

Sudan

Working environment

The context

The complexity of the political landscape of Sudan is illustrated by the juxtaposition of growing prospects for peace in the south of the country with the ongoing armed conflict in Darfur.

In eastern Sudan, the signing of the East Sudan Peace Agreement saw former rebel leaders join the central Government, enhancing prospects for reconciliation. The region hosts some 135,000 refugees from Eritrea and Ethiopia. Eritrean asylum-seekers continue to arrive.

In Southern Sudan, implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) has allowed a steady increase in the voluntary repatriation of refugees from neighbouring countries and the return home, particularly to the Khartoum and northern regions, of internally displaced persons (IDPs). Return and reintegration programmes for refugees and IDPs depend on continued peace and stability.

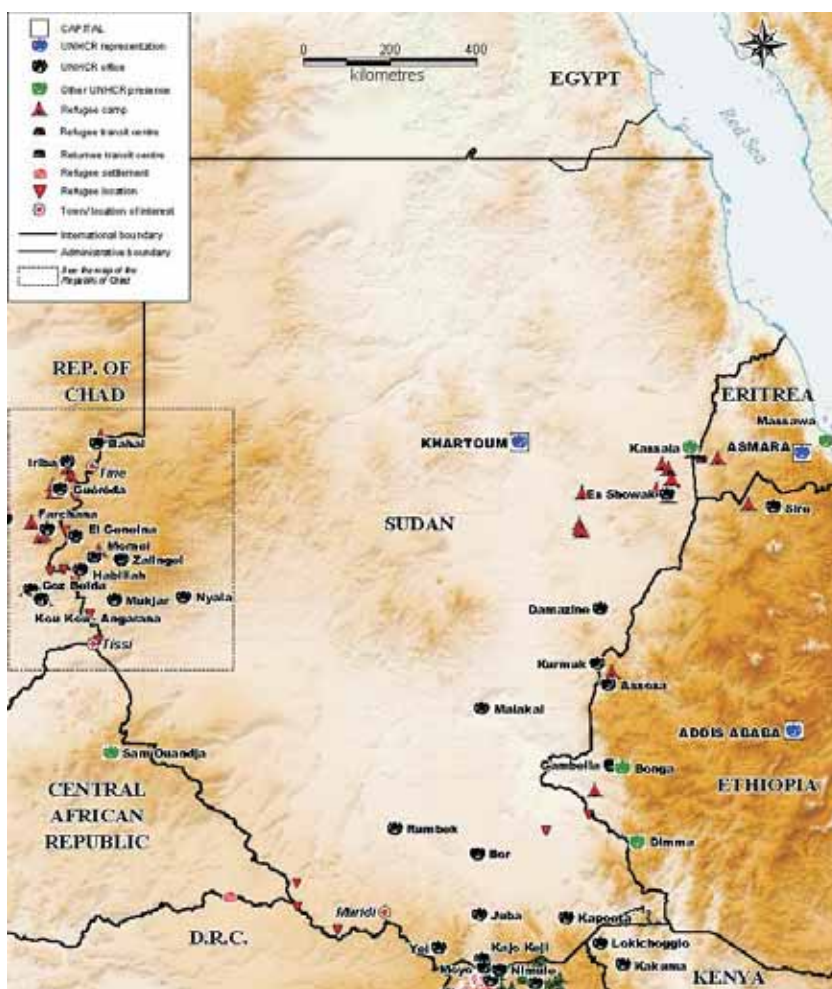
Violent conflict has caused up to 800,000 people to be displaced in Darfur, several hundred thousand to Central Africa Republic (CAR), Chad, other regional countries and beyond. In July 2007, the UN Security Council adopted Resolution 1769 authorizing deployment of the UN/African Union Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) to support the effective implementation of the Darfur Peace Agreement.

The needs

East Sudan

It is urgent to define the legal status of nearly 70,000 Eritreans who lost their refugee status with the application of the cessation clause in 2002-2004. These people, who remain of concern to UNHCR, lack legal documents, limiting their access to basic services and rights.

A participatory needs assessment in 12 camps found significant shortfalls in many sectors. Inadequate supply



systems have forced refugees to use unsafe sources and risk contracting waterborne diseases. Only a half-ration of basic food commodities is currently distributed raising malnutrition rates. The needs assessment also highlighted the lack of family latrines; drugs to treat malaria and other diseases; access to education, work permits and licenses. Refugees with farming skills have no money to rent land for agricultural use.

Southern Sudan and Blue Nile State

The absorption of returnees in communities of origin is putting a severe strain on essential services such as water, health and education livelihood opportunities. Strong reintegration and recovery efforts by authorities and development actors are needed if reintegration is to be sustainable and the conflict over resources averted.

Darfur

Ongoing peace talks have not reduced the violence and conflict in Darfur. In such an environment, protection remains the most fundamental need of IDPs and

refugees. UNHCR will endeavour to contribute to the improvement of the overall humanitarian environment and address civilian insecurity. Particular attention will be paid to the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence, of which there are many cases among displaced persons.

Khartoum

Most asylum-seekers in the Sudanese capital are awaiting access to governmental registration and asylum procedures. Refugees who were recognized in eastern Sudan but moved to Khartoum to become self-reliant have not received identity cards.

Khartoum hosts more than 1.5 million IDPs in settlements and squatter areas which lack security, basic services and livelihood opportunities. This raises serious protection concerns, especially for women and children. Strong advocacy with the authorities and development actors is needed to meet these challenges and include the displaced in the poverty-reduction strategies of the country.

Total requirements

2008: USD 18,618,769

2009: USD 19,094,919

(Annual programme only. The financial requirements for the supplementary programmes are being finalized)

Main objectives

Annual programme

Refugees in eastern Sudan and Khartoum

- Shift from care and maintenance programmes to the pursuit of more comprehensive durable solutions.
- In cooperation with development actors, enhance harmonious relations between refugees and host communities through area development.
- Develop the capacity of Sudan's Commissioner for Refugees to register, determine refugee status, document and protect asylum-seekers and refugees in line with international standards.
- Improve life for the camp-based population by raising awareness on health and nutrition, malaria, HIV and AIDS, as well as fill gaps in supplementary and therapeutic feeding regimes, education, water and sanitation services.

Supplementary programme

IDPs in Khartoum, refugee returnees and IDPs in Southern Sudan and Blue Nile State

- Coordinate protection activities for IDPs in Khartoum and offer limited assistance to those with specific protection risks.
- Organize the voluntary repatriation in safety and with dignity to Southern Sudan and Blue Nile State.
- Provide international protection for returning refugees and IDPs where UNHCR is present.
- Monitor the situation of returning refugees and IDPs in host communities in Southern Sudan and Blue Nile State to assess and respond to the needs and protection concerns of women, children and older refugees.
- Create conditions conducive to the voluntary return and the sustainable reintegration of returning refugees and IDPs through community-based interventions and contributions to the demining efforts of the UN system.
- Strengthen cooperation with development actors as the Southern Sudan programme moves into the early-recovery phase.

Refugees, IDPs and returnees in Darfur

- Contribute to a safer environment in IDP settlements.
- Strengthen protective mechanisms and increase capacity to respond to the needs of vulnerable groups.
- Support the creation of an environment which is conducive to voluntary return in safety and dignity and which reduces the risks of further displacement.
- Facilitate humanitarian assistance through camp coordination and camp management.



Sudanese women and children arriving in their homeland after decades of exile in Uganda.

Key targets for 2008-2009

Annual programme

Refugees in Eastern Sudan and Khartoum

- Asylum-seekers have access to registration and refugee status determination procedures.
- Refugees are issued refugee ID cards and are protected from refoulement.
- Survivors of sexual and gender-based violence have access to medical and psychosocial care as well as legal representation.
- Unaccompanied minors have access to services in the camps and are helped to be reunited with their families.
- More than 2,000 refugees are identified and their cases submitted for resettlement, and some 1,000 are resettled.
- The Global Acute Malnutrition rate is reduced from 15.7 per cent in 2007 to 9.5 per cent in 2008, and to 6.7 per cent in 2009.
- Under-five mortality and crude mortality rates are reduced by 30 per cent in 2008, and the maternal mortality rate is halved.
- Camp-based refugees have access to shelter, health care, water and sanitation facilities.
- Urban asylum-seekers and refugees have access to legal and social counselling, and those with specific needs obtain adequate support, including health care.
- Access to family latrines is increased by 17-20 per cent in 2008.
- All damaged water pipelines and health posts are repaired.
- All refugee and IDP women of reproductive age receive sanitary materials.
- All refugee children attend primary school and the number of refugee teachers is increased.
- Some 7,500 refugee families have access to agricultural land.
- Some 11,000 refugee families in 12 camps benefit from revolving funds.
- Thirty per cent of eligible refugees benefit from agro-veterinary projects.
- Some 300,000 tree seedlings are planted on 1,000 hectares.
- Some 7,000 low-energy consumption stoves are manufactured and distributed.

Supplementary programme

IDP/refugee returns in Southern Sudan

- Up to 80,000 refugees are assisted to return voluntarily to Southern Sudan in 2008 and another 80,000 in 2009.
- IDPs and refugees returning to Southern Sudan and Blue Nile State as well as their communities of return receive reintegration assistance through community-based projects in health, education and basic services.
- Way stations, transport capacity, reintegration activities in water and sanitation, health and education will be focused on Jonglei, Upper Nile State and Eastern Equatoria, infrastructure is acutely lacking.
- Monitoring activities for returning refugees and IDPs will be strengthened where possible to include all areas of high return.
- The situation of more than 800,000 IDPs living in four officially recognized settlements and other squatter areas in Khartoum is monitored, targeting groups with specific needs. Legal assistance and material aid is given to women at risk.

Refugees/IDPs/returnees in Darfur

- Some 175 protection monitoring missions are carried out.
- Basic household items are provided to some 1,000 vulnerable households.
- Small-scale rehabilitation projects will rehabilitate 20 wells, construct 2,000 latrines and rehabilitate 20 schools.
- 1,000 families will be provided with shelter kits, and vulnerable households given shelter materials.
- Sixteen youth centres are consolidated, benefiting some 6,000 youths.
- Some 3,000 children are enrolled in child-friendly spaces and some 3,000 youths enrolled in vocational training.
- Some 35,000 households are trained in energy efficiency.
- Some 600,000 tree seedlings are planted and raised with the involvement of some 10,000 families.

Strategy and activities

Refugees in eastern Sudan and Khartoum

UNHCR will gradually shift from care and maintenance to self-reliance activities. The change will improve livelihood opportunities and support the capacity of civil-society and government partners. The office will advocate for the Government to enact laws to meet international refugee-protection standards, such as unhindered access to asylum procedures, prevention of *refoulement*, freedom of movement, access to property and naturalization. UNHCR's strategy for the protracted refugee situation in Sudan includes searching for the most suitable durable solutions for 150,000 long-staying Eritrean refugees.

Returning refugees and IDPs to Southern Sudan and Blue Nile State

Voluntary repatriation remains the preferred durable solution for Sudanese refugees in neighbouring countries. At the same time, the return of IDPs, largely from the northern regions, is likely to continue and even increase following elections. UNHCR will facilitate repatriation in close collaboration with Governments, UN agencies, operational and implementing partners and local communities. IDPs will be assisted to return either within the Government/UN framework or spontaneously. UNHCR will implement community-based projects to support early recovery and increase absorption capacity in areas of refugee and IDP return. Conditions in communities of return will be systematically monitored, with a focus on groups with specific needs. Protection and assistance gaps will be identified for remedial intervention and advocacy with the authorities.

IDPs in Khartoum

UNHCR will maintain its presence in four recognized IDP settlements and in other areas to protect the displaced, with a particular focus on the needs of women and children. The Office will build the awareness and protection capacities of local authorities, IDP communities, community-based organizations and other stakeholders. In addition, it will provide sustainable livelihood opportunities for a limited number of IDP women at risk. As chair of the Khartoum-based Protection Working Group, UNHCR will foster coordination among UN agencies and NGOs working on protection, bring protection concerns to the attention of the authorities and advocate for the inclusion of IDPs in urban development and livelihood schemes.

Refugees, IDPs and returnees in Darfur

UNHCR chairs the Protection Working Group which, with the broad participation of UN agencies and NGOs, coordinates protection interventions. In addition to UNHCR's regular presence in IDP camps in Zalingei, Mornei and El Geneina, the Office undertakes missions throughout the rural areas of West Darfur to monitor and identify protection needs. UNHCR takes the lead in camp coordination and provides multi-sectoral assistance in the rural areas of West Darfur to strengthen the capacity of villages to accommodate returns and prevent further displacement. It will assist camp-based refugees in West Darfur, and enhance protection through capacity-building assistance to government authorities. Similarly, UNHCR provides legal assistance, protection training and awareness programmes to individuals, communities and NGOs.

UNHCR plans to establish a Liaison Office near the new UNAMID base in North Darfur.

Planning figures							
Type of population	Origin	Jan 2008		Dec 2008		Dec 2009	
		Total in country	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Total in country	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Total in country	Of whom assisted by UNHCR
Refugees	Eritrea	168,920	112,220	170,420	105,820	183,020	109,520
	Chad	27,000	21,600	32,000	25,600	32,000	25,600
	Ethiopia	13,490	3,150	11,780	3,250	11,100	3,080
	Various	6,220	3,000	3,700	3,040	5,660	3,320
Asylum-seekers	Ethiopia	2,000	1,000	1,000	500	400	200
	Various	330	140	240	110	210	110
Returnees (refugees)		80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000
IDPs		2,210,000	1,288,800	1,770,000	1,128,800	1,540,000	1,008,800
Returnees (IDPs)		56,000	40,400	78,000	75,200	58,000	55,200
Others of concern	Sudan*	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000	52,000
Total		2,615,960	1,602,310	2,199,140	1,474,320	1,962,390	1,337,830

* War-affected beneficiaries in West Darfur.

Constraints

Eastern Sudan and Khartoum

The political and military stalemate is causing concerns that up to 10,000 people may flee to Sudan during the next two years. Refugees are finding it difficult to access the asylum process and freely move in Sudan, and see few prospects for local integration and naturalization.

Southern Sudan and transitional areas

Recent events, and in particular the ongoing Juba initiative for peace with the Lords Resistance Army provide scope for optimism. However, tribal clashes continue in many areas, with cattle rustling and attacks on civilian populations by militia and other armed groups. Landmines hinder repatriation in some areas, and the long rainy season (May-November) also impedes organized returns to many areas of the country.

The lack of health and education services, as well as the absence of livelihood opportunities in most areas of return represent a major challenge which, if not adequately addressed, may lead to continued displacement, particularly towards urban centres.

Darfur

Insecurity remains the major constraint in Darfur for IDPs, returning refugees and humanitarian workers. Attacks and tribal clashes continue in the villages, causing more displacement. Access to persons of concern is a challenge for humanitarian workers. Furthermore, attacks targeting NGOs and international organizations are frequent on the road. Helicopters are the only reliable means of transportation, increasing operational costs.

Khartoum (IDPs)

The displaced population has specific needs related to their situation such as documentation, access to land and physical safety. Access to adequate information on areas of origin must also be addressed. The absence of livelihood and job increases the risk of women and children being exploited. With so many humanitarian challenges in the Sudan, the necessity of addressing the situation of IDPs and the urban poor in Khartoum has not been given priority.

Organization and implementation

Coordination

Eastern Sudan and Khartoum

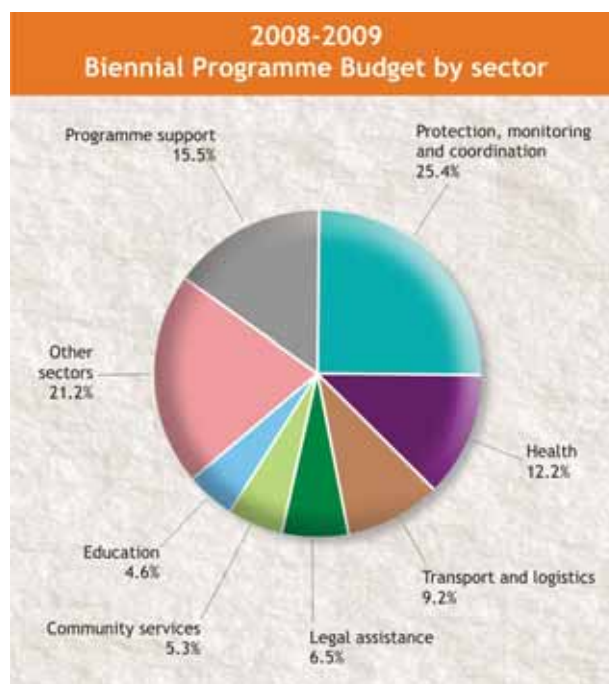
UNHCR will engage government authorities in a dialogue concerning the country's refugee policy. Within the collaborative approach under the UN Mission in Sudan (UNMIS), the UN Country Team and Resident Coordinator's Office, UNHCR will join UN and other partners to improve support for persons of concern. The Office will also seek to forge new partnerships with NGOs.

Southern Sudan and Blue Nile State

UNHCR will collaborate with the UN system and the Government of Southern Sudan to ensure sustainable repatriation and return operations. It is anticipated that UNHCR's partners will mobilize substantial material and financial resources of their own in 2008-2009 to address a wide range of returnee and host-community needs.

Darfur

The Humanitarian Aid Commission and the Commissioner for Refugees are UNHCR's main governmental counterparts. UNHCR enjoys good working relations with UN agencies including the UN mission in Sudan (UNMIS), as well as IOM, ICRC and NGOs.



In West Darfur, UNHCR chairs the Protection Working Group, which coordinates the protection efforts of agencies operating in the area. UNHCR leads efforts for camp coordination and is a member of the Inter-Agency Management Group. UNHCR co-chairs with UNFPA the Sexual and Gender-based Violence Working Group.

Khartoum (IDPs)

In 2008, UNHCR will continue to chair the Protection Working Group, which includes other UN agencies and NGOs, and will lead the Protection and Human Rights sector for the regions of Khartoum and the north. In addition, UNHCR will participate in the Humanitarian Aid Commission, South Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission and the UN framework for IDP returns.

Partners

Implementing partners

Government: Commissioner for Refugees, Local Government of El-Gedaref and Kassala State, Ministry of International Cooperation Ministry of the Interior, National Forestry Corporation, State Departments for Health, Water, Agriculture and Education (Sinnar, El Gezira, Kassala), South Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission.

NGOs: Action Africa Help International, Adventist Development and Relief Agency (Southern Sudan), African Development and Emergency Organization, Al-Manaar, American Refugee Committee, Association of Christian Resource Organization for South Sudan, Church Ecumenical Action in Sudan, Concern, Danish De-mining Group, Danish Refugee Council, Global Health Foundation, GOAL Ireland, Help Age International, Human Appeal International, International Medical Corps, International Relief and Development, International Rescue Committee, Intersos, Islamic Relief Worldwide, Japan International Volunteer Center, Jesuit Refugee Service, Mercy Corps, Norwegian Peoples Aid, Norwegian Refugee Council, ROOF, Samaritan's Purse, Save the Children Alliance, Sudan Health Association, Sudan Open Learning Organization, Sudanese Red Crescent (SRC), Tearfund, *Terre des Hommes*, Triangle, World Vision International.

Others: IOM, UN-HABITAT, World Conservation Union (IUCN).

Operational partners

Government: Humanitarian Aid Commission, South Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission.

NGOs: Amel Centre for Treatment and Rehabilitation, Catholic Relief Services (USA), *Comitato di Coordinamento delle Organizzazioni per il Servizio Volontario*, International Medical Corps, Medair.

Others: AU, *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit*, FAO, ICRC, OCHA, UNAMID, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNJLC, IN Mine Action Services, UNMIS, UNV, WHO, WFP.

Budget (USD)

Activities and services	2007			2008	2009
	Annual Programme Budget	Supp. Programme Budget	Total	Annual Programme Budget	Annual Programme Budget
Protection, monitoring and coordination	3,569,268	23,250,755	26,820,023	4,830,636	4,749,018
Community services	450,000	4,439,490	4,889,490	1,019,000	995,950
Crop production	500,000	1,135,662	1,635,662	553,000	602,500
Domestic needs	253,600	2,304,489	2,558,089	101,000	101,000
Education	690,000	1,742,401	2,432,401	809,100	941,500
Food	22,150	36,522	58,672	0	0
Forestry	600,000	69,828	669,828	713,400	846,500
Health	990,000	2,048,159	3,038,159	2,207,774	2,382,774
Income generation	770,000	503,400	1,273,400	809,000	809,000
Legal assistance	840,000	5,957,760	6,797,760	1,172,850	1,269,996
Livestock	150,000	0	150,000	0	0
Operational support (to agencies)	822,732	7,186,468	8,009,200	758,276	805,800
Sanitation	300,000	813,816	1,113,816	131,000	131,000
Shelter and other infrastructure	400,000	842,548	1,242,548	615,000	615,000
Transport and logistics	415,000	3,214,962	3,629,962	1,700,600	1,778,980
Water	550,000	3,467,280	4,017,280	210,000	210,000
Total operations	11,322,750	57,013,540	68,336,290	15,630,636	16,239,018
Programme support	2,353,523	3,191,542	5,545,065	2,988,133	2,855,901
Total	13,676,273	60,205,082	73,881,355	18,618,769	19,094,919

Note: The Supplementary Programme Budget excludes a 7 per cent support cost that is recovered from contributions to meet indirect costs for UNHCR.