



CHAD

COUNTRY PROFILE

Chad is consistently ranked as one of the five poorest countries in the world by the Annual United Nations Human Development Report. The measure of the country's underdevelopment is staggering. Only about 6 percent of the population has access to electricity, and only 8 percent has access to basic sanitation. Adult literacy is 22 percent. Life expectancy is only 53 years. Around three-quarters of all births take place without the attendance of a skilled health professional.

The country has nonetheless made progress, for example, by reducing the maternal mortality rate by more than a fifth since 2005. And while half of the population lives in extreme poverty, Chad is providing asylum and allows humanitarian relief to 575,000 refugees and almost 381,000 internally displaced people. Chad is a young country: 65 percent of the population is under 25 years of age - the median age is 16.8 years.

OUR WORK

Humanitarian assistance alleviates human suffering that is caused by instability in the country and the region. The assistance is implemented in an impartial manner with Chad hosting more refugees per capita than any other African nation. USAID's contribution includes food assistance and funding for various relief programs.

Although 85 percent of the population works in the agriculture sector, most subsist from farming small areas of land, contributing to a situation of chronic food insecurity. More than 6.1 million Chadians are in need of humanitarian assistance, while nearly 4.1 million people are categorized as food insecure.

USAID monitors farming conditions and vulnerable populations through the Famine Early Warning Systems Network, also known as FEWS Net. FEWS Net has been a leading provider of early warning and analysis on food insecurity to help decision-makers plan for humanitarian crises since 1985 and is currently active in 30 countries.

To support the agriculture sector, USAID supports regional institutions that work to improve the quality and accessibility of seeds and fertilizer in the marketplace.

Recognizing the important role that civil society plays to empower Chadian youth and women, and to promote democracy, USAID has initiated a multi-year civil society strengthening activity. This activity aims to rebuild Chadians' interest to engage with government institutions and provides training, workshops, and networking opportunities for Chadian civil society organizations (CSOs) to better equip them with tools to effectively promote their interests especially during the current period of transition to civilian rule.

With the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, USAID started working with civil society to build capacity and trust between CSOs and the community and also spread health-related information and fight disinformation about the pandemic and pandemic response. To support Ministry of Health programs to protect the Chadian population from the coronavirus, USAID donated and delivered vaccines, and is funding programs to increase vaccine uptake.

USAID's longer-term investments in the health sector have included support to Chad's National Malaria Control Program for better malaria prevention and control, and strengthening capacity of the recently created National Institute of Health, in partnership with Yale University's School of Public Health.

CONTACTS

COUNTRY OFFICE

Leslie E. McBride
USAID Country Representative
N'Djamena, Chad
Email: mcbridele@state.gov

HEADQUARTERS

Madeline Roth
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC, USA
Email mroth@usaid.gov