Deby removed constitutional term limits and won the presidential election in 2006. That same year, the Sudanese and Chadian governments formally agreed not to support armed rebel groups. Though signed, the agreement did not eliminate violence around the Chad-Sudan border.

In 2010, Deby visited Khartoum, the capital of Sudan, to meet with President Bashir in hopes of ending the border conflict. Both governments agreed to deploy forces along the Chad-Sudan border to restore peace in the region. Even amidst charges of election rigging, fraud, ethnic favoritism and corruption regarding oil revenues, Deby has reaped the benefits of an oil boom since 2003. The mismanagement of funds has led to widespread poverty. In the past decade, Chad has become a safe haven for refugees fleeing from violence in neighboring countries. The United Nations High Commissioner of Refugees (UNHCR) estimates that nearly 340,000 refugees from Sudan and Central African Republic are currently residing in Chad, with 12 refugee camps functioning in the country. This influx of refugees, particularly along the eastern border with Sudan, has created a great need for humanitarian assistance – for example, the rapid population increase has caused communities surrounding the camps to suffer from decreased and contaminated water supplies. In addition to the refugees, the UNHCR estimates that 170,000 people have been displaced internally, fleeing the eastern region due to violence and insecurity. The western region of Chad frequently suffers from acute malnutrition rates above 20% during the hunger gap (a period of routine food scarcity between harvests). Insufficient rainfall over the past two years has exacerbated this crisis and now nearly two-thirds of households do not have sufficient amounts of food on a daily basis. A lack of arable land due to desertification, coupled with limited access to water and healthcare, has had devastating effects on malnutrition rates in the region.

**ACTION AGAINST HUNGER’S PRESENCE IN CHAD**

ACF launched its first program in Chad in 1982 to help re-introduce agricultural production into the war-torn country. In 2004, ACF shifted efforts to the eastern region of Chad to address the influx of Sudanese refugees. Eventually, the program was expanded to address the vulnerability of local Chadian populations while maintaining support for the Sudanese refugee populations. In early 2010, ACF launched a nutritional program in western Chad to address increasing malnutrition rates resulting from the lack of rainfall and the effects of increasing desertification.

**Country Case Study: Chad**

**GEOGRAPHY & CLIMATE**

Chad is the 5th largest country in Africa. Located in the north-central part of the continent, it is a landlocked country, sharing borders with Libya, Sudan, Central African Republic, Cameroon, Nigeria and Niger. Three climatic zones make up the majority of the country – a desert in the north, an arid region in the center, and a tropical area in the south. Lake Chad is located on the western border and is an important source of water for Chad and surrounding countries.

**MODERN HISTORY**

Chad has been in a state of almost constant war since its independence from France in 1960. Turmoil in the country is based on ethnic and religious differences provoked mainly by clan rivalries – the southern region is predominantly Christian farmers, while the northern and eastern regions are mainly Muslim. In 1965, a tax revolt initiated a long civil war between the Muslims in the north and east and the government of Francois Tombalbaye in the south. Even with support from the French government, attempts to end the conflict failed until a military coup in 1975 installed General Felix Malloum, a southerner, as head of the government. The70s witnessed internal conflicts and a civil war with rebels from the north and east, including the Sudanese Liberation Army, who gained control of the Chadian government (MPS), with assistance from Libya, in 1979.

Ethnic rivalry within the government eventually led to Habre’s downfall. In 1989, Idriss Deby, one of Habre’s leading generals from eastern Chad, fled to Darfur, Sudan, where he staged a series of attacks on Habre. In December 1990, Deby and the Patriotic Salvation Movement (MPS), with assistance from Libya, gained control of the Chadian government.

In 2003, refugees from the Darfur region of Sudan began crossing the border into Chad, and conflicts around the border intensified. Both governments accused the other of harboring rebel units, and war between Chad and Sudan was officially declared in December 2005.

**BASIC FACTS**

- **Location:** Central Africa
- **President:** Idriss Deby
- **Government:** Republic
- **Capital:** N’Djamena
- **Official Languages:** French and Arabic
- **Population:** 10.3 million
- **Climate:** Tropical in south; Desert in north
- **Life Expectancy:** 47.7 years
- **Adult Literacy Rate:** 25.7%
- **Area:** 1.284 million sq. km

**Country Case Study: Chad**

**HUMANITARIAN SITUATION**

Since independence, Chad has suffered from political instability, social unrest and conflicts with neighboring countries. This has left the country with poor infrastructure, an unstable government and a dire humanitarian situation. Even though the country has reaped the benefits of an oil boom since 2003, the mismanagement of funds has led to widespread poverty. In the past decade, Chad has become a safe haven for refugees fleeing from violence in neighboring countries. The United Nations High Commissioner of Refugees (UNHCR) estimates that nearly 340,000 refugees from Sudan and Central African Republic are currently residing in Chad, with 12 refugee camps functioning in the country. This influx of refugees, particularly along the eastern border with Sudan, has created a great need for humanitarian assistance – for example, the rapid population increase has caused communities surrounding the camps to suffer from decreased and contaminated water supplies. In addition to the refugees, the UNHCR estimates that 170,000 people have been displaced internally, fleeing the eastern region due to violence and insecurity. The western region of Chad frequently suffers from acute malnutrition rates above 20% during the hunger gap (a period of routine food scarcity between harvests). Insufficient rainfall over the past two years has exacerbated this crisis and now nearly two-thirds of households do not have sufficient amounts of food on a daily basis. A lack of arable land due to desertification, coupled with limited access to water and healthcare, has had devastating effects on malnutrition rates in the region.

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**North-Eastern Chad**

- Monitor food distributions in 6 refugee camps
- Evaluate humanitarian context in refugee camps and address needs as they arise

**South-Eastern Chad**

- Distribution of non-food kits (plastic covers, blankets, water containers, soap)
- Distribution of vegetable seeds
- Installation and rehabilitation of water points
- Rehabilitation and enlargement of water distribution systems
- Construction of latrines
- Promotion of hygiene

**Western Chad**

- Intervene in emergencies to prevent and treat malnutrition in children
- Strengthen capacity of 33 local nutrition centers
- Perform nutritional surveys
- Operate mobile nutritional units

**Sources:** ACF, 2010; CIA World Factbook, 2010; UNHCR, 2020

**RACE AGAINST HUNGER PASSPORT**

Photos: ACF-Chad, S. Hausein Swan
The Race Against Hunger Sponsor Form

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**TOTAL AMOUNT RAISED**

Please make checks out to Action Against Hunger.

Action Against Hunger is a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) corporation that consistently receives top marks from rating agencies like the Better Business Bureau, Charity Navigator, The American Institute of Philanthropy, and GuideStar. All contributions are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. To learn more about our programs and activities, please visit our website: www.actionagainsthunger.org

Thank You For Your Support!

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Can supply a lemon, banana, mango, or orange tree to a farming family incorporating fresh fruit into their diets, preventing soil erosion and desertification.

Will provide two undernourished children with supplementary foods for one month to prevent malnutrition and promote healthy development.

Will provide the 30-day nutritional treatment necessary to save the life of a severely malnourished child in a therapeutic feeding center.

Name of Participant: [Full Name]

Teacher: [Full Name]

School Name: [School Name]

Date of Race: [Date]

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Please make checks out to Action Against Hunger.

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