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**BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT,
AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE**

SUDAN MONTHLY UPDATE

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Darfur Humanitarian Programs **USAID Responds to Newly Displaced**

Initial Assessment. Following an attack on Tama town in South Darfur, hundreds of people sought protection in nearby villages. On October 23, USAID Darfur Field Office members, accompanied by African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) personnel, traveled to the area to conduct an initial needs assessment and meet with the newly displaced. Additional humanitarian assessments were undertaken by U.N. agencies and relief organizations during the following days.



*Displaced persons greet USAID staff conducting a humanitarian needs assessment after an attack on Tama village in South Darfur.
Photo by USAID/Sloan Mann*

The USAID team found approximately 250 displaced families from Tama gathered in a nearby village. Many of the men, women, and children had been beaten and required medical treatment, which USAID representatives helped to facilitate in some cases. The families explained to the USAID team that many women and a 27-day-old infant were among the 36 confirmed dead. One nine-year-old boy lost his parents in the attack and was being cared for by his grandmother, who had suffered a broken hip from being beaten in the attack. Tama's leading *sheik* reported that 20 children were still missing. Before departing, the USAID team facilitated the evacuation to the Nyala hospital of two severely dehydrated women and a pregnant woman who had been beaten in the stomach.

The USAID assessment team learned that displaced villagers of Tama had access to only a limited supply of food in the host community. The women drew water from a shallow well in a nearby *wadi*, exposing themselves to the risk of attack. The internally displaced persons (IDPs) were forced to flee without having enough time to gather their belongings and therefore needed blankets and plastic sheeting to construct shelters.

Humanitarian Response. After gathering details on the situation, the USAID team returned to Nyala to facilitate an emergency meeting with the international community. Medical NGOs pledged to provide immediate assistance, the U.N. Joint Logistics Center distributed emergency relief supplies, and the U.N. World Food Program provided food to the IDPs from Tama.

Non-Darfur Sudan Humanitarian Programs

USAID Expands Assistance in Juba

Previously an isolated Government of Sudan garrison town, the city of Juba is now the seat of the burgeoning Government of Southern Sudan (GOSS). USAID's humanitarian programs are helping displaced southerners to return and reestablish their lives, while facilitating public sanitation and infrastructure development.

Infrastructure Support. One of the most pressing challenges is upgrading Juba's infrastructure to accommodate an increasing population of returnees and those involved with the formation of the GOSS. In response to the lack of basic services and job opportunities, USAID partner Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) is implementing a three-phase program that combines sanitation education with food-for-work and cash-for-work opportunities. During the first phase, community health promoters offered training in public health and sanitation for 8,000 participants in Munuki, an area of Juba with many returnees. Following the training, committees coordinated the cleaning of family compounds and adjacent public areas. The approximately 6,500 households participating in the cleaning will receive food as compensation for their work. Phase two of the program will employ 60 returnees to construct 4 blocks of latrines in 2 public markets, the government office block, and a school. More than 400 returnees and vulnerable individuals will receive a collective total of \$40,000 as part of a cash-for-work program in December and January to clean Juba's main markets, which were burned during riots that followed the death of Dr. John Garang.

Additional programs through USAID partner Development Alternatives International (DAI) are designed to repair key infrastructure in Juba town. As Juba suffers from continual water shortages, DAI plans to add six water pumps for the Urban Water Corporation to increase the quantity of water available. DAI will install new elevated water tanks, provide water purification chemicals, provide equipment to detect leaks in the city pipes, purchase two new pump trucks to empty septic tanks, construct settling ponds, and renovate a main abattoir. To improve health services, DAI is extending the emergency ward at the main Juba hospital.

Assistance to Returnees. Another challenge is meeting the immediate humanitarian needs of those returning from years of displacement in the north, like Joyce Felix. Joyce, a pregnant mother, traveled by barge with her children for nearly a month en route from Khartoum before arriving in Juba in late November. During the journey, the barge Joyce was traveling on began to slowly sink. In order to reduce the weight of the barge, people were forced to throw overboard the few possessions they carried. Joyce arrived in Juba with nothing, but received food through an ADRA distribution and medical services at an ADRA clinic, both funded by USAID. ADRA staff will follow-up with returnees to assess each family's needs and provide supplies.



USAID partner ADRA provides food to returnees like Joyce Felix, who traveled for nearly a month before arriving in Juba.
Photo by USAID/Elizabeth Martin