



Returnees congregating in the school yard of the Official School Centre A © IOM / Lama Ngarmadjal 2021

## EMERGENCY TRACKING EVENT

AN OVERVIEW OF THE SITUATION  
OF RETURNEES WHO RECENTLY  
ARRIVED IN THE CITY OF SIDO

OFFICIAL SCHOOL CENTRE A  
AND  
NGANDA ZA SITE

APRIL 2021



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the  
Netherlands

### I. BACKGROUND

The objective of the Emergency Tracking Tool (ETT) of the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is to collect information on large and sudden population movements. Since 11 April 2021, following armed conflict and clashes in the Central African Republic (CAR), thousands of Chadian and Central African nationals are crossing the border and found refuge in the city of Sido in the south of Chad (See [Emergency Tracking Tool Dashboard #100](#)).

Returnees have found refuge in Sido in the official school of Centre A and in the spontaneous site of Ngandaza. As of 19 April 2021, 789 households of 7,212 Chadian nationals have settled in two locations (481 households composed of 4,400 individuals at the school and 308 households composed of 2,812 individuals at Ngandaza).

### 2. METHODOLOGY, OBJECTIVE AND LIMITATIONS

The data presented in this report was collected from the 17 to 19 April 2021 through discussions with key informants composed of local authorities and representatives of Chadian returnees. In addition, five group discussions were held with returnees (3 groups of women et 2 groups of men). This report seeks to provide an overview of the demographic profile of these returnees, as well as their situations and needs in host locations.

The results hereby presented only concern Chadian nationals who arrived in the town of Sido between 11 and 19 April 2021, and cannot be generalized to the entire population displaced to Chad following recent clashes in CAR.

It should be noted that nationalities are self-declaratory and have not been confirmed or verified through I.D. verification.

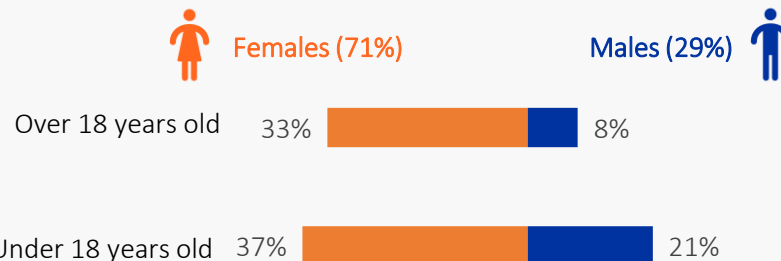
### 3. DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE AND LOCATION

On average, returnee households are composed of **nine individuals** and the majority (71%) are women. The majority (58%) are minors: 37 per cent are girls and 21 per cent are boys.

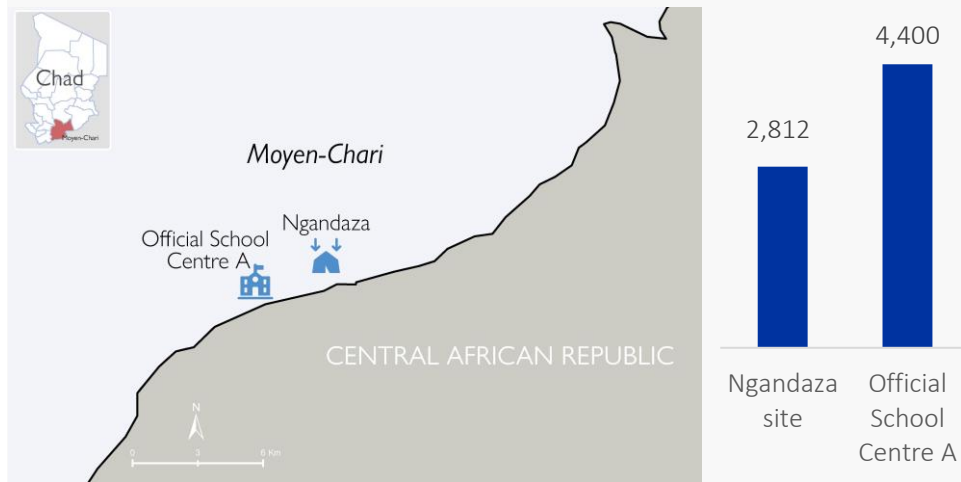
The majority of the 7,212 returnees (61%) have settled in the **official school Centre A** of Sido, and children who normally attend this school no longer have access to it. A spontaneous site created in the locality of Ngandaza hosts the remaining 39 per cent of returnees. **It should be noted that these sites are both located less than one kilometer from the border.**

 **789 households (7 212 individuals) identified**

#### DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE



#### HOST LOCATIONS



*This map is for illustration purposes only. The depiction and use of boundaries, geographic names and related data shown on maps and included in this report are not warranted to be error free nor do they imply judgment on the legal status of any territory, or any endorsement or acceptance of such boundaries by IOM.*



### 4. PLACES OF ORIGIN

The main places of origin for Returnees in CAR are the towns of Bouca, Batangafo, and Kabo in the préfecture of Ouham and the town of Kanga-Bandoro in the préfecture of Nana-Gribizi. It should be noted that these returnees had been living in CAR for years, many for generations. During focus groups, several people indicated that their families had left Chad since the 1970s. The term "returnees" for these individuals only comes from the fact that they are Chadian nationals and not because they are returning to their usual places of residence.

### 5. LIVING CONDITIONS AND CURRENT SITUATION

This section is intended to provide a general overview of the current situation regarding different sectors while considering protection as a cross-cutting sector. Some areas may require more in-depth assessments to gather more detailed information.

- **Shelter** : In both locations, almost all of the returnees are sleeping in the open. The official school Centre A's classrooms are occupied by about 15 per cent of the people who are settled in this school, while the others sleep in the courtyard. All persons settled in the spontaneous site of Ngandaza are sleeping in the open. The lack of shelter is a primary concern as the first rains of the rainy season have begun in southern Chad.

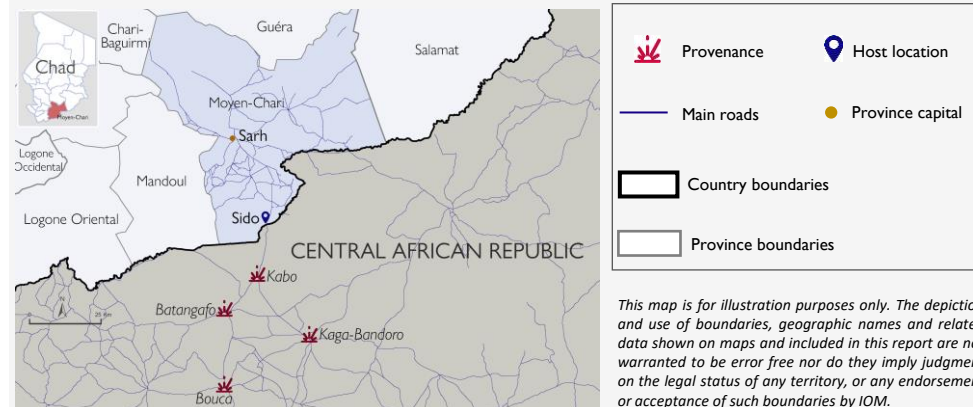
- **Food Security** : With the current mango picking season in southern Chad, returnees are primarily feeding on these fruits. Several persons who have taken their food stock with them from CAR are also sharing portions of food.

- **Water** : The official school Centre A has a water well that is not able to serve all the returnees settled there. Thus, many of them and all of the people in the Ngandaza spontaneous site use water from the Sido Sakou River for showers, laundry, dishwashing and drinking.

- **Hygiene and Sanitation** : No latrines are available in the Ngandaza spontaneous site and the latrines at the official school Centre A have become unusable. People settled in both host locations are defecating in the open, in the surrounding bushes.

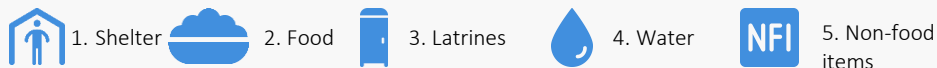
- **Health** : Cases of malaria and diarrhoea have been reported among returnees. Given the lack of shelter, food, water and latrines, the health situation could worsen.

### PLACES OF ORIGIN



### 6. PRIORITY NEEDS

Given the current situation, returnees indicated that their priority needs are: shelter, food, latrines, water, and non-food items such as sleeping mats. **No assistance is yet being provided to returnees. IOM is advocating for resources to assist these people.**



### 7. TESTIMONIALS

My family and I moved from Chad to Central African Republic in 1979 and my main activity there was trading.

A RETURNEE WOMAN IN A DISCUSSION GROUP

We are safe here but we have not received any assistance whatsoever since our arrival. There are many needs: food, sleeping mats, drinking water, shelter and latrines.

A RETURNEE MAN IN A DISCUSSION GROUP

I left my home out of fear of dying because my parents and husband were killed. The most difficult part of the move was the lack of food and carrying the children on my back for long distances in the forest.

A RETURNEE WOMAN IN A DISCUSSION GROUP

My aspiration for the future is to continue to live in peace and settle permanently in Chad. There are many Chadians in Central African Republic who are returning to Chad.

A RETURNEE MAN IN A DISCUSSION GROUP



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Returnees at the Ngandaza Site  
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