



FAO SUDAN



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FAO FOR A WORLD WITHOUT HUNGER

In this issue:

FSL Sector News

CHF Analysis

At the last FSL sector coordination meeting for the year, on 12th December, the implementation results of the CHF 2012 allocation were shared as well as the preliminary results of this year's Annual Crop and Food Supply Assessment (ACFSA).

OCHA Sudan's Adil Eisa Saad presented the CHF analysis which showed that the total money allocated by CHF to the FSL sector in 2012 was \$US 12,228,600. Fifty-six percent of the money went to Darfur projects. Blue Nile, South Kordofan and eastern Sudan projects each received 10 per cent of the funds. Almost 765,000 men and 710,000 women were reached by the projects.

Of the output indicators, 91 per cent of the households targeted to be supported with livelihoods diversification were reached. Ninety percent of households targeted for agricultural support were also

reached. Only half the animals targeted for vaccination and treatment were reached. Mr Saad said the reasons for some low achievements were late disbursement of funds, delays in signing technical agreements with HAC and access problems in South Kordofan and Abyei.

Harvest Results

In the second presentation, FAO national consultant Hassan Elsheikh Elbashir updated the sector on this year's Annual Crop and Food Supply Assessment (ACFSA) which gives an estimate of performance of the 2012/2013 main agricultural season.

Overall, the effective rains in June and July have produced positive harvest results. Agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilizer and pesticides were available but expensive, but there was a shortage of labour. For sorghum, the total area planted is estimated at 24 million feddans, which is 24 per cent more than last year.

New Training Centre Opens: p2



Protecting Crops from Animals: p3



The area harvested is expected to be 73 per cent of the planted area, which is a significant increase on last year. For millet, the total area planted is estimated at 9 million feddans, which is 41 per cent more than last year. The area harvested is expected to be about 74 per cent of the planted area. Mr Elbashir is working in collaboration with FAO international consultant Swithun Goodbody to finalise the production figures and the report which will be available in early 2013.

Livestock News

Animal Migrations

FAO field officers in South Darfur report that an agreement has been made among herder groups not to cross the international border into South Sudan this migratory season. In previous years, herds searching for food and water would have crossed into what is now South Sudan, but since separation in 2011 these traditional migratory routes have been disrupted.

At a recent meeting in East Darfur, State Ministry of Animal Resources' officials met with the Wali and pastoralist representatives to discuss this year's migration. At the end of the meeting the pastoralists' native administration agreed herds would not cross into South Sudan and pastures would not be burnt. The agreement was made under the condition that the government provides water for the herds.

FAO field officers in Zalingei, Central Darfur have reported tensions between farmers and pastoralists because of fears of crop damage by migrating animals in Zalingei, Nertiti and Mukjar localities.

The state and locality level Crop Harvest Protection Committees resolved the tensions through negotiation and crops were protected.

New Agricultural Training Centre Opens

A training centre to help farmers adopt new skills has opened in Ed Damar in River Nile state during a ceremony attended by the state Wali General Al-hadi Abdallah Mohammed Al-Awad. The facility was built under FAO's Sudan Productive Capacity Recovery Programme-Capacity Building (SPCRP-CB) which is funded by the European Union's European Commission and implemented in partnership with the Government of Sudan.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Non-Government Organizations and Community-Based Organizations will be able to use the \$US 350,000 centre to train farmers in more-productive methods of cultivation. It is also expected that the facility will be hired by other non-agricultural groups and the resulting income stream will ensure the centre's sustainability.

At this month's ceremony, Wali Al-Awad thanked FAO and the EU for their contributions. "It is very important that

FAO Helping Sudan in 2013

The United Nations has launched its global Consolidated Appeal for humanitarian projects in 16 countries in 2013. Almost US\$ 1 billion is needed for projects in Sudan. Of this total, FAO is appealing for US\$ 28.85 million to help vulnerable people improve their food security.

The funding is part of the 2013 Sudan Humanitarian Work Plan which will continue to support the transition in Sudan from short term interventions to activities that reduce long term dependency on aid.

Find out more about the FAO component of the Consolidated Appeals Process 2013 by following this link: [FAO's Sudan CAP 2013](#)



improved food production be based on research and this facility will help pass on that knowledge to the farmers".

The Director General of River Nile's Ministry of Agriculture Hassan Abdelazim also attended the launch, with the federal Ministry of Agriculture's Director of Strategic Partnerships Dr Adil Mohamed Idriss, FAO's Representative a.i. Charles Agobia and SPCR-CB's programme manager Mahmoud Nouman.

"The training centre is in line with the government policy to decentralize technology development and transfer in order to enhance agricultural productivity," Dr Idriss said. (cont.)



Agricultural Skills Transfer

(cont.) Construction of the Agricultural Skills Development Centre began in June this year, and another building at the compound was refurbished.

“We are witnessing one of the fruits of the joint collaboration between FAO and the Ministry,” Mr Agobia said. “It is my sincere hope that the facilities which we are opening today will strengthen the capacity development that SPCRP-CB has been engaged in for the last four years in this state”.

The money to build the centre came from savings made in other areas of the project because of the fluctuating exchange rate and access issues in parts of Blue Nile and South Kordofan. A similar centre will open soon in Demazine, Blue Nile state.



TOP LEFT: (left to right) The Wali of River Nile state General Al-hadi Abdallah Mohammed Al-Awad, FAO Representative a.i. Charles Agobia, The federal Ministry of Agriculture's Director of Strategic Partnerships Dr Adil Mohammed Idriss and FAO's SPCRP-CB Programme Manager Mahmoud Nouman.

BELOW LEFT: Tractors and boom sprayers can be used for hands-on learning.



Feature: FAO in the Field

Darfur farmers and herders working together for peace

In a field in North Darfur, farmer Salaheldin Suleiman Hilal looks pleased. He's finished harvesting his golden sorghum crop and unlike previous years he lost none to grazing animals. “In the past when the animals came I was very angry but now I'm very happy,” he says, smiling. “Production was 100 per cent this year”.

Salaheldin lives in the village of Um Hujara, in Kebkabiya locality. The area was severely affected by the Darfur crisis in 2003/04 and the torn social fabric is still being repaired. Here, as in many parts of Sudan, crop destruction by grazing animals is a recurring problem that fuels simmering tensions between farmers and herders. It's also part of the wider problem of farmers and herders competing for scarce

natural resources. Camel and cattle herds traditionally migrate south to find food and water at roughly the same time of year that farmers harvest their sorghum and millet crops. In the distant past, tribal groups made an agreement about when the animals could move based on when the farmers were expected to finish harvesting. But more recently, increasing environmental pressures have caused animals to begin moving earlier. The arming of some herder groups has exacerbated the problem. Guns speak louder than the old, traditional ways.

Finding common ground

But a new project funded by the second phase of the Darfur Community Peace and Stability Fund has brought peaceful

coexistence for farmers and herders in Kebkabiya this cropping season. The DCPSF is a multi-donor trust fund managed by the UN Development Program. Under the project, the Food and Agriculture Organization worked in partnership with the Kebkabiya Smallholder Charitable Society to support a local committee to negotiate shared land access during and after the harvest months. The committee is made up of leaders from the local tribes as well as farmers' and herders' groups. They've negotiated a deal that herders won't move their animals until after the harvest, and in return the herders' animals will be able to feed on the nutritional stalks left in the fields after harvest. KSCS' Abdulla Ibrahim Mohamed and FAO's Bashir Abdelrahman and Mutassim Abdalla worked closely with the committee to support the careful negotiation process. "At all the meetings we made sure the farmers and herders were both there at the same time so everyone heard what everyone else had to say," Abdulla says. The group also agreed that if a herder's animals destroy a farmer's crop the herder has to pay a fine to the farmer.

Peace and a bumper crop

In a meeting room on the UNAMID base in Kebkabiya, more than 20 members of the project committee have come together on a December afternoon to talk about their success. They're all senior men in white robes and Sudanese turbans, some with the added authority of a wooden walking cane. One of them, the head of the local farmers' union Mustafa Ahmed, believes 90 percent of the locality's total crop production was successfully harvested this year. "Last year, some farmers lost everything". He says the project is the direct reason for this year's bounty. "Each tribe has a traditional leader represented on our committee who they obey, and the impact this year has been clear".

FAO's project team estimates that about 2,500 farming households had their food security protected under the project, and about 600 metric tonnes of cereals were harvested. Local trust and collaboration have also been strengthened, which are vital building blocks for the second stage of FAO's DCPSF-funded activities. FAO can now provide its technical expertise to support improved natural resource management and livelihoods diversity in the region including improved pasture protection, fodder preservation, crop pest control, Fuel Efficient Stove production and a goat and sheep loan scheme.

The smiling farmer in his field, Salaheldin Suleiman Hilal, kept some of his harvest for his family and the rest was sold locally. Any cows or camels are welcome to eat the stalks left in his field and provide manure to enrich his soil.

The Shartai Altayb Albakora says keeping the peace in



TOP: Kebkabiya farmer Salaheldin Suleiman Hilal in his recently-harvested field.

BELOW: Ahmed Mussabal Hussein (left) from the herders union with Mustafa Ahmed (right) from the farmers union at the UNAMID base in Kebkabiya.

Kebkabiya is the next challenge. "Some men with guns will obey an awareness campaign, some don't listen and others don't want to hear". Back at the UNAMID meeting room, the senior men agree there's more work to be done. They nod as one that they'll work together next cropping season too.