



IMPROVED HOUSEHOLD LIVELIHOOD SECURITY PROJECT

PROGRESS REPORT JUNE- SEPT 2005



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Project Title:	Improved Household Livelihood Security in Transitional Areas
Country:	Sudan
Award Number:	DFD-G-00-05-00034-00
Country Region:	Wau, Western Bahr El Ghazal, Unity State and Khartoum (East and Central Africa)
Organization:	CARE International in Sudan
Implementing Partners:	Local NGOs and CBOs
Total Budget:	\$ 2,004,612
USAID/OFDA Grant Duration:	12 months

Contents

This report is composed of the following parts:-

Part One: - gives an overview about the background of the project area (Western Bahr El Ghazal State, Unity State and Khartoum)

Part Two: - discusses the objective of the project and the achievements attained during the reporting period.

Part three: - highlights the emergency distributions in IDP camps in Khartoum

Part four: - highlights on the expected impact of the outputs produced.

Part Five:-outlines some elements of sustainability of the project.

Part Six:-pin-points some of the anticipated challenges that might affect the project.

Part Seven: - Presents some lessons/stories about the project.

Executive Summary

This report covers the Improved Household Livelihood Security Project activities as from July through Sept 2005.

During the period under review, the project has made some good efforts in terms of improving the livelihood coping mechanisms of the beneficiaries. Some capacity building initiatives for individual beneficiaries and also community organizations have been taken up during this period. A total of 37 war affected children/adolescent (14-16 ages old) have been selected to undergo 35 days intensive vocational training in carpentry. A total of 28 Village Development Committees (VDCs) have been formed during this period. Besides, some existing community organizations like Agriculture Development Committees (ADCs) have also been re-vitalized. The construction of a carpentry workshop is underway.

The capacity building activities for Food Security for War Displaced Project (which is budgeted under this grant) could not proceed much during this quarter because the project did not receive food. Therefore, some changes in the plan took place. More concentration was placed on the partner's capacity building such as orienting partner's staff on Health Nutrition and food commodity management, organizing health education sessions for pregnant and lactating mothers etc.

During this period, the project also did significant emergency distributions in IDP camps in Khartoum. Plastic sheeting was procured by CARE and delivered to the 2 INGO (Medair, FAR) partners for distribution. Both had, through the community leaders identified the beneficiaries within the communities of El Salaam, Soba Aradi, Wad el Bashir and Mayo Farms and all plastic sheeting had been distributed within this reporting period. CARE procured and distributed 1,300 plastic sheeting, over and above the contract amount for distribution in El Fateh, at the request of USAID.

In order to improve access to toilets, good progress has been made during this period. Both FAR and Medair had started construction of latrines, although Solidarites, the other partner, had major problems obtaining permission from the relevant authorities. FAR had completed 4 communal latrines with superstructures and MedAir had manufactured all the concrete slabs necessary and completed the pit-holes for 4 latrines.

In order to promote community hygiene, Solidarites formed 10 health Committees in El Fateh and have began to train them to conduct health and hygiene education sessions in the area. FAR distributed soap to 7,600 families and began hygiene awareness raising at community level. The health education sessions conducted by CBO animators during registration of families focused on family hygiene and environmental sanitation. The inputs of this project met household need for health promotion which has impact to their living conditions. Most of the 2,400 representatives from the families visited were women.

During this period, the project also faced certain challenges. These were:

1. The Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) has opened new challenges that must be addressed by agencies and organizations. They will have to assist in rebuilding the destroyed

infrastructure, facilitate the repatriation of IDPs and refugees, as well as provision of basic necessities for human life.

2. With restoration of political stability after the signing of CPA, it entails that once repatriation starts there is need to concurrently carry out needs assessment for IDPs and returnees such as basic inputs for agricultural activities, water, health, education etc. With a very limited resources (HR, fund, logistics), it will be a big challenge for the project.
3. The removal of landmines in these states especially in Bahr El Ghazal has not covered large areas especially on the major roads connecting urban and rural centers. There is need to expedite the removal of these mines to facilitate free movement.
4. The post conflict era is causing potential conflicts among the returning citizens over deeply rooted social-economic matters such as land, marriages, retaliation etc.

PART ONE

1. Background:

Overview

Bahr El Ghazal

Since the civil strife erupted, Wau the capital of Bahr El Ghazal State has been a political and administrative seat for the government of Western Bahr El Ghazal, WARAP and Lake States. Geographically the location of Wau is strategic; as such it attracts people from different parts for different purposes. The town underwent successive violence and ethnic complexity, which adversely weakened the social fabric among the tribes in Bahr El Ghazal. The recent political settlement, which ended the longest conflict in Sudan puts Wau town under more pressure stemming from unavailability of some infrastructure and basic facilities.

Wau with its strategic location is open to huge influx has become densely populated which demands social and economic services.

Market prices are drastically shooting up and some commodities are unaffordable due to the low purchasing power of the community. The dependability on humanitarian assistance still predominately dominates. Services are hardly provided to the communities due to limited facilities compared to population increase. There have been cases of children's and women's exploitation through offering marginal occupations with non attractive rewards.

Lack of skills are among the factors that affect productive capacities, limit economic diversification and employment opportunities.

Unity

Unity State which is comprised of four provinces of Rubkona, Pariang, Mayom and Leer has an estimated population of 1,560,000. The Nuer and Dinkas are the ancestral inhabitants of the area. However, the central location of the state attracted vast numbers of traders, cattle owners, job seekers and petroleum prospecting companies in addition to soldiers deployed to defend the towns and companies. The IDPs and potential returnees and war affected residents of Unity state have very few coping mechanisms remaining for survival. The main traditional coping mechanism used to be livestock, fishing, small agriculture and wild fruit collection.

With the peace agreement signed between the SPLA and the GOS, many IDPs and voluntary returnees are coming back to their land of origin in large numbers, which coincided with the agricultural rainy season.

Khartoum

Since the early 80s, the Sudan has suffered from severe droughts and endured a 20 years long war between the North and the South, which created the biggest contingent of Internal Displaced People in a country in the world. With the outburst of the war in Darfur in 2004, the number increased again, reaching more than 4 million displaced. Today, Khartoum state itself counts more than 2 million IDPs who came during the several phases of crises that Sudan went through, to find, if not a better life, at least a safer one.

The Improved Household Livelihood Security in Transitional Areas is a one-year project funded by OFDA. The project operates in Bahr El Ghazal, Unity state and Khartoum with the specific objective of addressing the above mentioned.

PART TWO

2.1 Objective 1

5,442 resident and returnee households in Unity State and 3,078 in Bahr El Ghazal living in war-affected areas have improved (levels of sustainable income) livelihood coping mechanisms through the provision of capacity building and inputs for small business enterprises.

In Bahr El Ghazal

2.1 Promoting awareness:

The project has come up with a model as a strategy for widening the scope of the community and its perception about support provided by the project. This was an entry point that greatly assisted in expediting its effectiveness, especially after the formation of a variety of informal a formal forums at the grass -roots level as well as at levels of other sections of society. It is worth noting that the forum comprises the universities of Bahr El Ghazal and Quran El Karim, traditional/community leaders, members of the political parties, the media and other relevant institutions. These forums are meant to facilitate and advocate for peace promotion, with emphasis on issues related to problems that will affect the returning population such as land, water points, grazing areas, resettlement, and their reintegration. This is being done partially by informal discussions, as well as workshops and seminars. The outcome of this initiative could be seen in attitudinal changes towards welcoming the returning population and facilitation in provision of land for cultivation, ground for fishing, and coping mechanism e.g. collection of fire wood.

2.2 Support to income generating activities:



As one of the cardinal objectives of the project in order to support activities that have high potential of generating income, the identified potential fields for income generating activities include, handicraft, food preservation and processing, carpentry, vegetable gardening, poultry, goat restocking, petty trading etc. (these are dry season activities). These activities are targeting war affected children/ youth, CBOs, and vulnerable women. Within that context, a total of 37 war affected children (between ages 14-16 years) have been selected to undergo 35 days intensive

vocational training in carpentry. Some of the selected children had undergone training before. It is expected that after the training they will be organized into at least 2 groups, thereafter, will be provided with some carpentry tools as start-up capital to operate two workshops. As for the CBOs/vulnerable women, they will be sub granted to finance selected micro activities as cited above.

2.3 Conflict management:



CARE (IHLSTA) project deems it necessary to pursue peace building activities. Therefore the project is following the same COMPET¹ peace building model and currently is working with 40 traditional chiefs from the various ethnic groups in the state. Although the groups had identified three potential areas of conflict during the post war period, namely, land, marriage, and power sharing, in recent meetings with the chiefs additional sources were identified. These sources include issues of retaliation - behaviour which might induce recurrence of

another ethnic conflict in the area - hence the need to continue to encourage dialogues with chiefs and their respective communities to emphasize on basic pillars of peace such as, reconciliation, forgiveness, and peaceful coexistence. Within the context of conflict management it has been agreed with the chiefs to have continuous dialogues to foster interaction of various ethnic groups through initiation of cross visits, and community gathering.

¹ Wau Conflict Mitigation and Peace Transformation Project (COMPET) funded by CIDA from June 2003-September 2005. The project was carried out by CARE to strengthen the capacity of twenty traditional leaders, ten CBOs and the broadcast media in Wau town to effectively mitigate tribal conflict, advance peace transformation and a culture of peace, and advocate against the abduction of women and children. This was done in coordination with local NGOs and CBOs

So far ten community gatherings have taken place with the communities of Fertit, Dinka, and the Luo. These communities were of a general consensus to continue creating an enabling environment for the returnees and IDPs.

2.4 Strengthening Rural Community Institutions



A total of 28 Village Development Committees (VDCs) were formed. Each committee is represented by 12 members as an executive body. The total number in all the 28 villages is about 335 members of which 25% are women. Out of the 84 members as holders of key positions (chairperson, secretary and treasurer) women represents 12%. The low representation of women in key positions was basically due to some negative social and traditional norms that deny women rights in rural communities' leadership. The members were selected by the general consensus of the

community. The average size of the population which attended the process of selection was about 30% of the total estimated population of these villages (20,000). The process of selection was affected by the population movement to the urban centre and the farming season. The VDCs roles are to oversee all the activities deemed important in their respective villages. The villages covered by the VDCs represent about 80% of the total villages of Wau and Jur river localities. To strengthen their capacities, 93 nominees representing the 28 villages had been selected to undergo training in the management of the VDCs. It is planned that sub-committees e.g. agriculture, health, education, women, water and sanitation shall be formed in each of the VDCs.

2.5 Support to partners

The project works with the 12 local NGOs/CBOs formally identified by the previous COMPET. The services being provided the partners include capacity building and sub grants. To effectively work in partnership with those organizations, an exercise was done to assess their capacity in terms of financial capability, management and delivery. The results indicated that 25%, 33% and 42% were strong, moderate and weak respectively. The aim of the exercise was to enable the project to strategize its resources to promote partners capacity through training, information sharing, and exchange visits. In this regard 667 participants mainly women have already been identified to attend various training sessions in project proposal writing, funds raising, general management, marketing, and other vocational and skills training. The project's strategy is to focus more on promoting partners with low capacity.

In Unity

This reporting period (July to September 2005) has witnessed logistical problems due to the fact that all our operations are outside locations and with few reliable vehicles.

Besides the logistical issues, factor of insecurity in other areas of operation hampered the project's activities. During this process certain sets of indicators were developed to measure the security situation like:-

- 1- Massive influx and out flux of population from town.

- 2- Movement of local traders
- 3- Increase in market prices
- 4- Goods from neighboring countries flowing in.
- 5- Imposition and lifting of curfews
- 6- Increase in crimes.

Despite these constraints, the following progress was made:

- 1 The ADC (agriculture development committees) previously formed by GAA (German Agro Action) is fully engaged with our project as they had already received training before. They are also working closely with CARE to identify the vegetable growers.
- 2 The VDC (Village development committees) that are mainly comprised of health workers are also constantly with the program.
- 3 The Madman women association are closely working with our extensionists to develop their skills on agricultural activities
- 4 CARE is coordinating with the SMOA (State Ministry of Agriculture) fisheries and forestry. CARE also coordinates with other agencies /Partners (GAA) to assist in determining weather forecasts (Rainfall measurement).

2.6 Promoting Networking and Capacity building

Peace building programs

A series of training workshops have been conducted by the community management officer and the extensionists during the month of August 05 in various fields. A one day workshop was conducted by the project staff on issues of conflict and conflict transformation for the community leaders on 5th August, 05 and another similar session was also extended to project staff on 9th of August 05.

Training on the role of community based organizations was also conducted for one day which was addressing issues of coming up with an organized community body who will act on behalf of the community for the provision of improved services.

The beneficiaries that are interested and willing to cooperate in each selected village or village cluster will consolidate their existing structures to form a community development committee. It will become CARE's partner for program interventions and community services. The sessions discussed the basis for formation of village development committees (VDCs).

Community Activities priority Mapping

A- Maadman Women Association

This association was initiated by CARE women with the objective of raising women's awareness on

- 1- Peace building capacity, peaceful coexistence.
- 2- HIV/AIDS awareness campaign
- 3- Small scale business enterprises

Eventually other women joined the group and started official registration as a CBO with CARE's assistance.



Women group CBO Maadman in one of their meeting

Currently they have been allocated thirty three (33) feddans of agricultural land in Rubkona and planted eighteen feddans with field crops.

CARE's livelihood program assisted this group with seeds and tools and some grants to start land preparation. Also CARE assisted them in writing a proposal for food for work funded by WFP which was not released up to the reporting period.

From 06/09/05 to 27/09/05 the farm generated a sum of SD 56,000 (fifty six thousand SD only) from the sale of okra and maize. Part of this money was used to pay the watchman and women workers doing the harvesting.

Other vegetable crops like pumpkins and water melons are expected to be harvested soon.

Five feddans of maize were left to dry in the field for sale in November 2005.

B Village Development Committees (VDC)

VDCs were also formed and oriented on the role they will play in the community Objective, tasks and responsibilities, linkages and authorities. Structure and the constitution of the VDC were also discussed in the session.

Carpentry and Fishery Programs

A Carpentry Workshop

A Carpentry workshop for training the carpenters is currently under construction and the first phase of the compound is already finished,

The workshop will be made of local materials as a start up process. The construction of other building rooms and veranda for the trainees has started using permanent materials to store the tools and vital items and hopefully will be completed by the end of October. Some materials are not readily available on the ground and its transportation is hampered by rainfall.

All carpenters are going to be enrolled in the program and carpentry tools will be provided to them so as to work in groups of 10 each.



The Fishery program has already received the fishing equipment and started distribution to registered fishermen.

Due to the lack of financial resources of the fishermen they are subject to hard labor and rendering their fishing activities to fishing companies at cheaper prices. Upon confirming that CARE is acting on what they promised to deliver, the fishing project being introduced by CARE will provide the expensive nets and hooks beyond their purchasing power and are given free.

2.2 OBJECTIVE 2

Improved general food security for approximately 10,000 households in Unity State and 3,500 households in Bahr El Ghazal through increased provision of agricultural goods and services

In Bahr El Gazal

2.2.1 Support to production capacity

pieces of various types of agricultural hand tools (10,500) were distributed to benefit 1,929 farmers in the 28 villages. In addition to 60 kgs of various vegetable seeds were distributed to 1,929 households to be planted during the dry seasons. The tools were mainly distributed to complement the 6 MTs of improved seed varieties of sorghum and sesame which were distributed to support the production capacity of 1,724 households in the project area. The agricultural inputs distributed to the targeted beneficiaries represent 56% of the total beneficiaries targeted (3,078). The beneficiaries are made up of 60% IDPs, 15% Returnees and 25% Residents. The distributed seeds covered 28 villages in Western Bahr El Ghazal and were planted in an area of approximately 1,724 feddans (each Household allotted one feddan). A total of 28 extension sessions for information dissemination were conducted in the 28 villages. The sessions targeted VDCs members, to identify their problems, prioritize their needs, and suggest possible solutions. Accordingly, 40%, 40% and 20% of problems identified related to basic services, capacity building and agricultural production respectively. Plans are underway to conduct training on skills formation, marketing, extension, public health, and managerial training for the VDCs.

In Unity

An arrangement was made through the extensionists and school teachers to organize school gardening so as to instill the idea of agricultural practices to the students. Four of the school

gardens in Abiemnom and Rubkona have planted their vegetable crops during July 05. As of this reporting period the vegetable gardening uses rain water for its germination period and will require irrigation during dry season using water cans. All the schools were given 25g of tomatoes, 25 g of sweet pepper, 25g of egg plants and 125 g of water melons each to be planted in the prepared land around the school yard. Besides the seeds given to them, agricultural tools were also provided to schools.

The impact of the livelihood project is clearly marked and is reflected in the daily lives of the community, that is to say that seeds and tools distributed to the farmers of all localities of the state has changed to some extent the living standard of the community since some products of the farms has been sold and people started to support themselves with maize, okra, squash, tomatoes and other vegetables.

Farmers groups who received the seeds and agriculture inputs have been appreciating CARE's livelihood project for implementing this type of livelihood project which is the first time to be carried out in the state compared to GAA and expressed their hope that CARE could do better in the next season for reasons mentioned above which is basically associated with delay in distribution of the seeds and tools.

Capacity Building program component

Objective 3: Increased potential of vulnerable women to access employment opportunities

Objective 4: The technical and organizational capacity of partners to provide adequate standard basic services to IDPs strengthened.

Under these two objectives, the capacity building component of Food Security for War Displaced Project (funded by FFP) has been specified and budgeted. The planned activities for the quarter and progresses are as follows:

The following activities were planned for the second quarter

1. Set criteria for selection of vulnerable household members.
2. Form community committees to participate in the selection and implementation.
3. Selection of training participants.
4. Identify community preferences for training.
5. Ensuring feasibility of different trades.
6. Formalize different trainings for vulnerable community members.
7. Establish monitoring system for training progress.
8. Monitoring progress.
9. Identify places for literacy and numeracy classes
10. Identify and select literacy and numeracy trainers from the community
11. Organize ToT for these trainers
12. Literacy and numeracy training for vulnerable women

Again during this second quarter, the project did not receive food. Some quantities of food began to arrive at the end of August. Therefore, some changes in the plan took place for the third quarter. More concentration was placed on the following:

1. Nutrition and food commodity management:

Five nutritionists received intensive training on nutrition, commodity management and CARE protocol,

Four Assistant Nutritionists received training sessions on nutrition protocol, child growth monitoring and book keeping.

Forty Six storekeepers received on-the-job training on food commodity management.

Twenty Six Traditional Birth Attendants received training on family planning, nutrition during pregnancy, complementary feeding for child, immunization and HIV AIDs awareness.

Eighty mothers trained on how to prepare food for children, hygiene and health awareness.

2. Health Education Sessions:

This program is designed for pregnant and lactating mothers at IDPs camps and squatter areas.

- During this quarter 3,663 pregnant women and 2,915 lactating mothers benefited from the health education programs and received food as an incentive.
- Dry Supplementary Feeding Program for children under five: health education for caretakers benefited 3,096 mothers and received food for both children under five and mothers for three months as incentives for graduation.

3. Twenty five PNGOs/CBOs received preliminary training on proposal writing, reporting and monitoring. This training will be upgraded in the future.

4. Six CHPs supervisors attended advanced training to enable them to up grade sixty CHPs performance who are working with PNGOs at camps and squatter areas.

5. The project received five proposals submitted by PNGOs/CBOs subject to discussion and verifications before signing partnership agreement.

Third Quarter Plan:

1. Finalize partners' proposals and sign agreements.
2. Beneficiaries' selection criteria discussed and approved by partners.
3. Beneficiaries selected and the capacity building training started.
4. Community committees received training on peace building, leadership, HIV/AIDs,
5. Identify active CBOs/LNGOs in the field of training in both Unity state and Nuba Mountain areas.
6. Encourage civil society organizations to participate in the capacity building program.
7. Identify places for literacy and numeracy classes
8. Identify and select literacy and numeracy trainers from the community
9. Organize ToT for these trainers
10. Literacy and numeracy training for vulnerable women

PART THREE

Emergency Distributions in IDP camps in Khartoum

Disaster / Hazard:

Demolition of IDP areas in Khartoum

Period of the program:

June 2005 up to August 2005

Total number of beneficiaries targeted:

196,920 direct and indirect beneficiaries

Dollar amount requested from OFDA: USD \$750,879

a) Demographic Profile:

Omdurman Es Salaam

Omdurman Es Salaam is an official IDP camp, which has been “replanned”². However, a large percentage of the residents have not yet received a plot and are living in temporary shelter while they await their plot allocation or are forced to relocate elsewhere. A breakdown of population figures (source: Khartoum State Inter-Agency Rapid Assessment, November 2004) shows that an average household has 6.6 members, with 1.5 children under the age of five and 2.1 children between six and fourteen years old; in other words, 54% of the population is under the age of fourteen. Almost every third household is female headed.

In November 2004 about 80% of the camp population was living in temporary shelters made up of plastic, textile and cardboard pieces (Khartoum State Rapid Assessment) and although some people have since been able to rebuild their houses it is estimated that about 50% of the population still live in temporary shelters. (Figures based on a count of houses/temporary shelters within the Medair target area of OES.) Plastic sheeting distributed last year has now deteriorated due to wear and tear and exposure to the harsh climate, and cannot be expected to remain waterproof.

Wad el Bashir

Located 15 km northwest of Khartoum, Wad el Bashier (WeB), with an estimated population of 74,800 people, is another official IDP camp that has been demolished and “replanned” An estimated 13,500 families had their homes demolished in 2004, but by November 2004, only 5,400 had received plots and 8,100 had not.³ According to responsible authorities these families will be given plots in new blocks 51 and 52 south of Omdurman El Salam (OeS) camp approximately 6-8 kilometres from WeB.

Soba Aradi

Soba Aradi is a squatter area composed of twelve zones (Muaba'at) or blocks with an estimated population of 64,000 people. Demolitions started in Soba during August 2004 and by November 2004, all 12 blocks were demolished. According to the Ministry of Engineering and the Ministry of Planning, the residents of Soba Aradi are not considered to be IDPs, because there is said to be a high level of involvement of businessmen (Samasra) and there are also illegal citizens suspected of grabbing free land. This has created a different situation than in the other areas. In addition, a portion of the land belongs to University of Khartoum faculty of agriculture and another portion to the armed forces. There is an agreement between the government and those institutions where the government wants to reconsider the land for residents to settle. The fees for the land are commercialized. On May 18, 2005, the government attempted to relocate IDPs from Soba Arradi to a place further south between Jebel Aulia and Kalakala, which resulted in a violent clash between the local communities and the police. The community members have been informed that on July the 7th 2005 up to 4,000 households will be relocated to the new area.

² In reality, the “replanning” has only referred to the demolition of homes and demarcation of plots, but not to the provision of services etc.

³ People’s Popular Committee- Sudan. October 2004

Mayo Farms

Mayo Farms is an IDP Camp with an estimated population of 133,000 people located immediately south of Khartoum. The residents of Mayo are war-affected population from southern Sudan and the Nuba Mountains. Areas adjacent to Mayo Farms Camp have been re-planned and sold/allocated to citizens, including IDPs, over the past years. Mayo Farms itself has not yet been re-planned, although there has been indications that replanning will soon occur in this area. The rapid assessment in December 2004 revealed that 44% of deaths in the past year was caused by diarrhoeal disease, and that with the upcoming rainy season and the proposed replanning of this area, the situation could considerably worsen in upcoming months.

El Fateh

Shikan area is one of the numerous IDPs un-official camps (squatter area) in Khartoum State. It is located North-West Omdurman. The first inhabitants arrived there from 1983. Since then, the flood of IDPs (as well as urban poor pushed to the periphery by lack of means) went on growing, the population of Shikan squatter area reaching 80 000 people in the mid 90s. The area has been through 6 demolitions, in the framework of the urban planning process that started in the mid 90s. Families are removed without prior notice and often during raining season or winter. The process starts with the demolitions of the houses, some families are allocated a plot and have to rebuild while a high proportion of the families do not get a land and start again living in makeshift shelters, with no latrines, then rebuild, and so on until next demolition.

In the context of the re-planning of Shikan squatted area, the local authorities of Khartoum began demolitions of IDP houses on the 28th of December 2004, leaving more than 12,000 people homeless. During the registration process for plot allocation, the families have put up makeshift shelters nearby the demolished area. Some of the families were relocated to El Fateh, 20 km north of Omdurman, where there were are no water, health or education facilities. While these families are now struggling to get money and build their house, the families who did not get a plot are still living in makeshift shelters in Shikan (made of cardboard, plastic bags, rakuba). Even though some of the families received plots in the surrounding planned area, the majority of them are still waiting to get their piece of land. Among those who remained in Shikan, some are « ineligible » and others are supposedly entitled to plots in the re-planned Shikan (according to their « koteyeb » stating their date of arrival in Shikan), but up to now the area is not cleared and no land has been attributed so far.

As for those who received plots, the families do not receive compensation when their house is demolished and completing the process of registration of the plot is very costly. People spend a large proportion of their money in rebuilding, at the expense of other basic needs which become a non priority (education, Health, etc.) or unaffordable in the current situation. Although there are two health centers and one dispensary⁴ in El Fateh (1, 2 and 3) many can not afford to go and get treated. In addition, many have not yet build their house and have no access to latrines and have to defecate in the open.

As usual the most vulnerable are the children and the women, however due to the prevalent poverty among the population of Al Fateh, this program intend to address all categories within the population of Al Fateh.

⁴ dispensary build but not active yet, Cf. last visit held by EM-DH project coordinator on the 05/05/2005

b. Overall objective

To reduce the prevalence of waterborne diseases and mitigate the negative effects of the demolitions among the population of El Fatah, Omdurman es Salaam, Wad el Bashier, Soba Arradi and Mayo Farms IDP areas of Khartoum State.

c. Specific objectives

1) “Shelter and settlement standard 3: covered living space

People have sufficient covered space to provide dignified accommodation. Essential household activities can be satisfactorily undertaken, and livelihood support activities can be pursued as required.” (Sphere Standards)

The objective is to contribute to the above standard and to improve the existing temporary shelters substantially in order to meet the basic shelter needs of IDPs and to prevent Crude Mortality Rate (CMR) and Under Five Mortality Rate (U5MR) from rising.

2) “Excreta disposal standard 1: access to, and numbers of, toilets

People have adequate numbers of toilets, sufficiently close to their dwellings, to allow them rapid, safe and acceptable access at all times of the day and night.” (Sphere Standards)

The objective is to contribute to the above standard by building community and household latrines in order to meet the basic sanitation needs of IDPs and to prevent/help contain a possible outbreak of diarrhoeal diseases (e.g. cholera, usually referred to as “Severe Acute Watery Diarrhoea” within the North Sudan health context.)

3) Community Hygiene Promotion

Communities have access to education regarding hygiene related illnesses and are encouraged to adopt practices that minimise risk.

The objective is to increase the knowledge of the local community regarding how to prevent diarrhoeal disease within the current context, and to raise the capacity of local CBOs/NGOs to promote hygiene in their communities.

d. Progress against Objectives:

Preamble:

CARE signed sub-grant agreements with three INGO (Medair, FAR and Solidarites) on July 6th 2005 for the implementation of this project. CARE procured and delivered over 22,000 plastic sheets and 15,600 jerry cans to the partners for delivery.

Objective 1:

CARE obtained permission for its 3 partners to implement the project from CVHW. Plastic sheeting was procured by CARE and delivered to the 2 INGO (Medair, FAR) partners for distribution. Both had, through the community leaders identified the beneficiaries within the communities of El Salaam, Soba Aradi, Wad el Bashir and Mayo Farms and all plastic sheeting had been distributed within this reporting period. CARE procured and distributed 1,300 plastic sheeting, over and above the contract amount for distribution in El Fateh, at the request of USAID. A complete breakdown by location will be available with the partner’s final reports to CARE and incorporated in CARE’s final report to USAID.

Constraints:

The sudden death of John Garang virtually stopped work in all locations for two weeks due to security issues for both partner staff and contractors. Difficulty in the procurement of plastic sheeting by CARE delayed its distribution because selected suppliers failed to honour the stated delivery schedule. Both partners suffered from local storage space and had to streamline food and non-food distributions which resulted in limited delays.

Success story (more or less):

The supplier of the jerry cans, after signing a purchase order, offered the project free storage of the 16,000 jerry cans for 5 weeks until distribution was possible. Neither CARE nor the partners had anywhere near sufficient space to house these and so his intervention was very timely and welcome.

Objective 2:

At the time of their mid-grant reports, late August, both FAR and Medair had started construction of latrines, although Solidarites had had major problems obtaining permission from the relevant authorities. FAR had completed 4 communal latrines with superstructures and MedAir had manufactured all the concrete slabs necessary and completed the pit-holes for 4 latrines.

Constraints:

Solidarites faced the main constraints due to a changing operational environment and problems obtaining permission to start construction. Please see extract from Solidarites interim report to CARE:

As mentioned above the results on this project are almost nil for the time being however this is due to several constraints detailed below.

The project start date is July 6 2005. Programmed activities were delayed due to unforeseen approval processes and external factors which impacted on security and access to the area. Furthermore, it was necessary to redesign the project objectives in view of progress of settlement since the initial assessment had been made and in recognition of existing sustainable sanitation initiatives in Al Fateh.

“Solidarites based its approval strategy on advice from EM-DH who had been active in the area (e.g. surveys). Initial contact with the Omdurman Ministry of Planning & Physical Utilities suboffice was made on July 10 2005. The proposal for Al Fateh was presented for endorsement. It was explained that due to the planned nature of Al Fateh collective latrines would need to be sited in common areas (e.g. reference to maps and joint site visits with surveying engineers). On the 15th of August, Solidarites received written confirmation of an “official decision allowing activities in approved areas of Al Fateh, Shikan and Tswaura Block 81 that would return to the possession of the Ministry upon termination of activities”.

The Al Fateh area falls with the Mahalia of Karari. The Mahalia of Karari has a suboffice in Al Fateh. Information regarding the decision allowing activities in approved areas was forwarded to the

Commissioner of the Mahalia and diffused to engineering and public health sub-offices. Joint site visits to confirm locations of collective latrines in Al Fateh have been confirmed since the 12th of September."

Furthermore, Solidarites noted that:

"Approximately 1,200 persons were relocated to the north western sector of Al Fateh 3 in mid-August. Most of the families had been located in Shikan squatter area and surrounds although these families also include persons affected by the fallout of the events in early August.

There are numerous indicators that arrivals to Al Fateh will be ongoing over the next few months, and there appears to be formalisation that the northern sector is the official 'reception area'.

It is assumed that most families establishing in Al Fateh 3 will stay.

Needs of recent arrivals

The perception from very recently arrived families of the emergency needs are not sanitation, but water and access to services such as health / education. The need for food / NFI is high in the short term.

Needs of 'established' population / host population

It is observed that families established (on their allocated plot) in Al Fateh 3 over 6 months generally have a permanent shelter. Many have shallow pit latrines (1m deep) but there are also many who have been in the area over 3 years who have yet to dig a pit latrine (e.g. lack of means, adequate tools, time, able bodied diggers).

Community-level representation in Al Fateh 3 is limited. One of the constraining factors is the low density, relatively large distances and lack of transport to and within Al Fateh 3.

Sanitation needs

The concept of providing collective latrines as a wide spread sanitation solution is limited by a number of factors:

- Areas where there is a relatively high concentration of temporary shelters are relatively transient in nature and / or not officially recognised (e.g. a high proportion of families with unresolved plot entitlements). There is the need to identify open space / common areas for latrines of this nature (in cooperation with Mahalia surveying engineers), meet Mahalia specifications and also ensure transition (likely to be Mahalia's responsibility as well).*
- It is considered illogical to construct collective latrines or share latrines when you are establishing a permanent house on a plot. Families are not motivated by the accelerated construction of a shared latrine, would prefer the step wise construction of their own latrine, on their plot. There is a willingness to share with close family members, but that's it.*
- Planning for collective latrines in Blocks where people are going to settle eventually / soon is impossible on the information made available and risky from a transition / maintenance point of view.*
- An intervention should not compromise the Mahalia endorsed joint WES initiative by precluding community involvement / participation in establishment of sanitation.*

However, Solidarites proposed intervention to support the establishment of sanitation in the area is justified on the basis that:

- *Recent health data on both new arrivals (from Shikan) and established families is a strong argument for supporting latrine construction and carrying out hygiene promotion (to avoid deterioration of the situation with ongoing arrivals, particularly with the lack of basic services).*
- *Family latrines are the accepted and only acceptable sanitation solution for families with allocated plots. It must be assumed that most families in Al Fateh 3 will be allocated a plot eventually.*
- *The onus of establishing sanitation falls too heavily on the families themselves. The cost of materials to integrate the WES family latrine slabs (e.g. need for concrete), absence of able bodied diggers most of the week (or the cost of this type of labour), and the difficulty of digging in the soil (very rocky) preclude marginalised families from establishing effective sanitation. On this basis only more advantaged families are really eligible for proposed sanitation scheme (and this is supported by the evidence that slabs have been distributed mainly in Al Fateh 1 and 2). The families allocated plots in Al Fateh 3 are further marginalised due to the relatively high costs of services and are subject to other waves of arrivals."*

Consequently Solidarites requested a change in planned outputs as follows:

Support for the construction of up to 600 family latrines is proposed.

The proposed construction program breakdown:

- In consultation with hygiene promoters / HCs , identify eligible families with pits that are ready for lining;
- Provide pit lining service (labour and materials) in two stages:
 - Pit lining;
 - Return to fix slabs after families have dug to 5m.
- Loan of specialised tools, case by case, based on site conditions.

The above was discussed with Mr Abdelgadir Hamid and Mr Abdulrahman of USAID Sudan and agreed. Furthermore an extension to The contracts of all three partners were agreed as follows:

FAR:	End date 5th November 2005
Medair	End date 5th December 2005
Solidarites	End date 5th December 2005

Objective 3

3.1 Solidarites formed 10 health Committees in El Fateh and have began to train them to conduct health and hygiene education sessions in the area. FAR distributed soap to 7,600 families and began hygiene awareness raising at community level. The health education sessions conducted by CBO animators during registration of families focused on family hygiene and environmental sanitation. The inputs of this project met household need for health promotion which has impact to their living conditions. Most of the 2,400 representatives from the families visited were women. In Soba, the JVHA association which is dominated by women has been influential and have won respect among the larger community. Each day the JVHA conduct health session for a group of 200 women during the morning and one attended by 30 men in the evening. This has been continuously conducted with the aim of encouraging and reinforcing their effort to practice and maintain hygiene and environmental cleanliness. Both FAR and Medair

distributed 18 litre jerry cans to the most vulnerable families within their areas of operation as per the approved proposal.

PART FOUR

4. The expected impact

The expected impact of Improved Household Livelihood Security in Transitional Areas would greatly have a positive contribution to the socio-economic life of the people and the surrounding targeted villages. This is reflected in the below aspects.

4.1. Agriculture:

The distribution of tools and seeds to the targeted beneficiaries is likely to lead to increase in the yield which subsequently entails there would be increase in production. The increase in Production will avail some surplus which could be sold in the market, to generate income. It is also expected that they would preserve some seeds for the next season.

Although some of the beneficiaries had been expressing negative attitude towards acceptance of seeds from the north giving unscientific reasons, nevertheless, despite the biased attitude, the rate of adoption of the seeds distributed was high.

4.2 Income generation

It is within the frame work of Livelihood project that some income generating activities are being promoted e.g. carpentry, fisheries, small scale brick making and handicraft. These activities are expected to increase skills of the targeted beneficiaries, and provide employment opportunities, and hence generate income which leads to improvement of living standards.

4.3 Capacity building

The capacity building which constitutes training, empowerment and other services could result in gaining of additional skills providing further employment opportunities. This is expected to raise awareness of the beneficiaries.

4.4 Peace building

It will lead to the promotion of a culture of peace based on the peace pillars of reconciliation, forgiveness, and peaceful coexistence among the community. In addition to that, public awareness about the CPA has been included in the peace building activities to enhance information dissemination.

4.5 Grass root structures

The targeted communities are now organized as a result of having an umbrella in their respective locations. They can mobilize local resources and are better able to manage their resources sustainably. Further more, they will gain considerable skills in various fields.

4.6 Partners promotion

Empowerment of partners through sub grants to finance micro-projects lead to gaining skills and generation of income which could be revolved and recycled for financing additional activities.

4.7 Others:

The operation of Livelihood project in various locations will induce other actors to provide other essential services.

PART FIVE

5. Sustainability of the project results:

The sustainability of the Livelihood project depends on a number of factors which include the following:

5.1 Political and administration effectiveness and stability

This factor is of paramount importance, because of the fact that sound economic and administrative policies formulated by the state government could greatly have an impact on social life of the people in the area. It is therefore, hoped that sound policies would significantly promote socio-economic activities of the communities sustainably.

5.2 Institutional support

Legalization of the community structures is a pre-quisite for their sustainability. It provides a means for obtaining financial and technical support. Additionally, it gives an opportunity for their recognition by potential donors to provide any support.

5.3 Empowerment of the community structures

Sustainability of the rural community organizations, demands skills promotion that is deemed important to reinforce sense of responsibility, transparency and accountability which eventually will increase ownership and effective participation at all levels.

PART SIX

6. Challenges to the Improved Household Livelihood Security in Transitional Areas Project:

6.1 The Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) has opened new challenges that must be addressed by agencies and organizations. There is an extensive need in assistance for rebuilding the destroyed infrastructure, facilitate the repatriation of IDPs and refugees, as well as provision of basic necessities for human life. This is particularly a challenge to CARE which has been in these states since 1998. The challenge needs more interventions in the areas of livelihood food security, rehabilitation, and capacity building to meet the influx of anticipated population.

6.2 With restoration of political stability after the signing of CPA, it entails that once repatriation starts there is need to concurrently carry out needs assessment for IDPs and returnees such as basic inputs for agricultural activities, water, health, education etc. Considering limited resources (staffing, logistics etc.) it poses a challenge to the project.

6.3 The removal of landmines in these states especially in Bahr El Gazal has not covered large areas especially on the major roads connecting urban and rural centers. There is a need to expedite the removal of these mines to facilitate free movement. It would also provide additional land for cultivation and grazing.

6.4 The post conflict era is likely to cause potential conflicts among the returning citizens over deeply rooted social-economic matters such as land, marriages, retaliation etc. It is deemed necessary to incorporate across all the interventions a peace building component to address the cited matters.

PART SIX

Lessons and stories:

Ms Rosa Louis, 42 years old

Having been elected as secretary for information of GEATAN VDC, I never believed that one day I would have access to play in my community apart from being a house wife. Thanks for Livelihood project for availing this opportunity to me. **Regards Livelihood Project**



Mr. Pasquale Udo Maktab 66 Years old (An old famer)

I had been always skeptical about seeds brought from the north, because they are said to have over stayed and they considered rotten perhaps that is why they are brought to the south. This negative perception have surprisingly changed, when I received improved seeds variety brought from the north and distributed by livelihood project which miraculously germinated and performing Well. I hope to have good harvest.



I am Justin Francis / age 16 years old. I Was almost abandoning my carpentry training and going back to join my previous group mates (street boys) had it not been of the timely intervention of L.H project which promised to improve our skills, and providing carpentry tools for us. I can now seriously think of concentrating on promoting my skills, earn income, and focus on my studies.