Emergency assistance to communities affected by displacement through Shelter and AME interventions in Eastern Chad

Objective

Guarantee safe and decent living conditions for refugees and returnees affected by the conflict in Sudan by meeting urgent and immediate needs in terms of shelter and Non Food Items (NFI).

Context

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.

By mid-September 2023, there had already been registered 415,000 new refugees and 60,000 returnees in the provinces of Ouaddai, Wadi Fira and Sila since the start of the conflict.

Needs

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

Acted’s Intervention

With the support of the Centre de Crise et de Soutien (CDCS) from the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Acted is providing assistance to Sudanese refugees through the distribution and construction of shelters, as well as the distribution of Non Food Items (NFI) kits, in the Ouaddai department, notably in the Ourang and Métie refugee camps and in the Tongori returnee camp.

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3,150
Returnees and refugees

625,000
EUR
Budget

july 2023
January 2024
6 months
Dates

Ouaddai Province
Location
Shelter construction

Thanks to the support of the CDCS, Acted plans to distribute and build 420 semi-durable family shelters, which will benefit 1,890 refugee and returnee beneficiaries. The shelters feature a metal roof, which is more durable than tarpaulin roofs and provides better protection from the weather and heat.

Non Food Items distribution

Meanwhile, Acted is distributing 700 NFI kits to a total of 3,150 individual beneficiaries. The kits include items such as mats, blankets, mosquito nets, a rechargeable lamp, soap, cooking pots, sakhanes (teapots), cutlery and cups, a bucket with lid and a 20-liter container.

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.

Including returnees

As of September 11, 2023, more than 60,000 Chadian returnees have been forced to move back into Chadian territory. Of these, 93% are women and children, according to the IOM.

The majority of returnee families have been living on the Sudan side for many years, even decades, and no longer have any attachment to Chad. As a result, their needs are acute and similar to those of refugees, which is why Acted is fully integrating them into its response to the crisis.

A holistic response to the crisis

Thanks to the support of its various donors, Acted was able to intervene from the very first weeks following the outbreak of the conflict in Karthoum, particularly with shelters and NFI. To ensure a coherent humanitarian response to the crisis, Acted is creating synergies between its various projects in the area.

Under the CDCS-supported project, NFI kit beneficiaries are selected on a priority basis from among ECHO-supported shelter beneficiaries who have not yet received essential household items. In this way, the combined support of CDCS and ECHO has made it possible to provide shelters and AME kits to 1,200 households.