

FOCUS: FAO in southern Sudan



Rapid Crop and Livestock Assessment - 2010

A rapid crop and livestock assessment was conducted in all the States of southern Sudan from 16 – 26 August, 2010. This assessment has been conducted for the second successive year on requested by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry – Government of Southern Sudan (GoSS). The ministry requested the World Food Programme and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO/ SIFSIA Project – Funded by the European Union) for technical assistance in the assessment. The objectives of the mission were as follows:

- ✓ To establish the performance of the 2010 rainy season.
- ✓ To verify reports of flooding as reported in some states.
- ✓ To establish the input supply at the beginning of the agricultural season.
- ✓ To establish the crop and livestock condition in the States.
- ✓ To provide an indication of potential agricultural production at the end of the 2010 agricultural season.

Agriculture production snap-shot

There are all indications to suggest that 2010 agricultural season will be much better than in 2009 in terms of food production. Cereal production alone is to rise by between 25 % - 36%. This means a cereal production for 2010 is forecasted to be in the range between 825, 000 MT - 900, 0000 MT. These estimates are contingent on the favourable rain and weather conditions prevailing. While in essence this is good news, the expected agricultural production in 2010 still falls below the bumper harvest seen in 2008 (1.07 Million MT). The final estimates for this year's cereal production will be based on the findings of the Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (CFSAM), planned to take place from 18 October – 5 November, 2010.

Other Highlights

- ✓ In some locations food prices are still reported to be stubbornly high impacting negatively on access to food.
- ✓ Although seed and tools were distributed by FAO and other NGOs working in the Food Security Cluster, they were insufficient to meet the needs.
- ✓ There is plenty of forage and water for livestock and animals are performing well despite some reports of

Anthrax, Black Quarter, Hemorrhagic Septicemia and Contiguous Bovine Pleuropneumonia (CBPP).

- ✓ There was limited/ under utilization of the tractors that were provided by GoSS.
- ✓ The hunger in the rural communities has been reduced drastically due to early harvests of maize, groundnuts and other early maturing crops which are currently being consumed.

Impact of flooding on agriculture.

Excessive rains have been recorded in several locations with; Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Lakes, Unity and Jonglei states bearing the brunt of the resultant floods. Although flooding will affect the performance of crops in these locations, overall crop performance in southern Sudan is still expected to be fairly good.

Key facts

- ✓ Southern Sudan has a land mass of about 647,095 Sq Kms (64,709,500 hectares) with a population estimated at about 8.3 million people (Census 2008)
- ✓ Current agricultural land utilization is only 4% (2,588,380 hectares) and In 2009, 1 625 389 hectares were cultivated
- ✓ 90% percentage of agricultural production in southern Sudan is rain-fed leaving only 10% irrigated
- ✓ About 80% of cereal production in southern Sudan is from the tradition (small holder) sector
- ✓ Southern Sudan has huge numbers of livestock which include cattle, sheep and goats

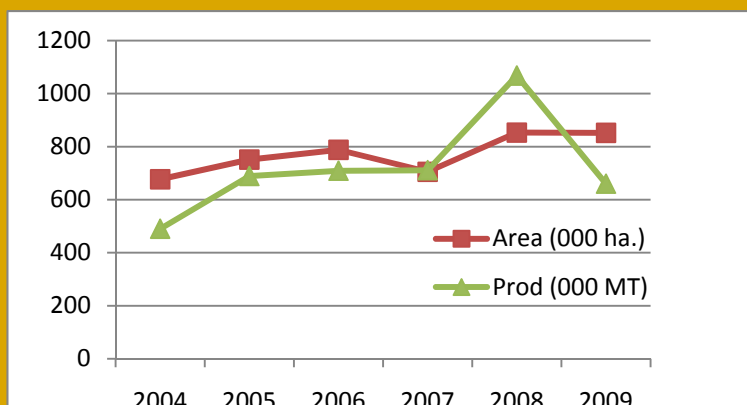
Crops Submerged in water - 2010



Crops performing well - 2010



Cereal area and production trends 2004 – 2009 (CFSAM)



In 2004, Southern Sudan produced 490,000 MT of cereals, which constituted approximately 46% of its total cereal requirements. Despite heavy flooding in 2007, it was still able to produce about 90% of its cereal needs for that year. In 2008 southern Sudan for the first time in post CPA implementation period produced over 1 million MT. The following year, cereal production unfortunately dropped to 660,000 MT of production representing a 38% drop from the 2008 agricultural production. However when compared to the previous 5 year average, the 2009 production was 10% below average. Despite the damage caused by severe flooding in 2010, cereal production is likely to be 25 – 36% higher than in 2009.

For more information

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