

UNITED METHODIST COMMITTEE ON RELIEF (UMCOR) - SUDAN

**IMPROVED WATER SUPPLY TO VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES IN ADILLA AND
AL DAEIN LOCALITIES**

**QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT
(March – June 2008)**

**Submitted to:
Ginghamsburg United Methodist Church in Ohio**

**By
UMCOR-SUDAN**

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Program Title: **Improved Water Supply to Vulnerable Communities in Adilla and Al Daein Localities – PHASE II**

Country/Region: **Sudan/Darfur State**

Disaster/Hazard: **Emergency**

Period Covered by Report: **March 1, – June 30, 2008**

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Introduction

The Republic of Sudan has been experiencing war and conflict for over two decades. In 2005, the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) was signed, bringing an end to the 21 year conflict between the Muslim North and the Christian South. However, three years after the signing of the CPA, some of the conflicting interests have yet to be settled. While there was discussion on ending the north – south war, a new crisis emerged in the Western State of Darfur between the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) and various militants, namely the Sudan Liberation Army (SLA) and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM). The conflict impacted approximately 4.2 million people in Darfur; of these, 2.2 million¹ are internally displaced, and an additional 238,000 Sudanese refugees are in eastern Chad.

Water facilities in Darfur were severely damaged in consequence of the conflict. Availability of water is extremely limited and is seriously affecting public health and wellbeing of the population. In response, water projects are being implemented by the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) with the support of the Ginghamburg United Methodist Church in Ohio, USA.

The primary goal of the project is to improve water supply and reduce contamination at the water yards in 4 targeted villages during the first year of implementation. Four boreholes will be rehabilitated through the replacement of damaged equipment. Water and sanitation committees will be trained to ensure project sustainability, and a strong hygiene promotion component will provide the link between the new system and the end users. It is expected that in addition to the benefits in health improvement, the project will also contribute to promote peace between host communities, IDP and nomad tribes by reducing localized conflicts over the scarce resources.

Security Situation

Security situation in Darfur continues to be precarious as the international community carries on its relief efforts in support of the DPA. The SLA and JEM fragmented into successive factions while civilians continue to be forcibly displaced as a result of attacks from both sides of the conflict. With displaced populations growing, many internally displaced persons (IDP) camps can no longer absorb the new arrivals. Tensions are rising, and for the first time since late 2004, humanitarian aid workers are reporting a substantial increase in malnutrition in the camp population. Though efforts are being made to address the needs created by the crisis, humanitarian operation and its staff continues to be targeted by violence. Since the beginning of 2007, an unprecedented high number of aid workers have been temporarily abducted, convoys attacked or looted and vehicles hijacked. Safe and unhindered access for humanitarian workers, fundamental to their operations has declined significantly. As a result, nearly one million people in Darfur have been periodically cut off from assistance. The increased insecurity culminated with the rebel factions extending the fight to Umdurman (the adjacent town to Khartoum). The rebel factions were defeated but this episode has left both Darfur and Khartoum areas tense. The current situation also leaves the peace process in a state of uncertainty

In El Deain and Northern Adilla localities, rebel and militia movement was reported. Robbery and physical attacks on civilian vehicles have intensified in El Ferdous area where accessibility has been restricted for NGOs for the second consecutive month. The areas of Adilla remained

¹ USAID, April 2008

generally calm with no significant security incidents reported for the better part of the month. However, two armed men on camels hijacked an UMCOR vehicle, in Adilla locality on May 31st, 2008. The following day, ten commercial trucks and 11 vehicles were hijacked by rebel forces between Dar es Salaam and Bakhit centers. Thus, movements of relief vehicles are restricted to convoys from Ed Daein to Nyala and Ed Daein to El Obeid so as to ensure their safe arrival to their destinations.

Program Performance during the reporting period

Formation of water and sanitation committees and hygiene promotion activities progressed well during the reporting period. The formation and training of the committees will be followed by commencement of hardware water works when materials are received in the field, projected for July.

Strategic objective #1: Increase community access to safe water
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Expected Results:

1. Estimated 28,000 individuals have access to improved water sources
2. 50% increase in water available to beneficiaries
3. Specific activities are identified for the nomads as part of integration and peace-building strategy

i) Infrastructure Component

Construction activities: No construction activities in the areas of (a) bore whole drilling, (b) borehole rehabilitation, and (c) water yard construction, took place during the reporting period. Equipments for groundwater abstraction are being procured in Khartoum and will be detailed during the next reporting period.

ii) Community Mobilization and Hygiene Promotion Activities

- (a) Hygiene Promotion: UMCOR worked with communities to identify community-based hygiene promoters who were trained on community health education and mobilization strategies. The local hygiene promoters are expected to provide hygiene promotion messages regarding hand-washing, particularly before eating, after attending latrines, and before preparing food, within their communities. After training, the hygiene promoters provided health education sessions in 6 communities within Egik areas in the month of May and June.

iii) Capacity-building

- (a) Set up/training of Water and Sanitation Committees: 4 water and sanitation committees were established and trained in the new sites during the reporting period. The function of each water committee is to collect and manage user fees and the water points effectively.

Monitoring

Table 1: Overall progress versus selected indicators

Progress Indicators	Baseline	Target	Achievement
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Progress Indicators	Baseline	Target	Achievement
Number of Water and sanitation management committees (WSC) formed and trained (target 1/water yard– male/female ratio)	0	4 WSC 25% women	4 WSC 25% women
Number of boreholes/water yards rehabilitated	0	4	-
Number of water yards with improved drainage systems	0	4	-
Average quantity of water available per person per day (target >20%)	4 liters	>15 liters (Sphere Standards)	-
Number of hygiene promotion sessions conducted (8 sessions/village)	0	32 villages - 48 sessions	6 villages reached
Number of latrines constructed in IDP settings	0	400	-
Number of peace building initiatives conducted (target: 1/population cluster)	0	4	-