



SELF RELIANCE IN EASTERN CHAD (SREC)

ANNUAL REPORT

Year Ending September 30, 2009

For

**THE UNITED STATES AGENCY
FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

OFFICE OF FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

GRANT NO. DFD-G-00-07-00099-00

Submitted by:

**World Concern Development Organization
19303 Fremont Ave. N.
Seattle, WA 98133
206-546-7201**

29 December 2009

ANNUAL PROGRAM REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: October 1, 2008 – September 30, 2009

GENERAL REFERENCE:

- A. NAME OF PVO:** World Concern Development Organization (WCDO)
19303 Fremont Ave. N.
Seattle, WA 98133
- B. HQ/FIELD CONTACT PERSON:** Merry Fitzpatrick
TELEPHONE: 206-289-7787
FAX: 206-546-7269
EMAIL ADDRESS: merryf@worldconcern.org
- C. AID AGREEMENT NO:** DFD-G-00-07-00099-00
- D. DATE OF THIS REPORT:** December 29, 2009

Program Goal: Internally displaced families settled around Goz Beida are increasingly able to support themselves in a sustainable manner.

PROJECT OVERVIEW AND SUMMARY:

This year (October 2008 through September 2009) our programs focused on activities addressing the basic food and livelihood needs of the IDP community but also expanded with new programs to start re-engaging in pre-disaster livelihood strategies.

There were challenges and delays but as Phase III came to a close, we had reached or exceeded all but one of our indicators and had successfully ended the remaining activities from the previous phase. As Phase IV gets going there is a lot of excitement and anticipation for the continuation of the well-liked Cash for Work program as well as for the new Economic Recovery programs.

The CFW activities focused on rainwater retention systems as well as the care of seedlings previously planted. These activities again allowed families in need to work and earn cash value vouchers to be redeemed at the monthly market fairs which are made possible through the cooperation and participation of the local merchants.

The activities reported in this annual report include livestock activities from Phase II that were eventually concluded after delays in drug procurement. Phase III programming falls entirely within the period of this annual report. Phase IV activities began on July 1, 2009, but due to seasonal factors, a number of activities have not yet started, certainly not sufficiently to report against the indicators. This lead time was focused on beneficiary identification, training and procurement.

SECTOR: Food Security and Agriculture

Objective: Improve access to food through increased access to income and ability to produce food.

Beneficiaries: 10,000 beneficiaries (2,000 families) are targeted for this objective, of which approximately 75% are IDPs. (Phase III through June 30, 2009)

Beneficiaries: 12,000 beneficiaries (2,000 families) are targeted for this objective, of which approximately 9,000 are IDPs. (Phase IV: July 1, 2009 – April 30, 2010)

Sub-Sector – Seed Systems and Agricultural Inputs

Indicator (SREC Phase III): 20 hectares planted with distributed seeds

Due to strong relationships with local leadership and the host communities and persistence, WCDO staff was able to negotiate on behalf of our beneficiaries for approximately **24.2 ha of land** for dry season cultivation. Though land was harder to find around some of the camps, we were able to eventually increase accessible land by opening our project scope to include outlying areas such as Ardilik, Doweii and Zabout (25, 35 and 42 km from Goz Beida). These new areas are next to a wadi, so water was more obtainable. In all areas of dry season planting, extensive use was made of hand-dug shallow wells for irrigation.

Despite challenges of starting slow and an increased difficulty in accessing land, the project was able to exceed its original objective. In the remote places such as Zabout, the average plots were larger with 218 square meters being cultivated in comparison to Ganachour, one of the IDP camps near Goz Beida, where the average plot size was only 46 square meters.

Indicator (SREC Phase III): 2,000 IDP families have sufficient seeds and tools to plant a dry-season crop

A total of **2,012 families** were provided with good high quality seeds and had access to tools in order to facilitate their dry season crop. Of the total families served, approximately 75% were IDPs and 25% were from the host communities. We felt it was prudent to include hosts in this program to assure smoother relationships between the hosts and visiting IDPs.

The majority of participants received 9 gm of okra, 2-3 gm of tomato, 4-5 gm of korete¹ and 5 gm of onion; however, participants in Ganachour received slightly smaller seed packs. Tools had been given out in the previous program so this round they were only distributed to those that needed them. By the end of the project we had provided 990 watering cans, 1,000 dishes to collect water from the wells, 1,000 hoes, 200 ropes to bring the water up from the wells, 488 excavation tools and 313 rakes.

¹ Korete is a local plant which is crushed to make a local favorite sauce

Indicator (SREC Phase III): 1,800 families (90% of targeted beneficiaries) are cultivating a dry-season crop

In order to maximize their crop production, training was made available for all participants, in partnership with the Office of Rural Development (ONDR). Topics included crop rotation, making compost, mulching, organic pesticides and more. As the project ended we were able to verify **1,562 (78%) farmers** had cultivated a dry-season crop with the help of this program. The biggest factor in not fully reaching our target was the unexpected low response in Ganachour as they had increased labor opportunities due to the arrival of MINURCAT².

A post-season survey showed that although not all families produced enough to sell, most had daily or weekly harvests of various vegetables (mainly korete, okra, onion and hot pepper) sufficient to provide their cooking needs from mid-December through March. This reduced the amount of money needed to provide balanced meals and the large majority of families reported in household surveys that they were not selling the WFP distribution rations to buy additional foodstuffs.

Planned seed and agricultural activities for Phase IV are measured in the following indicators:

- (Projected) increase in number of months of food self-sufficiency due to distributed seed systems/agricultural input for beneficiary families (2 months)
- Number of people benefiting from seed systems/agriculture input activities (2,000 families)
- % IDPs benefiting from dry season agriculture (75%)

Due to delayed rains this year, preliminary work in dry-season agriculture in late 2009 is only just getting started, and measurements against indicators are not yet possible. However, due to poor rainfall, improvements in food self-sufficiency already look unlikely. Nevertheless, the dry season farming will still contribute to a broader nutritional diet amongst the beneficiaries.

Sub-Sector – Livestock

Indicator - 5,000 donkeys de-wormed (**Continuation of Indicators from Phase II**)

4,971 donkeys which were suffering from bacterial infections or intestinal worms were treated once the required drugs eventually arrived. Delays in procurement caused the delay in the late completion of this activity. The drugs were given to the Community Animal Health Workers (CAHW) who then administered them, although a short two-day revision course was needed ahead of the final treatment phase. During the de-worming campaign it was discovered approximately 10% of the donkeys were anemic and were successfully treated with vitamins.

Indicator: number (10) of Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) trained (**from Phase II**)

The training course WCDO sponsored taught by the government veterinarians was in high demand. In order to meet the demand we increased the two-day revision course to **28**

² MINURCAT is the UN peace keeping force in Goz Beida, located near Ganachour, which came in March 15th

participants, far outreaching our initial goal of 10. After successful completion of the course the CAHWs were given drugs to treat the ill donkeys and each were then responsible to train the donkey care-takers to assure better long-term health for their donkeys.

Indicator: - 1,000 donkey care-takers trained (**from Phase II**)

1,371 donkey care-takers were trained by the 28 CAHWs in how to better care for and manage their donkeys. The majority of the care-takers who were trained were women and youth as they are the ones that typically carry the responsibilities of donkey care in this setting. They played a major role in the de-worming campaign and are now benefitting from healthier animals and thus reduced workload.

Indicator (SREC Phase IV): - Number of animals benefiting from or affected by livestock activities (19,000 sheep and goats)

A census of the livestock on the three target IDP sites identified 12,810 animals (small ruminants and donkeys) as potential subjects for the CAHWs, not as many as expected. Survey workers noted that many IDP families are raising more poultry than before (although poultry were not surveyed directly), due to the constraints of access to feed, water and space for livestock. Additionally, the workers noted that many families indicated lower livestock numbers on the sites, as the census occurred when IDPs were living at a distance to sites, doing rainy season agriculture with some of their livestock off-site as well. These animals are expected to return to the sites in October/November after the harvest.

Indicator (SREC Phase IV): Number of people benefiting from livestock activities (11,275 people)

The original 28 CAHWs and census team identified 1,537 families owning goats and sheep and 2,392 families owning donkeys. The number of families owning poultry was not specifically identified during the survey, but is larger than the combined total of families owning livestock.

Indicator (SREC Phase IV): Number of CAHWs actively treating animals (6 CAHWs)

Six CAHWs were selected from the original 28 and trained in a nine-day course given by the government Animal Husbandry technician. They are now certified by the State to provide care to animals, and have access to technical support and medications at cost through the government program. Because the census showed fewer ruminants and more poultry than expected, additional training on caring for poultry was included in the curriculum. Upon completing training, the CAHWs either had their existing treatment kits replenished, or received start-up treatment kits. All six are currently active.

SECTOR: Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS)

Objective: Increase access to productive assets and capital to begin to re-engage in pre-disaster livelihood strategies while meeting immediate needs.

The primary work activity during Phase III was laying rock contour lines to prevent erosion and caring for the seedlings planted last year. An impressive 128 hectares were protected with bunds during phase III. Workers laid rocks in lines following the natural contours of the land, creating the beginnings of terraces which not only slow erosion but also allow water to be retained during the rains. After the rains came the impact was clearly obvious and the beneficiaries and host communities now have a stronger understanding of how this small activity can have a large impact on the land.

Other important work activities included the care of the 6,474 nitrogen-fixing trees which were planted in the second phase. Each of these surviving seedlings were cared for through a creative, yet simple drip irrigation system. Guards were also hired to protect the seedlings from browsing livestock. This was a major factor in the survival of 52% of the trees at the end of the harsh dry season.

Indicators:

- Participants receive an average of \$60 in wages over the life of the project (SREC Phase III)
- Average USD amount per person (\$95/person) earned through the Cash-for-Work (CFW) activities (SREC Phase IV)

In Phase III a total of six project fairs were held, providing **a total of \$77 in wages** to each of the 2,000 working families. Workers are paid in cash value vouchers instead of giving out cash directly. These vouchers are redeemable at the food and commodity fairs and are ensuring that the food insecure families are able to choose and purchase food and other necessary household items. The fact that this program gives people the dignity of choice as well as meaningful work and it is stimulating the local economy with much needed cash makes this a well-liked program from many different perspectives.

At the time of reporting, Phase IV CFW activities had not begun; however, the beneficiaries and work projects had been identified.

Indicator (SREC Phase IV): Number and percent of women employed through the Cash-for-Work (CFW) activities (1,200 women, 60%)

Cash for Work activities have not yet officially started, but based on our current **preliminary registration, 1,084 of our 1,800 workers are women (60%)**. The initial criteria for beneficiary selection target female-headed households and other vulnerable categories (for example, families with chronically ill or elderly members, or multiple children under 5). 200 particularly vulnerable persons receive benefits without working. The community leaders propose these beneficiaries for approval. The ratio of 60/40 women to men remains the same.

Keywords

Internally Displaced Persons

Indicator (SREC Phase III): 2,000 IDPs will participate in CFW activities

2,000 people were given the opportunity to work, ultimately earning a much needed supplemental income for their families. Of those that benefited from this program, **1,600 or 80% were IDPs** and 400 were from the host communities. We found it prudent to see that 20% of the beneficiaries were from the host community in order to build rapport, working to avoid the creation of unnecessary tension between the groups.

Indicator (SREC Phase III): total number of IDPs assisted

Few IDPs have access to land. In order to negotiate access to land for the IDPs to conduct dry-season agriculture, we found it to be necessary to include the most vulnerable families from among the local population. Of the 2,000 people assisted, approximately 80% or **1,600 were IDPs who directly benefited** and 20% or 400 were from the host population. **Indirect beneficiaries would account for an estimated 6,400 additional persons.**

Host Communities

Indicator (SREC Phase III): Number (3) of host communities assisted

During this reporting year WCDO continued to support **the three host communities** in the areas we have been working since program inception: Ganachour, Gouroukoun and Gassire. Our programs are designed to primarily assist the IDPs but we continue to find strong benefits in including a percentage of hosts in our programs.

Summary

Over this reporting year we have seen a significant growth of acceptance of the CFW program as it is no longer new to this area. Through the experiences of the previous year, the participants as well as the leaders and other NGOs have seen the impressive impact from CFW. The work activities have left a mark not only on the land that was protected but also in the minds of those who witnessed the effects of the rock lines. After the rains it became clear the contour lines were having an impact as grass started sprouting in areas where it has been barren for up to five years and roads that were previously impassible during the rains were dryer and more accessible. In one community the land was able to retain enough nutrients and rain water to harvest a small crop, making everyone believe that it is possible to take back this dry land for agriculture once again. As people continue to participate in CFW activities and earning an income, families are increasingly being strengthened both physically and emotionally as they are taking an active part in improving their difficult situation.

During this reporting year a successful dry season crop was harvested by over 2,000 families with the assistance given by WCDO through OFDA support. The food harvested allowed people to supplement their diet with much needed vegetables while retaining more of their WFP food aid rations instead of the normal cycle of selling their rations in order to have the buying power for vegetables. Many families also sold portions of their harvest, giving them valuable flexible income.