



## KEY PRIORITIES

440,000

PEOPLE AFFECTED

44,000

HECTARES OF  
FARMLAND DAMAGED

71%

OF THE DISPLACED  
POPULATION NEEDING  
FOOD ASSISTANCENATIONAL  
RESPONSE CAPACITY

Government of Chad

Several NGOs that have  
initiated response activitiesINTERNATIONAL  
RESPONSE CAPACITYUN agencies  
(UNHCR, OMS, UNICEF,  
UNFPA, IOM)INGOs  
(International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent  
Societies, Plan International,  
Concern World Wide,  
Médecins sans frontières)

## CRISIS IMPACT OVERVIEW

Floods are frequent and are expected between May–October every year in Central African countries. In late July and early August 2022, however, unprecedented rainfall caused floods across Chad, affecting 13 of its 23 regions. These regions are Batha, Chari-Baguirmi, Guéra, Logone Occidental, Logone Oriental, Mandoul, Mayo-Kebbi Est, Mayo-Kebbi Ouest, N'Djamena, Ouaddai, Salamat, Sila, and Tandjilé. In the regions of Logone Occidental, Mandoul, and Sila, flooding has affected 70% of the population (Reuters 06/09/2022; OCHA 31/08/2022).

As at 30 August, floods had affected at least 440,000 people in Chad (FloodList 14/08/2022; OCHA 31/08/2022). The flooding has caused the collapse of walls, houses, and public buildings and destroyed food storages. Some people are sheltered in local schools, and families have to pile into wooden boats to cross streets. As at 31 August, floods had caused at least 22 fatalities and destroyed more than 44,000 hectares of crops (OCHA 31/08/2022; UN DGC 17/08/2022; Development Diaries 29/08/2022). Rains are expected to continue until October.

Stagnant floodwaters create health risks for the affected population, as disease-producing mosquitoes can breed in these waters (Al Jazeera 06/09/2022). An unknown number of markets remain closed, disrupting the livelihood of part of the population (Al Wihda 13/08/2022).

As at 26 August, responders had received only 33% of the humanitarian funding required for 2022 (UN News 26/08/2022; OCHA 31/08/2022).

## ANTICIPATED SCOPE AND SCALE

The rainy season in Chad typically lasts from May–October. Although the peak rainfall is usually in August, heavy rains can still be expected during September–October, which can produce new floods (BMZ/GIZ 01/2021). The Chad National Meteorological Agency forecasts that the 2022 rainy season will end late, meaning rainfall could be expected until late October and even early November (Le Faso 26/04/2022).

## HUMANITARIAN CONSTRAINTS

- In an OCHA survey of humanitarian workers, Sila and Mandoul were considered regions with some access restrictions resulting from the presence of armed groups (OCHA 30/07/2021).
- Although there is no recent information, at various times during the rainy season, unpaved roads, inadequate drainage systems, and very dry terrain have made several parts of N'Djamena inaccessible (La Croix 25/08/2022; Al Wihda 31/08/2022). Other flooded areas were also inaccessible in early September (Al Wihda 01/09/2022).
- In some flooded areas, transport can only take place by boat or motorbike, delaying the delivery of humanitarian assistance (VOA 07/09/2022; Reuters 06/09/2022).

## NEEDS

## Shelter

Although the exact number of displaced people among the 440,000 affected is unknown, those who have settled in makeshift shelters report sleeping outdoors and do not have beds or mosquito nets (Ary News 07/09/2022; VOA 07/09/2022). The makeshift shelters are made of sticks and pieces of cloth, which means that further rains are likely to leave people with nowhere to stay (Al Jazeera 06/09/2022). In N'Djamena, flooding has displaced about 10% (3,800 people) of those affected. Of this number, 61% remain in shelters, while the rest are in collective centres, mainly in schools (IOM 06/09/2022). Most houses in Chad are made of low-quality materials, such as wood, straw, sand, mud wattle, and metal sheets. At the national level, only around 7% of Chadians live in a house with an improved floor, 35% live in a house with improved walls, and 33% live in a house with an improved roof (WB 2021; DTM 06/09/2022). As a result, displacement is also possible in the remaining affected areas owing to the potential number of houses destroyed.

## Livelihoods

As at 30 August, floods had destroyed around 44,000 hectares of farmland (OCHA 29/08/2022). Approximately 88% of Chad's population lives from agriculture, and the agriculture sector employs about 76% of the country's labour force (WB 09/06/2022). Although the rainy season has favoured crops in the rest of the country, targeted flooding in the affected areas could affect the next harvest season and put the livelihoods of the affected populations at risk (FEWS NET 01/09/2022).

In the short term, people who make a living from local trade, transport, or other sectors of the informal economy have lost access to their sources of income, as markets are closed and several transport routes are flooded (AI Wihda 13/08/2022 and 05/09/2022). Among the displaced people interviewed by IOM, 87% earned their income from sales in local markets, 23% of whom reported being unable to access their workplaces because of the floods. 71% said they needed immediate food assistance, while 71% needed livelihood assistance (IOM 06/09/2022).

## Health

Flooding has led people to move through unsafe water, with foul smells that can cause skin diseases or harbour mosquito vectors of dengue or malaria. In several makeshift shelters, people sleep in the open air without mosquito nets, increasing their risk of acquiring these diseases (Al Jazeera 06/09/2022; Ary News 07/09/2022; VOA 07/09/2022). Other diseases, such as yellow fever, have recently emerged in Chad and could increase in the midst of flooding (WHO 02/09/2022; Yavarian et al. 04/2019).

Approximately 33% of health facilities have suffered some damage during the floods. Around 96% of households interviewed by IOM report having a member with malaria, 54% with fever, and 18% with flood-related injuries (IOM 06/09/2022).

## AGGRAVATING FACTORS

### Food insecurity

Around 2.1 million Chadians (approximately 13% of the total population) are projected to be in some level of food insecurity during the June–September lean season in 2022 (WFP 27/07/2022). In early June, the Chadian Government declared a food emergency because of a lack of grain supplies. Cereal prices soared across Africa because of a drop in exports from

Ukraine, worsening a cereal deficit that had already exceeded 290,000 tons (DW 06/06/2022; WB 09/06/2022). Amid the already existing food crisis, flooding in 13 regions could further increase the chances of food insecurity for community members (FEWS NET 01/09/2022).

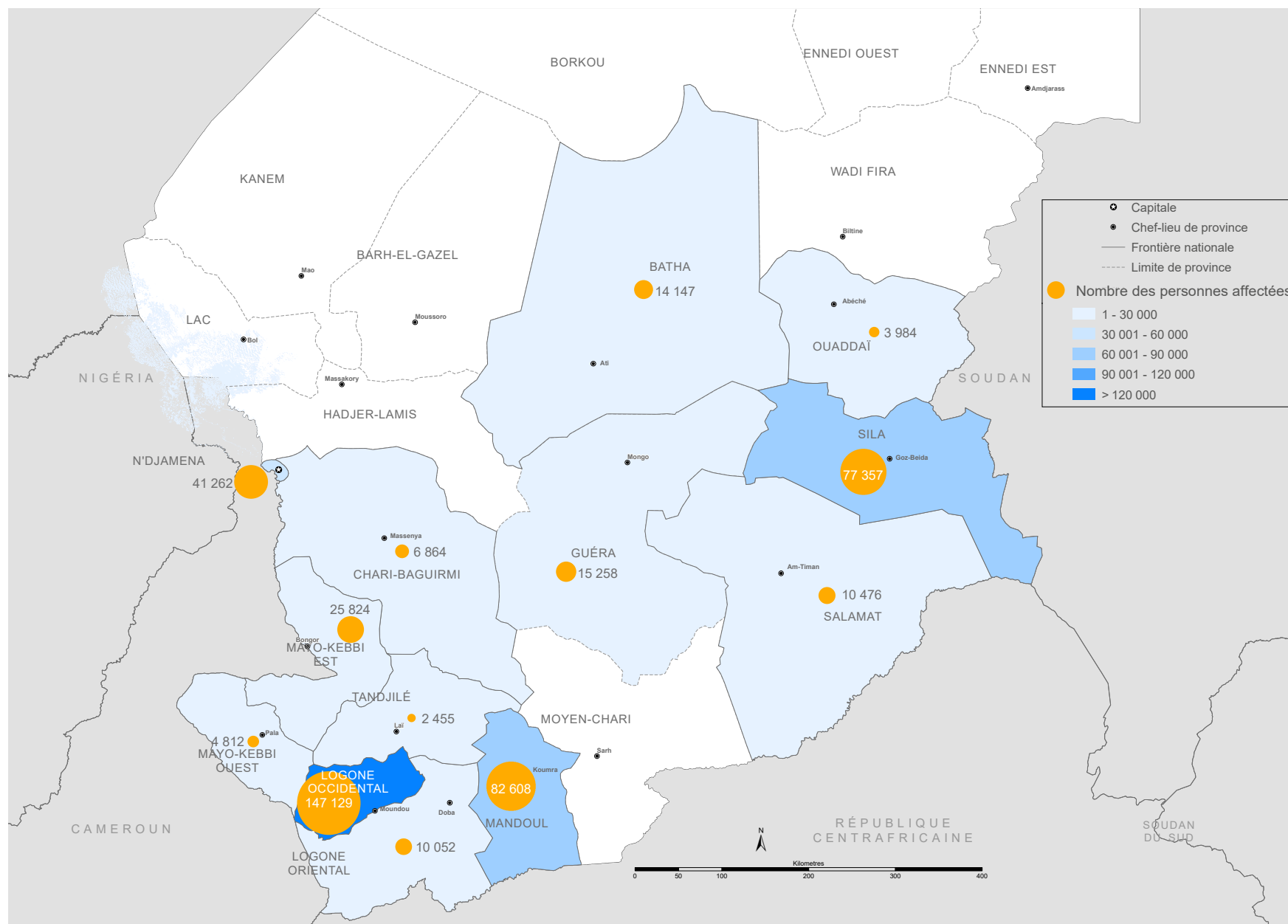
## Economic Instability

Chad's economy has contracted or grown marginally every year since 2015 (WB 06/06/2022). Measures taken to combat COVID-19 have contributed to an increase in poverty rates (ADBG accessed 09/12/2022). In 2021, 6.2 million people were in extreme poverty, 400,000 more than in 2020. In 2022, sociopolitical instability resulting from violence, financial constraints resulting from the inability to pay international obligations, the two-month suspension of oil production, and disruptions to supply chains resulting from the war in Ukraine have led to an increase in prices and less-than-expected yields of the main goods produced in the country (WB 09/06/2022; EcoMatin 22/08/2022). In this context, the floods come at a time of economic contraction in Chad, raising the risks of increased poverty in affected zones and limited state capacity to respond to the needs of its population.

## Poor urban planning and previous vulnerabilities

Chad is a country that has undergone recent urbanisation processes. As at 2018, only 23.1% of its population lived in cities (UN Habitat accessed 09/09/2021). Yet, it is expected that by 2030, around 70% of Chadians will be living in urban or semiurban areas (UNECA 30/03/2021). This increase in the urban population has been uncoordinated, affecting the places where the population builds and their housing conditions (WB 20/03/2022). Approximately 61% of Chadians lack access to basic water services, 68% practice open defecation, only 20% of the urban population and 4% of the rural population have access to electricity, and nearly 87% live in houses without proper living spaces or structural durability (WaterAid 03/07/2019; UNICEF accessed 09/09/2022; CAHF 07/12/2021; WB 20/03/2022). The 2020 floods had already made housing conditions in Chad more precarious, as many houses could not be rebuilt (CAHF 07/12/2021). In a context of poor urban planning, flood impacts are often higher (Hadi Pour et al. 11/2020; Mensah and Kwaku Ahadzie 01/04/2020). During the current floods, the blockage of drainage channels has caused the water to remain stagnant for longer periods (Reuters 06/09/2022). The already inadequate sanitary conditions could aggravate disease-related risks.

## MAP: PEOPLE AFFECTED BY FLOODS IN CHAD (31 AUGUST 2022)



Source: OCHA (29/08/2022)