Operational Context

Chad is an arid, low-income and land-locked country, suffering from chronic food insecurity and denoting alarming levels of hunger. In 2019, 66.2 percent of the population were estimated to be severely food insecure. Chad ranks within the bottom ten of the Global Hunger Index (118 of 119), the Fragile State Index (171 of 178) and the Gender Inequality Index (187 of 189). The country is also among the world’s most vulnerable to climate change and suffers from rapid desertification and environmental degradation.

Chad is affected by internal and external population movements driven by insecurity in the region. It hosts the largest refugee population in the Sahel: 437,000 people, including Sudanese in the east, Central Africans in the south and Nigerians in the province of Lac. Additionally, there are 169,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) around Lake Chad and 115,000 Chadian returnees in the province of Lac and the south of the country. The presence and critical needs of these populations put additional pressure on Chad’s already limited resources. To support affected populations, including host communities, WFP Chad gradually seeks to transition to resilience building interventions. WFP has been present in Chad since 1969.

In Numbers

- **3,883 mt** of food assistance distributed
- **USD 2.1 m** cash-based transfers made
- **USD 86.2 m** six months (March - August 2020) net funding requirements representing 46% of total.
- **683,717 people assisted** in February 2020

Operational Updates

- On 10 February, UNHAS operated its first regular flight from N’Djamena to Baga Sola. In the province of Lac, 26 humanitarian and development organisations expressed the need for a connection to be established between the capital and Baga, to allow a faster access to implementation sites and reduce the risk of insecurity confronted by these workers using road travel. With support from the European Commission’s Humanitarian Office, as well as the governments of Germany and the United States, WFP was able to build an airstrip in Baga Sola in 2019. UNHAS operates this new air route every Monday and Friday.

- In February, families around Bregué Birgui (province of Batha) started collecting their off-season cereal harvest. In this site, WFP supported the construction of 7,000 metres of dikes and rehabilitated 773 hectares of land, which now produce cereals and vegetables. Participants to these works received cash-based transfers to address their most immediate food needs, while assets will contribute to more sustainable food systems in the long term. Since 2018, around USD 1.1 million have been transferred to more than 4,000 people involved in this large-scale rural resilience project. Cash based transfers have a direct impact on local economy, as markets becomes more dynamic and families are able to start their own businesses. The 432 households currently tilling this land expect to harvest some 2,400 mt of sorghum and 1,300 mt of biomass to feed livestock.

- WFP seeks development and peace dividends from humanitarian investments, in order to create positive synergies for social cohesion among host communities and long-term displaced populations. In February, WFP and IOM launched a UN Peacebuilding Fund project to address growing discontent among young people in the Sahelian provinces and reduce migration to Northern Chad and Libya. In the East, WFP and UNHCR presented a second initiative to create livelihood opportunities for Sudanese refugees and local population.

- WFP launched a call for proposals to provide emergency food and nutritional assistance to vulnerable households during the lean season (June-September 2020). The aim is to enable better planning and to deliver targeted, more effective assistance to populations in need.
WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategic Result 8:</th>
<th>Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Outcome 6:</td>
<td>Humanitarian and development partners in Chad have access to common services that enable them to reach and operate in targeted areas all year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Focus area:</td>
<td>Resilience building</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Activities:</strong></td>
<td>- Provide supply chain, ICT, information management, and other logistical services to the humanitarian and development community.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Provide UNHAS flight services to enable partners to reach areas of humanitarian intervention.</td>
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It is expected that Chad will face this year, its worst lean season in eight years – harsher than in 2018, when close to one million individuals living in the Sahelian belt were severely food insecure. To assist 636,000 people in the most affected departments with adequate food and nutritional assistance, WFP requires USD 81 million. Relevant stakeholders will update food security assessments to define the national response plan during the first half of 2020.

- WFP invited the donor community in N’Djamena to a briefing on its achievements in 2019 and its priorities and financial needs for 2020. WFP will continue to prioritise assistance to crisis-affected populations. Already in the first two months of the year, WFP responded to sudden-onset crises, including an influx of refugees from Sudan in the East and floods in the South. Under its nutrition and resilience activities, WFP will secure gains, through capacity building and community appropriation.

- In light of the public health emergency declared for the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, WFP is developing a business continuity plan to ensure the safety and wellness of staff, while also running operations smoothly.

Challenges

- Despite efforts, there are major constraints to mobilize funding for cash-based programmes to assist crisis-affected populations and to sustain nutritional activities.

- WFP’s plan to support new Sudanese refugees in the East is estimated at USD 3.5 million, to provide food and nutritional assistance until the end of the year to 17,000 people.

Donors

Canada, Denmark, European Commission, Germany, Italy, Private Donors, UN Peacebuilding Fund, United Kingdom