



FAO SUDAN



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FAO FOR A WORLD WITHOUT HUNGER

Season Update

Promising Harvest

Small holders across Sudan have started harvesting their cultivated field crops such as sorghum, millet, ground nut, sesame and cowpea. FAO Agricultural Officer Mahmoud Dafalla recently visited Blue Nile and South Kordofan where FAO is implementing activities funded by the Japan International Cooperation Agency to help vulnerable farmers and IDPs grow their own food. "People are very happy with the expected yields this year, especially those who received seeds and tools support," Mahmoud says. However, FAO's field officers in West Darfur report that some farms along wadis in Beida, Geneina and Foro Baranga localities have lost more than half their crops because of localized flooding. In Central Darfur birds and insects have attacked crops in Zalingei, Azum and Wadi Salih localities, and FAO supported the state authority to carry out air and ground control operations. In South Kordofan birds attacked some

sorghum crops in the western part of the state, and in eastern Sudan insufficient rain in parts of Telkok, Hamashkoreeb and Reefi Aroma caused a smaller than expected harvest.

Livestock Movement

Nationally, livestock is continuing to thrive on green pastures and readily available water. Some pastoralists have begun moving their herds south, but FAO field officers in South Darfur report that no major migrating herds have crossed the border into South Sudan. In Kadugli, FAO field officers report that most pastoralists are in the southern part of the state.

In Reif Asharqi locality north of Kadugli there have been reports of crop damage caused by migrating animals, and the state authorities have held a meeting to try to prevent further damage. In the southern part of Kassala state most stock routes are blocked by agricultural production, especially in Wad el Helew locality.

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Disease Monitoring

In Central Darfur, Animal Resources authorities investigating whether any livestock are affected by the recent outbreak of yellow fever have reported back that there are no suspected animal cases. Cases of Black Quarter (BQ) disease have been identified in Sennar and Blue Nile states this month. BQ is an infectious disease caused by soil-borne bacteria. The first cases were reported in El Souki and Abu Houjar localities and in areas bordering the Dinder National Park. In Blue Nile, suspected cases were reported in El

Roseires locality and the northern parts of Ed Damazine locality.

State veterinary teams in Sennar and Blue Nile collected samples and confirmed Black Quarter. To immediately contain the disease, the government supplied 1.1 million vaccine doses of BQ vaccine, and FAO supplied 117,000 doses and some vaccination equipment to support and complement government efforts.

FSL Sector News

CHF 2013

Sudan's Food Security and Livelihoods sector has been busy this month preparing for the Common Humanitarian Fund's first round allocation process for 2013. FAO's Jimmy Owani coordinates the FSL sector.

"The CHF funds around ten percent of the Humanitarian Work Plan requirements and focuses mainly on emergency interventions and critical gaps. However, strategic issues like durable solutions and capacity building of national institutions will be considered under the CHF in 2013. It is expected that the CHF will in principle only fund high-priority projects but consideration may be made for medium-priority projects which contain high-priority elements. Within this context, it has been agreed by the sector that half of the 74 projects submitted for the 2013 HWP will be resubmitted for possible funding by CHF. The rest of the projects, which are in the medium-priority category, can be submitted if there is a second round allocation process.

The Technical Review Group members who were elected in September 2012 will evaluate and prioritize the projects for CHF funding. New TRG members will be elected next year for the 2014 HWP and CHF processes. The current TRG members are World Vision, Fellowship for African Relief, Mubadiroon, Almassar Organization, UNEP, UNDP, FAO and WFP. The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Ministry of Animal Resources, OCHA and HAC are observers with no voting power.

It has also been agreed by the sector that FAO will submit a request for core pipeline funding for 2013 to enable early procurement and prepositioning of seeds, tools, drugs and vaccines which normally take three and a half months to procure. The aim is to ensure timely availability of vital inputs. A blanket no-cost extension from January to March 2013 for all 2012 CHF-funded projects is in place, so organizations do not need to make individual requests".

FAO CASE STUDY

Ishag is a vulnerable farmer in Blue Nile state who planted tomato, watermelon, okra and pumpkin at the start of this rainy season because of inputs provided by FAO and funded by the Japan International Cooperation Agency.

He cultivated a small piece of land (about 0.6 feddans which is approximately the size of ten tennis courts) and from that he has yielded 180 baskets of tomatoes, a tractor load of watermelon, a truckload of pumpkin and about 30 sacks of okra. His family ate some of the produce and the rest was sold at the local village market for a total profit of SDG 10,200 (\$USD 1,790 based on an exchange rate of 5.7 SDGs per US dollar). With the money from his vegetable production Ishag can afford to buy 68 sacks of sorghum at the Blue Nile average price of SDG 150 for a 90kg sack. A family of six consumes about a sack of sorghum a month, so Ishag has more than enough money to secure food for himself and his family for the next year and more. The money he doesn't spend on sorghum can be used to pay for other essential family needs including health and school fees for his children



Some of the pumpkins harvested by Ishag in Blue Nile. The project was funded by the Japan International Cooperation Agency to help vulnerable farmers and IDPs in Blue Nile and South Kordofan.

FAO FAST FACTS

95%

The percentage of FAO's team in Sudan who are national.

8

The number of FAO offices in Sudan. The locations are: **Khartoum, El Fashir, Nyala, Geneina, Zalingie, Kadugli, Demazine and Kassala.**

Caution Over Foreign Land Deals

Land Acquisitions in Africa

A new FAO report urges caution on large-scale land acquisitions in developing countries. The report published this month found that international investments that give local farmers an active role and leave them in control of their land have the most positive effects on local economies and social development. The majority of reported large-scale acquisitions in Africa are concentrated in a few countries: Sudan, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Tanzania, Madagascar, Zambia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In Sudan, around 50 percent of all acquisitions are by nationals, and of the portion of acquisitions for agriculture, the majority were made by Middle Eastern countries.

Globally, the main benefit of large-scale land investments is

employment generation, but there are questions as to the net gains and sustainability of the jobs created. In several projects the number of jobs was lower than what was initially announced and in some projects even low-skilled jobs were mainly taken up by non-locals. "It is important that any international investment should bring development benefits to the receiving country...if those investments are to be 'win-win' rather than neo-colonialism", FAO's Rome-based Director of Trade and Markets Division David Hallam said.

The report, *Trends and Impacts of Foreign Investment in Developing Country Agriculture* can be obtained by contacting FAO's Sudan office.

FAO Focus: Healthier Herds

Developing Animal Assets

The future of animal resource development in Sudan's rural areas was the focus of a workshop this month by FAO's Sudan Productive Capacity Recovery Programme-Capacity Building (SPCRP-CB). The programme is funded by the European Commission and is closing in December after five years. One of SPCRP-CB's achievements has been a network of Community Animal Resource Development Associates or CARDAs who are community members trained to improve production of cattle, sheep and other livestock. The CARDA model is a development-oriented system that builds on the Community Animal Health Worker (CAHW) model by providing extended livestock development services beyond primary animal health care. CARDAs primarily operate in remote pastoralist communities and are increasingly offering their skills on a pay-per-service basis.

The main objective of the workshop was to present the results and lessons learned from the CARDA activities and to plan the way forward after SPCRP-CB's closure. One of the major topics discussed was a revolving veterinary drug fund that would sustain the CARDA pay-per-service approach. Talks are underway for the Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rangeland to establish and operate the fund at the state level in collaboration with the communities.

Mohamed Ismail is a CARDA from El Roseires locality in Blue Nile who attended the Khartoum workshop. He



Kenana cattle in Blue Nile

says he will be able to continue providing services to animal owners only if a wide range of drugs are available to purchase under the revolving fund. He says if only one or two types of drugs are available there won't be enough work for him to keep operating. "I want to do better for my family," he says.

Forty-eight year old Mohamed looks after his wife, mother and six children and began his CARDA training two years ago. He owns Kenana cattle and sheep and says the methods of animal care he has learnt are better for his herd than traditional techniques. For example, he used to apply a glowing ember to an animal's inflamed mouth ulcer to kill off the affected area and seal it but now he knows which

veterinary drugs to use to treat the source of the problem.

Part of Mohamed's work as a CARDAs is to share his new knowledge with other members of his community. He has about 30 people who regularly attend sessions to learn about better ways to feed, water and treat animals. The community members have also been trained to recognize early signs of animal disease so they can be detected and stopped more quickly.

Mohamed says it's too early to tell whether there has been an overall increase in animal production since he started the CARDAs training. But he has noticed changes in behavior in his community, such as farmers collecting crop residue after harvesting so it can be dried and stored for times when pastures are scarce.

Almost 180 people drawn from SPCRP-CB's four target states of South Kordofan, Blue Nile, River Nile and Red Sea were trained in the CARDAs model. Approximately 10,000 pastoralists and agro-pastoralists have been reached by the CARDAs or their extension messaging.

Linking Community Animal Health Workers

FAO's Emergency and Rehabilitation Coordination Unit has started to establish a network of Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs - pronounced 'cows') across Sudan. The aim is to strengthen CAHWs' follow-up training and performance, enhance any existing informal knowledge and information sharing and minimize dropout rates. The end benefit of the new network will be a durable improvement of community animal health services.

The project has started in North Darfur in partnership with the State Ministry of Animal Resources and will extend to other states. So far, the SMOAR has established a CAHW Office within the El Fashir Veterinary Department and a state assessment has identified 214 active CAHWs trained by FAO and NGOs such as the International Committee of the Red Cross, Relief International, COOPI and Practical Action in collaboration with the State Ministry of Animal Resources.

CAHWs are predominantly livestock owners themselves, so an active CAHWs network will be able to source and share vital field information on all aspects of the livestock sector, which will be particularly useful for remote or hard-to-reach locations. CAHWs will also be able to support each other via the network, such as pooling together to purchase larger amounts of quality veterinary drugs more cheaply or more reliably.

A workshop will be held in El Fashir in December to discuss a range of issues including regulating the CAHWs, improving their communication and increasing their capacity to provide a broader range of animal health services.



CARDAs training in River Nile state

Global Food Outlook

FAO's Food Forecast Released

FAO's new Food Outlook report forecasts that Sudan's cereals sector will recover sharply this year, including a strong rebound in sorghum production. FAO's biannual world market analysis is released in May and November each year. The report states that this year's cereal production in Sudan is expected to reach 5.2 million tonnes, up from an estimated 2.7 million tonnes last year. The 2008 – 2010 average was 4.9 million tonnes. Sudan is also expected to reduce sorghum imports by 600,000 tonnes.

The global cereal supply and demand balance is forecast to tighten considerably in 2012/13, due mainly to declines in wheat and maize production. World cereal production is forecast to fall by 2.7 percent from the previous year's record crop, leading to a 25 million tonne contraction in world stocks.

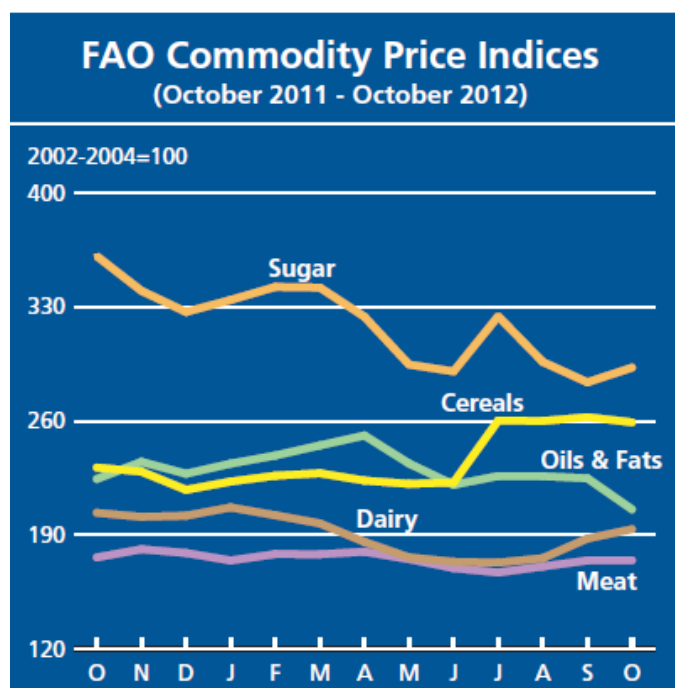
“Despite tight markets, a set of conditions and measures have so far stopped international food prices from spiralling up”

For coarse grains such as sorghum, the market is also expected to remain extremely tight in 2012/13, with FAO's latest forecast for production pointing to a 2.5 percent decline from the 2011 record low level, meaning stocks are forecast to fall to historic lows.

World sugar production is forecast to reach a new record high, more than sufficient to cover projected global sugar consumption.

Global meat markets have been faced with high feed prices, stagnating consumption and falling profitability, causing growth in total output and world trade to decelerate.

"Despite tight markets, a set of conditions and measures have so far stopped international food prices from spiralling up as they did in 2007-2008 and 2009-2010. Chief among those are the improved international coordination and market transparency brought about by the G20's Agricultural Market Information System which has helped to prevent panic and to stop the worst drought in decades turning into a food price crisis as has happened in the past," the FAO Director-General José Graziano da Silva said.



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