



**WFP SUDAN
SPECIAL OPERATION SO (200497)**

Country:	Republic of the Sudan
Type of project:	Special Operation
Title:	Logistics Augmentation and Coordination in Support of Humanitarian Operations in South Kordofan
Total cost (US\$):	US\$ 639,976
Duration:	11 months (01 February – 31 December 2013)

Executive Summary

In June 2011, armed conflict broke out in the Sudanese State of South Kordofan and as a result the Government of Sudan (GoS) denied humanitarian organisations further access to this State and therefore humanitarian assistance was temporarily suspended.

For several months, the GoS conducted some limited distributions in Government-controlled areas, but has subsequently requested WFP to intervene. WFP maintained its position towards the GoS that, prior to providing further assistance, appropriate assessments would be conducted in Government-controlled areas. As a result, in mid-2012 WFP gained access for international staff to conduct joint assessments together with the Government's Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) and the Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS).

Assessments outcomes indicated that an estimated 170,000 people require urgent humanitarian assistance (food, shelter, water and sanitation) in South Kordofan with UN agencies mobilizing resources to meet the needs. Negotiations regarding access to affected populations in non-Government controlled areas are to date still on-going.

WFP continues to closely collaborate with HAC and SRCS to conduct assessments and food distribution in South Kordofan. WFP has also been given the lead in coordinating logistics operations for the Humanitarian Community to augment common logistics capabilities and facilitate a coordinated response.

As requested by the GoS, WFP remains the sole provider of logistics services for the humanitarian response in South Kordofan. UN agencies such as FAO, WHO, UNICEF, UNHCR, OCHA, and also the SRCS have endorsed WFP's concept of operation in July 2012, which has received the full endorsement from the UN Humanitarian Coordinator in Sudan.

Under Special Operation (SO) 200470, which was active for five months from 01 August until 31 December 2012, WFP provided common logistics services, logistics coordination and logistics information management activities to the Humanitarian Community. This type of logistics support needs to continue in order to lead coordination efforts for timely delivery of relief assistance in South Kordofan.

This new SO is planned to operate for another eleven months (01 February – 31 December 2013) with a total operational cost of US\$ 639,976 Additional requirements and a budget revision for extension in time of this SO shall be prepared if needed.

Project Background

1. On-going conflict remains a primary concern, particularly in South Kordofan, which is preventing access to civilians in need of assistance by humanitarian organizations. The GoS has not allowed humanitarian organizations access to deliver assistance to many areas affected by conflict for several months despite frequent requests from the Humanitarian Community. In addition, with the exception of main routes to Kadugli and Abu Jebeeha, commercial transporters are unwilling to operate in most locations in the state. A deterioration of basic services has negatively impacted the health and sanitation situation. Results of the joint WFP/HAC/SRC food security assessment mid 2012 indicated that food, shelter, water and sanitation are priority needs for the affected population. This has not changed.
2. In August 2012, the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) requested the activation of a Logistics & Emergency Telecommunications (LET) Sector/Cluster, led by WFP. The Terms of Reference for this new Sector was approved by the HCT the following month and in early October 2012 the Sector was officially endorsed.
3. In anticipation of the activation of the Logistics Sector WFP launched SO 200470. Through this SO WFP facilitated monthly Inter-Agency Logistics Coordination meetings and issued Logistics information products, such as maps, bulletins, meeting minutes and snapshots on a regular basis. A total of 29 WFP trucks from the Darfur operation were initially made available for this South Kordofan operation. After a review of actual requirements, the number of trucks was gradually reduced to the current level of 15. These trucks are available for both WFP food commodities and inter-agency NFIs.
4. The Logistics Sector is included in the 2013 Sudan Humanitarian Work Plan. A response plan and related project sheet have been developed by WFP and was approved by LET Sector participations and OCHA. The main aim for 2013 is for WFP to continue its current common logistics services, as well as its coordination and information management activities.
5. While the Logistics and Emergency Telecommunication Sector (LET) has been activated, telecommunication activities remain at a minimal level. However WFP, as the lead agency at the global level of the ETC, stands ready to respond with support to the humanitarian community in regard to telecommunication if/when operational involvement is required. In case of such expanded needs, the current Special Operation would require a revision.

Project Justification

6. There are a variety of variables to consider when operating in Sudan which require a coordinated logistics response: these include political instability, security threats, difficult environmental terrains, and socio-economic issues that constrain logistics efforts. To facilitate and coordinate logistics solutions, such as common logistics services, logistics information management, geographical information systems and mapping, supply corridors and cross border processes, an active Logistics Sector is essential. Harmonized solutions will ensure informed management decisions and optimization of limited resources by humanitarian organisations, government, and civil society. Common logistics services and coordination need capacity and knowledge of the operating

environment. The scope and economy of scale of WFP Logistics activities in country allow WFP to facilitate and make services available to the entire Humanitarian Community.

7. WFP logistics coordination and common services are demand driven, based on the expressed requirements of the Humanitarian Community, and are provided at no cost to the user (or on cost-recovery basis through a Service Level Agreement (SLA), should these services be required outside South Kordofan and the NFI Sector cannot meet these needs; *see also paragraph 14*). Logistics activities and functions are custom made to meet the varying demands across the full range of field operations.
8. Through this SO WFP will continue to augment its logistical capacity to ensure staffing, sufficient transport, and warehousing assets are in place to provide common logistics services to meet the needs of the Humanitarian Community who are unable to access the areas of concern.
9. In 2012 WFP made 29 6x6 MB trucks with a capacity of 25 MT each available for inter-agency use primarily for movement from El Obeid, Kadugli and Abu Jebeeha to surrounding locations. This service complemented the inadequate capacity of the commercial transport sector. The number of trucks has been recently reduced to 15, which is sufficient for the present actual needs.
10. WFP's main hub in Darfur located in El Obeid/North Kordofan is also serving as main hub for this South Kordofan operation. Three smaller hubs have been set up in Kadugli, Abu Jebeeha and Talodi, with a capacity of 1,600 MT each to allow for efficient trans-shipment of humanitarian supplies.
11. These activities need to be continued in 2013, in order to meet the needs of the Humanitarian Community, who are still unable to access the State of South Kordofan.

Project Objective(s)

12. Under this SO, WFP will provide the Humanitarian Community and Government institutions with reinforced logistical capacity and coordinate delivery of relief assistance to conflict-affected people in South Kordofan. WFP's primary objectives are as follows:
 - To provide support and respond to the logistics needs of humanitarian actors and Government institutions involved in relief operations;
 - Enhance coordination, predictability, timeliness and efficiency of the logistics response under the Sector approach;
 - Provide common logistics services to support the Humanitarian Community's response, and to fill identified gaps in the logistics capacity.

Project Implementation

13. WFP/Logistics Sector will continue to provide the following range of coordination and common logistics services to all humanitarian actors in country, in order to ensure an unimpeded flow of life saving relief items:

- a) Common logistics services:
- Provision and management of existing common storage facilities:
 - WFP is using its main logistics hub in El Obeid/ North Kordofan for this South Kordofan operation. This hub serves as trans-shipment hub to provide efficient handling, consolidation, storage and tracking services for humanitarian cargo received from humanitarian organisations. These services will be undertaken at no cost to partners. Stored cargo will be handled according to the priorities set by the Humanitarian Country Team
 - Three hubs with less capacity have been already set up in Kadugli, Abu Jeebeha and Talodi. Four Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) have been erected in each location managed by WFP national staff. An international Logistics Officer oversees the logistics operation on the ground and conducts frequent visits to Kadugli and El Obeid.
 - Establishment and management of additional logistics storage facilities;
 - Dedicated logistics services to South Kordofan and other areas where transport and other logistics services are scarce;
 - Provision of road transport in areas the commercial sector is unable to access due to lack of appropriate vehicles. Intense fighting has reduced the availability of commercial transporters. Under this operation, part of WFP's fleet of trucks in Sudan will be mobilized to enhance surface transport capacity for partner organizations, if and when required.
 - Logistics Capacity Assessment (LCA) will be updated; incorporating gateways linked to modes of transport and associated services.
- b) Logistics coordination and information management:
- A dedicated Inter-Agency Logistics and Information Officer will be based in Khartoum, supported by two GIS Assistants. These staff will travel between Khartoum, El Obeid and Kadugli depending on operational needs.
 - Continuation of regular Logistics Sector coordination meetings: monthly logistics coordination meetings are being facilitated in order to maximize the use of resources available locally, bridge operational gaps and avoid duplication of efforts.
 - Compile, analyse and disseminate relevant logistics related information, which the Humanitarian Community can use to optimize their operations and logistics activities: required information management tasks are being carried out with products issued on a regular basis (bulletins, snapshots, meeting minutes), which are shared during various inter-agency meetings and via mailing list.
 - Geographic Information Systems and mapping services to the Humanitarian Community on logistics related matters. GPS and road assessment training are being facilitated in various locations, which are open to personnel from other humanitarian organisations.
14. This operation is proposed for duration of eleven months. However, operational needs are to be reviewed based on the evolving situation in South Kordofan, particularly if regular access is granted to non-Government controlled areas. Needs may increase requiring additional equipment and logistical common services for the Humanitarian Community and the GoS.
15. Logistics common services are being provided to the entire Humanitarian Community, and therefore the LET Sector will interact with all other Sectors. However, the relationship with the NFI Sector needs to be especially close. While UNHCR, the NFI Sector Lead, will continue the management of the NFI

Common Pipeline and its surface transport service to Darfur and other selected areas, WFP will provide a similar service (including temporary storage) to South Kordofan, and other areas the NFI Sector is not able to access. WFP is the main logistics service provider for humanitarian assistance in South Kordofan, which it manages from its logistics hub in El Obeid.

16. Project Management: the Inter-Agency Logistics Officer will overlook the implementation of the SO. WFP Sudan’s Head of Logistics will serve as the Project Manager. The Country Director Sudan will act as the Funds Manager for the SO, while the Chief of Finance will be the Allotment Manager.

Project Cost and Benefits

17. The total project cost for this SO is US\$ 639,976 as outlined in the budget.

PROJECT COST BREAKDOWN		
SO category	Logistics augmentation and coordination in support of humanitarian operations in South Kordofan	Value in USD
DIRECT OPERATIONAL COSTS		
Recurring Expenses:		
Rental of Facilities		12,000.00
Utilities General		4,000.00
Office supplies and Other Consumables		1,200.00
Vehicle Running Costs and Maintenance		26,400.00
Operational Agreement Programming (3x air conditioned containers USD 36,000; 16x truckloads USD 14,240; WFP fleet ops USD 25,000; Upgrade of two warehouses USD 106,250; GPS training USD 1,000)		182,490.00
Equipment and Capital costs:		
Distribution Facilities and Project Materials		6,540.00
Vehicle Leasing		15,000.00
Monitoring missions		3,000.00
SUB-TOTAL		250,630.00
DIRECT SUPPORT COSTS		
International Consultancy & Travel		188,300.00
National General Service Staff & Travel		40,342.00
Travel		115,636.00
Hazard pay		3,200.00
SUB-TOTAL		347,479.00
INDIRECT SUPPORT COSTS		41,868.00
TOTAL		639,976.00

The expected outcomes include the following:

- An uninterrupted supply of humanitarian relief items provided to the conflict-affected people in South Kordofan;
- An improved ability of the Humanitarian Community and Government Institutions to respond and operate in the conflict affected areas;
- Logistics gaps and bottlenecks identified and addressed through the provision of common logistics services as and where required;
- A coordinated, timely and efficient logistics response under the Sector approach;
- Logistics information related tools and services promptly available to the Humanitarian Community thereby promoting a coordinated logistical response.

Monitoring & Evaluation

18. The Logistics Sector is an overarching support sector which aims to facilitate the implementation of other sectors' programme activities. As a result, while the monitoring plan to evaluate the project uses multiple measurable indicators, the methodology is reliant on the results of the organizations and sectors supported. LET Sector participants' feedback will be continuously taken into consideration and the overall strategy adapted to the requirements as needed. Monitoring tools include regular internal and external situation reports, tracking databases, performance evaluation reports, and user satisfaction surveys. Regular coordination meetings, including national partners, are held to exchange information, avoid any duplication and identify potential gaps and requirements. For the tracking of humanitarian cargo (transport and storage), an excel-based commodity tracking tool is being used to ensure comprehensive data collection, analysis and reporting through the Sector.

19. The key performance indicators for this SO are as follows:

- Number of Humanitarian Organisations and Government Institutions utilizing common logistics services: 15
- Number of trucks made available vs utilization (15/15)
- Storage capacity (mt) made available vs utilization (5400/5400)
- Percentage of transport / storage requests fulfilled (100/100)
- Number of Inter-Agency Logistics Coordination meetings facilitated vs planned (11/11)
- Number of Information Management products issued and shared (maps, bulletins, snapshots, dashboard, procedures, meeting minutes, surveys) vs planned (33/33)
- Logistics Capacity Assessment (LCA) developed or updated: 1 (to be updated)

Risk Analysis and Contingency planning

20. A number of factors could impact the implementation of the SO. The main risks identified are divided into contextual, programmatic and institutional risks below, with possible mitigation measures to address the risks also taken into consideration:

21. Contextual Risks:

- Closure of transport corridors due to insecurity or political developments;
- Access to certain areas of South Kordofan may deteriorate due to the onset of the rainy season or increasing insecurity, which may limit humanitarian movement.

These risks will be mitigated through:

- Contingency planning; maintaining standby arrangements for alternative corridors;
- Proactive build-up of security staff and equipment in order to provide a high level of protection for staff;
- Close coordination between WFP and UNDSS to ensure timely communication of accessibility and strict implementation of minimum operating safety standards.

22. Programmatic Risks:

- Demands for common services exceed current forecasts;
- Humanitarian organisations may move to scale up their assistance through increasing staff or expand activities to more remote areas.
- Limited commercial transport capacity;

These risks will be mitigated through:

- Ability to scale up staffing through rosters and identification of surge capacity;
- Availability of additional storage facilities;
- Availability of prepositioned equipment to meet the needs of all present in the area.
- Increased deployment of WFP's fleet, including specialized trucks.

23. Institutional Risks:

- Politicization of humanitarian efforts affecting access;
- Lack of adequate funding for the SO to ensure viability throughout the implementation period.

These risks will be mitigated through:

- Utilization of local and regional commercial assets as much as possible;
- Increased emphasis on fundraising; strategies will include steps to be taken to address shortfalls. Advocacy efforts will continue to ensure uninterrupted services for the Humanitarian Community.

RECOMMENDATION

This Special Operation covering the period from 01 February 2013 to 31 December 2013 at a total cost to WFP of US\$ 639,976 is recommended for approval by the Deputy Executive Director and COO.

APPROVAL

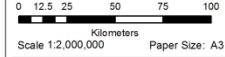
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Amir Abdulla
Deputy Executive Director, COO

Concept of Operation
Southern Kordofan State



- Road Type:**
- Paved Road
 - Primary Road
 - Secondary
 - Tertiary
 - Track
 - + Rail Road
- Settlement:**
- State Capital
 - Primary Town
 - Secondary Town
 - Settlement/Village
- Boundary:**
- International Boundary
 - State Boundary
 - Locality Boundary

WARNING: Very little information is known about the roads of South Kordofan. If you have information to contribute, please contact WFP Regional Office, Logistics Unit, Arkwit, Khartoum - Sudan.

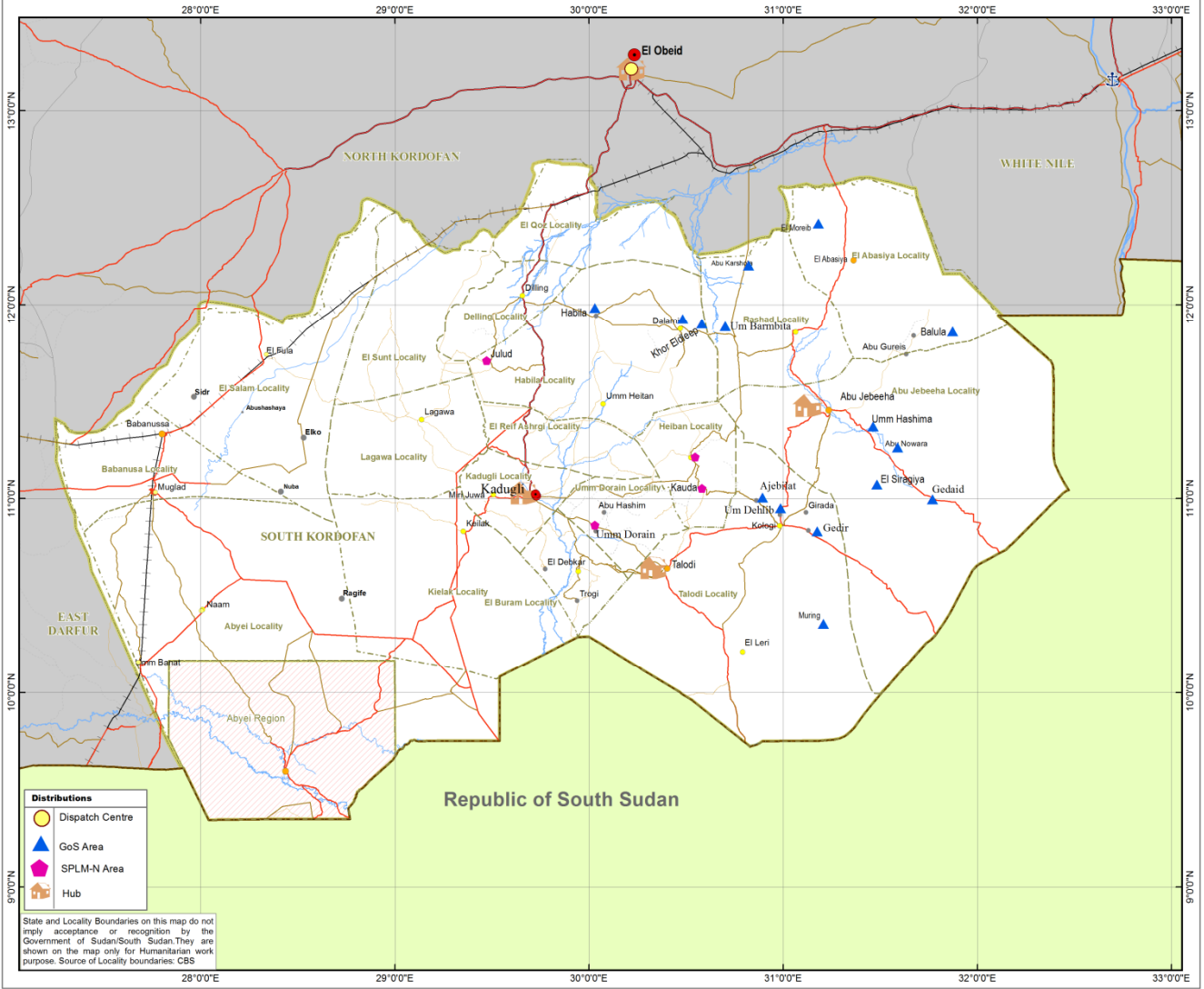


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Some map data not verified. Use at your own risk.
www.logisticscluster.org/sudan/maps



Data Sources: WFP, UNOCHA, UNDP, UNHAS, MAF, University of Berne
Produced By: WFP Logistics Unit, Khartoum, Sudan



- Distributions**
- Dispatch Centre
 - ▲ GoS Area
 - ▲ SPLM-N Area
 - Hub

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