



Annual Results Report

Primary Health Care in Aweil East Highlands,
Northern Bahr El Ghazal (Sudan)

October 2008 – September 2009

Organisation: Tearfund	Date: 15 th December 2009
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Programme Title:	Primary Health Care in Aweil East Highlands, Northern Bahr el Ghazal (Sudan)
OFDA Grant Number:	DFD-G-00-06-00116-04
Country/Region:	Southern Sudan / Aweil East of Bahr el Ghazal Region
Type of Disaster/Hazard:	Civil Strife
Time Period Covered by the Report:	1 st October 2008 – 30 th September 2009

I Executive Summary

The programme continued to provide primary health care to the communities in the Aweil East Highlands during the reporting period. The purpose of the programme is to improve access to primary health care for the target population and to strengthen the capacity of the local community and the Ministry of Health (MOH) at State and County levels to manage and sustain these health services. The programme provided both preventive and curative health care services in five Primary Health Care Units (PHCUs).

Tearfund's intervention in primary health care in Aweil East County was necessitated by high incidences of morbidity and mortality among the population and a lack of health services. The health systems and health infrastructure of Southern Sudan remain very weak following decades of marginalisation and civil war. Only 30-40% of people live within one day's walk of a health facility. Maternal mortality rates are among the highest in the world with 2,037 mothers dying per 100,000 live births. Immunisation coverage of children under five is alarmingly low (with current coverage rates of 12% for measles and only 5% for other vaccinations). Consequently, many children under five die from preventable diseases and the under five mortality rate is one in four. Sudan is projected to be the last country in the world to eradicate polio, sleeping sickness and Guinea worm. In 2008, Tearfund was required to extend the duration of its primary health care programme in Aweil East because the MOH lacked the capacity to effectively take over and sustain provision of health services in the Aweil East highlands. Tearfund remains the only agency located in the highlands of Aweil East, therefore the local community and the MOH appealed to the organisation to consider extending the health programme in the highlands.

During the period under review, a total of 52,905 beneficiaries were reached with primary health care services. Incidences of diseases were much lower than last year. This may be attributed to increased number of beneficiaries practicing improved hygiene and sanitation due to high level of awareness on disease prevention and increased immunization coverage in the project area.

II Beneficiary Numbers

Table 1: Beneficiaries targeted and reached to date

	Objective 1: Health Provision and Education
Number of beneficiaries targeted during the reporting period October 08 to December 08	8,385
Number of beneficiaries reached during the reporting period October 08 to December 08	11,978
Number of beneficiaries targeted during the project period January 09 to September 09	32,615
Number of beneficiaries reached during the project period January 09 to September 09	40,927
Total numbers of beneficiaries targeted during the reporting period October 08 to September 09	41,000
Total numbers of beneficiaries reached during the project period October 08 to September 09	52,905

III Objective 1 – Report Against Indicators

Objective 1: Health

Reporting period 1st October 2008 – 31st December 2008

Goal: To improve levels of health and hygiene practice and knowledge, and establish strong and sustainable primary health care services.

Sub-Sector	Output Indicators	Progress during the Quarter (1 st October – 31 st December 2008)
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1: Child Health	4 PHCUs supported and providing appropriate curative and preventive care throughout the project.	The 4 PHCUs being managed by Tearfund provided curative and preventative care to project beneficiaries. The Boma Health Committees and other community leaders in Malualdit, Majok Aken and Rumuetkor actively mobilized the beneficiaries to repair the structures for the health facilities. They supported the health workers to ensure that health services were being provided to the communities mobilizing the communities and passing health education messages to them. The beneficiaries supported the health facilities by transporting drugs from Tearfund main store in Omdurman to their respective clinics using bicycles because the roads were not accessible by 4 wheel vehicles during the rainy season. Malualdit and Majok Aken communities made bricks in preparation for constructions of permanent buildings in their health facilities. The programme responded to the needs of people displaced by floods by issuing mosquito nets targeting pregnant women and children under five years and distributing chlorine for treating drinking water and soap for cleaning. Tearfund participated in interagency coordination response to flood emergency in Aweil East County and also at State level.
	1 GOSS MOH PHCU assisted through the County Health Department and included in all training.	This target was not achieved due to inaccessible roads and security concerns in Rumaker. The community leaders reported that they had mobilized the community to build a permanent structure for the clinic. Tearfund made consultations with the Ministry of Health at County and State levels on the way forward in activating Rumaker PHCU. The MOH promised to deploy committed health workers to the clinic for it to be operational.
	25,000 patients treated appropriately at the clinics, with adequate records, during the project period.	10,734 patients received appropriate treatment at the clinics with adequate records provided during the quarter. Patient numbers were less than those of the previous quarter because malaria cases reported in the health facilities declined during the quarter. Health promotion on hygiene practices was intensified among the beneficiaries. The health education workers and Boma Health Committees conducted awareness campaigns for beneficiaries to take the sick in their homes to health facilities for treatment.
	5,000 mosquito nets distributed with 10,000 individuals benefiting from the distribution (based on 2 people sharing each net)	6,031 mosquito nets were distributed to pregnant women and children under 5 years. 1,350 of these bed nets benefited children and pregnant women displaced by floods. The health workers, Boma Health Committees and community members volunteered to transport the nets by bicycle to the distribution points.
	100% of health facilities directly managed by Tearfund routinely practicing HIV standard precautions	All the 4 PHCUs being managed by Tearfund practised standard precautions. The health workers received refresher training on standard precautions and applied the knowledge gained in their work.
	1,000 children screened for malnutrition during the project period.	471 children were screened for malnutrition during the quarter.
	4 Boma Health Committees actively supporting the Tearfund managed	The Boma Health Committee members actively supported the 4 PHCUs managed by Tearfund. The committees for

	PHCUs and 1 supporting the GOSS MOH PHCU.	Malualdit and Majok Aken PHCUs mobilized the community to make bricks and they are now ready to be supported with construction of permanent buildings for the clinics, which Tearfund has been able to secure from a private donor. Consultative meetings were held with the Boma Health Committees during the quarter to partner in improving provision of health care services to the beneficiaries.
	At least 2 staff members of the GOSS MOH able to carry out effective monitoring of health care in the project area.	Capacity building was delivered to 8 staff members of the GOSS MOH at County level in Aweil East. Six consultative meetings were held with the Aweil East County Health Staff during the quarter. The programme actively participated in coordination meetings at both county and state levels.
	4 notice boards erected at the PHCUs for general information and project updates.	The notice boards for the PHCUs were not erected during the quarter because of inaccessibility to the clinics.
	7,500 people effectively treated for malaria with appropriate anti malaria drugs.	3,679 people who tested malaria positive were treated appropriately with anti malaria drugs during the quarter. The projected target for the quarter was 2,500; however, the number was higher due to delayed delivery of bed nets and also due to flooding and improved health seeking behaviour following the abolition of cost-sharing.
	4,500 women and <5s effectively treated for malaria with appropriate treatment.	2,546 women and <5s were effectively treated for malaria with appropriate treatment. Again, this is attributable to high incidences of malaria and increased awareness for treatment in health facilities.
	90% of CHWs (directly supported by Tearfund) are able to use adapted IECHC guidelines competently.	100% of the 4 CHWs and the 1 MCHW received refresher training in the use of IECHC material while examining and treating the patients. The Health Project Officers held regular catch up meetings with the health workers to assess and monitor their progress.
2: Maternal Health	60 TBAs receive refresher training in management of clean deliveries and detection of danger signs.	10 Active TBAs received refresher training during the quarter. The topics covered included safe child delivery, early signs of complication in labour and sexually transmitted diseases.
	600 pregnant women attending ante-natal care clinic at least twice.	248 pregnant women attended ante-natal care clinic at least twice during the quarter. This was more than double the target for the quarter because of increased awareness by women within child bearing age on the importance of attending ante natal care.
	1,200 pregnant women safely delivered by trained TBAs during project period.	379 pregnant women were safely delivered by trained TBAs. Complicated cases were referred to Aweil Civic Hospital for further management.
	1,200 women delivered by TBAs received clean delivery kit.	486 women delivered by the TBAs received clean delivery kit during the quarter.
	300 women of child bearing age immunized with at least TT2 during project period.	155 women of child bearing age were immunized with at least TT2 during the quarter.
3: EPI	350 children under 1 vaccinated with DPT3 during the project period.	117 children under 1 year were vaccinated with DPT3 during the quarter.
	800 children <15 years vaccinated against measles.	841 children under 15 years were vaccinated against measles during the quarter. The number of children reached increased because of the mobile centres. The programme participated in coordination meetings with the

		MOH, UNICEF and other partners where scaling up of immunization coverage in Northern Bar el Ghazal State was emphasised since the current coverage was reported to be at just 6%. Tearfund was recognised as the best performing organization that continued with the EPI activities in Aweil East and South Counties.
4: Health Education	8 CHWs trained in the prevention and community based management of diarrhoea, ARI, malaria, measles, maternal and infant health.	4 CHWs and 1 MCHW were trained on prevention and management of diarrhoea and malaria using the IECHC guide. These health workers treated a high number of patients per day per clinic owing to high incidences of malaria and water related diseases. Four community members are attending a 9 month course training as CHWs and they are expected to complete the course by March this year and then they will be recruited to work in the health facilities. The other two students are being trained as public health technicians, and one as a pharmacist. Once these trainees complete their training they will strengthen the community human resource and improve service delivery in primary health care.
	100 health providers and community members trained in delivering community health education messages and methods.	This target was achieved in the last quarter. The health providers mobilized the community to carry out cleaning of markets in the programme areas as part of hygiene promotion. School children were also given health education on personal hygiene including hand washing.
	20,000 members of the community reached with key health education messages.	During the quarter, 44,767 members (cumulatively 64,638) of the community were reached with key health education messages, many of whom were patients receiving treatment in our PHCUs.
5: HIV / AIDS	95 health staff (10CHWs, 60 TBAs, 2 CHD staff, 11 EPI and 2 PHCU support staff) trained in the prevention of HIV/AIDS and STIs.	This target was achieved in the last quarter.
	100% of health facilities directly managed by Tearfund routinely practicing standard precautions	All the 4 PHCUs being managed by Tearfund practised standard precautions. The health workers received refresher training on standard precautions and applied the knowledge gained in their work.

Reporting period 1st January 09 – 30th September 2009

Goal: Reduced incidence of morbidity and mortality within the target population of Aweil East and enhanced capacity of the community and the Ministry of Health Government of Southern Sudan to deliver sustainable health care services.

Sub-Sector	Output Indicators	Progress during the Quarter (1 st January 2009 – 30 th September 2009)
Communicable diseases	30,000 patients treated in the 4 PHCU by end of project period.	31609 patients were treated in the 4 health facilities being managed by Tearfund. 28 patients with complications were referred to Aweil Civic Hospital for further management including 13 pregnant women with child delivery complications. The top three cases treated were malaria, diarrhoea and upper respiratory tract infections.
	7,500 people treated for malaria,	10,022 people were treated for malaria. Of these, 771

	1,000 being pregnant women and 5,000 children <5 yrs	were pregnant women and 2,419 children < 5 years.
	3,000 people treated for diarrhoea, 500 being pregnant women and 2,500 children <5 yrs	4,030 people were treated for diarrhoea. Of these, 150 were pregnant women and 1989 were children < 5 years.
	10,000 people treated for pneumonia, 9,000 being children <5 yrs	979 people were treated for pneumonia, 556 being children < 5 years.
	1,000 children under 1 vaccinated with third dose of DPT (DPT3) during the project period.	769 children aged < 1 year received the third dose of DPT.
	75% measles immunization coverage (as measured by card plus mothers recall.)	4815 children under 15 years were immunised against measles. The results of KAP survey carried out in February 2009 showed measles coverage of 69.4% (45.8% by card & 23.6% mother's recall). The next KAP survey will be carried out in November 2009.
	5,000 LLTNS distributed	230 LLITNs were distributed to pregnant women and children under-five years between January and March. The communities in Aweil East County received bed nets through a blanket distribution in July 2009. Malaria Consortium was the lead agency in this project.
	Number of children under two years treated in the PHCU for severe malnutrition	This indicator was not achieved during the reporting period. Nutrition items were not received from UNICEF. UNICEF was in favour of a full nutrition programme which was not the strategy being implemented by the programme.
Health Education/ Behaviour change	20,000 community members who have received target health education messages	19,367 community members were reached with target health education messages. The target health education messages given to the beneficiaries included hand washing with soap, safe water, personal and environmental hygiene, disease vector control, seeking treatment early, use of bed net, HIV awareness, good nutrition, immunisation and child weaning practices.
	15,000 community members (i.e. 75% of those receiving health messages) undertaking target health education message practices	10,497 community members were practicing the knowledge learnt on hygiene and sanitation in their households and public places. This was monitored through observation and discussions during home visits. The results of the KAP survey carried out in February 2009 showed that 52.0 % of the beneficiaries were undertaking target health education messages practices. The next KAP survey will be carried out in November 2009.
Medical Commodities and Pharmaceuticals	Medical equipment and consumables distributed to 5 primary healthcare units in line with the GOSS MoH BPHS	The 4 health facilities managed by Tearfund receive medical consumables on monthly basis. Rumaker PHCU which is being managed by the MOH was also provided with medical equipment and consumables supplied by the County Health Department.
	93 people trained in the use and disposal of medical equipment and consumables	70 health providers were trained on safe use and disposal of medical equipment and consumables.
Reproductive Health	1,000 pregnant women who have attended at least two comprehensive antenatal clinics (including receiving	1,142 pregnant women attended at least 2 comprehensive antenatal clinics and received TT2 immunisation.

	at least TT2 immunisation)	
	1,200 pregnant women who received a clean delivery kit	This target was not achieved during the quarter because delivery kits were not received from UNFPA. 277 pregnant women received clean delivery kits in quarter 1 which were a balance of last year.
	20 pregnant women who deliver assisted by a skilled nurse or MCH Worker	This target was not achieved. Trained TBAs deliver pregnant women at their homes. 34 complicated deliveries were referred to Aweil Civic Hospital.
Health Systems and General Health	5 functioning primary healthcare units supported of which 2 are rehabilitated.	4 PHCUs being managed by Tearfund were functioning. Aweil East County Health Department had posted one health worker to MOH GOSS PHCU in Rumaker in May this year. The clinic was visited twice by CHD and Tearfund staff during the reporting period. Construction of permanent structure in Malualdit PHCU is expected to start in November (next month). The contractor is mobilising construction materials and skilled labour in Nairobi and he is expected to start trucking the materials to the project site. Funding availability will determine whether the foundation work will be done for Majok Aken PHCU after completion of Malualdit.
	57 healthcare providers trained	34 health providers were trained during the quarter giving a cumulative total of 34. 4 candidates have been selected to go for external training and they are awaiting admission to training schools.
	4 health facilities (i.e. 100% of those run by Tearfund) submitting weekly surveillance reports	All the 4 health facilities managed by Tearfund submitted weekly surveillance reports which were compiled and send to the MOH GOSS and all the health partners.
	3 County Health Office staff trained and functioning (i.e. as a team are monitoring health facilities at least monthly, convening and attending regular health coordination meetings at State and County level at least quarterly, collating monthly health reports and submitting to State MoH, and regularly paying local health staff salaries)	This target was not achieved. A Health Systems Officer was appointed in the previous quarter and he covers Aweil East and South Counties. He facilitated training of the CHD staff in Aweil South County during the reporting period. He will be fully based in Aweil East from the next quarter.

IIIa Narrative

Introduction

Preventive and curative health care was provided through the 4 PHCUs during the reporting period (October 08 to September 2009) with 42,343 patients receiving treatment. Health promotion was intensified in the programme, resulting in reduced incidences of diseases reported in the health facilities. Patients continued to seek early treatment from the clinics compared to last year. In previous years, patients arrived later than advisable, first seeking the advice of traditional healers before approaching the clinics.

The programme focused on building the capacity of Boma Health Committees and health workers to equip them with the skills and knowledge needed to effectively manage health care in the Aweil East highlands. 6 health workers from the community completed training in various courses and are now working with Tearfund in the clinics: 1 Pharmacist, 1 Public Health Technician and 4 Community Health Workers. This has reduced the constraint faced in the previous years where the health facilities were under staffed.

Child Health

Children were appropriately treated through the PHCUs using the Integrated Essential Child Health Care treatment protocols. Mosquito nets were issued to children during immunisation exercises and in PHCUs to protect them from mosquito bites thus preventing malaria. Health education was provided to children at Rummyol Primary School with 422 pupils and Baac primary school with an enrolment of 837 pupils.

Maternal Health

More pregnant women sought clinics and TBA services as a result of increased awareness on the importance of immunization and ante natal care to pregnant women. TBAs and the MCHWs conducted safe deliveries and, complicated cases were referred to Aweil Civic Hospital. Blanket distribution of mosquito nets was carried out by Malaria Consortium in collaboration with the State MOH.

EPI

Mobile health centres resulted in expansion of the area covered, increasing the number of children reached for immunisation purposes. Through the funds from OFDA, 14 community vaccination workers trained and completed a 3 weeks training on vaccination and are participating in EPI activities in the project area.

Below are some photos taken during the training and the participants were practising how to draw and give the vaccines correctly.



Following the training, 9 new immunization mobile centres were opened during the project reporting period thus increasing the access to vaccination services in the project area. During the rainy season, the EPI team are facilitated by bicycle because the roads become impassable.

Health Education

Community health education was integrated into PHCU activities, where health workers provided one to one health advice to patients. Health promotion was also carried out by health providers at the community level through training of women's groups, youth groups and Boma Health Committees, Traders Committee and home visits, thus increasing the level of knowledge and hygiene practices amongst community members. This has contributed to reduced incidences of diseases, particularly the water borne. Different ways of imparting the health knowledge to the community are used including songs as seen by the women group in Omdurman photo ⇒ singing and dancing.



Medical Equipment

The programme equipped the PHCUs with medical equipment, including delivery couches, screens, growth monitoring height boards and scales, and water filters as recommended for PHCUs in the GOSS MoH Basic Package of Health Services.

IIIb Assessment and Surveillance Data Used to Measure Results

The data used to measure results was obtained from the PHCUs and monitoring reports compiled by health workers.

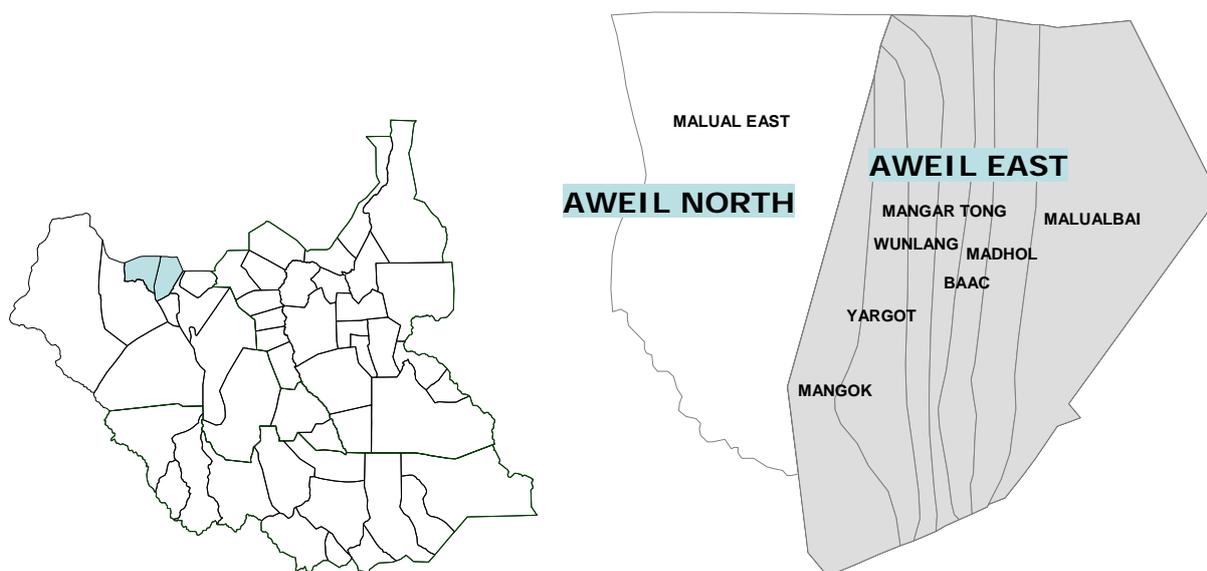
The sources of information referenced during project implementation are as follows:

- Clinic registers
- Reports by health educators
- Health education monitoring, assessment and workshop
- Training participants lists
- Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices survey report

IIIc Demographic Profile of Targeted and Reached Beneficiaries

The curative health care and health education programme linked to the PHCUs seek to target the whole population (including IDPs, returnees and host population) in the most remote and neglected parts of Aweil East, namely the under-served highlands. The remainder of the health education programme targets specific beneficiaries: female heads of households, mothers of malnourished children and children themselves.

Map 1: Target population



III d Successes

- The health project has been providing much needed primary health care services to communities in the highlands. Tearfund continues to be the only NGO running health services in the highlands of Aweil East County.
- 7 boreholes were successfully drilled 2 of which benefited Malualdit and Majok Aken PHCUs. Drilling of boreholes is still ongoing to benefit Rumuetkor PHCU and neighbouring community. Water and sanitation project is funded by CIDA.

- 3 years funding was secured from CIDA to implement projects in three sectors namely Primary Health Care, Water and Sanitation and Food Security.
- 6 health workers from the local community completed training and are now working with Tearfund in Aweil East highlands.
- The County Health Department is operational. The CHD staffs are reporting to work regularly compared to the previous years.
- Local health workers were trained on IECHC, and review of patient registers demonstrates they are applying the knowledge gained to provide effective services to PHCU patients under the age of 5.
- Several consultative meetings were held with County and State Health officials.
- Increased awareness with regards to water treatment is evident in communities in the highlands.
- The community demonstrated increased interest in participating in projects. Examples were the communities in Malualdit and Majok Aken mobilising themselves to make bricks in preparation for construction of permanent buildings for their health facilities. They also cleared roads to enable the water drillers to access sites for drilling boreholes.

IIIe Constraints

Constraints:

- Inaccessibility of roads during the rainy season.
- Lack of a functional airstrip in Omdurman.
- Delayed in implementing construction of Malualdit and Majok Aken due to funding limitation.
- Delay in supply of drugs by the MOH

Action taken

- 6 local people who were sent for training were recruited to work in the health facilities.
- The programme lobbied the government to construct the Warawar-Rumaker road and an airstrip in Omdurman and these have been pledged by the Governor.

IIIg Overall Performance

The project performed well during the reporting period. Most targets have already exceeded anticipated numbers.

IIIh Summary of Cost Effectiveness

The cost per beneficiary for the health programme fell within budget; during the reporting period, the number of beneficiaries totalled 52,905 and the total amount of funding received from OFDA totalled \$493,461 resulting in a cost per beneficiary of \$9 from OFDA's contribution. The programme maximised its resources to achieve the set targets.

Project Name: Primary Health Care Programme (PHCP) Aweil East Highlands, Northern Bahr el Ghazal	
<i>Project period: 1st October 2008 – 30th September 2009</i>	
Dollar amount requested from OFDA during reporting period	\$493,461
Project Population Coverage:	125,000
No. of direct beneficiaries:	52,905
Cost per capita:	\$4
Cost per direct beneficiary:	\$9