**Food crisis overview**

In June–August 2022, the number of people facing Crisis or worse (CH Phase 3 or above) reached the highest level recorded for Chad by the CH – around 18 percent higher than the same period in 2021, which had represented the previous highest number. This reflected the ongoing conflict and violence that continued to disrupt trade and cause displacement, below-average market supplies and high food prices that further eroded households’ purchasing power. Twenty-four of Chad’s 69 departments were projected to be in Crisis (CH Phase 3) (CH, March 2022).

**Marked improvement projected for 2023**

The situation is projected to improve markedly during the 2023 lean season with the share of the analysed population in CH Phase 3 or above decreasing from 13 percent to 9 percent, corresponding to almost 600,000 fewer people.

Most of the people in need of urgent food assistance are projected to be in Crisis (CH Phase 3) and relatively few in Emergency (CH Phase 4). Nine departments – Bahr el Ghazal Ouest, Chari, Fouli, Nord Kanem, Kanem, Kaya, Moundi, Mangalmé and Waiy – are projected to be in Crisis (CH Phase 3) (CH, November 2022).

**Drivers of the crisis, 2022–23**

**Conflict/insecurity** Persisting armed conflicts and intensified farmer–pastoralist clashes, mostly in the Lac and Tibesti regions, hindered agricultural activities and restricted farmers’ access to fields, limiting the area planted with cereal crops and contributing to localized production shortfalls (FAO-GIEWS, September 2022).

Conflict and insecurity, particularly in the Lac region, caused displacement and restricted humanitarian access. In areas of military operation where Boko Haram is active, fishing and grazing are prohibited, and some markets closed to prevent armed groups from getting supplies (ACAPS, December 2022). By mid-December, a drop in the flow of processed products (pasta, wheat flour) and imports (rice), due to security disruptions at the border with Libya, contributed to high cereal prices (FEWS NET, December 2022).

On the upside, by the end of 2022, the abundant rains and satisfactory grazing slowed the movement of pastoralists towards the southern transhumance zones compared with the trends of the past three years, easing competition between transhumant herders and agriculturalists in these areas (FEWS NET, December 2022).

**Weather extremes** Erratic distribution of rains, including localized dry spells in southern areas in May and June, and torrential rains from July, adversely affected crop development. By November 2022, unprecedented flooding had directly affected 1.06 million people in N’Djamena and 18 provinces, destroyed more than 465,000 hectares of cropland and washed away more than 19,000 head of cattle. By early November, 129,500 people were displaced in N’Djamena alone (WFP, November 2022).

On the positive side, the rains were conducive for cereal production that was slightly above the five-year average (+1.7 percent) and 9.9 percent above 2021 (PREGEC, November 2022).

Abundance of pastures improved the body condition of animals and a rise in livestock prices improved the terms of trade for pastoral and agropastoral households, despite food price increases (FEWS NET, December 2022).

**Economic shocks** Maize, sorghum and millet prices continued to increase during the first six months of 2022 due to the reduced cereal output in 2021 and lower trade flows, underpinned by conflict-related disruptions and increasing imported food and fuel costs associated with the war in Ukraine. In July, they levelled off or decreased in most markets as the government introduced subsidies to support vulnerable households and contain further price increases, but were still significantly above levels a year earlier (FAO-GIEWS, 2022).
September 2022). Prices of coarse grains followed mixed trends in August and September, and increased in October and November, reflecting major disruptions to markets and livelihoods following the widespread floods and poor security conditions in the Lac and Tibesti regions. In November 2022, prices of maize were up to 35 percent higher, millet 50 percent higher and sorghum 60 percent higher year-on-year (FAO, December 2022).

In the Lac region, oversupply of labour (due to influxes of displaced people) and lack of demand (due to late retreat of floodwaters) led to below-normal daily wages of displaced people) and lack of demand (due to late retreat of floodwaters) led to below-normal daily wages of displaced people. In the Lac region, oversupply of labour (due to influxes of displaced people) and lack of demand (due to late retreat of floodwaters) led to below-normal daily wages of displaced people. In the Lac region, oversupply of labour (due to influxes of displaced people) and lack of demand (due to late retreat of floodwaters) led to below-normal daily wages of displaced people.

### Acute food insecurity since 2016

Chad has been included as a major food crisis in all seven editions of the GRFC. During the first three editions, it was included within the Lake Chad Basin regional crisis. The number of people in Crisis or worse (CH Phase 3 or above) during the lean season has more than doubled since 2015 due to conflict and insecurity, as well as weather extremes affecting food production, and economic shocks, notably the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. During the same period, the population in Emergency (CH Phase 4) increased fivefold and those in Stressed (CH Phase 2) from 2.7 million to more than 4 million.

Its continual inclusion in the report is also testimony to its structural fragility. The country ranks 190 out of 191 in the Human Development Index (UNDP, 2022). Chad also ranks in the bottom ten countries in the Fragile States Index and last out of 182 countries in the 2022 ND-GAIN Index on climate change vulnerability.

### REFUGEES

#### IDPs mainly live in displacement sites, 2022

![Displacement Map]

**IDPs**
- Most IDPs have been displaced by waves of conflict starting in 2014, with the number quadrupling since 2018 to reach over 381,000 by the end of 2022. Most are in the Lac region, where food insecurity and the lack of shelter are particularly dire.

- Armed attacks were the main driver of displacement (86 percent), although about 13 percent of IDPs had abandoned their homes after hearing threats of attacks, after an attack on a neighbouring village or because of fear of insecurity. The majority of IDPs have been forced to flee multiple times (UNHCR, December 2022; Refugees International, September 2022). The majority (66 percent) of IDPs remained in the same sub-prefectures.

- In 2022, many fled attacks or were displaced by rising water levels in Lake Chad, in the southwestern Lac region. By December 2022, DTM reported that IDPs had lost their livelihoods and that they had received food assistance from the humanitarian community as well as the local community (IOM, December 2022).

- In 2023, it is projected that an estimated 70,000 children from IDP households will suffer from wasting and that around 16,000 pregnant and lactating women among the displaced and refugee population will suffer from acute malnutrition (IPC, February 2023).

![Refugees Map]

**Refugees**
- By the end of 2022, Chad hosted 592,769 refugees and asylum seekers (UNHCR, December 2022) – more than any other country in West and Central Africa – and 6 percent more than at the end of 2021.

- More than half (53 percent) were children (UNHCR, February 2023). They had mainly fled political instability, social unrest and insecurity in neighbouring the Sudan, the Central African Republic and Cameroon. They were mainly (84 percent) living in camps with more than half of them hosted in two regions – Ouddai (27 percent) and Wadi-Fira (24 percent) (UNHCR, February 2023).

- Across all 19 camps surveyed, at least half of households had an unacceptable Food Consumption Score (FCS). In 13 camps, at least 30 percent had poor food consumption, reaching more than 65 percent in Oure Cassoni and Touloum (SMART-SENS, 2021).

- In 2023, an estimated 60,000 refugee children are projected to be wasted (IPC, February 2023). In 2021, the prevalence of wasting was ‘high’ or ‘very high’ in 18 out of 19 assessed refugee camps, with Touloum having the highest level (30.9 percent). The stunting prevalence was ‘very high’ in all but one camp, reaching 52.1 percent in Dar Es Salaam camp – where some 23.7 percent of children were severely stunted (SMART-SENS, 2021).

- Anaemia among children under 5 years was a ‘high’ public health concern in 13 camps and ‘medium’ in six. The UNHCR exclusive breastfeeding rate target (>75 percent) was not met in any of the camps (SMART-SENS, 2021).
The national prevalence of wasting among children under 5 years was 'very high' at 28.0 percent, 2.4 percentage points lower than that of 2021. This decrease masks regional variations, reaching 'very high' (over 30 percent) in Hadjer-Lamis, Lac, Kanem, Tandjilé, Sila and Batha. Just over 10 percent were severely stunted (SMART 2022).

**Drivers of undernutrition**

**High prevalence of infectious diseases** As in 2021, around 19 percent of children aged 0–59 months had diarrhoea in the two weeks preceding the survey. Eight provinces exceeded the national average, namely Lac, Mayo-Kebbi Ouest, Bahr el Ghazal, Mayo-Kebbi Est, Logone Orientale, Kanem, Sila and Chari Baguerimi. Three of these – Bahr el Ghazal, Kanem and Sila – combined high levels of diarrhoea with a wasting prevalence above the 10 percent threshold (SMART 2022).

Nationally, the percentage of severely wasted children was 1.5 percent, down from 2.0 percent in 2021. In Bahr el Ghazal, Wadi Fira, Salamat and Sila, the prevalence remained above the 'very high' threshold of 2 percent (SMART 2022).

The national prevalence of stunting among children under 5 years was ‘very high’ at 38.2 percent, 0.8 percentage points lower than that of 2021. This decrease masks regional variations, reaching 'very high' (over 30 percent) in Baguirmi. Three of these – Bahr el Ghazal, Kanem and Sila – combined high levels of diarrhoea with a wasting prevalence above the 10 percent threshold (SMART 2022).

Inadequate maternal and child-feeding practices Exclusive breastfeeding rates for children aged under 6 months are considered ‘Extremely Critical’ at 73.3 percent and have decreased even further below the already ‘Critical’ levels of 11.4 percent in 2021. These low levels mask a huge variety across provinces (0 percent in Mandoul to 53.1 percent in Ennedi-Ouest).

Since 2021, there has been a significant improvement in the share of 6–23-month-old children who received the Minimum Acceptable Diet – up from ‘Critical’ levels (11.5 percent) to ‘Serious’ (33.8 percent). This improvement might also be linked to the timing of the survey, which took place at the end of the harvest when food is available, accessible and varied, rather than during the lean season when it is scarce and expensive (SMART 2022).

**Poor household environment** The share of households with an improved water source was very low at 6 percent (UNICEF, 2020).

Limited access to health and nutrition services Access to healthcare and nutrition interventions is limited in Chad. However, vitamin A supplementation coverage has improved (71 percent).

Anaemia data from 2019 indicate a ‘severe’ public health problem with 66.3 percent of children aged 6–59 months and 46.4 percent of women of reproductive age suffering from anaemia (WHO, 2019).

Food insecurity and lack of access to healthy diets Based on the latest IPC analysis, food insecurity appears to be a minor contributing factor to accessing a healthy diet in the majority of regions, with the aforementioned drivers more significant (IPC, December 2021).