Chad and FAO
Strengthening resilience, food security and nutrition

Fighting hunger, poverty and malnutrition has been at the heart of FAO’s work in Chad since the Organization opened an office in N’Djamena in 1977. In 2004, the FAO Representation added an Operations Division to coordinate emergency work and boost its capacity to support the Government’s needs. Key features of cooperation include strengthening evidence-based information for food security, nutrition and resilience policies and programmes, agricultural and veterinary inputs for livestock farming, and technical assistance for the rehabilitation of irrigated lands.

Matching FAO’s expertise to Chad’s development priorities

FAO’s assistance in Chad is defined by the Country Programming Framework (CPF) 2017-2021, which is aligned with the Organization’s technical and policy expertise and the Government’s priorities, as reflected in the National Development Plan (2017-2021), whose objective is to achieve the National Agenda – “2030 vision, the Chad we want”. The vision includes an ambitious National Investment Plan for the Rural Sector based on the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP).

The CPF focuses on three priority areas:

- The development of sustainable agricultural value chains addressing the challenge of sustainable food production in the sectors of crops, livestock, and forestry.
- The formulation and implementation of policies and sectoral strategies for food security and nutrition.
- The sustainable management and use of natural resources to build community, institutional and household resilience.

Established in 1977, the FAO Representation in Chad is pleased to be celebrating its 40th anniversary.

Strengthening food security and nutrition and social protection

Chad is a low-income country, where the rural sector is the main source of GDP. The main challenge faced in this strategic sector is the need to strengthen the country’s AgrosilvoPastoral potential in order to reduce food shortages and progress towards the 2030 zero hunger target.

FAO is recognized in particular for its multifaceted support to the Government in protecting the livelihoods of vulnerable households and families, for example through the provision of agricultural and veterinary inputs as well as supplementary feed for small-scale livestock.

Reconciling emergency activities with development

FAO collaborates with the World Bank to assist the Government of Chad in addressing humanitarian issues linked to the Central Africa Republic’s crisis through a project entitled “Emergency response to the food and livestock crisis”. The project, undertaken in partnership with the Ministries of Agriculture and Livestock in 14 regions of the Southern and Sahel belt of the country, combines emergency and development actions to support refugees, returnees and host population, to restore their livelihoods. Crop and livestock’s producers benefit from a technical assistance in the following activities: certified seeds production; seed banks building; borehole equipped with pumps and irrigation kits for garden production and; spotting of transhumance routes to mitigate conflicts between crop producers and herders.

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Promoting non-timber forest products

Chad has a rich biodiversity, including non-timber forest products. Such resources play an important role in strengthening food security and increasing the incomes of vulnerable rural households. Since 2014, FAO has been advising the Government on the development of non-timber products that have a high economic, food, nutritional and medicinal value. The identified products include shea nuts, honey, fruits from the soap nut tree, moringa leaves, neem oil and its derivatives, fruits from the tamarind tree and other medicinal plants. The initiative is involving a number of groups from the southern region of the country – groups that are essentially driven by women and young people. The project is showing excellent results, with the production of products such as shea butter, honey, moringa oil and tamarind syrup. Some 50 000 people, belonging to 200 groups and associations, are benefiting directly from project activities in ten out of Chad’s 23 regions.

Agricultural investment planning

Since 1972, FAO Investment Centre’s support to the Government of Chad has contributed to the implementation of eleven projects, with total investments of over USD 220 million. The main financing partners are the World Bank Group and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). The FAO Investment Centre has supported Chad in a number of other areas in recent years, including the following activities:

- Formulation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) and the National Agriculture Investment Plan (PNISR);
- Implementation of the Rural Development Support Programme in the Guera region;
- Technical assistance for a CAADP Capacity Development Programme for Investment and Policy (CCDPIP); Chad has also benefited from the Regional Sahel Pastoralism Support Project (PRAPS).

Regional scope, country focus

Chad is actively participating in three of FAO’s Regional Initiatives:

- “Africa’s Renewed Partnership to End Hunger by 2025”. Activities include supporting resource mobilization around the CAADP/PNISR, strengthening capacity for evidence-based information for food security, nutrition and resilience policies and programmes, and reinforcing the capacity for the implementation of the national post-Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2) roadmap.
- “Sustainable Production Intensification and Value Chain Development in Sub-Saharan Africa”, including support for the professionalization of producer organizations in the agriculture, farming, forest and fishing sectors, and for the creation of micro-enterprises to promote decent rural employment as well as rural youth and women entrepreneurship.
- “Building Resilience in Africa’s Drylands”. Activities include providing technical assistance towards the rehabilitation and maintenance of ten small irrigated lands at rural community level and the creation of fifty pastoral water points.

“Food security and adequate nutrition for all is where sustainable development starts.”

José Graziano da Silva
FAO Director-General

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