



# WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME SUDAN SITUATION REPORT

WFP MONTHLY REPORT ISSUE 2007/3: March 2007

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- WFP assists nearly 2.5 million people in March
- Government/UN sign new joint communiqué on Darfur
- WFP shifts from emergency to recovery in the South/Three Areas
- Violence in CAR and Chad result in refugee influx
- WFP supports 4,500 demobilized soldiers in the South
- WFP releases 2006 Country Programme year end report
- Humanitarian Air Service in need of critical funding

## Overview

### DARFUR

#### Insecurity continues to impede aid work in Darfur

The security situation continues to deteriorate throughout the Darfur region with a significant increase in attacks in March, some of it directed at the humanitarian community. Tension between government factions also intensified towards the end of March, following the killing of a SLA-MM commander in South Darfur. Overall, insecurity has disrupted humanitarian operations in some parts of Darfur, resulting in an estimated 56,000 people not reached in March.

Late March 2007, WFP Cooperating Partner, GAA, operating in North Darfur, suspended activities as a result of two carjacking incidents and a death threat. In South Darfur, a WFP and Samaritan Purse mission was ambushed while conducting an assessment in the outskirts of Nyala. In a similar incident, a WFP and CARE convoy, traveling from Um Dukhum to Muhjar, West Darfur, was attacked and passengers in the WFP vehicle were robbed.

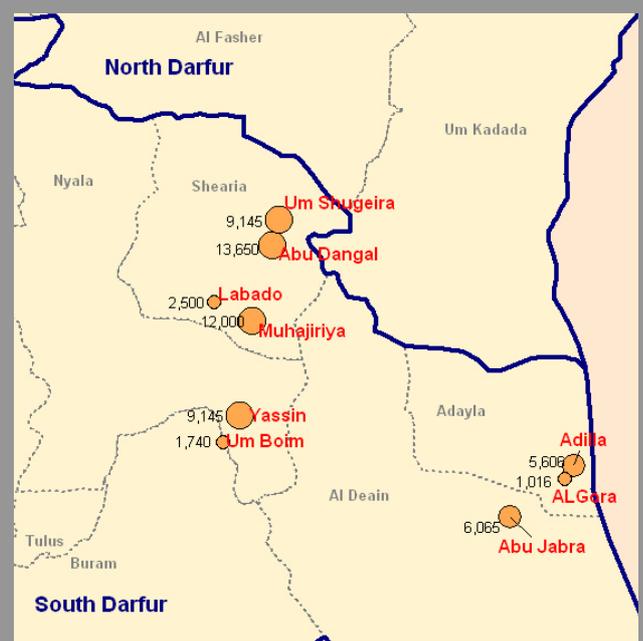
#### Government of Sudan and UN sign a new joint communiqué to address impediments affecting assistance in Darfur

WFP welcomes the joint communiqué between the Government of Sudan and the UN, signed in March, which aims to cut bureaucratic "impediments" restricting the aid community's freedom of movement and access to areas of operations. It is hoped that full and timely implementation of actions stipulated in the communiqué take place. During the month, humanitarian agencies continued to face access problems into Darfur. The UN Under-Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs, Sir John Holmes, also experienced access problems having been denied access to Kassab Camp in Kutum, North Darfur, during his visit to the region in March.

#### New influx of refugees arrive in Darfur fleeing violence in CAR and Chad

Refugees fleeing escalating violence in the Central African Republic (CAR) and Chad continue to arrive in Darfur. According to the Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC), about 5,200 refugees from CAR and Chad arrived in Um Dokhon, West Darfur over the past two months. WFP and CARE are conducting house-to-house registration and headcount to determine needs and provide assistance. Similarly in Kulbus, West Darfur, an estimated 4,000 to 5,000 refugees were reported to have arrived Chad.

#### 56,000 PEOPLE NOT REACHED DUE TO INSECURITY



### THE REST OF SUDAN

#### Security incidents in southern Sudan

Localized insecurity incidents, including insurgent attacks, banditry and inter-clan conflict, in southern Sudan continues to raise concerns, requiring close monitoring of the situation. There are continuing reports of displacement in Magwi County, Eastern Equatoria State, as a result of suspected LRA insurgency. During the month, a number of attacks against WFP convoys on roads between Lokichoggio in Kenya, and Kapoeta in Eastern Equatoria, Sudan, were reported.

#### WFP shift from emergency to recovery

WFP has begun implementing its shift from emergency relief to recovery in the rest of Sudan, with emphasis on activities that aim to enhance community assets and self-reliance. The end of the civil war in the



School children receiving WFP food assistance in Blue Nile  
WFP Photo/Maduok Akot 2007

South/Three Areas and an improved harvest have led to a reduced need for general food distribution. This strategic shift in food aid programming will see an expansion of livelihoods support programmes, particularly food-for-work programmes in 2007. A food-for-work workshop was held in March 2007 in the Red Sea State to facilitate better coordination with stakeholders and to provide a better understanding on food-for-work technical aspects, the operational environment for improved implementation and greater impact of food-for-work projects. Participants included state ministries, the Humanitarian Aid Commission, NGOs and UN agencies.

#### Food assistance to demobilized soldiers

In response to the local government request for a three-month food support to demobilized soldiers in Central Equatoria State, WFP provided about 448 MT of food to some 4,500 demobilized soldiers, in March, as part of the reintegration package. Food rations will be provided again in April and May, completing the request. The DDR programme is implemented in collaboration with the Southern Sudan Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission (SSDDRC) and the Government of South Sudan.

#### WFP plans to start targeted distributions to refugees in the East

In 2006, WFP, UNHCR and the Commission of Refugees, carried out a joint assessment mission of refugee camps in eastern Sudan. The joint mission found that majority of the refugees had developed coping mechanisms over the years, and recommended that food aid should be **targeted** to approximately 37,000 refugees that have low dietary diversity. On 20 March, a stakeholder meeting was held in Showak, eastern Sudan to develop a plan for verification and selection of the most food-insecure refugees, with an aim to reduce the current caseload of 85,000 refugees to 37,000 most food-insecure refugees. Targeted food distributions are expected to start in June 2007.

## Assessments

### DARFUR

#### Inter-agency assessment of IDPs in South Darfur

WFP, OCHA, UNMIS, UNICEF, UNDSS, Finnish Red Cross and SRC conducted an inter-agency assessment mission on 13-14 March in Buram, Tulus, Goghana and Sirgela. Findings revealed that most IDPs have integrated into host communities, while some have access to land and are involved in income generating activities. The mission recommended introduction of small scale livelihoods support activities such as Food for Seeds Protection, Food for Education and Food for Work.

#### Post Harvest and Food Security Monitoring Assessments in South Darfur

WFP and CARE launched the Post Harvest and Food Security Monitoring Assessments in Zallingie, Mukjar, Kass and parts of Nyala, with objectives to monitor the food security situation in rural areas previously assisted, to improve beneficiary targeting, and to identify where small scale recovery activities can be implemented.

### Assessments in West Darfur

In March, WFP and Cooperating Partners conducted four food security assessments in West Darfur:

**Masteri:** A WFP and SC-US (GFD CP) assessment conducted from 10-13 March, identified insecurity and crop destruction by animals as main factors leading to a poor harvest, and cited insecurity as the main reason restricting IDPs and local residents from participating in income-generation activities. The mission recommended that food rations be increased by 50 percent as of May and suggested the implementation of livelihoods support programmes. It was also recommended that an additional 1,061 people be added to the existing caseload, during May distributions, to accommodate new arrivals.



**Kerenik:** WFP and SRC conducted a rapid food security assessment from 12-15 March 2007. The mission reported an improved harvest following an increased level of land cultivation during last rainy season. The assessment confirmed that half rations, as decided by the Food Aid Targeting Strategy (FATS), is appropriate for the area until June 2007. The nutrition component of the assessment revealed a decline in admissions of severely malnourished children, from 51 cases in October 2006 to 21 cases in March 2007.

**Tenjeki:** WFP, OCHA, UNHCR, UNMIS, CRS, CAM, FAO, and HAC conducted an interagency assessment on 14 March to identify humanitarian needs of the newly displaced population. The mission found that most of the temporary shelters provided were empty, suggesting that the reported number of new arrivals was inflated. Community leaders reported about 2,700 new displaced households when the actual number was found to be below 500 households.

**Dar Gimir:** WFP, OCHA, UNHCR, UNICEF, SC-US, CRS and CONCERN conducted an inter-agency assessment on 21 and 28 March, covering 6 clusters of villages. Initial findings identified lack of basic services such as health, education and water as the population's major concerns. The mission recommended the distribution of half rations of food, seeds and tools during the peak hunger season to increase land cultivation for the next rainy season.

## SOUTH

### IDP and Returnee registrations and verifications

During the month, WFP and partners conducted assessments to verify numbers of returnees and recommend appropriate interventions for returnees to southern Sudan.

In western Bahr El Ghazal State, an interagency assessment mission, of WFP, UNOCHA, UNICEF, RCO, HARD, UNDSS and Windel Trust, assessed the living conditions of returnees in Raja Country and the possibility of introducing school feeding to the area. The mission recommended provision of food assistance to the returnees.

A similar assessment conducted in Magwi IDP camp in Eastern Equatoria State, by WFP, UNMIS, UNOCHA, NCA, CRS, SSRRC and local authorities, revealed a deteriorating food security situation, lack of basic needs and poor access to health facilities among IDPs in the camp. The mission recommended a multi-sectoral intervention, including agricultural input assistance before the rainy season.

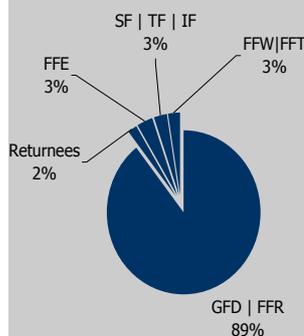
An interagency assessment mission found about 25,000 IDPs and returnees to be in urgent need of humanitarian intervention in Fangak, Khorfolus, Akobo, Nyirol, Pochalla and Wuror counties of Jonglei State. According to the mission report, the IDPs and returnees have been displaced since 2006 with little assistance from humanitarian agencies. The mission recommended a full-scale resumption of humanitarian interventions, which include an improvement in the registration and tracking system, food support for IDPs and new returnees, assistance to establish agricultural systems and support in re-establishing basic health and educational systems. Persistent cattle raiding and inter-ethnic conflict continue to plague areas in Jonglei State, displacing thousands of residents and hindering humanitarian assistance to these areas. The security level has been modulating between level 3 and 4 since 2005.

## FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS

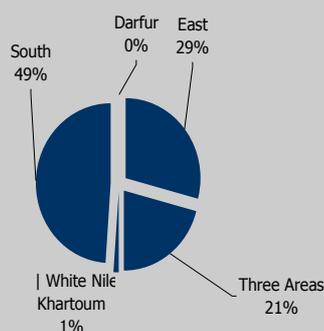
Emergency Operation  
EMOP 10557.0

March-07

Beneficiaries by Modality



Beneficiaries by Region



	People			Food, MT		
	Area March Plan	Actual	Actual Vs. Area Plan %	Area March Plan	Actual	Actual Vs. Area Plan %
<b>GFD   FFR</b>	<b>2,334,380</b>	<b>2,211,939</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>33,843</b>	<b>36,395</b>	<b>108</b>
Darfur	2,082,781	2,028,350	97	30,649	34,032	111
South	139,964	85,286	61	2,169	1,547	71
East	22,839	12,839	56	266	104	39
East Refugees	84,600	84,268	100	697	699	100
Three Areas	4,196	1,196	29	61	12	20
White Nile	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Returns</b>	<b>96,357</b>	<b>44,060</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>3,847</b>	<b>831</b>	<b>22</b>
Darfur	-	-	--	-	-	--
South	78,021	29,424	38	3,171	406	13
East	-	-	-	-	-	-
Three Areas	13,336	12,507	94	656	417	64
White Nile	-	-	--	-	-	--
Khartoum*	5,000	2,129	43	20	8	41
<b>FFE</b>	<b>199,444</b>	<b>82,137</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>1,036</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>40</b>
Darfur	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
South	12,092	12,442	103	66	55	83
East	9,570	-	-	46	-	-
Three Areas	177,782	69,695	39	924	360	39
White Nile	-	-	--	-	-	--
<b>SF   TF   IF</b>	<b>80,141</b>	<b>68,176</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>957</b>	<b>745</b>	<b>78</b>
Darfur	29,448	23,913	81	250	178	71
South	13,977	21,116	151	240	302	126
East	20,332	14,326	70	262	186	71
East Refugees	8,472	6,220	73	72	39	54
Three Areas	2,387	364	15	31	4	12
White Nile	5,525	2,237	40	101	37	36
<b>FFW   FFT</b>	<b>84,428</b>	<b>64,256</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>1,663</b>	<b>953</b>	<b>57</b>
Darfur	-	-	--	-	-	--
South	70,643	56,430	80	1,424	784	55
East	6,420	4,166	65	113	74	65
East Refugees	832	-	-	15	-	-
Three Areas	6,533	3,660	56	111	95	86
White Nile	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,794,750</b>	<b>2,470,567</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>41,346</b>	<b>39,338</b>	<b>95</b>
Darfur	2,112,229	2,052,263	97	30,899	34,210	111
South	314,697	204,697	65	7,070	3,094	44
East	153,065	121,819	80	1,472	1,101	75
Three Areas	204,234	87,422	43	1,783	888	50
White Nile   Khartoum	10,525	4,366	41	121	45	37

\* Transit ration to the UN | GONU | GOSS organised return

**Note:** Distribution figures for the Food for Education (FFE) programme in Darfur will become available at the end of April. In February, 380 MT of food was distributed in Darfur under FFE, assisting 108,559 students.

GFD General Food Distribution | FFR Food for Recovery | TF Therapeutic Feeding | IF Institutional Feeding | SF Supplementary Feeding | RET Returns | FFW Food for Work | FFT Food for Training | FFE Food for Education

## Food for Work/Training/Asset Creation and Education

### Food for Work/Training/Asset Creation and Education

In March, WFP supported 146,393 beneficiaries with 1,367 MT of food through recovery activities, which include food for work, food for training, food for assets and food for education activities in, East, Three Areas, White Nile and the South representing about 52 percent of the planned assistance. Under-achievement was mainly due to limited logistical and financial capacity of the Ministry of Education in South Kordofan to dispatch food to supported schools. Additionally, schools in Abyei were closed as of end of February. These activities continue to provide food support to targeted beneficiaries while enhancing human capital and developing community assets.

### WFP/AARP food for work project in Abyei

WFP recognizes the need for strengthening basic elements of development assistance to people through the promotion of peace, development of local capacity and satisfaction of basic needs. WFP and Cooperating Partner, Abyei Rehabilitation and Recovery Programmes (AARP), a consortium of NGOs working in Abyei, started the implementation of a food-for-work project in December 2006 in 15 villages in Abyei area. The project aims to promote community self-reliance by engaging village residents in development activities in return for food incentives. The main activities under this project are:

#### Nursery Activities (Seedling Production)

Tree and fruit nurseries have been successfully established in 10 targeted villages in Abyei area. A total of 245 participants will produce 70,000 cashew nuts, passion fruit, tangerine, guava, papaya, sweet orange and lemon seeds. Main challenges faced include the lack of sufficient suppliers for fruit and tree seeds, and water scarcity.

#### Pond Construction

The excavation of surface water harvesting structures is well under way in five villages. AARP provided tools and equipment to 300 participants from the community. Communal water sources, which were not used for agricultural activities prior to the food-for-work intervention, are currently utilized for vegetable gardening and for cultivating agro-forestry seedlings. Mechanized excavation was considered earlier as the only means to construct surface water harvesting structures in Abyei. However, participants realized that communal ponds can as well be built using community labor.



Photos by Karl Maier of Bloomberg News/2007

## Population Movement

Prevailing insecurity throughout the Darfur region, in the bordering CAR and Chad, resulted in new displacements during the month. Furthermore, between 1 January and 14 April, a total of 26,179 returnees were received in South Sudan and other areas.

### DARFUR

#### **Tribal violence in South Darfur displaces 500 to 1,000**

Tribal fighting affected several villages around Deleij town, north of Garsila in South Darfur. Reports indicated that between 500 to 1,000 villagers have fled their homes for the second time in four months.

#### **El Salaam Camp reaches its limit**

Humanitarian agencies are faced with challenges as some IDP camps reach their maximum capacity. In South Darfur, about 700 IDPs arrived in El Salaam Camp in March, bringing the total number of IDPs at the camp to 11,900, bordering capacity limits of 12,000.

### THE REST OF SUDAN

#### **Re-settlement of spontaneous returnees in southern Sudan**

An organized movement process has started for the refugees, most of them former students in the country of asylum, who spontaneously returned from Dimma Camp in Ethiopia to Boma in Jonglei State, last January. WFP has been continuing to provide food assistance to the group, who will also receive a three-month food package at their final destination.

Refugees from Kenya and the Central African Republic were repatriated by air to Rumbek in Lakes State. An estimated 3,000 returnees are expected to arrive in Lakes State in April.

An estimated 5,525 returnees are reported to have arrived in Lobonok, 65 km south of Juba in Central Equatoria State. An assessment to verify numbers and determine the needs of the returnees is scheduled for early April 2007.

#### **Organised returns to the South**

IOM and UNHCR facilitated the return of 930 people from Khartoum and Ethiopia to Unity State. WFP provided 51 MT of food as resettlement packages upon arrival.

In Bor, 270 returnees were provided with a 15-days food ration while awaiting three-month reintegration package. A further 180 returnees were assisted in Padak and vaccinated against meningitis.

### Country Programme—2006 Year End Report

The Country Programme was launched in 2002 for a period of five years, covering two interlinked activities: activity 1 provides educational and nutritional support to school children, and activity 2 supports food for work activities in water harvesting and rehabilitation of educational infrastructure. The long-term objective of the Country Programme is to improve food security, and to contribute to the quality and level of education of primary and secondary school children, especially for girls.

The Country Programme is coordinated by the Ministry of International Cooperation and executed by the Ministry of Education, with food and technical support provided by WFP. The 2006 year end report, released in March 2007, highlighted the successes of the programme. These include:

- Some 275,000 school children, representing 91 percent of the target, reached with a daily nutritious meal;
- Attendance rate stabilized at 91 percent, largely attributed to the school feeding programme;
- Overall increase in absolute enrolment rates by 24 percent;
- Direct employment provided to 8,500 people, exceeding the target by 42 percent, during the lean season;
- Improved access to water through the creation of 11 hand-dug ponds, 33 hand-dug wells, 2 earth-dykes; and
- Reduced time spent on collecting water, particularly for women, giving opportunities to pursue more rewarding economic and social activities.

While progress towards achieving the objectives has been made, significant challenges in reaching the planned beneficiaries were encountered. These include:

- Insufficient secondary transportation of food to schools;
- Lack of proper food storage; poor water and sanitation facilities at school level;
- Late submission of food-for-work project proposals by Cooperating Partners;
- Inadequate capacity of Cooperating Partners; and
- Late arrival of non-food items by Cooperating Partners.

### Country Programme in 2007

In 2007, WFP plans to provide 285,000 school children with school meals and continue to contribute towards the rehabilitation of school infrastructure and the rehabilitation/construction of water and sanitation facilities, providing employment to over 6,000 people. In partnership with FAO and the Ministry of Education, WFP will support the expansion of the school garden project with an aim to improve programme quality under the Child Friendly Community Initiative (CFCI). More efforts will be made to ensure increased government management of the programme through State level operational agreements that encourage the government to commit itself in terms of financial obligations, increasing monitoring and reporting.

### Country Programme Update in March

**School feeding:** School feeding activities were reduced in March due to school holidays. WFP plans to feed 284,502 school children, of whom 7,318 are preschool children, once schools reopen in mid-April in Red Sea and Kassala states and in July in North Kordofan State. Coordination meetings were held with the Ministry of Education in different states to discuss implementation issues including distribution of non-food items, training needs, mapping, government obligations, access, reporting and renewal of the Letter of Understanding between WFP and state governments.

**Food for work:** In March, 287 people, 49 percent female, participated in food-for-work activities. March output includes; four hand-dug wells in North Kordofan State and preparation of two new haffir sites and three sites for school latrines. In Red Sea state, WFP provided technical support to potential NGO partners in project proposal formulation.



## Health and Nutrition

### WFP/UNICEF sign Memorandum of Understanding with Government on Universal Salt Iodization

The Darfur region has long been known to be an area of endemic iodine deficiency. In 2004, an interagency assessment conducted in Darfur by WFP, UNICEF, CDC and the Government of Sudan revealed high levels of iodine deficiency. Visible goiter was observed in 25 percent of reproductive age women. As a result, WFP made a decision to include iodized salt in the food basket.

In August 2005, WFP entered into a joint initiative with the Micronutrient Initiative (MI) and the Ministries of Health and Industry to revive the universal salt iodization programme in Sudan. This initiative would not only benefit WFP beneficiaries, but would also stimulate the local economy through strengthening of salt production plants along the Red Sea coast, enabling WFP and other potential buyers to locally procure iodized salt.

In March 2007 WFP, UNICEF, MI, the Federal Ministry of Health and the Federal Ministry of Industry signed a Memorandum of Understanding detailing institutional roles and responsibilities related to the achievement of the Universal Salt Iodization programme in Sudan. The Federal Ministry of Health will be responsible for overall coordination, management and quality control, while the Federal Ministry of Industry will facilitate engagement of private sector. WFP and MI will focus on the production of iodized salt through the private sector, while UNICEF will support the development and implementation of social mobilization and marketing campaigns.

During the past six months, WFP has made significant progress towards the implementation of the salt iodization initiative. A thorough assessment of all salt producers in Port Sudan was conducted last quarter of 2006; Potassium Iodate has been procured and ready for dispatch to salt producers; the iodization equipment is under procurement and scheduled to arrive in April 2007; and an international salt engineer/expert has been contracted for six months to provide technical support to salt producers as well as the ministries of health and industry. Production of iodized salt is expected to commence in May 2007.



Salt industry in Port Sudan, Red Sea  
WFP Photo/Rukia Yacoub 2006

## Logistics

In March, WFP dispatched 50,800 MT of food into Darfur, South, Central, East and Three Areas, with dispatches to Darfur accounting for 72 percent.

Presently, WFP operates two logistics corridors, one in the north, bringing in food from Port Sudan to the three main hubs in Khartoum, El Obeid and Kosti; and the other in the south, from ports in Mombasa, Kenya and Koboko, Uganda, delivering food to southern Sudan. Food dispatch by road accounts for 90 percent, while up to 10 percent is transported by rail from Port Sudan to the main hubs, with potential for direct deliveries to Nyala, time permitting. In addition, WFP utilizes barges from Kosti to distribution points along the River Nile.



Offloading WFP food in El Obeid, North Kordofan  
WFP Photo/Emilia Casella 2007

WFP has begun to pre-position food stocks in remote locations that will become inaccessible during the rainy season. WFP's Logistics Unit are expanding storage capacities in these locations to ensure continued food support to beneficiaries that will be cut off once the rains set in.

To date, some 13,000 MT has been pre-positioned in South Sudan; about 70,000 MT in the Darfur region, with plans to reach 80,000 MT by May 2007; while pre-positioning in Three Areas will start in April 2007.

## Humanitarian Air Operations

Sudan represents WFP's largest air operation in the world, with a fleet of 24 fixed wing aircrafts out of bases in Khartoum, El Obeid, Lokichoggio, Rumbek and Juba for locations across the country as well as six helicopters permanently based in Darfur.

As security levels deteriorate in Darfur, WFP and partners are increasingly relying on helicopter transport to carry out food distributions and monitoring activities. WFP-HAS increased its helicopter fleet in Darfur from four to six units in October 2006 to allow more rapid assessments and monitoring of humanitarian activities in difficult-to-access areas. WFP-HAS will continue to maintain this increased fleet of six helicopters subject to funding. Helicopters have ensured continued delivery of urgent humanitarian cargo, mainly medicines, in a climate of insecurity and virtual lack of road access to locations in Darfur.

WFP-HAS provides a common and vital service to a monthly average of 12,000 passengers from 120 humanitarian and donor agencies working in Sudan. However, WFP-HAS can only ensure undisrupted service by meeting the US\$25 million required for the rest of the year, of which US\$5 million is needed immediately to secure operational costs until July.



## Resourcing Update



The EMOP has received 68% of its 2007 requirements - US\$350 million in new contributions and carryover stocks from 2006 valued at US\$122 million. In addition, WFP accessed loans of US\$48 million to locally procure food early in the year in an effort to frontload stocks for prepositioning in remote locations before the rainy season (May to September). Combined, these resources have secured sufficient food for most of the year. Prepositioning has also meant that WFP has now been able to stop costly air deliveries entirely.

### Contributions Received from Donors as of 18 April 2007

Donor	US\$
ANDORRA	38,167
AUSTRALIA	2,381,376
CANADA	22,065,941
CZECH REPUBLIC	229,358
DENMARK	853,243
EGYPT	44,014
ESTONIA	42,326
FRANCE	1,153,398
GERMANY	6,023,088
IRELAND	1,315,789
ITALY	182,863
JAPAN	13,000,000
KOREA	500,000
NETHERLANDS	131,692
NEW ZEALAND	347,222
NORWAY	925,856
PRIVATE DONORS	502,201
SPAIN	1,317,523
SWITZERLAND	1,646,012
TURKEY	300,000
U.S.A.	278,197,121
UN	5,992,000
Multilateral	95,220
Miscellaneous income	10,243,375
Estimated Carryover from previous operation	122,223,896
<b>Total</b>	<b>469,751,681</b>

Contact [WFPsudan.Information@wfp.org](mailto:WFPsudan.Information@wfp.org) for more information  
Visit us at [www.wfp.org](http://www.wfp.org)