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BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)

Sudan – Complex Emergency

Situation Report #7, Fiscal Year (FY) 2008

June 6, 2008

Note: The last situation report was dated May 9, 2008.

BACKGROUND

In 2008, 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 4.2 million people, including more than 2.4 million internally displaced persons (IDPs). In Darfur, fighting among armed opposition factions, the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF), militias, and ethnic groups is ongoing. According to the U.N., the clashes have displaced more than 158,000 people within Darfur and to Eastern Chad since January 2008.

The former Government of Sudan and the southern-based Sudan People’s Liberation Movement continue to implement the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) through the joint Government of National Unity (GNU). The GNU was formed in 2005, when the parties signed the CPA and officially ended more than two decades of conflict between the north and the south. During the conflict, famine, fighting, and disease killed more than 2 million people, forced an estimated 600,000 Sudanese to seek refuge in neighboring countries, and displaced 4 million others within Sudan. The U.N. estimates that approximately 2.1 million people displaced during the conflict have returned to Southern Sudan and the Three Areas of Southern Kordofan, Blue Nile, and Abyei since 2005, taxing scarce resources and weak infrastructure. In eastern Sudan, the GNU and the Eastern Front opposition coalition signed the Eastern Sudan Peace Agreement in 2006, but the area remains underdeveloped and slow to recover from the decades of conflict.

The U.S. Government (USG) is the largest bilateral donor to Sudan and has contributed more than \$3 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 11, 2007, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires Alberto M. Fernandez renewed the disaster declaration for the complex emergency in Sudan for FY 2008.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
IDPs in Sudan	From Southern Sudan: 2.7 million In Darfur: 2.45 million In Eastern Sudan: 168,000	UNHCR ¹ – November 2007 OCHA ² – January 2008 U.N. – September 2007
Sudanese Refugees	From Darfur: 250,000 From Southern Sudan: 255,000	UNHCR – March 2008 UNHCR – December 2007
Refugees in Sudan	From Eritrea, Chad, Ethiopia, and others: 215,630	UNHCR – December 2007

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE (FY 2008)

USAID/OFDA³ Assistance to Sudan and Eastern Chad	\$40,099,566
USAID/FFP⁴ Assistance to Sudan and Eastern Chad	\$458,494,800
State/PRM⁵ Assistance to Sudan and Eastern Chad	\$80,619,118
Total USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance to Sudan and Eastern Chad.....	\$579,213,484

CURRENT SITUATION IN DARFUR

In May, banditry and hijacking of relief vehicles continued throughout Darfur, further limiting humanitarian operations. Targeting of humanitarian staff and non-governmental organization (NGO) compounds increased, and implementing partners reported additional incidents of livestock theft and attacks on empty convoy vehicles as well as increased impersonation of U.N. staff by bandits.

On May 10, armed forces associated with the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) from Darfur attacked Omdurman, one of the three cities making up the greater Khartoum area. Fighting occurred in the midst of the civilian population in the center of the city. In addition to the deaths of combatants, USAID staff in Khartoum reported that the violence also killed and wounded civilians. Following the attack, the GNU deployed additional security forces throughout the

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 U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

⁴ USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

⁵ U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

capital and the surrounding region. In addition, international news media and humanitarian agencies reported that in the days following the attack on Khartoum, government forces arrested more than 300 opposition members and citizens of Darfuri origin.

On May 31, the U.S. Special Envoy to Sudan, Richard S. Williamson, traveled to Nyala in South Darfur to meet with local government officials, IDPs, members of the U.N.–African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID), and implementing partners. The Special Envoy also traveled to Otash IDP camp in South Darfur, visited NGO program sites, and talked with IDPs about their experiences.

Security and Humanitarian Access

During May, bureaucratic impediments and insecurity continued to hamper relief efforts and access throughout Darfur. Following the May 10 attack on Khartoum, and the Sudanese government's subsequent closure of airports and roads throughout Darfur, relief agencies reported further reduced access.

On May 13, OCHA reported that bandits had hijacked 125 humanitarian vehicles in Darfur, including 75 trucks contracted by the U.N. World Food Program (WFP), since early January. As of May 28, at least 50 trucks and 36 drivers remained missing.

Insecurity continues to impact the programs of implementing partners. On May 27, assailants killed an NGO staff member in Habila, West Darfur. To date in 2008, assailants have killed six and abducted nearly 100 humanitarian staff in Darfur. On June 1, unknown assailants attacked and burned the women's center run by CHF International in Kalma IDP camp, South Darfur. According to USAID staff, the assailants fired warning shots at the center's guards and IDPs who tried to extinguish the fire.

Population Movements

On May 19, OCHA reported that more than 158,000 individuals had been displaced in Darfur since January 2008. Following interethnic clashes and mass displacement in Sania Afandu in South Darfur from mid- to late- April, humanitarian agencies expressed concerns regarding overcrowding in the local IDP camps. On May 6, the Sudanese government and NGOs assessed El Sereif IDP camp to determine the possibility of re-opening the camp for 441 households from Sania Afandu who were sheltering at Al Salam camp in Nyala, South Darfur. Participants in the assessment mission included the GNU Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC), the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF), OCHA, GNU Office of Water and Environmental Sanitation (WES), CARE, and the Islamic International Relief Organization, the El Sereif camp manager. Prior to the assessment, CARE had determined that the camp's water infrastructure could accommodate an additional 3,500 people. During the

week of May 29, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) assessed El Sereif and subsequently met with IDP leaders in Al Salam camp regarding relocation to El Sereif camp. According to USAID field staff, during early- to mid-June, NGOs plan to conduct a headcount of the Sania Afandu IDPs in preparation for a mid-June move to El Sereif camp. In FY 2008, USAID has funded emergency programs in Al Salam camp in several humanitarian sectors, including health, nutrition, food aid, and water, sanitation, and hygiene.

Health

During the week of May 29, the North Darfur Ministry of Health (MOH), supported by UNICEF and the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO), launched a new phase of the Sudan Accelerated Child Survival Initiative. The North Darfur initiative will vaccinate children against polio and measles and provide deworming tablets, vitamin A supplement, and iodized oil treatments.

WHO continues to work with international NGOs in North Darfur to finalize a local preparedness and response plan for the upcoming rainy season. WHO assisted implementing partners with identifying high-risk areas for potential flooding and the expected impact, as well as producing a resource map that includes information on affected areas and proposed interventions.

Food Security

Although WFP's Darfur-wide ration cuts remain in place through June, WFP reports that food deliveries are reaching target levels due to increased activity from transport companies. In April, the GNU committed to providing police escorts for WFP convoys every 48 hours, increasing to every 24 hours on four key routes. On May 25, GNU Ministry of Interior officials confirmed that police escorts for convoys would be available every 48 hours on two routes to El Fasher, North Darfur, and Nyala, South Darfur. As of June 4, WFP has been unable to confirm any increased police escorts for the food convoys. The international community continues to press the GOS to fulfill its pledge of additional escorts.

In order to offset the nutritional impact of reduced rations in May and June, WFP is targeting specific high-risk areas with blanket supplementary feeding programs in advance of the annual hunger season, which typically lasts from June through September. In North Darfur in particular, approximately 180,000 children under five years old will receive blanket supplementary rations in the coming months. Aid agencies are also targeting significant numbers of children in South and West Darfur.

CURRENT SITUATION IN SUDAN, EXCLUDING DARFUR

On May 13, fighting between the SAF and the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) broke out in Abyei. The violence displaced an estimated 50,000 people, caused significant damage to Abyei town infrastructure, and resulted in the evacuation of more than 250 U.N. and NGO staff members. Although the U.N. Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) reported that the SAF and SPLA reached an agreement for an immediate cessation of hostilities in the Abyei area on May 18, U.N. staff and implementing partners reported a renewal of heavy fighting. According to the U.N., the situation in Abyei remains tense with house-burning and looting ongoing.

An initial U.N. interagency assessment of the area identified a need for food, shelter, water, and health services. U.N. agencies and NGOs are distributing food and providing health care and clean water to the displacement population. According to the U.N., two distribution sites have been established in Agok in Northern Bahr el Ghazal State, and additional sites were established to address the needs of 18 villages currently sheltering displaced families. On June 1, two security incidents forced humanitarian agencies to suspend activities north of Agok, according to OCHA. On June 5, OCHA reported that NGOs had completed food distributions in accessible areas of Agok.

Security and Humanitarian Access

The conflict in Abyei has also resulted in heightened political tensions throughout the Three Areas and along the north-south border. Supply routes from northern Sudan to Abyei and Warab and Unity states were cut off during the fighting, impeding the delivery of food aid and emergency relief commodities to IDPs. As a result, humanitarian agencies are revising contingency plans to support the humanitarian operation from southern routes.

Since May 14, relief agencies have been able to assess IDP sites south of the Kiir in Abyei; however most areas north of the river, including the town of Abyei, remain inaccessible. The onset of seasonal rains in mid-May has impeded road access to rural areas throughout Southern Sudan and the Three Areas.

Population Movements

As of June 5, the U.N. has not released the results from a recent headcount of IDPs from Abyei. During an assessment trip to the affected areas, USAID field staff reported that relief agencies were responding quickly and effectively to the newly displaced populations. In the coming months, agencies plan to assess IDPs intentions to remain in the Agok area or to move to other locations, which will inform planning for a longer-term response.

According to the U.N. Mission in Sudan Returns, Reintegration, and Recovery (UNMIS RRR) section, during the week of May 22, staff from the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) and IOM in Kosti tracked spontaneous overland returns and revealed a 50 percent increase in returns compared to the previous week. A total of 829 people passed through the transit hub, identifying principal destinations of Southern Kordofan and Upper Nile states. Organized return convoys ended by May 20, due to insecurity, road blockages, and the onset of seasonal rains. On May 31, UNMIS RRR reported that 2.1 million individuals have returned to Southern Sudan and the Three Areas, of which approximately 200,000 people returned under the organized returns programs. The U.N. estimates that approximately 27,000 IDPs or refugees have returned since January 1. In addition, according to UNHCR, March and April had the highest number of refugee returns from nearby Ethiopia, Kenya, and Uganda. USAID continues to support humanitarian interventions in Southern Sudan, eastern Sudan, and the Three Areas in a variety of sectors. In addition, State/PRM continues to support international organizations and NGOs implementing return and reintegration activities in several states in South Sudan.

Health

According to a report released by the MOH and WHO, the Abuzabad area in Northern Kordofan State reached the meningitis epidemic threshold during the first week of May. Between January and May 2008, a total of 262 cases of suspected meningitis with 10 deaths were reported in northern Sudan. USAID field staff note that vaccines, rapid test kits, and meningitis kits are centrally available in Sudan, and staff are monitoring the situation in Northern Kordofan. Since mid-May, Sudanese health agencies have been conducting meningitis surveillance activities in the state.

Food Security and Livelihoods

Between May 19 and 21, a USAID team visited Aweil, Nyamlel, and Malualkon in Northern Bahr el Ghazal State. The team held meetings with U.N. agencies and NGO partners to discuss the state's ongoing malnutrition and food insecurity problems. Malnutrition rates are chronically high in Northern Bahr el Ghazal between the start of the seasonal rains in April/June and the main sorghum harvest in September/October. However, relief organizations reported that malnutrition rates in the state are deteriorating as compared to previous years and will require increased interventions.

USAID implementing partner Concern Worldwide reported an increase in admissions to supplementary feeding programs in Aweil North and Aweil West counties, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, in comparison to 2007. In response to higher rates of malnutrition, strained household resources, and the approaching

hunger gap period. Concern is expanding nutrition programs and WFP is implementing a blanket supplementary feeding program that will target Aweil East County and areas with significant IDP and returnee populations. According to WFP, food security conditions deteriorated during April with vulnerable household running out of food earlier than normal, signaling an earlier start to the June to September hunger gap period. Humanitarian staff cite several key factors that have resulted in the state's current food insecurity: the 2007 drought that preceded flooding and the destruction of the sorghum harvest; conflict along the border that reduced transport of commercial and food aid commodities; population increase due to returns and the accompanying increase in competition for scarce resources; inaccurate population estimates that preclude proper planning among the government or aid agencies; lack of seed and tools; and small family plots that typically yield only a three-month food supply.

To address chronic food insecurity, USAID is funding seed and tool distribution mainly for returnees, procuring seeds locally from small farmers, and other agricultural programs that will assist households in growing more food to feed their families. In addition, USAID is funding construction and rehabilitation of water points to increase access to safe drinking water and reduce the rate of diarrhea and other water-borne diseases that are causal factors for malnutrition.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

On May 22, a USAID team visited three sites in Malualkon, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, where USAID funds are supporting IOM's construction of hand-dug wells. USAID staff reported that IOM used effective selection and targeting techniques for each of the three communities hosting the hand-dug well project. Given the scarce water availability in the area, USAID staff are concerned that access to safe drinking water will remain a significant need for communities slated for reintegration and recovery.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN AND EASTERN CHAD			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
FY 2008 DARFUR, SUDAN			
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			
Action Contre la Faim (ACF)	Nutrition	South Darfur	\$450,000
ACF	Risk Reduction	North Darfur	\$60,000
CARE	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Darfur-wide	\$3,994,193
CHF International	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	North Darfur	\$256,034
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Health	South Darfur, West Darfur	\$3,750,000
Tearfund	Health, Nutrition, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	West Darfur	\$1,400,000
Terre Des Hommes	Protection, Shelter and Settlements	West Darfur	\$750,000
U.N. Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Humanitarian Air Service	Darfur-wide	\$3,000,000
UNICEF	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Darfur-wide	\$1,498,160
USAID	Administrative Support and Travel	Darfur-wide	\$3,910,301
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$19,068,688
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
WFP	243,882 Metric Tons (MT) of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Darfur-wide	\$296,193,400
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$296,193,400
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Protection and Assistance for IDPs	Darfur-wide	\$19,200,000
Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Protection of IDPs and Chadian Refugees	Darfur-wide	\$10,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$29,200,000
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DARFUR			\$315,262,088
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DARFUR			\$344,462,088

FY 2008 EASTERN CHAD			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			
ACF	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Eastern Chad	\$500,000
ACTED	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Eastern Chad	\$31,980
Air Serv International (ASI)	Humanitarian Air Services	Eastern Chad	\$36,483
Mentor	Health	Eastern Chad	\$300,000
U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization	Agriculture and Food Security	Eastern Chad	\$322,083
USAID Stockpile	Relief Commodities	Eastern Chad	\$78,900
USAID	Administrative Support and Travel	Eastern Chad	\$249,915
World Concern Development Organization (WCDO)	Agriculture and Food Security	Eastern Chad	\$409,676
WFP	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Eastern Chad	\$250,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$2,179,037
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
WFP	46,960 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Eastern Chad	\$57,255,700
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$57,255,700
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
Africare	Income Generation, Sanitation, Agriculture	Eastern Chad	\$700,000
ASI	Humanitarian Air Services	Eastern Chad	\$1,898,324
CARE	Education	Eastern Chad	\$603,103
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	Water/Sanitation, Capacity Building	Eastern Chad	\$520,000
Christian Children's Fund	Psychosocial, Protection	Eastern Chad	\$399,999
ICRC	Refugee Protection and Assistance	Eastern Chad	\$4,600,000
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies / Chad	Refugee Protection and Assistance	Eastern Chad	\$1,100,000
UNHCR	IDP Protection and Assistance	Eastern Chad	\$1,580,000
UNHCR	Refugee Protection and Assistance	Eastern Chad	\$18,700,000
U.N. Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT)	Protection and Police Activities	Eastern Chad	\$2,000,000
WCDO	Agriculture and Food Security	Eastern Chad	\$409,676
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$32,511,102
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO EASTERN CHAD			\$59,434,737
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO EASTERN CHAD			\$91,945,839
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DARFUR AND EASTERN CHAD			\$436,407,927
FY 2008 SUDAN EXCLUDING DARFUR			
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			
American Refugee Committee (ARC)	Health	Eastern Equatoria, Central Equatoria	\$786,316
Concern Worldwide	Agriculture and Food Security, Logistics and Relief Commodities	Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Southern Kordofan	\$1,200,553
CRS	Health, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Eastern Equatoria, Jonglei	\$2,200,000
Food for the Hungry International (FHI)	Agriculture and Food Security, Logistics and Relief Commodities	Upper Nile	\$793,055
GOAL	Health	Warab, Southern Kordofan, Blue Nile	\$3,000,000

International Rescue Committee	Health	Northern Bahr el Ghazal	\$621,723
Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)	Agriculture and Food Security	Upper Nile, Jonglei	\$2,497,755
Pact	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Upper Nile, Jonglei, Unity	\$1,000,000
Save the Children / US	Health	Upper Nile, Jonglei	\$2,000,000
Tearfund	Health	Northern Bahr el Ghazal	\$401,644
UNHAS	Humanitarian Air Service	Southern Kordofan, Blue Nile, Abyei	\$250,000
USAID	Administrative Support and Travel	Sudan-wide	\$1,054,735
Vétérinaires Sans Frontières / Belgium	Agriculture and Food Security	Upper Nile, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Warab, Eastern Equatoria, Central Equatoria, Unity, Jonglei	\$849,898
World Relief	Health	Unity, Jonglei	\$716,710
World Vision / US	Health, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene, Agriculture and Food Security	Upper Nile, Warab, Jonglei	\$1,349,453
ZOA Refugee Care	Health	Central Equatoria	\$129,999
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$18,851,841
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
ADRA	730 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	White Nile	\$994,700
CRS	3,950 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Southern Sudan	\$5,781,900
NPA	7,140 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Southern Sudan	\$9,795,800
WFP	72,742 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Southern Sudan, Eastern Sudan, and Three Areas	\$88,473,300
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$105,045,700
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
FHI	Education, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Upper Nile State, Jonglei State	\$508,048
International Relief and Development	Livelihoods, Conflict Prevention	Upper Nile State	\$499,968
Relief International	Health, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Upper Nile State	\$500,000
UNHCR	Repatriation and Integration Assistance	Southern Sudan	\$16,000,000
UNHCR	Refugee Protection and Assistance	Sudan-wide	\$1,400,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$18,908,016
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN EXCLUDING DARFUR			\$123,897,541
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN EXCLUDING DARFUR			\$142,805,557

¹USAID/OFDA funding represents obligated amounts as of June 6, 2008.

²Estimated value of food assistance.



Ky Luu
Director
Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance