

Public Notice

Water system expansion and Water points rehabilitation in North Darfur, White Nile and Gedaref States, Sudan - Public Comments Invited

January 23, 2025 – Global Affairs Canada must determine whether the proposed **Water system expansion and Water points rehabilitation** located in **Gedaref, White Nile and North Darfur** is likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects.

To help inform this determination, Global Affairs Canada is inviting comments from the public respecting that determination. All comments received will be considered public and may be posted online.

Written comments must be submitted by **February 23, 2025**, to:

Environment Specialists
Global Affairs Canada
200 Promenade du Portage
Gatineau (QC) J8X 4B7
Email: CommentsIAARegistry-CommentairesRegistreLEI@international.gc.ca

The Proposed Project

Project Title: **Water system expansion and Water points rehabilitation** in North Darfur, White Nile and Gedaref States, Sudan.

Project Description:

The proposed project includes the Expansion/ Extension of five (5) water systems, Installation and Rehabilitation of 14 water points across Gedaref, White Nile and North Darfur States in Sudan. These interventions aim to improve access to safe and sufficient water for conflict-affected IDPs, refugees, and host communities, contributing to better health outcomes and reducing the prevalence of waterborne diseases.

Description of Activities

Expansion of Water Supply Systems: Expansion activities of five (5) water systems involve laying underground pipeline networks, constructing tap stands, and integrating soak-away pits and drainage infrastructure

Installation and Rehabilitation of Water Points: The project focuses on establishing and restoring 14 water points with sustainable and inclusive infrastructure to enhance water access for communities. Key activities include:

- **Solar Panel Installation:** Solar panels will be installed to provide a renewable and reliable energy source for water systems, ensuring sustainability and reducing dependency on non-renewable energy sources.
- **Pipeline Construction and Rehabilitation:** Underground pipelines will be constructed and rehabilitated to ensure efficient water distribution, minimize environmental impact, and protect the system from extreme weather conditions.
- **Concrete Platforms and Tap Stands:** Tap stands with multiple taps will be constructed on durable concrete platforms. These will be designed to accommodate the needs of all users, including the elderly and persons with disabilities, ensuring equitable access to water.
- **Soak-Away Pits and Drainage Systems:** Soak-away pits and drainage systems will be installed to manage wastewater effectively, preventing waterlogging and reducing the risk of disease vector breeding sites.

Description of Structures:

- **Tap Stands:** Equipped with multiple taps, designed for accessibility and ease of use by vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities and the elderly.
- **Pipeline Networks:** Underground networks constructed to safeguard against environmental damage and weather-related disruptions.
- **Wastewater Management Systems:** Soak-away pits and proper drainage to prevent standing water and maintain hygiene around water points.
- **Solar Energy Integration:** Installation of solar-powered systems to ensure consistent water supply and promote environmentally friendly operations.

Authority Actions Require

The proposed activities will comply with the Water Environment and Sanitation (WES) department standards and adhere to the WASH Cluster guidelines to ensure alignment with national regulations and sectoral best practices. This includes obtaining necessary approvals for water system installations and ensuring proper environmental and technical assessments are conducted before implementation.

Description of the Environment

- **Gedaref:** A semi-arid region with substantial agricultural potential but seasonal water scarcity challenges. Infrastructure must be designed to optimize water availability during dry periods and support sustainable agricultural and domestic use.
- **White Nile:** The area is characterized by floodplains and agricultural zones, with frequent waterlogging and flooding risks during rainy seasons. These conditions necessitate robust drainage systems and adaptive infrastructure to mitigate environmental risks and ensure water accessibility.

- **North Darfur:** Located in an arid and semi-arid region, North Darfur faces significant challenges in water resource availability due to limited natural sources and seasonal variability. The terrain is highly vulnerable to droughts and desertification, emphasizing the need for efficient, drought-resilient water systems

Geographic coordinates

Name	Location	GPS Coordinates Format
Sudan	City of Gedaref	Lat: 14.032633, Long: 35.381910
Sudan	City of El Fasher, North Darfur	Lat: 13.619159, Long: 25.357230
Sudan	City of Rabak, White Nile	Lat: 13.178906, Long: 32.749801