



Far from home - How long more?



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Forced displacement is rarely a temporary phenomenon. Many people live in precarious situations for years, or even decades, after becoming displaced.

UNHCR, The UN Refugee Agency, defines protracted refugee situations those in which at least 25,000 people from the same nationality live in exile in a given host country for at least five consecutive years.

According to the agency, at the end of 2021, **74 per cent of the global refugee population was living in a protracted situation.**

Protracted displacement situations in countries such as South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Chad are often neglected. Limited media attention often results in little funding to help those who have been living in displacement for years.

We must not forget people living in protracted displacement.



An internally displaced man in Masisi, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). (Sergi Camara/ Entreculturas)

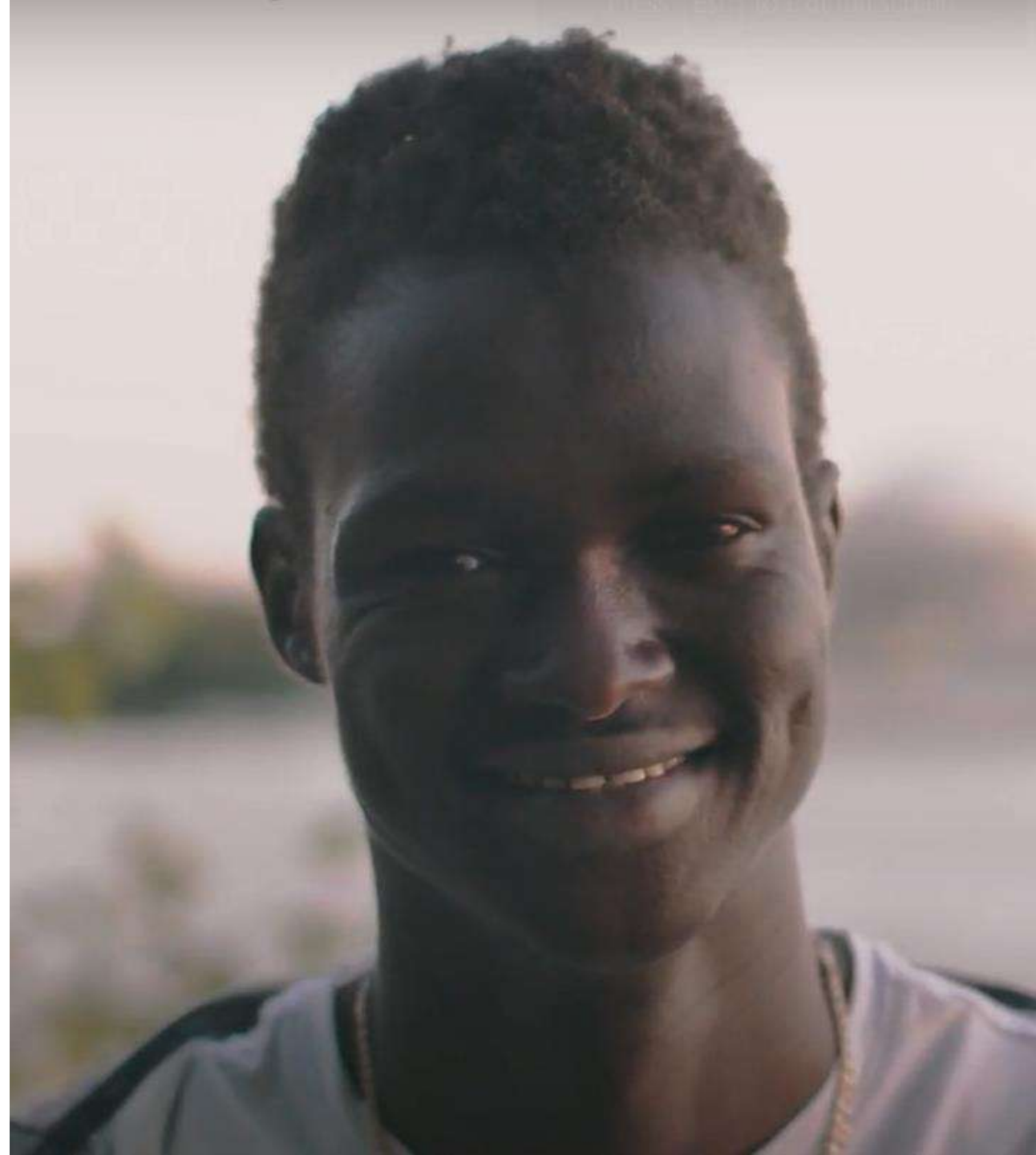


A refugee girl walking in a camp in Chad. (Sergi Camara)



**My family has been
in the refugee camp
for 25 years. I grew up there.**

Lual Mayen is a former refugee from South Sudan. His parents fled Bor during the Second Sudanese Civil War and he was born along the journey to a place of refuge.



People living in protracted displacement are exceptionally vulnerable. They often experience protection challenges and restrictions on their rights. Many lack employment opportunities, access to education and to other services, and their freedom of movement may be restricted.



We are eight [in my family], three go to school and the other five don't study because my parents lack the means to bring them to school. All the five who don't study are girls.

Diane, internally displaced in Mugunga, North Kivu, DRC.





Kaya refugee camp, South Sudan. (Paul Jeffrey/Misean Cara)

JRS is accompanying forcibly displaced people in protracted situations with services aimed at helping them heal and hope for a brighter and peaceful future.

One of JRS's focus is offering inclusive, quality education that provides protection, while contributing to the full development of individuals and to societal transformation.

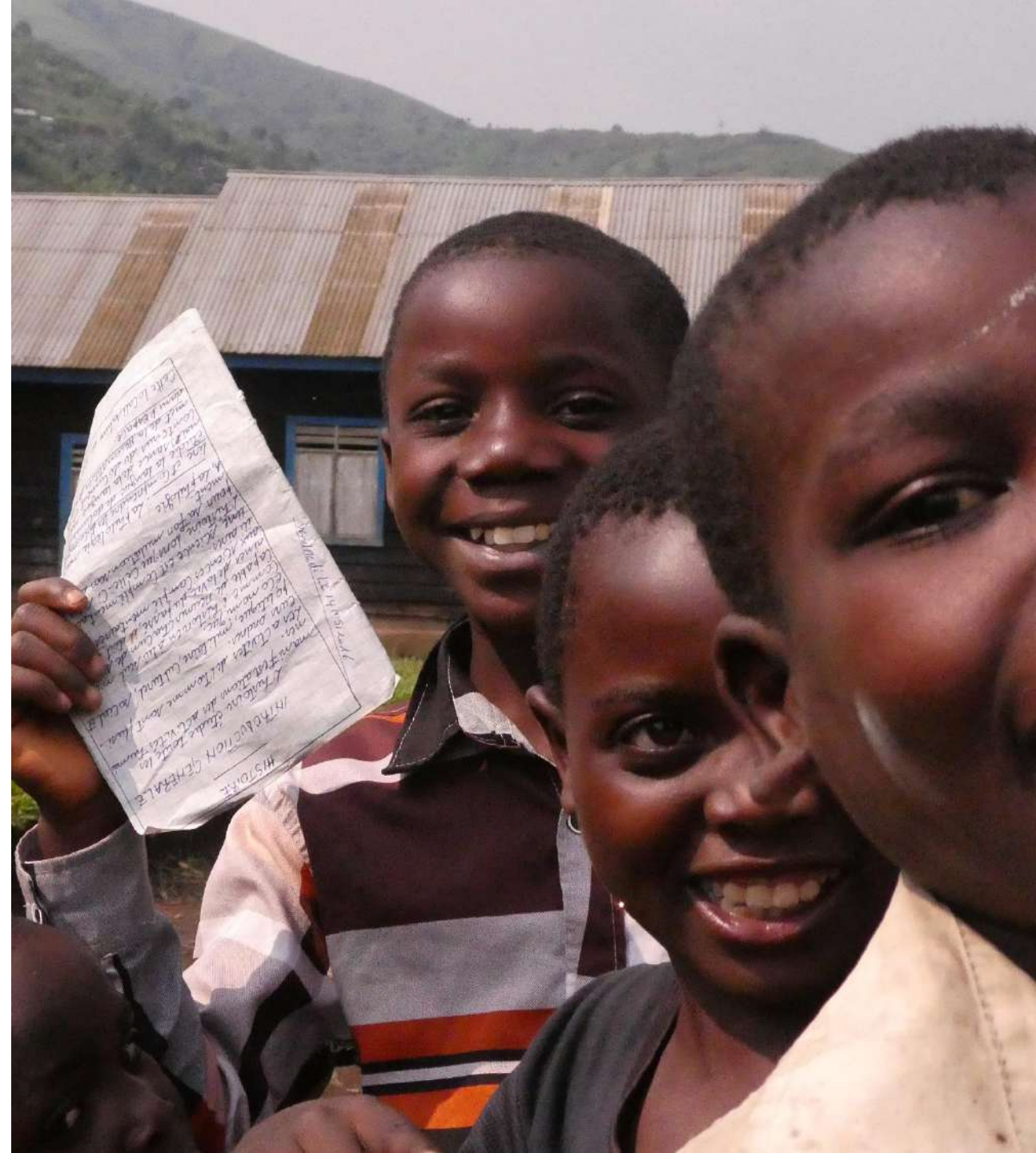


JRS primary classes at the Fourkouloum school in Lake Chad.



To me education is about dignity. It's about giving children – who have nothing – a way to engage in the society around them and do something with their lives besides contribute to the violence that surrounds them.

Sr Esperance Hamuli, JRS education coordinator in Masisi, DRC.





Students attending JRS classes in Maban, South Sudan.



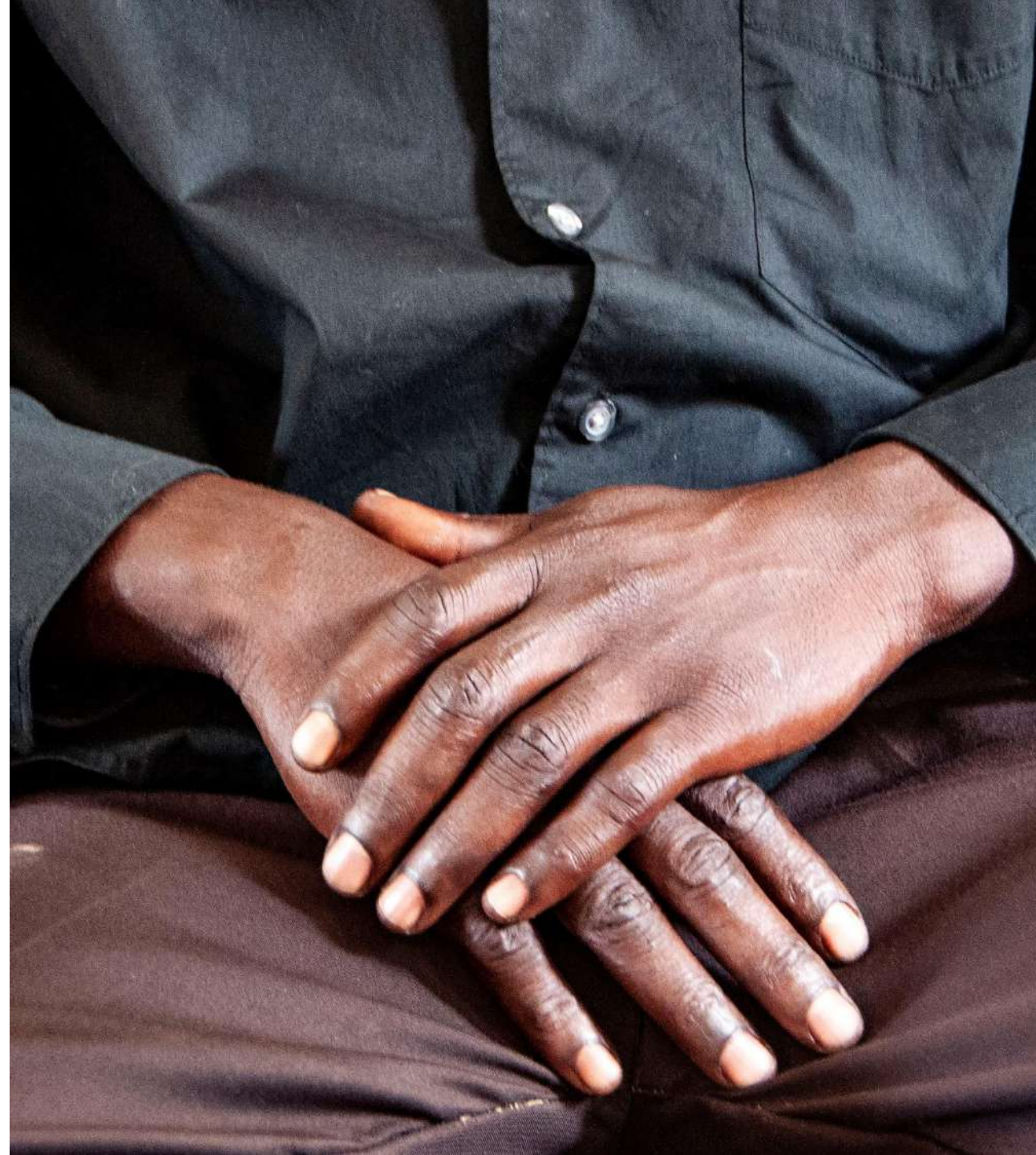
Graduation of 23 refugee students at the Normal Superior School of Abéché, eastern Chad.

JRS accompanies forcibly displaced people on their healing journey through the provision of protection and mental health and psychosocial support services.



To be able to talk to someone about what happens to me has helped a lot.

Ismail, a 30-year-old Sudanese refugee living in Maban, South Sudan, is part of JRS's counselling and therapy programme. He remembers very little of his life before 2013, when a new wave of fighting broke out. JRS is helping him cope with serious mental health issues.





JRS Safe Haven in Kakuma, Kenya, hosts survivors of gender-based violence like Joyce. (Fredrik Lerneryd)



JRS Martial Arts classes in Maban, South Sudan, help refugees cope with stress and bond with their peers.

JRS works to reduce the underlying causes of conflicts and promotes peace and reconciliation through targeted interventions with a focus on young people.



We have seen the building of bridges among youth who were hardly in contact before. They shifted from a state of division, intimidation, and mistrust, to a state of confidence, trust, and unity.

Claudine Nana has implemented JRS Reconciliation activities in northern Uganda since 2017. These activities include Peace clubs in schools and the recruitment of youth ambassadors like Elemu Gilbert from refugee and host communities.

Photo: Elemu Gilbert, Youth Ambassador in Adjumani.





JRS Peace Education classes in South Sudan.



Refugee girls play sports in the camp, Chad.

JRS livelihoods projects transfer skills and promote the creation of dignifying sources of income, so that forcibly displaced people can become self-reliant.



JRS protects displaced women in North Kivu, DRC, through vocational training and income-generating activities.



JRS Vocational Training in Kampala, Uganda.



JRS carpentry training for internally displaced people in Masisi. (Sergi Camara/ Entreculturas)



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