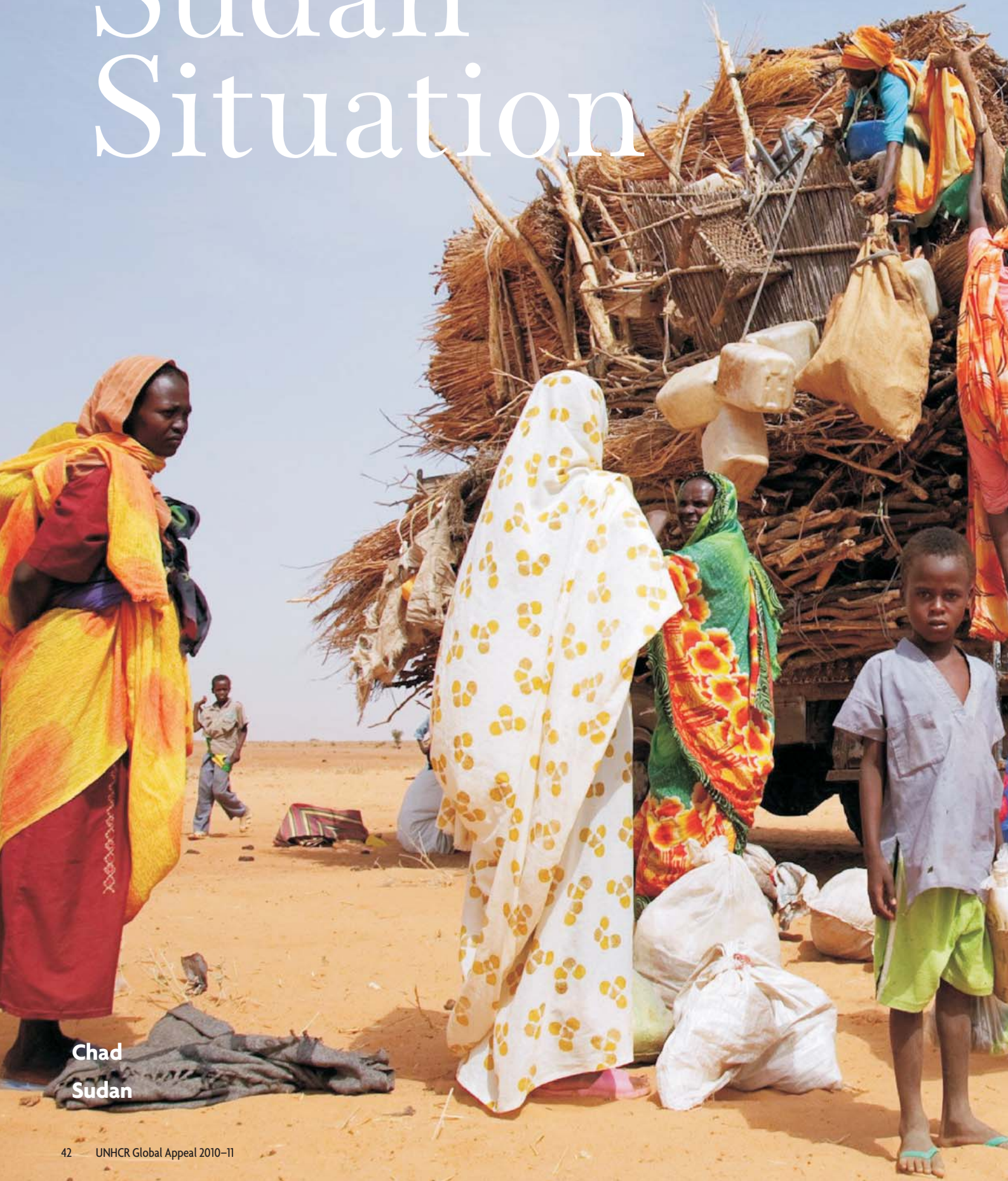


Chad and Sudan Situation



Chad
Sudan



| Working environment |

The Darfur conflict has displaced close to three million people, of whom some 270,000 have sought refuge across the border in eastern Chad. Although there are stable areas within Darfur and military activities have diminished, it is unlikely that refugees in Chad will be able to return home in the near future.

However, some internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Darfur have returned to their places of origin. UNHCR is supportive of such movements, when they are voluntary and conducted in safety and dignity. The expulsion of several non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from Sudan in March 2009, has had an adverse effect on UNHCR's operations.

The number of refugees returning to Southern Sudan in 2009 was not as high as expected due to ethnic clashes in the region. UNHCR anticipates that voluntary returns will continue in 2010. The Office's reintegration assistance in Southern Sudan will focus on monitoring returnees and on addressing their protection concerns. Since 2005, more than 320,000 Sudanese refugees have returned from neighbouring countries to Southern Sudan.

Both Chad and Sudan witnessed new refugee influxes in 2009 from the Central African Republic (CAR) and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). In the DRC, the displacement is linked to the activities of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), which has been operating in the northern part of the country and has also made incursions into Southern Sudan. The presence of the LRA in the region may prompt additional displacements. Similarly, instability in CAR may propel new refugee movements into Chad.

The security situation in both Chad and Sudan remains volatile and unpredictable. Banditry and other criminal activity, including car hijackings, have led to significantly higher security costs for UNHCR and its partners.

IDPs arriving in Zamzam camp, near El-Fasher, Sudan.

UNAMID/OC/CHASSOT

Chad and Sudan Situation



Strategic objectives

UNHCR works to promote a **favourable protection environment** for all people of concern. In eastern Sudan, the Office places special emphasis on monitoring entry points and Government practices, particularly regarding the admission and reception of new arrivals from Eritrea and Ethiopia.

UNHCR works to ensure that people of concern are treated **fairly, efficiently and without discrimination** when seeking protection, and that they receive adequate documentation. A comprehensive registration and validation exercise was launched in Chad in 2009 and will provide up-to-date information on those of concern in order for identity cards to be issued to all refugees by the end of 2009. Following the completion of the registration in the camps of eastern Sudan, a similar exercise will be conducted in urban areas.

The Office will intensify efforts to ensure a **safe and secure environment** for people of concern, including protection from violence and exploitation. The most pressing problem in Chad has been the continued violation of the civilian and humanitarian character of the refugee camps, including the forced recruitment of children. Though the deployment of gendarmes from the *Détachement Intégré de Sécurité* has increased, security standards in the camps remain of concern.

In Chad, UNHCR seeks to meet minimum standards in the **provision of basic assistance**. In the east of the country, additional investment is required to ensure food security and address malnutrition. Camps in southern Chad benefit from favourable soil conditions, which allow for an expansion of agricultural production.

UNHCR's comprehensive needs assessment demonstrated significant gaps in essential services, including health care, food security and education. UNHCR's reintegration programme in Southern Sudan seeks to strengthen local services through community-based interventions.

The Office will intensify the search for **durable solutions**. With limited prospects for the return of Darfur refugees from Chad in the near future, UNHCR will pursue local integration in eastern Chad, while working to improve the conditions in the existing camps. On the other hand, a resolution of the protracted refugee situation in eastern Sudan is looking more likely, based on a comprehensive self-reliance strategy for the 12 camps in the east. In both Chad and Sudan, resettlement is an increasingly important durable solution. UNHCR has developed group resettlement proposals, which will provide the basis for increased resettlement from the two countries in 2010 and 2011.

In pursuit of these objectives, UNHCR has adjusted its management structure and redeployed staff from its sub-office in Abeche to eastern Chad.

| Challenges |

The security situation hinders access to people of concern in both countries. On several occasions, UNHCR has evacuated staff from their bases and entire areas have been declared off-limits. The lack of security and the resultant lack of access significantly limit humanitarian space in Chad and Sudan.

In Sudan, the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement has come under increasing strain which resulted in a noticeable drop in returns in 2009.

| Operations |

The operations in **Chad** and **Sudan** are described in separate country chapters.

| Financial information |

The budgets for Chad and Sudan have increased over the last five years due to the emphasis on reintegration activities in Southern Sudan, the expansion of programmes in Darfur and the development of projects to cope with displacement within and into Chad. The presentation of financial requirements for Chad and Sudan, on the basis of the comprehensive needs assessments, is aimed at addressing the remaining gaps in assistance and ensuring that international protection standards are met.