

*“In the closing months of 2009  
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324 000 refugees”*

# Chad

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## Background

Years of conflict and instability have profoundly impacted the people of Chad, and lie at the heart of the country's food security and livelihood difficulties. Refugees fleeing the protracted crisis in the Sudan's Darfur Region and insecurity in northern areas of the Central African Republic have joined thousands displaced from their homes in Chad itself by interethnic and political tensions. In the closing months of 2009, the country was hosting over 324 000 refugees – 256 700 Sudanese and 67 800 from the Central African Republic – and 168 400 IDPs.

In spite of a long-standing displacement situation, the absence of any large-scale fighting in Chad in 2009 has been a very positive development. There is general agreement within the humanitarian community that the situation is now evolving away from an acute emergency phase into one, predominately, of rehabilitation. Emphasis is being placed on focusing assistance to meet the needs of those who remain deeply affected by dislocation and instability.

## Challenges facing food security and livelihoods

IDPs, refugees, returnees and their host populations, countrywide, face considerable difficulties in maintaining livelihoods and food security. Overgrazing and desertification have reduced the limited areas that are available for farming in eastern Chad, where water and productive agricultural land is scarce. Competition for these resources, in both the south and the east of the country, has increased tensions among displaced persons and their hosts and prevented many from engaging in agricultural activities. Women-headed households have been particularly affected.

Poor quality storage facilities and lack of access to markets in eastern Chad have discouraged farmers from producing surplus food, and left them highly vulnerable to unexpected events. Reports indicate that up to one-third of harvests in past years have been lost through insect attacks, fires and other issues related to inadequate storage.

Seasonal floods and drought have increased the vulnerability of hundreds of thousands across the country. Rains that fall between June and November every year have historically restricted access to the east and south of the country by damaging main transport routes. Extreme weather conditions have highlighted the need for fast-growing and highly-resistant



*FAO intends to create and rehabilitate village wells, artificial ponds and microdams to meet the water needs of displaced people.*

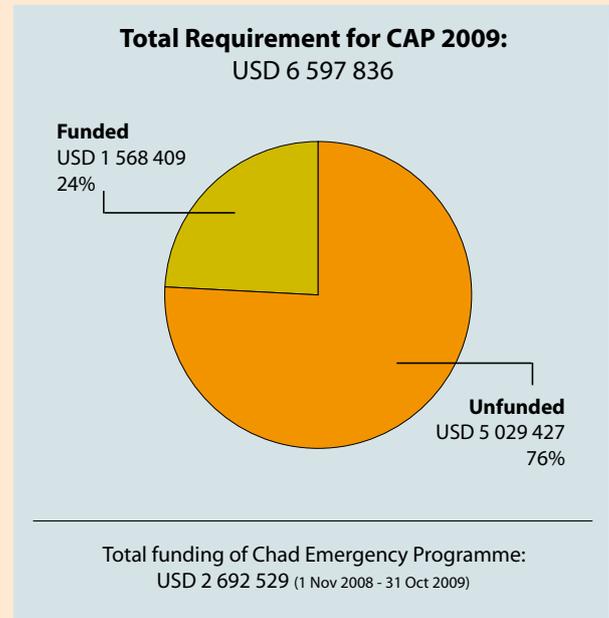
crops. Past use of improved seeds has brought remarkable increases in yields, but their availability is very low – the supply sector is non-existent and national capacity to produce them is severely limited.

### FAO response

FAO is planning a variety of initiatives to assist IDPs, resettling populations and host communities within Chad to improve their food security and livelihoods, by focusing on issues relating to scarce water, a lack of productive arable land, inadequate storage facilities, poor access to markets, and limited availability of high-yield seeds.

Proposed interventions include the creation and rehabilitation of village wells, artificial ponds and microdams to meet the water needs of displaced people and their host populations in eastern Chad, the provision of carts to farmer groups in the east of the country to give households improved access to markets where production surpluses can be sold and the construction of community warehouses to enable households to store their produce in more secure conditions. The provision of chickens, small ruminants and fruit conservation kits will also enable vulnerable households (four-fifths women-headed) to engage in small agricultural processing activities and improve their livelihoods.

In addition, FAO plans to bolster farming-capacity growth in Chad through distributing adapted food crop seeds to experienced farmers for multiplication, through providing follow-up training and by procuring and distributing locally grown seeds. Overall, FAO plans to enhance humanitarian coordination through the creation of strategic working groups in collaboration with other UN agencies, national and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and national authorities. The aim will be to improve communication, strategic planning, and competency transfer among food security actors and Government entities.



## PROPOSALS: FAO EMERGENCY AND REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE

Total funding requested: USD 7 794 000

Support to agricultural and pastoral production for households affected by the crisis in eastern Chad through improved access to land and water and protection of gardening perimeters	
Objectives:	To increase the productive capacity of host communities, IDPs, returnees and refugees through the construction and/or rehabilitation of small hydroagricultural structures (pastoral or vegetable cultivation wells, artificial ponds, vegetable-field perimeters providing protection against animals, water-harvesting structures, etc.); improve access to drinking water and appropriate sanitation; and promote access to markets through the rehabilitation of roads and marketplaces.
Activities:	Create/rehabilitate gardening, pastoral and village wells, artificial ponds, microdams for irrigation purposes, water-harvesting structures and garden perimeters to protect vegetable production against animals; provide water availability/management support through increased pumping capacity (via pumps and tubes); reinforce group-based resource management; and rehabilitate marketplaces and roads.
Beneficiaries:	30 000 households (IDPs, returnees, host populations and refugees).
Implementing Partners:	National agricultural bodies (Ministries of the Environment and Water Resources and Animal Production, and ONDR), UNHCR, WFP, Africare, African Concern, CARE and IRD, among others.
Project Duration:	January – December 2010.
Funds Requested:	USD 1 760 000.

### Emergency supply of farming inputs to vulnerable households affected by conflicts and floods in eastern and southern Chad

Objectives:	To improve food security for crisis- and flood-affected households through providing direct food production support.
Activities:	Supply rainy-season seeds to 15 000 vulnerable refugee, displaced person, returnee and host-community households with access to land; supply gardening kits composed of seeds, tools and treatment products to approximately 7 000 households; and provide training and technical support to beneficiaries to ensure operational success as well as the profitability and sustainability of project results.
Beneficiaries:	15 000 crisis-affected households.
Implementing partners:	National agricultural bodies (Ministries, ONDR), UNHCR, WFP, Africare, African Concern, CARE and IRD.
Duration:	March 2010 – March 2011.
Funds requested:	USD 1 007 000.

### Promotion of post-harvest income-generating activities, such as storage, food processing and marketing

Objectives:	To enable displaced, resettling and host-community farmers to generate additional revenues through better marketing and storage of their produce.
Activities:	Provide approximately 200 carts to allow beneficiaries to transport their produce to local markets; construct approximately 150 community warehouses to improve post-harvest storage conditions; train 150 local committees on community warehouse management and 150 communities on improved marketing techniques; and support 150 communities in setting up initial community stocks.
Beneficiaries:	5 250 households (IDPs, returnees, host populations and refugees).
Implementing Partners:	N/A.
Project Duration:	January – December 2010.
Funds Requested:	USD 1 430 000.

### Support to FAO's Emergency Coordination Unit on agricultural emergency activities and surveys

Objectives:	To enhance coordination among humanitarian actors to improve the sustainability of actions and strategic information research.
Activities:	Create working groups, in collaboration with all actors involved in the return, integration, reintegration and relocation of IDPs in eastern Chad, to ensure the coherence of food security and agriculture interventions in keeping with national objectives and relevant clusters strategies: (i) field-level working groups will conduct surveys, formulate strategies and implement operational plans; (ii) district-level working groups will act on information provided by field working groups to develop operational plans on sustainable reintegration and development; (iii) the national-level working group, working with the Interagency Standing Committee in Chad, Government authorities and clusters, will ensure planned activities in areas where returnees are settled are consistent with the Government's strategic framework, will plan interventions with technical agency support, including FAO, and will ensure that follow up and evaluations are conducted on returnee reintegration programmes.
Beneficiaries:	Crisis-affected populations and humanitarian actors in Chad.
Implementing partners:	UN agencies, NGOs (local, national and international), relevant national ministries and relevant institutional actors.
Duration:	January – December 2010.
Funds requested:	USD 902 000.

### Support to agricultural input supply sectors and networks

Objectives:	To revitalize the food crop seed-multiplication sector to increase national capacity to meet the needs of returnees, relocated persons and host communities; and strengthen agricultural tool availability and fertilizer production and supply systems.
Activities:	Distribute, locally-adapted food crop seeds for multiplication to experienced farmers, who will subsequently benefit from training sessions on seed multiplication technologies and cultivation follow-up; food crop seed multiplication by families that received assistance through previous projects; procure and redistribute the produced seeds to vulnerable households (priority given first to displaced and resettling households and secondly to host populations); reorganize the seed production chain from multipliers to final seed users; provide training on community-based agricultural supply and/or agricultural produce marketing; and provide training to skilled workers on improved tool production and charcoal saving practices.
Beneficiaries:	16 100 households (including IDPs, returnees and host-community members) and a large number of skilled workers in eastern Chad.
Implementing Partners:	Specialized services of the Ministry of Agriculture, local and international NGOs and community-based organizations (CBOs).
Project Duration:	February 2010 – June 2011.
Funds Requested:	USD 1 320 000.

**Promotion of income-generating activities, such as agricultural processing and livestock activities, to assist women who are displaced, resettling or members of the host community without access to natural resources in eastern and southern Chad**

Objectives:	To enable women's groups (from displaced, resettling and host-community populations) without access to natural resources to generate income through small agricultural-processing and livestock activities.
Activities:	Distribute key inputs necessary for small agricultural-processing and livestock activities, including around 30 processing tools (grinders, oil presses, etc.), 200 fruit conservation and processing kits, 800 chickens for egg production and 1 000 small ruminants for income generation and improvement of protein intake; and provide technical and methodological support to reinforce the production and marketing capacity of beneficiary groups.
Beneficiaries:	5 000 households of displaced, resettling and host-community women.
Implementing Partners:	Potential partners: Government ministries, WFP, UNDP, Africare, African Concern, IRD, ACF, SECADEV, World Vision, BELACD, PU, ACTED and PRODABO.
Project Duration:	January – December 2010.
Funds Requested:	USD 1 375 000.