

# Emergency Response in Chad

Supporting Sudanese Refugees Fleeing To Chad



Welcome the stranger.  
Protect the refugee.

## The situation

Since April 2023, more than 414,000 refugees have crossed into Chad from Sudan — 86% of whom are women and children.

There are alarming reports of sexual violence and other grave protection abuses from those seeking refuge in Chad. HIAS is maintaining a robust presence in the 10 emergency camps established for refugees and is providing essential services to thousands of displaced people.

The recent conflict in Sudan began in April and quickly spread beyond the capital of Khartoum to other parts of the country. Within a month, some 80,000 refugees had already crossed the border into Chad and the numbers have escalated since then. **By the end of 2023, the number of refugees driven into Chad during this crisis is expected to reach 600,000.**

## Challenges

Those fleeing the violence in Sudan face numerous challenges as they arrive in eastern Chad. There are widespread needs for greater food, shelter and protection support as refugees seek safety in one of numerous camps. In Arkoum, a camp with a capacity of 40,000 people, **between 5 and 10 children die of malnutrition each week.** Equally, these camps lack sufficient clean water and safe sanitation and hygiene services. **All those displaced, especially women and children, need protection and psychosocial support.** Many camps lack electrical power.

The situation remains equally difficult outside of the camps as a significant number of new refugees strain hosting communities. Worth noting, prior to the Sudan conflict, Chad hosted over 400,000 refugees from various countries. Many refugees are fleeing to urban areas, including the capital N'Djamena; however, they have challenges accessing services.

## HIAS impact



**78,436** people provided with food assistance (as of mid-July)



**24,000+** people reached by GBV awareness-raising activities



**17,000+** people trained on peaceful cohabitation and conflict prevention



**24,000+** people reached by child protection activities



**1,300+** people reached by MHPSS, including counselling and awareness-raising



**1,691** people identified by HIAS as having specific needs and vulnerabilities

HIAS also provides protection services for the 4,000+ people who transfer between camps each week.

## Critical funding Needs

Additional funding is needed to increase the services and support HIAS provides to the overwhelming influx of refugees, including women and children. This will include food, shelter, transportation, and/or other basic needs. Funding will also help HIAS provide urgent mental health and protection support to women, girls, and other vulnerable refugees.



Children play sports during a HIAS Child Protection Program activity next to the HIAS Child Protection Center in Arkoum Refugee Camp in eastern Chad on August 14, 2023. (Monim Haroon/HIAS Chad)

August 2023

**414K**

Refugees have crossed into Chad from Sudan since April 2023.

**600K**

Refugees are expected to be driven into Chad by the end of 2023.

**5 to 10**

Children die of malnutrition each week in Arkoum, a camp with a capacity of 40,000 people.



HIAS personnel in Chad engage with refugees in a gender-based violence mitigation training session at the HIAS training center located within the Gaga Refugee Camp in eastern Chad, on August 10, 2023. (Monim Haroon/ HIAS Chad)

## Partnerships

A core principle of HIAS' emergency response is partnerships — with affected communities, local authorities, and other key emergency actors. In this crisis, HIAS is proud to partner with a diverse set of organizations to strengthen and amplify its support for those displaced. These stakeholders include: UNHCR, BPRM, World Food Program, Islamic Relief, Flexport, Global Medic, and Humedica.



**Population, Refugees,  
and Migration**  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE



**World Food  
Programme**

**flexport**



## HIAS emergency response

HIAS is committed to responding to emergencies around the world to better assist displaced populations — including refugees, asylum seekers, and internally displaced people — and vulnerable host communities. These emergencies include complex, protracted situations arising out of conflict or political upheaval, those triggered by natural disasters, or the initial stages of the effects of climate change.

## About HIAS

HIAS is the international Jewish humanitarian organization that provides vital services to refugees and asylum seekers in more than 20 countries. We advocate for the rights of all forcibly displaced people to rebuild their lives and seek to create a world in which they find welcome, safety, and opportunity.

## Contact

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