Strategy to Address Human Trafficking, Kidnappings and Smuggling of Persons in Sudan

*Strengthening Alternatives to Onward Movements*

2015-2017
1. Background

Sudan is at the centre of the east African migration route towards North Africa and Europe. Over the past decade hundreds of migrants\(^1\), asylum-seekers\(^2\) and refugees\(^3\) have been transiting through Sudan every month, with only a minority choosing to settle in the country. Those on the move often cite socio-economic challenges as well as protection concerns as the reasons to embark on the long and perilous journey to Europe. While at least half of the new arrivals met by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Sudan and seeking asylum express wishes to travel onwards from Sudan, others, particularly those who cannot afford or do not want to expose themselves to such journeys, choose instead to head to urban centres within Sudan. Similar patterns have been observed by International Organisation for Migration (IOM) for migrants not seeking international protection.

Those on the move are mostly young Eritrean Tigrinya speakers from urban areas, but also include Ethiopians, Somalis, South Sudanese and Syrians. Exit visa requirements from Eritrea in addition to restrictions on freedom of movement leave Eritrean asylum-seekers with little alternative but to rely on smugglers to arrange their travel in order to seek safety in Eastern Sudan refugee camps or to move from these camps to elsewhere in Sudan and beyond. Persons traveling from other countries usually also rely on smugglers to facilitate their entry into Sudan. Such irregular movements expose these vulnerable persons to various forms of exploitation which can amount to human trafficking. Sudanese nationals are exposed to similar risks when seeking opportunities abroad.

In response to the Government of Sudan’s (GoS) call for support to address the high incidence of kidnappings and trafficking in Eastern Sudan, UNHCR and IOM initiated joint activities to improve security in refugee camps and identify victims of trafficking (VOTs) in need of assistance and support. In 2013 the GoS endorsed the Joint UNHCR-IOM Strategy to Address Human Trafficking, People Smuggling and Kidnapping in Sudan. The strategy aimed at providing support to the GoS to ensure the safe entry of asylum-seekers to its territory, their secure residence in refugee camps in Eastern Sudan and the protection and rehabilitation of identified victims of trafficking throughout Sudan, in partnership with the Sudanese authorities and local NGOs. Statistics gathered by

\(^1\)At the international level, no universally accepted definition of migrant exists. The term migrant is usually understood to cover all cases where the decision to migrate is taken freely by the individual concerned for reasons of “personal convenience” and without intervention of an external compelling factor. This term therefore applies to persons, and family members, moving to another country or region to better their material or social conditions and improve the prospect for themselves or their family. (IOM, Glossary on Migration, http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/free/IML_1_EN.pdf)

\(^2\)An asylum-seeker is an individual who is seeking international protection. In countries with individualized procedures, an asylum-seeker is someone whose claim has not yet been finally decided on by the country in which he or she has submitted it. Not every asylum-seeker will ultimately be recognized as a refugee, but every refugee is initially an asylum-seeker. (UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNHCR Master Glossary of Terms, June 2006, Rev.1, available at: http://www.refworld.org/docid/42ce7d444.html)

\(^3\)A person who meets the eligibility criteria under the applicable refugee definition as provided for in international or regional refugee instruments, under UNHCR’s mandate, and/or in national legislation (ibid).
UNHCR on the number of kidnapping and trafficking incidents taking place in Sudan show a significant reduction in the number of cases reported to our offices since the implementation of the Strategy. The number of trafficking incidents reported to UNHCR has reduced from 338 in 2012 to 113 in 2014. Over half of all reported incidents in 2014 had occurred in previous years, with only two kidnapping incidents having been reported to UNHCR from the refugee camps in Eastern Sudan since February 2013. Through the implementation of the Strategy significant efforts were also made to strengthen the expertise of the Sudanese authorities to manage mixed migratory flows, receive asylum-seekers and combat trafficking and smuggling crimes. This has in turn facilitated the implementation of protection-sensitive entry procedures in close coordination with the Sudanese Commissioner for Refugees (COR) and the Department of Passports and Immigration.

In 2014, the GoS took significant steps in joining the global fight against human trafficking by acceding to the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (Palermo Protocol) in addition to its endorsement of the 2013-2014 Joint Strategy. It enacted the first federal law to combat trafficking in Sudan (the Human Trafficking Act 2014) and established a National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking (NCCT). It hosted the first African Union regional conference on human trafficking and smuggling in the Horn of Africa and participated in the EU-Horn of Africa Migration Route Initiative (Khartoum Process) as a key member state in discussions on migration and mobility across the African and European continents.

### Key Achievements Under the 2013-2014 Joint Strategy

<table>
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<tr>
<th>2011-2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
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<tr>
<td>High incidence of kidnappings and trafficking in the refugee camps and the Eastern border region</td>
<td>GoS endorse joint IOM-UNHCR Strategy to Address Human Trafficking, People Smuggling and Kidnapping in Sudan</td>
<td>Reduction in kidnapping and trafficking incidents sustained</td>
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<td>Activities to secure camps begin</td>
<td>Awareness campaign is launched</td>
<td>Shelter for VOTs established in Kassala</td>
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<td>Victims of trafficking are identified</td>
<td>Refugee camps are secured with material support to camp based police units and the installation of solar lamps</td>
<td>Sudan anti-trafficking law is passed, National Committee to Combat Trafficking in Persons established</td>
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<td>Significant reduction in kidnapping and trafficking incidents reported</td>
<td>Sudan accedes to the Palermo Protocol (Trafficking)</td>
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<td>Psycho-social and medical referrals for VOTs established</td>
<td>22 trainings to the authorities completed (2013-2014)</td>
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<td>Trainings and capacity building efforts begin.</td>
<td>Focus groups held with border communities and outreach established with migrant communities in Khartoum</td>
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2. Changing Dynamics

Since late 2013, migratory routes have shifted from Sudan-Egypt-Israel to Sudan-Libya-
Europe through Khartoum. As a result of effective measures taken by the Government in
Eastern Sudan, traffickers and smugglers have also ‘shifted’ their modus operandi when
it comes to the location where the movement of persons starts. The highest numbers of
trafficking and kidnapping incidents currently recorded by UNHCR are taking place at
the Sudanese borders with Eritrea and Ethiopia and in Khartoum rather than in the
refugee camps in Eastern Sudan as in previous years. Further, 90 per cent of female
survivors of trafficking report experiencing sexual and gender based violence (SGBV)
while in captivity. In addition, The UNHCR and COR Sudan Urban Refugee Population
Assessment 2014,\(^4\) shows that Khartoum is no longer merely a juncture for those newly
arriving to Sudan to move onwards to Libya or Europe, but increasingly a starting point
for ‘second generation refugees’ and migrants born in the city. Families interviewed for
the assessment gave a mix of protection and socio-economic reasons as motivations to
move onward from Sudan.

Since the beginning of 2014 there has been a three-fold increase in the number of
Eritrean asylum-seekers arriving in Eastern Sudan both from Ethiopia and Eritrea
compared to the previous year, with an average of 1,500 individuals recorded by
UNHCR and COR as arriving per month.\(^5\) The high rates of arrival exert pressure on the
already strained local economy, contribute to rising tensions between the refugees and
local communities and results more broadly in a deterioration of the protection
environment for new arrivals.

The estimated death of 4000 persons at sea\(^6\) who were attempting to reach Europe in
2014 and the almost fourfold increase in the arrival of Eritreans and Syrians to Italy in
the same year further highlights the urgent need for regional cooperation in migration
management which is well informed by the complex push and pull factors operating
throughout the east African migration route to Europe. These tragedies are a key
motivating factor behind the Khartoum Process which has brought together source,
transit and destination countries on the migration route from the Horn of Africa to
Europe in an effort to address irregular onward movements and the incumbent risk of
trafficking.

\(^5\) The average number of new arrivals recorded by UNHCR and COR per month in 2013 was 500.
3. THE STRATEGY

In light of the prevailing trends, the 2015-2017 strategy foresees five strategic objectives:

A. Enhancing security and mitigating risks
B. Strengthening protection responses for trafficking victims
C. Building national capacity
D. Identifying solutions and alternatives
E. Enhancing cooperation

In order to sustain the achievements made in 2013 and 2014 the Strategy will maintain its engagement and support to the GoS in border management and protection-sensitive reception arrangements to meet the needs of an increasing number of asylum-seekers, refugees and migrants that are expected to continue to arrive in high numbers. Regular capacity building and awareness-raising sessions for all concerned actors (NGOs, law enforcement and in particular, host communities) will also be expanded to central and northern Sudanese states along the smuggling and trafficking route to Libya, improving
prevention, victim identification, and the quality of the assistance and protection provided across Sudan. Continued cooperation with the GoS, in particular Sudan’s new NCCT will be essential in establishing a government-led inter-agency response to combat human trafficking and smuggling of persons.

The Strategy also introduces new areas of engagement such as strengthening alternatives to onward movements through the enhancement of self-reliance programs in refugee camps and of urban programs for asylum-seekers and refugees as foreshadowed in the Asylum Regulation Act 2014. Simultaneously, the Strategy will be promoting and pursuing legal alternatives to movement out of the region by building on existing durable solutions, along with other schemes, such as private sponsorship programs and family reunification.

The objectives of the Strategy are interrelated, supporting legal mobility and addressing the inadequate service provision and lack of self-reliance opportunities in Sudan for asylum-seekers, refugees and migrants and will contribute to safeguarding the human rights of new arrivals by removing the demand for smugglers and limiting the scope and opportunities for human trafficking. Furthermore, continued awareness raising, the tracking of migration trends, material as well as technical support to local authorities and importantly, the close engagement of host communities, will improve Sudan’s overall migration management and response to human trafficking and smuggling crimes.

In light of the high incidence of SGBV incidents experienced by female trafficked victims interviewed by UNHCR and IOM in 2014, the known and ongoing trafficking of unaccompanied minors and the need to continually improve the technical capacity of national authorities as the modus operandi of traffickers evolves, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) will join the 2015-17 Strategy in capacitating partners and coordinating a rapid response to the needs of children and of SGBV survivors across Sudan. To the extent that the Khartoum Process is committed to practical projects that manage migration flows, improve national capacity to tackle trafficking crimes and ensure the sharing of best practices in the region, this Strategy presents a clear vehicle by which these goals can be materialised.

The following section further details the strategic areas of work and activities that UNHCR, IOM, UNFPA, UNICEF and UNDOC will undertake with the GoS, local and regional partners to meet the above mentioned objectives.

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7 See the reference to ‘urban refugee’ in the provision for regulations under art 33(2) of the Asylum Act 2014. This Act also provides for the right to own immovable property (Art 13(2) and to work (Art 18) subject to permissions, two key developments from the previous Asylum Act 1974,
A. Enhancing Security and Mitigating Risks

A.1. Border Management

- Enhance the Border Management Information System in Sudan.
- Enhance the technical capacity of the government to manage borders and migration through providing the necessary technical support and training on best practices.
- Strengthen national training programmes for relevant authorities on border and migration management addressing also all aspects of border controls and security measures.
- Promote national and regional engagement through workshops related to immigration and border management issues in Sudan as well as in the region.
- Enhance Institutional Coordination and Operational Capacity for supporting the Integrated Border Management (IBM) agenda in Sudan
- Continue the training of border, immigration and police officials to ensure that border management systems that are established are protection sensitive, and that border officials are able to investigate and identify cases of human trafficking and are aware of referral processes for direct assistance and legal aid.
- Develop protocols for border authorities that explain the needs of vulnerable groups upon arrival and on return to their country of origin or first asylum (unaccompanied and separated children, survivors of SGBV, VOTs etc)

A.2. Protection-Sensitive Entry Systems and Reception

- Increase the capacity and further improve the conditions of reception centres in Hamdayet, Gergef, Toker and Wad Sherifey by upgrading the infrastructure and improving assistance provision upon arrival.
- Increase the transportation of asylum-seekers from the border screening centers to the refugee camps to reduce the length of their stay in reception centres and eliminate the need to resort to smugglers and the risk of kidnapping in the border area. Continue to support the Commissioner for Refugees (COR) with the ad hoc transportation of asylum-seekers to refugee camps in those areas far removed from reception centres.
- Provide WASH facilities and shades to security structures at the border areas where new arrivals may be temporarily held for investigation.
- Continue to monitor that screening procedures at entry points in Eastern Sudan are protection-sensitive (i.e. immigration-control measures contain safeguards guaranteeing access to the territory and an assessment of international protection needs for those who claim to be in need of international protection).
- Support the establishment of a new screening center in Gedaref state to decrease the risk of kidnappings at the border and between the border and refugee camps there
- Establish country-wide referral mechanisms to ensure that all individuals who may be in need of international protection (including victims of trafficking who are arrested with their traffickers and arrested smuggled persons) are referred
to COR or UNHCR before the deportation procedure starts, in order to guarantee access to asylum procedures and avoid refoulement.

A.3. Registration, Documentation and RSD

- Continue to support the GoS in its establishment of a country-wide registration and documentation system of asylum-seekers, refugees and migrants in line with national civil registration standards.
- Continue investing in capacity building and training of COR in registration, as well as conducting quality control of their registration activities.
- Ensure vulnerable groups, including unaccompanied children, continue to have prioritized access to registration and RSD that is consistent with UNHCRs Guidelines on Child Asylum Claims 2009.
- Raise the awareness of the new arrivals on benefits of registration and documentation on a regular basis.
- Inform asylum-seekers, refugees and migrants about Sudanese laws on documentation and the procedures to acquire the documents to move legally.
- Simplify and streamline the registration process, reducing the waiting period and therefore the numbers moving undocumented outside the camps.
- Improve the quality and the efficiency of the RSD procedure through capacity building and technical support of adjudicators.
- Streamline RSD procedures by supporting the government in the development of detailed RSD guidelines in line with the Asylum Regulation Act 2014.

A.4 Maintaining camp security and improve safety in urban centers

- Maintain physical security measures implemented in refugee camps and reception centres between 2013 and 2014, in particular the condition and number of solar lamps.
- Maintain regular contact with the police on the patrolling of refugee camps and the implementation of additional security measures, with an increased emphasis on the vast unmanned border areas.
- In addition to the hotlines established in Kassala and Khartoum to enable the reporting to UNHCR of security incidents, establish a hotline between refugees and UNHCR in Shagarab camps to allow refugees to quickly report kidnapping, trafficking and any other security incidents from the immediate vicinity.
- Sensitize the police department responsible for the 999 hotline and advocate for full time Tigrinya, Amharic and Oromo interpreters to allow quick reporting of kidnapping, trafficking and any other security incidents. COR and UNHCR will establish a separate hotline to ensure adequate follow up of cases.
- Enhance key services in the refugee camps, such as latrines and fuel efficient stoves, to limit unnecessary movement outside the refugee camps and thereby prevent unnecessary exposure to kidnapping and sexual assault whilst outside the refugee camps.
- Establish an agreement to cooperate with the Police Family and Child Protection Unit (FCPU) in Khartoum to enhance detention monitoring and advocacy on behalf of children in detention.
B. Victim Identification, Protection and Rehabilitation

B.1. Victim Identification and Referral

- Develop a referral system among all concerned actors (humanitarian agencies, NGOs, government partners, and other relevant actors) in order to ensure the early identification of victims of trafficking, their referral to the most appropriate actor and thereby services, as well as access to protection (including RSD where appropriate), and provide training on its implementation.
- Support the National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking to establish a national referral system for identified VOTs involving all concerned committee members.
- Develop and implement standardized procedures for the identification and referral to appropriate services for victims of trafficking and vulnerable migrants including refugees and asylum-seekers, who are in need of international protection, humanitarian assistance or other services.

B.2. Protection Mechanisms and Direct Assistance

- Provide trafficking victims and vulnerable migrants, including refugees and asylum-seekers, with necessary immediate assistance, including clothing, medical attention, PEP kits for survivors of SGBV and legal aid.
- Provide health facilities linked with the referral services response with essential supplies and drugs for the treatment of SGBV survivors, and build capacity of medical doctors and the associated health service providers in the Clinical Management of Rape (CMR) and implementation of the Minimum Initial Service Package on RH in crisis (MISP).
- Establish a Migrant Response Centre to provide information to migrants as well as immediate services such as medical and psychosocial support.
- Provide direct support to vulnerable women and girls with special items such as personal hygiene kits to enhance their access to services.
- Continue to provide trafficking victims and vulnerable migrants including refugees and asylum-seekers with access to longer-term psychosocial counseling through implementing partners in the East of Sudan and in Khartoum.
- Maintain the operation of the Kassala Safe Shelter and continue to provide COR, implementing partners and the authorities with regular workshops on how to make a referral for admission and exit procedures.
- Provide community security response mechanisms for asylum-seekers, refugees and migrants in need of safe shelter in Khartoum.
- Enhance cooperation with COR to enable registration and RSD for shelter residents, as well as the timely issuance of travel permits to and from refugee camps and Khartoum.
- Establish a common referral pathway in Khartoum for victims of trafficking who are survivors of SGBV in coordination with UNFPA and UNICEF to ensure access to comprehensive services. Furthermore, the system will be enhanced through complementary capacity building activities such as training of health service providers, police, social workers, psychologists and counselors and other relevant institutions for psychosocial support and referral pathways.
• Improve access to psychiatric consultation and support in Eastern Sudan.

B.3. Access to Justice

• Enhance access to legal assistance through the increased presence of legal practitioners in refugee camps and the provision of legal assistance options through increased partnerships with legal aid NGOs for vulnerable migrants including refugees and asylum-seekers in Eastern Sudan and Khartoum.
• Effectively monitor the detention of persons who are VOTs, smuggled migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in prisons, police stations and security offices in key areas along the trafficking and smuggling route and provide them with direct legal support and advice.
• Ensure that witnesses who are willing to provide testimonies in court hearings through enhanced cooperation with law enforcement authorities and who may be putting their physical safety at risk in doing so are given safe shelter; while recognizing that assistance should not be conditional upon cooperating with criminal justice authorities.
• Ensure VOTs have access to interpreters in court proceedings.
• Ensure that all legal proceedings involving children as victims, witnesses or in conflict with the law, incorporate the principle of the best interests of the individual child and follow the specific legal safeguards of the Sudanese Child Act 2010 – including detention separate from adults. Enhancing partnerships with national specialist agencies focusing on child protection such as FCPU may assist this objective.

B.4. Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC)

• Improve the general management, conditions and services available to unaccompanied children staying at the residential care facility in Shagarab camp and ensure all children are immediately informed of the most recent situation concerning onward movement.
• Enhance family-like alternative care arrangements in Sudan for unaccompanied children through foster care, kinship-care (extended relatives) or group-care possibilities.
• Develop an effective community outreach campaign in the urban areas, particularly in Khartoum, to identify unaccompanied children on the move that may not otherwise come into contact with the relevant service providers.
• Refugee UASC would be supported through financial / material support and vocational / education trainings while under 18 with the aim being that they graduate to adulthood with the skills for self-reliance.
• Prioritise family reunification in the best interests of each child, identifying a durable solution, including return, private sponsorship through embassies, or resettlement.
• Strengthen the child protection systems currently in place in the East and Khartoum by enhancing partnerships with national child protection authorities and NGOs.
• Continue to ensure the Best Interests of the Child Principle is operationalized in the case management with the use of Best Interest Assessment (BIA) and Best
Interest Determination (BID) for all identified unaccompanied and separated children or other children at risk.

C. **Building National Capacity**

C.1. **National Committee to Combat Trafficking in Persons**

- Support the newly established NCCT and the members and institutions forming the Committee to lead an inter-agency response to human trafficking and smuggling in Sudan by providing technical guidance and advice in order to build on what has been achieved to date and discern where the gaps lie specifically in victim protection.
- Support the NCCT on developing a National Strategy and Action Plan to counter human trafficking, on the basis of regional and international instruments, standards and best practices, including clear objectives and delineation of the roles and responsibilities of all Committee members and other relevant partners, focusing on prevention, protection, prosecution and participation.
- Assist in review of relevant legislation pertaining to combatting human trafficking and smuggling of persons.
- Capacity building on drafting regulations, bylaws, orders and rules as may be necessary for implementation of the provisions of the 2014 anti-human trafficking law, especially those covering assistance and protection to victims of trafficking.
- Enhance the capacity of the NCCT to develop and coordinate anti-trafficking initiatives in Sudan and implementation of national referral mechanisms.
- Provision of training on data collection and analysis on the crime of human trafficking to selected focal points at the relevant Ministries, including those represented in the NCCT, with the aim to build capacities on the drafting of annual reports on human trafficking in Sudan.

C.2. **National Authorities**

- Develop a thorough needs assessment to assess the Sudanese government’s investigative, prosecutorial, judicial and administrative capacities and current efforts undertaken against human trafficking and smuggling of persons, including its current policies and operational measures, providing key recommendations.
- Provide assistance and support to Sudanese authorities in view of the ratification of the Protocol Against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air and the development of national legislation on smuggling of persons through the identification and analysis of gaps in the existing legal framework and its compliance with the requirements of the Protocol and other relevant international instruments.
- Provide continued material support to the Sudanese police and national security in Kassala to enhance their capacity to combat human trafficking and smuggling of persons and protect refugees including the provision of vehicles, telecommunication equipment, and the rehabilitation of police stations in the
border area and other sensitive refugee-receiving locations, depending on needs following the support already provided in 2013-2014.

- Provide material support to Sudanese police and national security in Gedaref state where an increase in the number of Eritrean new arrivals has been noted since the beginning of 2014 to ensure new arrivals can be welcomed and assisted.
- Conduct a needs assessment to identify most urgent needs to enhance security in the Red Sea, Nile, Northern States and Darfur for necessary material support.
- Continue to build the capacity of COR, the police (and FCPU), Ministry of Social Welfare and national security officers in Eastern Sudan, Khartoum, Dongola and Darfur specifically on the identification, prevention and investigation of trafficking and smuggling of persons, as well as on the protection and referral for victims and smuggled migrants, especially unaccompanied children.
- Continue to build the capacity of judges and prosecutors in the East of Sudan, Khartoum and Dongola in particular by providing training on human rights, refugee law, human trafficking and smuggling of persons, with a view to guaranteeing acceptable procedural standards during investigation and prosecution, and providing a consistent application of trafficking, asylum and immigration laws.
- Continue to build the capacity of immigration authorities on refugee and human rights law, as well as smuggling and trafficking, in order to ensure protection-sensitive entry systems, access to asylum and proper referral of cases.
- Enhance the capacity of national institutions, including the National Council for Child Welfare, in the area of child protection with a focus on unaccompanied and separated children and the BIA and BID procedures.
- Build the capacity of front line law enforcement officers working directly with victims of trafficking on protection sensitive interview techniques to ensure they are conducted in a gender and culturally-appropriate manner, taking into account personal traumas.
- Creation of a pool of trainers in the relevant Ministries through delivery of targeted ‘training of trainers’ to increase the capacities of relevant authorities.
- Inclusion of human trafficking and smuggling of persons related modules in the Police Academy and Judicial Academy curriculum.

C.3. National Non-Government Organisations (NGOs)

- Enhance the capacity of civil society organizations to work on anti-trafficking in Sudan and specifically for the identification, protection and assistance of victims and witnesses.
- Continue to build the capacity of psychosocial workers working directly with VOTs in order to ensure that counseling and other activities with victims of human trafficking are conducted in a gender and culturally-appropriate manner, taking into account personal traumas.
- Continue to build the capacity of social workers and other relevant staff in relation to the specific needs of child victims, whether accompanied by adults or not, and on the guidelines for assisting child victims (treatment of traumatized children and procedures for guardianship and placement in institutional or family foster care).
- Work towards fostering cooperation between NGOs and State actors, including law enforcement agencies (police, immigration, border and customs officials).
D. Identifying Solutions and Alternatives

D.1. Livelihoods, Education and Self-Reliance

- Improve basic services in the refugee camps, Khartoum and other urban areas with vulnerable migrants, including refugee and asylum-seeker populations, primarily by ensuring access to health, education and shelter.
- Ensure the availability of primary and secondary education to the new arrivals in the refugee camps including transitional education arrangements due to language barriers.
- Conduct a livelihoods survey among new arrivals for the development of targeted programs catering to their needs.
- Provide small scale income generating activities to victims of trafficking and vulnerable migrants including refugees and asylum-seekers.
- Increase educational opportunities for victims of trafficking who are children and who are resident in Khartoum through the provision of study grants.

D.2. Urban Refugee Strategy

- Pursue an urban refugee strategy with the Government of Sudan in line with the recently finalized Urban Refugee Population Assessment undertaken by UNHCR and COR in Khartoum in 2014 and building on the current program available in Khartoum to asylum-seekers and refugees.
- Conduct an integrated population assessment in urban centres in the East of Sudan, replicating the one recently conducted for Khartoum.
- Continue to improve access to health, education and livelihood opportunities for refugees in Khartoum, while supporting Government institutions in other urban areas hosting refugees with the aim to integrate refugees into existing services as per UNHCRs Urban Refugee Policy of 2009 and Alternatives to Camps Policy of 2014.
- Enhance existing RSD procedures in Khartoum and the refugee camps in Eastern Sudan, while gradually expanding registration and RSD to other urban centres.

D.3. Resettlement

- Advocate with the resettlement countries to increase the number of resettlement spaces for the new arrivals with resettlement needs.
- Ensure the appropriate identification and timely referral of newly arrived refugees facing acute protection needs for resettlement through improved registration, profiling RSD and referral procedures.
- Undertake third-country resettlement for unaccompanied children for whom this solution is deemed to be in their best interest.

D.4. Voluntary Return and Solutions

- Continue to facilitate safe return to Eritrea for unaccompanied children for whom this solution is deemed to be in their best interest, and where there are no international protection concerns, following a process of BID.
• Establish a referral mechanism between IOM and UNHCR for refugees who seek voluntary repatriation.
• Facilitate voluntary return and reintegration while preserving fair asylum procedures and respecting international principles concerning all migrants, including those in irregular situations.

E. Enhancing Cooperation

E.1. State Actors

• Coordinate with the NCCT on the implementation of this strategy.
• Cooperate with all relevant sub-committees formed by the NCCT through the attendance of meetings and provision of technical guidance where requested.
• Continue to work with the Kassala and Gedaref security committees on trafficking as coordination bodies on the investigation and prosecution of trafficking and smuggling crimes.
• Encourage cooperation between Federal and state actors on the issue of trafficking.
• Coordinate with the Registration and Passport Corporation on the Border management aspects of this strategy.
• Coordinate with COR on the implementation of this strategy as it applies to asylum-seekers and refugees.
• Coordinate with the High Council for Migration on local and regional migration policy.

E.2. Regional Actors

• Collaborate closely with UNHCR and IOM offices in Ethiopia, Eritrea, Libya and Egypt to ensure a consistent regional approach in line with the Regional IOM/UNHCR Joint Project.
• Enhance coordination and consultation with regional offices of other agencies involved in the joint strategy, UNICEF, UNODC and UNFPA, through Regional Directors Teams (RDT) and other mechanisms.
• Strengthen the regional cooperation framework in combating trafficking of human beings. IOM, UNHCR and the GoS are members of the Steering Committee of the Khartoum Process and will work to promote cooperation among member and partner states to implement the Plan of Action agreed to in Sharm el Sheikh in April 2015.
• Continue to work in coordination with other international and inter-regional bodies and agencies, such as RMMS, AU, EU, LAS, OIC and IGAD to ensure strengthening of cross-border cooperation, encouraging national initiatives and streamlining responses to address smuggling and trafficking at the regional level.
• Collaborate closely IOM and UNHCR’s Mixed Migration Task Force for the North-Eastern African Migratory Route and North Africa (MMTF-NOAH) to which IOM and UNHCR are members.
• Review the Sudanese national legal and institutional framework for international judicial cooperation in criminal matters, conduct assessment of the use and relevance of existing international and regional instruments and formulate
recommendations to streamline extradition and mutual legal assistance procedures.

- Organize regional meetings and workshops in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior in Sudan and Sudanese Ministry of Justice, with the purpose of coordinating activities against human trafficking and smuggling of persons among law enforcement authorities of neighboring countries and enhancing judicial cooperation in human trafficking and smuggling of persons cases between Sudanese authorities and their counterparts in source and destination countries.
- Organize awareness raising workshops for law enforcement and prosecutors on leveraging the systems and methods used in combating money laundering to investigate and combat human trafficking and smuggling of persons.

X.1 Advocacy and Awareness Raising

- Continue regular information sessions to provide current information and advice to asylum-seekers upon their arrival in Sudan specifically on the importance of registration, documentation and on alternatives to irregular migration including safe migration.
- Hold discussion groups with asylum-seekers refugees and migrants in the refugee camps and in urban centres to raise awareness on the dangers of using smugglers and on the risk of kidnapping.
- Expand on the information campaign conducted in 2013-14 to raise the awareness of migrants, asylum-seekers and refugees in Sudan on the dangers associated with irregular migration, on the risks of trafficking and kidnapping, as well as on safe migration options. Develop and make available in strategic points of passage flyers with basic information in the language of the migrants about where to seek assistance and report crime, where to get shelter, food, medical care, where to claim asylum.
- Develop tailored communication kits for the national media and train journalists.
- Utilise other media forms in particular radio and social media in awareness raising.
- Carry out a large scale information campaign targeting the Sudanese border communities and those along the smuggling route to Libya about the penalties for being involved in carrying out these crimes as well as the ways by which crimes can be reported or addressed at a local level by persons in these communities.
- Carry out information campaigns to the Sudanese community about the new anti-trafficking act and its provisions. Inform them about what is human trafficking and how you may be involved in the crime without being aware or be a victim.
- Continue regular dialogue with migrant communities in Khartoum to raise awareness about the risks of irregular migration and safe migration options.
- Strengthen and empower faith–based and community leaders, and youth groups among asylum-seeker, refugee and migrant communities to advocate for and engage in prevention of and response to SGBV.
X.2 Research

- Conduct systematic field research into the motives behind the movement of new arrivals from Eritrea to Sudan through focus group discussions and interviews.
- Continue to maintain a database of verified victims of trafficking in order to monitor trends and location of kidnappings.
- Conduct systematic field research into the migrant population living in Sudan including the incidence of trafficking among this population.
- Conduct research on migration patterns through Sudan to identify other “invisible” vulnerable migrant groups.
- Conduct research on the smuggling patterns, flows and modus operandi of smuggling networks, in order to enhance understanding of the dynamics and trends of smuggling of persons, including shifts in methods and routes resulting from the adaptation of smuggling networks to the responses of the Sudanese authorities to the phenomenon.
- UNFPA to coordinate with UNHCR and IOM to conduct research on urban refugees, and irregular migrants including victims of smuggling and trafficking to assess specific RH and SGBV vulnerabilities and response gaps to inform future programming.

X.3: Engaging local communities

- Continue to engage tribal and religious leaders and other members of the Sudanese community in focus group discussions specifically in key towns and urban centres on the trafficking route to Libya to increase awareness of the trafficking problem within their own communities in Sudan, and gain their support and advice on how to combat this phenomenon.
- Support existing community networks of asylum-seekers and refugees established with the Population Assessments through regular dialogues with UNHCR.
- Support community based organizations within the different asylum-seeker, refugee and migrant groups in Khartoum with capacity building and awareness-raising.
## 4. 2015 FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Direct Costs</th>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Total (all partners)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. PROJECT ACTIVITIES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>A. Enhancing Security and Mitigating Risks</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td>A.2. Protection-Sensitive Entry Systems and Reception</td>
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<td>A.3. Registration, Documentation and RSD</td>
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<td>A.4. Maintaining Camp Security and Improve Safety in Urban Centers</td>
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<td><strong>B. Victim Identification, Protection and Rehabilitation</strong></td>
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<td>B.4. Unaccompanied and Separated Children</td>
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