



CFK Newsletter

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Education to Employment Child Sponsorship

On location in N'Djamena, Chad, CFK sponsored the education of 2 more children. Graduates of the Bethesda Center, Arni and Basil were successfully re-inserted in their family about a year ago. Wanting to pursue their education, CFK purchased school books for the two youth and helped register them at the Lycée Gassi.



Electricity for the Bethesda Center!

To provide additional after-school activities for street children, CFK donated a generator to the Bethesda Center. Staff will be able to show movies and documentaries, giving the kids another incentive to stay off the streets and engage in treatment.

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Transformational Development

CFK-Chad Programs:

- Individual-level Initiatives: Education to Employment
- Community-level Initiatives: Capacity Building
- National-level Initiatives: Peace Building
- International-level Initiatives: Policy and Advocacy

Community Capacity Building

Electoral Reforms: International Advocacy harmonizing with Local Activists



In Chad, CFK met with local Civil Society Organizations (CSO) and church leaders to review the implementation of Chad's electoral reform agreement, in preparation for their meetings with the European Union Troika Mission. CSOs stressed to the delegation the need for greater investment in civic education, stronger justice system reforms and for the E.U. to address security in Eastern Chad. Concerns regarding the general security environment were echoed to the E.U. by the political opposition who decried the inability to campaign in northern zones. Freedom of the Press, continues to be an issue as well. Innocent Ebode, Director of the Newspaper "La Voix" was arrested in December and expelled from the country. After reporting on a corruption case deemed "too sensitive," the Government of Chad (GOC) seized all publications and closed the Newspaper down.

Selective implementation of the August 13th Agreement

Large parts of the agreement are still not implemented, yet donors want legislative elections to be held in June of 2010. The Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI) will begin the electoral census come February 2010. A consensus was achieved between GOC and the political opposition to move forth with a computerized census instead of a bio-metric census, deemed by all to be too time-consuming and costly.

Reform of the army and the demilitarization and depolitization of the territory are key components to free and fair elections in Chad, yet these parts of the agreement have failed to see progress.

Environment in Eastern Chad unsuitable for elections

Parts of eastern Chad are highly volatile and multiple NGOs have reduced operations in light of the increased danger and rampant impunity. Armed assailants have stolen dozens of humanitarian vehicles in 2009, killed a driver and a government official and kidnapped an international aid worker. A UN convoy came under fire



"Don't let corruption kill development" **UNODC**

GOC ANTI-CORRUPTION Campaign

November 2009: "[Plan Stratégique de la Lutte contre la Corruption au Tchad](#)" of the Ministry in charge of State Control and Moralization, written by CERDO - IN FRENCH

February 2000: Anti-corruption Law ([Loi N°004/PR/2000](#)), courtesy of the [CEFOD](#) - IN FRENCH

BACKGROUND:

Corruption and nepotism are some of the root causes of instability in Chad, with mismanagement of resources and poor governance. Multiple arrests on corruption charges were made over the last several months by the Ministry in charge of State Control and Moralization. To send a strong signal throughout the country that change is occurring in the political environment in N'Djamena, the Chadian justice system must successfully try these cases.

this past December and the D.I.S. (Détachement Intégré de Sécurité), mandated to patrol the camps, have themselves been attacked.

Peace-Building

What to do with the Chadian Armed Opposition?

Chad and Sudan once again renewed their commitment to implement a 2006 Security Protocol established between the two countries to address the control of their common borders and ways to end security threats to the two states. The visit of the Chadian delegation headed by Foreign Minister Moussa Faki Mahamat (right picture), in Khartoum on Thursday December 24th, came following talks with the Sudanese Presidential Adviser, Ghazi Salahuddin, this past October in N'Djamena.



"We came here to demonstrate our genuine desire to overcome differences" said the chief diplomat in Chad (Sudan Tribune, December 2009). A Joint-technical committee is scheduled to meet in N'Djamena in mid-January to consider ways to implement the agreement.

Confidence building measures

During the October discussions Sudan agreed to move the Chadian rebels 500km from the border and Chad expressed its willingness to allow Sudan to verify the presence of Darfur rebels in the country. The GOC has since then begun assessing ways in which to move the Ore Cassouni camp further inside Chad, a Sudanese refugee camp widely known as being a Justice and Equality Mouvement (JEM) back-base in Chad. In December 2009, the GOC conducted disarmament exercises to secure the camp, hopefully not in lieu of finding an appropriate site with adequate water to move the 20,000 refugees.

Minister Faki re-iterated his support for the peace talks in Doha and Chad's desire to resolve the region's six year crisis.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

To the Government of Chad:

- Seize the opportunity to replace convicted offenders by competent individuals

To NGOs and CSOs:

- Link the positive steps taken by the regime against corruption with the need to address impunity and lawlessness in eastern Chad where corruption is expressed in its worst form, by a chronic non-respect of the law, impacting security, humanitarian operations and the return of displaced populations

To the International Community:

- Monitor cases brought in front of the justice system, particularly high profile corruption cases, and ensure that accused individuals receive a fair trial;
- Ensure that judges are allowed to review all files associated with a case and are free from outside pressure; and
- Ensure that those who are found guilty are punished and

Policy and Advocacy

NGO Roundtable with U.S. Africa Bureau D.A.S.

The Bureau of African Affairs, in collaboration with Caring for Kaela organized a NGO roundtable with Karl Wycoff, Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Bureau of African Affairs. Mr. Wycoff debriefed NGOs on the U.S. Government's activities in Chad. Despite efforts to address the internal dynamics of the Chadian crisis, the U.S. Government's lack of a comprehensive policy continues to be apparent.

CFK stressed the need for the U.S. to invest in the building blocks of democracy given that elections in Chad are not likely to bring about a transition in power. Disarmament, Demobilization and Re-integration programs are also grossly lacking from the landscape. An emphasis was placed on the GOC's anti-corruption campaign and the need for the U.S. to monitor how cases are being handled by the justice system.

Volunteer Highlight



Caring for Kaela initiated a Christian Partnership Campaign to help churches build effective international ministries. In December, Ms. Ingrid, a CFK Volunteer, made 15 to 20 calls a day to identify interested churches.

For more information or to participate call (410) 602-5359 or email

complete their sentence.

From each of us at
Caring for Kaela

**HAPPY NEW
YEAR!**

May God's blessings shower each and everyone of you and let 2010 bring good tidings of Joy, Good Health and Peace!



"Be the change that you want to see in the world"

Mohandas Gandhi

About CFK:

CFK is a Christian relief and development organization whose vision is to empower the lives of children in Chad.



Our Mission:

- Provide homes for children victimized by war, crime, or abuse;
 - Help to raise those children to reach their God-given potential;
 - Strengthen the communities where we operate; and
 - Build the foundation for peaceful and productive societies through the promotion of good governance and self-sustained, people-centered approaches to development.
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