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

DARFUR – Humanitarian Emergency

Fact Sheet #9, Fiscal Year (FY) 2004 June 10, 2004

Note: This report updates the last fact sheet dated June 4, 2004

BACKGROUND

- The humanitarian emergency in Darfur is a direct result of violence and harassment directed toward the Fur, Zaghawa, and Masaalit civilian groups by Government of Sudan (GOS) forces and GOS-supported militia groups collectively known as *Jingaweit*. In early 2003, the Sudanese Liberation Movement/Army (SLM/A) stated that they would engage in armed struggle to achieve full respect for human rights and an end to political and economic marginalization in Darfur. On April 24 and 25, 2003 the SLM/A attacked GOS military forces at El Fasher in North Darfur.
- Following this attack, GOS military forces and *Jingaweit* militia initiated a more coordinated campaign of violence against civilian populations, including aerial bombardments to kill, maim, and terrorize civilians who the GOS claimed were harboring opposition forces. Conflict-affected populations have described recurrent and systematic assaults against towns and villages, looting, burning of buildings and crops, destruction of water sources and irrigation systems, gang rape, and murders. Throughout late 2003, armed conflict intensified, as GOS military and *Jingaweit* clashed with the two main opposition groups – the SLM/A and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) – in Darfur.
- Following U.S. Government (USG) and European Union (EU) facilitated negotiations in N'Djamena, Chad, the two main opposition groups and the GOS signed a renewable 45-day humanitarian ceasefire on April 8 that took effect on April 11. This agreement included a GOS commitment to disarm *Jingaweit* militia groups and a protocol on providing humanitarian assistance in Darfur. The ceasefire agreement was renewed on May 22.
- Despite the ceasefire, *Jingaweit* violence against civilians continues in all three states of Darfur resulting in increasing displacement. Because the victims are displaced and vulnerable, they become targets of further violence. Even in villages where there is nothing left to burn, the fear of further violence continues to paralyze displaced populations, preventing voluntary returns. This cycle prevents many internally displaced persons (IDPs) from safely returning home, trapping them in camps or informal settlements for the foreseeable future. Out of an estimated population of 6.5 million in Darfur, approximately 2.2 million people are affected by the crisis, including more than 1 million IDPs and approximately 158,000 refugees who have fled into neighboring Chad.
- Humanitarian access to conflict-affected populations outside of the state capitals of Geneina, El Fasher, and Nyala was extremely limited until late May due to GOS impediments that blocked humanitarian access and relief operations in Darfur. As a result of intense international pressure, the GOS lifted some of the restrictive travel permit regulations and announced a series of measures, effective May 24, to facilitate humanitarian access to Darfur. USAID's Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART) and other humanitarian agencies have deployed additional staff to Darfur to increase emergency response capacity. However, several obstacles remain, including continued delays in obtaining visas for relief personnel, travel restrictions within Darfur, difficulties in clearing essential relief supplies and equipment though customs, and GOS interference in relief activities that address protection of civilians and human rights abuses.

CURRENT SITUATION

Continued Insecurity and Disruption of Relief Activities

- On June 7 and 8, according to international media sources, an official from the JEM reported that *Jingaweit* and GOS forces, including military aircraft, attacked JEM forces in the area around Kiro, approximately 30 km north of Geneina in West Darfur.
- According to the U.N. Office of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA), an assessment team that visited Mallam, South Darfur observed a large number of *Jingaweit* in the area. Villages surrounding Mallam reportedly suffer an average of two attacks per week, and 19 people were killed last month as a result of these raids. Several agencies report a general decrease of IDPs in areas such as Kubum, Um Labbasa, and Badegusa, and an increase of IDP numbers in Kass town and Kalma Camp. Attacks on villages southeast of Kass this week led to the displacement of over 1,500 families.
- According to the USAID/DART, SLM/A elements are conducting mobile checkpoints near Shurom/Tordaan, approximately 50-60 km southeast of Nyala, and on the road that connects Nyala, Yassin, and Ed Da'ein route. A commercial vehicle transporting U.N. World Food Program (WFP) goods was briefly detained by SLM/A troops in Yassin, 60 km northwest of Ed Da'ein.
- The USAID/DART stated that *Jingaweit* militias reportedly stopped trucks carrying relief supplies for distribution in Fur Buranga and Habilah, West Darfur. The trucks were allowed to pass after a two-hour delay. Due to fighting near

the Chad border, the town of Kulbus is inaccessible and relief agencies are concerned about travel north of Geneina. Reports of banditry on the main road to Kass and insecurity on the road north to Mershing are being investigated.

Humanitarian Access

- USAID/DART team members in West and South Darfur reported the onset of heavy rains this week, accompanied by thunder and in some cases by lightning and strong winds. In Geneina, rain fell heavily June 8 for two hours. In Nyala, inclement weather on June 9 disrupted the power supply to the town. During the rainy season, many roads become impassable, thereby severely restricting humanitarian access to vulnerable populations throughout Darfur.
- The response capacity of relief agencies in Darfur continues to be limited due to the delay in clearing supplies into Sudan through GOS customs. On June 7, Médecins sans Frontières-Holland (MSF-H) reported that food and vehicles critical to the organization's emergency response remain in customs in Port Sudan. In Darfur, MSF-H has enrolled more than 800 children in therapeutic feeding programs and more than 1,600 children in supplementary feeding programs. These programs provide life-saving treatment for children in moderate and advanced stages of malnutrition, and without this treatment many of the patients will die of starvation. With critical food stocks delayed in customs, MSF-H predicted that their feeding programs would run out of food during the week of June 14.
- On June 3, members of the SLM/A detained 16 humanitarian workers near Mellit, 55 km north of El Fasher in North Darfur. The detained workers, a multi-agency assessment team comprised of representatives from the various U.N. agencies, several international NGOs, and the European Commission, were released unharmed on June 6 and returned to El Fasher. According to the USAID/DART, the U.N. is reviewing security procedures following this incident.

Lack of Human Rights Monitors in Darfur

- At present, the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) has no mandate for human rights investigations in Sudan. Apart from the OHCHR delegation's trip to the region from April 21 to May 2, there are no mandated human rights officers in place. At the donors conference in Geneva on June 3, the U.N. request for approximately eight monitors for Darfur received enormous donor endorsement. However, it is unclear if the GOS would accept human rights monitors in Darfur.

Food Assistance

- During the first week of June, the USAID/DART Food Officer monitored food activities in West Darfur, where WFP plans to target up to 300,000 beneficiaries in June. Before the heavy rains in mid-July, WFP expects to have already completed July distributions. However, WFP's main implementing partner, Save the Children-US (SC-US), reports a need to pre-position and/or distribute food for August as well. Approximately 70,000 beneficiaries in areas southwest of Geneina could be completely inaccessible by road from mid-July to mid-September, and the Nyala-Geneina road could be impassable for days at a time during that period.
- According to the USAID/DART, WFP does not appear to have sufficient capacity at present to pre-position three months'-worth of rations in West Darfur. Monthly food requirements in West Darfur are approximately 4,500 metric tons (MT). To date, WFP has only 500 MT of food stockpiled in Geneina, and while WFP continues to urge truckers to move quickly, security incidents on the key roads between Ed Da'ien and Nyala will likely affect truckers' willingness to travel unescorted, or without security guarantees from the U.N.
- Transporting sufficient quantities of food to Nyala, and then on to West Darfur, has been a significant challenge for WFP. Food monitors for SC-US waited in Foro Burunga, West Darfur for two weeks for WFP to deliver the May rations, which were to be distributed on June 4 and 5, but the quantities were not sufficient and some commodities were missing. WFP told the USAID/DART that about 36 trucks carrying approximately 880 MT were in transit and would arrive in Geneina around June 10.
- According to the USAID/DART, 50 long-bed trucks arrived from Chad to Geneina this week. This will bring WFP's dedicated trucking fleet from 90 to 140 trucks. The monthly distribution capacity of this dedicated fleet is 8,000 MT, enough food for approximately 500,000 beneficiaries.

Health

- According to the USAID/DART, major constraints in the health and nutrition response in Darfur include the shortage of international staff available for deployment; the continued demand for cost recovery at health centers and hospitals despite a GOS directive that IDPs should receive treatment free of charge; poor health infrastructure and access; the limited number of NGOs able to implement health and nutrition programs; and the Ministry of Health (MOH)'s lack of capacity to undertake large-scale therapeutic feeding interventions.
- According to a World Health Organization (WHO) assessment of state hospitals in Darfur, 9 of the 11 facilities surveyed are in need of trained health staff including general physicians, surgeons, pediatricians, medical officers, hospital administrators, laboratory technicians, assistant anesthesiologists, and nursing staff as well as operating theater and training nurses. Most facilities also lack essential equipment and basic medicines.
- From June 5 to 7, the USAID/DART Health Officer traveled with USAID implementing partner SC-US to Habilah and Foro Burunga, south of Geneina near the border with Chad, to assess the health and nutritional situation of conflict-affected populations. According to the USAID/DART Health Officer, the major health problems afflicting the internally displaced and the host communities are measles, diarrhea, acute respiratory infections, and malnutrition. SC-US staff has been waiting for two weeks in Foro Burunga for the agreed upon quantities of food to arrive from WFP. In order to avert a nutritional crisis and the need for costly center-based therapeutic care, general food distributions with an adequate food basket (cereals, pulses, cooking oil, salt, and corn soya blend) must be distributed on time.

Additionally, supplementary feeding commodities must be available. WFP currently lacks pulses and CSB for Darfur, and has cut CSB from general distributions in order to preserve the pipeline for supplementary feeding centers.

- On June 5, the delayed measles vaccination campaign began in South Darfur. The campaign is led by the Sudanese Ministry of Health (MOH) with support from UNICEF and the WHO. The 10-day campaign is scheduled to begin in North and West Darfur on June 12. The target of the campaign is 2.26 million children under the age of 15 throughout the three states of Darfur; however, the MOH stated that populations in opposition-controlled areas will not be vaccinated.

Refugees in Eastern Chad

- The U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reported that hundreds of new refugees are arriving around the Chadian border town of Adre, reportedly fleeing new fighting outside Geneina in West Darfur. In response to the influx, UNHCR has increased trucking capacity to relocate the refugees to camps away from the insecure border areas. On June 4, UNHCR opened an eighth camp in eastern Chad, Djabal, to host the refugees.
- To accommodate the continued influx of both spontaneous and facilitated refugee relocations from the border areas, UNHCR is looking for an additional camp site southeast of Abéché near the camp of Breidjing, where newly arrived refugees have stretched UNHCR's capacity to provide for 7,809 registered refugees and 5,000 spontaneous arrivals.
- According to UNHCR, as of June 8, approximately 90,000 out of 158,000 Sudanese refugees had been relocated from insecure border areas to the eight official refugee camps in eastern Chad. At present, UNHCR is focusing on relocating refugees living in southern border areas, where the rains have already begun, before the roads become impassable.

U.S. GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

- Over the past year, USAID has deployed field staff to Sudan specifically to assess the extent of the Darfur crisis. On April 11, to respond to the increasing scale of humanitarian needs, USAID mobilized a USAID/DART. Several USAID/DART members have deployed to Darfur, and USAID continues a phased deployment of humanitarian personnel as official access and improved security allow for an increased presence in the region. As of June 10, eight USAID/DART members have deployed to newly established field offices in El Fasher, Geneina. and Nyala. USAID/DART field officers are attending humanitarian meetings, monitoring the delivery and distribution of relief commodities, and participating in assessments with implementing partners throughout accessible areas of Darfur.
- The DART, led by personnel from USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), is complemented by a Response Management Team (RMT) in Washington that is supporting field operations and providing a point of contact for coordination and information regarding the USG's humanitarian response in Darfur.
- USAID recently provided $850,000 to UNICEF for a malaria campaign in the three states of Darfur.
- To date, USAID has delivered a total of 5,160 rolls of plastic sheeting, 77,500 blankets, and 600 jerry cans via 12 airlifts to Nyala. Based on data collected during Médecins sans Frontières' (MSF) recent nutritional survey, the average family size among the conflict affected population in Darfur is seven persons. In compliance with Sphere standards[1] for humanitarian assistance, each roll of plastic sheeting can provide adequate shelter for nine families, and USAID's contribution of 5,160 rolls of plastic sheeting will provide shelter for more than 325,000 beneficiaries. The total value of the commodities, including transportation costs, was more than $2.3 million.
- Since February 2003, USAID has provided nearly $16.5 million to U.N. agencies and NGOs, including CARE, the International Rescue Committee (IRC), Medair, and Save the Children-U.K. (SC-UK) and SC-US for emergency health, water and sanitation, agriculture, food security, shelter, logistics, and coordination activities. Proposals from additional relief organizations are under review.
- On June 3, USAID approved a 13,000 MT contribution, including 5,000 MT of pulses, 5,000 MT of corn soya blend, and 3,000 MT of vegetable oil, to WFP's Darfur Emergency Operation (EMOP), valued at approximately $15.8 million. With this contribution, USAID will have provided 48 percent of the EMOP requirements.
- Since October 2003, USAID has provided nearly $82.9 million to WFP for Darfur for 86,700 MT of food commodities, including cereals, cooking oil, pulses, and blended foods. USAID has also contributed $4.8 million to WFP for Sudanese refugees in eastern Chad, including 7,040 MT of mixed commodities already in the region.
- USAID's Office of Transition Initiatives (OTI) has provided more than $96,000 to IRC for IDP assistance activities in Darfur. Such initiatives may include support for peace and reconciliation interventions and strengthening of Sudanese civil society organizations. In addition, OTI has deployed an IDP advisor as a member of the USAID/DART.
- On May 21, the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) approved an additional contribution of $1.2 million to UNHCR in response to its emergency appeal for Sudanese refugees in eastern Chad. This brings State/PRM's total contribution to date to the Chad appeal to $6,912,972, including $712,972 provided during FY 2003.
- In FY 2003 and FY 2004, State/PRM has provided more than $12.2 million to UNHCR, WFP, the International Federation of the Red Cross/Red Crescent Society (IFRC), AirServ International, International Medical Corps (IMC), and IRC for emergency refugee assistance activities in eastern Chad.

[1] The Sphere Project was launched in 1997 by ICRC, the U.N., NGOs, and donors to develop a set of universal minimum standards for humanitarian assistance and thereby improve the quality of assistance provided to disaster-affected persons and to enhance the accountability of humanitarian agencies.

U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DARFUR EMERGENCY

Implementing Partner	*Activity*	*Location*	*Amount*
DARFUR, SUDAN			
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE[1]			
CARE	Health, Water and Sanitation, Logistics, Coordination	Darfur	$1,513,957
CHD	Mediation	Darfur	$267,709
IRC	Health, Water and Sanitation	North Darfur	$473,736
Medair[2]	Health, Water and Sanitation, Non-Food Commodities, IDP Assistance	West Darfur	$1,103,000
SC-UK[2]	Water and Sanitation	North Darfur	$605,602
SC-US	Health, Nutrition, Shelter	West Darfur	$2,644,830
UN FAO[2]	Food Security, Agriculture	Darfur	$465,000
UNICEF	Health, Water and Sanitation	Darfur	$1,724,830
UNJLC	Coordination	Darfur	$150,000
UN OCHA	Coordination	Darfur	$500,000
UNSECOORD	Security Officers	Darfur	$400,000
WFP	Flight Operations	Darfur	$900,000
WHO	Health, Coordination	Darfur	$250,000
Various	Relief Commodities	Darfur	$3,190,800
Various	Airlift Operations	Darfur	$651,552
	Administrative/Logistics	Darfur	$1,604,898
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			**$16,445,914**
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
WFP	86,700 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Darfur	$82,870,800
TOTAL USAID/FFP			**$82,870,800**
USAID/OTI ASSISTANCE			
IRC	IDP Assistance	North Darfur	$96,205
TOTAL USAID/OTI			**$96,205**
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DARFUR			**$99,412,919**
EASTERN CHAD			
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
WFP	7,040 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Eastern Chad	$4,800,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP			**$4,800,000**
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO EASTERN CHAD			**$4,800,000**
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE[3]			
AirServ	Refugee Assistance	Eastern Chad	$1,590,350
IFRC	Refugee Assistance	Eastern Chad	$400,000
IMC	Refugee Assistance	Eastern Chad	$877,098
IRC	Refugee Assistance	Eastern Chad	$432,552
UNHCR[2]	Refugee Assistance	Eastern Chad	$6,912,972
WFP	Refugee Food Assistance	Eastern Chad	$2,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			**$12,212,972**
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO EASTERN CHAD			**$17,012,972**
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DARFUR AND EASTERN CHAD[4]			**$116,425,891**

[1]USAID/OFDA funding represents committed amounts as of June 10, 2004.
[2]Totals include some funding obligated during FY 2003.
[3]State/PRM figures do not include un-earmarked Africa-wide contributions to ICRC and UNHCR.
[4]Total funding dates from February 2003, including total contributions to Darfur, Sudan and to eastern Chad.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for their humanitarian emergency response efforts in Darfur, Sudan can be found at www.interaction.org.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they: allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, warehouse space, etc); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information on making donations and volunteering can be found at:
    - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org
    - InterAction: www.interaction.org -> "How You Can Help"
- Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.org