Ensure safe and dignified living conditions for conflict-affected refugees and returnees in Sudan by meeting urgent and immediate needs for water, hygiene and sanitation, shelter and essential household items, 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.

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.

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

36 000 beneficiaries including 20 160 women

June 2023 to April 2024

Dates

Ouaddai Province
Location

Construction of family shelters by Acted, July 2023, Ouaddai

Acted operations in Eastern Chad, September 2023

Distributed across 11 host villages and 7 camps
57% are minors girls and boys
56% are women
17% are people with disabilities

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Emergency multisectoral response to the crisis of Sudanese refugees and Chadian returnees in Ouaddai province

Acted’s response

1. Shelter/NFI
   - 780 semi-durable family shelters
   - 500 Non-Food Item kits

2. WASH
   - 2 emergency boreholes
   - 500 hygiene kits

3. Protection
   - 4 psychosocial listening centers and 1,300 cases monitored
   - 36,000 people sensitized to protection and GBV

Localization at the heart of Acted strategy

Project activities are carried out in partnership with the local NGO ADRAH, which provides EHA and protection services to target populations. Acted draws on ADRAH’s decades of experience in Eastern Chad and its in-depth knowledge of the context to provide a response that is as close as possible to the concerns of those affected by the crisis. Acted also helps to build the capacity of ADRAH teams through training in several areas (financial and administrative management, logistics and procurement, monitoring and evaluation, etc.) and capacity sharing by providing office space for ADRAH teams at its base. Acted also works with local communities, notably in the construction of shelters where the workforce is recruited from the host communities.

GBV awareness session by ADRAH, August 2023, Ouaddai.

Include returns

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 such, their needs are increased and similar to those of refugees, which is why Acted is fully integrating them into its response to the crisis.

Despite the urgency, preserving the host environment

Aware of the ecological footprint of its activities and the pressure exerted by refugee and returnee populations on the meagre natural resources of the host community, Acted is committed to the conservation of the host environment. As part of its project, Acted will carry out a reforestation initiative by planting trees in the households benefiting from its shelters. In addition, to address environmental and protection issues related to the collection of firewood, an initiative to build and distribute improved stoves to particularly vulnerable women will also be deployed with ADRAH.