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**BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)  
OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)**

## ***Chad – Complex Emergency***

Situation Report #3, Fiscal Year (FY) 2009

June 12, 2009

*Note: The last situation report was dated February 27, 2009.*

### **BACKGROUND**

Widespread conflict, displacement, and limited resources have contributed to a complex emergency in eastern Chad. Since the end of 2005, inter-ethnic conflict, fighting between Government of Chad (GoC) forces and armed opposition groups, and cross-border raids from Sudanese militias based in neighboring Darfur have intensified. As a result, more than 167,000 Chadians are internally displaced, leading to an increased need for humanitarian services.

Displacement within Chad has occurred in the context of an existing humanitarian emergency fueled by the migration of more than 250,000 Sudanese into the eastern region of Chad since the start of the Darfur complex emergency in 2003. An estimated 323,000 refugees from Sudan and the Central African Republic (CAR) reside in camps in eastern and southern Chad, taxing limited local resources. In addition to affecting internally displaced and refugee populations, the conflict continues to impact communities that host internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees, affecting local agriculture, livestock rearing, and other livelihood activities. As of May 2009, humanitarian agencies served 12 refugee camps in eastern Chad, and the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) provided food assistance to more than 250,000 Sudanese refugees, 167,000 Chadian IDPs, and a host population of 150,000 people in eastern Chad.

On October 1, 2008, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires Robert E. Gribbin redeclared a disaster in Chad due to ongoing insecurity and humanitarian needs. In FY 2009, the U.S. Government (USG) has provided more than \$1101million for programming in refugee protection and assistance; psychosocial services; agriculture and food security; emergency food assistance; health; nutrition; and water, sanitation, and hygiene. Since FY 2004, the USG has provided more than \$512 million in humanitarian assistance in eastern Chad.

<b>NUMBERS AT A GLANCE</b>		<b>SOURCE</b>
<b>IDPs in Eastern Chad</b>	167,000	OCHA <sup>1</sup> – April 2009
<b>Sudanese Refugees in Chad</b>	250,000	UNHCR <sup>2</sup> – February 2009
<b>CAR Refugees in Chad</b>	73,000	UNHCR – June 2009
<b>Affected Host Population</b>	700,000	OCHA – June 2008

### **HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED IN FY 2009**

<b>USAID/OFDA Assistance to Eastern Chad.....</b>	<b>\$3,644,472</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup> Assistance to Eastern Chad .....</b>	<b>\$74,225,400</b>
<b>State/PRM<sup>4</sup> Assistance to Eastern Chad .....</b>	<b>\$33,635,003</b>
<b>Total USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance to Eastern Chad.....</b>	<b>\$111,504,875</b>

### **CURRENT SITUATION**

Between March and May 2009, tensions along the Chad–Sudan border escalated, exacerbating the already insecure operating environment for relief agencies and resulting in frequent suspension of humanitarian assistance. Humanitarian operations remain restricted due to escalating attacks on aid organizations and rising tensions among IDPs, refugees, and the Chadian host population, resulting from competition over scarce resources. Local residents in eastern Chad continued to experience

violence, including armed attacks by civilian and military assailants, as well as sexual and other forms of violence against women. In addition, since early February, a steady influx of nearly 19,000 refugees has arrived in southeastern Chad from CAR. In early March, a USAID/OFDA field officer traveled to N’Djamena and eastern Chad to meet with implementing partners and U.N. staff and monitor the humanitarian situation.

<sup>1</sup> U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

<sup>2</sup> U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

<sup>3</sup> USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

### ***Security and Humanitarian Access***

Insecurity, including frequent carjacking and banditry, continues to impede the delivery of humanitarian assistance in eastern Chad. In addition, recurrent tensions between armed groups along the border zone contribute to limited humanitarian access to program sites and beneficiaries.

Following the International Criminal Court's March 4 decision to issue an international arrest warrant for Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir on counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity in Darfur, and Sudan's subsequent expulsion of 13 international organizations, relief agencies in eastern Chad prepared for an influx of Sudanese refugees from Darfur. To date, humanitarian agencies have not reported significant cross-border movement by civilian populations, although contingency plans to assist as many as 50,000 refugees remain in place.

On March 15, the European Force (EUFOR) peacekeeping operation in Chad transitioned to the U.N. Mission in CAR and Chad (MINURCAT). Constrained by limited equipment and helicopter assets, MINURCAT had 2,425 troops in Chad but conducted only 15 patrols a day as of April 22. Although the U.N. anticipated the deployment of 5,200 MINURCAT soldiers by late December 2009, the U.N. Secretary-General has since revised the target to 4,700 soldiers following equipment gaps and deployment delays.

A late April report by the MINURCAT Secretary-General highlighted significant ongoing humanitarian conditions and noted that 50 humanitarian agencies, including 4 local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and 4 GoC agencies continued to provide basic humanitarian services and covering 17 sectors. In addition, armed opposition groups continue to target humanitarian staff, resulting in frequent staff relocation and suspension of humanitarian services. In March 2009, one USAID partner relocated staff suspended and humanitarian services in Goz Beïda, Ouaddaï Region, following three attacks on humanitarian organizations working in Goz Beïda and nearby Adé. During the first three months of 2009, assailants targeted humanitarian staff in Chad at least 42 times, according to MINURCAT. Many agencies also temporarily suspended assistance activities during the May 2009 violence between armed opposition groups and GoC forces.

Between March and May, Chadian National Army (ANT) and armed opposition groups strengthened positions on respective sides of the Chad–Sudan border in anticipation of possible attacks. During heavy fighting near Goz Beïda, ANT troops pushed back armed opposition groups entering Chad from Sudan on May 7, and subsequently attacked opposition positions inside West Darfur, Sudan. Diplomatic discussions to resolve the situation remain ongoing.

Following the May clashes, humanitarian agencies reported that unexploded ordnance (UXO) killed six children in Koukou Angarana and Goz Beïda. Currently, two NGO demining teams continue to remove remaining UXO in the affected area. According to a December 2008 OCHA estimate, UXO has killed 77 individuals and wounded at least 200 individuals in Chad since 2007 with children representing 80 percent of landmine and UXO victims.

### ***IDPs and Refugees***

In early June, UNHCR commenced distribution of identity cards to approximately 110,000 Sudanese refugees living in camps in eastern Chad. The identity cards allow refugees free movement with Chad, access to rights guaranteed by the 1951 Geneva Refugee Convention, and ease refugee access to purchasing land and securing employment. Although UNHCR and GoC planned to commence the verification process for Sudanese refugees over 18 years of age in 2006, ongoing insecurity in eastern Chad delayed operations until April 2009. To date, UNHCR has provided cards to 37,000 refugees in Gaga and Farchana camps in Ouaddaï Region. Noting ongoing limitations on humanitarian access in parts of eastern Chad, UNHCR plans to complete card distributions by December 2009.

In addition to a significant population of Sudanese refugees located in eastern Chad, approximately 73,000 CAR refugees are currently sheltering in southeastern Chad, according to UNHCR. Since mid-January 2009, nearly 19,000 individuals have sheltered at six spontaneous sites in Daha and Massambange villages in Salamat Region. To date, CAR refugees continue to arrive in the area in small groups. However, humanitarian agencies note concern that the upcoming rainy season will render the refugee sites inaccessible to humanitarian staff and services. Currently, UNHCR is coordinating with the GoC to identify a safer location further from the border for refugees to shelter. However, the refugee population remains resistant to moving further away from areas of origin, particularly agricultural farms located near the CAR-Chad border. USG field staff report that relief agencies expect a continued influx of refugees due to regularly declining security conditions in CAR. Noting the semi-permanent nature of the current refugee situation, UNICEF and other humanitarian agencies have begun to transition programming from emergency-focused operations towards sustainable and integrated long-term operations, noting that refugees may be unable to return home in the short-term. In FY 2009, State/PRM has provided more than \$20 million to UNHCR to support refugee protection and assistance in Chad.

### ***Agriculture and Food Security***

In late March, USAID/OFDA implementing partner World Vision reported that many IDPs in eastern Chad remain displaced nearby home villages and areas of origin. As a result of the close proximity, displaced residents continue to access agricultural land, living on

the land to cultivate crops for up to four months, according to OCHA. Despite seasonal returns, humanitarian agencies note that IDPs typically migrate back to IDP camps due to a volatile security situation in areas of origin, as well as better living conditions and services in camps. In FY 2009, USAID/OFDA has provided support to the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to support food security and agriculture activities in eastern Chad.

### ***Emergency Food Assistance***

Throughout May, humanitarian staff completed general food distributions for the 12 refugee camps in eastern Chad. USAID/FFP's implementing partner WFP provided 253,140 refugees with 4,902 metric tons (MTs) of assorted food commodities in 30-day rations. WFP also continues to provide assistance to 178,000 IDPs and returnees in Goz Beïda and Koukou, Ouaddaï Region, and Am-Timan, Salamat Region. During early May, clashes south of Goz Beïda town, in the Koukou Angarana area that hosts 22,000 Sudanese refugees from Darfur and 60,000 other displaced persons resulted in the temporary suspension of WFP food distributions to refugees sheltering in nearby Goz Amer camp. At the time of the suspension, WFP noted that refugees had sufficient rations for the immediate term and that services would resume pending a stable security situation.

As of June 11, WFP and implementing partners have provided more than 78,500 IDPs in the Goz Beïda area with 2,192 MT of 45-day food rations. In addition, local seed protection programs aim to address future food needs of IDPs and support agricultural activities and cultivation in areas where security has stabilized.

In early June, WFP reported difficulty in delivering further food assistance to CAR refugees in the Salamat Region due to transporters' refusal to travel to the region for fear of being unable to return once roads become impassable due to the seasonal rainy period.

### ***Health***

According to UNICEF, an April 2009 national vaccination campaign against polio resulted in nearly 100 percent vaccination coverage for refugees and local Chadian children in eastern Chad. Despite the success of the campaign, health officials note that health partners were unable to vaccinate approximately 10,000 children in the Goz Beïda -area towns of Adé, Daguessa, Torio, and Tissi due to ongoing insecurity. In FY 2009, USAID/OFDA and State/PRM have supported health programs in eastern Chad through grants to the NGOs International Medical Corps (IMC) and the MENTOR Initiative, totaling more than \$2.8 million.

On May 23, the U.N. Population Fund (UNFPA), UNICEF, and UNHCR conducted an assessment of health needs in Daha, Salamat Region. Following the departure of Médecins Sans Frontières/France (MSF/F) on May 15, the Daha area remains without an

international NGO to provide health services to approximately 4,000 local residents and 11,000 refugees. In order to mitigate the current gap, particularly in maternal health services, UNFPA, UNICEF, and UNHCR plan to provide short-term health staff to the Daha health center.

### ***Nutrition***

Humanitarian partners working in eastern and western Chad remain concerned regarding increased rates of malnutrition amongst the areas' populations. According to UNICEF, the number of cases of malnutrition in eastern Chad continues to increase regularly. Nutrition centers in Kerfi, Dar Sila area, near Goz Beïda, registered 160 cases in April after registering only 10 cases in March. Two therapeutic feeding centers in Goz Beïda-area treated 173 severely malnourished children between January and March 2009, and admitted an additional 47 new cases during May 2009. In response to the current situation, UNICEF has distributed therapeutic foods including plumpy-nut, high-energy biscuits, and therapeutic milk.

In addition, western Chad continues to suffer from chronic food insecurity and high levels of malnutrition. According to a 2008 assessment by WFP and Action Contre la Faim (ACF), acute malnutrition levels in Kanem Region remain above 20 percent, and the mortality rate for children under five years of age is approximately three deaths per 10,000 children per day. The current rates exceed the international standard for an emergency situation. According to UNICEF, malnutrition in western Chad remains a chronic problem due to lack of infrastructure, access to markets, health services, and land, as well as repeated flooding and erratic rainfall. Currently, WFP, UNICEF, and ACF are providing food assistance and vaccinations to women and children, and FAO is providing support to farmers for diversifying agriculture and building up livestock.

<b>USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO EASTERN CHAD IN FY 2009</b>			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE<sup>1</sup></b>			
ACF	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Dar Sila	\$500,000
Air Serv International (ASI)	Humanitarian Air Service	Abéché	\$747,939
Mentor	Health	Ouaddaï	\$399,999
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Eastern Chad	\$650,000
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security	Eastern Chad	\$325,000
U.N. Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS)	Humanitarian Air Services	Eastern Chad	\$900,000
USAID	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Eastern Chad	\$5,409
USAID	Administrative Support and Travel	Eastern Chad	\$116,125
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA</b>			<b>\$3,644,472</b>
<b>USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE<sup>2</sup></b>			
WFP	52,340 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Eastern Chad	\$74,225,400
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP</b>			<b>\$74,225,400</b>
<b>STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE<sup>3</sup></b>			
ASI	Humanitarian Air Services	Eastern Chad	\$1,915,013
Christian Outreach Relief and Development	Education	Eastern Chad	\$419,990
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Protection and Assistance to Conflict Victims	Eastern Chad	\$2,750,000
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)	Refugee Assistance	Eastern Chad	\$800,000
IMC	Health	Eastern Chad	\$2,450,000
Internews	Media	Eastern Chad	\$800,000
UNHAS	Humanitarian Air Services	Eastern Chad	\$1,200,000
UNHCR	IDP Protection	Eastern Chad	\$3,100,000
UNHCR	Refugee Protection and Assistance	Eastern Chad	\$20,200,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM</b>			<b>\$33,635,003</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO EASTERN CHAD in FY 2009</b>			<b>\$77,869,872</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO EASTERN CHAD in FY 2009</b>			<b>\$111,504,875</b>

<sup>1</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents obligated amounts as of June 12, 2009.

<sup>2</sup> Estimated value of food assistance

<sup>3</sup> State/PRM funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of June 12, 2009