

Chad Sudanese Refugees Influx Flash update #19

20 September to 3 October 2025



A cholera vaccination team conducts a household visit in the village of Farchana, as part of ongoing efforts to prevent the spread of waterborne diseases in eastern Chad.
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HUMANITARIAN OVERVIEW

- Since the outbreak of conflict in Sudan in April 2023, Eastern Chad has become a refuge for hundreds of thousands fleeing violence, fear, and uncertainty. By 28 September 2025, Chadian authorities, UNHCR, and IOM reported 878,398 Sudanese refugees and 329,894 Chadian returnees. 61% of refugees and 67% of returnees are children under the age of 18. The humanitarian situation in Wadi Fira and Ennedi Est has reached a critical point due to this sustained influx of Sudanese refugees: 97,729 refugees have arrived here since April 2025.
- Since mid-July 2025, Chad has been facing a rapidly escalating cholera outbreak. Initially affecting the Dougui refugee camp in Chokoyane District (Ouaddaï Province), the outbreak promptly spread to both refugee settlements and host communities in the East. Most recently, another province in the center of Chad (Guéra) has experienced an outbreak. As of 24 September, the epidemic has affected 75 health areas across nine health districts: Chokoyane, Hadjer Hadid, Adré, Farchana, Amleyouna, and Abéché in Ouaddaï Province; Abdi and Goz Beida in Sila Province; and Bitkine in Guéra Province. 2,458 suspected cases have been reported to date, including 76 cases confirmed by culture and 140 associated deaths (63 occurred within the community). The overall case fatality rate (CFR) remains high at 5.85%.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

- UNHCR and partners, including UNICEF, are actively responding to high levels of humanitarian needs while continuing to face severe underfunding and logistical challenges.
- From 22 to 25 September 2025, a joint UNICEF–UNHCR–WFP mission assessed the response at new refugee sites in Goudrane (Iriba department) and Ideiba-Marassabre (Guereda department). Key recommendations include: (1) Conduct sector-specific assessments in health, nutrition, education and WASH under lead agencies with the relevant mandates; (2) Define a common partner strategy to ensure coherence; (3) Develop a joint response plan for each sector; (4) At the Ideiba refugee site, prioritize sustainability and the empowerment of both host communities and refugees in all response activities.
- The cholera outbreak response is being coordinated by the Ministry of Public Health and Prevention (MPHP) at the provincial level, in close collaboration with the Governor of Ouaddaï Province. Regular coordination meetings are convened with key stakeholders, including United Nations agencies, international and national non-governmental organizations, and other humanitarian partners. These meetings serve to align strategic priorities, monitor progress, and ensure a harmonized and effective response to the evolving public health emergency.
- Following the notification of multiple cholera cases in two areas in Chokoyane Health District, UNICEF, representatives from the Ouaddaï Provincial Health Delegation and key partner agencies conducted a joint investigation mission. Preliminary findings highlight two major challenges: limited access to safe drinking water and weak community mobilization, both of which negatively impact the effectiveness of prevention and response efforts.
- Following the vaccination of 1,165,373 people aged one year and older against cholera — representing 105% of the target population in the first five affected health districts — UNICEF, WHO and partners are supporting the Government of Chad in a new vaccination campaign. From 22-28 September 2025, the campaign targeted 736,483 people aged one year and older across three health districts: Abéché (205,569 people) in Ouaddaï province, and Abdi (158,493 people) and Gozbeida (372,421 people) in Sila province.
- UNICEF's funding needs for the response in Eastern Chad are US\$48.3 million, with a funding gap of 39% as of 1 October 2025. UNICEF requires US\$18.9 million to respond to the complex humanitarian emergency in Eastern Chad.

UNICEF's RESPONSE



In response to the cholera outbreak, UNICEF implemented Case-Area Targeted Interventions (CATI) approach in Chokoyane health district entailing the spraying and disinfection of 752 households in Dougui camp and surrounding villages. In addition, 3,760 people were sensitized on good hygiene practices for cholera prevention, and 520 PUR sachets were distributed to support household water treatment. UNICEF is currently constructing 200 latrines, of which 136 have been completed. As part of the cholera vaccination campaign held from 22 - 28 September 2025 in the health districts of Abéché, Gozbeida, and Abdi, UNICEF-supported community relays conducted extensive outreach. They visited 101,776 households and reached 314,677 people, including 117,811 men and 196,866 women. To further strengthen risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) for both emergency response and preparedness, 616 community relays are currently being trained across 9 of the 11 health districts of Ouaddaï province.



UNICEF and its partners provided 7.5 litres/person/day of safe water to more than 33,000 individuals, primarily in camps at Iridimi, Koursigué, Tiné, and Mile Extension. Hygiene and sanitation services reached 29,030 people, including the installation of 1,095 latrine-shower units. Additionally, hygiene promotion and awareness activities on the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) reached 2,659 individuals in Mile camp, surrounding villages, as well as in Tiné, Iridimi, and Oure Cassoni.



UNICEF provided psychosocial and mental health support (MHPSS) to 471 newly registered children, including 300 girls and 8 children with disabilities. This brings the total number of children who have benefited from MHPSS services in several camps since mid-April 2025 to 15,469. In addition, 18 newly registered unaccompanied children (including 10 girls) received individual case management, raising the cumulative total to 1,137 cases. 23 new cases of gender-based violence (GBV) were reported, including 1 case of rape, 10 cases of sexual assault, 6 cases of psychological violence, and 6 cases of denial of resources. Through GBV prevention activities 2,258 people, including 661 girls and 841 women, were reached.



During the reporting period, UNICEF supported the treatment of 50 children suffering from Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM), including 22 girls. This brings the total number of SAM cases treated since the onset of the crisis to 3,979. To strengthen service delivery, 50 cartons of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) were provided in the Ourecasonie camp. As part of malnutrition prevention efforts, 21 health workers (8 women, 13 men) received training on Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) in emergency settings, contributing to the establishment of two breastfeeding corners in the Mile and Koursigué camps. In parallel, 1,244 mothers of children aged 0–23 months and 571 pregnant and breastfeeding women participated in counseling sessions on optimal IYCF practices. Since the beginning of the refugee influx in mid-April 2025, a total of 11,857 women has benefited from these essential nutrition services.



During the reporting period, 168 children under five received medical consultations and treatment for various childhood illnesses, bringing the cumulative number of children treated since April 2025 to 30,731. As part of ongoing immunization efforts, 133 children under five were vaccinated against measles. UNICEF also provided technical support to the implementation of the cholera vaccination campaign in the health districts of Abdi, Goz-Beida, and Abdi. As of Day 5 of the campaign, 609,479 people had been vaccinated, including 304,523 children under the age of 15.



As part of the Education Cannot Wait (ECW) project, UNICEF's partner NGO APICED ensured contractual coverage for 150 teachers from the camps of Farchana, Dougui, Metche, Allatcha, Abouteingue, Bredjing, Treguine, Arkoum, and Kouchaguine Moura. Contracts were also given to 20 facilitators from the Non-Formal Basic Education Centers (CEBNEF), including 2 centers in Abéché, 1 in Amleyouna, and 1 in Amdam.