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

DARFUR – Humanitarian Emergency

Fact Sheet #10, Fiscal Year (FY) 2004

June 18, 2004

Note: This report updates the last fact sheet dated June 10, 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. As a result of intense international pressure, the GOS lifted some of the restrictive travel 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 through customs, and GOS interference in relief activities that address protection of civilians and human rights abuses.

CURRENT SITUATION

Increasing International Concern

- International outrage is growing over the Darfur crisis, as USG officials, the United Nations (U.N.), and the Group of 8 (G8) countries issued strong public statements this week about the humanitarian crisis. On June 11, U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell stated that the USG is considering whether the atrocities and massive population displacements in Darfur constitute genocide. On June 15, the USAID/DCHA Assistant Administrator and the Acting Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs testified before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee regarding the deepening crisis in Darfur, noting the potential for a large-scale loss of life unless immediate assistance is provided.
- On June 11, the U.N. Security Council passed a resolution which, in part, called for an immediate halt to the fighting in Darfur and urged the parties to adhere to the April 8 ceasefire agreement. On June 15, U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan urged governments in the region to exert pressure on the GOS to improve humanitarian access to Darfur.
- Leaders from the G8 issued a statement on June 10 calling on the GOS to immediately disarm the *Jingaweit* militia and other groups responsible for massive human rights violations in Darfur.

Continued Insecurity and Disruption of Relief Activities

- In North Darfur, during the week of June 14, the U.N. reported clashes involving the *Jingaweit* militias and the SLM/A, in particular west of El Fasher. Ongoing attacks and harassment of civilians have also been reported in Dabatuga, Senahaye, and El Halif. Clashes between the *Jingaweit* and the SLM/A were also reported south of El Fasher along the road to Nyala.

- According to U.N. reports, increased fighting in South Darfur from June 10 to 16 has resulted in higher numbers of IDPs. *Jingaweit* militia attacks were reported in at least 18 villages between 8 and 45 kilometers northwest of Nyala, and near Mallam. These attacks have forced a number of families to flee these areas and to gather in and around Nyala, Mallam, Duma and Kass. Because SLM/A areas remain inaccessible, the number of IDPs displaced by fighting in those locations remains unknown.
- In West Darfur, the area around Geneina remains calm, but the U.N. is investigating insecurity north of Kulbus. Agencies have not been able to access this area because of a variety of security incidents during the week. However, due to the rapid depletion of food in the area, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) plans to use its national partner, the Sudan Red Crescent (SRC), to start food distributions on June 13.

Humanitarian Access

- Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) continue to face delays in obtaining visas for their international technical staff. Some NGO staff members have been waiting for more than eight weeks for visas without any progress. The USAID/DART is concerned that this problem continues to undermine NGO capacity and hamper the international community's ability to meet the needs of IDPs throughout Darfur.
- According to U.N. reports, two aircraft with GOS soldiers have been dispatched to protect commercial and private transport in South Darfur.
- Humanitarian access to areas controlled by the SLM/A remains a serious concern. The USAID/DART reports that planned inter-agency assessments in SLM/A-held areas of North Darfur have been stalled pending further guidance from both U.N. and NGO offices in Khartoum.
- The SLM/A reportedly stopped a GOS Ministry of Health (MOH) vehicle donated by and bearing U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) stickers on June 13 in North Darfur, and discouraged the MOH team from traveling to Korma to conduct a measles vaccination campaign.

Human Rights Abuses Reported

- The Special Rapporteur of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights, Asma Jahangir, visited Sudan from June 1 to 13, and traveled to all three Darfur states. At a press briefing at the end of her visit, Jahangir stated that she had been disturbed and alarmed by the gravity of the human rights abuses perpetrated in Sudan. She received numerous accounts of extrajudicial and summary executions carried out by GOS-backed militias and by the security forces themselves. She stated that many of the militias are being integrated into the regular GOS army or the Popular Defense Forces (PDF) and that a clear link exists between some of the militias and GOS forces. She stated that the GOS must make every effort to end "the current culture of impunity", and welcomed the setting up of the National Commission of Inquiry. She also called on the GOS to ensure that immediate and complete access is provided to humanitarian actors as well as human rights monitors, so that the international community can cooperate with the GOS to protect the lives of vulnerable populations in Darfur.

Food Assistance

- On June 16, members of the USAID/DART met with the WFP to review program planning and logistics of Darfur operations for the coming months. WFP's primary concern is short-haul transport of commodities from the regional capitals to distribution sites. WFP currently has 145 trucks with an average capacity of 20 metric tons (MT), mostly concentrated around Nyala and El Fasher, with few available around Geneina. WFP has not been able to increase the number of transporters around the Geneina hub due to security concerns in West Darfur.
- Currently, WFP airdrop assessment teams are in the field, including 17 staff trained to receive and distribute airdrops. Approximately 20 out of 124 sites are expected to be inaccessible during the rainy season, while an additional 54 locations are partially accessible. WFP plans to target the 20 inaccessible sites for airdrops and consider the 54 partially accessible sites for airdrops if necessary. In June, WFP estimates that it will deliver approximately 24,000 MT by road and 2,500 MT by air. In July, WFP delivery targets are 16,000 MT by road and 8,000 MT by air.

Health and Nutrition

- Preliminary results of a recently completed nutritional survey conducted by Action Contre la Faim (ACF) in the Abu Shouk IDP camp, North Darfur, indicated Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rates of 39 percent¹ and Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) of 9.6 percent despite ongoing food distributions and the availability of health services. ACF is preparing to establish a therapeutic feeding center (TFC) in Abu Shouk to respond to the high levels of malnutrition.
- The MOH, UNICEF, and U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) launched the measles campaign in North and West Darfur on June 12. In South Darfur where the campaign was launched on June 5, an estimated 66 percent of the targeted population was vaccinated, although many local administrative units have not yet submitted results. NGOs are assisting the campaign by providing trained staff and organizing vaccination sites.
- On June 17, Save the Children (SC) released results of a new study of malnutrition and food insecurity in Malha, North Darfur. Assessment teams found an acute crisis in nutritional status with GAM rates of 33 percent and SAM rates of 5.4 percent (in a normal year, malnutrition affects approximately 12 percent of the population). These rates are especially alarming given that the Malha area has been less affected by conflict than other parts of Darfur.

¹ A GAM rate of 15 percent is considered the emergency threshold according to Sphere standards. 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.

- From June 10 to 16, the USAID/DART Health Officer traveled to South Darfur to assess current humanitarian conditions and meet with Médecins sans Frontières-Holland (MSF-H), UNICEF, and WHO. MSF-H is working in the Kalma camp and in Kass providing nutrition interventions to malnourished children. UNICEF is supporting health facilities at 11 sites in and around Nyala, Ed El Fersan, Kass, Shaeria, and Duma. In addition, UNICEF is supporting health facilities focusing on Dinka IDPs in Nyala and Ed Da'ein. WHO is working to support the hospitals in Nyala and Kass with supplies, rehabilitation work, and equipment.

Refugees in Eastern Chad

- The U.N. High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) reported on June 15 that the number of Sudanese refugees relocated to UNHCR camps in eastern Chad continues to rise as hundreds of people flee from Darfur. In the south of the affected border zone, the security situation remains volatile, especially in villages in the border area of Dar Sila. Despite the presence of the Chadian military, cross-border incursions continue on a regular basis and target the livestock of the refugees as well as the local population. In Goz Amer, approximately 200 refugees a week are arriving spontaneously from the border. With the number of refugees estimated to be 200,000 by the end of the year, UNHCR has issued a supplementary appeal for \$55.8 million for emergency assistance to Sudanese refugees from Darfur. In the appeal, UNHCR stated that the main concern was the immediate transfer of refugees along the Chadian border before July when rains will make many roads impassable.
- WFP/Chad has not met the target of pre-positioning six months of required food needs at distribution points in advance of the rainy season. As of June 14, WFP estimates that only 5,197 MT have been pre-positioned—less than half of required needs of 13,423 MT for the six months.
- At present, distribution sites in Bahai/Cariara and Amb Nabak do not have any food stocks pre-positioned, and WFP expects that airlifts to these and other areas will become a necessity once roads become impassable. Pre-positioning shortfalls, however, are not expected to adversely affect some of the northern distribution sites as these are accessible by an overland pipeline route that is not affected by the rains.

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/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.
- To date, USAID has delivered a total of 5,760 rolls of plastic sheeting, 97,500 blankets, 2 water bladders, and 600 jerry cans via 14 airlifts to Nyala. USAID's contribution of plastic sheeting will provide shelter for approximately 362,880 beneficiaries. The total value of the commodities, including transportation costs, was more than \$2.7 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, 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.
- 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.

U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DARFUR EMERGENCY

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
DARFUR, SUDAN			
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
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 ASSISTANCE³			
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 CHAD⁴			\$116,425,891

¹USAID/OFDA funding represents committed amounts as of June 18, 2004.²Totals include some funding obligated during FY 2003.³State/PRM figures do not include un-earmarked Africa-wide contributions to ICRC and UNHCR.⁴Total 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