

INTERIM POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY- SUDAN

Presentation to the Regional Workshop on:
Innovative Social Assistance Strategies in
Poverty Alleviation

12th to 14th December 2011

Ankara - Turkey

OVERVIEW

- The MDGs are reflected in Sudan Constitution 2005 as a prerequisite to achieving stability in Sudan
- Sudan National Strategic Plan 2077-31 includes strong reference and commitment to the MDGs
- Government adopted several institutional intervention to reduce poverty: Poverty Reduction Unit-MoF, Supereme Council for Poverty Strategy, etc

Findings of Households Survey

- ▣ Monthly per capita income is 5 US Dollar with urban areas displaying consumption levels significantly higher than rural areas (196 and 122 respectively),
- ▣ Across regions food shares are fairly similar despite the significant differences in consumption
- ▣ Food is the main category in consumption: 62% . Health accounts for 6% and Education accounts for only 2%

Poverty Reduction Strategy: Objectives

- ▣ Developing and maintaining the necessary enabling environment for sustainable and inclusive economic growth.
- ▣ Improving governance , including public sector financial managements and
- ▣ Emphasizing human development policies and increased access to basic services and social welfare (especially primary medical services and primary education).

Past Sectoral Performance

- ▣ Education: Sudan has pursued several education initiatives:
- ▣ Education for All Declaration: 1990.
- ▣ Comprehensive National Strategy for Education: 1992
- ▣ General Education Planning and Regulation Act : 2001
- ▣ Nevertheless: aggregate school enrollment figures remain low: 66% only in 2006-
Secondary enrollement was 34 percent only

Slow Progress in Education

- ▣ Progress in Education was held back by low levels of public expenditures averaging no more than 1% of GDP. This led to:
 - ▣ Physical deterioration of schools and facilities
 - ▣ Limited geographical outreach with wide areas
 - ▣ Emigration of teachers and skills for better employment benefits
 - ▣ Teachers preparation and training fell behind: 50% of primary school teachers are unqualified

Health Sector Performance

- ▣ Health and nutrition indicators in Sudan are comparable to Sub-Saharan Africa averages.
- ▣ Country averages mask significant urban-rural, regional and socio-economic disparities
- ▣ Sudan Household Health Survey (2006) results indicate that 31% of children under age of five were underweight nationwide
- ▣ Infant mortality rate was estimated at 81 per 1000 live births
- ▣ Under 5 mortality : 112 per 1000 nationwide.

Health Sector Performance

- ▣ Overall basic health service coverage is limited: health expenditure was: 6.2% of GDP
- ▣ 407 hospitals and over 5200 primary health care centers
- ▣ National ratio: one hospital to 100,000 population and one health center to 8,000
- ▣ There are 97500 health workers in Sudan comprising over 20 medical professions. According to WHO's Sudan falls within critical shortage zone considering density of workers

Water Supply

- ▣ On water sectors a program was launched in 2000 with an objective to meet individual consumption of drinking water
- ▣ The National Water Authority is planning to increase water supply coverage to 90% in rural and urban areas

Protecting the Vulnerables

- ▣ With stable macroeconomic environment and continued structural reforms the Gov. aims to:
- ▣ Reach an annual real economic growth rate of at least 8-10%
- ▣ The Gov. Plans to ensure sustained improvement in economic governance and environment for robust private sector
- ▣ These actions are expected to improve income opportunities and reduce proportion of those below poverty line.

Environmental Sustainability

- ▣ Sudan Gov. Has ratified a number of environment conventions such as:
- ▣ UN Convention on Biological Diversity and Bio-safety
- ▣ UN Convention to combat Desertification
- ▣ Framework Convention on Climate Change
- ▣ Protocol on the Protection of World Culture and Natural Heritage
- ▣ The Convention on Wetland

Poverty Diagnosis

- ▣ Poverty is a multi-dimensional phenomenon
- ▣ It refers to a pronounced deprivation in one or more facets of well-being of a person
- ▣ The most widely used indicator of poverty is based on consumption
- ▣ Percapita consumption is chosen as a welfare indicator and poverty line is estimated accordingly: as a monetary cost of a person consumption at given place and time at a reference level of welfare

Poverty Line-PL

- ▣ PL is calculated using 2400 calories per person/day as daily energy intake threshold in addition to a minimal non-food component
- ▣ Threshold Surveys in Northern and Southern Sudan show the poverty incidence as 46.5% and 50.6% in North and South respectively
- ▣ Surveys reveal high level of inequality both across and within regions. E.G.Ş IN North Khartoum is with lowest poverty incidence

Poverty Gap - PG

- ▣ **PG:** reflects main distance separating population from PL
- ▣ PG is registered 16.2 and 23.7 in Northern and Southern Sudan respectively.
- ▣ The gap implies that average deficit consumption per person in the country is 16.2-23.7 below Pl_s if nonpoors are zero short fall.

Food Insecurity

- ▣ Food deprivation refers to proportion of population whose dietary energy consumption is below minimum dietary energy requirements (MDER) fixed in Sudan by 1751kcl.
- ▣ Proportion of population below the MDER is estimated (Household Survey-2009) at 31.5%
- ▣ 13 million people are estimated as food-deprived in Sudan: 31% in urban areas and 34% in rural areas

Causes of Poverty in Sudan

- ▣ The effect of economic liberalization on vulnerable poor groups
- ▣ Limited awareness about poverty as phenomenaṡ it measures and definition.
- ▣ Pro-longed economic sanctions limit access to international commodity and financial markets
- ▣ Pro-longed civil war and ethnic conflicts
- ▣ Increased foreign debts
- ▣ Vast areas of Sudan- logistic constraints

Core Elements of Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy

- ▣ Sustainable broad-based and inclusive economic growth
- ▣ Private sector-led growth.
- ▣ Increasing returns to agricultural sector as backbone of Sudan Economy
- ▣ Enhanced infrastructure and economic fundamentals of the country
- ▣ Improved institutional governance and effective financial management
- ▣ Broaden access to basic social services/welfare

Main Deliverables of IPRS in Education and Health Sectors

- ▣ Education: increasing primary school enrolment from 75% to 92%:building 2500 schools and training 14000 teachers
- ▣ Health care: increase outreach from 50% to 75% of population through: disease controls improved maternal and child healths human capital development and extended coverage

Please pray for Sudan

- ▣ Though an unfortunate State
- ▣ Sudan remains the land of:
- ▣ Peaceful and humble people
- ▣ Tolerance and forgiveness
- ▣ Social interaction
- ▣ Hope and optimism

THANKS- TASHAKUR

- ▣ FOR SERIOUS LISTENING
 - ▣ AND DUE CARE