



MONTHLY UPDATE

June 2006

Disseminating the CPA

“Everyone should read, understand, and own these protocols.”
—Dr. John Garang de Mabior

In the 18 months since the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), which ended Sudan’s two-decade civil war, few Sudanese had been able to learn about it. Many knew that it had the potential to change their lives significantly, but most were unaware of the details, and they heard conflicting reports about what they would gain, or lose, from its agreements on security, wealth sharing, and power sharing.

That began to change in April and May 2006, when more than 150,000 people in five Southern Sudanese states were able to directly access information on the agreement. USAID is funding a large initiative to disseminate the document in cooperation with the Government of Southern Sudan (GOSS), Pact, DAI, and other partner agencies to enable South Sudanese constituencies to participate more fully and effectively in implementing the peace.

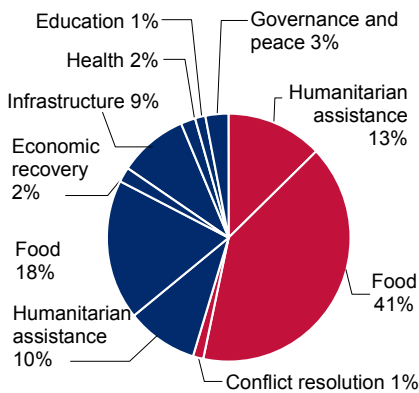
The dissemination process was rolled out in Upper Nile, Jonglei, Warub, and Eastern and Central Equatoria. Official CPA documents in Arabic and English were distributed to all government officials in the south, then a GOSS-approved CPA summary was developed and published in English. (An Arabic version of the summary will be published in June.) At the end of March, the GOSS led a CPA orientation workshop in Juba for 300 government officials to help them gain a better understanding of the CPA and to empower them to raise community awareness. To complement the dissemination process, the Sudan Radio Service created audio versions of the summary in seven languages—Moro, Arabic, simple Arabic, Toposa, Shilluk, Dinka, and Nuer—and the *Sudan Mirror* published 22,000 CPA summary supplements to be included in its Easter edition.



Residents of Kapoeta, Eastern Equatoria do a traditional peace dance at a CPA dissemination rally. Photo: PACT



USAID ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN, FY2005 ESTIMATED



Darfur 55%

Humanitarian assistance:	\$108.3 million
Food*:	\$347.0 million
Conflict resolution:	\$11.6 million
Darfur Total:	\$466.9 million

Other Sudan 45%

Humanitarian assistance:	\$82.2 million
Food*:	\$156.0 million
Economic recovery:	\$16.2 million
Infrastructure:	\$78.7 million
Health:	\$18.0 million
Education:	\$10.2 million
Governance and peace:	\$27.1 million
Other Sudan Total:	\$388.4 million
Countrywide Total:	\$855.3 million

*Includes PL 480 Title II and Emerson Trust



The initiative kicked off with public rallies in state capitals; attendance ranged from 100-150 in Juba to 400-500 in Ikotos, Eastern Equatoria. Each of the more than 40 county rallies attracted around 250 people, and smaller gatherings were held at the village level. Thirty-five community gatherings were held around Juba that attracted more than 200 people each. The meetings targeted women, church groups, and community leaders, as well as youth, both inside communities and out in the cattle camps.

Audiences were hungry for information, asking scores of questions: Who will enjoy the wealth from the oil revenues, and are Southerners guaranteed to get their share? Why has it taken so long to get accurate information about the CPA? Who is responsible for tax collection? Who receives the revenue from road licenses? Is the CPA a law like the Constitution? Many also asked whether the death of Dr. John Garang was an accident.

The dissemination effort had many challenges—insecurity, disease outbreaks, rains, high fuel prices—but it was well received in all locations by government and citizens alike. One commissioner noted, “This dissemination effort was the only time in my memory and possibly in the history of Southern Sudan that an agreement was disseminated in a way that ensured the marginalized and neglected were reached in an effort at understanding their individual rights.” ♦

Local Human Rights Monitors Document Abuses

As a result of Sudan’s two-decade civil war, 720,000 displaced Sudanese live in camps and squatter settlements in Khartoum and neighboring Bahari and



Omdurman where they fall victim to chronic and systematic human rights violations. Many are forced to relocate, their basic needs are unmet, their births go unregistered, and they are subject to torture and violent interactions with soldiers.

USAID is working to ensure violations are properly documented and reported and to change the culture of impunity surrounding violations of human rights. With support from USAID, the International Rescue Committee and UN Development Program worked with the Khartoum Center for Human Rights and Environmental Development to conduct a two-week training program to train 14 human rights monitors. The workshops focused on the contents of the five international human rights accords to which the Sudanese government is a signatory: the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; Convention on the Rights of the Child; Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; Guiding Principles for IDP Human Rights; and African Charter for People and Human Rights. The 14 workshop participants now monitor and document abuses within seven camps around Khartoum. ♦

Gender Education Combats Violence Against Women

Despite recent efforts for peace in Darfur, violence against women remains a disturbing factor of the ongoing struggle. USAID is seeking to change this constant of human rights violations through several activities, including gender education.

With support from USAID, EI-Madina Center for Gender and Development and the University of Khartoum recently facilitated training sessions that



Volunteers attend human rights training in Khartoum (left) and gender education workshops in Darfur (right). Photos: USAID



focused on mainstreaming gender into conflict resolution and development activities. Ninety men and women leaders from schools, civic bodies and organizations in South and West Darfur attended the six-day sessions in Nyala, Kas, and Zalingei. The workshops aimed to increase understanding of gender discrimination, inequality, and violence, and raise awareness on ways to integrate gender perspectives into conflict resolution. Participants developed an increased capacity to address violence against women, and they now comprise a network of resources focused on gender, conflict, and development in South and West Darfur. ♦

Veterinary Services Improve Lives in North Darfur

Zahra Abdulla and Fatima Ibrahim Maho both take great pride in their donkeys. Like other Zaghawan pastoralists in Garawet Besham—a small mountain village about 20 miles southwest of Zam Zam camp near El Fasher, North Darfur—Zahra and Fatima rely on their pack animals to accomplish the many tasks required to sustain their families in Darfur’s harsh environment. And they are just two of the many people in North Darfur who now benefit from a USAID-funded program to protect rural livelihoods and improve access to veterinary care.

Livestock is critical to life in Darfur; in many households, animals are considered their most important asset. Horses and camels are used for transportation, and goats and cows give milk and meat that provide a much-needed source of protein. And the ubiquitous donkey is a veritable pillar of the economy, serving as both a draft animal for agricultural cultivation and a pack animal used to haul firewood, crops, water, and fodder over long distances.

However, given Darfur’s semi-arid terrain, searing temperatures, and scarcity of water, the region can be an inhospitable place for pack animals. In addition, since Darfur’s conflict escalated in 2003, fighting has blocked traditional migration routes and reduced access to animal care services, hampering agricultural production, livelihoods, and mobility. Few veterinarians and animal health workers will venture into the region’s more remote areas.

To address some of these issues, USAID partner CHF International established an animal health care training program in North Darfur in November 2004,



Fatima and Zahra are two residents of Garawet Besham, near Zam Zam camp in North Darfur, who benefited from USAID’s program to improve veterinary care. Photo: CHF

and just a month later, opened a veterinary care clinic in Zam Zam. CHF consulted sheikhs and other traditional leaders to ensure that services targeted the most vulnerable households.

After being selected by community leaders, volunteer students attend three ten-day training sessions over six months. The first two sessions introduce the students to essential veterinary skills—disease identification, basic pharmacology, wound treatment, vaccine administration—and the last session reinforces and advances knowledge of animal health care delivery. On completion, the volunteers are certified by the North Darfur State Ministry of Animal Resources certifies the volunteers. Some have been offered employment in veterinary care clinics, while others returned to their home communities to set up independent clinics based on what they learned. Many also volunteer their services by participating in semi-annual animal vaccination campaigns.

Since the program began in 2004, 60 animal health workers have been trained, and workers at the Zam Zam animal clinic have provided wound and disease treatment, de-worming, and livestock pox vaccinations for 6,000 donkeys and 8,000 sheep, goats, and chickens. Building on the success of the veterinary



training program and Zam Zam clinic, CHF has expanded the program to clinics in villages near Kebkabiya and in Abu Shouk and Al Salaam camps near El Fasher. CHF has also rehabilitated the ministry’s Animal Resources clinic in El Fasher. In partnership with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, the program also now provides drugs, vitamin and mineral salt licks, and other essential tools and equipment needed to sustain these clinics.♦

The First Day of Radio School

On March 6, primary students in Maridi, Western Equatoria, attended their first day of “radio school.” Thanks to USAID’s South Sudan Interactive Radio Instruction program, implemented by the Education Development Centre, children across Southern Sudan can now attend lessons in English, literacy, and math even where there are no school buildings. The program also helps train teachers, prompting them to ask certain questions or, for instance, call on a girl to answer.

Even in the short time it has been broadcasting, the program has been resoundingly well-received. The Diocese of Rumbek requested that it be expanded to 84 of its schools in Bahr al Ghazal. EDC plans to create 349 radio classrooms in 2006 in Bahr al Ghazal, Southern Blue Nile, Nuba Mountains, Upper Nile, and Western and Central Equatoria (see table).

Since South Sudan currently has no unified school calendar, the primary 1 broadcast schedule began its broadcast cycle over again in May for schools that had just began the school year. The primary 2 series will be broadcast starting June 19. The program is broadcast daily on the Sudan Radio Service from 9:30 am to 10:00 am on 15,535 kHz.♦

Growing a Future in South Sudan

Despite the poor road conditions and insecurity that continue to afflict Southern Sudan, this year USAID expanded its successful seed distribution program into unserved areas of Upper Nile and Jonglei states—two of the most insecure parts of the South where few organizations operate.

In 2006 the program will provide 298 tons of seeds—groundnut, cowpea, sesame, and maize—to 15,900 families throughout these vulnerable areas. Each

Radio Classroom Distribution		
Region	Site	Classrooms
Western Equatoria	Maridi	37
	Yambio	10
	Mundri	8
	Mvolo	6
Central Equatoria	Kajo Keji	20
	Juba	16
Bahr al Ghazal	Rumbek	10
	Cuibet	4
	Wau	10
	Aweil	10
Southern Blue Nile	Kurmuk	35
Nuba Mountains	Kauda	30
	Kadugli	10
Upper Nile	Pochalla	60
	Panyagor	60
	Waat	3
	Boma	20
		349



Students in Maridi, Western Equatoria, attend their first day of “radio school.” Photo: EDC



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FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



A woman tends her field in Eastern Nagurban in the Nuba Mountains. Photo: USAID

household also receives a hoe, *panga* (a long knife), and sickle. USAID partner Norwegian People's Aid has already distributed 140 tons of seeds to 5,000 families in Jonglei's Ayod, Wuror, Nyirol, and Duk counties. Local residents report that the program is the most significant agricultural assistance to reach many locations in decades.

Launched in 1994 in Yirol county of Bahr al Ghazal, the seed distribution program expanded along the west bank of the Nile River south to Kajo Keji on the Uganda border. In 2005, Yirol "graduated" from the program due to improved security, and distribution expanded to Duk County in Upper Nile. Now, as a result of the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement, many Southern Sudanese are finally beginning to return home after years of displacement. Many of them fled their homes due to violence and lack the resources to re-establish the farms that will help them build food security.

In 2006, USAID asked NPA to expand the program into the underserved parts of Upper Nile and Jonglei, where many returnees are expected. The two states have been sites of tension between the Government of South Sudan's armed forces (the Sudan People's Liberation Army, or SPLA) and a large group of well-armed civilians known as the White Army—so-called because they live with their herds of cattle and rub ashes on their bodies to protect themselves from flies and mosquitoes. In January, clashes between the SPLA and White Army in Wuror County resulted in several hundred combatant deaths, and an April confrontation in Duk County forced thousands of the White Army to flee west. On the way they looted UN

and NGO centers, absconding with several hundred tons of food aid household kits. They also caught one truck hired by NPA to deliver seeds in Ayod County, holding it for several days and eventually leaving it with punctured tires. Yet in spite of these difficulties, NPA managed to complete its planned seed and tool distributions to isolated rural communities throughout the area, without loss to looters, ahead of the rains, and in areas that were new to NPA.

NPA distributes seeds bought inside Sudan to the extent possible, relying on a network of extensionists supported by farmer training centers. Of the 140 tons of seeds distributed so far in 2006, 15 tons were purchased in Southern Sudan and 125 tons were purchased in East Africa. ♦

Civil Society Organizations Build Bridges

Representatives from civil society organizations in Southern Sudan and the Three Areas (Abyei, Blue Nile, and Southern Kordofan) have participated in a series of USAID-supported discussions on ways to work strategically and collaboratively toward the development of Southern Sudan. USAID partners Mercy Corps and IRC facilitate the dialogues, which focus on the role of civil society organizations in post-conflict reconstruction, and which are vital to



Community meetings are helping to strengthen Southern Sudan's civil society. Photo: Mercy Corps

