

30 September 2025

1. Crisis overview

4 / 5	7 million	5.5 million	\$1.45 billion	20.8%
Inform severity index	People in need of humanitarian aid (HNRP 2025)	People targeted in the response plan (HNRP 2025)	Required to reach the target (HNRP 2025)	of the required funding secured (HNRP 2025)
101 MSEK	-	16.9 MSEK	117.9 MSEK	
Initial allocation	Additional allocation	Flexible funding	Total Sida funding 2025	

Chad faces several complex and interlocking crises related to conflict in neighbouring countries and within the country, and recurring natural disasters. The country is severely affected by climate change and acute crises occur against a background of chronic underdevelopment, extensive poverty and severely underfinanced basic services.

In 2024, Chad ranked 189th out of 193 countries on the Human Development Index. As a consequence, humanitarian needs in Chad are multi-faceted and geographically widespread. Indicators on food security, nutrition, access to healthcare and protection are concerning country-wide and the most acute needs are located in three distinct geographical zones: the East, West and the South.

The spillover from the war in Sudan which erupted in April 2023 continues to dominate the humanitarian situation in Chad. By the end of September 2025, it is estimated that 878,000 refugees and 307,000 returnees have crossed the border from Sudan into Eastern Chad. In addition, there are approximately 400,000 refugees already present in Eastern Chad from earlier conflicts in Darfur, together with an estimated 205,000 vulnerable host populations. An average of 10 per cent of the most vulnerable people among the local populations are located around the refugee camps.

2. Humanitarian needs & affected population

In total, WFP assesses that a population of 1.2 million vulnerable people are in need of support in Eastern Sudan, of which the overwhelming majority are women and children. Refugees continue to arrive from Sudan on a daily basis although the influx has gradually diminished since the outbreak of the conflict (with 485,000 new arrivals in 2023, 239,000 in 2024 and so far 155,000 in 2025), as well as over the past months due to the rainy season and the cost and obstacles for people to flee from the conflicts in Sudan. In September 2025, there were 1,600 new arrivals who entered into the Northern regions of Wadi Fira and Ennedi Est, at the entry points of Tiné and Ouré Cassani.

The Government of Chad has an open-door policy for hosting and protecting people fleeing violence and persecution with a legal framework allowing for the protection of forcibly displaced persons. Its asylum law offers opportunities to sustainably improve refugees' living conditions by granting access to land, allowing freedom of movement and the right to settle, and providing refugees with biometric identity cards, which serve as residence permits enabling access to essential services. In this context, the humanitarian community has largely been able to mount an effective baseline response to displaced people in eastern Chad since the start of the crisis in April 2023, in line with the Government's policy of 'village-based settlement and integration'.

In addition to immediate needs for shelter, water and sanitation and food, there is an enormous need for protection services and psychosocial support, due to the high level of violence that many people face as they flee Sudan. The pressing need to establish new settlements for refugees away from the border, and to ensure basic service provision in multiplying sites, is also a major priority. A vast majority of the displaced population in the East – some 80 per cent - are women and children. This creates wide-spread and specific protection needs in the settlements, in particular related to preventing and responding to sexual and gender-based violence (GBV) against women and girls. There are also large numbers of unaccompanied or separated children who face acute needs for protection, family tracing and reunification support.

Moving forward, a major challenge for the government and the international community is to identify and implement durable solutions to the crisis given the likelihood that the large majority of refugees will remain in Chad for many years to come. The 'National Response Plan for the Crisis in Eastern Chad 2025 – 2027' addresses both the humanitarian and development challenges in the four provinces receiving people who have fled Sudan. It aims to transform refugee settlements into economic development hubs under an integrated approach designed to provide both refugees and host communities with economic opportunities and access to essential services, while strengthening social cohesion and promoting sustainable development. The plan is supported by the UN system, the World Bank, the EU and other development partners under the 'Haguina Approach' which aims to improve coordination and advance the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) Nexus objectives. While this framework is laudable, challenges related to its implementation include financial resources, access to land, capacity of local authorities and mounting tensions between host communities and refugees.

In the western Lake Region, humanitarian needs are primarily driven by protracted conflict involving non-state armed groups still referred to as 'Boko Haram'. The Lake Chad Basin, region-wide conflict has been ongoing since 2009 with armed groups frequently attacking villages, causing suffering and displacement. While some military observers have claimed the various insurgent groups were on the decline, the number of recent attacks as well as a change of tactics point to the contrary. From January to June 2025, the dominant group ISWAP (Islamic State West Africa Province) claimed 232 attacks, which can be compared to ISSP (Islamic State Sahel Province) declaring only 22. These past few months, Lake Chad Basin jihadists have engaged in a renewed effort against military targets, notably in Nigeria and Cameroon while at the same time the military cooperation between the Lake Chad Basin countries has weakened, following the military coup in Niger and the death of former Chadian president Deby. Over 220,000 people are currently internally displaced in the Lake Region, which also hosts 40,000 returnees. In the South of Chad, humanitarian needs are driven by recurring inter-communal clashes, which disrupt lives and livelihoods. The region is also home to some 140,000 refugees from the Central African Republic.

In addition to the specific needs of displaced people, communities across crisis-affected areas have high needs related to, among others, food security, nutrition and protection. Some 3.3 million people were projected to face severe food insecurity (IPC category 3 to 5) over the lean season from June to August 2025 according to the Cadre Harmonisé established in May 2025. The country is also susceptible to disease outbreaks, including cholera, measles and hepatitis-E. Cholera outbreaks are already a fact in the refugee camps in the East where surrounding host communities have been increasingly hard hit since they lack even the minimum WASH and health facilities which are present in the camps. Life for children is particularly challenging, one in 10 children die before the age of five and only half of primary school age children are enrolled in school. In displacement sites, education services are almost completely lacking.

Climate change causes recurrent cycles of drought and flooding, impacts fishing and agricultural livelihoods, including livestock breeding, around the receding Lake Chad. While people adapt to changing circumstances, harsher conditions risk depleting people's coping mechanisms, creating more acute needs in parts of Chad that have previously not been seen as humanitarian situations. In 2022, the country was still recovering from devastating flooding when it was hit again in the second half of 2024 by the worst floods in decades. The floods triggered more than 1.3 million internal displacements, by far the highest disaster displacement figure on record for the country and more than in the previous 15 years combined. Leaving 1.2 million people living in displacement as of the end of the year 2024 across nearly all 23 of the country's provinces. So far in 2025, rainfall has been more modest and there has not been reports of major flooding.

3. The humanitarian response

In 2025 it has estimated that 7 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance (compared to 7.8 million in 2024) and the inter-agency response plan targets 5.5 million people (compared to 5.6 million in 2024¹). Since then, due to the drastic cuts in available funding, the humanitarian system proceeded with a ‘hyper-prioritised’ response plan which targets 2.8 million people (51 per cent of the initial target) for 58 per cent of the initially requested funding. However, as of September, only approximately 21 per cent of initially requested funding for the HNRP has been mobilized (or 36 per cent of the hyper-prioritised budget). As a comparison, in 2024, the HRP was funded to 58 per cent, of which US funding stood for 43 per cent. There is still no visibility on US funding for 2025/26 following the closure of USAID/BHA but the US Embassy has hired a new humanitarian team which indicates continued humanitarian operations in Chad.

Since the outbreak of the war in Sudan in 2023, the humanitarian response in Chad has gravitated significantly to the East, to respond to the refugee crisis in the provinces of Wadi-Fira, Ouaddai, Sila and now moving North to Ennedi Est. While entirely appropriate in light of the severity of needs, the pivot to the East risks stripping resources from crisis-affected communities in other parts of the country. This is further compounded by a general lack of funding which is becoming even more severe in 2025 following the drastic cuts in US funding.

The need to prioritise has also forced a rethink around approaches to chronic needs, with organisations looking to move away from short-term assistance in areas with protracted but less severe needs. In the East, targeting has currently shifted from status-based to vulnerability based, which has demonstrated that the four major groups earlier targeted based on their status (i.e. new and former refugees, returnees and host population) largely have the same distribution of vulnerability. Work on climate-resilient livelihoods will be important to end cycles of deprivation and ensure that the departure of humanitarian actors does not plunge additional populations into crisis.

These more long-term approaches require collaboration across the Humanitarian-Peace-Development nexus under the leadership of national authorities and in close collaboration with development actors. Across the country, however, basic services such as health and education are chronically underfunded, and local authorities have very limited capacity, if at all present, which challenges the sustainability of resilience programming.

¹ The reduced figures for need and target do not reflect an improvement in the situation but rather a change in methodology.

4. Sida's humanitarian allocation

Sida's allocation in 2025 has primarily focused on humanitarian organisations with strong operational presence in the East, to respond to the acute needs of refugees, returnees and host communities. As needs are high across all sectors, priority has been given to organisations that provide multi-sector response, in particular related to WASH, Nutrition and Health. Sida has prioritised support to partners that have shown ability to integrate protection across interventions as well as targeted services for people with specific protection needs, including children and survivors of sexual and gender-based violence. Given the continued needs among refugees, including relocation to more appropriate sites while continuing to provide immediate assistance to new arrivals, Sida has increased its allocation to UNHCR compared to 2024.

Considering the overall vulnerability of Chad, and the presence of pockets of severe humanitarian needs in parts of the country, flexible and adaptable programming is crucial. Underfunding and tight earmarking hampers partners ability to respond to breaking crises and to cover sectoral gaps. To mitigate this situation, and support a more coherent and nimble response, Sida has continued to provide programme-based support to all partners. Flexibility in funding is accompanied by dialogue around prioritisation, to ensure that the most severe needs are met first in this complex and geographically dispersed context.

Finally, the chronic nature of needs in Chad, and the recurring cycles of acute crises, requires new thinking around more sustainable approaches to supporting vulnerable communities. Sida therefore prioritises partners that demonstrate an ability to create lasting impact, for example by working on livelihoods for people with acute needs, refugee-led initiatives, reinforcing the capacity of local authorities or climate-resilient programming.

INITIAL ALLOCATION (SEK)		
PARTNER	SECTOR	INITIAL ALLOCATION
AAH	Nutrition, WASH, food security	17,000,000
IRC	Protection, health, livelihoods	17,000,000 ²
UNICEF	Nutrition, WASH, child protection, education	17,000,000
OXFAM	Protection, WASH, livelihoods	15,000,000 ³
UNHCR	Multi-sector refugee response	35,000,000
TOTAL		101,000,000

² Already committed in 2023.

³ Of which SEK 10 million already committed in 2023.

FLEXIBLE FUNDING & ADDITIONAL ALLOCATIONS 2025 (SEK)		
PARTNER	FLEXIBLE FUNDING ⁴	ADDITIONAL ALLOCATION
MSB	10,083,000	-
OCHA Field Office	3,400,000	-
AAH	2,000,000	-
DRC	1,400,000	-
TOTAL	16,883,000	-

¹ The 2025 initial allocation of humanitarian funding is based on Sida's humanitarian allocation analysis methodology. The analysis reflects the current humanitarian situation across crises and is being updated continuously with the latest available data. The information in the HCA is based on reports, data, and information from partner organisations and other entities, as well as observations from field visits and dialogue with partners.

⁴ Flexible funding includes a mix of allocations such as Rapid Response Mechanism and other flexible funding mechanisms.