



WFP CHAD

COUNTRY BRIEF

March 2026

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Chad is a largely arid, landlocked Sahelian country in central Africa. Since April 2023, the Sudan crisis has driven one of Africa's fastest-growing refugee influxes, bringing the total number of refugees to approximately 1.5 million. This rapid increase is placing immense pressure on already limited resources, and cross-border arrivals into Chad are expected to continue.

IN NUMBERS



422,071 people assisted in February 2026



43 %
Male



57 %
Female



2,235 mt food distributed



USD 3.3 M cash transferred



USD 124.5 M (March–Aug 2026) net funding requirements

Photo Caption & Credit: Hachta Radia cooking in Doholo refugee camp, Chad. WFP/Cynthia Matonhodze.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

- The large and ongoing influx of refugees and returnees from Sudan is placing significant pressure on already fragile local resources, contributing to higher volatility and operational constraints, underscoring WFP's central role in ensuring timely, life-saving assistance to the most vulnerable populations, and contributing to stability.
- On 23 February, the Government of Chad officially closed its eastern border with Sudan until further notice, following repeated cross-border incursions. However, the border subsequently reopened and remains open at the time of reporting, including for asylum-seekers and for humanitarian movements under existing exemptions. WFP therefore does not anticipate immediate impacts on its operations, including cross-border assistance to Sudan.

OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Crisis Response

- The continued violence in Darfur and the Rapid Support Forces' incursions near El Fasher pose a threat of continued influxes into eastern Chad in 2026. Since April 2023, over 1.2 million people have crossed into eastern Chad (including about 913,537 new arrivals from Sudan and 335,903 returnees), bringing the total number of refugees to approximately 1.5 million.

- While new refugees are expected to continue to cross the border with Sudan, the influx has been relatively slow so far compared to the forecasts: 31,000 people through February 2026.
- WFP's rapid response includes an initial in-kind food and nutrition assistance for up to one month followed by cash-based transfers and malnutrition prevention activities, once refugees are relocated to official sites. Since the attacks in El Fasher in October 2025, a total of 29,000 new arrivals have been identified by UNHCR, and WFP has prepositioned food stocks near the three main entry points of Adré, Tine and Oure-Cassoni, so refugees can receive assistance swiftly, once located in official sites.
- WFP assistance at the entry points is limited to nutrition, in line with government restrictions on food distributions at border entry points for security and registration reasons. In these locations, WFP provides a short cycle of nutritious products for children while UNHCR relocates households to formal sites, generally within a week, where full food assistance can then be provided.
- The funding shortfall persists. If no new resources are secured, WFP will have to reduce crisis-response distributions by approximately half, as previously reported.

Human Capital

- Full digitalization of nutrition interventions is underway, strengthening data quality, decision-making, beneficiary traceability and the efficient management of specialized nutritious foods and cash-based transfers across all sites.
- A major milestone was reached in the development of the national Home-Grown School Feeding Strategy, with a high-level national consultation in February defining the vision, priority axes and operational roadmap, following months of provincial-level consultations.
- The rollout of the national mapping of education interventions now provides a clear, structured view of sector activities, improving coordination, optimising resources, avoiding duplication, and ensuring alignment with the *Plan Intérimaire de l'Education au Tchad* (Chad's Interim Education Plan) and the Partnership Compact for Chad.

- Significant progress in expanding the Unified Social Registry (RSU), with 48,000 households being registered in N'Djamena and 25,000 in northern Kanem, alongside advances on the data-sharing agreement with the RSU, marking a key step in strengthening the national social protection system's operational readiness and performance.

Targeting

- In 2026, WFP together with UNHCR – under the lead of the Government – will implement vulnerability-based targeting to shift from humanitarian aid to development programming, with interim adjustments to the frequency of assistance in refugee sites.
- WFP is currently engaged in discussions with the Government to align Vulnerability-Based-Targeting with the RSU in the eastern provinces.
- The *National study on vulnerabilities and capacities of refugees, returnees, and host populations in Eastern Chad* has been officially shared with the Ministry of Social Action, Solidarity and Humanitarian Affairs.

FUNDING OVERVIEW

Country Strategic Plan (2024-2028)



Donors in 2025-2026:

Canada, Chad, Cyprus, European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Norway, Private Donors, Republic of Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, UN CERF, UN other Funds and Agencies (excl. CERF), United Kingdom, United States of America, World Bank.