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

Sudan – Complex Emergency

Situation Report #1, Fiscal Year (FY) 2010

November 6, 2009

Note: The last situation report was dated September 30, 2009.

BACKGROUND

In 2009, Sudan continues to cope with the effects of conflict, displacement, and insecurity countrywide. 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). In Darfur, conflict continues among armed opposition factions, the Sudanese Armed Forces, militias, and ethnic groups. Simultaneously, humanitarian agencies have experienced reduced access to affected populations since 2006 due to increased insecurity, targeted attacks against aid workers, and bureaucratic impediments to program implementation.

The National Congress Party and the southern-based Sudan People’s Liberation Movement continue to implement the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) through the joint Government of National Unity (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 U.N. estimates that since 2005, more than 2.2 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. However, humanitarian needs persist in the area, which has experienced slow recovery following decades of conflict.

Since March 2009, humanitarian agencies have encountered reduced access to affected populations in Darfur and the Three Areas following the GNU-mandated expulsion of 13 international organizations and closure of three national humanitarian agencies. Remaining humanitarian organizations, in coordination with the Sudanese government, have initiated numerous short-term measures and expanded existing programs and areas of operation to prevent a rapid deterioration of humanitarian conditions in northern Sudan.

The U.S. Government (USG) is the largest bilateral donor to Sudan and has contributed approximately \$4.5 billion for humanitarian programs in Sudan and eastern Chad since FY 2004. The USG continues to support the implementation of the CPA and joins the international community in seeking a peaceful resolution to the conflict in Darfur. 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.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
IDPs in Sudan	From Southern Sudan: 2.7 million In Darfur: 2.7 million In Eastern Sudan: 168,000	UNHCR ¹ – October 2008 OCHA ² – January 2009 U.N. – September 2007
Sudanese Refugees	From Darfur: 268,000 From Southern Sudan: 138,270 Returnees to Southern Sudan: 327,984	OCHA – June 2009 UNHCR – February 2009 UNHCR – August 2009
Refugees in Sudan	From Eritrea, Chad, Ethiopia, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), and other countries: 280,000	UNHCR – June 2009

FY 2010 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE

USAID/FFP³ Assistance to Sudan and Eastern Chad\$101,600,000
Total USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance to Sudan and Eastern Chad.....\$101,600,000

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

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

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

CURRENT SITUATION IN DARFUR

Insecurity and attacks targeting humanitarian workers continue to hinder the provision of humanitarian assistance to affected populations in Darfur. Relief agencies continue to monitor food security, access to safe drinking water, health concerns, and population movement throughout Darfur and to provide food and non-food assistance to affected populations.

On October 25, USAID Acting Administrator Alonzo Fulgham and USAID/DCHA Acting Assistant Administrator Susan Reichle traveled to Nyala, South Darfur as part of a four-day visit to Sudan. The delegation visited Otash IDP camp and met with IDP leaders, GNU officials, U.N. agencies, African Union–U.N. Hybrid Operations in Darfur (UNAMID) representatives, and USAID non-governmental organization (NGO) partners operating in South Darfur. The delegation visited a U.N. World Food Program (WFP) warehouse and discussed humanitarian and peacebuilding program implementation.

Security and Humanitarian Access

On October 18, unidentified kidnappers released two international NGO GOAL staff to Sudanese authorities, following 108 days of captivity.

On October 22, unidentified assailants abducted an International Committee of the Red Cross international staff member north of El Geneina, West Darfur. The October 22 abduction represents the fifth kidnapping incident of international humanitarian staff in Darfur since March 2009, while two UNAMID civilian staff members remain hostage following nearly two months of captivity. Repeated targeting of humanitarian staff for kidnapping or burglary has significantly limited humanitarian access to field locations. In an October 10 meeting with USAID staff, OCHA noted that 52 international staff worked in remote field locations in 2008, but only three international staff remain, reducing humanitarian assistance provision and program monitoring in rural areas.

On October 28, the High Level Committee (HLC), comprising GNU, NGO, U.N., and donor representatives, discussed the concerning trends in attacks on humanitarian workers. The HLC established a subcommittee to consider security issues at the state and federal levels.

Late October violence between individuals from the Birgit and Zaghawa ethnic groups near Shangil Tobayi town in North Darfur killed approximately 12 people, including a Sudanese staff member of an international NGO. The clashes prompted UNAMID to deploy monitoring and crisis mitigation missions to the area, and U.N. sources report that tensions remain high. According to OCHA, the inter-ethnic violence resulted from conflict regarding access to a local water source.

Food Security and Emergency Food Assistance

Humanitarian agencies have expressed concerns regarding deteriorating food security in North and South Darfur. According to mid-October assessments by the U.N. Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster in North Darfur, late and inadequate rains, local pest infestations, and local water shortages have hampered agricultural season progress. In addition, the North Darfur survey noted the need for follow-up assessments and response in Dar al Salam rural council in El Fasher locality, Malha and Mallit and Sayeh rural councils in Mallit locality, and Um Kedada rural council in Um Kedada locality. In late October, the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) reported potential crop failure in five South Darfur localities due to lack of rain in August and September. According to FAO, the most vulnerable areas include localities Nyala, Shearia, and Kass in northern South Darfur. In addition, food security assessment results predict a depletion of food supplies available in markets and an accompanying rise in grain prices.

In response to the worsening food security conditions, FAO plans to distribute vegetable seeds and treadle pumps prior to the winter planting season. USAID staff continue to monitor the food security situation throughout Darfur and liaise with implementing partners conducting additional assessments.

In FY 2009, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$6.2 million for agriculture and food security activities in Darfur.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

Humanitarian organizations continue to provide safe drinking water, sanitation facilities, and hygiene services to populations throughout Darfur. Relief agencies focus particular attention on highly populated areas that experience added strain on existing resources, including the local water table and hygiene facilities.

Preliminary findings from a joint U.N. agency–North Darfur Ministry of Agriculture food security assessment highlight decreasing numbers of functional water points in North Darfur due to lack of adequate rainfall. Fewer functional water points may result in higher concentrations of households and livestock around remaining water sources, increasing the potential for resource-related conflict.

In FY 2009, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$13.7 million to support water, sanitation, and hygiene programs throughout Darfur.

Nutrition

In an October 2 meeting, USAID nutrition partners highlighted that North Darfur global acute malnutrition (GAM) rates, which currently range between 19 and 34.5 percent, remain significantly above the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) emergency

threshold of 15 percent and the 2007 and 2008 GAM rates in the same locations.

In response, the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) has begun training nutrition workers in community management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) standards to standardize malnutrition treatment practices across the region. UNICEF is currently exploring alternative ways of reaching communities in non-GNU-controlled areas with nutrition messages.

In FY 2009, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$6.1 million for Nutrition interventions in Darfur.

Population Movement and Returns

During a USAID field visit to North Darfur, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) reported completion of a village assessment of Um Kedada rural council listing locations and types of existing services. IOM plans to finalize four additional assessments of rural councils in North Darfur in the coming weeks. IOM village assessments provide detail on humanitarian and social services in the area surveyed to facilitate GNU and humanitarian agency planning for potential returnee needs.

CURRENT SITUATION IN SUDAN, EXCLUDING DARFUR

From October 24 to 27, USAID Acting Administrator Alonzo Fulgham and USAID/DCHA Acting Assistant Administrator Susan Reichle traveled to Khartoum and Juba to meet with USAID partners, other donors, and with U.N., Government of Southern Sudan, and GNU representatives. The delegation discussed ongoing programs, as well as upcoming events such as national elections scheduled for April 2010, which will impact USAID humanitarian and development programming.

Security and Humanitarian Access

Attacks throughout October have affected Western Equatoria State residents' access to humanitarian assistance. In a late October report, OCHA noted that Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) elements have targeted food distribution points to acquire emergency food assistance and relief supplies. In mid August, U.N. agencies and NGOs temporarily suspended humanitarian activities in Ezo County and relocated staff to Yambio County as a result of August 12 LRA attacks on Ezo town. As of late October, humanitarian workers remained unable to access Ezo County due to insecurity. Yambio County authorities have registered more than 5,400 people displaced by recent fighting in Ezo County, according to OCHA.

Early October inter-ethnic fighting near Bor town, Jonglei State, and along the border between Jonglei and Central Equatoria states killed more than 40 people, injured 70 others, and displaced approximately 1,500 individuals to a village south of Bor town, according to the U.N. Mission in Sudan Returns, Reintegration, and Recovery Section.

Population Movement and Returns

On October 21, U.N., NGO, and local government representatives conducted an assessment of Ndolo Payam, Central Equatoria State. The assessment team noted that the October violence between Pojulu and Mundari ethnic groups reportedly killed 29 individuals and displaced nearly 1,100 others.

According to OCHA, inter-ethnic conflict displaced more than 16,000 people in Southern Sudan from October 1 to 20. As of late October, conflict had displaced approximately 350,000 people in Southern Sudan in 2009.

Agriculture and Food Security

WFP continues to support food-insecure populations in Southern Sudan. With USAID support, WFP commenced airdrops on November 4 to 22 points in Southern Sudan for the provision of food assistance to approximately 155,600 beneficiaries inaccessible by road. WFP's airdrop effort targets populations in Jonglei, Upper Nile, and Warab states that remain inaccessible due to conflict or road conditions.

In September and October, WFP successfully transported emergency food assistance along the Sobat River to affected communities in Upper Nile and Jonglei states. WFP conducted airlifts to affected areas around Akobo town from June to September to meet residents' food needs due to the suspension of riverine traffic from June to August caused by insecurity.

In Ezo County, Western Equatoria State, local government and community organizations have conducted food distributions for affected residents, since the county remains inaccessible to humanitarian workers due to LRA-related insecurity. As of late October, additional towns and areas within Ezo County were adopting similar food distribution systems.

Nutrition

In late October, USAID partner Save the Children/US (SC/US) reported that many children discharged from therapeutic feeding centers in Akobo County, Jonglei State, have been readmitted after one month, as a result of family members sharing food intended for malnourished children. In FY 2009, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$243,000 to SC/US to improve children's nutritional status in Upper Nile and Jonglei states.

Potentially worsening food security throughout Southern Sudan increases the likelihood of high malnutrition rates in affected areas. In late October, OCHA reported an average Southern Sudan GAM rate of 16.9 percent, above the emergency threshold of 15 percent. OCHA reported a 26 percent GAM rate for Warab State, one of the WFP-targeted states for emergency food assistance airdrops.

Health

On October 11, the U.N. reported at least 200 visceral leishmaniasis cases in Old Fangak town, Jonglei State, approximately 100 km southwest of Malakal town, Upper Nile State. On October 14, WHO delivered nearly 180 kg of medicines to treat the disease.

WHO and UNICEF continue to monitor incidence of the disease, the second largest parasitic killer in humans after malaria.

USAID AND STATE ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN AND EASTERN CHAD IN FY 2010			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE¹			
WFP	5,050 metric tons of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Sudan-wide	\$101,600,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$101,600,000
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN AND EASTERN CHAD IN FY 2010			\$101,600,000

¹ Estimated value of food assistance.