



AFRICA/SUDAN - 25% less aid to 6 million Sudanese in difficulty

Khartoum (Agenzia Fides) - More than 6 million Sudanese are in urgent need of humanitarian aid. Compared to last year there has been an increase of 1 million 700 thousand people in need. This is what the Coordinator of Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations in Sudan declared. Despite the worsening of the situation, the humanitarian contributions of the United Nations Common Fund decreased by 25%. In 2013, about 950 thousand people have been displaced due to the conflicts and clashes in Darfur, South Kordofan and Blue Nile and other 430 000 people were affected by floods. Also during this year, compared to 2012, the distribution of economic aid has decreased. In Darfur, insecurity, banditry and lawlessness continue to increase. The limits to access the area tend to hinder the evaluation, implementation and monitoring of aid. The international staff are forced not to go beyond the capitals of the State and therefore deliveries are carried out by groups and national partners, or in coordination with national NGOs. Some United Nations funds have gone to government institutions, such as a radio station in Kadugli, known for its war propaganda against the rebels in the Nuba Mountains. Other funds were used for the southern Sudanese who lived in the railway station in Kosti for more than 2 years before being allowed to go back home. (AP) (Agenzia Fides 13/12/2013)