

Country: Chad

Emergency type: Conflict Climate disaster Other

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### **Key Figures**



**4,100,000**Total people affected



943,000 Women of reproductive age



128,370 Estimated pregnant women



**1,294,330**People targeted with SRH services.



**388,300**People targeted with GBV programmes

### **Highlights**

- In November 2024, it is estimated that over 511,787 people are in need of humanitarian or protection assistance in Lake Province (OCHA), this includes 10,588 pregnant and lactating women (OCHA).
- On 28 November, a high-level delegation of UNs, government and media representatives visited Adré, Chad to monitor the UNHCR, WFP, and UNICEF supply trucks crossing the border and met with the Adre Prefet and Ouaddaï Governor.
- The 2024 edition of the 16 Days of Activism campaign was marked by various events that mobilized public opinion in the fight against all forms of violence against women and girls.



- October attacks in Chad's Hadjer Hamis Province have displaced over 18,000 people, creating an urgent need, and
  call for action by the government, for humanitarian assistance (OCHA). The displacement particularly endangers
  women and girls, increasing their risk of gender-based violence (GBV) and limiting their access to essential
  services..
- The severe food insecurity issue in the Lake Province (IPC phase 3 to 5), combined with the displacement and floods, poses devastating threats to pregnant and breastfeeding women and their young children, who are some of the most vulnerable to the deterioration of the humanitarian situation.
- The floods, coupled with the influx of Sudanese refugees and returnees, have strained the health care system, leading to shortages of essential reproductive health supplies, disrupting access, and increasing protection and maternal mortality risks. UNFPA's efforts are focused on prioritizing the continued provision of life-saving sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and GBV services to ensure safe births and medical and psychosocial support for survivors of violence.

#### **Situation Overview**

- Years of conflict and instability have left the Lake Chad Province contending with high levels of poverty, devastating
  food insecurity, a decimated public infrastructure system, sustained economic decline, widespread trauma, and an
  ongoing protection crisis. People's capacity to face health, safety, and livelihood threats remains depleted.
- Since the beginning of the conflict in Sudan on April 15, 2023, there has been a continuous influx of refugees and returnees to Chad, which has now reached 721,707 refugees and 222,743 Chadian returnees (<u>UNHCR</u>). The influx of refugees and returnees is stretching already overburdened basic services, increasing competition for scarce resources and employment opportunities, and worsening the food insecurity crisis (IPC Phase 3). Among other interventions, UNFPA has been advocating for intensifying protection interventions in Eastern Chad, recognizing the interlinkages between child marriage and food insecurity in emergencies and protracted crises.
- In November 2024, UNHCR reported that <u>43% of newly arrived Sudanese refugees</u> experienced human rights violations while fleeing to Chad, including 16% physical assaults, 16% confiscation of personal belongings, and 10% arbitrary requests for payments. GBV is also pervasive, however, a more positive finding from data collected through the implementation of activities showed that <u>75% of survivors seek assistance, mainly from family (43%)</u> and friends (32%).
- Chad has been affected by floods since late July 2024. Government data from 15 October reveals that 1,941,869 people have been affected, with 576 fatalities. Vulnerability to GBV and other protection risks has increased as women and girls collect food, water, and firewood in unfamiliar environments.
- The <u>UNHCR national-wide protection monitoring dashboard</u> has indicated that 34% of women feel unsafe fetching wood or water in their community.

### **UNFPA Response**

UNFPA is providing reproductive health care and support to women and girls affected by the crisis in Chad. This includes deploying midwives, offering psychosocial support to survivors of violence, and distributing essential hygiene supplies.

- 24 Inter-Agency Reproductive Health (IARH) kits have been distributed to five flood-affected service delivery points (mobile clinic facilities) in N'Djamena and Chari Baguirmi, including supplies to support:
  - O Clean deliveries for 1,000 pregnant women without access to health facilities; safe clinical deliveries for 7,500 women at health facilities; and supplies for 10 community midwives to enhance the quality of care for pregnant women in flood-affected areas.



- o Provision of female contraceptives for 750 women, and devices to offer STI/HIV prevention and treatment for 500 people, along with male and female condoms for 15,000 people.
- 35 UNFPA tents have been distributed to support four emergency maternity centers within the mobile clinic facilities in N'Djamena, and 22 women and girls' safe spaces (WGSS) in 9 sites in Ouaddai and Wadifira to provide protection and empowerment of women and girls affected by the crisis. This has covered:
  - o 4 emergency maternity centers within the mobile clinic facilities in N'Djamena, including in Kalatchou Alhikma, Bethsaida, Toukra, and Koundoul.
  - o 22 safe spaces for women and girls have been created in the following refugee sites: Aboutengué (5 spaces), Metche (4), Adré (4), Arkoum (2), Allacha (1), Farchana (3), and Guereda (1), as well as at the Adré One Stop Center and Farchana Health Facility.
- 138 UNFPA-supported humanitarian midwives were maintained on deployment during November, with an additional 10 new deployments. Humanitarian midwives intended to cover the gap in providing SRH services to 35,354 people (95% women) in the Eastern, Southern, and Lake Provinces:
  - o 14,935 women attended at least two antenatal consultations at UNFPA-supported health facilities.
  - o 3,827 deliveries were assisted, and 4,813 women attended postnatal consultations.
  - o 7,100 women received family planning services, including 4,264 new users.
  - o 834 obstetrics complications were recorded 658 were managed, 158 referred, and there were 18 fatalities.
  - o 645 people were diagnosed with and treated for STIs.
- 27 psychosocial support workers were deployed to Ouaddai Province Refugee sites to provide care to refugees and were able to provide psychological counseling to 428 survivors of GBV. GBV cases were classified in the GBV IMS as denial of resources (32%), physical assault (27%), psychological and emotional abuse (23%), sexual assault (7%), rape (7%), and forced/early marriage (4%).
- 13,711 women and girls were sensitized to GBV and the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) in Ouaddai province refugee sites, including 1,900 who received dignity kits.
- 27 WGSS were supported in Ouaddai Province. 48 awareness-raising sessions at these safe spaces reached 16,605 people, including 11,811 women and girls.

Partners involved in these activities included CRT, DRC, ASTBEF, APLFT, HIAS, NIRVANA; <u>Chad Red Cross</u>; <u>Danish Refugee Council</u> (DRC); Association Tchadienne pour le Bien-Etre Familial (<u>ASTBEF</u>); Association pour la Promotion des Libertés Fondamentales au Tchad (<u>APLFT</u>); Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (<u>HIAS</u>); and Organisation pour la promotion de la femme et de la Jeunesse Africaines (<u>NIRVANA</u>).

### **Results Snapshots**



**35,354**People reached with **SRH services**95% female, 5% male



**73**Health facilities supported





# **18,933**People reached with **GBV prevention**, mitigation, and response activities

98% female, 2% male



# 27 Safe Spaces for women and girls supported

NFI	1,900	Dignity kits distributed to individuals
	24	Reproductive health kits provided to service delivery points to meet the needs of 32,986 people
(ii)	10	Youth spaces supported by UNFPA

#### **Coordination Mechanisms**

## Gender-Based Violence:

- A GBV sub-cluster meeting was conducted In Ouaddaï, focusing on organizing the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence.
- UNFPA regularly participates in weekly emergency coordination meetings organized by UNHCR in Adré or Farchana. At the November meetings, UNFPA advocated for organizing the 16 Days of Activism.

### Sexual and Reproductive Health:

• The bi-weekly SRH Working Group meeting in Adré focused on restarting maternal death audits, distributing reproductive health kits, deploying midwives, and raising awareness of available services. They also plan to strengthen coordination with urban health centers and the Andre health district team.

### **Funding Status**

In 2024, Chad launched an appeal for US\$21,122,570 (US\$15,897,262 under the Humanitarian Response Plan and US\$5,225,308 under the Regional Refugee Response Plan) to provide SRH and protection services to women and girls in need. As of November 2024, only \$8.6 million (41%) has been received, leaving a funding gap of \$12.5 million (59%).