

# Weekly Gedaref Operational Update #11

12 – 16 September 2021



48,831

Ethiopian refugees in eastern Sudan as of 9 September 2021



16

new arrivals recorded in Hamdayet Transit Centre during the reporting period



261

Qemant new arrivals recorded in Basundah locality during the reporting period

## Operational Highlights

### New arrivals into eastern Sudan recorded

Between 12-16 September, **16 new arrivals** (all Ethiopian) were recorded in Hamdayet Transit Centre – a **decrease of 2 individuals** from the previous reporting period, bringing the number of refugees there to 5,892. In addition, 261 Qemant new arrivals were recorded in Basundah, bringing the total to 1,451 individuals since the inflow began end of July 2021.

### Refugee Biometric Identity Card Rollout

Sudan's Commissioner for Refugees (COR) and UNHCR finalised preparations to begin issuing ID cards in Um Rakuba camp and Tunaydbah settlement in Gedaref State. This project is currently being piloted in Um Rakuba camp – where some 85 refugees have received ID cards – and will target around 27,000 individuals aged 16 and above. Government-recognised identity documentation is not only integral to the legal and socio-economic inclusion of refugees within their host communities but is also in line with UNHCR's commitment under the Global Compact on Refugees to share resources and expertise with the host government in order to strengthen their capacity for individual registration and documentation.



The ID card rollout is currently being piloted in Um Rakuba © UNHCR / Ali

## Key Achievements



### PROTECTION

#### Results and Impact

- During the reporting period, the protection against sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) task force met to discuss follow-up actions and way forward based on a joint PSEA strategy. All partners are expected to sign the code of conduct, including community-based staff. SEA risk assessments are currently underway in camps and Standard interagency operating procedures (SOPs) on SEA have been drafted for partner review.
- Protection screening of new arrivals in Basingah locality was carried out to identify vulnerable Qemant individuals and their needs prior to the relocation exercise to offer the appropriate assistance.

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Discussions are underway to see how to strengthen information, education and communication (IEC) and translate material in Tigrinya in order to improve messaging in the camps and transit centres.



### EDUCATION

#### Results and Impact

- UNHCR and Windle Trust International extended the DAFI (Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative) scholarship application deadline for refugee youth in Gedaref. The DAFI programme plays an integral role in enabling refugees to access higher education. Currently, there are 150 available DAFI scholarships country wide.
- A total of 3,234 (56% of the target) children are enrolled in schools in both Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah. 433 (39%) will attend early childhood care and development (ECCD), 2,447 (68%) primary school and 354 (33%) in secondary school.
- Initial planned changes to the instructional programme have begun with relevant stakeholders before rolling out with communities, teachers, and learners in collaboration with communities' services sector. Keeping children enrolled is slowly promoting a sense of normalcy and it will enhance the transition from non-formal to formal learning.

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Efforts to scale up the provision of latrines, handwashing stations and water drinking points in these centres in both locations are ongoing and remain a priority.



## HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT (MHPSS)

### Results and Impact

- Following discussions with the Ministry of Health, the age bracket for emergency vaccinations for new arrivals has been expanded from under 5 years of age to under 15 years. This will play a critical role in preventing disease outbreaks in refugee camps for measles, hepatitis A and polio.
- In collaboration with WHO, 19 participants (7 men and 12 women) from the mental health psychosocial support (MHPSS) working group and Ministry of Health in Gedaref attended an 8-day training on how to strengthen MHPSS intervention and response.
- In preparation for the Health Information System (HIS) roll out, UNHCR is training partners on how to use this tool which is expected to improve the challenges related to data quality and availability.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- There is a shortage of essential drugs and a need for a dedicated psychiatric ward at Um Golqa Mental Health Facility in Gedaref which is managed by the Ministry of Interior. Currently, patients are not allowed to receive visitors although advocacy is ongoing to change this rule because of the important role such visits can have in patient recovery.



## WATER AND SANITATION

### Results and Impact

- A total of 883,000 litres of water was provided via water pumping and treatment from rivers, through water treatment plants (WTP), boreholes and water trucking during the reporting period. Water supply was maintained at 23 litres per person per day (l/p/d) in Um Rakuba, 17 l/p/d in Tunaydbah, 20 l/p/d in Village 8 and 10 l/p/d in Hamdayet. This brings the average available supply of water to 18 l/p/d.
- In all locations, particularly where water has been trucked and/or treated through water treatment plants and stored within tanks or bladders, WaSH partners have ensured water remains safe and within the free residual chlorine level of 0.5mg/l.
- Efforts to improve latrine coverage are ongoing. 834 latrines have been completed so far in Um Rakuba and an additional 361 are under rehabilitation/construction. 860 latrines have been completed in Tunaydbah and work is ongoing on 217. 113 have been finalised in Village 8 and work continues on an additional 60. In Hamdayet, 162 latrines have been completed and work is ongoing on 10.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Efforts are underway to ensure the communal latrine ratio to people is 1:20. The person to latrine ratio currently stands at 1:22 in Um Rakuba, 1:23 in Tunaydbah, 1:36 for Hamdayet and 1:28 for Village 8.

- Work is ongoing to ensure latrines are gender segregated across all locations and latrines rehabilitated.
- Phasing out water trucking in favour of other more sustainable durable solutions are currently being explored.



## SHELTER AND CORE RELIEF ITEMS (CRIS)

### Results and Impact

- In Basundah, UNHCR with shelter partners, COR and SRCS demarcated 265 shelter plots and pitched 265 family tents out of 500 planned. 1 rub hall was also installed.
- In Um Rakuba camp, DRC constructed 620 meters of micro drainage, bringing the total length of micro drainage constructed so far to 24,054 meters. This will help enhance the draining of surface water from around the shelters.
- Work on the joint UNHCR-WFP road/drainage and site maintenance project in Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah continues. Road maintenance work and drainage line cleaning is ongoing.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- In Um Rakuba, 2,800 emergency shelter kits (ESKs) and 3,700 disaster kits are needed to support the remaining camp residents, 20 additional culvert lines need to be installed, and 10 km of secondary road in the camp needs to be constructed.
- In Tunaydbah, 2,800 ESKs and 3,700 disaster kits are needed to support the remaining camp residents, 900 bridges/footpath to be built over the roadside and drains, 20 additional culvert lines need to be installed, and 10 km of secondary road in the camp needs to be constructed.



## CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

### Results and Impact

- NRC, in coordination with UNHCR and COR, started distributing multi-purpose cash assistance (7,500 SDGs) to some 6,085 individuals (2,310 households) in Tunaydbah. In addition, Medair distributed soap to 6,011 Individuals (2,297 households).
- NFI kits provided by Qatar Red Crescent targeting persons with specific needs (PSNs) in Tunaydbah was initiated. So far, 10 PSNs have been assisted.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Rolling out the Global Distribution Tool (GDT) to partners in order to facilitate better coordination and enhance the provision of assistance to refugees remains a key priority.



## COMMUNICATING WITH COMMUNITIES

### Results and Impact

- Following recent efforts to bolster the dissemination of information to refugees on human trafficking, UNHCR and TRSC held meetings in Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah to discuss the impact of this intervention. In addition, TRCS facilitated youth focus groups discussions (FGDs) on the above, reaching close to 120 individuals.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Improving access to livelihoods opportunities remains a critical priority. Doing so will help refugees build their self-reliance by empowering them to meet their needs in a safe, sustainable, and dignified manner, prepare them to lead independent and fulfilling lives, and also contribute to the local economy.



## WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

- As part of the response to the Tigray situation in eastern Sudan, UNHCR has been actively supporting the authorities, at their request, with service mapping and inter-agency coordination. Currently, UNHCR works with some 30 partners to provide lifesaving assistance and protection to the thousands of Ethiopian women, men and children who crossed into the country. UNHCR co-chairs with the authorities the Inter-Agency Refugee Working Group. These forums meet on a bi-weekly basis, bringing together actors active in Gedaref, ranging from other UN agencies to NGOs and volunteer groups. UNHCR also chairs the protection working group and co-chairs all sub-working groups with the exception of food security and livelihoods. In addition, UNHCR participates in thematic working group meetings on WaSH, Health and Education chaired by designated partners. Together, we work to ensure refugees and other people of concern receive the assistance and protection they need.

## Situation in eastern Sudan

In early November 2020, clashes in Ethiopia’s Tigray region sparked an outflow of refugees into eastern Sudan via Hamdayet, Lugdi/Village 8 and Al Asera border points. Since then, some **47,000 refugees** have been individually registered in Sudan. In January 2021, UNHCR began to relocate refugees to Um Rakuba camp, which is located some 70 kilometres away from the Ethiopian border in Gedaref State. With Um Rakuba reaching capacity, a new site was opened in Tunaydbah, which is located approximately 136 kilometres from Gedaref town.

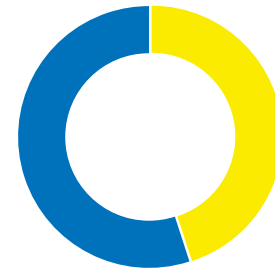
In late November 2020, UNHCR launched the Inter-Agency Refugee Emergency Response Plan, which asked for **USD 147.6 million** to provide lifesaving assistance for **100,000** refugees in eastern Sudan. The plan was revised in May 2021 with **USD 182 million** now required for the response – an increase of **USD 33 million** to incorporate additional flood mitigation and the response for Ethiopian refugees in Blue Nile, as well as reprioritization of original requirements. As of 31 August, **55%** (**USD 100,522,260**) has been received.

We are grateful to the following donors for supporting the Ethiopian Emergency situation in eastern Sudan with unearmarked and earmarked funding, which was critical to helping scale up the delivery of basic and essential services:

[Canada](#) | [Czech Republic](#) | [Denmark](#) | [ECHO \(EU\)](#) | [Finland](#) | [Germany](#) | [Ireland](#) | [Italy](#) | [Japan](#) | [New Zealand](#) | [Norway](#) | [Qatar](#) | [Sweden](#) | [Switzerland](#) | [United Arab Emirates](#) | [United Kingdom](#) | [United States of America](#) | [United Nations CERF](#) | [United Nations SHF](#) | [Private Donors](#)

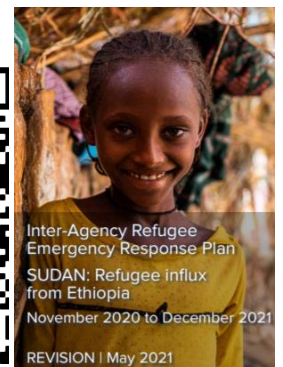
## 💰 Funding (as of 31 August 2021)

USD 182 M required



**45% Unfunded**  
USD 81,125,177

**55% Funded**  
USD 100,522,260



### Links

For more information on the Ethiopian Emergency situation in eastern Sudan, please visit the Inter-Agency Information Sharing [Portal](#).  
[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)