WFP Press Release

23 July 2013

TEN YEARS INTO THE DARFUR CONFLICT, NEW WAVES OF DISPLACEMENT PUT PRESSURE ON WFP TO FEED MORE VULNERABLE FAMILIES

KHARTOUM – New violence in Sudan’s western region of Darfur has prompted more than 250,000 people to flee their villages and abandon their livelihoods since the start of the year, the UN World Food Programme (WFP) said today.

The decade-long conflict has escalated recently, due to inter-tribal conflicts over agricultural land and resources, creating the largest wave of population displacement that the region has seen in recent years and straining WFP’s ability to feed vulnerable families.

“We are deeply concerned with the developing situation which threatens fragile food security in this region,” said WFP Sudan Country Director Adnan Khan. “This is the season when people should be planting and working on farms but instead they are fleeing their villages, a significant number of them have even fled to the refugee camps in neighbouring Chad.”

The nature of the conflict has evolved and is becoming more complex, involving more groups in almost all areas of Darfur. In addition to the 250,000 people who are internally displaced within Sudan, according to UNHCR about 30,000 Sudanese are reported to have crossed over into neighbouring Chad in the past few months. So far about 16,000 have settled and are assisted in the new refugee camp of Abgadam in the Tissi area, adding to the 300,000 Darfur refugees who have been in Chad for the past few years.

In other parts of the country, in the conflict-affected states of Blue Nile and South Kordofan bordering the Republic of South Sudan, more than 100,000 people were also recently displaced due to a resurgence of violence. WFP is responding to provide food assistance in the areas to which it has access.
In Sudan, the majority of WFP’s operation takes place in Darfur, where the UN food agency had planned to feed 2.7 million people across Darfur at the beginning of the year, including 1.4 million living in camps. With the recent displacements, the total number of people receiving assistance in Darfur is expected to climb above 2.9 million people.

“This conflict has been going on for a decade now and the escalation that we’ve seen during the first half of the year has not only created greater needs, but has also hindered our ability to reach all those in need, due to insecurity. If it continues, it could very well derail our plans to promote long-term food security and build resilience among communities,” said Khan.

WFP has so far raised only US$180 million out of its operational budget of US$397 million to be able to feed 3.9 million conflict-affected people in Sudan. Despite a good harvest in 2012, food security remains fragile and is threatened by a combination of conflict, insecurity and high food prices.

SHOTLIST

WFP Video News Release
Darfur, Sudan
TRT 3’02”
English

00:00-00:18 El Fasher  Shot 12 July 2013
Displaced people, in makeshift shelter

00:18-00:29 SOT Adnan Khan WFP Country Director, Sudan
Shot 16 July 2013 in Khartoum
“We are facing in 2013 fresh displacements so we have roughly 250 thousand freshly displaced in Darfur”

00:29-00:55 Abou Shouk camp, El Fasher, North Darfur
Shot 13 July 2013
UNAMID car patrolling the camp
Family resting

00:55-01:10 Zam Zam camp, El Fasher, North Darfur
Shot 12 July 2013
WFP food distribution, people receive sorghum, sugar and vegetable oil.
Various of the distribution
01:10-01:42 SOT Adnan Khan WFP Country Director, Sudan Shot 16 July 2013 in Khartoum
“Well, in addition to general food distribution that we have for displaced population and those severely affected by conflict, WFP, World Food Programme has other range of activities which are layered over its general food distribution programme which include, nutritional activities, which include school feeding, which include food for work, food for assets, food for training and which have cash vouchers to stimulate the market”

01:42-02:02 Ardamata IDP camp Geneina, West Darfur Shot 14 July 2013
SAFE (Safe Access To Fuel Efficient Stoves and Alternative Energy)
WFP food for training, the participants are trained on how to make fuel-efficient stoves, establish and maintain tree nurseries, WFP provides food rations to the participating households.

GV of Women planting and watering plants.

02:02-02:19 Ardamata IDP camp Geneina, West Darfur Shot 14 July 2013
SAFE (Safe Access To Fuel Efficient Stoves and Alternative Energy)

GV of women making fuel efficient stoves, the participants get food rations from WFP

02:19-02:46 Abou Shouk camp, El Fasher, North Darfur Shot 11 July 2013
WFP food vouchers distribution,
The beneficiaries get one voucher worth 5.8 usd for each member of the family for each month.
They redeem the vouchers on the same site at selected mobile stores, they can choose from 14 different food items which include meat, sorghum, millet, wheat, lentils, pasta, sugar, ground nut oil, eggs, sun-dried okra and tomato.

GV of women getting the vouchers
GV of women buying food from the stores

02:46-03:02 Al Madina Almnwra School, Geneina, West Darfur Shot 14 July 2013
WFP School Meals Programme, 180,000 pupils receive school meals, 261 schools between West and Centre Darfur. Over 600,000 school children across Darfur benefit from the programme.
Various of school children in the classroom.
Various of school children eating outside.

END
WFP is the world’s largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide. Last year, WFP reached more than 97 million people in 80 countries with food assistance.

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