

Alert

SUDAN – No. 30/2010

Sudan Conflict Preparedness

Geneva, Monday 27th September 2010

1. Brief description of the emergency

The interim period of Sudan's Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) which ended over two decades of civil war, is coming to a close and the country's future is uncertain. On 9th January 2011 Southern Sudan will vote on whether to secede from the north and become Africa's (and the world's) newest country. Any troubles linked to this process would come on top of ongoing crises of conflict, displacement, flooding, food shortages and disease in many parts of the country. The worst case scenario would be a return to all-out war, potentially affecting the whole country and its neighbors (Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia in particular).

2. National and international response

The Southern Sudan government's Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (SSRRC) is present in all states and acts in a coordination role, verifying the number of people affected by any crisis. National NGOs, International NGOs and UN agencies are present in all states but the sheer size and inaccessibility of much of Sudan means that there are often gaps both geographically and sectorally. Contingency planning is ongoing and multi-agency State Level Humanitarian Action Plans will be finalized in early October.

3. ACT Alliance response

ACT members are already implementing emergency relief and recovery projects in several parts of Sudan. Some members are already doing preparedness work on a bilateral basis with other bilateral partners. In July 2010 the ACT Alliance held a meeting in Juba, Sudan to discuss future scenarios, following which a consultant was hired to carry out state-level scenario and contingency planning in four states. These plans were finalized in late August and form the basis of this ACT preparedness appeal that is being compiled now.

4. Planned activities

The ACT Sudan Forum plans to implement capacity building and preparedness measures that will aim to:

- Ensure that all targeted states have at least one ACT member or partner of an ACT member with sufficiently trained staff, resources and skills to respond promptly to conflict or other crises, to a standard that meets international guidelines and with due consideration to security, during 2011.
- Ensure that key locations are stocked with essential non-food items.

- Support the ACT Sudan Forum by recruiting two dedicated Coordinators whose task will be to lead the preparedness work, support any required responses and ensure coordination of the ACT Forum with the government, the UN system, Caritas agencies and other stakeholders.

It is intended that a full Appeal for this will be prepared and submitted to the ACT secretariat by 30th September 2010.

ACT Members in Sudan are: Sudan Council of Churches-ERRADA, Lutheran World Federation, DanChurchAid (DCA), Norwegian Church Aid, Christian Aid, ICCO & Kerk in Actie, Finn Church Aid. DCA is the lead Agency for the Emergency Preparedness Appeal and will also be the host agency for the ACT Co-ordinator (*being recruited*).

Any funding indication or pledge should be communicated to Roshan Rajaratne, ACT Finance Officer (Roshan.Rajaratne@actalliance.org).

Thank you for your attention.

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