



Project 11: To Strengthen Social Cohesion between Host Communities, Returnees and Refugees in the Provinces of Ouaddaï, Sila and Wadi-Fira

October 2024



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Duration:

Length:	2 years
Start Date:	November 2024
End Date:	November 2026

Budget:

TOTAL:	\$3 Million
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Implementing Agencies and Partners:

UNDP, UNFPA

Partners: The Ministry of Finance, Budget, Economy and Planning; The Ministry of Women and Early Childhood; The Ministry of Social Action, National Solidarity and Humanitarian Affairs; The Ministry of Territorial Administration and Decentralization; The Governorates of the three (3) target provinces, and the local authorities; Members of host communities in the provinces of Ouaddaï, Sila and Wadi Fira; Members of the refugee/returnee communities from the provinces of Ouaddaï, Sila and Wadi Fira; Members of Civil Society Organizations from the provinces of Ouaddaï, Sila and Wadi Fira; Humanitarian actors present in the provinces of Ouaddaï, Sila and Wadi Fira;

CONTEXT

Chad shares a 1,400 km border with Sudan. The provinces of Wadi Fira, Sila and Ouaddaï border Sudan and are home to about ten ethnic groups, many of which are present in both countries. Livestock, agriculture, and trade are the primary economic activities in these regions. According to the UNHCR emergency situation report of 23 September, 2024, 643,566 new refugees and 173,124 Chadian returnees have been registered in the East due to the Sudanese crisis, with nearly 90 percent being women and children. These populations are concentrated in Ouaddaï, Sila and Wadi-Fira. This influx has led to tensions between refugees, returnees, and host communities, who already face precarious conditions. The primary points of contention include access to and management of agricultural land, water, and other resources, as well as livelihood opportunities.

OBJECTIVES

The project aims to contribute to conflict prevention and strengthen social cohesion among host communities, returnees, and refugees affected by the Sudanese crisis in Ouaddaï (Adré), Sila (Goz-Beida) and Wadi-Fira (Guereda). The project will support local authorities in coordinating an integrated crisis response that is effective, inclusive and sensitive to the needs of all populations, particularly women, children, and people with disabilities. The project will also enhance socio-economic opportunities for affected communities, promote social, cultural, and economic activities to foster peaceful coexistence and encourage interdependence among youth through socio-recreational activities in child-friendly spaces. Additionally, it will link broader community initiatives to UN efforts on livelihoods, access to justice, inclusive citizen participation, recovery, and stabilization.

■ EXPECTED PEACEBUILDING IMPACT

- **Result 1:** Reduced community conflicts and strengthened social cohesion in Ouaddaï, Wadi Fira and Sila, due to acquired mediation skills acquired among community members, including men, women and youth, and the integration of their peacebuilding needs into the crisis response.
- **Result 2:** Operational multisectoral mechanisms for preventing conflict and gender-based violence, aligned with priority needs in the three provinces.

Monitoring and evaluation will include community consultations and dialogues with grassroots organizations, provincial peace and reconciliation committees, and local advisory committees.

■ SYNERGIES WITH OTHER INITIATIVES

International Financial Institutions have increased their engagement in Chad in response to the Sudan crisis. For example, the Refugees and Host Communities Project (PARCA), funded by the World Bank, operates in Adre and Goz-Beida, focusing on improved access to basic services, socio-economic infrastructure, and economic opportunities. To align with PARCA, a joint monitoring schedule will be developed within six months of the project launch with PBF initiatives complementing these efforts through support for social cohesion and local coordination capacities.

The STARR project, funded by the African Development Bank, and implemented by UNDP for a total amount of \$30 million, aims to restore basic services, enhance the socio-economic resilience of refugees and host communities, and strengthen government coordination in Ouaddaï, Wadi Fira and Sila. This project could potentially scale up activities funded by the PBF in the coming years.

These complementary initiatives offer an opportunity to tailor the PBF's catalytic role within the complex emergency context of eastern Chad with coordination structures that are yet to be operationalized for actors engaged in addressing the humanitarian-development-peace nexus. Initial discussions between various teams have highlighted the need for a shared engagement approach in targeted areas and a coordinated sequence of interventions to leverage comparative advantages effectively.