Sudan

OVERVIEW

Sudan Program Summary

The International Republican Institute (IRI) has operated in Sudan since the signing of the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), the armistice responsible for ending the decades-long civil war between the north and south. Currently, the Institute focuses on the effective implementation of the 2011 Doha Document for Peace in Darfur (DDPD), an agreement that lays the groundwork for sustainable peace in the much-troubled region. Specifically, IRI works with former rebel movements that signed the Doha Document as they make the transition to peaceful political parties that can effectively represent their constituents. IRI further supports DDPD implementation through its support to the Darfur Regional Authority (DRA), the regional institution established to oversee and implement a number of the peace agreement's milestones. IRI's work is funded through grants from the <u>United States Agency for</u> <u>International Development</u> and <u>U.S. Department of State Office of the Special Envoy to Sudan and South</u> <u>Sudan</u>.

Support for DDPD Implementation

On July 14, 2011, the DDPD was signed by Sudan's ruling National Congress Party and the Liberation and Justice Movement (LJM), a Darfur rebel movement. The agreement, intended to bring an end to hostilities, lays out comprehensive development programs as well as compensation funds for millions of internally displaced persons and refugees expelled by the regional violence. As the original rebel signatory to the peace agreement, LJM plays a significant role in the DDPD's successful implementation.

To support the implementation of the DDPD, IRI provides comprehensive, multifaceted assistance focused on transitioning LJM from a rebel movement into an effective national political party – a milestone laid out in the DDPD. The Institute assists in the restructuring of LJM's political organization at the national and state level and works with the leadership to prepare the movement for its ultimate political party registration. In addition, to supporting the development of the DRA, IRI works to build the knowledge of ministry staff and helps prepare the various ministries to implement their specific mandates, as specified within the DDPD.

Past Elections and Political Party Work

To ensure that Sudan's political parties actively participated in the 2010 national elections, as stipulated in the CPA, IRI assisted parties as they prepared for each stage of the electoral process—voter registration, candidate nomination, campaigning and monitoring of elections. The Institute worked to prepare hundreds of party agents for the election, conducted multi-party candidate nomination process briefings and briefed parties on the most effective ways to run campaigns.

Additionally, the Institute assisted with popular consultation efforts in Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile to enable the citizens of those states to renegotiate political, administrative and constitutional arrangements with the central government.