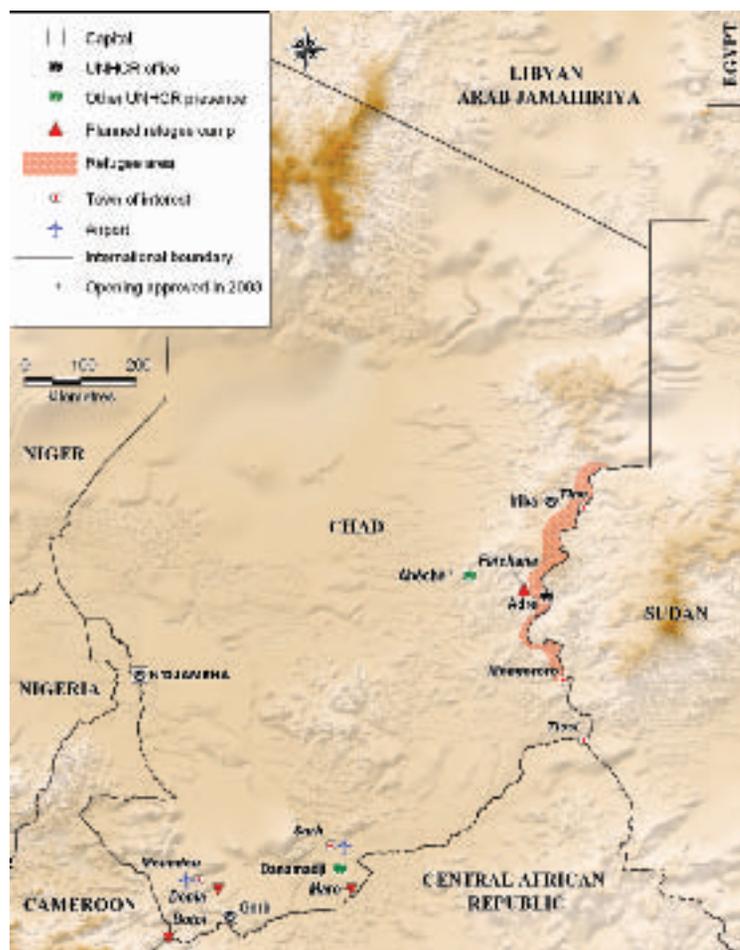


Republic of Chad

Main objectives

Re-establish a presence in Chad in order to address the needs of refugees from the Central African Republic (CAR) and Sudan and assist the Government of Chad in providing international protection and humanitarian assistance for these refugees; ensure that adequate emergency response mechanisms are put in place to meet the immediate needs of refugees; strengthen the capacity of UNHCR and its partners to respond effectively to further influxes of refugees into southern and eastern Chad; promote durable solutions such as voluntary repatriation and/or local integration; guarantee that asylum-seekers and other persons of concern to UNHCR have access to Refugee Status Determination (RSD) without discrimination, and in accordance with international standards; assist the most vulnerable urban refugees.



Impact

- In southern Chad, 33,000 newly arrived refugees from CAR received shelter, food, domestic items, health care, water and sanitation, and basic primary education.
- UNHCR deployed emergency teams to eastern Chad and ensured that the vulnerable groups among the 55,000 Sudanese refugees received life-saving assistance.
- UNHCR provided technical assistance to the Government of Chad for the registration of refugees, and in southern Chad temporary registration cards were distributed to all refugee families from CAR.
- UNHCR provided training on emergency management to UNHCR staff, implementing partners and government officials from Chad and from CAR.

- 165 asylum applications were assessed by the *Commission nationale d'accueil et de réinsertion des réfugiés* (CNAR). Owing to a lack of protection staff based in N'Djamena in 2003, UNHCR had a limited impact on refugee status determination activities in Chad.

Working environment

The context

Since the end of 2002, Chad experienced an influx of over 33,000 Central African refugees who fled the conflict which culminated in a *coup d'état* in CAR in mid-March 2003 in which President Ange-Félix Patassé was ousted and General François Bozize was installed in power. The majority of refugees from

the Central African Republic settled in camps in the three main areas of Goré (Amboko camp), Maro and Danamadji in southern Chad. Refugees were largely welcomed and assisted by the local populations, the Government, and the UN agencies.

In early 2003, fighting broke out in Darfur, western Sudan, amongst government forces and the Sudanese Liberation Movement (SLM) as well as the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM), two rebel movements led by people of Zaghawa ethnicity. The fighting resulted in the death and injury of hundreds of civilians. Armed militia were involved in extensive burning and looting of villages as well as attacking and killing civilians, mostly of negro-African origin. Tens of thousands of civilians were displaced in Darfur, while some 110,000 took refuge in neighbouring Chad in 2003. Refugees were scattered along a 600-kilometre swathe of land running along the Chadian-Sudanese border. The local population shared its limited resources and assisted refugees with food, clothing and household utensils.

There were also some 3,400 urban refugees from CAR settled in N'Djamena at the end of 2003, approximately 35 per cent of whom were women and 30 per cent children under 18.

Constraints

In southern Chad, poor road conditions constituted a major constraint in delivering relief assistance to the refugee population. During the rainy season, access to refugees was very difficult, if not impossible.

In eastern Chad, the main constraint to the effective delivery of protection and humanitarian assistance to refugees was accessibility due to the remoteness of the refugee settlements. Refugees were located about 1,000 kilometres from the capital, in the desert region of the Ouaddai, where there are no roads. Furthermore, they were in extremely isolated areas. The region also has very harsh climatic conditions. It is very dry and cold at night during the winter, but the summer brings heavy rains which prevent access to many locations. In addition, UNHCR had no aircraft for its operation in eastern Chad in 2003 and therefore remained dependent on occasional air services contracted with private companies or provided by UNHCR's office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). This severely restricted staff movement to and from eastern Chad, as well as the delivery of equipment and items to the refugee settlements. The insecurity along the border with Sudan, resulting from continued and intensified

Persons of concern

Main origin/Type of population	Total in country	Of whom UNHCR assisted	Per cent female	Per cent under 18
Sudan (refugees)	110,000	55,000	57	-
Central African Republic (refugees)	33,900	33,500	55	-
Democratic Republic of the Congo (refugees)	2,000	1,300	-	-

Income and expenditure (USD)

Annual programme and Supplementary programme budget

	Revised budget	Income from contributions ¹	Other funds available ²	Total funds available	Total expenditure
AB	0	20,615	(20,615)	0	0
SB	12,993,163	7,913,176	3,192,143	11,105,319	9,848,269
Total	12,993,163	7,933,791	3,171,528	11,105,319	9,848,269

¹ Includes income from contributions restricted at the country level.

² Includes allocations by UNHCR from unearmarked or broadly earmarked contributions, opening balance and adjustments. The above figures do not include costs at headquarters.

Note: The Supplementary programme budgets do not include a 7 per cent charge (support costs) that is recovered from contributions to meet indirect costs for UNHCR.

fighting in the Darfur region, further limited UNHCR's access to refugees temporarily settled at the border.

Chad has signed the 1951 Refugee Convention, the 1967 Protocol, and the 1969 OUA Convention, as well as other relevant human rights treaties. The decree of 31 December 1996 put in place a governmental institution in charge of refugee issues, the CNAR.

However, as a consequence of insufficient staffing of the CNAR in N'Djamena, its sub-committee on eligibility could not meet regularly thus causing delays in decision-making and the coordination of some activities. The budget allocated to the implementing partner was not enough to cover the medical and other needs of all refugees. *Secours catholique pour le développement* (SECADEV) had to suspend its activities by mid-year for lack of funds.

Funding

A *Supplementary Appeal for Emergency Assistance to Sudanese Refugees in eastern Chad* was launched in September 2003. The requirements of USD 16,627,115, covers the needs of refugees and operational costs in 2003 and 2004. Of the USD 6,285,444 needed for 2003, eleven donors had contributed some six million dollars to the Supplementary Programme. As a result of the continuing crisis in Darfur which is generating new arrivals of refugees, increased funding will be required in 2004.

Operations in southern Chad covering the basic needs of CAR refugees were funded through the *All Africa Special Appeal* launched in July 2003.

Achievements and impact

Protection and solutions

Refugees from Sudan and CAR were granted refugee status on a *prima facie* basis and no case of *refoulement* was reported. UNHCR and the Government of Chad collaborated to conduct temporary registration of all CAR refugees on the basis of each household. Protection activities focused on supporting the local authorities in providing security to refugees in the

spontaneous settlements, through activities such as the organization of refugee security committees and the provision of torches and whistles to local security officers. UNHCR also worked closely with refugee leaders, who were involved in the administration of most activities. Women were poorly represented on refugee committees, and increasing their participation is a priority.

Voluntary repatriation to northern CAR was not a viable solution for refugees in 2003, as this area remained insecure and mostly inaccessible to the international community, due to prolonged fighting between government forces and the former opposition, and due to the high level of criminal activities.

UNHCR remained particularly concerned about the physical security of Sudanese refugees in eastern Chad. Upon arrival, they settled along the border with

Sudan, where they were exposed to the fighting and bombing mentioned above. These refugees' safety was further endangered by incursions of armed militia from Sudan, who entered Chadian territory to steal cattle belonging to refugees and Chadian villagers. This resulted in the death of several refugees and Chadian civilians. UNHCR therefore started to identify sites for new camps in order to move refugees away from unsafe areas, at least 50 kilometres away from the border. Two sites had been identified by the end of the year.

The CNAR was responsible for refugee status determination. In 2003, the CNAR reviewed 165 asylum applications, of which 87 were recognised and 78 rejected. 165 cases were pending at the end of 2003. Without protection staff based in N'Djamena, UNHCR was unable to monitor RSD activities





During 2003, some 33,000 refugees from the Central African Republic found shelter in towns in southern Chad. Here, refugees have free access to fresh water. *UNHCR/B. Neeleman*

adequately. The Office assisted the voluntary repatriation of 88 Congolese to DRC and one family to Rwanda. No resettlement took place during the year.

Activities and assistance

Community services: Five unaccompanied minors from Goré were reunited with their parents in CAR. A market was set up for refugees at Goré. In eastern Chad, vulnerable refugees received clothing and personal hygiene supplies. 97 vulnerable urban refugees received limited financial assistance and a group of refugee women were accorded financial aid to start self-reliance projects. In Goré, refugee tailor committees were set up to make school uniforms for the 71 high school students.

Domestic needs/Household support: The following non-food items were provided to CAR refugees: 20,230 blankets, 98,200 bars of soap, plastic sheeting, 9,000 jerry cans, 5,960 kitchen sets, 8,785 sanitary products, 9,000 mats and 4,400 mosquito nets. Vulnerable groups received second-hand clothing. In eastern Chad, the following domestic items were distributed to vulnerable refugees: 11,179 jerry cans, 11,785 blankets, 35,900 bars of soap, 18,930 mats, 1,000 sanitary kit materials, and 196 plastic sheeting rolls.

Education: Construction of primary and intermediate schools started in Goré. A total of 4,300 students of school age registered at primary school (29 per cent of them girls) and 333 students registered in intermediate and secondary schools (16.5 per cent girls). Basic education supplies were provided to

pupils and teachers. In the camps, 43 per cent of teachers were refugees, and 23 per cent were women. Among the urban refugees in N'Djamena, full scholarships were provided to 31 primary and secondary school students and two adults in vocational training.

Food: From April 2003, WFP delivered monthly food rations to CAR refugees, consisting of cereals, leguminous plants and oil. However, there were some delays and WFP did not provide salt as per the standard food basket. Oil, sugar and CSB (corn soya blend) were also provided in support of the four supplementary and therapeutic feeding centres in Maro and in Goré. Distributions of oil and sorghum were organized for 11,212 vulnerable refugees in several localities of eastern Chad. The amount of food distributed was far too little to cover the refugees' needs. They survived thanks to the assistance of the local population.

Health/Nutrition: Health care offered in the settlements included basic curative and preventive care, ante- and post-natal consultations, and feeding centres. Health and hygiene advisory sessions were conducted by refugees recruited and trained by an international NGO. 96 refugees (25 per cent women) were trained by a national partner to conduct a public awareness campaign on HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases. Condoms were also made available to the refugee community. The general food ration amounted to an average 2,100 kcal per person per day (the minimum standard). In eastern Chad, health activities took the form of mobile clinics trying to reach refugees along the border, and support to local health structures in Adré, Tiné and Birak. A total of 205 asylum-seekers and urban refugees in N'Djamena received medical assistance. This assistance was suspended as of August 2003 due to insufficient funds.

Legal assistance: UNHCR worked closely with the Government of Chad on all aspects of refugee protection in the field. Screening and individual registration of CAR refugees was conducted jointly and benefited from the intervention of a UNHCR technical expert sent in from Geneva. Pending the issuance of identity cards, refugees continued to use their ration cards as a means of identification. Temporary birth certificates were issued in Goré.

Operational support (to agencies): UNHCR provided national and international implementing partners with the necessary resources and

equipment. All partners operating in southern Chad and CAR attended training in refugee emergency management.

Sanitation: In Goré, 12 collective latrines and 288 family latrines were constructed. UNHCR also built 636 latrines and 300 showers in Maro. In Danamadji, 158 latrines and 25 showers were erected. Soap was distributed to refugees on a monthly basis. Finally, 14 dumping pits were dug in Goré, 25 in Maro, and 15 in Danamadji.

Shelter/Other infrastructure: Shelters made of tents, plastic sheeting or straw, were provided to refugees from the CAR arriving in Goré, Maro, and Danamadji, pending the construction of mud brick houses in 2004. Due to lack of stocks, about 430 families in Goré did not receive tents or plastic sheeting. Over the course of the year, 171 asylum-seekers obtained shelter at a transit centre in N'djamena, which has a capacity for 10 families and is managed by an implementing partner.

Transport/Logistics: Together with an international NGO, UNHCR started the rehabilitation of 56 kilometres of road in eastern Chad to allow the relocation of refugees settled in very remote and inaccessible areas. As UNHCR did not possess its own plane, it transported staff and items mostly by road, which caused considerable delays for the operations. From time to time, the UNHCR Beechcraft based in the DRC was made available, and occasionally it was necessary to rent a plane from private companies.

Water: In southern Chad, refugees were supplied with water in conformity with UNHCR standards. In the three camps, 2 wells, 8 boreholes, 16 water distribution areas, and 12 washing areas were constructed. There was no restriction on water quantity and the average refugee consumption was 10.4 litres per person per day.

Organization and implementation

Management

Following the closure of UNHCR's office in Chad at the end of 2001, UNHCR activities in Chad were covered from UNHCR's representation in CAR until the Office re-established its presence in Chad in

February 2003. An emergency team was deployed to N'Djamena to set up a coordination office and to open field offices in Goré and Danamadji. In August 2003, a second emergency team deployed to eastern Chad established a presence in Abéché, and field offices in Iriba and Adré. Between February and November 2003, UNHCR's activities were overseen by its branch office in CAR. In November 2003, UNHCR officially opened a mission in N'Djamena.

At the end of 2003, offices in Chad had 44 national staff on a temporary basis and 22 international staff. Security guards were contracted through a local company.

Working with others

UNHCR worked with two implementing partners in southern Chad, five partners in eastern Chad and one partner in N'Djamena (to assist urban refugees). The Office developed its collaboration with other UN agencies working in the country.

Overall assessment

UNHCR organized an emergency response to deal with the major influx of refugees from CAR and Sudan into Chad. UNHCR re-established its presence in the country and began to collaborate with various partners, despite limited staffing.

In southern Chad, UNHCR succeeded in providing international protection, shelter and assistance to Central African refugees in three camps. In addition, primary and secondary education programmes started in 2003. A permanent refugee camp was set up in Goré. Refugees in Maro and Danamadji are still in temporary sites and their transfer to a permanent site is scheduled for early 2004. The operation in Chad has only just begun to implement the High Commissioner's commitments to refugee women and to develop income-generating mechanisms, but steady progress is expected in 2004.

In eastern Chad, the influx of Sudanese refugees was higher than estimated and refugees were continuing to arrive in Chad throughout December 2003. UNHCR focussed its efforts on providing life-saving assistance to vulnerable refugees. The first priority was to identify viable sites for refugees at a reasonable distance from the border in order to improve

the security situation, which remained very precarious at the end of 2003. The arrival of a fully staffed emergency response team in eastern Chad at the very end of December 2003 and the beginning of 2004 facilitated the transfer of refugees to safer sites and the identification of new ones.

UNHCR will have to continue to provide assistance in Chad for the foreseeable future to ensure that refugees receive international protection and, eventually, to find durable solutions to their plight. At the time of publication, security conditions in northern CAR and in western Sudan ruled out voluntary repatriation options.

Offices
N'Djamena
Adré
Danamadji
Goré
Iriba

Partners
Government agencies
<i>Commission nationale d'accueil et de réinsertion des réfugiés (CNAR)</i>
NGOs
Church Relief Services
<i>Croix Rouge tchadienne</i>
<i>Médecins sans Frontières (BEL/NLD)</i>
Norwegian Church Aid
<i>Secours catholique pour le développement</i>
Others
<i>Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit</i>
FAO
ICRC
UNDP
UNFPA
UNICEF
WFP
WHO

Financial Report (USD)

Expenditure breakdown	Current year's project	
	Supplementary programme budget	notes
Protection, Monitoring and Coordination	392,210	
Community Services	3,654	
Domestic Needs/Household Support	747,092	
Education	13,622	
Fisheries	8	
Food	3,757	
Health/Nutrition	145,649	
Legal Assistance	16,428	
Operational Support (to Agencies)	305,729	
Sanitation	449	
Shelter/Other Infrastructure	201,840	
Transport/Logistics	2,475,806	
Water (non-agricultural)	11,847	
Instalments with Implementing Partners	2,381,176	
Sub - total Operational	6,699,266	
Programme Support	518,186	
Sub - total Disbursements / Deliveries	7,217,452	(3)
Unliquidated Obligations	2,630,817	(3)
Total	9,848,269	(1) (3)
Instalments with Implementing Partners		
Payments Made	3,031,936	
Reporting Received	650,759	
Balance	2,381,177	
Outstanding 1st January	0	
Refunded to UNHCR	0	
Currency Adjustment	0	
Outstanding 31 December	2,381,177	
Unliquidated Obligations		
Outstanding 1st January	0	
New Obligations	9,848,269	(1)
Disbursements	7,217,452	(3)
Cancellations	0	
Outstanding 31 December	2,630,817	(3)

Figures which can be cross-referenced to the Accounts:

- (1) Annex to Statement 1
- (3) Schedule 3
- (5) Schedule 5