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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 #1, Fiscal Year (FY) 2009

October 8, 2008

*Note: The last situation report was dated June 27, 2008.*

### **BACKGROUND**

Ongoing insecurity, displacement, and strained resources continue to negatively affect populations 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, leading to the internal displacement of more than 180,000 Chadians and resulting in an amplified 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 306,000 refugees from Sudan and the Central African Republic (CAR) reside in refugee camps in eastern and southern Chad, taxing limited local resources. In addition to affecting internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugee populations, the conflict continues to impact communities that host IDPs and refugees, affecting agriculture, livestock rearing, and other livelihood activities.

On October 1, 2008, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires Robert E. Gribbin redeclared a disaster in Chad due to ongoing insecurity and humanitarian needs. USAID field staff based in Abéché, eastern Chad, coordinate USAID-funded relief efforts with U.N. agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and monitor humanitarian conditions of affected populations. Since FY 2004, the U.S. Government (USG) has provided more than \$471 million in humanitarian assistance to eastern Chad.

<b>NUMBERS AT A GLANCE</b>		<b>SOURCE</b>
<b>IDPs in Eastern Chad</b>	185,000	OCHA <sup>1</sup> – August 2008
<b>Affected Host Population</b>	700,000	OCHA – June 2008
<b>Sudanese Refugees in Chad</b>	254,000	OCHA – September 2008
<b>CAR Refugees in Chad</b>	56,000	UNHCR <sup>2</sup> – June 2008

### **HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE (FY 2008 AND FY 2009)**

**USAID/OFDA Assistance to Eastern Chad.....\$7,061,507**  
**USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup> Assistance to Eastern Chad .....\$129,246,600**  
**State/PRM<sup>4</sup> Assistance to Eastern Chad .....\$48,123,982**  
**Total USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance to Eastern Chad.....\$184,432,089**

### **CURRENT SITUATION**

Deteriorating security conditions and attacks on humanitarian workers have continued in eastern Chad, creating a challenging operating environment and limiting access to conflict-affected populations. Humanitarian agencies have noted an increase in insecurity in eastern Chad during September and are anticipating a further increase in violence and insecurity upon the end of the rainy season in October.

Heavy rains have caused flooding in southern Chad, particularly affecting residents of Moyen-Chari Region

and the capital city of N’Djamena. Humanitarian agencies are also assessing flood-related damage in villages near Kerfi, Dar Sila Region, where initial reports indicate that floods have affected approximately 7,376 households.

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

Humanitarian agencies, including USG-funded partners, continue to experience insecurity and threats to staff and operations. According to the U.N., between January and September 2008, assailants in eastern Chad carried out

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

<sup>2</sup> Office of the 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)

more than 120 attacks against relief agencies, including five fatal incidents.

In July 2008, violence against humanitarian workers and programs in Kerfi, Dar Sila Region, caused two NGOs to suspend operations in the area. On July 8, armed assailants attacked a Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) health facility and physically assaulted patients and staff. On July 9, six armed men attacked an Oxfam compound and attempted to burn down a staff member's residence. The security incidents resulted in the suspension of health and nutrition services for more than 3,000 individuals and water, sanitation, and hygiene programs for more than 11,000 people in Kerfi.

On July 26, armed assailants shot and wounded an employee of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) after stopping two ICRC vehicles in Abéché.

From September 16 to 30, relief agencies reported 10 security incidents affecting humanitarian staff in eastern Chad, including eight break-ins or attacks on relief agency facilities and one carjacking. Six of the attacks occurred during the weekend of September 26 and 27 alone. Due to increased insecurity and multiple attacks targeting the same relief agencies, three NGOs have reduced staff presence or temporarily suspended programs, including health, nutrition, and water, sanitation, and hygiene interventions targeting 40,000 IDPs in Dogdoré, Daguessa, and Adé, Dar Sila Region.

On August 14, the GOC and the U.N. Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT) signed a memorandum of understanding establishing the Détachement Intégré de Sécurité (DIS), a unit comprising members of the Chadian police and gendarmes responsible for the protection of refugees and IDPs in eastern Chad. On September 16, approximately 70 newly trained DIS officers visited Abéché, Goz Beïda, Farchana, Iriba, Guéréda, and Bahāi in eastern Chad to survey the security situation. As of September 16, MINURCAT had trained approximately 320 DIS officers in law and order, respect for human rights, humanitarian law, and policing techniques and planned to complete training for 500 additional DIS members in the coming weeks. Upon deployment, DIS officers will conduct routine patrols in IDP camps, refugee camps, and towns in eastern Chad.

Unexploded ordnance (UXO) and mines continue to place civilians in Chad at risk. On August 4, a UXO explosion in a N'Djamena market resulted in the deaths of four people and injured 30 individuals. On August 28, a UXO explosion in Tiné, Wadi Fira Region, killed one child and injured five others. To date in 2008, mines and UXO have caused 95 casualties, including 17 deaths and 78 injuries, according to OCHA.

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

From September 9 to 13, USAID/DCHA and State/PRM

staff participated in field visits to selected IDP and refugee camps throughout eastern Chad as part of a U.N. World Food Program (WFP)–UNHCR-led Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) comprising representatives from U.N. agencies, NGOs, the GOC, and donor organizations. USAID and State/PRM staff members noted that competition for scarce resources, including land and water, underlies tensions between IDPs, refugees, and host communities and contributes to insecurity. Lack of job opportunities, particularly for youth, also causes tension between local communities and NGOs serving displaced populations.

Overuse of land and deforestation in high-density IDP and refugee areas is forcing IDPs and refugees to travel further distances to gather firewood and cultivate land. According to the JAM, refugees and IDPs in Goz Beïda travel between 10 and 30 km to reach farming plots. Water for irrigation, domestic use, and livestock maintenance is a pressing concern in Iriba.

### ***Floods***

Since July 2008, heavy rains have caused flooding throughout Chad, particularly affecting Moyen-Chari Region and N'Djamena. According to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), approximately 15,000 people live in flooded areas. An initial Chadian Red Cross assessment indicated that flooding severely damaged 8,118 houses, including 4,285 in N'Djamena and 3,833 in Sarh, Moyen-Chari Region. The flooding rendered some houses uninhabitable, leaving an estimated 6,450 individuals without shelter. In addition, flooding affected more than 7,000 cultivated farms and destroyed crops. According to IFRC, urgent needs for the most vulnerable populations include blankets, mosquito nets, safe drinking water, and sanitation facilities. IFRC and partners are providing water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion activities and distributing relief commodities to more than 4,200 flood-affected households in southern Chad. The U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) has provided mosquito net impregnation materials to cover 1,000 malaria-vulnerable individuals, chlorine for treatment of 2,700 water points, 17 family water kits to serve 20,000 beneficiaries, and 45 boxes of high-energy biscuits for 5,400 children as well as pregnant and lactating women.

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

According to a September Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) report, food prices have steadily increased in Chad since December 2007, with prices for locally grown grain crops such as millet and sorghum nearly doubling in several large markets. The increased cereal prices accompany decreasing prices for livestock, resulting in unfavorable terms of trade for pastoralists. However, NGOs working in Chad report that more land was planted in 2008 than in 2007 and that seasonal rains were favorable in many locations; thus, relief agencies anticipate decreasing prices for cereals when the harvest commences following the cessation of rains. With USAID/OFDA funding, the U.N. Food and

Agriculture Organization (FAO) has supported seed distributions to 7,500 displaced individuals, returnees, and host community members throughout eastern Chad to prevent farmers from consuming seeds that would otherwise be used for planting. In addition, USAID/OFDA supports Catholic Relief Services (CRS) seeds and tools fairs and agricultural training for approximately 18,000 individuals in Iriba, Wadi Fira Region.

FEWS NET noted that flooding in southern Chad caused further increases in already high staple food prices, with August 2008 prices for pearl millet rising more than 90 percent since August 2007 and 7 percent between July and August 2008 alone. Flooding in Moyen-Chari Region has exacerbated previously moderate food insecurity in the region, limiting access to food, safe drinking water, sanitation services, and health care. Floods have disrupted coping mechanisms such as food gathering and casual labor, as access to fields and markets is limited. Intermittent gaps in rains, along with destruction of an estimated 5,882 hectares of crops and disrupted plant development due to flooding, have resulted in predictions of below-average harvests and low food availability in Moyen-Chari in October, while increased cereals production in other regions is anticipated following the cessation of rains. A joint GOC, FAO, WFP, and FEWS NET technical assessment of food security constraints in Moyen-Chari Region is scheduled for October.

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

As of October 4, WFP and NGO partners have completed distributions of a complete food basket of 2,100 kcal per person to 10 of 12 refugee camps in eastern Chad. Distributions to refugees in the two remaining camps are scheduled for completion the week of October 7. WFP and partners plan to distribute a total of 4,300 metric tons (MT) of food assistance for registered refugees in October. Existing food stocks in all refugee camps are adequate to cover distributions through November.

The most recent food distribution to IDPs occurred prior to the rainy season in July, when IDPs in 35 sites in Ouaddaï and Salamat regions of southeastern Chad received a 60-day ration of 1,734 kcal per person. The cereal ration was reduced by 20 percent due to transportation and supply shortfalls. Between January and July 2008, WFP and ICRC distributed more than 9.7 million MT of food assistance to IDPs and vulnerable host communities.

The 2008 WFP Vulnerability Assessment Mission (VAM) is scheduled to occur from October 20 to November 3, focusing on coping strategies, food utilization, and food availability among IDP, refugee, and host community populations in eastern Chad. VAM results are expected in November and will determine estimated food needs for the coming months.

#### ***Health***

Since the beginning of September, health workers have reported rising numbers of hepatitis E cases in refugee and IDP camps in eastern Chad. Hepatitis E is a waterborne disease transmitted primarily through lack of access to safe drinking water, inadequate sanitation conditions, and poor hygiene practices. From September 15 to 21, health workers in Dogdoré IDP camp reported 21 new cases of hepatitis E and one related death, for a total of 1,057 cases and 11 deaths reported in eastern Chad as of September 21. The U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) is supporting hepatitis E surveillance and response activities and training health staff throughout the region. On September 22, a joint WHO–UNHCR team arrived in Dogdoré IDP camp to assess the health situation.

From August 8 to 11, UNICEF provided support for a supplementary polio vaccination campaign in Ouaddaï and Wadi Fira regions in eastern Chad. As of September 30, health workers had registered 24 polio cases in eastern Chad since January 2008. From August 11 to 15, UNICEF provided 19,000 doses of tetanus vaccine covering more than 6,800 at-risk women near Dogdoré. Relief agencies have reported five cases of tetanus in Dogdoré since January.

#### ***Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene***

According to OCHA, access to safe drinking water is limited in Adré, Arkoum, Goundiang, Goungour, and Goz Bagar IDP sites in Assoungha Department, Ouaddaï Region, as well as in Kerfi and Koloma IDP sites in Dar Sila Region. UNICEF is working to provide approximately 200,000 people in eastern Chad with access to safe drinking water. In addition, flooding has destroyed latrine infrastructure and limited access to safe drinking water in affected areas of southern Chad.

#### ***Nutrition***

On October 2, Action Contre la Faim (ACF) released preliminary results for nutrition and retrospective mortality surveys conducted in September 2008 among displaced and host communities in Gassiré, Gouroukoun, and Dogdoré, eastern Chad. Results in each of the sites indicate low severe acute malnutrition (SAM) rates and global acute malnutrition (GAM) rates well below WHO emergency thresholds of 15 percent, with a 5.6 percent GAM rate and 0.5 percent severe acute malnutrition (SAM) rate in Dogdoré; 4.7 percent GAM rate in Gouroukoun; and 9.5 percent GAM and 0.5 percent SAM in Gassiré. Crude mortality rates and child mortality rates in all assessed locations were below WHO alert thresholds of one death per day per 10,000 individuals and two deaths per day per 10,000 individuals, respectively. Results from five additional survey locations are forthcoming; however, ACF was unable to conduct planned nutrition assessments in Kerfi and Adé due to security concerns. USAID/OFDA funding to UNICEF supports immediate nutrition surveys and increased surveillance among conflict-affected populations in eastern Chad.

<b>USAID AND STATE ASSISTANCE TO EASTERN CHAD</b>			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<b>FY 2009 USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>			
WFP	45,340 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Eastern Chad	\$71,990,900
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP</b>			<b>\$71,990,900</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO EASTERN CHAD IN FY 2009</b>			<b>\$71,990,900</b>
<b>FY 2008 USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE</b>			
ACF	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Dar Sila	\$500,000
ACTED	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Dar Sila	\$481,980
Air Serv International (ASI)	Humanitarian Air Services	Dar Sila	\$729,975
CRS	Agriculture and Food Security	Ouaddaï, Wadi Fira	\$400,000
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Health	Ouaddaï, Wadi Fira	\$950,000
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security	Eastern Chad	\$522,283
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Eastern Chad	\$850,000
Mentor	Health	Dar Sila, Salamat, Ouaddaï	\$500,000
U.N. Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Humanitarian Air Service	Eastern Chad	\$300,000
UNICEF	Nutrition, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Eastern Chad	\$500,000
USAID Stockpile	Relief Commodities	Eastern Chad	\$78,900
USAID	Administrative Support and Travel	Eastern Chad	\$188,879
World Concern Development Organization (WCDO)	Agriculture and Food Security	Dar Sila	\$809,490
WFP	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Eastern Chad	\$250,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA</b>			<b>\$7,061,507</b>
<b>FY 2008 USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>			
WFP	45,340 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Eastern Chad	\$71,990,900
WFP	46,960 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Eastern Chad	\$57,255,700
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP</b>			<b>\$57,255,700</b>
<b>FY 2008 STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			
ASI	Humanitarian Air Services	Eastern Chad	\$1,898,324
Africare	Refugee Assistance	Eastern Chad	\$700,000
CARE	Education	Eastern Chad	\$603,103
Christian Children's Fund	Psychosocial, Protection	Eastern Chad	\$399,999
CRS	Community Services, Water and Sanitation	Eastern Chad	\$517,696
Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society	Psychosocial Services	Eastern Chad	\$500,000
ICRC	Protection and Assistance to Conflict Victims	Eastern Chad	\$4,600,000
IFRC/Chad	Health, Water and Sanitation	Eastern Chad	\$1,100,000
IMC	Health	Eastern Chad	\$2,000,000
International Relief and Development (IRD)	Livelihoods, Animal Husbandry	Eastern Chad	\$75,000
InterNews	Humanitarian Information Service	Eastern Chad	\$800,000
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Multi-sectoral Refugee Assistance	Eastern Chad	\$2,350,000

Refugee Education Trust	Secondary and Vocational Education	Eastern Chad	\$850,000
UNHAS	Humanitarian Air Services	Eastern Chad	\$2,100,000
UNHCR	IDP Protection and Assistance	Eastern Chad	\$3,480,000
UNHCR	Refugee Protection and Assistance	Eastern Chad	\$21,700,000
UNICEF	Health, Education, and Child Protection	Eastern Chad	\$2,000,000
MINURCAT	Protection and Police Activities	Eastern Chad	\$2,000,000
WCDO	Environmental Conservation	Eastern Chad	\$449,860
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM</b>			<b>\$48,123,982</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO EASTERN CHAD IN FY 2008</b>			<b>\$64,317,207</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO EASTERN CHAD IN FY 2008</b>			<b>\$112,441,189</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO EASTERN CHAD IN FY 2008 AND FY 2009</b>			<b>\$184,432,089</b>

<sup>1</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of October 8, 2008.

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

<sup>3</sup> State/PRM funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of October 8, 2008




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