alsalam and Dereig. Preliminary estimates from sheikhs indicated that more than 7,000 households were affected in Kalma alone, and one child was confirmed dead. UNHCR led the protection response; daily missions were fielded to the affected camps to talk with IDPs about their concerns and to find solutions. UNHCR gave 10,000 sanitary towels to UNIFEM to distribute to women and girls who lost their homes and belongings. UNHCR prepared NFIs, including 2,500 plastic sheets, for the flood survivors and requested support from SOEG to fill the gaps in assistance needs, particularly for mosquito nets.

Environment

UNHCR received 570 seedlings from InterSOS to contribute to greening Mukjar refugee camp, to act as breaks against strong winds and also to provide shade and fruit. The seedlings were planted in both the Chadian refugee camp and the CAR camp, with the remaining 50 seedlings to be planted around the new Mukjar hospital.

South Sudan and Blue Nile State

Voluntary Repatriation

The Yei repatriation corridor and the Juba-Torit road were temporarily closed due to LRA-related insecurity and a mine discovery respectively. Nonetheless, 39 individuals (7 families) were assisted after their self-return from Uganda to Central and Eastern Equatoria states. There was also one organized convoy of 47 individuals (17 families) from Uganda and one convoy of 69 individuals (19 families) from Kakuma in Kenya that returned to areas in Eastern Equatoria. Furthermore, one individual returned from Zambia by air.

As of 30 August 2008 the repatriation of Sudanese refugees to South Sudan and Blue Nile State reached a cumulative total of 289,673, of which 137,450 returned under the organized and assisted self-repatriation programme. From 1 January to 31 August 2008 the total number of persons returned through organised means supported by UNHCR was 60,495, of whom 59,114 persons (98%) were organized and 1,381 persons (2%) were under the assisted self-repatriation programme. Poor road conditions due to the rainy season have meant that very few returns are now expected from Uganda and Kenya until October/November. A detailed table of returns is appended.

Returnee Monitoring

UNHCR's assessment activities continued, including 30 village assessments in Nimule Payam in Eastern Equatoria, Ayod Payam in Jonglei and Morobo and Yei counties in Central Equatoria. In Upper Nile, UNHCR's implementing partner ADRA carried out returnee monitoring in three counties. Findings showed poor livelihood conditions and

inadequacy and inaccessibility of basic services such as education and reproductive health. Additionally, domestic violence and practices of early marriage were reported as major problems by returnees.

At the request of the community, UNHCR organized a training on SGBV for community leaders, teachers, women and youth representatives in Lasu Payam, near Yei, Central Equatoria. Issues such as early marriage, domestic violence and girls' education were discussed to raise awareness and understanding. In Nyongwe, the Women's Association was provided with vegetable seeds and community soap production began in Lutaya, assisted by UNHCR's supply of plastic jerricans for storage of the palm oil used in the process.

Two schools that were rehabilitated by UNHCR with implementing partner InterSOS were handed over to the local authorities in Bor County, Jonglei. Four Primary Schools have now been rehabilitated and handed over to the community by UNHCR in Jonglei State.

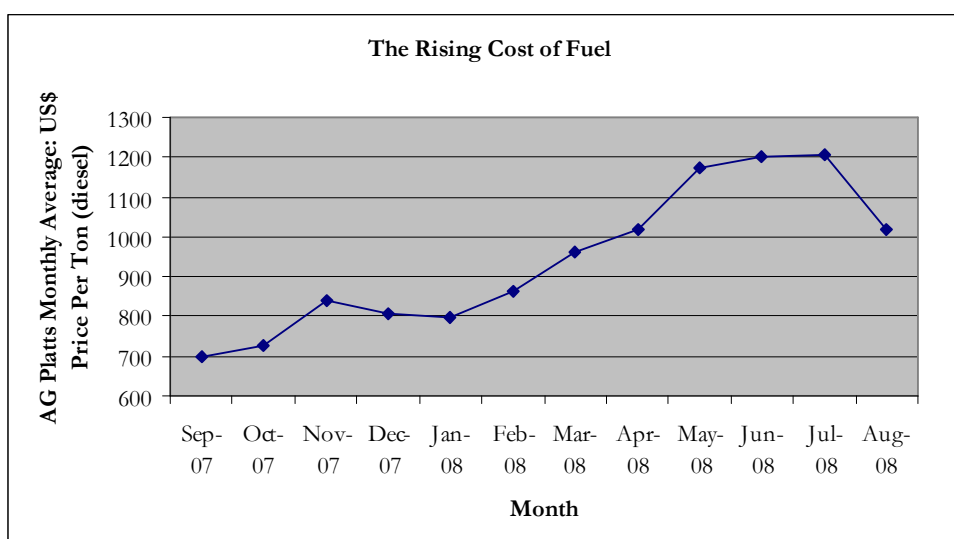
Funding (US\$)

Budget	\$122,017,781
Contributions:	
• Governments, EC, UN	\$86,243,001
• Private Sector	\$6,542,158
Subtotal	\$92,785,159
Carry over from 2007	\$9,133,869
Total Earmarked Contributions	\$101,919,028

The UNHCR Sudan Operation has also received an additional US\$3.6 million from the second round allocation from the Common Humanitarian Fund. A detailed funding table is appended.

Fuel Prices

The steady increase in the cost of fuel since 2007 has impacted UNHCR's work across Sudan. The situation is particularly acute in South Sudan, where roads are the main method of transporting personnel and material goods. For example, the cost of fuel in Yei, Central Equatoria rose 41% from US\$1,217.79 per cbm in September 2007 to US\$1,721.08 per cbm in June 2008.



Organized Voluntary Repatriation*
Week 35 (24 - 30 Aug 2008)

From	Families	Individuals
CAR		
DRC		
Uganda		
Kenya		
Ethiopia		
Eritrea		
Egypt		
Other		
Week Total	0	0

Assisted Voluntary Self-Repatriation**
Week 35 (24 - 30 Aug 2008)

From	Individuals
CAR	
DRC	
Uganda	108
Kenya	
Ethiopia	
Eritrea	
Egypt	1
Other	
Week Total	109

Grand Total
Week 35 (24 - 30 Aug 2008)

109

Cumulative voluntary repatriation:
organized and assisted self-repatriation

137,450

Cumulative grand total including
spontaneous repatriation since 2005

289,673

Organized Voluntary Repatriation since 2006*

Year	Month	From CAR		From DRC		From Uganda		From Kenya		From Ethiopia		From Eritrea		From Egypt		Others		Grand Total		
		FAM	IND	FAM	IND	FAM	IND	FAM	IND	FAM	IND	FAM	IND	FAM	IND	FAM	IND	FAM	IND	
Total 2006		1,251	3,262	1,785	5,550	1,561	5,749	926	1,807	1,131	4,625	0	0	0	0	3	3	6,657	20,996	
Total 2007		2,109	5,154	361	936	4,965	17,108	1,865	4,767	4,458	17,631	3	3	0	0	111	196	13,872	45,795	
2008	Jan					792	3,024	155	422	147	623					1	3	1,095	4,072	
	Feb					1,213	5,177	860	2,503	135	605					1	1	2,209	8,286	
	Mar					2,295	8,761	985	2,496	1,089	4,327					1	1	4,370	15,585	
	Apr					3,623	14,508	913	2,281	818	2,988					1	4	5,355	19,781	
	May					2,096	7,625	85	222	334	1,157							2,515	9,004	
	Jun					546	2,042	44	98										590	2,140
	Jul					48	129												48	129
Aug					19	47	19	69							1	1	39	117		
Total 2008		0	0	0	0	10,632	41,313	3,061	8,091	2,523	9,700	0	0	0	0	5	10	16,221	59,114	
Cumulative Total 2005-2008		3,360	8,416	2,146	6,486	17,158	64,170	5,852	14,665	8,112	31,956	3	3	0	0	119	209	36,750	125,905	

Assisted Voluntary Self-Repatriation since 2005**

Year	Month	From CAR		From DRC		From Uganda		From Kenya		From Ethiopia		From Eritrea		From Egypt		Others		Grand Total	
		FAM	IND	FAM	IND	FAM	IND	FAM	IND	FAM	IND	FAM	IND	FAM	IND	FAM	IND	FAM	IND
Total 2005^s		0	0	0	0	18	31	40	133	0	0	0	0	24	43	3	5	85	212
Total 2006		632	1,285	286	869	18	86	63	379	261	1,312	0	0	560	881	3	3	1,823	4,815
Total 2007		15	41	346	973	89	226	1	27	765	2,268	0	0	884	1,602	0	0	2,100	5,137
2008	Jan					14	44							46	77			60	121
	Feb					24	109			2	10			57	109			83	228
	Mar					10	39			1	1			58	125			69	165
	Apr					14	59			38	82			43	113			95	254
	May					41	164			19	34			18	37			78	235
	Jun					15	49			4	16			35	87			54	152
	Jul					9	44			2	6			12	41			23	91
Aug					36	134							1	1			37	135	
Total 2008		0	0	0	0	163	642	0	0	66	149	0	0	270	590	0	0	499	1,381
Cumulative Total 2005-2008		647	1,326	632	1,842	288	985	104	539	1,092	3,729	0	0	1,738	3,116	6	8	4,507	11,545



UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES

Funding Overview for the Sudan Situation as at 31 August 2008

Donor	Contributions (USD)			
	Darfur SB	Southern Sudan & countries of asylum SB	Sudan AB	Total
Budget	40,307,298	63,091,714	18,618,769	122,017,781
Australia	0	0	50,000	50,000
Canada	2,034,587	2,532,990	556,438	5,124,015
CERF	1,496,558	406,134	0	1,902,692
Common Humanitarian Fund - Sudan	4,019,354	2,887,405	1,745,938	8,652,697
Czech Republic	0	312,500	0	312,500
Denmark	2,087,682	2,054,795	0	4,142,477
ECHO	3,115,265	1,457,727	0	4,572,992
Germany	788,645	1,457,726	0	2,246,371
Greece	0	315,457	145,773	461,230
Japan	3,500,000	14,280,000	3,150,000	20,930,000
Luxembourg	0	0	1,457,726	1,457,726
Monaco	0	0	145,773	145,773
Spain	0	582,362	0	582,362
Sweden	0	0	3,389,831	3,389,831
Switzerland	702,106	802,407	0	1,504,513
United States of America	11,707,242	16,000,000	3,055,943	30,763,185
UNMIS	0	4,637	0	4,637
Total: Governments, EC and UN	29,451,439	43,094,140	13,697,422	86,243,001
Private donors - Italy	0	704,382	177,277	881,659
Private donors - Japan	0	216,010	28,161	244,171
Private donors - Saudi Arabia	0	0	24,970	24,970
Private donors - Spain	0	118,951	76,754	195,705
Private donors - Sweden****	195,653	0	0	195,653
Private donors - USA***	0	5,000,000	0	5,000,000
Total: Private Sector	195,653	6,039,343	307,162	6,542,158
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS - ALL DONORS*	29,647,092	49,133,483	14,004,584	92,785,159
Carry over from 2007	4,953,422	4,163,973	16,474	9,133,869
TOTAL EARMARKED FUNDS	34,600,514	53,297,456	14,021,058	101,919,028
% current budget	86%	84%	75%	84%

* 7 per cent support cost will be recovered from each contribution received for supplementary programmes to meet the indirect costs

*** USD 5m contribution from Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

**** Swedish Post Code Lottery