



UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

SITUATION REPORT

Cholera epidemic amid refugee influx in Eastern Chad

1 - 31 August 2025

Highlights

A severe cholera outbreak has been officially declared in the Ouaddaï and Sila provinces of Chad, heavily impacting both regions. This has added further challenges to the area which was already under strain due to the conflict in neighbouring Sudan and the resulting mass influx of refugees. The outbreak is spreading quickly, with 1,540 people affected and 33 health centres impacted, where UNFPA humanitarian midwives provide essential services.

Widespread flooding in Chad has also contributed to extreme food insecurity, with children under 5 years, and pregnant and breastfeeding women particularly at risk of malnutrition. This increases the chance of pregnancy-related complications, including miscarriage, premature labour, and low birth weight babies.

While humanitarian actors are working to mitigate suffering, substantial funding and coordination are urgently needed to prevent conditions from worsening. UNFPA is currently facing a significant funding gap with three-quarters of its 2025 financial appeal for Chad still unfunded.



7,000,000

Total people affected¹



1,256,000

Women of reproductive age²



219,170

Estimated pregnant women²



1,196,800

People targeted w/ SRH services



388,000

People targeted w/ GBV programmes

¹ [Chad Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan 2025](#)

² Estimated figures are based on the Minimum Initial Services Package (MISP) for Sexual and Reproductive Health in Humanitarian Settings calculator.

Situation Overview

Cholera Outbreak: According to the Ministry of Health, the infection rate is 79.6 per 100,000 people, with a high case fatality rate of 6.2%. Statistics show that women, including pregnant women, and young people are disproportionately affected, with a female-to-male ratio of 2:1 and a median age of 23. Women face a dual risk of contracting cholera because they serve as both primary caregivers in families and make up the majority of frontline health workers, which increases their direct exposure to infection.

Refugee Influx: Since April 2023, Chad has registered 876,800 Sudanese refugees. This influx, combined with climate disasters and food insecurity, is straining resources and increasing pressure on host communities. Of the total refugee population, 87% are women and children, with 25% being women of reproductive age. Refugee camp data reveals highly concerning rates of gender-based violence (GBV), with physical assault accounting for 48% of cases, and rape for 18%, underscoring the importance of a strong protection response, including prevention activities and ensuring medical and psychosocial support services for survivors.

Flooding and Food Insecurity: During the June-August 2025 lean season, Chad experienced its most severe recorded food insecurity as a result of floods that destroyed over 432,000 hectares of crops. Approximately 3.7 million people are at risk of food shortages, which has led to alarmingly high malnutrition rates, affecting an estimated 2.1 million children under 5 as well as pregnant and breastfeeding women. The rainy season is disrupting humanitarian access, as waterlogged roads and unusable airstrips are hindering the delivery of essential supplies to vulnerable groups.

Humanitarian Reform: Chad is undergoing humanitarian reform progress with a tripartite committee reviewing cluster functions and coordination mechanisms. A final decision is expected by the end of December 2025. This process will be formalized in a joint memorandum from the government and the Humanitarian Coordinator in January 2026, leading to a final roadmap.

UNFPA Response

In Chad, UNFPA's priority is to meet the immediate needs of communities affected by various crises, including conflict, climate shocks, internal displacement as well as the influx of Sudanese refugees in Eastern Chad and its spillover effects, epidemics such as the recent cholera outbreak, and food insecurity in Lake and South provinces. UNFPA is committed to focusing on the most vulnerable populations, particularly women, girls, and adolescents. During August 2025, UNFPA and implementing partners achieved the following results:

Sexual and reproductive health:

- 22 Inter-Agency Reproductive Health (IARH) kits were distributed to 17 service delivery points (mobile clinics and health facilities) in the Eastern, Southern, and Lake provinces, providing supplies and medicine to enhance and improve the quality of care during childbirth for women, particularly in remote areas. These kits:
 - Enabled clean deliveries for 4,837 pregnant women who are without access to health facilities.
 - Managed sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and HIV for 797 individuals.
 - Supported 4,837 pregnant women during deliveries at health facilities.

- 138 UNFPA-deployed humanitarian midwives provided SRH services to 46,365 people (95% women) across the Eastern, Southern, and Lake provinces. Key services provided included:
 - 20,265 women attended at least two antenatal consultations at UNFPA-supported health facilities.
 - 4,837 child birth deliveries were assisted.
 - 6,627 women attended postnatal consultations.
 - 9,400 women received family planning services, including 5,445 new users.
 - Of the 2,674 obstetric complications recorded, 2,552 were managed on-site and 122 were referred for specialized care.
 - 797 individuals were diagnosed with and treated for STIs.
- In response to a cholera outbreak in Chad, UNFPA deployed additional humanitarian midwives and IARH kits, funded by the Emergency Fund. This action ensures that essential, life-saving care continues and that obstetric complications are not overlooked.

Gender-based violence:

- UNFPA and its partners held case conferences in Adré and the Aboutegue Refugee Camp and community-based activities to provide care and support for survivors. These efforts, including "Girl Shine" life skills sessions, reached 805 women.
- With financial support from The Women's Peace & Humanitarian Fund, UNFPA is partnering with 13 women-led organizations (WLOs) in Chad and overseeing the implementation of activities to support humanitarian actions that advance the Women, Peace, and Security agenda. The initiative aims to improve human rights, safety, and mental health for women and girls, as well as build the institutional capacity of WLOs and empower them through training and integrating them into all humanitarian assistance and protection processes.

Results Snapshot



49,863

People reached with **SRH services**
95% female, 5% male



73

Health facilities supported



21,141

People reached with **GBV prevention, mitigation and response** activities
97% female, 3% male



24

Safe spaces for women and girls supported



350

Non-food items (such as dignity kits) distributed to individuals



10

Youth spaces supported



22

Reproductive health kits provided to service delivery points to meet the needs of 49,863 people

Coordination Mechanisms

Gender-based violence:

Under UNFPA's leadership, the GBV Working Group (consisting of ACF, HIAS, APLFT, JRS, AFJT, DRC, INTERSOS, NIRVANA) carried out a large-scale intervention at Iridimi Refugee Camp in Wadifira and Farchana Refugee Camp in Ouaddai, reaching over 13,070 people with awareness sessions on topics related to physical abuse, sexual assault, and available support services.

To strengthen coordination, the joint GBV/Child Protection Sub-Working Group in Iriba, along with partners such as UNHCR and World Vision, held three meetings during August. These meetings revealed persistent case management challenges which led to a proposal to temporarily separate the GBV and Child Protection sub-groups for more focused interventions. The GBV sub-group will remain actively involved in broader humanitarian forums to ensure its concerns are fully integrated into the overall response.

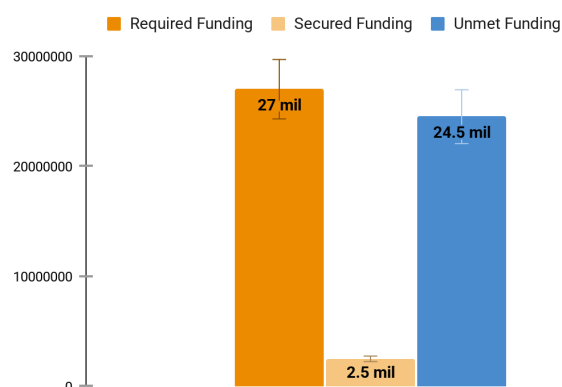
Sexual and reproductive health:

UNFPA is working with the SRH Working Group to raise awareness about maintaining SRH services and integrating them into cholera-response activities. The goal is to ensure that health workers focused on the cholera response do not overlook obstetric complications.

Funding Status

UNFPA requires US\$27 million to deliver critical SRH and GBV services in Chad during 2025. The appeal includes US\$15.2 million as part of the [2025 Humanitarian Response Plan](#) and US\$12.5 million under the [2025 Regional Refugee Response Plan](#).

However, as of August 2025, only US\$2.5 million has been received, resulting in a staggering gap of US\$25.2 million. Without an urgent and significant increase in support from donors, UNFPA will be unable to deliver the services needed, which is putting the lives and health of women and girls in Chad in jeopardy.



Disclaimer: Funding available is based on cash received during the current year as well as funding rolled over from previous years, and transfers from/to other UNFPA departments. It does not include funds from agreements that have been signed but not yet received.

Current Donors

UNFPA Emergency Fund /
Humanitarian Thematic Fund

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