

# WFP Chad Country Brief April 2019

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES

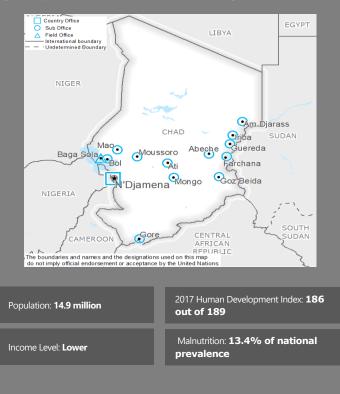


## **Operational Context**

Chad is an arid, low-income and land-locked country, suffering from chronic food insecurity, denoting alarming levels of hunger. In 2018, 66.2 percent were estimated to be severely poor and 38.4 percent had less than USD 1.90 a day. Chad ranks in the bottom ten of the Global Hunger Index (118 of 119), the Fragile State Index (171 of 178) and the Gender Inequality Index (186 of 189). The country is also among the world's most vulnerable to climate change and suffers from rapid desertification and environmental degradation.

The combined effect of the 2014 drop in oil price and the weak security environment left the country in deep recession. This is reflected in cuts in public expenditure, low foreign direct investment, and a loss of income caused by the disruption of cross-border trade with Nigeria in livestock. However, in 2018, real GDP grew by an estimated 2.8 percent, after contracting 3.8 percent in 2017.

Chad hosts over six hundred thousand displaced persons in need of assistance: refugees from Sudan, C.A.R. and Nigeria, Chadian returnees from C.A.R. and people displaced by insecurity in the Lake region. To support affected populations, including host communities, WFP Chad gradually seeks to transition to resilience building interventions.



# In Numbers

4,046 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 1.6 m cash-based transfers made

**US\$ 61.1 m** six months (June-October 2019) net funding requirements, representing 4.5% of total

820,924 people assisted in April 2019



# **Operational Updates**

- Following an agreement with refugee leaders, WFP resumed general food distributions to all inhabitants of the six Sudanese refugee camps in north-eastern Chad were assistance was put on hold in October 2018. WFP will provide food baskets to all refugees in these sites, despite their vulnerability category – from April until the end of the lean season (August/September) corresponding to the period when the food and nutrition gap is the largest. In the meantime, refugee leaders will promote open and inclusive dialogue, with the aim of reaching a consensus among refugees on the application of vulnerability-based targeting. Refugee-owned discussions (bottom-up approach) represent a shift from direct negotiations between refugees and humanitarian actors, which have not bear fruit. In all other refugee camps in Chad, general food assistance is already adapted to the vulnerability of households.
- In Chad, WFP needs to preposition all the food in the East of the country ahead of the rainy season (June-September), which also coincides with the lean months. During this period, flash flooding of roadways becomes a major access challenge. The <u>arrival of 12,000 mt of</u> <u>sorghum</u> from the United States at the Douala Port (Cameroon) in the week of 15 April, marked the launch of the prepositioning operation. The cargo was re-bagged and transported to Chad, where it will mainly support the needs of Sudanese refugees in the East and IDPs in the province of Lac.
- Preparations for the lean season continue. To make sure that the most vulnerable households across the Sahelian belt are reached, WFP held a <u>workshop</u> on 22-26 April to define the targeting methodology, with a special focus on protection and accountability. All partners within the Food Security Cluster agreed to use the same targeting approach for the 2019 seasonal assistance.
- The inter-agency initiative REACH seeks to improve nutrition governance in Chad. In April, five provincial committees were established in Lac, Kanem, Bahr el Gazel and Mayo Kebi Est with the aim of strengthening nutritional coordination mechanisms at the sub-national level. Furthermore, <u>WFP met the network of parliamentary</u> <u>women</u> on 11 April to explore joint advocacy opportunities for enhanced nutrition.

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## WFP Country Strategy



Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)		
Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
1,329 m	126.8 m	61.1 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Crisis-affected people in targeted areas are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of crises. Focus area: Crisis response

#### Activities:

• Provide an integrated assistance package to crisis-affected people, including food assistance (conditional and/or unconditional), school meals, and specialized nutritious food to children and PLW/Gs and people living with HIV or TB for malnutrition prevention and treatment

Strategic Outcome 2: Food-insecure people in targeted areas have access to adequate and nutritious food all year-round. Focus area: Resilience-building

#### Activities:

- Provide seasonal food assistance to targeted food insecure people.
- · Provide school meals to vulnerable children during the school year, in a way that relies on and stimulates local production

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Vulnerable people in targeted areas have improved nutritional status all year-round. Focus area: Resilience-building

#### Activities:

- Provide a malnutrition prevention package of specialized nutritious food to children aged 6-23 months and PLWG; cash transfers to PLWG attending pre-/post-natal care; and SBCC measures for the latter and their communities.
- Provide a malnutrition treatment package of (i) specialized nutritious food to children aged 6-59 months and PLW/Gs; and (ii) SBC-measures to them and their wider communities
- Provide adapted support to targeted people for local fortified nutritious food production.

#### Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable

Strategic Outcome 4: Food insecure populations and communities in targeted areas have more resilient livelihoods and sustainable food systems all year round. Focus area: Resilience building

#### Activities:

• Provide livelihood and asset support, including the development or rehabilitation of natural and productive assets and infrastructure and local purchases, to food-insecure and at-risk people.

Strategic Result 5: Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs

Strategic Outcome 5: National institutions have strengthened capacities to manage food-security, nutrition, and social protection policies and programmes, including programmes which support social cohesion and stability all year round. Focus area: Resilience building

#### Activities:

• Provide training and technical support to national institutions on the design and implementation of a permanent response-planning scheme for food security and nutrition with consolidated early-warning and coordination mechanisms, as well as a shock-responsive, nutrition-sensitive and gendertransformative safety net (supporting strategic outcomes 1 and 2); training and communication schemes for improved nutrition and resilient agricultural practices (strategic outcomes 3 and 4); and improved food and nutrition coordination mechanisms.

Strategic Result 8: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the **SDGs** 

Strategic Outcome 6: Humanitarian and development partners in Chad have access to common services that enable them to reach and operate in targeted areas all year. Focus area: Resilience building

### Activities:

- Provide supply chain, ICT, information management, and other logistical services to the humanitarian and development community.
- Provide UNHAS flight services to enable partners to reach areas of humanitarian intervention.
- Between 11 and 24 April, 40 young Sudanese refugees in Djabal camp were trained on citizen journalism techniques, under the Storytellers initiative. This project aims at providing recipients of WFP's assistance with the skills they need to become spokespersons for their communities and with a platform to share their stories and engage with a global audience. Conceived as a follow-up activity for 25 Storytellers trained in 2017, these capacity building sessions have also enabled to coach 15 new Storytellers. WFP and its partner Jesuit Relief Services (JRS) work to open a Storytellers café in Djabal, which is one of the first internet access point in refugee camps in Chad.

## Monitoring

The first and second phases of the "Resilience Scale-Up in Chad" initiative concluded in April. WFP reached 43 convergence sites across eight provinces (Bar El Gazal, Batha, Lac, Guera, Kanem, Ouaddai, Sila and Wadi Fira) and served 16,060 individuals, 86 schools and 26 nutrition centres. A post-distribution monitoring exercise was carried out in April, to assess the coverage and impact of the project and inform next steps. More than 800 households were surveyed, among which 67.1 percent were female-headed, reflecting the prominence of women and their massive participation in resilience-building activities. Results of the post-distribution monitoring exercise will be available in May.

## Challenges

Despite efforts, major funding issues remain to deliver cash-based assistance to crisis-affected populations and to carry-out treatment of malnutrition activities. WFP is also advocating for funding to strengthen the livelihoods of refugee households to reduce dependence.

### **Donors**

Food and nutrition assistance: USA, European Commission, United Kingdom, Germany, CERF, France, Japan, Canada, Peacebuilding Fund, Switzerland, Sweden, Republic of Korea.

UNHAS (Humanitarian aviation): USA, European Commission, CERF, United Kingdom, Sweden, Republic of Korea.