

BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA) OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)

Sudan – Complex Emergency

Situation Report #6, Fiscal Year (FY) 2010

April 2, 2010

Note: The last situation report was dated March 8, 2010.

BACKGROUND

In 2010, Sudan continues to cope with the effects of conflict, displacement, and insecurity. Since 2003, a complex emergency in Sudan's western region of Darfur has affected more than 4.7 million people, including nearly 2.7 million internally displaced persons (IDPs). Despite the February 23 ceasefire agreement between the Sudanese Government of National Unity (GNU) and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) opposition group, periodic conflict continues in Darfur among armed opposition factions, the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF), militias, and ethnic groups.

The National Congress Party and the southern-based Sudan People's Liberation Movement continue to implement the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement through the GNU. The formation of the GNU officially ended more than two decades of north–south conflict. During the conflict, famine, fighting, and disease killed more than 2 million people, forced an estimated 500,000 Sudanese to seek refuge in neighboring countries, and displaced an additional 4 million individuals within Sudan. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) estimates that since 2005, approximately 2 million people have returned to Southern Sudan and the Three Areas of Southern Kordofan, Blue Nile, and Abyei, straining scarce resources and weak infrastructure.

In eastern Sudan, the GNU and the Eastern Front opposition coalition signed the Eastern Sudan Peace Agreement in 2006. The area has experienced slow recovery following decades of conflict and humanitarian needs persist. USAID/OFDA staff last traveled to eastern Sudan in late February to assess humanitarian conditions, although access to the east remains restricted due to GNU control on travel.

On October 1, 2009, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires, a.i., Mark L. Asquino renewed the disaster declaration for the complex emergency in Sudan for FY 2010. USAID is working with other U.S. Government (USG) agencies, the U.N., and humanitarian agencies to closely monitor the humanitarian situation in advance of the April presidential election and potential post-election needs.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE	
IDPs in Sudan	From Southern Sudan: 2.7 million	UNHCR ¹ – October 2008	
	In Darfur: 2.7 million	OCHA ² – January 2009	
	In Eastern Sudan: 168,000	U.N. – September 2007	
Sudanese Refugees	From Darfur: 268,000	OCHA – June 2009	
	From Southern Sudan: 138,270	UNHCR – February 2009	
	Returnees to Southern Sudan: 327,984	UNHCR – August 2009	
Refugees in Sudan	From Eritrea, Chad, Ethiopia, Democratic Republic of	UNHCR – December 2009	
	the Congo, and other countries: 220,790		

FY 2010 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE

USAID/OFDA Assistance to Sudan	\$16,032,669
USAID/FFP ³ Assistance to Sudan	\$167,759,600
State/PRM ⁴ Assistance to Sudan	
Total USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance to Sudan	

CURRENT SITUATION IN DARFUR

During March, insecurity and lack of humanitarian access continued to hinder the provision of humanitarian assistance to affected populations in Darfur, particularly in the Jebel Marra region of the three Darfur states. In addition, the U.N. has reported increased inter-ethnic conflict in areas of South and West Darfur. Despite periodic unrest, humanitarian organizations continued to monitor food security, displacement, and population

² U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

¹ Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

³ USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

⁴ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

needs throughout Darfur and provide food and non-food assistance to affected populations in accessible areas.

Security and Humanitarian Access

On March 5, unidentified armed assailants ambushed an African Union–U.N. Hybrid Operations in Darfur (UNAMID) team conducting a patrol between Kass and Deribat towns in South Darfur, according to U.N. agencies. The armed assailants detained the team and confiscated UNAMID weapons, armored personnel carriers, and unarmored vehicles. On March 6, UNAMID recovered the patrol team and three armored personnel carriers, although additional assets remain missing.

On March 18, an unidentified group released a kidnapped International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) staff member near El Geneina, West Darfur, following nearly five months in captivity, according to ICRC. Following the release, no humanitarian workers remain kidnapped in Darfur.

As of March 30, humanitarian agencies remained unable to access eastern Jebel Marra to assess humanitarian needs. Humanitarian agencies note that the GNU and armed opposition groups continue to deny relief organizations' requests to create a humanitarian corridor to access conflict-affected civilians. Insecurity continues to hamper humanitarian agencies from conducting assessments in remote areas.

Relief agencies continue to seek access to conflictaffected areas of western Jebel Marra in West Darfur to assess the situation following January and February armed clashes among Sudan Liberation Army/Abdul Wahid factions that displaced an unknown number of individuals to villages and IDP settlements in the area. In addition, humanitarian access to civilians in Jebel Moon, West Darfur, remains restricted following January and February fighting between JEM and SAF forces that affected an unknown number of civilians.

In mid-March, the U.N. reported increasing tension between the Misseriya and Nouaiba ethnic groups in South and West Darfur. March 20 armed clashes between the two ethnic groups in Dibis, Gemiza, and Negeah villages located north of Kass, South Darfur, and in areas south of Zalingei, West Darfur, killed 35 people and injured and displaced an unknown number of individuals, according to U.N. agencies. On March 22, the South Darfur wali, or governor, led a mission to Kass to address ongoing clashes in the area and deployed SAF and police forces to secure conflict-affected locations. On March 24, fighting resumed between Misseriya and Nouaiba ethnic groups in villages northwest of Kass, resulting in burning of multiple villages and an unknown number of additional casualties and population displacement, according to U.N. agencies.

Population Movements and Returns

On March 10, IOM reported the voluntary return of more than 1,000 households to Muhajeria town in Shearia locality, South Darfur. Returnees cited increased security and the start of the planting season as reasons for returning to areas of origin. Support for health and water activities, in addition to provision of shelter materials and livelihood tools, remain the primary humanitarian needs in the town, according to IOM. Muhajeria experienced significant population displacement in early 2009 following violence and aerial bombings of the area.

Health

Health authorities continue to express concern regarding reports of measles in West Darfur. On March 29, West Darfur health officials requested that humanitarian agencies increase education and hygiene promotion activities in IDP camps in response to a recent increase in measles cases in nine localities, according to the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO). In response, the West Darfur State Ministry of Health (SMoH), WHO, and the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) plan to provide guidance and health education messages to clinics throughout West Darfur to limit further spread of the disease. On March 30, the SMoH disseminated health education messages in Arabic as part of WHO's Integrated Management of Childhood Illness guidelines.

To date in FY 2010, USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$2.3 million to WHO and other implementing partners to support health activities for IDPs and vulnerable host communities in Darfur.

Emergency Food Assistance

In early March, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) released the organization's 2010 and 2011 operational strategy for Darfur. The strategy indicates plans to scale down the general food distribution ration throughout Darfur in 2010 while simultaneously providing safetynet programs for the most vulnerable groups, including children, women, and the elderly. WFP also plans to collaborate with humanitarian agencies, such as IOM, UNHCR, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), to re-verify IDP camp caseloads in order to update beneficiary figures and ensure that populations in need of food aid receive food distributions. The humanitarian community conducted that last IDP headcount in 2005. In addition, WFP plans to continue alternative food aid programs and activities, including food-for-work, school feeding in IDP camps, food-for-training, and milling vouchers.

Since October 2009, USAID/OFDA has provided \$1.5 million to the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to help restore food security and livelihoods of vulnerable populations in Darfur. In addition, USAID/FFP has contributed nearly \$123 million in emergency food assistance to WFP operations in Darfur.

CURRENT SITUATION IN SUDAN, EXCLUDING DARFUR

During March, inter-ethnic conflict resulting in population displacement continued to affect communities throughout Southern Sudan. Humanitarian agencies continue to monitor food security throughout the region, as poor rains in 2009 may lead to an earlier and more severe hunger season. Relief agencies continue to monitor conflict, population displacements, and food security and provide food and non-food assistance to vulnerable populations.

Between March 1 and 15, a USAID/OFDA team, including an agriculture and food security technical advisor, visited Central Equatoria, Jonglei, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Unity, and Western Bahr el Ghazal states to assess the agriculture and food security conditions of returnees, IDPs, and host communities. The team highlighted that irregular rainfall during the 2009 cropping season, increased insecurity, and displacement had negatively impacted agricultural production throughout assessed states. Reduced agricultural production, combined with rising grain prices and livestock disease, has significantly reduced food security in the area. USAID/OFDA and implementing partners continue to monitor and respond to the situation.

Security and Humanitarian Access

Between March 9 and 11, an interagency team comprising representatives from the U.N. Mission in Sudan Returns, Reintegration, and Recovery Section, UNICEF, IOM, and NGOs conducted a humanitarian assessment in Palal payam, Warab State, following recent violence in the area. According to the assessment team, clashes between Palal payam community members and the Sudan People's Liberation Army on February 28 and March 2 killed 15 civilians and injured four others. The assessment team reported that fighting also displaced an estimated 8,000 individuals and damaged or destroyed approximately 1,440 houses, food stocks, 4 schools, 1 health center, 1 supplementary feeding center, and 1 water point in 16 area villages. In response to the clashes, humanitarian agencies distributed more than 1,400 non-food item kits and WFP provided food assistance to approximately 4,000 conflict-affected individuals in Palal payam, according to the U.N.

As of April 2, inter-ethnic fighting associated with cattle raids continues to affect the border areas of Unity and Warab states, with sporadic incidents reported in Lakes and Upper Nile states. On March 16, fighting between armed members from the Dinka and Nuer ethnic groups in Kueryiek payam, approximately 80 km northwest of Bentiu, Unity State, resulted in one death. The same day, members from the Nuer ethnic group attacked Pagaraue village near Rumbek, Lakes State, killing four civilians and stealing approximately 400 cattle. On March 31, individuals suspected to be part of the Lou-Nuers ethnic group of Jonglei State attacked Marial village, approximately 120 km southeast of Malakal, Upper Nile State, killing 2 people, injuring 5 others, and stealing more than 300 cattle. Humanitarian agencies note prolonged incidents of inter-ethnic conflict and continue to monitor the situation.

Population Movements and Returns

As of March 16, IOM staff had facilitated the return of more than 1,000 IDPs to Maban County, Upper Nile State, from Blue Nile State, according to U.N. agencies. In response to returnee needs, WFP has distributed food commodities and UNHCR and NGOs have distributed emergency relief supplies, including cooking pots, eating utensils, blankets, soap, sleeping mats, and mosquito nets, to affected populations.

According to a February 2010 IOM and Southern Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission spontaneous returns tracking report, an estimated 2 million IDPs have returned to places of origin in Southern Sudan and the Three Areas since January 2005. According to IOM, Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Southern Kordofan states received the highest number of returns—22 percent and 14 percent of total returns, respectively.

Agriculture and Food Security

In March 2009, the USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) reported moderate food insecurity in locations in Jonglei, Lakes, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, and Warab states, as well as northwestern regions of Unity and Eastern Equatoria states due to poor 2009 rainfall, the subsequent exhaustion of food reserves, and the decline of wild food and fish resources. Between April and June, FEWS NET expects food security conditions to continue to deteriorate due to the early start and severity of the hunger season-typically commencing in May-in affected areas. In addition, households in Aweil, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, have few food stocks, according to FEWS NET. Food access remains limited throughout the northern part of Northern Bahr el Ghazal, as residents have limited cash and livestock.

During March, U.N. agencies and Government of Southern Sudan ministries released the Annual Needs and Livelihoods Assessments (ANLA) for Eastern Equatoria, Unity, and Western Bahr el Ghazal states. The ANLA for Eastern Equatoria State determined that 30 percent of households are severely food insecure, with an additional 42 percent of households moderately food insecure. In all three assessed states, belowaverage or erratic rainfall and insecurity contributed to food insecurity.

In response to increased food security concerns, WFP had pre-positioned nearly 60,000 MT of emergency food assistance to respond to the food needs of approximately 4.3 million individuals in Southern Sudan as of February 2010. According to OCHA, WFP plans to distribute nearly half of the pre-positioned assistance to vulnerable populations in Jonglei State, where the ANLA indicated that nearly 60 percent of the population is moderately or severely food insecure due to conflict and drought. As of mid-March, WFP had distributed 60-day food rations to approximately 61,500 IDPs in Jonglei State, according to U.N. agencies.

According to WFP, the 2010 WFP Emergency Operation for Sudan currently faces a funding shortfall. WFP has expressed concern regarding a potential food pipeline break in July, which may affect WFP's ability to respond to increased food aid needs in Southern Sudan.

To date in FY 2010, USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$3.6 million to partners implementing agriculture and food security activities in non-Darfur areas of Sudan. In addition, USAID/FFP has provided nearly \$45 million in P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance to implementing partners for non-Darfur areas of Sudan to date in FY 2010.

Health and Nutrition

In late February, USAID/OFDA implementing partners conducted nutritional surveys in Bilkey and Nyandit payams in Akobo East County, Jonglei State. Survey findings indicated global acute malnutrition rates above the WHO emergency threshold of 15 percent. Children under five years of age remain the most affected by acute malnutrition; however, the assessment team reported that, although not measured, people of all age groups appeared underweight. The survey indicated that the nutrition program at Akobo hospital—managed by the Jonglei SMoH and an NGO implementing partner—is currently at maximum capacity. Nutrition partners have commenced response activities, including establishment of additional outpatient therapeutic centers and blanket supplementary feeding programs in affected areas.

In FY 2010 to date, USAID/OFDA has provided \$4 million for health activities throughout Southern Sudan.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

The USG is the largest bilateral donor to Sudan and has contributed more than \$4.1 billion for humanitarian programs in Sudan since FY 2004. In FY 2009 and to date in FY 2010, the USG has provided nearly \$953.2 million to support humanitarian activities in Sudan, including more than \$156 million from USAID/OFDA, nearly \$715.1 million from USAID/FFP, and more than \$63 million from State/PRM.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN IN FY 2010				
Implementing Partner	Activity	Location	Amount	
	FY 2010 DARFUR, SUI	DAN		
	USAID/OFDA ASSISTA	NCE ¹		
Terre Des Hommes (TDH)	Protection, Shelter and Settlements	West Darfur	\$959,250	
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security	Darfur-wide	\$1,500,000	
WHO	Health	Darfur-wide	\$1,500,000	
World Vision	Health, Protection, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	South Darfur	\$1,999,964	
	Administrative Support and Travel	Darfur-wide	\$1,897,483	
TOTAL USAID/OF	DA		\$7,856,697	
	USAID/FFP ASSISTAN	ICE ²		
WFP	149,990 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Darfur-wide	\$122,879,800	
TOTAL USAID/FFI			\$122,879,800	
TOTAL USAID HU	TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DARFUR IN FY 2010			
	FY 2010 SUDAN EXCLUDING	G DARFUR		
	USAID/OFDA ASSISTA	NCE		
GOAL	Health		\$2,800,000	
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Health	Northern Bahr el Ghazal	\$1,200,000	
Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)	Agriculture and Food Security	Jonglei	\$2,460,349	
Vétérinaires Sans Frontières (VSF)	Agriculture and Food Security	Upper Nile, Warab, Unity, Jonglei	\$1,187,323	
	Administrative Support and Travel	Sudan-wide	\$528,300	
TOTAL USAID/OF	DA		\$8,175,972	

USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE					
NPA	4,260 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Southern Sudan	\$6,500,000		
WFP	35,793 MT of P.L 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Non-Darfur	\$38,379,800		
TOTAL USAID/FFP \$44,879,800					
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE					
American Refugee Committee (ARC)	Livelihood Activities	Eastern Equatoria	\$510,400		
International Relief and Development (IRD)	Livelihood and Health Activities	Jonglei, Upper Nile	\$1,000,000		
TOTAL STATE/PRM \$1,510,400					
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN EXCLUDING DARFUR IN FY 2010			\$53,055,772		
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN EXCLUDING DARFUR IN FY 2010			\$54,566,172		
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO ALL OF SUDAN IN FY 2010			\$183,792,269		
TOTAL USAID AN FY 2010	\$185,302,669				

¹USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of April 2, 2010 ²Estimated value of food assistance.

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