

JICA Project on Human Resource Development for Darfur and the Three Protocol Areas

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Greetings from

*Mr. Salaheldeen Babiker
General Rapporteur
Higher Council for
Decentralized Governance*

Hello my fellow colleagues! Following my report on our delegation to Japan (18 February - March 6, 2011) on the first volume of this newsletter, I would like to share with you our proposed action plan of the Higher Council for Decentralized Governance (HCDG) and state action plans, which were drafted and reviewed at JICA headquarters in Tokyo. The Proposed Action Plan of HCDG has been insured and decision of forming the



It is my great pleasure to have been assigned to Sudan. Just less than 1 month have passed since my arrival here, and I still clearly remember that I was thinking, on my flight from Tokyo to Khartoum, about Sudan, a new country to me with full of expectations, and Japan, my own country, facing critical moments where it has become the second largest indebted country. Since last March when the earthquake and Tsunami, and accordingly nuclear plants' incidents swallowed Japan, and inevitably the world as a whole, we have witnessed quite a number of news

Time for

Peace, Development and Inclusiveness

In Sudan of Diversity



Federal Coordinating Committee was issued on 19 April 2011 by ministerial decision under the signature of General Rapporteur of the HCDG. This plan aims to enable organizations and agencies to work better through provision of information and exchange experiences... (continued to next page)

Greeting from

*Mr. Hiroyuki Mori
Resident Representative
JICA Sudan*

and stories. Unfortunately, many of them are about tragedies, fears, and despairs. As of 9th May, reportedly nearly 15,000 people passed away, around 10,000 still missing, and less than 120,000 have been forcibly evacuated from their own houses and cities. But here, I hope to share with you, my fellow Sudanese friends, some points that strongly struck me. They are sympathy, friendship and trust in the time of crises.

Since 11 March, more than one million Japanese citizens started to join voluntary works to rebuild Japan after.. (continued to the next page)

(Mr. Salaheldeen, from the first page)

HCDG, responsible for the sustainable peace in Sudan, has proposed a series of Action Plans to establish coordination mechanism at federal and state levels, for the purpose of mobilizing and integrating all the efforts by domestic and foreign entities in the fields of development and humanitarian issues.

We have just started with Federal Coordinating Committee (FCC), with other concrete ideas to be implemented, details of which I will be more than happy to explain in the coming newsletters. This is just a first step to enable us to perform more effectively in planning, managing, and implementing public services to our citizens, and ultimately to achieve the national unity and co-existence among our diversity in our homeland.

(Mr. Mori, from the first page)

...the massive destruction due to the earthquake. Definitely, spontaneous actions by each citizen to support each other have changed our society. Everyone seriously thinks what we can do to rebuild our country. I expect this could even lead to a new relationship between the government and the citizens based on the mutual trust and respect in Japan. Only by gaining people's trust, we can realize peace and prosperity in the long run.

This is a project to support capacity building of both governmental staff and public service implementing agencies in key sectors such as water, health and vocational training at the war-affected states. Building up trust among local people requires time and efforts from the Government's side. But that is worthy to commit to, and necessary for achieving the sustainable peace and development in those sensitive areas.

There are three words for success, "self confidence, job satisfaction, and professionalism". The success of the project is in the hands of the government officials and the staff members in the fields. In addition, better management capacity will enable the Government to get more support from more members of the international community and to utilize those external supports more effectively based on its own local ownership.

Cooperation and Friendship:

By Ms. Tamador Taha Abdulrahma
Ministry of International Cooperation

On behalf of Sudanese government and on behalf of Sudan people, I would like to express my deepest condolences for Japanese people for their great loss in souls and assets, due to earthquake and Tsunami. But I'm sure they will overcome the crises and become much stronger because Allah helps people who help the other. They have strong determination to pass this hard circumstance by and to reconstruct Japan again.

Japanese Government has supported the developing countries, and we are, the Ministry of International Cooperation as a coordinating body, appreciate Japanese Government's Aid represented by JICA Sudan, covering varied sectors such as capacity building, maternal and child health, vocational training, and water which are real needs for our country. JICA has its own specific methodologies to identify the areas and activities in need for support through some surveys in the areas. We are also impressed by their coordination approach with different donors to avoid duplication and overlapping in activities, which leads us to benefit from foreign aids at maximum levels.



In conclusion, I would like to express my deep gratitude to our fellow Sudanese people for their warm supports and encouragements. While many foreign delegations evacuated to neighboring countries, the Embassy of Sudan remained as one of the least delegations that continued their work in Tokyo. "Friends in need are friends indeed". I learnt this from Sudanese people. And it is time for us to show our commitment to become your friends indeed. Thank you.



Through a capacity building program, JICA granted me a precious chance to visit Japan. Taken into account the scares natural resources in Japan, they have considered human resources as the most important factor and a national asset in developing its economy.



During our visit I observed quite a lot. One of the most impressive things was that fact that they generated energy from the pressure and vibration of passengers' steps. I realized the Japanese Innovative minds. Furthermore, when we visited Hiroshima, I realized a real meaning and its importance of peace. There, I understood that 'realizing sustainable peace' has been behind Japanese support for Sudan.





The 4th Meeting of Joint Coordination Committee of the Project was held on the 20th and 21st April, 2011 at Higher Council for Decentralized Governance in Khartoum. Reflecting the extensive activities and areas covered by the Project, more than 60 counterparts from Khartoum, three Darfur States, South Kordfan State, and Blue Nile State participated in the two days meeting.

During the general session on the 1st day, started with the opening speech by Mr. Salaheldeen Babiker, General Rapporteur of Higher Council for Decentralized Governance, all participants listened to words from Mr. Hiroyuki Mori, Resident Representative of JICA Sudan, Mr. Akinori Wada, H.E. Japanese Ambassador to Khartoum, and H.E. Prof. Al-Amin Dafallah, Minister of Higher Council for Decentralized Governance. Regardless of challenges and difficulties facing both countries, mutual sympathies, appreciations, and strong commitments to further cooperation were the common messages.



Each day of the JCC Meeting this time focused on each area: the first day for Darfur States, and the second day for South Kordfan and Blue Nile States. The sector-wide workshops on each day, which was the first trial of the Project, enabled the participants to have more focused discussions on the progress of on-going pilot activities and their planned activities in each sector. Though the allocated time for the workshops was not enough, some discussions have constructively paved a next step for the participants. On the other hand, unfortunately, some workshops missed key participants due to some security tensions that were reported especially in South Kordfan.

Reviewing the 4th JCC Meeting by Ms. Yuko Ido Project Chief Advisor HRD for Darfur and the Three Protocol Areas

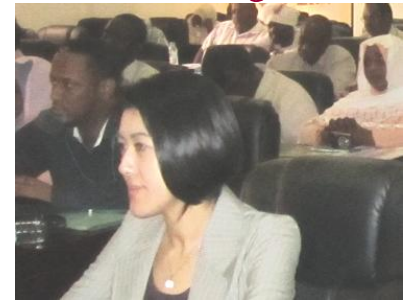
This rather extensive and experimental project, covering 4 sectors (water, health, vocational training and administration / management), aims at strengthening capacities at two levels:

- (1) the coordination capacities of the state governments through management of pilot activities and training program, and**
- (2) capacities of public service providers in the fields of basic human needs such as water supplies, maternal health care and vocational training.**

Through these two objectives, the ultimate goal of this Project is to contribute to achieving the sustainable peace and development in Darfur and South Kordfan and Blue Nile States. Working together on tangible activities for the betterment of the people's lives in these war-affected areas is underpinned by the concept of peace building. In order to realize the sustainable improvement of the provision of the public services, much more commitments and efforts from the Federal and State levels are strongly required. And this is how the mutual trust between the government and the local people could be strengthened, we believe.



Just only one year ahead before the completion of the Project. After the implementation of TOT (Training of Trainers) and equipment provision from JICA side, now that it is up to the continuous commitment from our Sudanese Counterparts whether this



could successfully bring smiles to all participants and local residents at the end of this Project or not. Although JICA wishes to make commitment to further cooperation after the Project as presented at the JCC Meeting, the final evaluation of this Project, scheduled in October this year, will be a basis for the future commitment from Japanese side.



We understand that the proposed action plans to establish the coordination mechanism at both federal and state levels will be challenging, but essential for not only information sharing among the stakeholders, but also for realizing the better planning and budgeting system in a long run in this country. Through supporting the national and local initiatives, we would like to focus on improving the quality of all activities during the remaining period of the Project.





Trials in Vocational Training by Ms. Muwahib Ramadan Women's Union Blue Nile State



JICA project on HRD for Darfur and the Three Protocol Areas is an effective contribution to develop the war-affected areas through capacity building and provision of equipment after the training. The General Union of Sudanese Women in Blue Nile State is proud of having provided women in our community, most affected by wars, with a better environment to benefit from this Project.

We have aimed to develop capacities of women, through training them in such fields as dress-making and embroidery and providing them with the equipment which enable woman to start small projects. The training courses have been conducted in women's development centers in the state. JICA played effective role specially rehabilitating Alrusirs Women Development Center. And as a first step, capacity development of technical staff of Women's Union (TOT) was conducted through training of 17 trainers, 9 trainer for sewing section, and (8) trainers for food processing section and 2 trainers for project management. Then, necessary equipment was provided for the training. ✨

Objectives of our pilot activities:

1. Encouraging the female former combatants to change their mentality by equipping them with new skills and equipment to start their small business;
2. Developing the administrative capabilities of Women's Union by providing them administrative equipment (laptop - multi purposes copy machine).

Achievements:

75 women have been trained including 15 ex-combatants women, during 21 working days and 4 hours per day. There is 4 training sessions, 3 sessions for female participants from the community, and one session for female former combatants, in cutting and sewing and hand embroidery. 4 trainers of trainees trained in Korean Center in Khartoum and financed by JICA.

Major challenges:

- 1- lack of local coordination in the state to avoid the negative aspects and obstacles.
- 2- Non-payment of Local Component impacted in training.
- 3- The service is not continued as the same quality and efficiency.
- 4- Women selected knitting expected advanced training.

Recommendations:

- 1- To take into account the equipment's quality and quantity according to number of trainees.
- 2- Expansion of training by increased activities.
- 3- To establish feminist technical institute (which should including computer - capacity development - leather - handicrafts)
- 4- Training must be accompanied by related programs (such as arts of producing service - marketing)
- 5- We expect an expansion of activities to include environmental and human health.

Conclusion:

We appreciate all the visits by H.E. Japanese Ambassador, JICA representative in Sudan and JICA Staff, which were very encouraging to our activities in the fields.

Our trainees are satisfied with the quality of sewing training of what have been provided by JICA. But some of them have some concerns and fears to join the market immediately after the training courses. We might need to think of supporting them even after the training. ✨ ✨

From the Editor's Room:

Your daily activities and trials will be shared with our colleagues across the states and sectors!

Your contributions are most welcome..!

For further information, please contact the Project on HRD for Darfur and the Three Protocol Areas..

Project Goals

