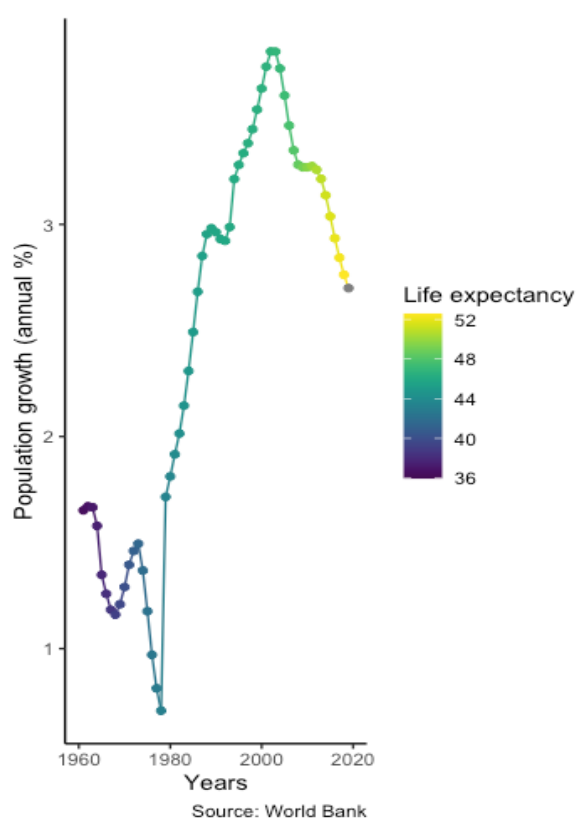


# The UNDP WACA Hub

## COUNTRY BRIEF: CHAD

Chad has a population of ~ 15.8 million people, and this population grows at 3% per year since there is the highest fertility rate in the world of 6.4 children per woman (OCHA, 2019). However, 7.4 million people in disadvantaged and vulnerable communities, unfortunately, continue to live in extreme poverty since the poverty rate is at 46.7% of the entire population. Developing opportunities and areas of intervention is critical to reducing poverty in Chad to create equality and equity for all.



### At a glance:

Total population (< 50% are under 18 years) = 15.8 million

People who are suffering from the humanitarian crisis = 5.3 million

People living in poverty = 46.7 %

Life expectancy = 53.2 years

People without primary healthcare = 2.1 million

People to protect with food security = 3.3 million

Children to nourish = 952,000

People who have access to safe drinking water = 43%

US dollar to save the lives of 2 million people = 476.6 million

Source: (OCHA, 2019)

## POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONTEXT

According to the fragility index, Chad is increasingly fragile due to its internal political tensions and the impact of insecurity in neighboring countries (OCHA, 2019). Since 2019, Chad has suffered from a rise in attacks by Non-State armed actors in the western province of Lac and its island. In February 2019, another attack occurred by a rebel actor, the Union des Forces de Resistance (UFR), through southern Libya into northern Chad. However, the UFR was repulsed with the support of France.

Chad's economy relies primarily on rain-fed agriculture, so 3.3 million people are food insecure. The number of people living with food insecurity has increased from 2.7 million in 2011 to 3.3 million in

2019. 29% of people in Chad still live in food poverty, ~ 47% live under the poverty line, and 68% of the population with less than US\$2 per day (World Bank, 2018). The absolute number of people living in poverty has increased due to food insecurity and population growth in rural areas.

Disadvantaged and vulnerable communities living in poverty remain pervasive in Chad since 74% of the rural population live in poverty, whereas 40% of people living in urban areas (World Bank, 2018) are affected by vulnerability and poverty. According to the fragility index, 81% of the population lives in rural areas with less than US\$2 per day (World Bank, 2018), which means that over 12 million people experience economic inequality. How do we create more economic equality and equity?

People who live in urban areas do not have access to social safety net programs since investments are focused on rural areas where poverty is more acute. In rural areas, unfortunately, there are 8 times more people who live in poverty (World Bank, 2018). However, in the next 10 years, the urban population is expected to triple (World Bank, 2018), so designing and investing in social safety net programs is crucial to protecting all people in rural and urban communities.

Social Safety Nets	Description
Cash Transfers	Supporting beneficiaries, people who live in disadvantaged and vulnerable communities, with financial resources.
In-Kind Transfers	Distributing food with school feeding programs.
Subsidies	Creating opportunities with medical and school fee exemptions for children who live in poverty.
Social Assistance	Supporting orphans and people with disabilities with housing assistance, health care and education opportunities.

## DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY

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Many children die, primarily in rural areas, from malnutrition each year since Chad has the second-highest under-five mortality rate globally, with 123 deaths every 1,000 live births (OCHA, 2019). Severe acute malnutrition is at 4% (OCHA, 2019), so about 1 out of every 8 children dies before 5 years. Investing in cash transfers and in-kind support is essential to protecting people from malnutrition and increasing food supplements by 75%. However, current programs addressing malnutrition support only 5% of children, so investing to enhance food security will protect 100% of children in Chad.

It is vital to enhancing access to health care centers since 78% of the population utilizes public health services for consultations. However, people in disadvantaged and vulnerable communities tend to travel for about 1 ¼ hour (World Bank, 2018) to access health facilities, and ~ 67.5% of these people struggle to afford medicines. Most women give birth at home since they have to travel for about 79 km (World Bank, 2018) to reach a health facility, so it is critical to creating health centers nearby disadvantaged and vulnerable communities, primarily to protect women of child-bearing age.

Primary and secondary education is available to only 14.3% of the population. Primary school is attended by only 40.9% of children between the ages of 6 and 11, and 34.5% of these children who live in poverty drop school. Children in Chad also spend 30 minutes to reach the nearest primary

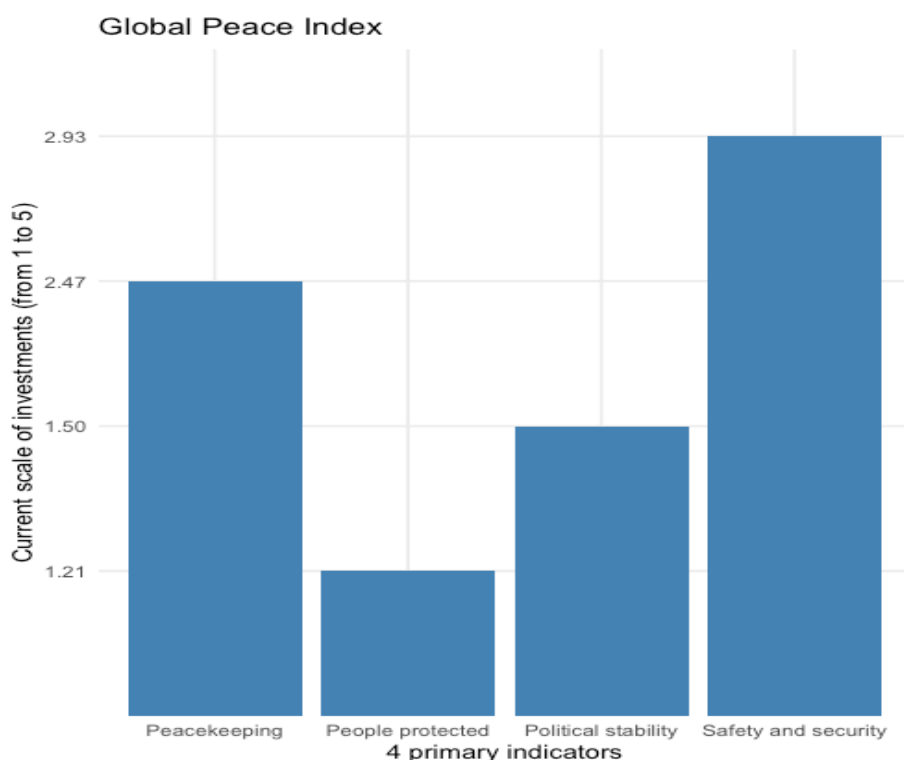
school, and those who live in poverty spend about 70 minutes. How do we make sure that all children have the possibility to keep learning in school?

## AREAS OF INTERVENTION

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Over 5.4 million people in Chad live in households with more than 6 people, and the average of those people who are living under US\$2 per day (World Bank, 2018) is 75%. Instead, those who live in households with 4 or 6 members have an average poverty rate of over 40%. 70% of families involved in agriculture (World Bank, 2018) live in poverty if we compare it to non-agricultural households affected by 30%. Creating new jobs by investing in industry and services work opportunities will bring people in households out of poverty.

According to the global peace index, protecting people with disabilities is vital. People with disabilities suffer physical, economic, and social disadvantages. For instance, many women and men in Chad who are blind beg for food in the streets to survive. Designing social assistance programs will enable to protect people with disabilities so that they will have access to housing, healthcare, and education. The Ministry of Social Action can increase the budget, from US\$3.5 million to US\$5 million, to assist disadvantaged and vulnerable people in communities and leave no one behind.



Resources:

OCHA. (2019). Chad: country profile [Review].

(World Bank, 2018). Republic of Chad: Shaping Adaptive Safety Nets to Address Vulnerability. World Bank, Washington, DC.