

OXFAM IN CHAD

In Chad, Oxfam is focusing on women's rights; improving pastoralist and agro-pastoralist communities' resilience; and improving living conditions of vulnerable communities.



THE SITUATION

After many years of political instability and conflict, the situation in Chad is becoming more stable, and economic growth is beginning. Significant efforts are expected to strengthen the state, social institutions and civil society organisations.

Chad is a disaster-prone country; prone to floods, droughts and massive plagues that can strongly affect the incipient agricultural production. There is still a long way to go to ensure adequate state and community capacity to prepare for and deal with disasters and climate change.

The crisis in Libya in 2011 had a strong adverse effect on Chad, as many Chadian citizens working in Libya had to return to Chad, facing unemployment in their own country. The oil market for local consumption was also adversely affected.

Low rainfall, poor harvests, high food prices and a lack of pasture have also caused serious problems across the Sahel, including in Chad, where millions of people are at risk of a serious food crisis in 2012.

IN NUMBERS*

350,000
total people helped

HOW OXFAM IS HELPING

All our humanitarian programmes in eastern Chad have recently been closed. We are now working on longer term development and sustainable action, working closely with civil society organisations, the state, and traditional authorities. Our long term commitments are in the urban area of N'djamena and in the Bahr el Gazal region. Improving women's rights are our core objective.

Large state investments and private investments on oil and other mineral productions have changed the vision of the state, as it is now getting considerable revenues. Civil society and some international organisations, including Oxfam, are supporting the government and the communities to ensure that these revenues will be used appropriately.

We are also combining a long-term approach with an emergency response to the 2012 food crisis. Our programme in Chad includes targeted food distributions, cash transfers and 'cash-for-work' programmes, agricultural support, animal health support (vaccinations, distribution of food for animals, training of veterinarians), the construction and rehabilitation of wells and public health promotion.



Right: A woman waters her crops at an Oxfam supported market gardening project.

Photo: Andy Hall

WATER AND SANITATION IN URBAN AREAS

We're working to show how positive and sustainable changes in policies, practices, ideas and beliefs can happen, with a strong emphasis on accountability and the proactive leadership of women. This work is to be carried out with the CELIAF, a confederation of women organisations and organisations working on women's rights, and with the local authorities.

The capital city is receiving a big flow of poor and vulnerable communities. Some are coming from Libya; others from rural

areas where they're unable to cope with the constant and systematic effects of climate change, desertification and a lack of appropriate models for livestock and agricultural production. We're working to show how an affordable and innovative water and sanitation infrastructure (with women's leadership and the involvement of community organisations) can make a real difference in the slums of N'djamena.



Photo: Oxfam



Oxfam staff take part in a vaccination campaign in Bahr el Gazal.

EMERGENCY FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS IN BAHR EL GAZAL

We're working to improve pastoral and agro-pastoral communities' resilience: challenging the current pastoral and agriculture models, looking for sustainable and acceptable modifications with the full involvement of local and traditional authorities, and strengthening the technical knowledge and capacity of state institutions. We're also assessing partner organisations in the region to play a key role in programme design and implementation.