



*Zenab for Women in Development*

### **Annual Report (2010)**

Zenab for Women Development (ZWD) is a Sudanese women' rights organization founded in 2000 to empower women through education. Based in Khartoum and Gedarif State East Sudan, **ZWD** has Special Consultative Status with the ECOSOC of the United Nations since 2005. Zenab was named after a pioneer woman educator (Mrs. Zenab Mohamed Nour) who dedicated herself for girls education in Eastern-Sudan since 1941, to empower women through education, in recognition of her exerted efforts she was nominated among "1000 Peace Women" across the globe for the Nobel Peace Prize 2005.

Zenab is proceeding forward and made a successful works during 2010 that satisfy Zenab's partners, donors & target groups, in different sectors and benefited many social groups, the Organization went further milestones towards achieving its strategic objectives.

A remarkable positive impacts & changes in behavior and attitudes occur due to Zenab interventions at various levels.

**Below are the details of projects and program activities implemented by Zenab in the year 2010:**

#### **Education sector:**

Empowering women through education is at top of Zenab's priorities, Girls education especially in Eastern Sudan face a lot of hindrances: economical/social/traditional factors impede girls' education, improving education environment requires an immense efforts to make education attractive for girls and boys at elementary level.

Zenab in collaboration with the French Embassy in Khartoum is able to construct two primary schools in two villages (Rufaa & Wad AD-damak) in Gedarif State East Sudan whereas education, specially girls education is deteriorating and face many setbacks, the project is considered a further step towards reducing illiteracy and school dropout rates & has tremendously improved the education environment and facilitate education process for more than 600 girls & boys, the project starts in April and completed by Dec..2010, by now Zenab has achieved further milestones towards achieving its strategic objective to empower women through education.

#### **Economic empowerment of women farmers:**

Zenab use to provide annual technical & in kind support for rural women farmers to boost their productivity & empower them to manage their natural resources in an optimum manner and be aware of climatic changes and desertification and learn ways and measures to cope with such challenges. Zenab believes that supporting women farmers will enable them produce more hence challenge food crisis & reduce poverty, and secure permanent income for women farmers and improve their living conditions in a large zone of rain-fed agricultural sector Eastern Sudan,

in cooperation with the African Women Development Fund(AWDF) and OFID(OPEC Fund for International Development) and Madre as a co-financer ,Zenab has provided substantial support to women farmers in form of agricultural inputs such as improved seeds and pesticides, machines operations, and support women farmers in different agricultural operations such as cleaning and preparation of land for cultivation and plowing and provide guidance to promote farmers technical skills & knowledge in many agricultural farms villages in East Sudan such as AL-Hamra and Wad Daeif.

Zenab in cooperation with MamaCash during Jan. to Sept. 2010 has provided women farmers in Gedarif rural with agricultural inputs such as improved seeds and conduct a number of workshops and forums to promote women farmers technical skills and explain to them measures to fight draught and desertification and reduce impacts of climatic changes, as a result of this activities supported by MamaCash many women farmers were able to prepare their land for cultivation, receive improved seeds and understand ways to increase productivity and challenge negative impacts of climatic change and protect environment, women farmers at AL-Hamra village have reported a remarkable increase in their product for last season and secure a good earnings that improve their living conditions and sustain their development.

As a positive impacts of support of women farmers program : more than 939 of households headed women farmers in 10 villages secure income for their families, hold control over the natural resources and contribute to reduction of food security challenges and enhance social & economic stability in the region of East Sudan taking into account the geographical location(bordering Ethiopia) and the ethnic composition of the region.

**Civic & voters education on:** democracy, elections & peace building, strengthening women political participation & upgrade their role in decision making process.

A general elections were held in April 2010 whereas most of eligible voters are first-time voters who were not aware of many elections procedures and system of voting, Zenab realized that voters education is crucial to cultivate democratic concepts and democratic practices ,Zenab in coordination with IDCs(The Institute for the Development of Civil Society) has conducted an intensive civic education programs

aim at raise the awareness of first-time voters specially women and youth in remote rural villages in Gedarif State East Sudan.

Many forums and workshops have been conducted in the period before election date: Jan.-March 2010 in rural villages in Gedarif State (villages & localities: Showak, Galabat,Al-Fao, Hawata, Bela, Gal Annahal, Doka, Kassab,Dalsa,Karades,UmShagara,Gadarif Wasat, and in Gedarif City.

Thousands of women, youth and communities leaders have attended workshops and forums /media shows on elections organized & conducted by Zenab to educate eligible voters on Comprehensive Peace Agreements, elections procedures, elections systems and elections phases, many have their knowledge been enhanced about elections procedures and many were able to participate for the first time in the general elections held in April 2010.

Also with support of MamaCash Zenab has conducted several workshops and forums to raise women farmers' awareness about political participation and organize women farmers groups in rural villages in Gedarif Satate and enlighten women farmers about elections process and encourage their participation in the general elections held in April 2010,many women farmers have attended workshops and forums conducted in their villages and become aware of their political rights and their role in electing their representative to make their voices heard in decision making institutions.

Zenab in collaboration with NED (National Endowment for Democracy) has conducted a very successful awareness raising workshops on: A Need to Maintain Established Peace Agreements & Resolve Conflict, in the IDPs camps at Gabarona and Dar-AS-Salam IDPs camps Western Omdurman City during Jan.t0 Sept.2010, each of 5 workshops last for 4 days address the concepts of democracy and enhance participation in democratic transformation process ,explain in details signed



Comprehensive Peace Agreements(CPA) ,the workshops conducted were valuable to participants IDPs and enhance their knowledge about the CPA provisions and elections procedures and requirements, and prepare them as potential voters to peacefully participate in the general elections held in April 2010, more than 150 women and men and youth have attended these workshop and have gained more knowledge on democratic practices and become aware of their political rights and aware of the need for democracy to build peace and development in Sudan.



Zenab has also conducted training workshops for domestic elections observers, 45 domestic observers receive training on elections monitoring and election observation and were deployed in Khartoum , Gedarif ,Kassala and Northern Kurdofan States and effectively monitor the general elections held in April 2010.

**Awareness raising about fighting HIV/AIDS & other diseases such as kalazar (*Leishmania*) and eradication of FGM:**

In collaboration with UNFPA during the period from Jan-May 2010 Zenab has conducted an intensive awareness raising activities on HIV/AIDS, target groups were most at risk people, 25 female sex workers, young population,25 tea sellers, community leaders ,general public in Gedarif State East Sudan.

Workshops were accompanied by media shows to explain HIV/AIDS diseases and its impacts on population and the economy, and ways to prevent its spread.

Target groups have their knowledge been enriched with information on HIV/AIDS and measures to fight the disease.

Zenab has implemented an awareness raising activity on Kalazar-Leshmaniasis in coordination with the Swiss Medicines Frontiers (Doctors without borders) the program covered the villages affected by Kalazar selected in Gedarif State like : Tabark Alla ,Al-Mirbea,AS-Sofi,Karai,Katrigi,At-Tomat,Wa villag in the period Jul. to Nov. 2010,villigers become aware of disease infections and measures to fight its effects and keep a healthy environment.

Raise social awareness on women rights & gender equality, eradicate violence against women, abandon FGM as a harmful social practice and consider as violation against children's right.

State number of workshops/forums/number of participants/periods/ donors, the impacts

**Zenab local/regional and international participations:**

Zenab is active at the local/regional and international level, in this regard Zenab has participated in the following:

- In celebrations of International Women , AIDS , Human Rights Days during .2010 at IDPs camps in Gabarona and Dar-AS-Salam camps western Omdurman City in coordination with NGOs SAWA SAW.
- Organize panel to discuss women situation, held in New York during Feb.-March 2010 CSW54.
- Doha Forum to solve Darfur conflict held in Feb.2010...women peace initiative group.
- Maternal Health conference ,held in Khartoum in Nov.2010
- UN DPI/NGO conference, held in Melbourne in Australia during Sept.2010.
- Invited by UN Secretary General to address round table meetings on accelerating MDGs by 2015,and submit a paper on hunger and gender equality, held in New York in Sept.2010.
- Rehabilitation and Development O f Eastern Sudan, held in Kuwait in Dec.2010
- Resources Mobilization Conference held in Kampala (Uganda) in Nov.2010.
- The launch of African Women Decade, Oct.,15/2010 Nairobi .
- Zenab's President Mrs. Fatima Ahmed elected as board member of Femnet.