

HIGHLIGHTS

- The World Humanitarian Day 2016 was celebrated three months after the World Humanitarian Summit held 23 and 24 May in Istanbul (Turkey).
- The Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) has allocated US\$10 million in favour of those affected by the forgotten crisis in southern Chad.
- The protection situation is increasingly worrisome in the Lac with incidents that threaten displaced people and host populations.

FIGURES

Population	13.2 m
Literacy rate	37.3
GDP/capita	US\$2,021
Life expectancy	50.7 yrs
Under 5 mortality rate	150/1,000
Maternal mortality rate	1,100/100,000
Access to potable water	48.2%
Returnees	93,000
Refugees	388,339
IDPs* (registered as of 01/09/2016)	109,605 (85,284)

FUNDING

567 million
requested (US\$)

24% funded



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A colourful 19th of August in Chad

Renewed solidarity for those affected by crisis

This year's World Humanitarian Day (WHD) was special. It was celebrated about three months after the first World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul, Turkey, and was an historic turning point that gave new guidelines for aid delivery worldwide. Participants to the summit adopted the Agenda for Humanity, which brings together five key guidelines (see OCHA Humanitarian bulletin May-June 2016), including the strengthening of global leadership to prevent and end conflict, upholding norms that safeguard humanity and switching from aid delivery to ending needs.

The 2016 theme "One humanity" has enhanced awareness on the results of the World Humanitarian Summit. Thus humanitarian actors in Chad celebrated the WHD alongside local communities, people affected by crises and the authorities.

Humanitarian actors, donors and the Government have amplified the voice of vulnerable people by calling for more engagement in addressing their urgent needs and favouring their empowerment. "It is painful to see that one in seven children dies before reaching five years or a woman in a hundred dies in childbirth due to lack of access to healthcare. During a recent visit to Lac, I was struck by the total lack of access to healthcare and medicine in some villages. It is the same for all basic social services: to Abougoudam, near Abéché, where I visited in early July, the children crowded around a well, the only water source in a twenty kilometre perimeter. Access to water is a major challenge in the country", the Humanitarian Coordinator, Stephen Tull deplored in his speech.



The round-table on «the future of aid in Chad» (Photo UN/Borra)

Humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence - The World Day of Humanitarian Aid has not only served to raise awareness about the results of the Istanbul Summit, but also to remind the humanitarian principles.

Beside official speeches at the National Museum, a round-table on the future of humanitarian action in Chad gathered humanitarian partners, authorities and populations affected by crises, in order to discuss the implications of the World Summit humanitarian for Chad, as well as the necessary transformations of humanitarian work, which must in particular address the urgent needs while ensuring the empowerment of vulnerable populations. "If, in addition to facilitating our access to basic services, we can be granted support for agriculture, livestock, fisheries and small businesses, we would not need humanitarian assistance anymore", Cheikh Saleh, IDPs representative from Lac region said (he was invited to share the conclusion of a mini-summit organized in Baga-Sola by OCHA in May 2016 between IDPs, refugees and host communities). A strong advocacy was made in order to strengthen the capacity and role of local non-governmental organizations. Increased assistance via cash transfer and the promotion of social safety net programs were also discussed.

The WHD has not only served to raising awareness of the results of the Istanbul Summit, but also to remember the basics of humanitarian aid: humanitarian principles. Thus, young Chadians from Gaoui, returnees from the Central African Republic joined their comrades from Maison de Quartier de Chagoua (a cultural centre in N'djamena) to paint a fresco depicting the humanitarian principles. This fresco, signed by participants on 19th August symbolizes the re-engagement of all for a more humane and humanitarian action



The Government and humanitarian actors commit themselves for a more humane world (Photo : UN / A. Borra)

based on the principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence. Recognizing the media as agents of change, OCHA organized on 16 and 17 August, an exchange workshop with journalists on the theme "Journalism and Humanitarian Action", in collaboration with UN agencies.

With the aim of strengthening collaboration between the United Nations and the media, these exchanges have allowed journalists to improve their knowledge, especially on humanitarian action, humanitarian principles and techniques of writing articles on humanitarian issues.

Moreover, an exhibition installed on the side-lines of the celebration ceremony at the Museum gathered photographs of several partners on humanitarian action and populations affected by crises in Chad, including portraits of participants to Baga-Sola Humanitarian mini-summit.

Humanitarian workers and communities mobilized in the fields

Outside N'Djamena, actors in the fields were also mobilized to promote the humanitarian spirit. Thus in Goré, in the south of the country, they made an 8-km sensitization caravan to remind everyone (humanitarian, authorities and populations) that action is needed to alleviate the suffering of others. They then went to weed and clean a hospital yard and visit the sick. To reinforce their links with communities, humanitarian also played two football matches (men and women) against the local youth teams. In Mao (Kanem region), over 150 humanitarian workers were mobilized to clean the local market with material support from the Town Hall. The aim was to strengthening and raising awareness of good hygiene and sanitation practices. A visit to the local maternity and

therapeutic nutrition unit (TNU) allowed the group to distribute donated water-sanitation-hygiene kits (bucket, soap, detergent, mosquito net) to patients.

8th celebration of 19 August

In 2008 the UN General Assembly indicated that the 19th August each year will be World Humanitarian Day. This day honors the victims of the 19th August 2003 attack which killed 22 people including Sergio Vieira de Mello, the UN Secretary General's Special Representative in Iraq.

In Baga-Sola, an awareness session on humanitarian principles and a photo exhibition were presented to the audience of humanitarian actors, local authorities, representatives of vulnerable persons (IDPs, refugees, returnees, host communities) and African Union's Joint Multinational Military Task Force (JMMTF) involved in the Lake Chad area.

A photo gallery gives an overall idea of the celebration of the WHD across the country.

CERF to support over 200,000 people in southern Chad

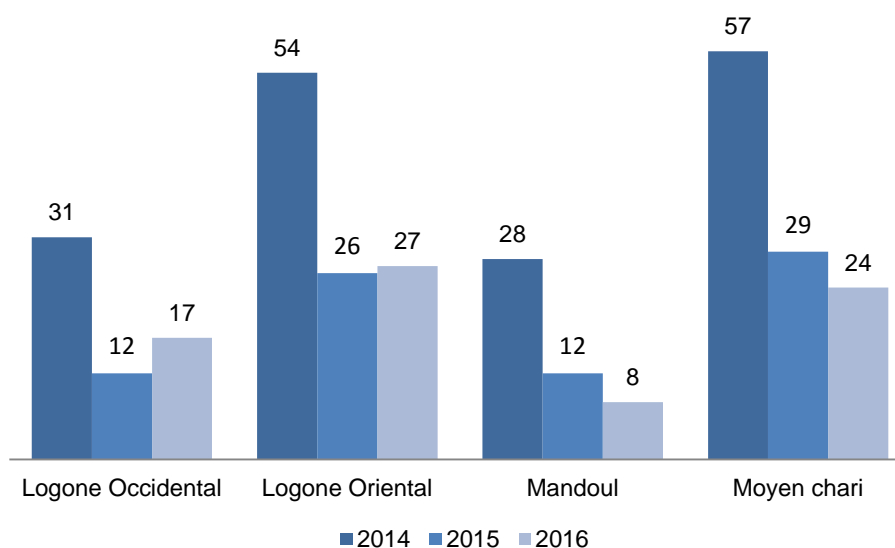
Some 83,000 Chadians returned and 73,000 CAR refugees arrived since late 2013, and the communities that hosted them, face a serious situation in southern Chad.

A US\$ 10 million allocation for populations affected by the 'forgotten crisis' in southern Chad

On the 16 August 2016, the Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mr. Stephen O'Brien, announced the allocation of US \$ 50 million from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to assist two million vulnerable people in six countries affected by forgotten and underfunded crises (Eritrea, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Chad and Yemen).

Of these funds, ten million dollars has been allocated to Chad, as it is one of the countries whose Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) is the least funded - about 24% in 2016. Following a prioritization exercise and identification of the most urgent needs, the humanitarian community has decided to direct these funds to the populations affected by the Central African crisis in southern Chad. In this zone 83,000 Chadian returnees and around 69,000 Central African refugees arrived since late 2013, and the communities that hosted them, are facing a serious situation. Despite efforts by the humanitarian community in supporting the Government for two years, the living conditions of these populations remains difficult and could deteriorate further because of a lack of resources leading to the gradual withdrawal of partners.

Partners' number between June 2014 and June 2016

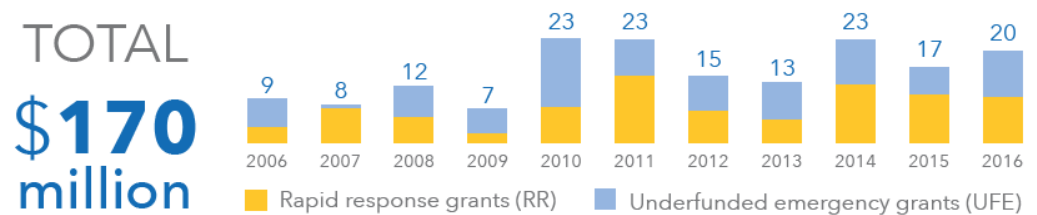


Source : OCHA

In this context, CERF funding will support humanitarian action and meet the needs of 210,000 returned Chadian and Central African refugees and host communities. This support will be through an emergency assistance in food security and nutrition, and strengthening access to basic essential services (health, education, water, shelter).

CERF is already one of Chad's main donors. The two components of the CERF (rapid response and underfunded crises) have provided a total of about 170 million US dollars since 2006. As shown in the chart below, Chad has received CERF each year to support the response to humanitarian emergencies, confirming its status as priority country facing multiple crises. The last CERF funding dates back to late June 2016: \$10 million had been allocated to support the response to the crisis in the Lac region and food and nutrition insecurity in the Sahel.

CERF funding to Chad by year (in US\$ million)



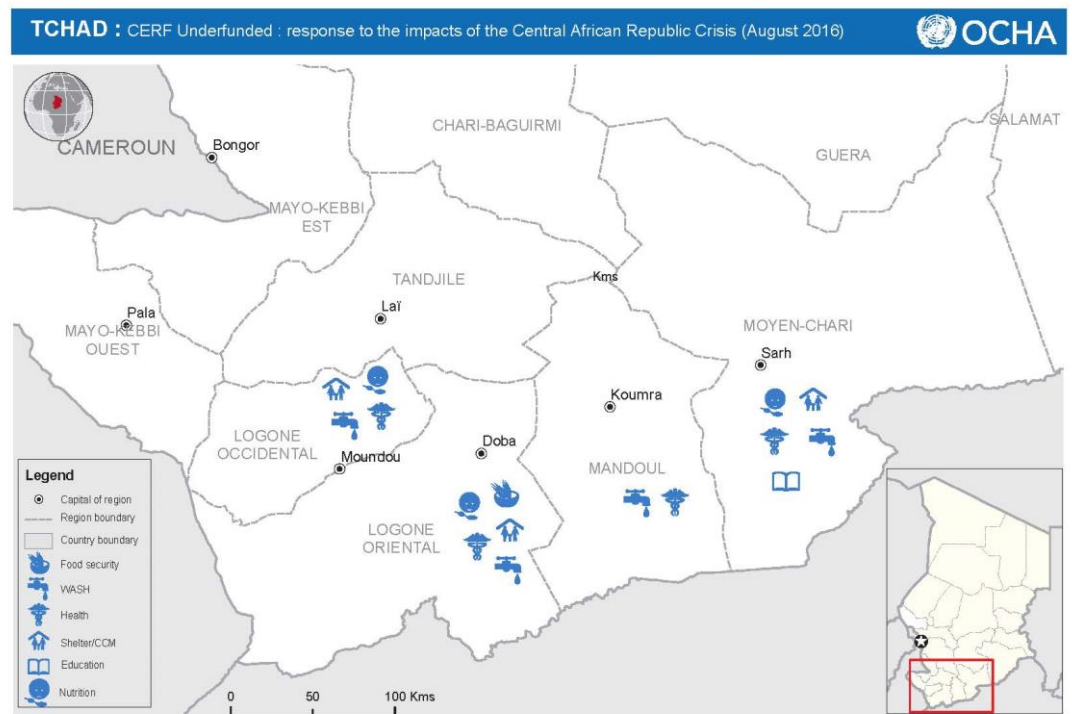
Source: CERF, OCHA

Seven projects funded by the CERF will improve the living conditions of the most vulnerable populations, including host communities, in the regions of Moyen-Chari, Mandoul, Logone Oriental and Logone Occidental, in southern Chad.

Projects to improve the food and nutrition situation and increase access to basic social services and humanitarian access

In total, seven projects funded by the CERF will improve the living conditions of the most vulnerable populations, including host communities, in the regions of Moyen-Chari, Mandoul, Logone Oriental and Logone Occidental, in southern Chad.

Geographic Distribution of CERF funds allocated for the crisis in four regions in southern Chad



Source : OCHA, CERF

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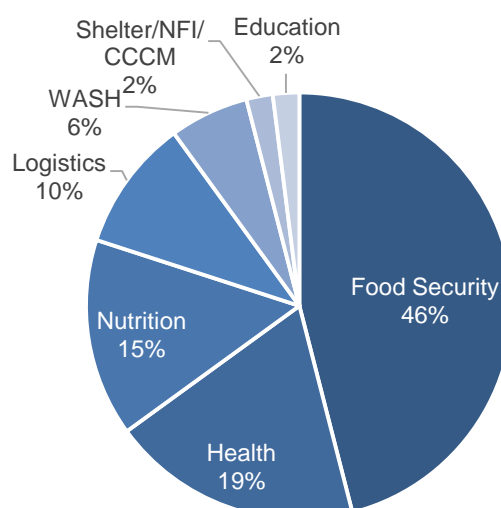
The **food security** situation is deteriorating due to the lack of resources. Since the beginning of 2016, the World Food Programme (WFP)'s monthly distributions were organised only twice for the returnees, and the organisation had to suspend its assistance in July 2016 due to a lack of funding. With CERF funds, food assistance through cash transfers, combined with support for off-season crops, strengthen the food security and livelihoods of 120,000 vulnerable people.

The **nutritional situation** is also alarming, with moderate acute malnutrition rates over 15% among children and severe acute malnutrition of over 5% in some sites and host villages. The project funded by the CERF aims to strengthen the treatment and prevention of malnutrition through awareness campaigns, screenings, and the provision of nutritional products.

Due to the lack of resources, most **health** partners have ended their activities at returnee sites. The CERF funding will provide health care to 210,000 vulnerable people, through the supply of health centres and hospitals with medicines and equipment, and working to strengthen state structures.

Access to **drinking water**, as well as **hygiene** and basic **sanitation** services will also be strengthened, in order to remedy the current situation for some 30,000 people where the minimum humanitarian standards of 15 litres of water per person per day, one latrine and

Sectoral distribution of CERF funds in July 2016 for the crisis in southern Chad



Source : OCHA

shower per 20 people, are not achieved.

Chadian returnees in southern Chad are also facing deteriorating housing conditions. Most of the temporary **shelters** were built nearly two years ago and have now been damaged or destroyed by weather. The last partial distribution of tarpaulins did not cover all the needs and happened over six months ago, which is longer than the life-expectancy of the tarpaulins. The CERF funding will rehabilitate and distribute emergency shelter to nearly 1,500 vulnerable households, limiting their vulnerability to weather and disease.

Finally, out of about 68,000 school children targeted by the 2016 HRP in the south, over 40% have not had access to **education**, due to lack of infrastructure, school supplies and teachers. The CERF funding will support the rehabilitation and construction of temporary learning spaces, distribution of school kits, recreational kits and hygiene kits to pupils and the creation of the initial teaching capacity to ensure access to education of over 15,000 returnee and refugee children, and children of host communities.

CERF funds will also be used to support the air service to ensure humanitarian access to those affected nationally.

Recipients agencies include FAO, IOM, WHO, WFP, UNHCR, UNICEF and UNFPA. They will work together with partners to implement various projects over the next nine months.

An emergency response in a medium-long term integrated perspective

The CERF UFE funding is not intended to finance long-term solutions or development projects. However, this allocation could be an opportunity to accelerate the development of joint approaches and resilience of local development, particularly with the implementation of immediate impact activities that are part of an integrated approach and a medium and long-term vision. Indeed, after more than two years, it is necessary to consider issues of vulnerable population empowerment, the integration of returnees and refugees, and addressing the root causes of the challenges these communities face. Strengthening basic services or humanitarian interventions taking into account the host population, meet the emergency needs while putting in place the foundations for a development intervention on which the Government will capitalise.

This articulation and complementarity between humanitarian and development initiatives is strongly expressed by the population affected by the CAR crisis. They express a desire to move towards a sustainable post-crisis situation. This is the message voiced on 19 August during the round table discussions on the future of humanitarian action in Chad, hosted by Moussa Béchir, representative of the Chadian returnees from CAR living at the Gaoui site: "Two solutions will allow us to reintegrate into the workforce in Chad and get out of the assistantship: access to housing, and support for income-generating activities. "

In this perspective, the Global Response Plan for Chadian returnees from CAR, finalised by the Government in 2015 serving as a reference framework and the involvement of development actors and the Government would be essential, in order to continue and consolidate the achievements of humanitarian interventions.

A dozen security incidents were reported between late July and late August mainly in the northern basin of the Lake Chad, in the sub-prefecture of Kaiga Kinjiria, forcing humanitarian partners to temporarily suspend their activities.

Protection: a major challenge in the Lac region

Protection of civilians and humanitarian access deteriorating due to growing insecurity in the region

In recent months, protection incidents in the Lac region have refocused attention on this issue. The incidents include sexual violence, violations of the right to property, the right to



Women and children are among the most vulnerable displaced people. (Photo : OCHA / M. Munan)

life and physical integrity, and violations of the right to freedom of movement. Daboua and Liwa areas are particularly affected. In August, protection monitoring conducted by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) with CERF funding reported 83 protection incidents. The cases were referred to the authorities responsible in order to be followed up.

The security situation remains fragile in Lac region,

with several incidents being reported in the border areas, where military operations are still ongoing.

A dozen security incidents were reported between late July and late August, notably including incidents involving explosive devices, village attacks, theft of livestock, etc.,

especially in the northern basin of the Lake Chad, especially in the sub-prefecture of Kaiga Kinjiria.

These incidents have affected humanitarian access with consequences on vulnerable people in the border area with Niger and Nigeria. Several partners have already suspended operations in this area due to the increase in security incidents. In the area of Kaiga Kinjiria, nearly 8,000 IDPs and 800 refugees are deprived of assistance concerning health, nutrition and food security.

This resurgence of protection incidents, affecting populations that are already vulnerable (women, unaccompanied and separated children, persons with disabilities, and the elderly) could partly be explained by the underreporting of cases in the past, and better information gathering systems now being in place. These are now available due to the strengthening of community protection mechanisms as part of a project funded by the CERF. The security incidents can in turn be explained by the intensification of military operations in the Lake Chad Basin area and the outbreak of armed groups and their change of procedure.

This security deterioration weakens populations already facing many challenges, and has a negative impact on social links (stigmatization of certain communities, distrust) on the ability of aid organisations to meet the basic needs (suspension of assistance due to security restrictions in some areas), as well as a feeling of insecurity (lack of physical protection; psychosocial support; secured, dignified and equitable access to basic services; and other needs related to the protection of human rights).

This security deterioration weakens populations already facing many challenges, and has a negative impact on social links and the ability of aid organisations to meet their basic needs.

Protection needs to be strengthened

Protection of civilians is a priority for humanitarian actors in Chad. They have finalised a protection strategy via the protection cluster, which aims to reduce the vulnerability of people exposed to protection risks, strengthen community self-protection mechanisms and provide a high quality response from both the international community and from within Chad.

This response is shaped through the creation of local committees to address gender-based violence (GBV), the identification and training of community volunteers – who play a key role in the reporting of protection cases, running awareness sessions in the sites and the psychosocial, medical and legal assistance to



It is essential to ensure protection for these girls and their families (Photo : UNICEF/Tremeau)

victims. For example, recently, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has sensitised the administrative, local and traditional authorities with particular emphasis on the law prohibiting child marriage in Chad. Joint sensitisation sessions (UNHCR, UNFPA) were held in May with 150 refugees representing the various committees. For its part, the Chadian Red Cross recruited, in June, 40 community volunteers whose role is to raise awareness about peaceful cohabitation in the displacement sites in the area of Daboua. These response activities are not exhaustive and many other activities are implemented by national and international humanitarian partners.

Challenges remain in strengthening the protection of individuals in Lac region, partly because of access difficulties. For example, obtaining official identity documents (birth

certificates) is problematic for both internal displaced people and refugees. This is due to lack of information for these people and access to civil registration services.

In general, it is important to strengthen and extend the analysis and monitoring of the situation regarding the protection to the entire region, reducing the vulnerability of the population to insecurity and protection threats, and promote the inclusion of cross-protection principles in humanitarian response so that it is done in respect for the rights and dignity of populations in need.

In brief

Nearly 15,000 hectares of crops are affected by a locust invasion in Chad's Sahel

According to farmers in the regions of Kanem, Bahr-el-Gazal, Sila and Ouaddai, locust pest (*oedaleus senegalensis*) infested crops in several departments and attack millet crops among others. Initial assessments by the *Agence nationale de lutte antiacridienne* (ANLA - National Agency for locust control) and the *Office national de développement rural* (ONDR - National Rural Development Office) show that for the moment, 14,916 hectares of fields are affected in Chad's Sahel belt. The regions of Ouaddai and Wadi Fira, are the most affected, with 8,500 hectares (57%) and 5,900 hectares infested (39.5%) across all crops. 387 hectares are affected in Kanem and 129 in Sila. Data from Barh el Ghazal region are not yet available. The locust invasion could have a strong impact on agricultural production and deteriorate further food security in these Sahel regions of Chad where over 462,000 people are severely food insecure (phase 3-5), according to projections of the March 2016 Harmonised framework (Source: Food security cluster, SISAAP, OCHA).

Coping with malaria and prepare for other health emergencies

Malaria is at its peak in the country, with over 35,000 suspected cases per week since early August. Although a growing trend usually observed during the rainy season, the number of cases per week has doubled compared to last year at the same time. In total, over 336,000 cases of malaria have been confirmed since the beginning of the year with over 900 deaths. A cholera risk is added to this malaria emergency, with a raging epidemic in neighbouring CAR that has already caused 46 cases including 13 deaths as of 10 August. Emergency preparedness measures implemented or recommended by health authorities in southern Chad include strengthening epidemiological surveillance, making an inventory of pre-positioned cholera kits and organizing mass awareness sessions to ensure appropriate hygiene practices are followed. Another epidemiological threat - polio - is hovering over Chad, from its border with Nigeria. Cases of the disease have been recorded in Gwoza and Jere in Nigeria's north-eastern State of Borno. A regional immunization campaign begins in early September in the four countries of the Lake Chad Basin. (Source: Epidemiological Surveillance Report / Ministry of Public Health, OCHA)

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