

Chad



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embattled Darfur Region poured into the eastern part of the country. Nearly a decade later, increased conflict in neighboring Central African Republic (CAR) caused thousands more refugees to flee to southern Chad. International Medical Corps' emergency relief care in Chad includes primary and secondary healthcare, maternal and child health services, nutritional support, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services. Our programs engage communities through Village Health Committees and a network of community health workers, and offer medical training to help build sustainable recovery through support to the established national health system.



IN THE FACE OF SCARCER RESOURCES AND REGIONAL INSTABILITY, PEOPLE IN CHAD STRUGGLE TO PROTECT AND REBUILD THEIR LIVES.

In 2019, political, military, socio-economic and climate challenges, both regional and internal, complicated an increasingly fragile environment. The security situation has deteriorated, with a sharp increase in attacks on villages, civilians and military by Boko Haram armed groups. High poverty and inequality persist amid increasing cycles of drought and flooding.

Since the start of our work in Chad, in 2004, International Medical Corps' services have reached an estimated 180,000 beneficiaries per year, including internally displaced people, refugees and host community members. Through 24 health centers and one hospital in the Lake region, we deliver essential services, including primary and secondary healthcare, nutritional support, and maternal and child health services. Throughout all of our programs, International Medical Corps forms partnerships with local communities and provides training to develop the capacity needed for sustainable, long-term recovery.

In addition to supporting Chad's government in annual vaccination campaigns against polio, measles and meningitis, International Medical Corps has trained hundreds of health workers to ensure handover of vaccination programs to the local community when the emergency declines.

PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

International Medical Corps increases access to quality and effective primary healthcare services in Chad by providing:

- ▶ Curative health services
- ▶ Mother and child healthcare
- ▶ Disease awareness, prevention and response
- ▶ Basic epidemiological monitoring systems and emergency response capacity for epidemic outbreaks in all supported health facilities
- ▶ Nutritional screening and support
- ▶ Health and sanitation promotion and education
- ▶ Expanded immunization programs, including polio eradication activities
- ▶ Capacity-building in health service management for district health offices in Bagasola, Bol and Liwa
- ▶ Training of Village Health Committees and community groups to increase utilization of preventative services

SECONDARY HEALTH CARE

International Medical Corps provides targeted secondary healthcare support through our partnership with Bagasola Hospital. This includes providing essential medicines, medical supplies and equipment to the hospital, and training hospital staff. International Medical Corps also supports diagnostic services, emergency obstetric services, minor surgical procedures and treatment for major causes of pediatric and adult mortality among hospital patients.



NUTRITION

With low agricultural production, food security in Chad is likely to continue to deteriorate in 2020, with more than 3.4 million people already suffering from food insecurity, including 640,000 severely. International Medical Corps reaches food-insecure populations through a Community Management of Acute Malnutrition approach, with support from community health workers. Through stabilization and therapeutic feeding centers, International Medical Corps treats acute malnutrition cases with medical complications, providing the specialized attention and care needed for recovery.

International Medical Corps' use of culturally appropriate educational materials and awareness campaigns—covering such topics as infant and young-child feeding practices and the prevention, recognition and treatment of malnutrition—helps communities maintain and extend gains in health and nutrition. International Medical Corps also conducts cooking classes using local food commodities to educate caregivers on the best way to prepare food while maintaining maximum nutritional content.



MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH

Maternal and child healthcare services remain desperately needed in Chad, where maternal mortality is extremely high and immunization coverage for children under five hovers around 37%.

To support mothers and children, International Medical Corps provides:

- ▶ Voluntary family-planning services
- ▶ Prenatal care
- ▶ Clean and safe deliveries
- ▶ Postpartum care
- ▶ HIV testing and counseling, as well as prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT)
- ▶ Immunization services for pregnant and lactating women and children under five
- ▶ Growth monitoring and nutrition screening for pregnant and lactating women and for children under five
- ▶ Integrated management of childhood illnesses, in the Bagasola hospital pediatric ward

To expand access to these services and ensure the long-term delivery of care, International Medical Corps also trains traditional birth attendants and community health workers, who help link medical programs to their communities.



HIV/AIDS

As HIV/AIDS becomes increasingly prevalent in Chad, International Medical Corps provides voluntary counseling and testing, and distributes means of prevention, such as condoms. We also offer post-exposure prophylaxis for victims of sexual assault and those who have been exposed to HIV/AIDS, as well as antiretroviral treatment for those infected. For pregnant women, we provide PMTCT services.



CAPACITY-BUILDING

International Medical Corps provides medical training, engages community leaders and government workers, and rehabilitates medical facilities to help build a secure and reliable healthcare system. Local citizens and refugees play a number of crucial roles linking and delivering care to their communities. For example:

- ▶ Traditional birth attendants and midwives trained with the support of International Medical Corps help ensure clean, safe deliveries
- ▶ Healthcare workers provide nutritional support
- ▶ Community health workers educate their peers about basic health topics, such as preventing the spread of diseases, including HIV/AIDS
- ▶ Local residents manage kitchen gardens built with the help of International Medical Corps, providing nutritious food in the community



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A pre-eminent first responder for 35 years, International Medical Corps provides emergency relief to those struck by disaster, no matter where they are, no matter what the conditions, working with them to recover, rebuild and, through training, gain the skills and tools required to achieve self-reliance.

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