Multi-sector emergency aid for Sudanese refugees along Chad’s Eastern border

To support the Sudanese refugee population along the eastern border of Chad by providing multi-sectoral emergency assistance covering health, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), Non-Food items (NFI) and protection.

On April 15, 2023, armed clashes broke out in the Sudanese capital, Khartoum, between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF), forcing many households to leave their homes and seek refuge in border countries. It is estimated by the Chadian government, UNHCR and IOM that over 600,000 Sudanese refugees and 80,000 Chadian returnees will arrive in eastern Chad before the end of 2023.

Prior to this new influx of people from Sudan, Chad was already hosting some 410,000 Sudanese refugees in 13 camps in the 3 eastern provinces of Wadi Fira, Ouaddai and Sila, following the Darfur crisis of 2003.

319 000
New refugees in the Ouaddai province (15/09/23), where the project activities intervenes

Distributed across 11 host villages and 7 camps
57% are minors girls and boys
56% are women
17% are people with disabilities
Only 25.6% of households have access to an improved water source, according to the revised HRP 2023.

According to regular reports from UNHCR and OCHA, as well as from Acted teams on the ground, refugee families cross the border with very few personal belongings, and many arrive wounded.

Acted’s intervention
By creating synergies of expertise with different partners, this project has made it possible to provide a multi-sectoral emergency response in essential household items (Acted), protection and WASH (ADRAH), health and nutrition (PUI) to Sudanese refugees arriving along the border, right from the start of the crisis.
Non Food Items distribution

Acted responded to the urgent and immediate needs of the refugees by distributing 1,165 AME kits benefiting a total of 4,080 individuals in the Gaga camp. The standard kit consisted of mats, blankets, mosquito nets, a solar lamp, soap, cooking utensils, a 20L container for transporting and storing water, a sakhané and a tarpaulin.

Providing a health service through 2 mobile clinics

The international NGO Première Urgence Internationale (PUI) has deployed 2 mobile clinics covering the sites of Koufroun, Dizé Berté and Toumtouma, enabling a total of 10,259 medical consultations to be carried out.

Raising awareness of nutritional health

At the same time, PUI organized nutritional health awareness campaigns for 12,274 refugees and identified 231 cases of SAM among refugee children. Of these, 64 serious cases were referred to health centers in the area.

To ensure strong accountability, even in emergency situations, Acted installs a Complaints Response Mechanism (CRM) at each intervention site, enabling feedback, recommendations and complaints from beneficiaries and stakeholders to be reported through a variety of channels (complaints boxes, free hotline, e-mail, SMS, local committee) adapted to all vulnerabilities (desire for anonymity, illiteracy, distance, etc.). This mechanism, which guarantees the confidentiality of the information received, is managed by Acted’s MEAL teams, who are also in charge of project monitoring and evaluation, notably through satisfaction surveys.

Access to water and sanitation

Local NGO ADRAH built 3 boreholes in Borota and Goungour, and 15 blocks of 4 latrines in Labane Dafak, Midjiguita, Koufroun and Dizé Berté. This WASH intervention provided over 1,500 people with safe, regular access to water, and 300 people with access to sanitation. 4,500 people also benefited from a hygiene kit.

Identifying and assisting protection cases

ADRAH has also raised awareness of general protection principles and trained 3 women community relays on GBV in Koufroun, Midjiguita and Dizé Berté. The creation of 2 psychosocial listening centers enabled the identification and referral of 305 cases of GBV. Lastly, 500 dignity kits were distributed to women and girls.