

# Country Assistance Programme for the Republic of the Sudan

December 2012

## 1. Relevance

The Republic of the Sudan is located on the border between the Arab world and the Sub-Saharan Africa, is also adjacent to the region of Horn of Africa which is constantly affected by droughts and food crisis. Instability of Sudan could threaten the surrounding regions, the Red Sea and off the Somali coast which are a part of the important sea lane for Japanese trades. Therefore, stable development of Sudan is a significant issue for peace and stability of the entire region.

Sudan is not only an oil-producing country with a production of 110,000 barrels per day, but also it richly produces other mineral resources such as diamond and gold. In addition, Sudan, with its vast land, has significant potential for agricultural development.

On the other hand, with the experience of protracted conflicts, while Sudan has many conflict-affected areas, a shortage of the basic infrastructure and reintegration of internally displaced persons (IDPs) which reaches up to 2,420,000<sup>1</sup> people, are the issues to be tackled.

Sudan's stable development with solving these issues can contribute to strengthen the economic relations between Japan and Sudan through security stabilisation and improvement of investment climate.

## 2. Basic Policy of the Assistance (Major Goals): Promoting consolidation of peace and assisting improvement of BHN and poverty reduction.

The Government of Japan aims to promote recovery at the conflict-affected areas, consolidation of peace and to improve Basic Human Needs (BHN) through providing basic infrastructures. Japan also intends to contribute to poverty reduction through promoting development assistance to various sectors such as agriculture.

## 3. Priority Areas of Assistance (Sub Goals)

### (1) Consolidation of Peace

Japan supports the reintegration of conflict-affected people and returnees to their original villages or new destinations of settlement with improvement of BHN such as development of basic life infrastructures, improvement of local governmental services, and settlement of livelihood including vocational training. With the successful outcomes of these assistances, reintegration of these populations will be smoothly

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<sup>1</sup> UNHCR (Jan, 2012)

implemented, which will lead to stability in the local communities, conflict prevention and consolidation of peace.

(2) BHN

Sudan's Human Development Index (HDI) illustrates one of the lowest levels in the world<sup>2</sup> and it seems difficult to achieve Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015. With the experience of civil wars, various infrastructure for Sudan and administrative service regarding BHN have been remaining insufficient in Sudan. Japan's continuous assistance to health care and water and sanitation sectors will contribute to the achievement of MDGs in Sudan.

(3) Agricultural Development

As Sudan has high potential for agricultural development and the majority of the poor is engaged in agriculture, Japan supports agricultural development which is expected to contribute to poverty reduction and food security in Sudan. Japan takes in consideration the necessity of measures for climate change which directly affects to agriculture.

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<sup>2</sup> 169th of 187 countries (UNDP <http://hdr.undp.com/en/data/trends/>)