



UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

SITUATION REPORT

Cholera epidemic amid massive refugee influx in Eastern Chad

1 — 31 July, 2025

Highlights

- Since the conflict in Sudan began in April 2023, Chad has become a major host of Sudanese refugees. As of July 2025, 875,278 refugees and 308,448 returnees have been registered in Chad, with a significant proportion (87%) being women and children.
- A cholera epidemic has been officially declared in Ouaddaï province, an area already overwhelmed by Sudanese refugees. The outbreak is centred in the health districts of Chokoyane, Hadjer Hadid, and Adré, impacting 11 health centres where humanitarian midwives are on the frontlines providing vital sexual and reproductive (SRH) services. According to the Ministry of Health, during July there were 12 deaths reported and 264 suspected cases. Of these cases, 24 have been confirmed, of which 3 were pregnant women, with one case of stillborn in utero.
- Only 15% of health centres are operational, and the large influx of people is heavily straining the healthcare system, hindering access to critical services, including sexual and reproductive health (SRH). UNFPA has responded by deploying 138 humanitarian midwives, who provided SRH services to 46,365 people during July.
- While humanitarian actors are working to mitigate suffering, substantial funding and coordination are urgently needed to avert worsening conditions. UNFPA is currently facing a significant funding gap of US\$25.2 million for its response in Chad.



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 [OCHA, Chad: Overview of the 2025 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan, February 2025.](#)

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

Situation Overview

- Chad's humanitarian landscape is extremely fragile. Burdened by one of the most significant refugee influxes globally and compounded by climate disasters, food insecurity, and limited resources. The deepening crisis extends beyond displaced populations, with host communities also experiencing extreme pressure, leading to resource conflicts and intercommunal tensions.
- Chad is expected to experience its most severe recorded food insecurity during the June-August 2025 lean season, with 3.7 million people at risk of acute food shortages. This crisis is caused by a poor 2024 agricultural season, due to floods that destroyed over 432,000 hectares of crops and disrupted cross-border trade with Sudan. Malnutrition rates are alarmingly high, affecting an estimated 2.1 million children under 5, as well as pregnant and breastfeeding women.
- The cholera outbreak in Chad is disproportionately affecting women and girls due to their social roles, with a case ratio of 1.6 females to every male. Females face a dual risk as both primary family caregivers and the majority of frontline health workers, increasing their direct exposure to infection.
- The start of the rainy season is worsening humanitarian access, making it harder to reach vulnerable groups and deliver essential supplies.

UNFPA Response

In Chad, UNFPA's priority is to meet the immediate needs of communities affected by various crises, including the Sudanese refugee crisis in Eastern Chad and its spillover effects, as well as other emergencies in Lake and South Provinces. UNFPA is committed to focusing on the most vulnerable populations, particularly women, girls, and adolescents. During July 2025, UNFPA and implementing partners achieved the following results:

Sexual and reproductive health:

- 12 Inter-Agency Reproductive Health (IARH) kits were distributed to 13 service delivery points (mobile clinic and health facilities) in the Eastern, Southern, and Lake provinces, providing supplies and medicine to:
 - Enable clean deliveries for 9,661 pregnant women without access to health facilities.
 - Manage sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and HIV for 696 individuals.
 - Support deliveries at health facilities for 3,941 women.
 - Enhance and improve the quality of care during childbirth for women in remote areas.
- A total of 138 UNFPA-deployed humanitarian midwives provided SRH services to 46,365 individuals (95% being women) across the Eastern, Southern, and Lake Provinces. This includes:
 - 19,661 women attended at least two antenatal consultations at UNFPA-supported health facilities.
 - 3,941 deliveries assisted.
 - 6,528 women attended postnatal consultations.
 - 9,088 women received family planning services, including 5,133 new users.
 - 681 obstetric complications were recorded – 535 were managed, 136 were referred. Tragically, 10 maternal deaths were recorded in July.
 - 696 individuals were diagnosed with and treated for STIs.

Gender-based violence:

- Case data from Iridimi refugee camp revealed concerning rates of severe GBV cases, with 40 per cent of reported GBV cases being physical assault and 30 per cent being rape. Under UNFPA's leadership, the GBV Sectoral Group –which includes Association des Femmes Juristes du Tchad (AFJT), Danish Refugee Council, INTERSOS, NIRVANA– conducted a large-scale intervention at the camp, reaching 20,828 people with GBV awareness sessions, which covered the topics of physical assault, sexual violence, and available services for survivors. These efforts, which also included French lessons for a group of women, underscore the need for ongoing awareness, behaviour change and response activities.
- In the Ouré Cassoni area, UNFPA distributed 200 dignity kits, 200 teen kits, 200 mama kits, and a 48m² tent to UNHCR. At Iridimi camp, 100 mama kits and two tents (24m² and 48m²) were delivered to UNHCR.

Adolescents and youth:

- UNFPA has empowered a network of 762 young humanitarian ambassadors across Chad to raise awareness on health and protection issues among their peers. Deployed in schools and refugee camps in the Lake Province, Eastern Chad, the South, and N'Djamena, these youth leaders have reached over 185,000 young people. The programme provides vital information on life skills, reproductive health, GBV, family planning, and STI prevention, effectively building the capacity of youth to become agents of change and ensuring that critical health messages reach vulnerable communities.

Results Snapshot


46,365

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


73

Health facilities supported


20,828

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


24

Safe spaces for women and girls supported



750

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



10

Youth spaces supported by UNFPA



12

Reproductive health kits provided to service delivery points to meet the needs of 46,365 people

Coordination Mechanisms

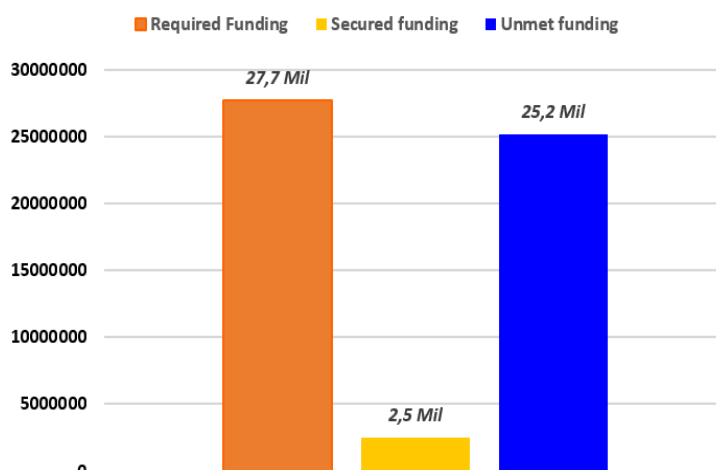
Gender-based violence: Under UNFPA's leadership in the Assoungba region, a coordinated effort with multiple partners has been established to address GBV. Various GBV cases were identified, and weekly case conferences have been established to ensure a coordinated and effective response for survivors.

On 15 July 2025, the Ministry of Women chaired a technical meeting in N'Djamena with GBV actors, during which Chad's 2024 national report on GBV was validated. This report aims to strengthen mechanisms for preventing and protecting against GBV across the country.

Sexual and reproductive health: In celebration of World Population Day, UNFPA and its partners, including key Chadian Ministries, deployed a mobile clinic to remote villages in Mandoul Province. A team of humanitarian midwives provided free reproductive health services, including prenatal consultations and family planning, to underserved communities from July 18 to 21 July 2025, intending to bring essential healthcare closer to the population.

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 July 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.



Current Donors

- UNFPA Emergency Fund / Humanitarian Thematic Fund
- UN Peacebuilding Fund
- Government of Korea
- Government of Canada

For more information

Yewande Odia
Representative
yodia@unfpa.org

Cheikh Mbengue
Deputy Representative
cmbengue@unfpa.org

Joel Kakitsha
Humanitarian Coordinator
kakitsha@unfpa.org