Chad faces a combination of rapid-onset and protracted humanitarian crises while being the fourth most affected country by the climate crisis. Some 7.3 million people, including 4.3 million children, will require humanitarian assistance in 2023. Chad ranks very low on the Human Development Index (190 out of 191 countries) with poor socioeconomic indicators, gender inequalities, limited access to basic social services, and food and nutrition crisis. Armed conflict and insecurity in neighboring countries have resulted in the arrival of more than 919,000 refugees in Chad. Refugees have been hosted in camps for more than 20 years, while more than 348,000 (66 per cent children) arrived from Sudan between April and July 2023. Some 48,000 Chadian returnees also arrived from Sudan. UNICEF requires US$114.4 million to provide assistance to vulnerable children and women affected by multiple humanitarian crises, with a focus on nutrition, education, protection from violence, and water, sanitation, and hygiene.
HUMANITARIAN SITUATION AND NEEDS

The humanitarian situation in Chad can be described as a prolonged multidimensional crisis exacerbated by climate change. It is caused by continued population displacements due to conflict, natural disasters, persistent food insecurity, high rate of malnutrition, economic crisis, and political instability. Chad ranks 190 out of 191 countries on the Human Development Index, and it is estimated that 74 per cent children under five are multidimensionally poor. The proportion of public expenditure allocated to basic social services is 22 per cent, limiting the resilience and access to these services.

In 2023, the number of displaced persons increased, notably because of the Sudanese conflict. More than 919,000 refugees reside in Chad including 742,000 Sudanese whom over 348,000 are newly arrived Sudanese refugees. The volatile humanitarian context and widespread insecurity limit the capacity of humanitarian actors.

The nutritional situation remains alarming in Chad. The prevalence of global acute malnutrition in children under 5 years of age is 8.6 per cent, including 1.5 per cent for severe wasting. It is estimated that 1.7 million acutely malnourished children aged 6 to 59 months will require treatment while over 2 million people are food insecure. These pressures are expected to be amplified by the supply constraints resulting from the war in Ukraine and the impact of Sudanese crisis in the region.

Despite progress, enormous challenges remain for vulnerable children to access quality education services across Chad, with 56.8 per cent of primary school-age children missing out on primary or secondary education. The number of displaced children needing access to quality education remains at a very high level.

Chad is the fourth most affected country by the climate crisis. The mortality rate attributable to unsafe WASH in Chad is 101/100,000, the highest in the world. In 2022, devastating floods impacted 1.5 million people.

More than 317,000 displaced children remain extremely vulnerable to physical and sexual violence, psychosocial distress and exploitation, and recruitment by non-state armed groups.

SECTOR NEEDS

- **2.3 million** people in need of health assistance
- **4.9 million** people in need of nutrition assistance
- **426,000** children in need of protection services
- **1.4 million** children in need of education support
- **4.1 million** people lack access to safe water

STORY FROM THE FIELD

Ikhram, 16, and her older sister Isra, were able to collect emergency items being distributed by UNICEF to refugees arriving in Koufroun, Chad. The sisters fled Tandalti, a village on the border between Sudan and Chad, with their parents and five siblings when their village was attacked.

“We have been sleeping under a tree,” Ikhram says. “I would love to go back to my country, but only if we are safe there. My younger siblings do not understand why we are in Chad. I can't scare them so I tell them we have come here for vacation.”

Read more about this story here
HUMANITARIAN STRATEGY

UNICEF’s humanitarian action in Chad aligns with the 2017-2023 Country Programme Document and the Humanitarian Response Plan 2023. UNICEF will focus on facilitating access to inclusive and resilient basic social services and strengthening national and subnational capacities to plan and respond to emergencies.

UNICEF will ensure multisectoral and localized humanitarian programming in line with the humanitarian-development-peace nexus approach. Interventions will focus on western provinces affected by displacement in the Lake Chad Basin, on eastern provinces with the Sudan refugees’ crisis, and on the southern provinces of the country, while addressing epidemics and natural disasters wherever they occur.

UNICEF will strengthen community resilience with the reinforcement of social protection services including the use of the humanitarian cash transfer modality.

UNICEF aims to protect children and populations affected by crises and to strengthen accountability to affected populations by establishing feedback and complaint mechanisms and preventing sexual exploitation and abuse.

UNICEF will support HIV/AIDS screening and treatment. UNICEF will also support integrated vaccination campaigns to ensure that children are protected against measles and other vaccine-preventable diseases.

UNICEF will provide access to quality treatment for children suffering from severe wasting. To reduce malnutrition in the long term, UNICEF’s response aims to increase the proportion of infants aged 0-5 months who are exclusively breastfed to 27 per cent and the proportion of children aged 6-23 months who are receiving the minimum dietary diversity to 20 per cent by 2025.

UNICEF will respond to crises by providing essential household items, and access to safe drinking water and sanitation to reduce the risks of waterborne diseases.

UNICEF will ensure school attendance for crisis-affected children, prioritizing girls, through access to formal/non-formal education and provision of school materials.

UNICEF will identify solutions that address the needs of women and girls to mitigate, prevent and respond to gender-based violence. The response will prioritize psychosocial support services and community-based child protection, and support referral mechanisms for quality interventions for children released from armed groups, unaccompanied and separated children, and survivors of gender-based violence and mine hazards.

UNICEF will reinforce risk communication and community engagement involving community platforms including youth and adolescents.

UNICEF humanitarian action will be coordinated with national and local authorities, UN agencies, and humanitarian partners, and will reinforce national emergency anticipation, preparedness, and response mechanisms with the proper use of technology and innovations. UNICEF will continue to lead the WASH, Nutrition and Education Clusters, and the Child Protection Area of Responsibility.

2023 PROGRAMME TARGETS

Health
- 1,180,000 children vaccinated against measles

HIV/AIDS
- 766 pregnant and lactating women living with HIV receiving antiretroviral therapy

Nutrition
- 416,000 children 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment
- 607,000 primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling

Child protection, GBViE and PSEA
- 50,000 children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support
- 50,000 women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions
- 987,000 people with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations
- 3,200 unaccompanied and separated children provided with alternative care and/or reunified

Education
- 108,000 children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning
- 269,000 children receiving individual learning materials

Water, sanitation and hygiene
- 240,000 people accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs
- 140,000 people accessing appropriate sanitation services

Social protection
- 4,800 households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers

Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP)
- 6,400 households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers across sectors
- 660,000 people reached through messaging on prevention and access to services
- 498,000 people who participate in engagement actions
- 203,000 people sharing their concerns and asking questions through established feedback mechanisms

Non-food items
- 146,000 displaced people who received non-food items and emergency shelter

Progress against the latest programme targets is available in the humanitarian situation reports: https://www.unicef.org/appeals/chad/situation-reports

This appeal is aligned with the revised Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action, which are based on global standards and norms for humanitarian action. Programme targets are aligned with the draft revised Humanitarian Response Plan 2023 (as of 2 August 2023) and are subject to change.
In 2023, UNICEF is requesting US$114.4 million to meet the urgent needs of 1.8 million children in Chad. UNICEF has increased its appeal to be fully aligned with the Humanitarian Response Plan and meet the increased needs related to the Sudan crisis outflow.

Through community engagement, social and behavioral change, and sexual exploitation and abuse prevention and response, UNICEF shapes its programming to respond to the needs of vulnerable communities. More than 44 per cent of the funding in this appeal will go towards emergency nutritional support, which includes the provision of ready-to-use therapeutic food for children who are severely wasted and the delivery of preventive interventions through a variety of platforms, leveraging the health, food, WASH and social protection systems. UNICEF also aims to reach vulnerable households with humanitarian cash transfers. Due to the Sudan refugees’ crisis, the number of displaced people has increased UNICEF appeal for flexible funding to support these emergency responses.

Without sufficient and timely funding, UNICEF will be unable to support the national response to the country’s continuing crises. This could result in nearly 2 million children being denied access to lifesaving services.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appeal sector</th>
<th>Revised 2023 HAC requirement (US$)</th>
<th>Revised 2023 HAC requirement (US$)</th>
<th>Funds available (US$)</th>
<th>Funding gap (US$)</th>
<th>Funding gap (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>7,636,600</td>
<td>1,873,419</td>
<td>5,763,181</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>490,600</td>
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<td>455,593</td>
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<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>50,225,500</td>
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<td>39,463,458</td>
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<td>Child protection</td>
<td>8,288,400</td>
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<td>6,770,721</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>7,863,800</td>
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<td>WASH</td>
<td>23,394,800</td>
<td>3,876,383</td>
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<td>Social protection</td>
<td>1,885,200</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,885,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cross-sectoral</td>
<td>8,188,800</td>
<td>1,953,102</td>
<td>6,235,698</td>
<td>76.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-food items</td>
<td>6,377,200</td>
<td>3,602,255</td>
<td>2,774,945</td>
<td>43.5%</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>114,350,900</td>
<td>26,554,958</td>
<td>87,795,942</td>
<td>76.8%</td>
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The emergency response budget includes intervention/costs related to the distribution of essential household kits (set on the basis of a unit cost in relation to the target) because it is the first response to crisis situations (floods, displacement, inter-community conflicts, etc.), as well as emergency coordination.

ENDNOTES
8. Figure calculated based on the number of children aged 6-59 months suffering from severe wasting admitted for treatment (416,064); primary caregivers of children aged 0-23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling (382,746); children aged 6-59 months to be reached with vaccination against measles (1,180,387); children older than 5 years to be reached with individual learning material kits (269,400); children under 6 months to be reached with access to safe water (6,720; adjusted to avoid double-counting of children aged 6 months to 17 years already counted in nutrition/health and education targets); women to be reached with access to gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions (16,267 as one-third of the 48,800 target; adjusted to avoid double-counting of girls/boys already counted in previous targets); unaccompanied and separated children provided with alternative care and/or reunified (3,200) (UNICEF considers there is no overlap with other targets for this specific group). The total figure includes women/girls (51 per cent) and an estimated 48,050 people with disabilities (2.2 per cent). UNICEF is committed to a needs-based approach, which means covering the unmet needs of children; and will serve as the provider of last resort where it has cluster coordination responsibilities.
9. The 55 per cent increase in the number of people to be reached compared with the 2023 Humanitarian Action for Children appeal is mainly due to the inclusion of the infant and young child feeding indicator, which focuses on primary caregivers of children aged 0-23 months. The figures also include the Sudanese refugees who fled to the country between April and May. The number of children to be reached has increased by 50 per cent compared with the 2022 appeal (1,833,219 instead of 919,392), due to an increase in the number of children to be reached with measles vaccination (1,180,387 instead of 420,000).
10. The figure is calculated based on the number of children aged 6-59 months suffering from severe wasting admitted for treatment (416,064); children aged 6-59 months to be reached with vaccination against measles (1,180,387); children older than 5 years to be reached with individual learning material kits (179,538); children under 6 months to be reached with access to safe water (3,906; adjusted to avoid double-counting of children aged 6 months to 17 years already counted in nutrition/health and education targets); unaccompanied and separated children provided with alternative care or reunified (2,800). The total figure includes 496,585 girls (50.3 per cent) and an estimated 21,325 children with disabilities (2.2 per cent). UNICEF is committed to a needs-based approach, which means covering the unmet needs of children; and will serve as the provider of last resort where it has cluster coordination responsibilities.
14. This increase is to align with the Humanitarian Response Plan and to reflect the increased needs due to the 2022 floods, the internally displaced persons in the South and the Sudanese refugees, Chadian returnees, and the host population in the East.
15. Ibid.
16. Ibid.
17. The target has dropped from 1,400,000 to 1,352,000 because, in 2023, the sector did not consider refugee children. Refugee children are considered in the multisector refugee.
18. This increase is to align with the Humanitarian Response Plan and to reflect the increased needs due to the 2022 floods, the internally displaced persons in the South and the Sudanese refugees, Chadian returnees, and the host population in the East.
19. The figures have tripled to reflect the needs generated by measles outbreaks across the country and to also include the needs of the Sudanese refugees in eastern Chad.
20. Figure calculated on the basis of the seroprevalence rate (1.2 per cent) among expected pregnancies (5.51 per cent) in the displaced population (1,058,820). It should be noted that the target for this indicator is the result of a continuum that includes awareness-raising and screening of HIV status and provision of antiretroviral therapy and care for the targeted population. The target also includes the Sudanese refugees in Chad.
21. The figure was revised to take into account the cluster's priority provinces and the figures for the new refugees.
22. The increase in the mental health and psychosocial support target is due to the inclusion of the targeted population in East Chad.
23. As per the parameters of this indicator, receiving learning materials does not qualify as providing access to education. This indicator represents children who will benefit from a whole package of education services, not limited to receiving materials, and encompasses some of the 107,760 children targeted for access to education.
24. The target increased to include new humanitarian needs: people affected by the 2022 floods including the ones induced by the Sudanese refugees.
25. Ibid.
26. Ibid.
27. Includes US$2,914,940 for prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse.
28. Takes into consideration multiple activities that go beyond the two indicators highlighted, such as construction of temporary learning spaces, provision of school kits and capacity building of teachers.
29. This includes US$3,622,996 for social and behavioural change.
30. The emergency response budget includes intervention/costs related to the distribution of essential household kits (set on the basis of a unit cost in relation to the target) because it is the first response to crisis situations (floods, displacement, inter-community conflicts, etc.), as well as emergency coordination.