

Alert

Chad – No. 24/2010

ASSISTANCE TO IDPs AFFECTED BY FLOODING IN KOUKOU, CHAD

Geneva, August 5 2010

On the last day of July 2010, heavy unusual rains that started in early July caused serious flooding in Habile 3, one of the internally displaced camp (IDP) sites managed by ACT member Lutheran World Federation (LWF) under the ACT/LWF appeal TCD 101. By today, 47 families or a total 299 persons need to be relocated while another 107 families or 615 persons are at serious risk of further flooding. Usually, rains in August are heavier than the July rains and thus the risk of more flooding is very real.

Impact

The heavy flooding caused the destruction of the IDP shelters as well as caused damage and washed away private properties. By Saturday 31 July, water manual pumps and latrines in the site were under the waters. The affected families include owners of houses belonging to the local population residing closer to the Barh Azoum River, which have also been flooded.

National and international response

On 31 July 2010, a joint assessment mission was organized by the local authorities together with UNHCR, OCHA and the NGO's present in Koukou, with LWF/ACT Alliance being the lead agency for the NGO's operating in Koukou.

Many other areas of Chad are also affected by the unusual heavy rainfall including the city of N'Djamena, and the regions of Salamat, Mayo Kebi Est, Borku, Ennedi and Tibesti. UN coordinating agency OCHA called an emergency meeting on August 3, 2010 to discuss a possible response to this emergency situation.

The President of Chad also visited the affected areas in the North and several high officials were dismissed due to their inaction. The town of Faya was affected and plans are being drawn to relocate the city to a location 10 kilometers away.

The Chadian and Libyan government have sent food to the areas in the North (directly from Libya) and the IFRC has assisted 136 families affected in Goz Beida who are now sheltering in schools with shelter material, mats, mosquito nets and soap.

ACT Alliance response

Through Appeal TCD101 the LWF/ACT Alliance is already assisting the IDPs in the camp in partnership with UNHCR. However provisions in the TCD101 budget as well as in the UNHCR agreement are not enough to cover assistance to be rendered in this flooding situation.

LWF/ACT Alliance is the lead NGO for the activities in the IDP sites around Koukou and has been requested to respond to this crisis in partnership with other organizations involved.

Planned Activities

- To respond to this crisis caused by flood, LWF/ACT Alliance will assist the IDPs who will be relocated in re-building their shelters and providing them with the basic household items and Non Food Items which were lost.
- As more rains are expected, LWF/ACT Alliance will also build up a small contingency stock of emergency items like plastic sheeting, mats, pots and pans, which will be stored at their office facilities in Abéché and be ready for immediate dispatch by the UN planes whenever required.

ACT member in Chad, Lutheran World Federation, is in the process of preparing a Rapid Response Fund request (RRF) so as to respond promptly to this emergency in their area of operation. The flooding situation extends across the border to Cameroon and discussions are on-going whether LWF in Chad can extend their response across the border with the Church of the Lutheran Brethren of Cameroon as implementing partner.

Any funding indication or pledge should be communicated to Jessie Kgoroadira, ACT Chief Finance Officer (jkg@actalliance.org).

Thank you for your attention.

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