



The information reflected in this paper has been gathered by [Jaume Portell](#), a reporter specialised in economics and international relationships, in an activity cofounded at a 85% by FEDER funds in the framework of the [AfricanTech](#) (1/MAC/1.3/0088) project, within the INTERREG VI D MAC 2021-2027 initiative.

## **CHAD**

### **Contexte macroéconomique :**

Chad's economy grew by 3.4% in 2022 and 4.3% in 2023, driven mainly by the oil sector and exports. The 2024 African Economic Outlook estimated that this growth would continue throughout 2024 and 2025, exceeding 5% annually. Any forecast, however, is subject to the evolution of oil prices: a drop would force a revision of these estimates. The report highlighted the importance of agriculture in the Chadian economy: it accounts for 25% of GDP and provides 69% of jobs, and pointed to it as a possible source of economic diversification. Entry into value chains would open the door to new sources of income. The service sector generated 21% of jobs and industry 9.6%. Chad's GDP in 2023 was \$13.15 billion.

### **Debt and currency:**

Chad had an external debt of \$3.214 billion in 2023. Debt service payments have increased significantly since 2012, when they stood at \$83 million. This year, in 2025, the amount reaches \$473 million, more than five times what was paid thirteen years ago.

In terms of creditors, the multilateral sector accounts for 51% of the total, with 24% corresponding to the IMF. Bilateral creditors account for 37%, with Libya (8%), China (8%) and the United Arab Emirates (5%) playing a prominent role. Finally, private creditors account for 13% of the debt stock.

Chad is one of fourteen African countries that use the CFA franc, a currency that has a fixed parity with the euro at an exchange rate of 655 CFA francs/euro.

### **Imports and exports:**

In 2023, Chad exported goods worth 4.36 billion dollars. Its trade balance in this area revolved around two products: crude oil (69.4%) and gold (25.4%). The main destinations for Chadian exports were Europe and Asia. The top destination was

the United Arab Emirates (25%), followed by China (19%), Germany (17%), the Netherlands (12.5%) and France (10.3%).

Imports of goods in 2023 amounted to \$1.35 billion, a figure well below that of exports. The country allocated 3% of its imports to the purchase of petrol, although the main items of expenditure were jewellery (6%), radio and television equipment (4.54%), medicines (4%), cars (3.37%) and vaccines (2.5%). Chad's two largest trading partners were China (28%) and the United Arab Emirates (23%), followed by Turkey (9.56%) and France (8.79%).

### **Electricity:**

Chad increased its electricity generation between 2010 and 2022, with a mix based on fossil fuels. In 2010, all of the 0.19 TWh of local generation came from fossil fuels. In 2022, generation doubled to 0.39 TWh: 95% came from fossil fuels and the rest from bioenergy and wind power.

### **Defence:**

Chad's annual expenditure on defence equipment was \$338 million in 2023, according to SIPRI, a Swedish institute specialising in the trade of such products. In total, defence accounts for around 15.34% of government spending. The country's main supplier since 2000 has been China.

### **Demographics:**

Chad has seen substantial population growth, maintaining a high rural proportion. In 1990, the country had 6 million inhabitants, with 79.2% living in rural areas. By 2023, the population had increased to 19.3 million, with 75.6% still residing in rural areas. Life expectancy has increased from 45 years in 1990 to 53 years in 2022. Half of the population is under the age of 17.

### **Technological innovation:**

Chad has experienced a significant increase in connectivity, with Internet usage growing from 1.7% in 2010 to more than 12% of the population in 2022. According to the 2023 ICT Development Index, 38% of Chadians owned a mobile phone.