

# Chad

## Information for applicants

### Chad

Covering an area of 1,284,000 km<sup>2</sup>, the Republic of Chad is the fifth largest country in Africa.

This land-locked country borders Libya in the north, Sudan in the east, the Central African Republic in the south and Cameroon, Nigeria and Niger in the west.

Lake Chad, located in the west of the country, is the largest inland body of water and a significant economic factor in the Sahel. Chad shares it with its neighbours Cameroon, Nigeria and Niger.

Chad measures 1,800 km from north to south, and roughly 1,000 km from east to west.

Situated in the north of central Africa, the land-locked country stretches from the Sahara (desert and semi-desert) in the north, through the Sahel region (xeric shrublands and dry savanna) to the Sudan zone (tropical savanna) in the south.

Roughly 1/3 of the territory is suitable for farming, but only 4% (32,000 km<sup>2</sup>) can be used for arable land and permanent crops, while only one tenth is forested.

### Medical care

The country's medical services are frequently beset by technical, equipment and/or hygienic problems, especially outside the major cities.

Many areas lack English- or French-speaking doctors trained in Europe.

We urgently recommend that you take a well-stocked medical kit with you.

The French Centro Medico-Social (CMS) in N'Djamena offers general primary medical care services.

Our staff also have access to the SOS International clinic, which guarantees health care and diagnostics that meet European standards.

As a result, serious illnesses should be treated, and any operations required should be conducted in Europe.

### Living locally, finding accommodation

Due to the difficult security situation, suitable accommodation in N'Djamena is restricted to a compact district in the immediate vicinity of the office. Rents are high and there is a limited supply of acceptable accommodation, so many employees share housing.

### Shops and services

The supply of products in the small French and Lebanese supermarkets in N'Djaména is equivalent to that in Europe. However, foodstuffs imported from Europe are twice to three times as expensive as here. Products at markets are cheaper, and you

will find a varying range of seasonal fruit and vegetables there. Meat is available almost everywhere at very low prices (compared to Europe), and good-quality fish is sold near bodies of water. However, due to the difficult security situation, shopping should be kept to a bare minimum at present; extended shopping excursions are not advisable.

## Climate

Chad stretches from the arid deserts of the Sahara in the north, through the climatic and vegetation zones (xeric shrublands and dry savanna, also flooded savannas and gallery forests) of the Sahel and Sudan, to the dry forests in the extreme south (known as *Tchad utile* during the colonial occupation due to its suitability for farming). In general, the country is influenced by the West African Monsoon in summer, and the Harmattan Passat wind in the winter months. The south of the country has an almost tropical, seasonally wet climate with over 1,100 mm of precipitation, while the north has a desert climate with significant daily temperature fluctuations and very little rainfall, at 20 - 40 mm of precipitation annually.

## Good to know

The Zakouma National Park in the south of the country and the Waza Park in northern Cameroon are worth visiting. They offer guided tours where you can see elephants, giraffes, gazelles and lions in the wild. Visitors can rent small bungalows at the park entrances for overnight stays. A trip to Lake Chad with a boat ride is also a nice change of pace.

However, visits of this kind are only possible under special conditions at the moment and require prior approval from the country director.

We strongly advise against touring the impressive Tibesti and Ennedi mountains, with their salt oases, fresh water springs and rock paintings, due to the current security situation.

## Find out more

<https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/316.html>

<https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/laenderinformationen/tschad-node>

**Published by:**  
Deutsche Gesellschaft für  
Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Registered offices  
Bonn and Eschborn, Germany

Street address  
Post code, town/city, country  
T +49 61 96 79-0  
F +49 61 96 79-11 15  
E [info@giz.de](mailto:info@giz.de)  
I [www.giz.de](http://www.giz.de)

Eschborn 2017

**Responsible/Editor, etc.:**  
Ulrich Heise, Eschborn

**URL links:**  
The providers of linked external websites are always responsible for their own content.  
GIZ explicitly disassociates itself from all such content.

GIZ is responsible for the content of this publication.