



“Chronic poverty, insecurity, natural disasters and underdevelopment are severely affecting livelihoods”

Sudan

Background

Over the past year, Sudan's Darfur Region has seen an easing of the conflict, with continued talks between the Government of National Unity and the main rebel group – the Justice and Equality Movement – expected in the coming months. However, intensified banditry and attacks on the local population and aid workers have led to further displacement and hampered efforts to provide humanitarian assistance. The situation in the Transitional Areas and East Sudan – Abyei, South Kordofan, Blue Nile, Kassala, Red Sea and Ghadareef – has also improved, increasing the rate of returns to the region, but straining the limited services and infrastructure.

An increasingly frequent cycle of inter- and intra-tribal violence, as well as attacks by the Ugandan rebel group – the LRA – displaced over 320 000 people in Southern Sudan during 2009. The intensity of the conflicts, a widening hunger gap, a rapid increase in the price of food items and a 40 percent drop in the revenues of the Government of Southern Sudan have combined to deepen the poverty of the already vulnerable population. The elections looming in 2010 could spark further violence and force more households into displacement.

Southern Sudan has one of the world's highest rates of internal displacement due to decades of conflict. An estimated 400 000 Sudanese are living as refugees in other countries and 5 million remain internally displaced. In addition, 280 000 foreign nationals have sought refuge in the Sudan. Simultaneous returns and displacement are likely to continue in 2010 throughout the Sudan, impacting on service delivery and placing increasing pressure on the natural resource base.

Challenges facing food security and livelihoods

Chronic poverty, insecurity, recurrent natural disasters and underdevelopment are severely affecting livelihoods and food security across the Sudan. Poor harvests are expected in many parts of Southern Sudan due to a combination of irregular rainfall and a shortage of quality seeds. This has extended the usual hunger period this year. Agricultural production is likely to fall by up to 60 percent in 2010, drastically increasing the number of households facing critical acute food insecurity.

Communities' vulnerability to food insecurity and livelihoods impoverishment has intensified owing to decades of conflict, marginalization, limited physical and social infrastructure and the widespread prevalence of hazards (including further violence, floods, drought and disease epidemics). Large-scale displacement has placed



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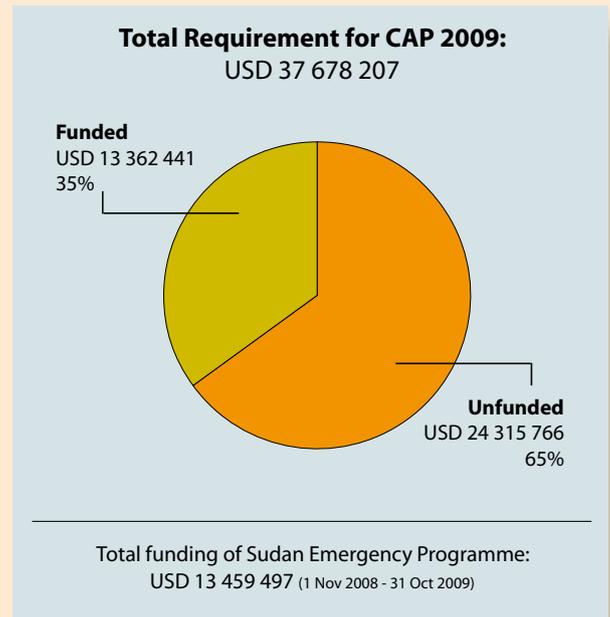
extensive pressure on natural resources, resulting in widespread environmental degradation. Competition over increasingly scarce resources is fuelling skirmishes between farmers and pastoralists in the Greater Darfur Region and Southern Sudan, threatening the ongoing peace processes. Furthermore, the expulsion of NGOs in the food security and livelihoods sector in 2009 has seriously limited capacity to deliver humanitarian assistance in remote parts of Darfur.

Throughout Sudan, pests and diseases affect the livelihoods of livestock-owning communities. In the short-term, the presence of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) and RVF is not expected to diminish, with long-term effects on food security and income. In Southern Sudan alone, an estimated 8 million cattle and 8 million small ruminants provide an essential source of income for millions of pastoralists and agropastoralists. The continued spread of transboundary animal diseases (TADs), such as *peste des petits ruminants* (PPR) and foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), deepen vulnerability and threaten human health.

FAO response

Through its emergency response and early recovery interventions in the Sudan, FAO has sought to improve the livelihoods of vulnerable populations by building capacity and promoting sustainable agriculture. During 2010, the Organization plans to continue its efforts to strengthen coordination among all actors involved in the Food Security and Livelihoods Sector in Northern and Southern Sudan. This will involve developing and sharing technical guidelines to ensure quality response, promoting information sharing, supporting strategic planning and the development of stronger coordination mechanisms among Government institutions, NGOs and other partners, and ensuring better accountability among all stakeholders.

In 2010, FAO's proposed activities will include agricultural input (seeds and tools) distribution, small animal restocking, and provision of veterinary services and training and extension support to vulnerable households in the Transitional Areas, Southern Sudan and Darfur. In Southern Sudan, fishers will receive essential fishing gear, as well as training on fish processing and preservation and net-making. Throughout the Sudan, livelihoods diversification will be promoted through support to activities such as beekeeping, oil pressing and school gardens.



FAO will also work to improve the resilience of vulnerable communities in Southern Sudan, enabling them to cope with and respond to food insecurity and livelihood impoverishment through community-based disaster risk reduction (CBDRR) programmes. This will involve participatory disaster risk appraisals, building capacity on CBDRR, providing livelihoods support through conditional and unconditional cash transfers, strengthening local organizations and improving communication and advocacy for CBDRR.

In order to build national capacity to respond to and rapidly control the spread of TADs, FAO will work to establish mechanisms to identify and verify outbreaks of HPAI, RVF and FMD; strengthen laboratory capacity to detect virulent TADs in Khartoum and Juba; support passive and active livestock disease surveillance; and train technicians to detect and respond to major TADs. In addition, Rapid Response Teams will be created for TAD outbreaks, and border surveillance systems reinforced.

PROPOSALS: FAO EMERGENCY AND REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE

Total funding requested: USD 59 773 500

Restoring and maintaining household food security and promoting diversification of livelihood coping mechanisms and protection of natural resources for vulnerable populations in Greater Darfur	
Objectives:	To improve the capacity of vulnerable households in the Greater Darfur Region to overcome general household food insecurity and conflict-induced strain through support to crop production, livestock protection and diversified income-generating activities that are environmentally friendly and gender sensitive.
Activities:	Provide productive agricultural inputs to vulnerable households; support the availability of and access to veterinary services by vulnerable households and their livestock; support the recovery of agricultural and seed systems through seed production and strengthening of agriculture and livestock para-extension systems; support knowledge and skills transfer for diversified livelihoods activities, such as cheese-making, beekeeping and processing, school gardens, etc.; support natural resource rehabilitation by establishing nurseries, enclosures and fodder banks, as well as promoting public awareness of environmental management, providing training and distributing materials for fuel-efficient stoves; and establish and strengthen food security and livelihoods coordination mechanisms.
Beneficiaries:	2 000 000 IDPs, returnees and residents and 5 000 CAHWs and community extension agents.
Implementing partners:	Various local and international NGOs.
Duration:	January – December 2010.
Funds requested:	USD 14 231 000.

Addressing vulnerabilities to food insecurity and livelihood impoverishment through community-based disaster risk reduction (CBDRR) programmes in Southern Sudan

Objectives:	To improve the resilience capacities of vulnerable populations to cope with and respond to food insecurity and livelihood impoverishment through CBDRR programmes by providing social protection and livelihood support through resource transfer, with particular emphasis on the agriculture, food security, livelihood and rural development sectors.
Activities:	Conduct participatory disaster risk appraisal and provide capacity development training on CBDRR for targeted communities; undertake integrated CBDRR interventions by providing livelihood support through resource transfers, with particular emphasis on the agriculture, food security, livelihood and rural development sectors; promote awareness and advocacy on CBDRR and build resilience of vulnerable communities to hazards and disasters; and conduct monitoring and evaluation.
Beneficiaries:	90 000 at-risk and vulnerable community members (25 000 children, 40 000 women and 15 000 elderly people, sick people, widows and women-headed households, people with disabilities and HIV/AIDS-affected households).
Implementing partners:	<i>Payam</i> Disaster Risk Management Committees, CBOs, NGOs, civil society organizations, faith-based organizations, local administrations, women's groups, farmers' groups and youth groups.
Duration:	January – December 2010.
Funds requested:	USD 15 000 000.

Food Security and Livelihoods Sector coordination in emergency planning and response

Objectives:	To ensure timely and effective response to life-threatening emergencies by promoting access to food security information, enhancing synergies and coherence among the Government, UN agencies and partners to overall humanitarian action in Southern Sudan.
Activities:	Enhance effective and regular coordination mechanisms at the Government and state levels, led by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and Ministry of Animal Resources and Fisheries (MARF) and state ministries; promote access to food security information, enhancing synergies and coherence of food security and livelihoods response; promote information sharing among all partners to ensure transparent emergency context analysis and response; organize targeted consultations on food security and livelihoods issues to fill gaps identified by partners; support MAF and MARF and Southern Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (SSRRC) at the Government and state levels to update partners' tracking and monitoring systems; build the capacity of indigenous partners in food security and livelihoods; and pre-position emergency production inputs in affected areas.
Beneficiaries:	90 000 at-risk and vulnerable community members (including 36 000 children, 27 000 women and 27 000 pastoralists and fishers).
Implementing partners:	State Ministries of Agriculture, CRS, WFP, Polish Humanitarian Organization, ACF, <i>Vétérinaires sans frontières</i> (Belgium, Swiss and Germany), COOPI, CAFOD, UNHCR, IOM, FYF, AMA, NRC, Relief International, IRD, Danish Church Aid, MAF, MARF and SSRRC.
Duration:	January – December 2010.
Funds requested:	USD 1 395 000.

Humanitarian support to the restoration and enhancement of sustainable food security and livelihoods of 900 000 vulnerable people in Southern Sudan

Objectives:	To contribute to the restoration and enhancement of the food security and livelihoods of vulnerable populations in Southern Sudan.
Activities:	Provide agricultural production inputs (crop and vegetable seeds, hand tools and treadle pumps) to households in areas of high returns and to conflict-, drought- or flood-affected displaced populations; provide technical support and training; coordinate the Food Security and Livelihoods Sector; and conduct monitoring and evaluation.
Beneficiaries:	900 000 people (30% IDPs, 20% returnees, 50% vulnerable host and resident populations).
Implementing partners:	Various.
Duration:	January – December 2010.
Funds requested:	USD 8 000 000.

Support to vulnerable small-scale livestock keepers through maintenance of animal health cold chain facilities and protection of the livelihoods of fishing communities in Southern Sudan

Objectives:	To support the basic food security and livelihoods of vulnerable households by controlling emerging animal health diseases for 120 000 cattle keepers and support the livelihoods of vulnerable fishers through the provision of fishing gear to fishing communities.
Activities:	Provide access to essential veterinary drugs/vaccines and services, as well as fishing gear, and support livestock disease monitoring/surveillance and cold chain management for improved food security and livelihoods; provide technical support and training in fish preservation, cold chain management and livestock husbandry; coordinate the Food Security and Livelihoods Sector; and conduct monitoring and evaluation.
Beneficiaries:	180 000 people (30% IDPs, 20% returnees and 50% vulnerable host and resident populations).
Implementing partners:	Various.
Duration:	January – December 2010.
Funds requested:	USD 3 500 000.

Strengthened coordination of the Food Security and Livelihoods Sector

Objectives:	To improve the predictability, timeliness and effectiveness of the Food Security and Livelihoods Sector response to humanitarian and recovery needs related to food security and livelihoods in the northern part of Sudan by strengthening existing sectoral coordination mechanisms as a basis for long-term food security in crisis-affected areas of Northern Sudan.
Activities:	Develop terms of reference for the functions and roles of national- and state-level coordinators and for subcluster working groups; establish standard information management tools to support effective coordination and communication; develop and share standard technical guidelines among partners to support quality response; develop a strategy and support planning through a two-year strategic vision for the Food Security and Livelihoods Sector; undertake periodic joint assessments and monitoring for future strategic planning; conduct cluster mapping and analysis and establish a capacity building fund at the national level, as well as state-level resources for capacity building; and update and report on cluster advocacy concerns.
Beneficiaries:	3 500 000 IDPs, returnees, host communities, ex-combatants and refugees.
Implementing partners:	CRS, World Vision International, KAEDS, ACORD, GAA, IRD, IRA, Intersos, FAR, ADRA, World Relief, Mubadiron and NOON, among others.
Duration:	January – December 2010.
Funds requested:	USD 1 500 000.

Restoring and maintaining household food security and promoting diversification of livelihood coping mechanisms and protection of natural resources for vulnerable populations in the Three Transitional Areas and East Sudan

Objectives:	To improve household agriculture and livestock production, diversify livelihood coping mechanisms and support the early recovery and rehabilitation of agricultural systems in the Transitional Areas and East Sudan.
Activities:	Provide productive agricultural products to vulnerable households; support the availability of and access to veterinary services by vulnerable households and their livestock; support the recovery of agricultural and seed systems through seed production and strengthening of agriculture and livestock para-extension systems; support knowledge and skills transfer for diversified livelihoods activities, such as cheese-making, beekeeping and processing, school gardens, etc.; support natural resource rehabilitation by establishing nurseries, enclosures and fodder banks, as well as promoting public awareness of environmental management, providing training and distributing materials for fuel-efficient stoves; and establish and strengthen food security and livelihoods coordination mechanisms.
Beneficiaries:	1 500 000 returnees, IDPs, ex-combatants and vulnerable host communities, including demobilized women and children.
Implementing partners:	Various local and international NGOs.
Duration:	January – December 2010.
Funds requested:	USD 15 247 500.

Strengthening emergency preparedness, response and control of transboundary animal diseases in affected and high-risk states of Sudan

Objectives:	To support the Government of the Sudan in responding to TADs and rapidly control their spread in Sudan; and strengthen the functional capacity of affected states to determine evidence of RVF, HPAI and FMD by increasing disease surveillance and diagnostic capacity.
Activities:	Establish mechanisms for the identification, verification and response to HPAI, RVF, PPR and FMD outbreaks; enhance laboratory capacities to detect virulent TADs in Khartoum and Juba; support passive and active participatory livestock disease surveillance in designated wetlands, wild birds and backyard farms; expand epidemiological training of technicians to detect and respond to major TADs; expand establishment of rapid response teams for TAD outbreaks; strengthen border surveillance systems for TADs in Wadihalfa (North Sudan); and prepare and disseminate appropriate messages targeted to various stakeholders and conduct community meetings to explain the dangers of HPAI, RVF, PPR and FMD and how to avoid risk of exposure and infection.
Beneficiaries:	Direct: 13 rapid response teams and 150 veterinary technicians, indirect: livestock owners in six infected and 12 at-risk states with RVF, FMD and PPR in Northern and Southern Sudan.
Implementing partners:	Ministries of Animal Resources in the Government of National Unity and the Government of Southern Sudan; Ministry of Science and Technology – Central Veterinary Research Laboratory.
Duration:	January – December 2010.
Funds requested:	USD 900 000.