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SUDAN

Background

In 2010, the Sudan held its first national elections in two decades, reflecting the considerable progress made since the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in 2005. However, continued insecurity in some parts of the country forced hundreds of thousands from their homes. At the same time, greater stability in other areas encouraged people to return to their places of origin, requiring support to rebuild their livelihoods.

In Darfur, ongoing insecurity meant that some 4.6 million people required aid. However, continued attacks on humanitarian workers hampered efforts to reach those most in need. In the Three Transitional Areas (Abyei, Blue Nile and South Kordofan), threats of violence and the return of displaced people strained existing infrastructure, while eastern Sudan continues to have some of the lowest human development indicators in North Sudan, exacerbated by the flow of refugees from neighbouring countries.

In 2010, populations throughout Southern Sudan faced food insecurity and poverty, linked to decades of conflict, the disruption and loss of economic activities, displacement, and the erosion of livelihoods. Uncertainty surrounding the 2011 referendum disrupted some trade, pushing food prices upward and may create unrest in some areas; while in western states, the resumption of violence by the LRA forced tens of thousands to flee their homes.

Challenges facing food security and livelihoods

Some 60 to 80 percent of North Sudanese rely on agriculture for their livelihoods. However, the sector is dominated by traditional, low technology practices and chronic food insecurity plagues households across the country.

Darfur is particularly vulnerable to food insecurity due to violence, drought, pests, floods, crop and animal diseases. In 2009-10, this was exacerbated by soaring food prices and food deficits caused by low productivity. In eastern Sudan, long dry spells in 2008 and 2009, and heavy rains in 2007 and 2010 affected crop production and pastures. Agricultural production in the Three Transitional Areas was constrained by climatic conditions (drought, floods) and ongoing tensions between nomadic and settled groups over access to and use of deteriorating natural resources.

In Southern Sudan, a massive food gap emerged in 2010 linked to low crop production (partly due to poor rains in 2009), insecurity, deteriorating terms of trade for livestock producers, and widespread displacement. Seasonal flooding in some states further aggravated the worrying food security situation. In 2010, 3.3 million people faced moderate to severe food insecurity. However, the timely onset of rains improved prospects for agricultural production and food security in 2011. With 80 percent of Southern Sudanese relying on agriculture to meet their food and income needs, urgent support is required for crop and livestock production.

FAO response

As co-leads of the Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL) Cluster in the Sudan, FAO and WFP work closely with the Government and other stakeholders to build the affected populations' capacity to prepare for and effectively respond to threats and food security shocks. FAO provides technical guidance and support and facilitates the availability of information in areas such as agriculture, livestock, fisheries, forestry and wider food security. This enables partners to better anticipate, prepare for and respond to agriculture and livestock emergencies.

Despite improvement in the coordination of FSL interventions in 2010, Cluster members' capacities were stretched as they responded to the protracted crisis and several sudden-onset emergencies (floods, outbreaks of crop pests and livestock diseases). In 2011, FAO will continue coordinating partners' interventions to avoid duplication; ensure full integration of cross-cutting issues into programming; and promote gender equality, as well as early recovery interventions and disaster risk reduction and management.

In eastern Sudan, the Three Transitional Areas and Darfur, FAO will continue to support agricultural production by distributing essential inputs (seeds, tools, small-scale agroprocessing equipment, veterinary medicines) and providing training (in crop and livestock production, basic veterinary techniques, disease surveillance, etc.). Efforts will be made to rehabilitate agricultural infrastructure and promote better natural resource management.

In Southern Sudan, FAO will work to improve the livelihoods of vulnerable populations by distributing agricultural inputs (seeds, tools and animal traction equipment) and providing technical assistance and training in improved production techniques. Veterinary drugs and vaccines, cold chain equipment, laboratory equipment and fishing gear will also be distributed. Training will be provided to strengthen disease early warning and surveillance systems, and laboratory diagnosis.



PROPOSALS: FAO EMERGENCY AND REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE**Total funding requested: USD 57 739 640**

Food Security and Livelihood Cluster coordination mechanism for effective emergency planning and response	
Objectives:	To ensure timely and effective response to save lives, protect livelihoods in emergencies, promote access to food security information, and build coherence between the Government, UN agencies and partners in the overall humanitarian action in Southern Sudan.
Activities:	Conduct monthly and bimonthly FSL Cluster coordination at Juba and state levels respectively; facilitate partners' access to and sharing of food security information for planning, programming and humanitarian response; coordinate interagency food security assessments in emergencies and partners' participation in annual, biannual or quarterly food security assessments; facilitate linkage between UN and NGO food security stakeholders with line ministries; capacity building of partners in mainstreaming gender and environment in food security planning and response; and pre-position humanitarian assistance in emergency-affected areas.
Beneficiaries:	2 500 000 people (including 1 300 000 women and 600 000 children).
Implementing partners:	N/A.
Duration:	January – December 2011.
Funds requested:	USD 1 695 000.

Food security through effective animal disease control and fish production

Objectives:	To improve access to animal health services and fisheries inputs for IDPs and returnees as well as vulnerable women-headed households to re-engage in food production.
Activities:	Select target beneficiaries in close collaboration with partners, community leaders and local authorities; procure livestock drugs/vaccines and cold chain equipment and fishing gear; provide tailored training to beneficiaries to ensure appropriate use of project inputs; upgrade and maintain cold chain facilities in at least 30 locations in Jonglei, Upper Nile, Warrap, Eastern Equatoria and Northern Bahr el-Ghazal states; coordinate disease early warning and surveillance system and outbreak control interventions; and support laboratory diagnostic activities for diagnosis through staff training and provision of laboratory and field sampling equipment.
Beneficiaries:	512 000 women, men, children and the elderly in fisheries and livestock production communities.
Implementing partners:	Various local and international NGOs.
Duration:	January – December 2011.
Funds requested:	USD 3 433 000.

Livelihood support to at-risk populations, including IDPs, returnees and women-headed households

Objectives:	To help at-risk populations, including IDPs, returnees and women-headed households, to re-enter the production cycle through provision of livelihood inputs.
Activities:	Provide agricultural production inputs (crop and vegetable seeds, hand tools and treadle pumps) to households in areas of high return, and affected by conflict and drought/flood; provide technical support and facilitation; and monitor crop performance.
Beneficiaries:	2 000 000 people (including 1 200 000 women and 400 000 children).
Implementing partners:	Various local and international NGOs.
Duration:	January – December 2011.
Funds requested:	USD 10 750 300.

Support to coordination of Food Security and Livelihood Sector interventions in North Sudan

Objectives:	To strengthen the coordination of food security and livelihood interventions in order to improve the coverage of humanitarian support and reduce gaps in disaster-affected areas of North Sudan.
Activities:	Coordinate the interventions of partners to avoid duplication and overlaps; develop and apply standards to support effective and efficient coordination of Sector interventions; develop response strategies and action plans for the Sector and ensure that they are adequately reflected in the overall country strategies; coordinate Sector-wide emergency preparedness; support needs assessments and analysis; build capacity of partner organizations and institutions, especially NGOs, CBOs, CSOs and government line ministries; and strengthen the monitoring and evaluation system of the Sector to review the impact of interventions on target populations.
Beneficiaries:	4 506 069 people in North Sudan (including 2 185 114 women).
Implementing partners:	All FSL partners/actors in North Sudan.
Duration:	January – December 2011.
Funds requested:	USD 1 337 500.

Restoring and improving household food security and livelihoods of vulnerable households in Greater Darfur

Objectives:	To improve the food security situation of vulnerable households through protection and restoration of livelihoods, promotion of sustainable natural resource management and local capacity building in Greater Darfur.
Activities:	Provide agricultural inputs (field crop seeds, vegetable seeds, tools, small-scale irrigation technologies); provide training in small-scale irrigation water management and treadle pumps, pest control management, water harvesting techniques and seed system security assessment; rehabilitate shallow wells integrated with water management training and provision of high value crops; provide technical and material support for the establishment of community-based seed production; conduct a pest control campaign; provide support to farm protection and pasture seed collection and broadcasting; support assessments (pre- and post-harvest, livestock situation, vaccination effectiveness and different environment assessments); provide free vaccination, treatment and de-worming to animals against epidemic diseases; train CAHWs and provide them with kick-start drugs and equipment; establish veterinary drug shops on a cost-recovery basis and rehabilitate veterinary centres; raise awareness of the public on transboundary animal diseases (TADs); build capacity of institutions on TADs; rehabilitate and establish community nurseries, carry out seedling production, and construct <i>hafirs</i> ; conduct rapid environmental assessments and seedling survival assessments; train women in alternative energy and fuel-efficient stoves; conduct state-, locality- and community-level environmental awareness workshops, train and provide machines to partners for alternative building techniques using stabilized solid block machines; and increase access to income options for women, youth and HIV/AIDS-affected households to support livelihoods during the off-seasons.
Beneficiaries:	1 020 000 IDPs, returnees, nomads, rural communities, partners and government extension workers (including 479 400 women).
Implementing partners:	Various local and international NGOs.
Duration:	January – December 2011.
Funds requested:	USD 23 029 340.

Emergency and early recovery support for the enhancement of food security and livelihoods of vulnerable households in the Three Transitional Areas and eastern Sudan

Objectives:	To restore and improve household food security of vulnerable populations; promote and strengthen the coping mechanisms of vulnerable households; promote management of natural resources; protect livestock assets; and to support emergency preparedness, response and control of transboundary animal diseases.
Activities:	Provide agricultural support services including provision of seeds, tools, extension services, training and small-scale irrigation equipment; protect livestock assets, including vaccination/treatment services; carry out training of CAHWs, extension services, disease surveillance, rehabilitation of veterinary clinics and local community capacity building; provide income-generating activity packages, including vegetable production, food processing, cheesemaking, fisheries, restocking and handicraft; provide environmental conservation services, including seedling production and planting, pasture rehabilitation, water harvesting and promotion of fuel-efficient stoves (through training, production and distribution); conduct HIV/AIDS awareness in all training sessions of the project; supply women and HIV/AIDS-affected households with small ruminants and training in vegetable production and food processing; raise awareness of TAD hazards and disseminate the “one world one health” message; and build capacity of states in terms of diagnosis, surveillance and response to possible transboundary animal disease hazards.
Beneficiaries:	1 343 000 returnees, IDPs, ex-combatants, vulnerable host communities, nomads, HIV/AIDS-infected and -affected households (including 407 750 women and 283 650 children).
Implementing partners:	Various local and international NGOs.
Duration:	January – December 2011.
Funds requested:	USD 17 494 500.