



Women and girls collect water at a water point installed by UNICEF in the spontaneous Sudanese refugee site in Adré, in eastern Chad near the Sudanese border, in July 2023.

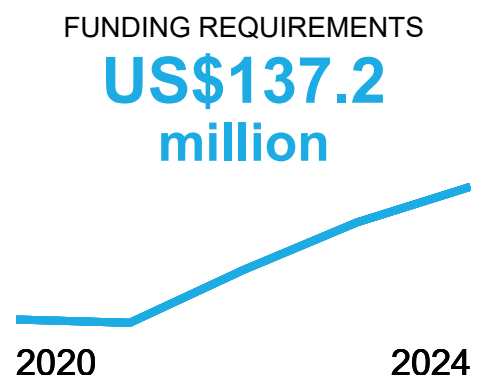
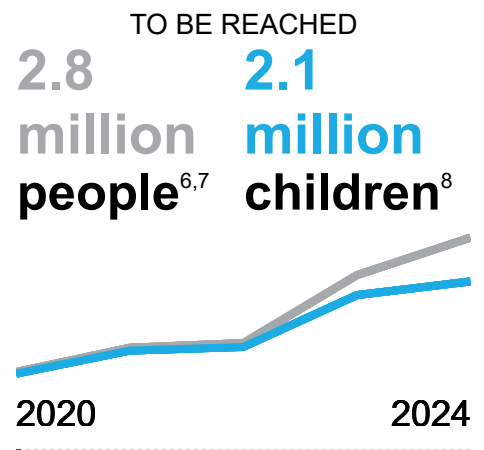
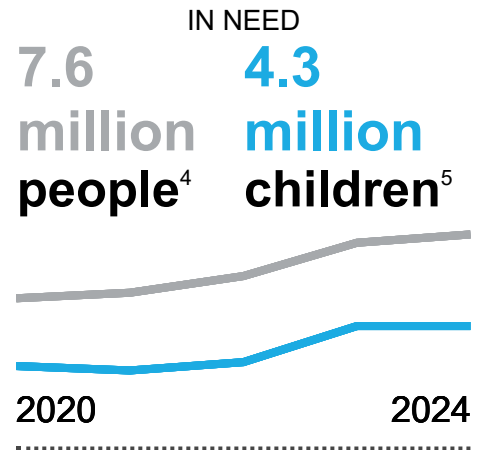
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for every child

## Humanitarian Action for Children

# Chad

### HIGHLIGHTS<sup>1</sup>

- Protracted and rapid-onset multidimensional crises, aggravated by climate change, have created a challenging humanitarian situation for the people of Chad, and 7.6 million<sup>2</sup> people will need humanitarian assistance in 2024. Among the recent crises has been the large influx of Sudanese refugees and Chadian returnees since April 2023. Chad hosts around half of all refugees in West and Central Africa (1 million out of 2.2 million<sup>3</sup>).
- In 2024, UNICEF will continue to promote greater accountability to affected populations to reach the most vulnerable children and women including refugees, returnees and host communities. UNICEF will also continue to lead/co-lead the Education, Nutrition, Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Clusters and Child Protection Area of Responsibility, providing effective coordination of the humanitarian response with the Government and other humanitarian partners.
- UNICEF requires \$137.2 million to help vulnerable children and women in Chad through interventions focusing on nutrition, education, protection from violence, and WASH.



### KEY PLANNED TARGETS



**416,000**  
children with severe wasting admitted for treatment



**65,000**  
children/caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support



**288,000**  
children receiving individual learning materials



**340,000**  
people accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water

Figures are provisional and subject to change upon finalization of the inter-agency planning documents.

## HUMANITARIAN SITUATION AND NEEDS

The difficult humanitarian circumstances in Chad are caused by continued population displacements due to conflict, natural disasters, persistent food insecurity, high rates of malnutrition, economic crisis and political instability. The result is a prolonged multidimensional crisis, exacerbated by climate change.

Chad ranks 190 of 191 countries in the Human Development Index and is the second worst country in the world for child exposure to climate change. Children make up 57 per cent of the country's 18 million people, and 50 per cent of children are affected by multidimensional poverty.<sup>9</sup>

Chad hosts around half of the refugees in the West and Central Africa region (1 million of 2.2 million),<sup>10</sup> and since April 2023 the country has also experienced a large influx of Sudanese refugees and Chadian returnees. There are 215,928 internally displaced persons and 100,543 returnees. Most internally displaced people are in Lac Region, and most of the refugees in the country live in eastern Chad.<sup>11</sup>

The nutritional situation remains alarming in Chad. The 2022 SMART (Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions) survey found a prevalence of global acute malnutrition in children under age 5 years of 8.6 per cent, and the prevalence of severe wasting is 1.5 per cent. An estimated 2.1 million children aged 6–59 months suffer from wasting and require treatment.<sup>12</sup>

Access to quality education services for children in humanitarian situations across Chad is challenging, and the Humanitarian Response Plan estimates 1.4 million children in emergency situations will need education services.<sup>13</sup>

Many children – including displaced, refugee, returnee and host community children – are extremely vulnerable to such protection violations as physical and sexual violence, exploitation and recruitment by non-state armed groups. These are only a few of the factors that lead to high levels of psychosocial distress among the country's children.

Measles outbreaks linked to low vaccination coverage persist in several provinces of Chad, and the risk of a nationwide measles epidemic remains high. Limited access to water services (61.8 per cent) and sanitation (12 per cent)<sup>14</sup> severely impacts people's health and nutrition status. The situation is alarming in Ouaddaï Region in eastern Chad, which hosts 70 per cent of the Sudanese refugee population as well as Chadian returnees. The Humanitarian Response Plan estimates that only 26 per cent of households in this region have access to an improved water source and 14 per cent to an improved sanitation system. Overall, unsafe water is still causing a high death toll in Chad.<sup>15</sup>

## SECTOR NEEDS



**2.4 million** people in need of health assistance<sup>16</sup>



**4.5 million** people in need of nutrition assistance<sup>17</sup>



**317,000** children in need of protection services<sup>18</sup>



**1.4 million** children in need of education support<sup>19</sup>



**4.1 million** people lack access to safe water<sup>20</sup>

## STORY FROM THE FIELD



"My baby is cured [of severe wasting] but I don't know what my future will be here, as a woman alone with nine children," says Raoda, a Sudanese refugee in eastern Chad.

After spending 10 days at the UNICEF-supported therapeutic nutrition unit at the hospital in Adré, eastern Chad, baby Koukaï, 9 months, is finally ready to go 'home' with her mother, Raoda – home to the spontaneous Sudanese refugee site where the family settled after leaving the Sudan.

Koukaï became severely wasted shortly after arriving in Chad. "The nurses took good care of us," says Raoda. "I can see that my child has improved a lot."

The mother and her nine children fled the city of El Geneina, in Sudan's West Darfur State, in June 2023, when armed men began going door to door and killing civilians. The family arrived in Chad with nothing but the clothes on their backs.

**[Read more about this story here](#)**

The UNICEF strategy for its humanitarian response in Chad is laid out in the country programme document 2024–2026, and it aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2024–2026 and the revised Humanitarian Response Plan 2023.

Through both humanitarian and development work, UNICEF will facilitate access to inclusive and resilient basic social services and will strengthen the capacity of the national and subnational authorities to prepare for and respond to emergencies. UNICEF will ensure multisector and localized humanitarian programming in line with the humanitarian–development–peace nexus approach.

UNICEF will continue to address the needs of refugees, returnees and host communities. No one will be left behind. UNICEF will focus its response on eastern and southern Chad, as well as Lac Region.

Wherever possible, UNICEF will consider humanitarian cash transfers in its interventions and seek to reinforce the shock-responsiveness of social protection systems to support community resilience. Community engagement and social and behaviour change will be critical approaches, and UNICEF will also establish safe and accessible complaints and feedback mechanisms and include affected populations in programme decision-making processes through a strong accountability to affected populations approach.

UNICEF will roll out vaccination campaigns for vaccine-preventable, epidemic-prone diseases, including measles. To reduce the risks of waterborne diseases, UNICEF will respond to crises by providing access to safe drinking water and sanitation. UNICEF will also support HIV/AIDS screenings and treatment to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV. To address the critical nutrition situation in Chad, UNICEF will provide counselling and support for quality infant and young child feeding practices, including breastfeeding for children aged 0–5 months and vitamin A supplementation. UNICEF will continue to supply ready-to-use therapeutic food to treat children suffering from severe wasting across the country.

UNICEF will supply school materials and provide access to a gender-sensitive and inclusive formal/non-formal education to all children in humanitarian situations, whether they are refugees, returnees or host community members.

UNICEF will ensure that the mental health and psychosocial support needs of children, adolescents and caregivers are identified and addressed through coordinated multisectoral and community-based services. A timely, quality and multisectoral response will address gender-based violence. UNICEF will support child protection case management using a coordinated multisector response and will reinforce its interventions around protection from sexual exploitation and abuse.

Pre-positioning of non-food items is part of its preparedness planning in Chad, and UNICEF will distribute these items as needed.

UNICEF will continue to lead the Nutrition, Education and WASH Clusters and the Child Protection Area of Responsibility.

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.



### Health (including public health emergencies)<sup>25</sup>

- **372,953** children vaccinated against measles, supplemental dose<sup>26</sup>



### HIV/AIDS<sup>27</sup>

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



### Nutrition

- **1,700,000** children 6-59 months screened for wasting<sup>28</sup>
- **416,000** children 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment<sup>29</sup>
- **673,000** primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling<sup>30</sup>



### Child protection, GBViE and PSEA

- **65,000** children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support
- **70,000** 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<sup>31</sup>
- **3,200** children who have received individual case management



### Education

- **119,220** children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning<sup>32</sup>
- **288,000** children receiving individual learning materials<sup>33</sup>



### Water, sanitation and hygiene

- **340,000** people accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs<sup>34</sup>
- **280,000** people accessing appropriate sanitation services<sup>35</sup>



### Social protection

- **10,000** households benefitting from new or additional social assistance (cash/in-kind) measures from government-funded programmes with UNICEF technical assistance support<sup>36</sup>



### Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP)

- **2,180,000** affected people (children, caregivers, community members) reached with timely and life-saving information on how and where to access available services<sup>37</sup>
- **857,980** people engaged in reflective dialogue through community platforms
- **596,650** people sharing their concerns and asking questions through established feedback mechanisms<sup>38</sup>



### Non-food items<sup>39</sup>

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

Programme targets are provisional and subject to change upon finalization of the inter-agency planning documents.

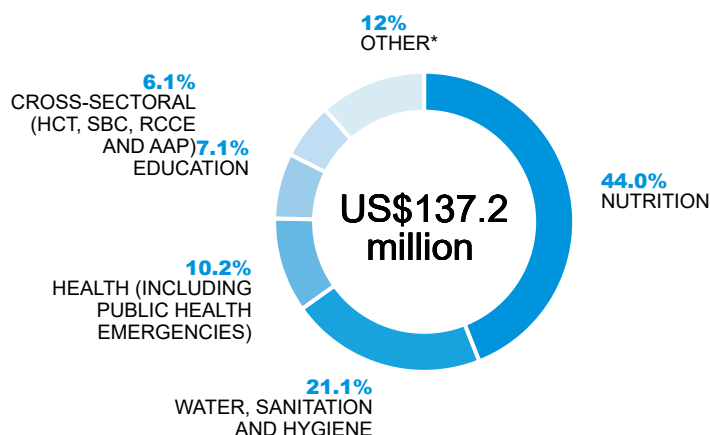


# FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN 2024

In 2024, UNICEF is requesting \$137.2 million to respond to the most urgent needs of vulnerable children and women, including internally displaced people, refugees, returnees and host populations in Chad. This funding will enable UNICEF to meet needs on the areas of health, HIV/AIDS, nutrition, child protection, mental health and psychosocial support, education, WASH, social protection, social and behaviour change and non-food items for a growing number of children.

Nutrition interventions comprise the greatest share of the funding requirements, at 44 per cent. This funding is needed to increase the screening of refugee, returnee and host community children for malnutrition and to provide timely and quality treatment to those suffering from wasting. UNICEF is the only provider of ready-to-use therapeutic food to treat severe wasting.

The increase in funding required this year compared with 2023 is due to the sudden influx of Sudanese refugees and Chadian returnees into eastern Chad. This situation has also impacted the host communities in that area, which has significantly increased the number of people and children to be reached and the funds that are required. Lack of funding for humanitarian action for children in Chad will cause suffering and will have long-term consequences on children's well-being, and their ability to realize their rights.



Sector	2024 requirements (US\$) <sup>40,41</sup>
Health (including public health emergencies)	14,000,000 <sup>42</sup>
HIV/AIDS	490,600
Nutrition	60,370,000 <sup>43</sup>
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	5,940,310
Education	9,700,000 <sup>44</sup>
Water, sanitation and hygiene	29,000,000
Social protection	3,062,500 <sup>45</sup>
Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP)	8,312,500 <sup>46</sup>
Non-food items	6,300,000 <sup>47</sup>
<b>Total</b>	<b>137,175,910</b>

\*This includes costs from other sectors/interventions : Non-food items (4.6%), Child protection, GBViE and PSEA (4.3%), Social protection (2.2%), HIV/AIDS (<1%).

## Who to contact for further information:

**Jacques Boyer**  
Representative, Chad  
T +235 22 51 89 89  
jboyer@unicef.org

**Lana Wreikat**  
Director, Office of Emergency Programmes (EMOPS), a.i.  
T +1 212 326 7150  
lwreikat@unicef.org

**June Kunugi**  
Director, Public Partnerships Division (PPD)  
T +1 212 326 7118  
jkunugi@unicef.org

# ENDNOTES

1. UNICEF activated its Corporate Emergency Level 2 Scale-up Procedure for Eastern Chad for the following period: 21 July - 31 December 2023. The status will be reviewed on that date. UNICEF Emergency Procedures are activated to ensure a timely and effective response to all crises. The emergency procedures provide a tailored package of mandatory actions and simplifications required for all offices responding to Level 3, Level 2 and Level 1 humanitarian situations.
2. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Chad Humanitarian Response Plan 2023, revised, September 2023.
3. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Operational Data Portal, 16 October 2023.
4. OCHA, Chad Humanitarian Response Plan 2023, revised, September 2023.
5. Ibid.
6. This figure is calculated based on the sum of multiple intervention targets where targeted groups do not overlap geographically or demographically: number of children aged 6–59 months screened for wasting (1,700,000); children older than 5 years of age to be reached with individual learning material kits (288,000); and people engaged in reflective dialogue through community platforms (857,980) to avoid double counting. The Humanitarian Response Plan estimates 51 per cent of people to be reached are women and 15 per cent are people living with disabilities.
7. UNICEF is committed to needs-based targeting, which means covering the unmet needs of children; and will serve as the provider of last resort where it has cluster coordination responsibilities.
8. This figure is calculated based on the sum of multiple intervention targets where targeted groups do not overlap geographically or demographically: number of children aged 6–59 months screened for wasting (1,700,000); children over age 5 years but younger than age 17 years to be reached with individual learning material kits (288,000); and adolescents from 17 years to 18 years (85,798), which represents 10 per cent of people engaged in reflective dialogue through community platforms to avoid double counting. The Humanitarian Response Plan estimates 51 per cent of people to be reached are girls and 15 per cent are children living with disabilities.
9. UNICEF and Institut National de la Statistique, des Etudes Economiques et Démographiques (INSEED), Report on child poverty in Chad, 2021.
10. UNHCR, Operational Data Portal, 16 October 2023.
11. Ibid.
12. OCHA, Chad Humanitarian Response Plan 2023, revised, September 2023.
13. Ibid.
14. Multiple indicator cluster survey 2019, round 6, Chad 2019.
15. World Health Organization (WHO), World Health Statistics 2019: Monitoring health for the SDGs, Sustainable Development Goals, WHO, Geneva, 2019.
16. OCHA, Chad Humanitarian Response Plan 2023, revised, September 2023.
17. Ibid.
18. Ibid. Refugee children are not included. They fall under the multisector refugee section of the Humanitarian Response Plan.
19. Ibid.
20. Ibid.
21. 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.
22. UNICEF is committed to supporting the leadership and coordination of humanitarian response through its leadership or co-leadership of cluster coordination for the WASH, Nutrition and Education Clusters and the Child Protection Area of Responsibility. All cluster coordinator costs are included in sectoral programme budgets.
23. UNICEF is committed to empowering local responders in humanitarian crises in a variety of ways. The revised Core Commitments made investing in strengthening the capacities of local actors in the humanitarian response a mandatory benchmark for UNICEF action. A more localized response will improve humanitarian action and is fundamental to achieving better accountability to affected populations.
24. Beyond the UNICEF targets for these interventions, other humanitarian partners are expected to reach the remaining children/families in need.
25. The drop in the target is to align with the Humanitarian Response Plan. Routine measles vaccination is no longer included in the target.
26. This is the health cluster target for measles vaccination. Source: OCHA, Chad Humanitarian Response Plan 2023, revised, September 2023. UNICEF is the sole provider of measles vaccine in Chad.
27. This figure was calculated on the basis of the seroprevalence rate (1.2 per cent) among expected pregnancies (5.51 per cent) in the population on the move (1,056,602). 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.
28. The figure aligns with the inter-agency target.
29. UNICEF is the only provider of ready-to-use therapeutic food for treating severe wasting in Chad. UNICEF targets 100 per cent of the Humanitarian Response Plan 2023 (revised) need for treatment for severe wasting.
30. For the nutrition sector, the Humanitarian Response Plan covers more districts in 2023 compared with 2022. This increased Humanitarian Action for Children appeal target represents 60 per cent of the target in the Humanitarian Response Plan 2023 (revised). As provider of last resort UNICEF, addresses the uncovered needs.
31. 2023 rollover figure to be adjusted in 2024.
32. This figure was adjusted to align with the revised 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan. The Education Cluster target for this indicator has increased from 149,389 to 180,620 in the Humanitarian Response Plan. Other Education Cluster members will cover 34 per cent of the 180,620. As provider of last resort, UNICEF targets the remaining 66 per cent of the cluster target (or 119,220 people) which led to an increase of 10 per cent in UNICEF's target for the 2024 appeal, compared with the 2023 appeal.
33. The figure was adjusted to align with the revised 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan. The Education Cluster target increased from 405,618 to 436,849 in the Humanitarian Response Plan. As provider of last resort, UNICEF has increased its target from 269,000 to 288,000, a 7 per cent increase compared with the 2023 appeal.
34. The increase of this target from 240,000 to 340,000 is to align with the increase of the target in the revised 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan (from 879,022 to 1,137,052). UNICEF is the provider of last resort for the WASH Cluster and covers the remaining needs.
35. The increase in this target from 140,000 to 280,000 is to align with the increase in the revised 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan from 73,518 to 947,543. UNICEF is the provider of last resort for the WASH Cluster and covers the remaining needs.
36. Five thousand households will be targeted through UNICEF-funded programmes and 5,000 through the government-funded programme. Technical assistance will be provided to the Government.
37. This figure include refugees, returnees, internally displaced persons and the host communities in the affected communities. This intervention is not really covered by the Sudan Emergency Regional Refugee Response Plan.
38. This figure include refugees, returnees, internally displaced persons and the host communities in the affected communities. This intervention is not really covered by the Sudan Emergency Regional Refugee Response Plan, and UNICEF is the lead on community engagement and social and behaviour change.
39. 2023 rollover figure to be adjusted in 2024.
40. These figures are provisional and subject to change upon finalization of the inter-agency needs and planning documents.
41. UNICEF is committed to supporting the leadership and coordination of humanitarian response through its leadership or co-leadership of cluster coordination for the WASH, Nutrition and Education Clusters and the Child Protection Area of Responsibility. All cluster coordinator costs are included in sectoral programme budgets.
42. UNICEF is the sole supplier of measles vaccines in Chad. This budget line item includes all measles immunization-related efforts including technical, operational and procurement support. Unlike in the 2023 appeal, this figure includes support for planning and microplanning, development of guidelines, training material, information, education and communication material, capacity building of managers or health workers at various levels, social mobilization and communication, vaccine procurement, distribution, cold chain strengthening and monitoring or evaluation of the immunization efforts. These activities will be implemented at the national and subnational levels.
43. UNICEF is the sole provider of ready-to-use therapeutic food in Chad. UNICEF procure the products and is also responsible for the supply chain up to the end user. Additionally, UNICEF has added a third nutrition indicator in this appeal. This indicator is for malnutrition screening and the target is 1,700,000 children.
44. This figure includes multiple activities that go beyond the two indicators highlighted in the programme targets section of this appeal; it also covers construction of temporary learning spaces, procurement of school kits and capacity building of teachers.
45. This figure includes the distribution of cash to 10,000 households and the provision of technical assistance to strengthen social protection system adaptation to respond to humanitarian crises.
46. This figure is for social and behaviour change activities; risk communication and community engagement; and accountability to affected populations. Humanitarian cash transfers are covered under the social protection line item.
47. This figure is only for social and behaviour change activities and community engagement.