WFP Sudan | Brief

Reporting period: 01 January – 31 March 2015

Country Director: Adnan Khan

COUNTRY STRATEGY:

WFP aims to reduce hunger and malnutrition and enhance communities’ resilience to shocks across Sudan. To address protracted and emerging humanitarian needs and short-term hunger, WFP will reinforce its emergency response capacities while staying focused on the longer-term vision to incrementally reduce food aid dependency of the vulnerable communities. WFP strives to achieve its goals by aligning with the national priorities identified by the Republic of Sudan, the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, key donor funded policy frameworks, and WFP’s corporate Strategic Plan (2014-2017).

From 2015-2017, WFP Sudan will be guided by the following strategic priorities: (1) save lives in emergencies and protracted crises, (2) support transition towards recovery through safety net activities, (3) build resilience of local communities to withstand shocks and seasonal vulnerability, and (4) address underlying causes of food insecurity and under nutrition. WFP has been present in Sudan since 1963.

OPERATIONS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Duration</th>
<th>Planned number of people</th>
<th>Total requirements (in USD)</th>
<th>Total received (in USD)</th>
<th>Total Funded (%)</th>
<th>6 Months Net Funding Requirements (in USD)</th>
<th>Top 5 Donors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EMOP 200597, Food Assistance to</td>
<td>Jan 14 - Jun 15</td>
<td>4,167,000</td>
<td>626,765,286</td>
<td>529,806,153</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>144,465,846</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vulnerable Populations</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>USAID, DFID, ECHO, UN CERF, Switzerland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Affected by Conflict and Natural</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Disasters</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Operation</td>
<td>Jan 15 - Dec 15</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>64,700,936</td>
<td>50,026,282</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
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<tr>
<td>200514, Provision of Humanitarian</td>
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<tr>
<td>Air Services in Sudan</td>
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*April-September

Summary of WFP assistance: Sudan’s security and humanitarian landscape remains complicated as tribal tensions and military operations against insurgents in Darfur, South Kordofan, and Blue Nile states impede the humanitarian community’s ability to access and assess the needs of the affected communities. Given the protracted crisis in Sudan, this year WFP’s response will be provided through an Emergency Operation (EMOP) to be succeeded by a two-year Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO), effective 1 July 2015.

From January to June 2015, WFP plans to assist 3.7 million people with 178,000 mt of food assistance, in addition to cash-based vouchers transfers totalling USD 31 million. WFP provides life-saving humanitarian assistance to internally displaced persons (IDPs) and vulnerable households in Darfur through: General Food Distribution (GFD); supplementary rations during the hunger period for children 6-59 months to prevent seasonal increases in acute malnutrition; and school feeding to address short-term hunger and stabilize enrolment. In central and eastern Sudan, WFP provides emergency support in the most food-insecure regions, including areas regularly affected by drought or floods, as well as to refugees in established camps, through GFD, targeted supplementary feeding, school feeding and food-assistance-for-assets and -training activities. In South Kordofan and Blue Nile states, bordering South Sudan, WFP provides humanitarian support through GFD and targeted supplementary feeding where access is possible. Cash-based voucher transfers will be expanded in both Darfur and central/eastern Sudan where markets are capable of supporting them. WFP continues to mainstream gender into existing activities by targeting a higher proportion of women as food recipients and integrating women into community food management and voucher committees.

In 2015, WFP will proceed its efforts to better target food assistance based upon vulnerability rather than IDP status by profiling 50 camps (some 1.4 million IDPs). The profiling exercise will assess needs of each individual household and categorize IDPs into four vulnerability categories (high, medium, low and none). WFP will then cater its assistance to IDPs based on the various vulnerability categories with the introduction of integrated assistance packages.

Aligned with WFP Strategic Objectives 1 and 2, the Millennium Development Goals 1 through 5 and the Zero Hunger Challenge, the EMOP is framed within the Government’s Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper, the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur, reflected in the Darfur Recovery and Reconstruction Strategy, and the Strategic Response Plan. The United Nations Humanitarian Air Service continues to support and facilitate the movement of staff of about 100 humanitarian organizations, donor communities, embassies and government counterparts who rely on the WFP-managed air service to access over 40 locations in Sudan.
From 02 to 06 March, a delegation, consisting of Sudanese government officials and WFP Sudan’s Country Director, travelled to WFP’s Centre of Excellence against Hunger in Brazil to exchange knowledge with the Brazilian government on the integration of school feeding and family farming. As a result of the visit, the Sudanese delegation prepared an action plan, which will be validated by the Sudanese government and supported by the Centre during implementation.

The first IDP profiling exercise results, providing the vulnerability levels of 11 IDP camps in Darfur, were released in February. These results will form the basis for the implementation of better targeted food assistance to IDPs in late April to May 2015.

In February, WFP entered into a five-month partnership agreement with Save the Children (Sweden) in Zalingei, Central Darfur, to provide general food assistance to IDPs.

Since the humanitarian corridor opened in July 2014, WFP has delivered 5,917 mt of assistance from Sudan to nearly 267,000 conflict-affected individuals facing acute hunger in Upper Nile State, South Sudan, using road and river convoys that provide WFP a cost-effective alternative to airlift operations. WFP plans to expanded transport capacity and accelerate delivery to ensure the additional assistance arrives in South Sudan before the rainy season, starting in June, which will render many roads impassable.

WFP Sudan continues to work in partnership with international and local organizations and with government entities to combat hunger and malnutrition across Sudan and progressively transition towards asset-creation activities and more targeted food assistance programmes. WFP programmes in Sudan are implemented by national actors including NGOs, community-based organizations and governmental organizations. Through long-standing partnerships based on transparency and complementarities, WFP is able to achieve its desired outcomes and results. In particular, WFP is able to reach vulnerable food insecure populations in hard-to-reach remote areas by leveraging the expansive geographical presence of its partners.

WFP’s food and nutrition assistance programmes are further augmented by partnerships with sister United Nations agencies including FAO, International Organization for Migration (IOM), UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, and WHO to combine resources and technical expertise towards providing comprehensive assistance. WFP is an active partner in the United Nations Country Team and Humanitarian Country Team, participating in steering strategic discussions within these forums concerning access, the protection of IDPs in Darfur, the UNAMID exit strategy and the humanitarian strategic response plan.

**COUNTRY BACKGROUND**

Classified as a least-developed and a low-income food-deficit country, Sudan ranks 166 out of 187 countries in the 2013 Human Development Index and has alarming levels of hunger according to the 2013 Global Hunger Index. Sudan scores low in global measures for gender disparity, ranking 129\(^\text{th}\) (out of 187) on the Gender Inequality Index. Sudan has a 46.5 percent overall poverty rate, where some 14.4 million people are considered poor. Also, Sudan continues to struggle with the macroeconomic after-effects of South Sudan’s secession in 2011, as the country lost 75 percent of oil output and almost 60 percent of its fiscal revenues. According to the International Monetary Fund, the growth rate of gross domestic product (GDP) in 2014 was 3.6 percent; the agriculture sector contributes to one third of the GDP and employs 80 percent of the workforce.

Moreover, Sudan remains a complicated humanitarian operation as the environment continues to be extremely challenging. WFP operates in 10 of 18 states and has 17 offices: a country office in Khartoum, with area offices in Darfur (El Fasher, Geneina and Nyala), and sub-offices in Port Sudan, Kassala, Kosti, Ed Damazin, El Obaid, Kadari, Al Daoi, Gerda, Mukjar, Zalingei, Habiya, Kabcabaya and Kutum.

In areas unaffected by conflict, the food security situation in recent months has followed an expected seasonal pattern of improvement, as a result of the bumper 2014/2015 harvest. Despite a general, national improvement, a large proportion of the protracted conflict affected or displaced populations remain food insecure. The Famine Early Warning Systems Network estimates that approximately 3.5 million people face acute food insecurity. Additionally, rising fuel and food prices, internal fractions ahead of the presidential elections, and ongoing fighting in Central African Republic and South Sudan have exacerbated an already critical situation.

Sudan is one of 34 countries contributing to 90 percent of the global burden of undernutrition. Chronic malnutrition remains a serious public health problem and 35 percent of children aged 6 to 59 months are stunted. The Simple Spatial Sampling Method survey released in 2014 confirmed a prevalence of global acute malnutrition rate higher than WHO’s emergency threshold (15 percent) in 59 out of 184 localities, with peaks above 30 percent found in Darfur.