



THE INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE CHAD

www.theIRC.org/chad/

In February of 2004, **INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE (IRC)** deployed an emergency response team into northeastern Chad to start up emergency programs for Sudanese refugees fleeing the conflict in Darfur. IRC has been managing Oure Cassoni camp since its founding in July 2004, with support from UNHCR. The camp is located 25 kilometers northeast of Bahai, in the Bourkou, Ennedi, and Tibesti (BET) prefecture of Northeastern Chad. IRC is currently providing primary health, environmental health, child protection, and protection services to the camp's 27,000 refugees. In addition, IRC is also working with the impoverished local host population of Bahai, estimated at 10,000, providing health care and environmental health services.

HEALTH CARE IRC provides primary health care services in Oure Cassoni camp through its health center and health post, as well as ongoing support for the health center of Bahai village. A reproductive health clinic which provides ante- and post-natal services, clinical management of survivors of sexual violence, and basic emergency obstetric care and/or referrals was opened in October 2004. IRC is also in the process of rehabilitating the Bahai hospital to provide secondary health services to refugees and the local population.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH IRC provides water to Oure Cassoni camp through a water treatment plant constructed in August 2004. The plant produces approximately 95,000 gallons of potable water per day. IRC also manages sanitation issues in the camp, including waste control, vector control, garbage and animal carcass removal, and hygiene promotion and education. In addition, IRC provides water and sanitation services to the residents of Bahai and has recently begun hygiene promotion activities.

CHILD PROTECTION AND EDUCATION IRC has set up three primary schools in Oure Cassoni. The three schools employ 114 teachers and have approximately 7200 students in attendance. Two preschools have been developed for young children, with construction of an additional 19 preschools underway. In addition to schools, IRC has created child friendly spaces in which all youth programming operates. Youth activities include organized sports, cultural activities, and social activities. Non-formal post-primary education classes in English, Arabic, and Islamic studies have been initiated by older youth in the camp. They have been utilizing local resources and capacities and are supported by IRC. Refugee social workers have been recruited and trained to provide specialized attention to vulnerable children, including unaccompanied minors.

PROTECTION Through its protection program, the IRC works to ensure that protection needs are being met and that the existing community structures are supported to guarantee both physical and legal protection of the refugees. IRC Protection staff strive to ensure the representation of vulnerable groups such as women, elderly, and children in programmatic decisions and assists in removal of barriers in their access of camp services. IRC has organized a community patrol that provides security coverage within the camp twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

PROGRAM STRATEGY

IRC has been responsible for the management of the camp since its creation in July 2004 and has focused its programming to address the basic survival needs of the camp's refugees. Over the last year IRC has addressed these fundamental needs by providing basic lifesaving support in the sectors of primary health care, environmental health, protection interventions, and child protection and education for children and youth.

As the situation in Oure Cassoni moves from an acute to a protracted emergency, IRC is responding to needs by expanding and improving its programmatic coverage. Existing programs will evolve beyond immediate response services, including the expansion of gender-based violence programming. IRC will also formulate specialized programming to target specific groups within the camp. Finally, IRC will focus on building local capacity and mobilizing community resources in order to ensure sustainability and participation among IRC's beneficiaries.

OPERATIONS

STAFFING

IRC Chad operates with 17 expatriate staff, 89 national staff, and approximately 525 refugee staff.

BUDGET

In the 2005 fiscal year, IRC Chad has an operating budget of approximately \$5,730,000. Funding for IRC Chad programming is provided by BPRM, UNHCR, DFID, ECHO, Stichting Vluchteling (SV), UNICEF, American Jewish World Service, American Jewish Joint Distribution/Jewish Coalition for Disaster Relief, Gates Foundation, Hewlett Foundation, Broetje Orchards, Johnson & Johnson, and the Blaustein Thalheimer Foundation. Confirmed donors for the 2006 fiscal year include BPRM, UNHCR, UNICEF, American Jewish World Service, and Blaustein Thalheimer Foundation.

OFFICES

IRC Chad has 3 operating offices: Bahai, Abeche, and N'djamena.

CONTACT INFORMATION

IRC Chad is pleased to share any additional information about its current programming or concepts for future projects.

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