

Extensive flooding in Chad places lives at risk

Country: Chad

Emergency type: Climate disaster

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Key Figures



2,114,800Total people affected



528,590Women of reproductive age



84,575Estimated pregnant women



504,270People targeted with SRH services



216,380People targeted with GBV programmes

Highlights

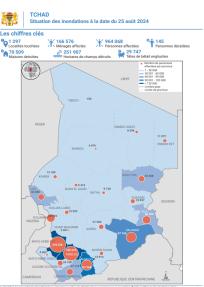
Extensive flooding has had devastating impacts in Chad, with more than 1,495,969 people affected in 23 provinces – the majority are women and children. Eight provinces – Mayo Kebbi Est, Tandjilé, Salamat, Mandoul, Sila, N'Djamena, Lac, and Waddi Fira – are the hardest hit, with 770,000 people affected. Nationwide, 1,297 localities have been flooded, resulting in 145 fatalities and 166,576 damaged homes. Further heavy rains are forecast, which could exacerbate the situation.



Regional insecurity is driving both internal and external forced migration/ forced population movements. Chad now has the seventh highest number of refugees in the world and the largest refugee population in the Sahel, hosting 1.2 million refugees (UNHCR). The refugee population primarily consists of Sudanese in the East, Central Africans in the South, and Nigerians in the Lac province. Approximately 220,610 internally displaced persons (IDPs) (IOM) reside around Lake Chad and over 213,000 Chadian returnees have arrived in Chad due to the Sudanese Crisis (IOM). The majority of refugees, IDPs and returnees are women and children living in precarious conditions near borders with limited access to essential services including sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and gender-based violence (GBV) services.

Situation Overview

- The recurrent floods, which often affect the same communities every year, have severely damaged livelihoods and access to essential services. The floods have forced people to rely on humanitarian aid to survive and have exposed women and girls to high protection risks.
- Thousands of homes have been destroyed and many families are sheltering in schools and other temporary sites. As the school year begins, shelters will soon be forced to close yet the need for shelter and essential services, including SRH services, remains high. Girls risk being deprived of an education and are exposed to increased risks of GBV as they are responsible for helping their mothers collect food, water and firewood.
- 30,000 livestock have been lost and over 250,000 hectares of agricultural land flooded which is negatively impacting food security, livelihoods and resulting in low purchasing power.
- The persistent conflict in Sudan has resulted in regular influxes of refugees and returnees to Chad. Chad hosts more than 1 million Sudanese refugees, 89 percent of whom are women and children (<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).



UNFPA Response

UNFPA's focus is to strengthen and ensure the continuation of SRH and GBV services for women and girls in need. This includes training and deploying midwives and GBV psychosocial support workers to ensure safe childbirth and care for survivors of violence. Life-saving reproductive health supplies, including for emergency obstetric care, have been procured and distributed to health facilities. Essential hygiene items are also being provided to women and girls.

- 85 Inter-Agency Reproductive Health (IARH) kits were distributed to 73 service delivery points (mobile clinic facilities) in the Eastern, Southern, and Lake provinces, including supplies to ensure:
 - o Clean deliveries for 9,000 pregnant women without access to health facilities
 - Clinical management of rape services for 450 GBV survivors
 - Safe deliveries at health facilities for 10,000 women



- Quality of care during childbirth for women in remote areas.
- 248 UNFPA-deployed humanitarian midwives provided SRH services to 32,219 people (95% women) in the Eastern, Southern, and Lake Provinces:
 - 12,729 women attended at least 2 antenatal consultations at UNFPA-supported health facilities
 - o 3,867 deliveries were assisted, and 4,113 women attended postnatal consultations
 - o 4761 women received family planning services, including 3,696 new users
 - o 444 obstetrics complications were recorded 282 were managed, 150 referred, and 12 died
 - 592 people were diagnosed with and treated for sexually transmitted infections (STIs).
- On August 13-14, 2024, UNFPA, in partnership with the Ministry of Health, conducted a Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) Readiness Assessment (MRA) workshop in Ndjamena with 29 stakeholders and partners. The aim was to assess the readiness of the country to provide SRH services in emergencies and prioritize the actions needed to strengthen SRH service delivery.
- Thirty participants (25 humanitarian midwives and 5 doctors in charge of health districts) attended <u>five days of training</u> on the Minimum Initial Service Package for SRH in emergencies in Lake Province.
- 25 health facilities in humanitarian and emergency settings in Lake and East provinces were assessed for readiness to deploy the MISP for SRH at the initial stage of the response.
- 2,100 dignity kits were distributed to women and girls from host and refugee communities in the East region (Adre, Tongori, Farchana) and Lake province (Bagasola).
- 5,119 individuals (4,106 women and 1,013 men) were sensitized on available GBV services through 8 safe spaces in the Eastern region. 1,571 adolescent girls were reached through GBV sensitization sessions 5% who identified as a GBV survivor received a dignity kit and psychosocial care. GBV cases were classified as physical assault (25%), sexual assault (15%), denial of resources (30%), forced/early marriage (15%), rape (7%), and psychological and emotional abuse (28%).

Results Snapshots



32,219

People reached with **SRH services** 95% Female 5% Male



73

Health facilities supported



8,344

People reached with **GBV prevention**, mitigation, and response activities 98% Female 2% Male



Safe Spaces for women and girls supported

NFI	2,100	Dignity kits and newborn baby boxes distributed to individuals
•	85	Reproductive health kits provided to service delivery points to meet the needs of 32,219 people



Coordination Mechanisms

Gender-Based Violence:

- UNFPA provided technical support at three meetings of the GBV sub-working group in Farchana including on data collection for GBV prevention and response cases; mapping of available GBV services; validation of GBV Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs); harmonizing GBV reporting and referral forms; and the development of action plans.
- Five NGOs, including <u>JRS</u> (Jesuit Refugee Service), <u>IRC</u> (International Rescue Committee), <u>APLFT</u> (L'Association pour la Promotion des Libertés Fondamentales au Tchad), <u>CRT</u> (Croix-Rouge du Tchad), and <u>ADRAH</u> (Association pour le Développement et le Renforcement des Actions Humanitaires) have received technical support from UNFPA on conducting GBV case management.
- At the weekly emergency coordination meeting, which takes place in Adré or Farchana, UNFPA and UNHCR reported on achievements, challenges, and gaps related to the GBV response in refugee and returnee camps and host communities. A highlighted challenge was the low presence of GBV actors in the new Dougui camp and the need to conduct security audits.

Sexual and Reproductive Health:

- 30 members (16 midwives) of the SRH Working Group in Adré attended three days of clinical management of rape training from 26 to 28 August. Initiated by Care International's funded NGO Nirvana, the training benefitted from UNFPA's technical support, particularly in facilitating sessions.
- At the national level, members of the SRH Working Group attended an information session and the two-day MRA workshop from 13 to 14 August.

Funding Status

UNFPA is appealing for USD 21,122,570 to provide reproductive health and protection services to women and girls in need in Chad in 2024. As of June 2024, only USD 6.6 million (32%) has been received, leaving a funding gap of USD 14.4 million (68%).

