

Regional Bureau for Sudan

Sudan

Country Background

Sudan continues to be one of WFP's largest emergencies in the world. The combination of conflict, large-scale population displacement and poverty makes it one of the most complex environments in which WFP operates. The ongoing conflict in Darfur, the huge challenges confronting South Sudan after decades of civil war - including returns, limited infrastructure, and the need for a consolidation of governance - and strained livelihoods and economic dislocation in the East, have left much of Sudan food insecure and dependent on international aid. Despite the booming oil economy, much of the country remains poorly developed and majority of its 37 million population live on less than one US dollar a day. Investment in social services such as health and education, which have long been under-funded, has not kept pace with either needs or the overall expansion of revenues.



Attempts to restart the Darfur peace process have stagnated. Conflict and poor harvests led to 210,000 new displacements this year; an estimated 2.4 million people, a third of Darfur's population, have been displaced since the start of the conflict. The steady flow of people returning to South Sudan places burdens on basic services, the capacity of which has already been weakened by decades of conflict and low investment. The continued implementation of relief and recovery activities in the Three Areas (Abyei, Blue Nile and South Kordofan) is an essential element of the peace process. Successful reintegration of returnees largely depends on the concurrent provision of immediate humanitarian assistance, support for long-term livelihood recovery and the provision of basic services. Viable social safety nets and improvements in livelihood opportunities are required to maintain stability in the region. Failure to achieve a visible and meaningful peace dividend increases the risk of a resurgence of conflict.

In Darfur, as well as in South Sudan and the Three Areas, the operational environment continues to be tense and unpredictable. Attacks on the humanitarian community have escalated, often leading to temporary suspension of aid activities or withdrawals from volatile areas. Between January and August 2008, more than 190 humanitarian vehicles have been hijacked, 97 of which are related to WFP. Two WFP contract drivers were killed during ambushes in Darfur, and 43 drivers remain missing.

Objectives of WFP Assistance in Sudan

WFP's operation in Sudan is expected to save lives and protect livelihoods in emergency situations, as well as restore and rebuild livelihoods in post-conflict situations. WFP food will also be used to reduce chronic hunger and under-nutrition, as well as promote education goals.

WFP's assistance will be provided through: General Food Distribution (GFD) to highly vulnerable sub-groups of the population, including displaced populations, returnees and refugees. Food for work (FFW) will be used in support of the development of community-level infrastructure, and as an element of a social safety net. Food for training (FFT) will be used to support skills development, particularly in relation to income generating activities. Therapeutic, supplementary and in-patient feeding programmes will be used to address the needs of vulnerable individuals. Food for education (FFE) will be used to encourage school enrolment and attendance, with a particular focus on girls and food-insecure communities.

WFP's Special Operations will continue to facilitate humanitarian efforts across the country through provision of air transport for the movement of humanitarian staff and cargo, as well as the rehabilitation of key road networks in southern Sudan.

Through the above-mentioned activities, WFP's food assistance programme supports MDG1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

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WFP Projects and Operations foreseen in 2009

Projected Beneficiary Requirements in 2009						
	Needs		Carryover	Shortfall		
	(US\$ million)		(US\$ million)	(US\$ million)		%
Special Operation	126.0		0.0	126.0		100
Emergency Operation	921.4		103.1	544.0		59.0
Development Operation	11.4		0.8	10.5		92.5
Total	1,058.8		103.9	680.6		
	Cereals	Pulses	Oil	Blended Food	Other*	Total
Needs (mt)						
Emergency Operation	499,946	66,044	37,112	31,562	42,526	677,190
Development Operation	9,224	1,729	1,181	187	195	12,516
Total	509,170	67,773	38,293	31,749	42,721	689,706

*Other: iodised salt, plain dried skimmed milk, sugar

**Net Needs for EMOP 10760.0 have been calculated by deducting both the closing stock of the previous phase of the project and new contributions confirmed against the new phase from the 2009 Gross Needs.

(a) Emergency Operations

Sudan EMOP 10760.0: 'Food assistance to populations affected by conflict'

Duration: 1 January - 31 December 2009 (New project - subject to approval)

Total project commitment: 677,990 mt

Sudan continues to be one of WFP's largest emergency operations in the world. The ongoing conflict in Darfur, the huge challenges confronting South Sudan after decades of civil war - including returns, limited infrastructure, and the need for a consolidation of governance - and strained livelihoods and economic dislocation in the East, have left much of Sudan food insecure and dependent on international aid. The 2007 Darfur Emergency Food Security and Nutrition Assessment found that 70 percent of the conflict-affected population in Darfur are food insecure, with a declining nutritional status. In the rest of Sudan, food security assessments conducted in 2007/2008 highlighted a combination of inadequate food consumption, poor water and sanitation facilities, poor hygiene practices and limited access to health contributed to persistent high malnutrition rates in parts of southern, eastern and central Sudan. Furthermore, a poorer than expected harvest in 2007/2008, rising food prices, limited livelihood opportunities will continue to affect poor households- both in urban and rural settings.

WFP's EMOP 10760.0 plans to assist 5.9 million people in Sudan with 677,990 mt of food. The bulk of the food assistance will be provided through GFD, targeting conflict-affected, refugee and returnee households with a mixed food basket of cereals, pulses, vegetable oil, corn-soya blend, sugar and salt. Malnourished women and children will be supported with supplementary and therapeutic feeding programmes. Patients undergoing specific treatment such as TB, HIV/AIDS and leishmaniasis (Kalaazar) will be supported with institutional feeding. School children will continue to benefit from the FFE programme to promote high enrolment and attendance, while food for recovery and FFW will support rural residents in developing community infrastructure.

The overarching goal of the EMOP is to save lives and reduce food insecurity, and to restore the livelihoods of conflict-affected and vulnerable populations in Sudan. The immediate objectives relating to the three above-mentioned are to:

- reduce or stabilize acute malnutrition and mortality, and protect livelihoods, amongst IDP, refugees, and other vulnerable groups and communities;
- support the return of IDP and refugees and the re-establishment of livelihoods and food security of communities;

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- increase access to quality education, particularly for girls; and
- improve the nutritional status of those affected by chronic disease.

Forecasted Beneficiaries in 2009			
The following initial results are expected, if the project/activity is fully resourced in 2009:			
	Female	Male	Total
Total number of beneficiaries of WFP food in 2009	3,211,386	2,735,625	5,947,011
Number of IDP beneficiaries	2,289,497	1,591,007	3,880,504
Number of refugee beneficiaries	35,251	30,028	65,279
Number of returnee beneficiaries	127,080	88,309	215,389
Number of beneficiaries for general food distribution	2,205,421	1,955,751	4,161,172
	Women	Children	Total
Pregnant and lactating women participating in MCH/supplem. feeding	37,532	343,378	380,910
	Female	Male	Total
Number of participants in WFP-supported HIV/AIDS programmes	5,648	5,648	11,296
	Girls	Boys	Total
Number of children given school meals	373,594	515,916	889,510
Number of children given take-home rations	45,000		45,000
of whom: receiving both take-home rations and school meals	45,000		45,000
	Women	Men	Total
Number of participants in food-for-training activities	32,741	18,417	51,158
Number of participants in food-for-work activities	62,815	57,983	120,798

* Beneficiaries may appear in more than one sub-total. Therefore, sub-totals may not equal the total number of beneficiaries.

No additional output indicators reported for this operation.

(b) Protracted Relief and Recovery Operations

None

(c) Special Operations

Sudan SO 10181.4: "Provision of Humanitarian Air Services in Sudan"

Duration: 15 July 2004 - 31 December 2009 (Extension subject to approval. Currently approved end-date: 31 December 2008)
Total project commitment: US\$83 million (Including expected budget revision. Currently approved: US\$77 million)

The WFP Humanitarian Air Service (WFP-HAS) remains crucial for the massive humanitarian intervention in Darfur, as well as to recovery programs in other parts of Sudan where reliable commercial air transport is not available. The deteriorating security situation in the Darfur States and the limited road access to remote areas during the rainy season has meant that humanitarian agencies depend on helicopter transport to carry out their job.

In the absence of commercial alternatives, WFP-HAS continues to provide safe, reliable, efficient and cost-effective air transport to the humanitarian community operating in Sudan, as well as for the delivery of sensitive humanitarian aid. The Special Operation 10183.0 fleet will comprise of 22 units, 16 fixed wing aircrafts and 6 helicopters targeting 117 regular destinations in Darfur, Abyei, South Kondofan and South Sudan regions. Combined, these aircrafts will serve 200 agencies, transporting 14,000 passengers on average per month, in addition to performing medical and security evacuations as needed. Unless stability is restored in Darfur, in addition to improved road access to remote areas and reliable air carriers to main cities, the humanitarian air service will continue to be required in 2009 to support humanitarian operations in Sudan.

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Forecasted Output in 2009		
	Unit of Measure	Planned
UN Humanitarian Air Services		
Agencies using air service	number	200
Destinations	number	117
Non food cargo transported	mt	60
Passengers flown	number	14,000

Sudan Special Operation 10342.2: 'UNJLC - United Nations Joint Logistics Centre, Common Logistics Services, Logistics Coordination and support to Non-Food Item operations in Sudan'

Duration: 1 April 2008 - 31 March 2010 (Extension subject to approval. Currently approved end-date: 31 March 2009)

Total project commitment: US\$ 13,750,000 (Including expected budget revision. Currently approved: US\$7,250,184)

This Special Operation is an expansion of Special Operation 10342.1 UNJLC - Common Logistics Services and Coordination and support to non-food item (NFI) operations. The United Nations Joint Logistics Centre (UNJLC) is an inter-agency facility reporting to the Humanitarian Coordinator and UN Country Team in Sudan. Its mandate is to coordinate and optimize the logistics capabilities of humanitarian organizations in Sudan. In addition to fulfilling its logistical mandate in Sudan, at the request of the UN Country Team and the Humanitarian Coordinator, UNJLC acts as Sector Lead for the Non-Food Items (NFI) and Emergency Shelter (ES) Sector, for which it effectively coordinates the activities of all humanitarian organizations operating in the Sector, and manages the NFI Common Pipeline, which delivers over 90 percent of all NFI and ES aid to the Darfur and Rest of North Sudan regions. UNJLC operates under the custodianship of WFP, which is responsible for the administrative and financial management of the Centre, and is funded from voluntary contributions channelled through WFP.

In 2009, UNJLC plans to continue its focus on coordinating the NFI & ES Sector and managing the NFI Common Pipelines to effectively serve conflict-affected and vulnerable populations, thereby mitigating health threats and contributing to their protection. UNJLC will also continue to promote logistics coordination, information collection and dissemination among all stakeholders. The specific operational objectives, as defined for the special operation, are to:

- contribute to cost-effective humanitarian operations through the provision of relevant and timely logistics information and the coordination of common services for UN agencies and partners operating in Sudan;
- strengthen information management in support of the humanitarian community and early recovery interventions, storing and sharing critical logistics-related information on the UNJLC website;
- participate in infrastructure assessments, generate and disseminate maps and spatial data related to logistics and transportation infrastructure and to strengthen GIS capacity at the Ministry of Transport and Roads in Southern Sudan;
- ensure the provision of NFIs and Emergency Shelter items to populations affected by conflict and natural disasters and other vulnerable populations through coordination of sector actors and management of the NFI Common Pipeline.
- support the strengthening of UN and NGO partners' Emergency Preparedness and Response capacity, with a special focus on logistics preparedness issues.

Forecasted Output in 2009		
	Unit of Measure	Planned
UN JL Services		
Field missions participated in	number	25
Joint Needs Assessments participated in	number	25
Percentage of UN agencies and partners provided with logistics services and/or information	number	70
Percentage of identified gaps addressed	number	100
Percentage of logistics information, mapping and coordination requests addressed	number	100
Percentage of target households whose non-food item needs were met	number	100

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Sudan Special Operation 10368.0: "Emergency Road Repair and Mine Clearance of key transport routes in Sudan in Support of EMOP 10503.0 and following phases"

Duration: 1 August 2004 - 30 April 2009

Total project commitment: US\$252,069,217

After 21 years of civil war, South Sudan remains one of the poorest parts of the world, with limited infrastructure. Covering 650,000 km, South Sudan is the size of Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi combined, but much of the 12,000 km of identified main roads are in serious disrepair.

While WFP has been supporting road rehabilitation efforts in South Sudan for decades, the current project began in August 2004 and has repaired over 2,400 km out of the worst sections of 2,950 km of roads throughout South Sudan, yielding positive peace dividends for hundreds of thousands of returning refugees. According to findings of basic impact assessments, travel time for people accessing markets and health centres have drastically reduced and areas have become more accessible since the repairs began. Safety along these routes has also been reported as vastly improved. This project also included a significant mine clearing component in some of the areas worst affected by the war. Since 2005, some 230,000 unexploded ordnances have been removed or destroyed.

Cost of public transport has decreased by as much as 50 to 60 percent in some cases along repaired sections, which has led to an increase in the number of people using the roads for both private and commercial use.

At the request of the Government of South Sudan, WFP will continue road repairs and maintenance works through mid-2009. In 2009, road repairs will continue on Juba-Mundri, Narus-Boma, Faraksika-Chukudum and Juba-Kajo-Keji as well as maintenance on the Rumbek to Yirol, Faraksika to Rumbek, and Yei to Faraksika roads. About 450 km of roads will be repaired and 600 km maintained. There is also a possibility project to be extended to include additional maintenance works in 2009, but this has not yet been confirmed. WFP will also rehabilitate four airstrips in Yambio, Torit, Bor, and Kwajok. HIV/AIDS awareness campaigns will be carried out along the roads, as well as a capacity building element to enhance the capacity of government counterparts to maintain road works.

Forecasted Output in 2009		
	Unit of Measure	Planned
Food for Assets		
Road stretches maintained	km	600
Road stretches repaired	km	450

(d) Development Projects and Activities

Sudan CP 10105.0: "Improving Food Security through Education and Infrastructure Support"

Duration: 1 January 2002 - 31 March 2010 (Extension subject to approval. Currently approved end-date: 31 December 2008)

Total project commitment: 90,826 mt

In January 2002, WFP and the Government of Sudan launched a five-year CP to improve food security through school feeding and the development of community infrastructure.

Activity 1 provides educational and nutritional support to school children, while activity 2 supports FFW and FFT activities in water harvesting and rehabilitation of educational infrastructure. The mother and child healthcare component, activity III, was not implemented as part of the CP due to limited Government capacity to manage the project. The supplementary FFW component, activity 4, was planned to supplement activity II and was operational for two years, however, activity 4 was cancelled due to lack of funding. Presently, activity 1 and 2 are being implemented in the more stable but food insecure regions of Sudan, namely North Kordofan, Kassala and Red Sea States.

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According to current plans, the CP FFE activity will be extended until the end of the next scholastic year February 2010. The CP FFW activities will be completed by end of 2008.

The specific objectives of the CP are to:

- improve the food security and enable households to invest in human capital through education and training;
- improve access, quality and level of education for primary and secondary school children, primarily girls;
- support the improvement of water access in semi-arid areas, with special emphasis on improving the food security status of women;
- improve the capacity of vulnerable households to cope with food insecurity through the preservation and creation of assets; and
- mitigate the effects of natural disasters in areas vulnerable to recurring crises.

Sudan CP 10105.0, Activity 1: "Education and Nutritional Support"

Duration: 1 January 2002 - 31 February 2010 (Extension subject to approval. Currently approved end-date: 31 December, 2008)

Total project commitment: 76,002 mt

WFP continues to support the Government's education policy in making education accessible to all. The provision of a daily meal at school encourages enrolment and regular attendance as well as alleviating hunger in children. The school feeding programme, implemented by the State Ministries of Education, targets food insecure areas with low enrolment.

Selected primary school children receive 150 g of cereals, 30 g of pulses, 20 g of vegetable oil and 3 g of salt per day, meeting 780 kcals of their daily requirement, while secondary students in boarding schools receive 400 g of cereals, 40 g of pulses, 30 g of vegetable oil, 25 g of canned fish and 5 g of salt per day for a total of 1,817 kcals. The programme also supports pre-schoolers who receive 100 g of cereals, 10 g of vegetable oil and 10 g of sugar, fulfilling 508 kcals of their daily caloric requirement.

In 2008, the school feeding programme supported 297,837 students of which 276,692 primary school students 10,605 pre-school students and 10,540 secondary school girls in boarding schools. The plan is to expand activities to reach 330,000 students in 2009 within the benefiting schools to absorb the natural increase in enrolment. This will include 310,000 children in primary schools, 12,000 school girls in secondary boarding schools and 8,000 children in pre-schools. The programme aims to support the Government in reducing the gender gap ratio of girls to boys in targeted schools from 44 percent to 53 percent by the end of the programme. School performance is also expected to improve significantly.

Forecasted Beneficiaries in 2009

The following initial results are expected, if the project/activity is fully resourced in 2009:			
	Female	Male	Total
Total number of beneficiaries of WFP food in 2009	155,100	174,900	330,000
	Girls	Boys	Total
Number of children given school meals	155,100	174,900	330,000

* Beneficiaries may appear in more than one sub-total. Therefore, sub-totals may not equal the total number of beneficiaries.

Forecasted Output in 2009

	Unit of Measure	Planned
School Feeding		
Feeding days at boarding schools for nomadic children	number	231
Primary schools participating in FFE	number	1,275
Schools benefiting from FFE	number	1,326