



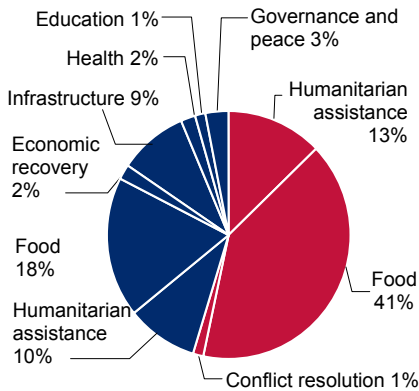
MONTHLY UPDATE

May 2006

Parties Sign Darfur Peace Agreement

On May 5, 2006, the Government of National Unity and the largest faction of the Sudan Liberation Army/Movement signed a historic peace agreement to bring an end to conflict in the Darfur region. The Darfur Peace Agreement addresses the region’s long-standing marginalization and charts a path for lasting peace with timelines for disarmament, demobilization, integration, power sharing, and wealth sharing. President Bush praised the agreement, saying, “We’re still far away from our ultimate goal, which is the return of millions of displaced people to their homes so they can have a life without fear. But we can now see a way forward.” USAID has been a leader in the massive international assistance program to Darfur, providing extensive humanitarian and food aid, working to ensure humanitarian access in unstable areas, and preparing for eventual reconstruction. ♦

USAID ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN, FY2005 ESTIMATED



Darfur 55%

Humanitarian assistance:	\$108.3 million
Food*:	\$347.0 million
Conflict resolution:	\$11.6 million
Darfur Total:	\$466.9 million

Other Sudan 45%

Humanitarian assistance:	\$82.2 million
Food*:	\$156.0 million
Economic recovery:	\$16.2 million
Infrastructure:	\$78.7 million
Health:	\$18.0 million
Education:	\$10.2 million
Governance and peace:	\$27.1 million
Other Sudan Total:	\$388.4 million
Countrywide Total:	\$855.3 million

*Includes PL 480 Title II and Emerson Trust

USAID Responds to Food Ration Cuts

Due to a lack of funding, the UN World Food Program has been forced to cut its rations for Sudan in half beginning this month. Meant to extend existing food stocks through the end of the rainy season in August) and avoid a complete break in the supply, even so, the cuts may still increase malnutrition and reverse humanitarian gains made in the last year.

To help WFP be able to restore full rations this summer and avoid a humanitarian crisis, President Bush directed USAID to take immediate action, in addition to its already-committed contributions. USAID is now

shipping 2,850 metric tons of non-cereal commodities (valued at \$5.1 million) from prepositioning facilities in Dubai and Lake Charles, Louisiana, to Sudan; redirecting five ships carrying 4,750 metric tons of non-cereal commodities (\$6.7 million) previously en route to Dubai directly to Port Sudan; and undertaking an emergency purchase of 40,000 metric tons (\$36.2 million) of cereal commodities from the United States for rapid, direct shipment to Sudan. President Bush has also called on the U.S. Congress to approve \$225 million in food aid requested in the supplemental appropriations bill.



Women gather at a food distribution center in Mukjar camp, West Darfur. Photo: USAID



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For 2006, the WFP issued an appeal for 730,000 metric tons of food (\$740 million) to feed up to 6.1 million needy people in Sudan, 2.8 million of whom live in Darfur. By the end of April, WFP had received less than a third of its total appeal for Sudan—85 percent of which came from the United States. USAID has contributed 219,160 metric tons (\$215 million) of food to the WFP's Sudan operation in the first half of fiscal year 2006.

The 2 million people displaced by the violence in Darfur have lost their assets and the land where they grew their food. In North Darfur, 83 percent of displaced people had relied on agriculture for food and income before being driven from their homes. Now only 4 percent can earn income from farming, making them dependent on the Sudanese government and the international community for food.

Individuals can donate directly to the World Food Program through its Web site, www.wfp.org. See page 4 for March 2006 food distribution numbers.♦

Building a Unified Education System for the South

While Southern Sudan has never had a comprehensive education system, what structure did exist was decimated by the 22-year civil war with the North. A legacy of inequality and exclusion were deep-rooted drivers of the protracted conflict—and ingrained features of the schools.

Establishing a strong foundation of educational facilities, materials, and staff is key to overcoming these obstacles and ensuring equitable access to quality schooling. Toward this end, USAID is working

with CARE to rehabilitate schools, establish non-formal education programs, train teachers, and mobilize communities. USAID is also working to strengthen the capacity of Southern Sudan's Ministry of Education to sustainably develop and manage education programs.

Over the last four years, USAID has worked with several dedicated Sudanese people to achieve a major milestone—the first-ever unified Southern Sudan curriculum. In the past, the South's rudimentary schools had been run by either missionaries or the central government, and education never reached the majority of people. This curriculum enables schools to teach standard themes using standard materials that are equitable and accessible.

To support the curriculum, USAID helped develop 81 manuals, teacher aids, and textbooks for Southern Sudan's educators. In addition, USAID has built or rehabilitated more than 70 primary schools and three secondary schools throughout Southern Sudan's 10 states, as well as Blue Nile and Southern Kordofan. Eighty-five more schools will be completed in the coming months, and more than 50,000 students are already enrolled in USAID-funded primary and secondary schools.

Out-of-school youth and adult learners benefit from non-formal education programs, such as accelerated learning, intensive English instruction, and radio-based courses. More than 15,000 people are enrolled in these programs, including 9,336 in accelerated learning, half of whom are women. USAID also funded the printing of 96,000 textbooks for the accelerated learning program, which condenses eight years of primary school into a four-year curriculum. To get as many children as possible into learning environments



Limbe primary school in Langa County, Central Equatoria, was—like many schools in Southern Sudan—devastated by the civil war. USAID supported its rehabilitation, as well as that of 157 other schools. Photos: USAID



this year, USAID ramped up its radio-based learning program, in which a tutor broadcasts courses from the primary school curriculum.

Teachers in the South can now enroll in three institutes rehabilitated by USAID that provide both initial teacher training and professional development throughout their careers. And because parents and community members had never previously been involved in schools, USAID has trained more than 7,700 people to participate in local education administration. ♦

Fuel-Efficient Stoves Reduce Risk in Darfur Camps

Nearly 2 million people, driven from their homes by violence, now live in densely populated clusters of camps spread throughout Darfur as they wait for peace to take hold. One of their greatest and most consistent needs is firewood to cook their food, sell for income, treat water for consumption, and heat their homes. But most of Darfur is arid, and the unsustainable harvesting of wood has desolated much of the environment around the camps.

In addition, residents who have to leave the relative safety of the camps to gather wood—often the job of women and girls—must deal with both personal hardship and real risk of violent attack. In North Darfur, CHF International estimates that more than 90 percent of families have at least one female family member who spends at least eight hours a day, five days a week, collecting firewood.

USAID, working with CHF, Relief International, and other organizations, are promoting production and use of fuel-efficient stoves in Darfur's camps to reduce the need for firewood and the risk involved in gathering it.

Compared to traditional stoves, most fuel-efficient stoves are able to cook the same amount of food in half the time, consuming less than half the fuel. Some stove designs require as much as 80 percent less fuel than traditional stoves. Because of this, the stoves also produce significantly less smoke and ash, dramatically reducing health threats to families. And unlike solar stoves, fuel-efficient stoves are not affected by the dust and sandstorms of the Sahara, can withstand the vigorous cooking methods used in the region, and can produce staple foods similar to what families cooked before they were displaced.

Fuel-efficient stoves are manufactured in camps for less than \$3 using locally available materials,

[U.S. Agency for International Development
www.usaid.gov](http://www.usaid.gov)

including clay, sorghum stems, dung, aluminum, and water. With support from USAID, CHF, Relief International, and other local partners train Darfurian women how to build and use fuel-efficient stoves and pass their skills along to other women in the camps.

However, while the stoves do decrease the amount of wood households require, in some cases the amount of time women spend collecting it has not decreased, as some now collect excess wood they can sell for additional income. In response, USAID encourages organized “firewood patrols” that are accompanied by escorts, and is working with the African Union and local communities to further enhance protection. ♦



Women make fuel-efficient stoves in Mukjar camp in West Darfur. Photo: USAID

Midwives Improve Health in Darfur

Between January and March 2006, USAID supported the training of nearly 100 midwives in camps between Nyala and Gereida in South Darfur. Communities there have welcomed the initiative, and the program's head midwives are highly respected throughout the region. With this training, the midwives can provide improved pre-natal counseling and health services both in camps for displaced people and in their host communities. In addition, nearly 1,000 other area residents, including 639 women and girls, attended USAID-supported general health education classes that covered a range of topics, including hygiene, safe water and sanitation practices, nutrition, diarrhea, sexual and gender-based violence, and HIV/AIDS.

USAID's midwife training program seeks to ensure that local health workers will continue to serve their



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communities over the long term. The midwives receive a year of training during which they learn principles of maternal and child health, including proper nutrition and breastfeeding. They also learn to set up efficient delivery rooms, correctly use midwifery equipment, and recognize and refer rape victims for emergency medical, legal, and psycho-social services. After the program, continued supervisory visits, on-the-job training, and workshops reinforce the training and promote a higher standard of health care.

Sumaia enrolled in the program to earn income to support her family and graduated in 2005.



Girls in El Tomat II camp, South Darfur, attend health classes. Photo: USAID

Now, she can work as a midwife in her own village rather than migrating to a city in search of employment. As a program graduate, Sumaia recognizes the lack of reproductive health services in South Darfur and says she is proud to contribute to improving her community's health.

Since the start of the Darfur conflict in 2003, USAID has been a leader in the massive international assistance program, providing extensive humanitarian and food aid throughout the region. USAID provides assistance to all of the approximately 200 camps in Darfur, which shelter more than 1.8 million people who have been driven from their homes. ♦

World Food Program Sudan Distributions

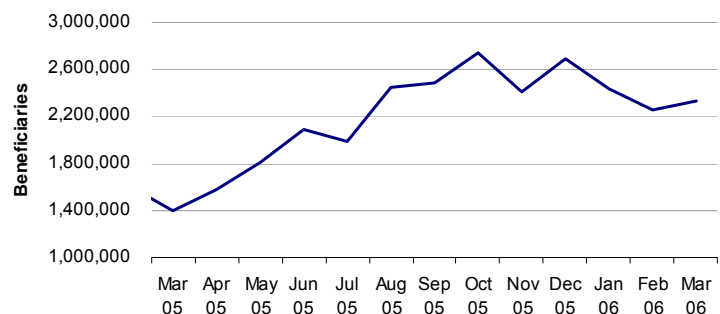
During the first half of fiscal year 2006, USAID contributed 219,160 metric tons of emergency food assistance worth \$215 million for Sudan and Sudanese refugees in Chad. During fiscal year 2005, USAID emergency food assistance to Sudan and eastern Chad amounted to 572,450 metric tons worth nearly \$502.9 million.

WFP Distributions March 2006

Region	Beneficiaries
Darfur	2,329,898
South	709,274
East	49,812
Three Areas*	233,521
Central	37,310
Total	3,359,815

* The Three Areas includes Abyei, Blue Nile, and Southern Kordofan.

WFP Distributions: Darfur



WFP Distributions: South, East, and Three Areas

