



# MADRE

Demanding Rights, Resources &  
Results for Women Worldwide

Vivian Stromberg  
Executive Director

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Dear Friend of MADRE,

Saving lives is satisfaction enough, but when you can smash through obstacles to do it against all odds, that's more than satisfaction—that's victory. We now have such an opportunity. Let me explain.

Fatima Ahmed just left my office. She is the courageous woman who directs our sister organization, *Zenab for Women in Development* in Sudan. I wish you could have heard her describe, in her own impassioned words, what's going on in the Darfur region of Sudan.

In addition to the ongoing horrors of war and the danger of life in refugee camps, this year the government severely obstructed international food aid from reaching Darfur, leaving more than a million people at greater risk of starvation.

***Yet, despite these overwhelming obstacles, we have a way for your gift—if you should choose to give today—to get through to the people. And not just “soon,” but immediately.***

To clarify, in March, Sudan's President Omar al-Bashir expelled 13 international aid organizations from Darfur, accusing them of “spying.” With the work of so many aid groups disrupted, hunger and suffering spiked sharply. Food and fresh water stores are dangerously low. Health clinics have shut down. As always, children are the first to die.

***MADRE is in a unique position to help. We're not subject to restrictions placed on foreign aid organizations. That's because of our partnership with Zenab for Women in Development, our sister organization, which you have generously supported in the past.***

And while some of these aid agencies have been allowed to resume work, we must fill the gap created by the government's severe disruption of relief work.

We have a two-part plan that's so inspiring, I believe you'll want to be part of it . . . and you *can* be part of it by making a tax-deductible gift today.

***PLAN PART 1:***

***Help the families in Darfur survive the “hunger season.”***

Our window of opportunity is brief. The “hunger season”—those rain-soaked months before the fall harvest—has begun.

The rains bring life to crops, but until a harvest, however meager, is ready, people who are already on the edge of survival are at risk of starvation.

The people of Darfur are resilient. They have survived rainy seasons for millennia. But now, their world is a different place, ravaged by war and the floods and droughts of climate change. As a result, the people of Darfur can no longer feed themselves.

Zenab, working with MADRE, is ready to secure urgently needed food aid and rent trucks to

*(over, please)*

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deliver the food to families in Darfur while there is still time. ***Will you help get the trucks rolling?***

Be assured: the aid you supply through MADRE will not be diverted by corrupt officials or resold on some black market. My friend Fatima and the other women of Zenab have the track record and the know-how to get humanitarian aid over rough roads and even rougher bureaucracies. If they have your support, they'll get lifesaving food aid into the hands of women in the refugee camps of Darfur.

***They've done it before and with your help, they'll do it now—before hunger turns into calamity for families in Darfur. The rains will not wait. Will you rush us an emergency gift? Any amount will help.***

**PLAN PART 2:**

**Support women farmers to produce a harvest plentiful enough to sustain the hungry in Darfur.**

Once the rains subside in Sudan after the “hunger season,” our next challenge begins. Crops of sorghum, millet and sesame will be ready to harvest in Al Gadarif, Sudan's main agricultural area. We must enable the women farmers we work with there to truck precious grains to Darfur's hungry in the refugee camps.

Though their own resources are modest, these women farmers are eager to help. Many are from Darfur originally, and still have family there. They know that food aid to Darfur will be especially scarce this summer. So they are determined to not only grow enough food to feed their own families, but to have a harvest big enough to deliver crops to Darfur.

They're even prepared to rent trucks and drive their harvest thousands of miles along difficult roads to Darfur. As one woman said, “If the international aid agencies can't help the families in Darfur, then we will.”

Not only do they have the will to help, they now have the way. Thanks to MADRE, Zenab and generous friends like you, 2,000 of these small-scale women farmers have joined the country's first Women Farmers' Union. Just two short years ago, before MADRE helped found the Women Farmers' Union, these same women had neither the money nor the crops to feed their own families. Today, they're not only sustaining themselves, but devoting their first surplus harvest to families in need in Darfur.

But although their goals and spirits are high, they cannot do it all themselves. They need our support and they deserve it.

***Please be part of this incredible initiative with a tax-deductible gift today.*** What better way is there to support the women of Sudan than to provide urgently needed food aid to women and families in Darfur and, at the same time, strengthen the Women Farmers' Union and their ability to feed families and defend their rights as women farmers?

We need your help to hire more farm workers, purchase seeds and storage space for grain, rent farm equipment and trucks and purchase fuel. With that support, the women farmers can ensure their own families' survival and help feed the hungry in Darfur.

On behalf of all the women who will not let crushing hardship subdue their spirit and determination, I thank you for any contribution that you can send today.

With deep appreciation,

  
Vivian Stromberg  
Executive Director

P.S. Not only does MADRE and our Sudanese sister organization, Zenab, support women farmers—we deliver food aid to Darfur, work to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS, eliminate female genital mutilation, promote the education of girls and much more.

P.P.S. **To put your gift to work even faster, please donate online at [www.madre.org/darfur](http://www.madre.org/darfur).** Thank you for being one of the remarkable people who make it all possible.

# Help MADRE and Zenab support Sudan's women farmers to deliver urgently needed food to Darfur.



- YES!** Vivian, I want to help MADRE rush food to refugee camps in Darfur to enable women and their families to survive the "hunger season."
- I also want to support the Women Farmers' Union, so that women farmers can sustain their families and grow enough food to share with the hungry in Darfur.

(Above, right) By most standards, the members of the Women Farmers' Union are poor. Yet, they've built great strength by coming together. Now that they know they can feed their families, the women have resolved to do even more. They've pledged to grow enough food to send an emergency delivery of grain to Darfur. You can help bring this extraordinary project to life by donating today.



Fatima Ahmed, our partner, says thank you on behalf of the Women Farmers' Union. Last year, with your support, they grew the bountiful bumper crop shown here.

## WHAT YOUR DOLLARS WILL BUY

- One donkey to pull plows and seeders to help women farmers cultivate more land . . . . . \$150
- Training in organic agriculture by agronomist . . . . \$200
- Enough grain to feed a family of eight in Darfur. . . \$250
- Tillers and seeders for community use . . . . . \$500
- Fuel to truck food to Darfur . . . . . \$700
- Rental of a truck to deliver food to Darfur . . . . . \$1,100

Please use my tax-deductible gift to contribute to these vital expenses, and many others.

I WOULD LIKE TO DONATE BY CREDIT CARD. PLEASE CHARGE MY  VISA  MASTERCARD

CARDHOLDER NAME

ACCOUNT #

EXP. DATE

SIGNATURE

PLEASE GIVE US YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS

To donate online, visit [www.MADRE.org/darfur](http://www.MADRE.org/darfur)

# MADRE

121 West 27th Street, #301 ■ New York, NY 10001

## Zenab for Women in Development

is MADRE's sister organization in Sudan. Through this local partnership, MADRE has the advantage of bypassing Sudanese government restrictions that have obstructed the biggest international aid organizations from helping people in desperate need.

That makes MADRE's work in Sudan even more vital and it makes every one of your donations, no matter what the amount, so very important.

One of MADRE and Zenab's proudest achievements is the formation of Sudan's first Women Farmers' Union. Through the Union, women farmers are demanding access to the same resources that male farmers typically get from Sudan's Department of Agriculture. Until we helped found the Women Farmers' Union in 2007, women farmers were systematically denied support from their government.

Today, as a union, the women can rent land and lobby for storage space in a national seed storage warehouse, something they could not do individually. Their vision is to be able to feed the hungry of their nation without international food aid. Today, MADRE is sponsoring the Women Farmers' Union's first program to grow food to send to hungry families in Darfur. **There's no better way to truly support the women and families of Sudan.** We hope that you will be our partner in this worthy endeavor.

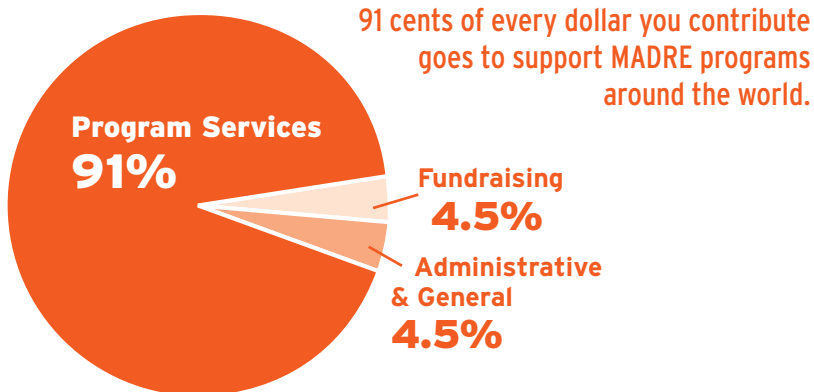


With your support, we can load trucks like these with emergency food aid for families in Darfur.

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## Your membership makes a difference



MADRE's outstanding record of using donor contributions wisely and transparently has been recognized with a four-star Rating (the highest given) from Charity Navigator, the largest independent evaluator of charity organizations in the US.

A copy of the latest Financial Report and Registration may be obtained by contacting: MADRE, 121 W. 27th Street, Room 301, NY, NY 10001, (212) 627-0444. If you are a resident of one of these states, you may obtain financial information directly from the state agency. Florida-A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION #SC05790 AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE, 1-800-435-7352 WITHIN THE STATE. MADRE RECEIVES 100% OF EVERY CONTRIBUTION. New Jersey-INFORMATION FILED WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL CONCERNING THIS CHARITABLE SOLICITATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY BY CALLING 973-504-6215. REGISTRATION WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT. New York-Office of the Attorney General, Department of Law, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271. North Carolina-Financial information about this organization and a copy of its license are available from the State Solicitation Licensing Branch at 1-888-830-4989. Pennsylvania-The official registration and financial information of MADRE, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement. Virginia-State Division of Consumer Affairs, Department of Agricultural and Consumer Services, P.O. Box 1163, Richmond, VA 23218. West Virginia-Residents may obtain a summary from the Secretary of State, State Capitol, Charleston, WV 25305. Registration with any of these states does not imply endorsement.



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*You've heard so much shocking news about Darfur.  
Now read about a **victory** ... that you are making happen!*

