

# Sudanese situation - Chad

January 2024

Eastern Chad is home to **more than 930,000 Sudanese refugees**, **546,770** of whom arrived after the **start of conflicts** in Sudan on **15 April 2023**. More than **250,000 new arrivals** are expected in 2024.

**Natural resources are scarce, essential services are lacking and subsistence activities are limited.** The situation is exacerbated by the continuing influx of new refugees.

In 2024, the priority is to **save lives, protect livelihoods** and **strengthen the resilience** of **1.2 million Sudanese refugees**, protracted displacements and new arrivals.

## KEY INDICATORS

**546,770**

New Sudanese refugees in Chad on 31 January 2024

**88%**

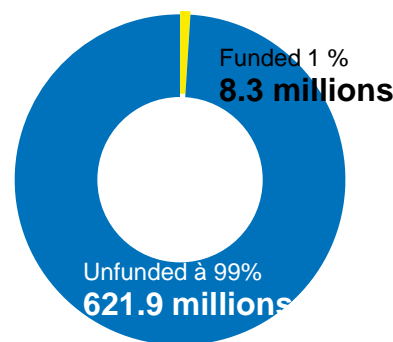
Of women and children

**13%**

People with specific needs

## ESTIMATED BUDGET FOR RRRP 2024 IN CHAD (AS OF 31 JANUARY 2024)

**USD 630.2 million**



Of which \$214.8 million for UNHCR in 2024. As of January 31, 2024, UNHCR has received 8.3 million for the refugee response. The 388 million 2023 RRRP for Chad has been 41% funded, with 160.8 million received.



*Bounaina, a 26-year-old mother of two, fled the conflict in Sudan and found refuge and safety in the Alacha site, thanks to the support of UNHCR and its partners. UNHCR/Ying Hu*

## Operational context

- Since April 2023, eastern Chad has welcomed more Sudanese refugees than in the last two decades. As of 31 January, 546,770 new Sudanese refugees had been counted, in addition to the more than 400,000 already present in the east following the conflicts in Sudan in 2003.
- The influx continues, with over 10,400 new arrivals in Kalma, Sila province, at the beginning of January. It is estimated that over 160,000 refugees are still waiting in spontaneous sites along the border. Most relocation sites are/are reaching maximum capacity, and discussions are underway to identify new sites.
- The situation exacerbates the vulnerabilities of Sudanese refugees already present as well as host communities, and fuels tensions between communities.
- The biggest challenge remains the provision of drinking water in all new sites and extensions to existing sites. More than 12,000 additional latrines are needed in Ouaddai province alone.

## Main achievements



### PROTECTION

- The Commission Nationale d'Accueil de Réinsertion des Réfugiés et des Rapatriés (CNARR), UNHCR, WFP, IOM, UNICEF, and partners conducted a joint rapid needs assessment mission in Kalma and Saraf-Bourgou, Sila province, from 23 to 25 January 2024. 10,400 new arrivals were identified, and UNHCR and partners are organizing emergency assistance at the border in health through mobile clinics, and in drinking water. Registration of new arrivals has begun with a view to their rapid relocation to the Kerfi site, and the WFP will be carrying out an initial food distribution.



### REGISTRATION

- In January 2024, UNHCR and its government partner CNARR continued the biometric registration of new arrivals. Since the start of the emergency, **345,493 people (94,373 households)** have been registered in the east of the country, enabling them to receive identity cards and/or attestation documents and facilitating their access to essential protection and assistance services.



### RELOCATION

- Efforts to relocate refugees to safety continue. As of 28 January 2024, UNHCR and its partner African Initiative for Relief and Development (AIRD) have relocated **240,888 people (65,594 households)** from spontaneous sites along the borders to organized sites. This represents **47%** of the people counted.



### CHILD PROTECTION

- In January, UNHCR's partner, the Chadian Red Cross (CRT), offered awareness-raising sessions to over **660 people** on the main rights of the child and their preservation at several developed sites.
- Plan International finalized a "**Child-Friendly Space**" in the Ourang site, providing children with a safe environment, with recreational and educational activities.



### **GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV)/PREVENTION OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE (PSEA)**

- In 2024, UNHCR and its partner Association pour la Promotion des Libertés Fondamentales au Tchad (APLFT) will provide **legal assistance to prevent and respond to GBV. Community mobilization will be strengthened** with the establishment/reinvigoration of community structures in the sites, and special attention will be paid to people with special needs (PBS).
- A meeting was organized with **10 GBV committees** to start awareness-raising activities and set up an effective communication strategy with the community with this new partner. **120 refugees** (84 women and 36 men) took part in these meetings.
- **07 incidents** were identified in January, including 2 cases of rape, 1 case of sexual assault, 2 cases of physical assault and 2 cases of psychological violence.



### **COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION**

- From 12 to 13 January, UNHCR organized a **camp management workshop** for CNNAR officials, to strengthen their skills in the administration, management and protection of refugee sites in eastern Chad, and thus provide safe and effective services to refugees.
- Following this, UNHCR organized **training activities on meeting facilitation techniques** at various sites in Ouaddaï province. 6 camp managers and over 500 refugee leaders from various community and sectoral governance structures (women's committees, youth committees, self-defense groups, people living with disabilities, etc.) took part.



### **EDUCATION**

- **6 classrooms, an office space and a principal's office** in the Touloum and Iridimi refugee sites have been handed over by the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) and UNHCR to the school authorities. These premises will enable access to education for pupils from the refugee and host communities.
- In Metché, the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) has built **21 temporary classrooms** and begun the process of training **51 refugee teachers** in the Chadian curriculum in partnership with the Ministry of Education. NRC has also completed the construction of **3 temporary learning spaces** in Metché.



### **FOOD SECURITY**

- In January 2024, the World Food Program (WFP) provided food distribution and cash transfers to **342,748 people** in eastern Chad. Of these, 251,387 are new refugees, 16,809 are refugees who have been settled for several years, 39,645 are returnees and 34,907 are from the host population.



### HEALTH AND NUTRITION

- In eastern Chad, UNHCR and partners support the Ministry of Health in providing Sudanese refugees and surrounding host populations with access to health and nutrition services through a network of **18 health centers, 12 health posts and 5 mobile clinics**.
- In January 2024, UNHCR health partners carried out **102,369 medical consultations**. **2,367 births** assisted by qualified health personnel were recorded.
- In addition, **9,958 children** and **411 pregnant and breastfeeding** women suffering from acute malnutrition were screened and treated.
- **5,663 mental health cases** were received for consultation and follow-up. From January 23 to 25, International Rescue Committee (IRC) organized training for 25 health staff and members of Hadjer Hadid's Mental Health and Psychosocial Support WG (MHPSS) on fundamental concepts and clinical practices in mental health.
- MSF Spain opened an **emergency department and maternity ward** in the Metché hospital, enabling refugees and host communities in the area to benefit from nearby healthcare.



### LIVELIHOODS AND ECONOMIC INCLUSION

- In 2024, UNHCR and its partners will **actively involve refugees, old and new, and host communities** in all sectors and stages of the response, **empowering them to build their resilience, capacities, skills and resources** to deliver protection and assistance and to develop and protect their livelihoods.



### SHELTERS AND CORE RELIEF ITEMS (CRI)

- Since the start of the emergency, UNHCR and its partners, including Association pour le Développement de l'Informatique Libre (ADIL), Première Urgence Internationale (PUI) and Croix Rouge Tchadienne (CRT), have built **55,262 shelters, as well as 2,633 Refugee Housing Units (RHUs) and 727 Turkish tents**.
- **More than 40,000 shelters are still needed** to rehouse families living in Adré and other spontaneous sites on the border.



### WATER, HYGIENE AND SANITATION (WASH)

- Since the start of the emergency, more than **10,400 latrines** have been built, and in January OXFAM distributed **600 WASH kits** for latrine maintenance in Alacha.
- One of the biggest challenges remains the **provision of drinking water** in all new facilities and extensions, as well as **emptying full latrines** and **finding alternatives to water-trucking**.



### LOGISTICS, SUPPLY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

- To provide rapid assistance to new arrivals, **logistics capabilities will be strengthened** in 2024. Fuel shortages and vehicle rental costs remain major challenges, however.
- Efforts continue to improve very high frequency (VHF) communications in all UNHCR operational areas, including the extension of connectivity for biometric registration in the Zabout site.



### ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY

- In 2024, UNHCR and its partners will contribute to the **mitigation and adaptation of environmental and energy challenges** in all refugee settlement areas, through, for example, the rehabilitation of degraded ecosystems around refugee settlements.
- Partners will also work to **promote alternative energy sources** and **raise community awareness** of environmental protection.

## Partnership & Coordination

UNHCR and its partners are working together to support national and local authorities as they continue to welcome refugees and respond to the needs of all those who have fled in search of safety, as well as welcoming communities affected by the crisis in Sudan. While the Humanitarian Coordinator (HC) leads the overall humanitarian response in Chad, the UNHCR Representative leads the refugee response. At a technical and operational level, the distribution of coordination responsibilities has been agreed as follows:

- Refugee response (UNHCR)
- Response to returnees (IOM)
- Host communities and other affected populations (OCHA)

At national level, UNHCR leads coordination with the Ministry of Territorial Administration. UNHCR also leads sector coordination for protection, shelter/AME, water, sanitation and health with co-leads such as Plan International, NRC, UNICEF, WHO, WFP and ACTED. CNARR serves as the government interface between humanitarian partners, local authorities and decentralized state services at provincial level.

## Funding update

The 2024 regional refugee response plan covering Sudan and the 5 host countries was published earlier this year. To meet Chad's needs, a total of \$630.2 million, including \$214.8 million for UNHCR, is required to provide vital assistance to new refugees as well as to support the resilience of refugees already present since 2003 and the host community. As of 31 January 2024, UNHCR had received \$8.3 million for the refugee response.

**Special thanks to our major donors in 2024:** [Central Emergency Response Fund](#) | [Denmark](#) | [Education Cannot Wait](#) | [European Union](#) | [Gabon](#) | [Germany](#) | [Government of Ireland](#) | [Italy](#) | [United Kingdom](#) | [Spain](#) | [Sweden](#) | [Switzerland](#) | [United Nations Peacekeeping Fund](#) | [Kingdom of Saudi Arabia](#) | [Various private donors](#)

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## Situation map

## Refugees' presence per host villages

