EASTERN CHAD

03 March 2026

SUDANESE SITUATION – FLASH UPDATES #47

Key numbers

1, 527, 000
Refugees and asylum seekers in Chad

917, 100
New Sudanese refugee arrivals from April 2023 –March 2026[2]

13,356
New Sudanese refugees registered since January 2026

Funding

$701.4 M requested for the Sudanese Emergency Interagency Regional Refugee Response Plan - Jan- Dec 2025 - **24%** of funding received

Update on Refugee Movements

Border Closure and Security Volatility

The Government of Chad continues to enforce the border closure announced on 23 February following repeated cross-border incidents linked to the Sudan crisis. Despite the closure, people fleeing violence are still allowed to enter Chad, and UNHCR and partner monitoring teams confirm that refugee arrivals continue.

Humanitarian activities at the Tiné border, which had been temporarily suspended on 25 February due to heightened security risks, resumed on 2 March. Despite the lifting of the suspension, humanitarian actors are required to operate under strict security measures. Teams are advised to avoid overnight stays in Tiné, remain fully informed of the security situation before any mission, and maintain close coordination with local authorities.

Impact on UNHCR and Partners' Activities

UNHCR and partners continue operating through the *Guichet Unique*, which facilitates refugee registration and provides initial medical screening, protection assessments, and basic assistance. After processing, refugees are transferred to the transit center approximately 4 km inland before relocation to safer inland settlements, when conditions permit.

Although the temporary suspension has been lifted, insecurity persists. As a result, many refugees are using alternative routes to reach the transit center directly, where registration, health screening, support with Core Relief Items (CRIs), and services for persons with specific needs continue.

Operational efficiency remains constrained because staff cannot stay overnight in border areas. Border monitoring and protection surveillance continue to identify new arrivals and detect potential protection risks, while coordination with authorities ensures compliance with international obligations. No refoulement incidents have been recorded.

Protection Monitoring Trend Analysis (20–26 February 2026):

Cross-border movements continued during this period, with 567 households (1,623 individuals) interviewed, 43% of them at the Tiné transit center, reflecting ongoing concerning security conditions along the frontier. Ennedi Est remains the primary entry point despite a slight decrease, whereas Wadi Fira and Sila recorded a significant increase in arrivals. In contrast, arrivals in Ouaddaï declined sharply.

Displacement remains primarily driven by insecurity linked to armed conflict, whose influence continues to grow. Levels of persecution remain stable, and preventive departures have slightly decreased, confirming that most population movements are triggered by direct threats.

Protection risks also increased**;** 73% of households reported at least one human rights violation, mainly due to rising extortion incidents. Physical assaults remain stable, and reports of arbitrary arrest, although still marginal, have begun to appear. Mobility constraints have shifted as well—49% of households reported leaving family members behind in Sudan. While lack of transport has become less significant, voluntary decisions to stay have risen sharply, reflecting strategic family choices amid persistent insecurity and dangerous escape routes.

For more information, Kindly contact : Principal Situation Coordinator – Isaac Tiantse Tagamgno, tiantse@unhcr.org,
Reporting Officer – Danielle Dieguen, dieguend@unhcr.org

Population Movements in Border Areas (25 February–03 March)

Asylum arrivals into Chad continued despite the border closure but have declined sharply in recent weeks. Between 25 February and 03 March, authorities recorded 792 new arrivals (360 households), a significant drop from 1,036 the previous week (31% decrease) and 1,202 two weeks earlier (52% decrease). Daily arrivals show the same downward trend: 151 individuals were registered on 03 March, compared to 211 on 23 February and 299 on 02 February. Most refugees entered through Oure Cassoni (61%), Tiné (24%), and Adré/Adikong (15%), with the majority originating from North Darfur and belonging primarily to the Berti, Tundjur, and Zaghawa communities.

Relocation from Border Areas

Relocating refugees from border zones to safer inland settlements remains a top priority for UNHCR and the Government of Chad. Although a structured relocation plan is in place, severe resource constraints continue to slow convoy movements and limit site development, leaving refugees exposed in fragile border environments. More than 234,000 people remain along the eastern frontier, many living in the open or in makeshift shelters and facing heightened risks linked to disease, insecurity, and harsh weather.

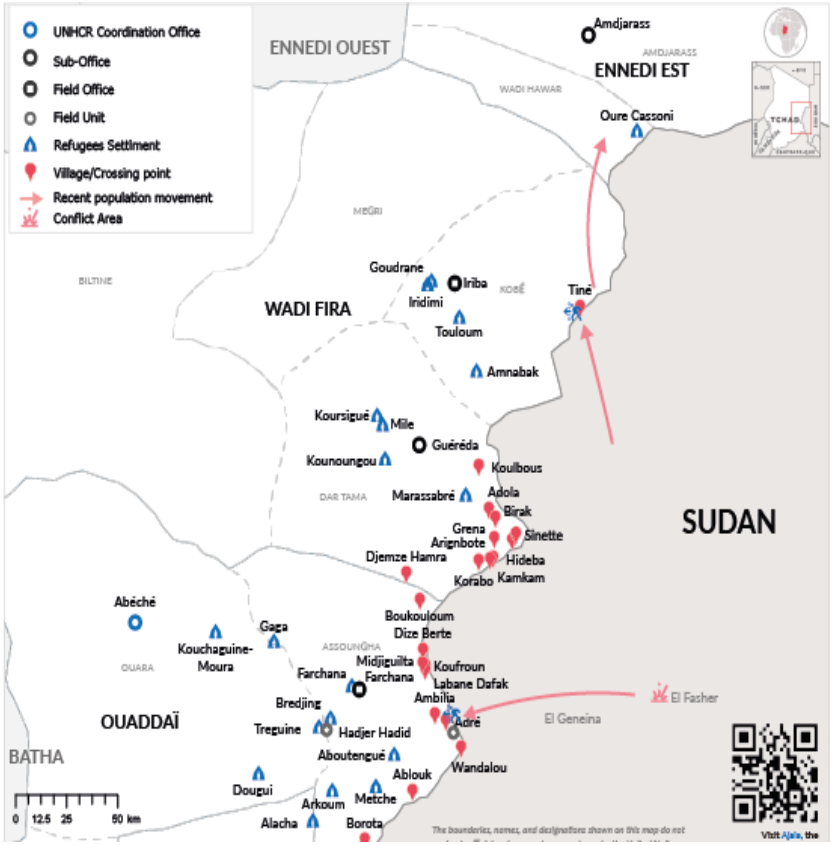
In February, nearly 7,500 refugees were relocated to settlements. This included 4,232 people moved from the Tiné transit centre to the Touloum and Oure Cassoni settlements, and over 300 individuals relocated from the Adré spontaneous site to Dougui and Kouchaguine Moura settlements in Ouaddaï. However, 996 people remain at the Tiné transit centre awaiting relocation, and shelter construction in Touloum is ongoing to accommodate them.

Since April 2023, UNHCR, partners, and Chadian authorities have relocated more than 613,650 refugees from border areas to safer settlements where they have access to shelter, core relief items, and essential services. In Sila, preparations are underway for the registration and relocation of new arrivals to the Kerfi site.

Crisis Response in Food Assistance

As part of the Ramadan humanitarian response, UNHCR and AIRD delivered food assistance to 2,575 vulnerable refugee households across five settlements in eastern Chad, with supplies donated by *Re-Hope for Humanity*. In total, around 55 tons of food and 5,000 liters of oil and juice were distributed. Deliveries included 13 tons of sugar to Oure-Cassoni and 13 tons of rice to Aboutengue, each accompanied by 1,030 liters of oil and juice. The settlements of Touloum, Irridimi, and Bami-Joura received a combined package of 13 tons of lentils, 8 tons of dates, 8 tons of beans, and 3,090 liters of oil and juice. This assistance helped reinforce food security and alleviate pressure on already fragile coping mechanisms during the holy month of Ramadan.

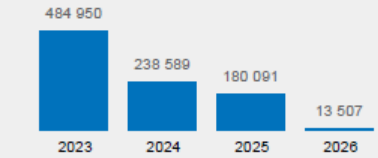
EASTERN CHAD



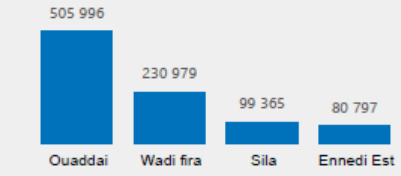
New arrival since april 2023

# Households	# Individuals
264 415	917 137

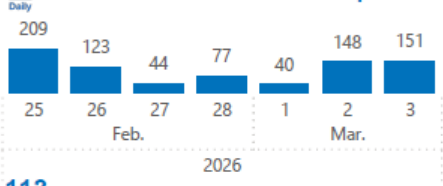
New arrivals by year



New arrivals by province

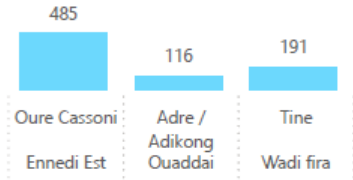


Trends in new arrivals over the past 7 days

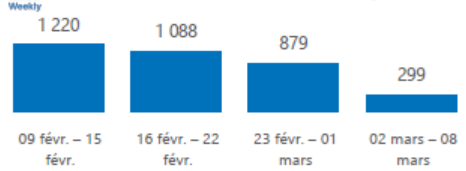


113 *Individuals / day*

7-day daily average of arrivals

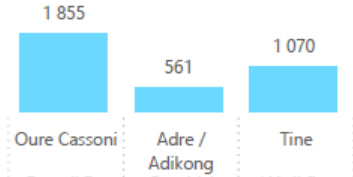


Trends in new arrivals over the past 4 weeks

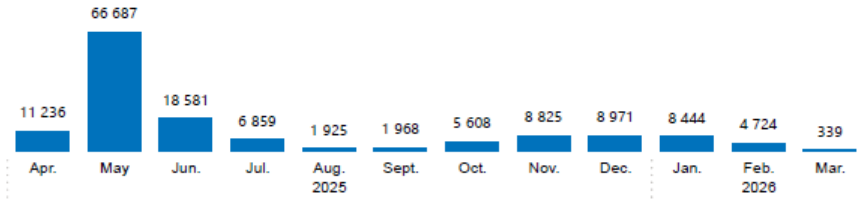


1 109 *Individuals / week*

4-week weekly average of arrivals



Monthly trend of arrivals over the last 12 months



Feedback: chdnddata@unhcr.org

A special thank you to our main donors in 2025: Australia | Belgium | Canada | Denmark | European Union | France | Germany | Greece | Ireland | Islamic Development Bank | Italy | Japan | Luxembourg | Netherlands (Kingdom of) | Norway | Korea (Republic of) | Kuwait | Spain | Sweden | | Switzerland | United Arab Emirates | United Kingdom | United States of America | African Union | CERF | Islamic Development Bank | UNDP | UNICEF | WFP | UNAIDS | Peacebuilding Fund | Education Cannot Wait.

Private donors and National Association Partners: Australia, Australia for UNHCR, Adyen, Ashraful, Canada, China, Denmark, España con ACNUR, FIFA, Grundfos Foundation, Islamic Relief USA, Korea (Republic of), Italy, Japan for UNHCR, Latter-day Saints Charities, Maidam – House Dermatology, Mastercard Foundation, Netherlands, Shellaram Foundation, Sweden for UNHCR, Switzerland for UNHCR, UK for UNHCR, UNIQLO, United Arab Emirates, UNO-Flüchtlingshilfe, USA for UNHCR, and other private donors.

For more information, Kindly contact : Principal Situation Coordinator – Isaac Tiantse Tagamgno, tiantse@unhcr.org,
Reporting Officer – Danielle Dieguen, dieguend@unhcr.org