



Office of UN Deputy Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Sudan  
UN Resident and Humanitarian Co-ordinator

# Darfur Humanitarian Profile No. 33



**Situation as of 01 October 2008**

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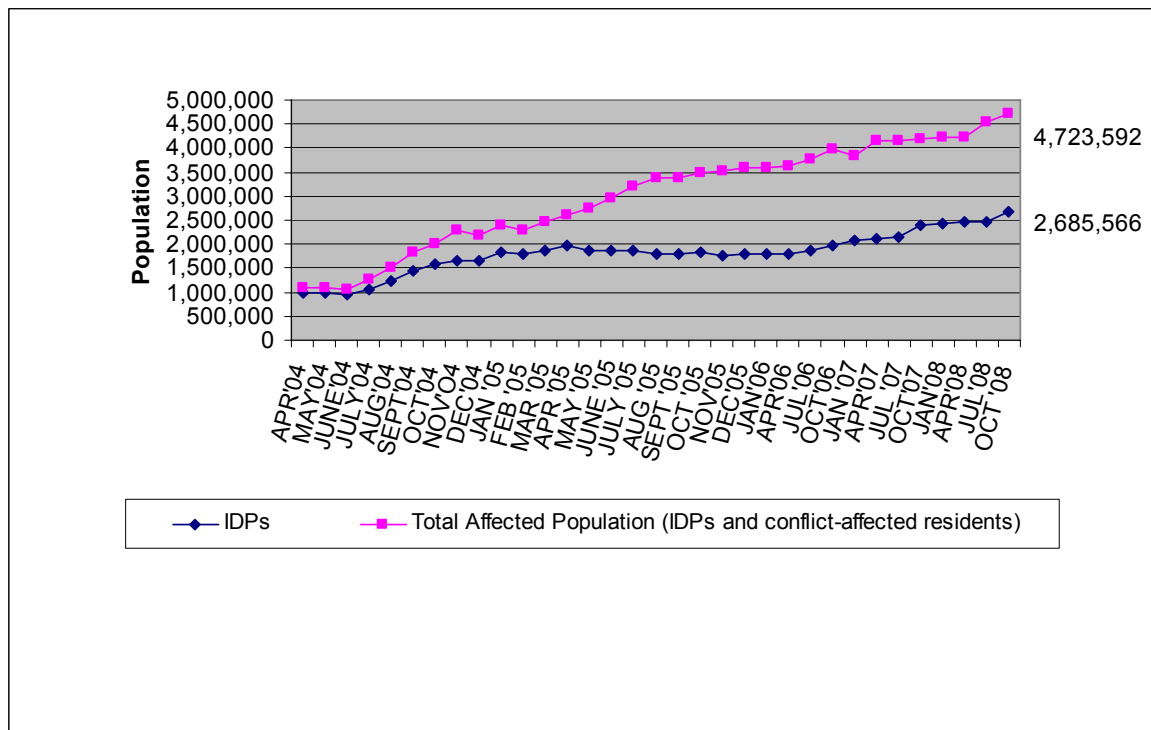
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All maps provided by the Humanitarian Information Centre for Darfur (HIC).

## I. Affected Population – trends and analysis

1. During the third quarter of 2008, the crisis in Darfur reached a new depth. Wide-spread violence and insecurity continued to trigger large population displacements into IDP settlements, exacerbating the already critical conditions in the overcrowded camps at the peak of the rainy season. By 1 October 2008, there were nearly 2.7 million Internally Displaced Persons in Darfur, up from 2.5 million in July. These numbers are likely to increase in the coming months following the large scale Government military operation in North Darfur and militia attacks in South Darfur during the month of September, whereby tens of thousands of people were driven from their homes. An additional two million residents continued to be directly affected by the conflict. At the same time, humanitarian access especially to the conflict-affected populations in remote areas received further blows as a result of the continuing general insecurity and targeted violence against humanitarian workers and assets, and to a lesser extent by the introduction of UN Security Phase IV in July, which implied the imposition of ceilings on the numbers of relocatable staff in Darfur.

**CHART 1. Estimated Number of IDPs and Total Affected Population  
(UN estimates since April 2004)**

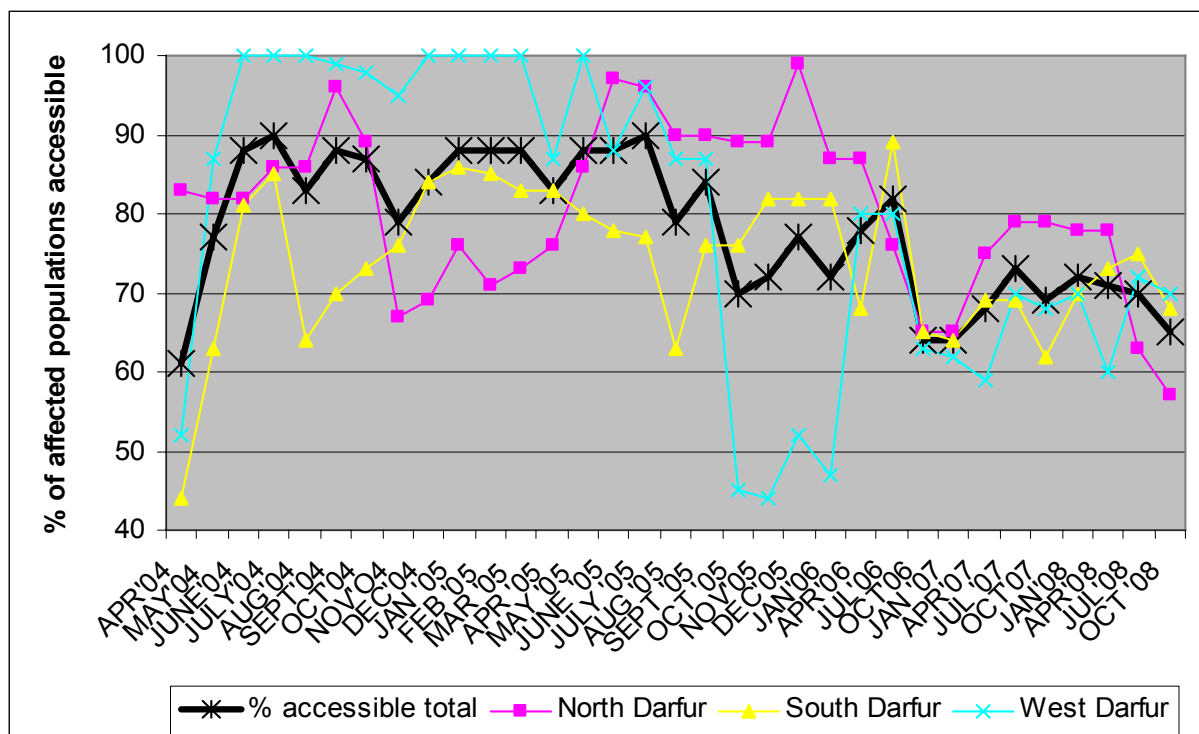


## II. Humanitarian Access

2. Humanitarian access in Darfur is primarily determined by a combination of three factors:
  - The degree of general insecurity, which may require the United Nations and other humanitarian partners to suspend or limit operations in certain unsafe areas for a certain amount of time;
  - The continued harassment of humanitarian organizations and workers, including blanket denial of humanitarian access, bureaucratic obstacles, detention and intimidation of national staff, bullying and temporary denial of access to affected areas and IDP camps.
  - Targeted attacks on humanitarians and their assets, including hijacking of cars and abduction of personnel, physical violence directed towards humanitarian workers, road ambushes, destruction of NGO assets and armed break-ins in humanitarian compounds/centres.

**Chart 2** shows the trend of the affected populations accessible according to UN security standards since April 2004. In September 2008, overall UN accessibility in Darfur dropped to 65%, almost as low as in October 2006. In North Darfur, the drop in accessibility rate is mainly a result of the large GoS military campaign in September. Access to rural areas elsewhere in Darfur continued to be constrained especially to the north and south of Geneina in West Darfur, and Shearia, Kass and Ed Daein localities in South Darfur. It remains important to underline that NGOs and Red Cross/Crescent Movements may assist people in UN no-go or limited access areas, but they have become similarly wary to access areas with a high risk of targeted road banditry and armed confrontations.

**CHART 2. Percent of Affected Population Accessible to UN Humanitarian Aid since April 2004**



3. Insecurity reached its peak in the third quarter of the year. Armed confrontations including aerial bombings were reported in large parts of Darfur during the reporting period. In July, UN Security Phase IV was introduced for the first time for the entire region. On 6 September, GoS troops launched an intensive military campaign including aerial bombings in large parts of North Darfur, including north of Kutum, El Fasher rural, Tabit and eastern Jebel Marra straddling the border with South Darfur. Two NGOs relocated their staff due to the ongoing fighting. Tens of thousands of people were displaced by the military campaign. In addition, inter-tribal fighting and militia attacks in South Darfur caused further population displacements. During the third quarter of 2008, some 90,000 people have been newly displaced in Darfur, 290,000 since the beginning of the year. In the whole of 2007, some 300,000 people had been displaced.

4. Targeted attacks on humanitarian workers and their assets continued at alarming levels. Humanitarian operations suffered from serious forms of intimidation and harassment by different actors, including bandits, armed movements, Government officials and IDPs. Between July and October, one national humanitarian worker was killed and 12 wounded. Armed men assaulted 68 humanitarian centres/compounds. So far this year, 11 national humanitarians have been killed against 13 during the whole year 2007. One hundred and forty-four times humanitarian premises have been assaulted/broken into during the first nine months of 2008 against 93 for the whole of 2007. Due to general insecurity and targeted attacks, humanitarians had to relocate on 10 occasions, thereby temporarily affecting assistance to nearly half a million conflict-affected people. Two major NGOs suspended their activities in North Darfur in August as a result of repeated attacks against their personnel and assets. As a result, 65,000 people were temporarily left without health care and 415,000 without food assistance.

5. From July to October, 50 humanitarian vehicles were hijacked, bringing the tally to 225 so far in 2008. This last number includes 100 WFP contracted and fleet trucks hijacked in 2008, thereby seriously hampering food supplies to Darfur. During these hijackings, 31 staff members were temporarily abducted during the third quarter of the year, 170 so far this year. Forty-one WFP-contracted drivers remain missing and there is growing concern for their safety. In comparison: during the entire year 2008, 137 vehicles had been hijacked and 147 humanitarians abducted. In addition, nine UNAMID vehicles have been hijacked in the third quarter of the year. Various factions of the rebel movements as well as militias and Chadian rebels have been involved in the hijacking of humanitarian vehicles, to be used in combat or offered for sale.

6. Of particular concern was the well organized, deadly ambush of a UNAMID convoy in North Darfur on 8 July. Seven UNAMID staff members were killed and 22 injured. Another UNAMID military was killed on 16 July in ForBaranga (West Darfur).

7. The raid by GoS security forces on Kalma and shootings inside the camp on 25 August were also of major concern. Thirty-three IDPs were killed and 108 wounded, and humanitarian operations were temporarily halted in Kalma and nearby Bielel camp where recent heavy rains had caused flooding and damage to shelters and latrines.

8. The 2007 Joint Communiqué and the General Directory of Procedures outlining the bureaucratic requirements for NGOs operating in Sudan have continued to improve the working conditions for NGOs in Darfur. Two joint committees at federal level, a High Level Committee and a Joint Tripartite Joint Technical Committee (JTTC) involving GoS, UN and NGOs, continued to meet on a regular basis to follow up on the implementation of the Joint Communiqué and find appropriate solutions and recommendations. Training workshops on the General Directory of Procedures (GDP) for GoS and NGO representatives have been held in all three Darfur capitals in July and September. The GDP outlines the fast track procedures foreseen by the 2007 Joint Communiqué. In September, a Tripartite Joint Technical Committee at state level was established in both West and South Darfur.

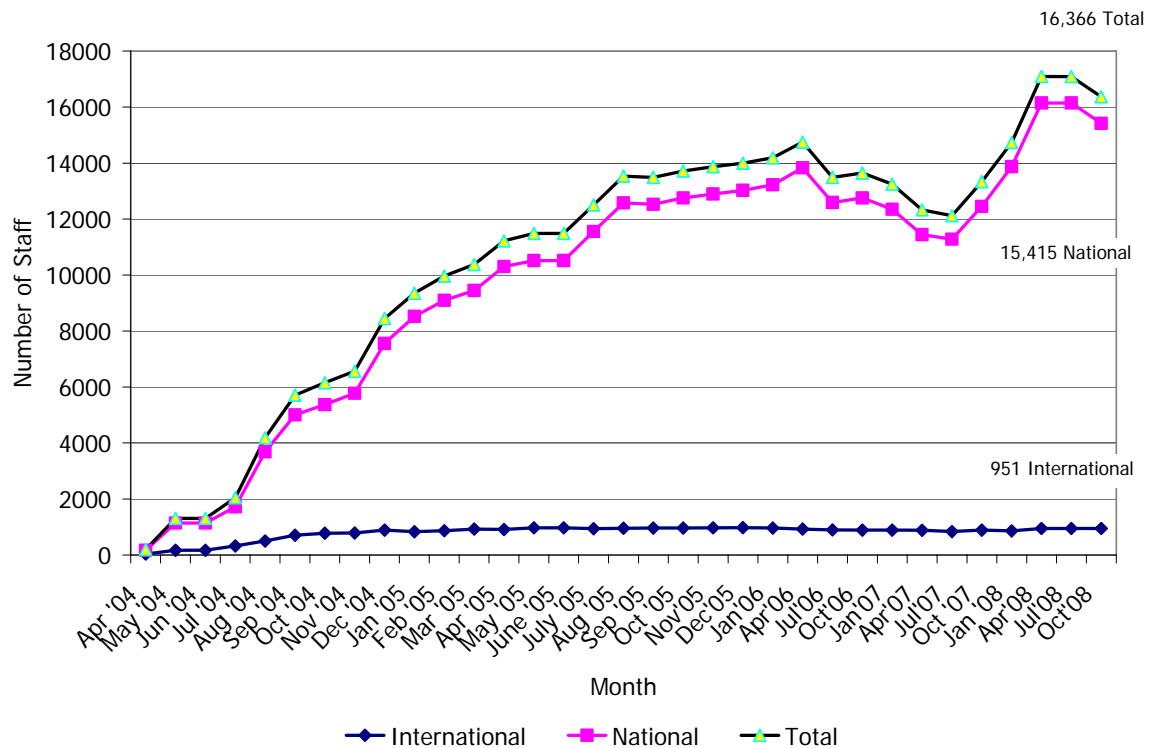
9. Nonetheless, during the third quarter of the year, local GoS authorities throughout Darfur have occasionally obstructed humanitarian operations in the field. In July in North Darfur, HAC informed NGOs of a new set of strict regulations before they can obtain travel permits when travel in rented vehicles. Travelling in rented vehicles is one of the mitigating actions taken by humanitarians to reduce the debilitating effect of hijackings. In the same month in West Darfur, HAC informed NGOs that NGOs must request permission for all medical supplies shipments within the state. NGOs also had to submit an inventory for all medical items for approval, despite the fact that all medical supplies imported or locally bought conform to the approved medicine lists. Also in July, National Security and GoS police started demanding during a few weeks travel permits to access Ardamata camp (Geneina). An NGO was summoned by HAC Geneina after the NGO had relocated their staff from Beida. In South Darfur, fuel restrictions into Kalma camp led to the temporary complete disruption of water supply in several sectors. Fuel restrictions continued until mid-August. The South Darfur Wali also ruled out a food distribution to the 8,000 registered IDPs living in Nyala town who had fled the camp in October 2007. In August, two serious incidents involved UNHAS flights in West Darfur. In Abu Sorouj, SAF officers temporarily detained the crew and the passengers after a miscommunication concerning flight times. In Golo, SAF officers temporarily detained and beat some UNHAS crew members and held the UN and NGO passengers at gunpoint. UNHAS has suspended its flights to the area since then. In Khartoum airport, several UN and NGO staff have been prevented from boarding a UN flight to Darfur or harassed by National Security officers demanding travel permits at Khartoum airport in both July and August. Also, GoS authorities delayed the customs clearance of 5,000 MT of WFP sugar in Port Sudan for over four months. At the time of writing this report, a large part of this sugar had been cleared.

10. Of serious concern was the forceful interference by local and Khartoum-based HAC officials who visited several NGO premises in Nyala and Kass (South Darfur) at the end of August, and interrogated, harassed and bullied staff. NGOs were forced to disclose their computer passwords, and sensitive files especially in the fields of protection and GBV were searched, copied and taken away. The unacceptable nature of such behaviour was raised to senior Government officials at federal level. It is hoped that the recently established State Tripartite Joint Technical Committees will address and resolve some of the bureaucratic obstacles and harassment of humanitarians.

### III. Response Capacity – aid workers in Darfur

11. The numbers of national and international humanitarian workers in the region has dropped to 16,366 aid workers, reflecting a decrease in national staff. Sudanese national still constitute around 94% of the total numbers of humanitarian workers in Darfur. Some 85 NGOs and Red Cross/Crescent Movement and 16 UN agencies (including IOM) continue to support the 4.7 million conflict-affected populations in Darfur, making it the largest humanitarian operation in the world.

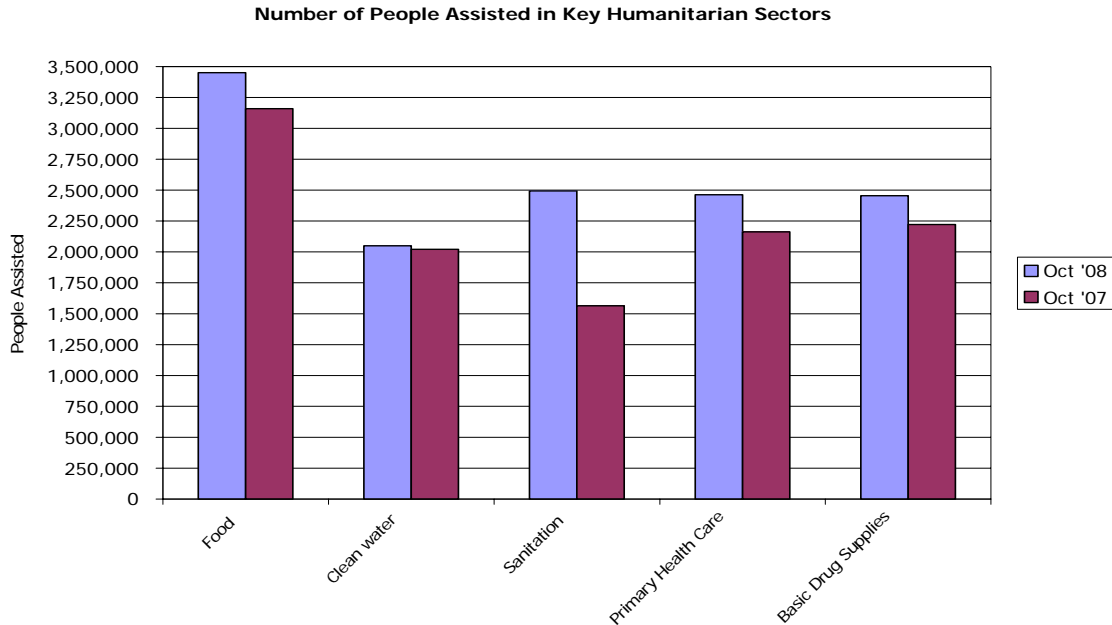
**Chart 3. Trend of Humanitarian Staff Working in Darfur (April 2004 – October 2008)**



12. The change of the UN Security Phase to Phase IV in July has entailed the introduction of ceilings of relocatable staff. Despite this and the continuous adverse security conditions, the humanitarian community has been able to contain the humanitarian crisis in Darfur. No major epidemics have been reported and humanitarian assistance in the key life-saving sectors has been safeguarded. The nutritional status of the conflict-affected people seems to have improved in some areas in comparison to the same period last year. However, humanitarian outreach to outlying areas continued to be limited, as a result of the ongoing fighting and targeted attacks. Many NGOs continue to operate with 'remote control', to the detriment of the quality of their programmes.

## IV. Provision and Quality of Assistance

**CHART 4. Number of People Assisted in Key Humanitarian Sectors October 2007 – October 2008**



### **An in-depth sector update for 2008 with emphasis on the last quarter**

#### **13. Food:**

During the period, WFP, ICRC and partners provided some 98,500 MT of food to an average of 3.4 million people each month, the bulk of it through General Food Distributions which target IDPs in camps and in rural settlements, as well as vulnerable host populations. Approximately 30,000 newly displaced persons, fleeing conflict in the Sania Afandu area (South Darfur) and other locations, were assisted with emergency food rations. These groups were added to the GFD caseload after verifications were carried out. Seasonal food support was also provided during the hunger period to poor households that were severely affected by last year's poor harvest. Nutrition interventions were expanded during the quarter, primarily targeting children under-five with an aim to prevent malnutrition spikes commonly seen during the hunger period. School-age children were also supported with daily cooked meals at school to alleviate short-term hunger and encourage enrolment and regular attendance.

Continuing insecurity in the region posed serious challenges to WFP operations; reduced access to beneficiaries, shrinking humanitarian space, and a slow-down in food deliveries leading to ration cuts. Insecurity prevented access to 250,000 in September; the highest so far this year. Renewed fighting in parts of North Darfur and South Darfur made it difficult to reach people in those areas, while Aro Sharow in West Darfur has remained inaccessible since the beginning of the year. The number of people that cannot be reached is expected to further increase with the suspension by German Agro Action (GAA), a key WFP partner, of their activities in rural parts of North Darfur, following two security incidents in which its staff were threatened and seven vehicles stolen. Continuing banditry attacks on WFP food convoys, and other commercial and humanitarian convoys, necessitated a coordinated convoy movement of trucks, which have significantly increased turnaround time and slowed-down deliveries to Darfur. This has undermined WFP's efforts to meet distribution needs as well as build up buffer stocks in Darfur, resulting in reduced rations for over 3 million people who now receive 65% of

the 2,100 kcal recommended per person per day. To date, 100 trucks carrying WFP food have been involved in hijacking incidents, 67 of which remain missing and 41 drivers unaccounted for. This excludes the two drivers and two trucks that were released in early October after two months of captivity.

In August, WFP and its partners launched a Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP) in North Darfur, targeting children under-five with a BSFP premix (corn-soya blend, dried skimmed milk and sugar) and vegetable oil to prevent malnutrition. Prior to the launch, blending machines were procured and installed, BSFP premix was produced and packaged, and several community sensitisation campaigns were carried out. Over 100,000 children in North Darfur and 44,000 in South Darfur have been reached through this intervention. The BSFP in South Darfur started earlier this year. Continuous information sessions for mothers and caregivers have been constructive, as highlighted by a monitoring mission to Al Salam camp which found that mothers are well informed about the intended beneficiaries of the BSFP rations, preparation methods and basic hygiene rules. Another mission to Ed Daein assessed the ongoing BSFP there and prepared the groundwork for a food consumption survey of the four main IDP camps in Ed Daein, scheduled to take place in September. This comes after Tearfund's release of a nutrition survey report, conducted in June, which found a Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rate of 24.2%, well above the accepted level of less than 15%.

The regular supplementary feeding programme continued to provide nutrition support to malnourished women and children that are not targeted by the BSFP. Combined, both interventions reached over 167,000 women and children with 1,259 mt of food.

During the quarter, over 220,000 children received daily school meals totalling 3,397 MT of food under the Food for Education (FFE) programme whose objectives are to encourage enrolment and attendance, while alleviating short-term hunger. Efforts are ongoing to further expand the programme to reach more children in rural areas. An additional 10,700 children in Zalingei and Jebel Marra, and 22,165 children in rural Kutum, Fasher and Saraf Omra were added to the programme during the period. Several meetings were held with State Ministry of Education officials, school administrators and NGO partners to improve the programme and strengthen monitoring.

#### **14. Agriculture:**

In the field of distribution of agricultural inputs, there have been some very positive early signs from the summer season. Field missions conducted by FAO in West Darfur as well as reports from partners indicated that an efficient agricultural inputs distribution and a good rainy season could result in a higher acreage cultivated this year as compared to the previous three years. The acreage cultivated has also increased in South Darfur – up to 40% more than last year, according to estimates by FAO's Implementing Partners. The crops are also performing very well and expectations are very positive. There are other associated signs in local markets such as higher availability of cereals and lower prices for food stuffs, in North, South and West Darfur. Crops harvested early such as cowpeas, watermelons, okra and cucumber have also contributed to improved food security. The rainy season distribution has been completed, despite transportation problems arising from insecurity and weather conditions, with communities in some areas starting cultivation. A total of 1650 MT of seeds earmarked for distribution has reached their designated destinations. FAO has delivered 16.38 MT of sorghum seeds, delivered over 76 MT of sorghum, millet and groundnut, 670 KG of various vegetable seeds and distributed 15,156 hand tools in North Darfur. In South Darfur the distribution covered 144,223 households, including 7,250 households in IDP camps. Of particular note, this year the metal and black smiths in the area have also felt the benefits of the agricultural season as FAO floated the bids for the production of hand tools to local manufacturers, thus injecting much needed cash into the local economy. Almost 700 MT of crop seeds, 4.05 MT of vegetable seeds and 179,000 tools have been distributed. In West Darfur, 11,582 hand tools and more than 30 MT of millet has been distributed to partners. Additionally, 8,900 seedlings from various fruit trees produced with FAO support at a tree nursery have been distributed to farmers.

FAO's agricultural campaign came at a critical juncture where food security fears had intensified in most areas due to scarcity, transportation issues, hoarding, negative weather conditions, illegal trade and ration cuts. It is hoped that the effects of the hunger period, which usually extends till October, will be slightly abated by the production of crops and vegetables through the sector's intervention.

In the field of animal health care services, FAO has undertaken curative and preventative treatment of livestock in order to protect economic assets of herders. In North Darfur FAO's partners were supported in the vaccination of 142,966 animals, the treatment of 38,411 animals and de-worming of 510 horses and donkeys. A total of 1,126,000 doses of the HS, BQ vaccines and doses of Anthrax have been delivered to partners. In addition, 400 lactating goats have been distributed to 80 female-headed households; another 80 women received 80 donkeys. Seventeen Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) were trained to provide veterinary services and 160 individuals trained on the principles of animal husbandry. FAO also provided 5 kg of salt and mineral licks to 75 animals at six small dairy farms. In South Darfur, 908,300 doses of vaccines were provided to various Implementing Partners and the Ministry of Animal Resources. Sixty CAHWs from Kass, Nyala and Ed El Fursan localities were trained by FAO. FAO has also distributed vaccines which were used by the Ministry for Animal Resources to vaccinate 195,000 animals belonging to 7,800 nomadic households. This was particularly done as a peace building activity to ensure better relations between nomads and farmers. In West Darfur, 174,756 animals have been vaccinated in this period and 3,656 animals treated for various diseases. Two basic trainings for 167 CAHWS and a refresher training for another 33 CAHWS were carried out.

In the field of innovative food security programming, FAO has collaborated with UNICEF, WFP and CHF on a pilot project in South Darfur for Otash IDP camp and a host community to help set up a vegetable garden that the communities can develop and maintain independently. FAO's previous vegetable garden projects have proved to be very successful, offering vulnerable communities alternative sources of nutrition and an added means of income generation.

Emergency support to livestock services affected by drought and flooding: FAO has provided extra support to the Implementing Partner AHA in North Darfur to help control the outbreak of flood-related diseases amongst livestock. FAO has also equipped 11 CAHWs with veterinary kits and drugs as well as vaccinated or treated over 3,600 animals. More than 250 animals, of which 118 cattle, have died so far as a result of flooding. The Ministry of Animal Resources in South Darfur has also been provided with vaccines.

#### **15. Non-food items:**

The focus of the Non-Food Item (NFI) and Emergency Shelter (ES) Sector is to ensure the timely provision of essential non-food and emergency shelter items to people affected by conflict and disaster and other extremely vulnerable populations. As such, a primary focus during the rainy period of July to September was monitoring flooding in all three Darfur states and coordinating effective and timely flood-response with partners operating in the affected localities. Response efforts have been primarily focused in Nyala, South Darfur, where the flooding has affected the most households. Distributions were coordinated with CHF International, Humedica, Oxfam-UK, SRCS, and SUDO. In support of these distributions, UNJLC coordinated an emergency airlift of essential non-food items from El Obeid to Nyala. Flooding also occurred in North Darfur, where distributions were lead by AHA and German Agro Action.

Through distributions in the third quarter of 2008, the NFI Common Pipeline supported 51,333 households with 203,921 items. IDPs requiring replenishment represented approximately 62% of beneficiary households served and newly displaced populations represented approximately 25%. Other groups supported included disaster-affected populations, extremely vulnerable populations, and spontaneous returns. Items distributed over the three-month period included

33,663 blankets, 64,012 jerry cans, 48,760 pieces of plastic sheeting, 39,762 plastic sleeping mats, and 17,724 women's toaps.

Cooperating partners making beneficiary support possible during the period of July through September included AHA, CHF International, Concern, CRS, GAA, GOAL, Great Family, Helpage, Humedica, INTERSOS, IOM, IRW, MSF-Holland, OXFAM, Rehaid El-Fursan Rural Development, RPDO, Samaritan's Purse, Save the Children – US, Solidarités, SRCS, SUDO, UNHCR, and World Relief.

Further information on the NFI & ES Sector and the NFI Common Pipeline can be obtained by visiting UNJLC's website at [www.unjlc.org/sudan](http://www.unjlc.org/sudan) or by e-mailing [sudan@unjlc.org](mailto:sudan@unjlc.org). UNJLC also welcomes all Sector partners to submit information on their own NFI pipeline activities and distributions; in addition to including the information in Sector reporting, it helps UNJLC maintain an accurate overall picture of the entire sector.

UNJLC's logistics coordination activities in the period of July to September 2008 included: information management and dissemination – such as fuel trend research; coordination of air transport user groups; GIS mapping services; and facilitation of common logistics services – such as an airlift of essential humanitarian aid from El Obeid to Nyala to respond to flooding.

A key highlight this quarter was support provided at the request of the North Darfur Inter-Agency Management Group (IAMG), who collectively requested UNJLC to research the humanitarian requirements for UNHAS helicopter air assets. The resulting survey executed by UNJLC provided the information base on which the Helicopter Users Group (HUG) was able to discuss asset requirements, flight frequency and destination prioritization. UNHAS responded positively and added a fixed wing aircraft, which has been made available to El Fasher to augment air capacity.

Currently, UNJLC is carrying out a survey to assess the overall fuel requirements of the humanitarian community in Darfur. The survey results will be further compared to historical price information, which is being sought from major oil companies operating in North Sudan. The compiled information will be analyzed and results used to support regional contingency planning. The consolidated report is expected to be disseminated mid-October.

#### **16. Water and sanitation:**

The reduction in staffing levels resulting from the change in the UN security phase for Darfur has led to a reduction in activities in the water, sanitation and hygiene sectors and reduced access in South and West Darfur.

The state government restrictions placed upon provision of fuel to IDP camps in South Darfur was eased in September to allow fuel for running water supply generators, and assurances have been given to humanitarian agencies for unrestricted quotas for this purpose.

The collapse of Halouf Dam in North Darfur after the first rains of the season has increased the risk of flood in Abou Shouk and Al Salaam camps, and may impact on the replenishment of ground water resources in the area. A joint assessment mission was undertaken with the support of ACF, UNEP, UNICEF, USAID and others to assess the extent of damage and to identify possible remedial actions. Efforts to safeguard the remaining structure of the Dam are ongoing.

With UNICEF support, the supply of chlorinated water was sustained for over 500,000 persons at IDP locations across Darfur, through operation and maintenance of motorized water schemes and hand pump sources. An additional 110,000 people now have access to clean water through the construction and rehabilitation of water sources. More than 50,000 additional people benefited from construction and rehabilitation of sanitation facilities in North Darfur.

Floods at Al Salam, Bileil and Kalma camps in South Darfur damaged many shelters, as well as

2,692 latrines, leaving 6,000 IDPs without access to adequate sanitation. No damage to water facilities was reported. Agencies working in the water sector, namely ACF, CARE, IRC, OXFAM, and the State Water Corporation chlorinated water sources with UNICEF support, and conducted hygiene promotion campaigns. Damaged latrines were backfilled and new latrines will be constructed as soon as weather conditions permit.

#### **17. Health:**

One case of the wild polio virus was confirmed in West Darfur in July. Supplementary immunization activities through National Immunization Days (NIDs) were undertaken in August, and are also planned for October and November. The August NID achieved a national average coverage of 101 per cent, although coverage in North Darfur was only 87 per cent. In West Darfur, 388 children under the age of five were vaccinated for the first time in Geneina, including children who had arrived in July from Sirba locality. The Sudan Accelerated Child Survival Initiative – an integrated package of life-saving health activities implemented at community level – was launched in the Jebel Marra areas of Rowata, Rokerro and Daya, reaching 19,000 children under the age of five with measles and polio vaccination, de-worming, provision of folic acid and health education activities.

Some 528 cases of malaria were recorded in West Darfur, with 154 cases in Hamadiya IDP camp in Zallingei. A Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices survey found that out of 9,000 households surveyed in Geneina, two-thirds had at least one insecticide-treated mosquito bed net. However, the study also revealed that only 37 per cent of households gave special care to children experiencing a bout of malaria.

In South Darfur, activities implemented under the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) saw the vaccination of approximately 1,000 children under the age of five from eight nomadic groups. Refresher training was also provided to 120 vaccinators from different localities. Training was also provided for 30 EPI service providers and 30 vaccinators mainly from SLA-controlled areas of Malha locality. In Kutum, Kabkabiya, Mellit, and El Fasher, supervisory skills training was provided for local midwives, while in Kutum and Kabkabiya, 42 medical assistants received standard management and refresher training. Malaria awareness training was provided for 120 community leaders from Kabkabiya, Kutum Mellit and Um Keddada.

The rainy season impacted on health conditions in Darfur. In South Darfur, over 3,300 cases of bloody diarrhoea were reported, with case levels remaining elevated at the end of the quarter. Treatment of cases and dissemination of health promotion messages to reduce transmission of infection is ongoing. Flooding in South Darfur, particularly Buram locality, led to medical supplies and more than 5,000 insecticide-treated bed nets being provided through UNICEF to affected households. Following flooding in Saraf Omra in North Darfur, UNICEF provided similar supplies and supported health education and hygiene promotion training for 50 health promoters. A five day house-to-house information campaign followed, reaching 4,724 households. UNICEF also supported the North Darfur State Ministry of Health's Health Promotion department to train health promoters for a campaign in Abu Shouk, Zam Zam, As Salaam and Abbassi IDP camps as well as El Fasher, Kabkabiya and Mellit towns – the campaign reached more than 52,000 households.

Some 141 primary health care kits were distributed to implementing partners in North Darfur, benefiting an estimated 470,000 children and women.

#### **18. Nutrition:**

Admissions into Supplementary and Therapeutic/Outpatient Treatment feeding programmes decreased in July and the trend continued in August. Some selective feeding programmes reported static admission trends, but overall there have been decreased admissions across Darfur.

Localized nutrition surveys (1)

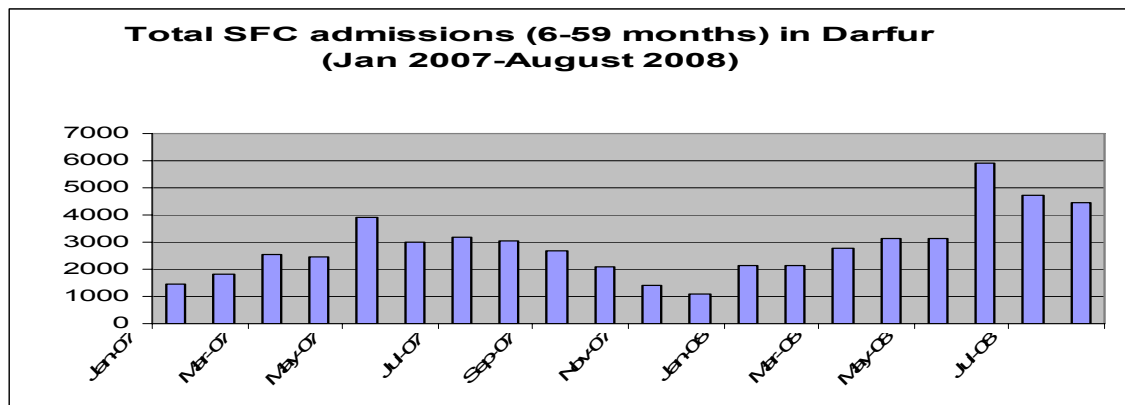
The results of 12 NGO surveys/rapid assessments conducted during the hunger gap were cleared for distribution by the Government, following discussions between UNICEF, the Federal Ministry of Health and the Humanitarian Aid Commission. Three nutrition surveys/assessments were conducted in North Darfur, seven in South Darfur, and two in West Darfur. Where comparison with previous nutrition survey results from the same season was possible, global acute malnutrition (GAM) rates from the most recently published nutrition surveys are lower than those reported in the same period in 2007, with exceptions for Tulus and Katila in South Darfur. Most surveys were conducted in June/July/August during the height of the hunger gap and the results have been published.

Between July and September 2008, data collection for nutrition surveys in South Darfur was completed in Kalma and Nyala town. The preliminary results will be available after clearance from the South Darfur Humanitarian Commission. No new nutrition surveys were conducted in West or North Darfur.

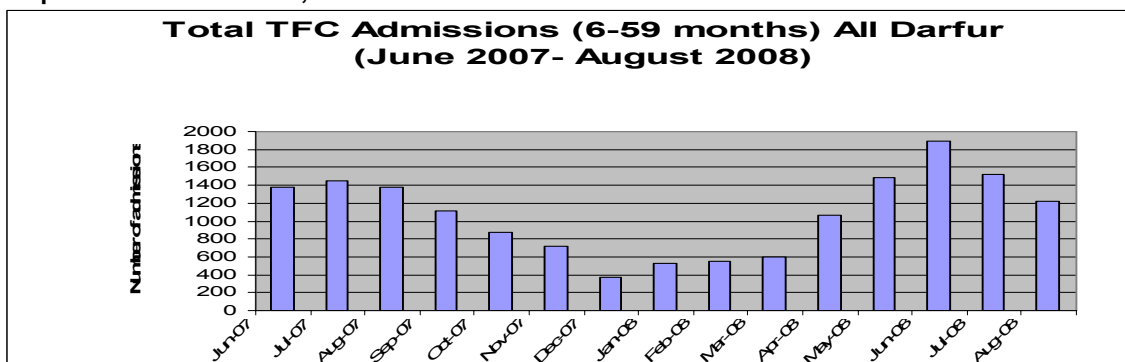
Selective Feeding Centre Data

Admissions into Supplementary Feeding Centres (SFCs) and Therapeutic Feeding Centres (TFCs) across Greater Darfur began to decrease in July and the trend continued in August.

**Graph 5: SFC admissions, Greater Darfur**



**Graph 6: TFC admissions, Greater Darfur**

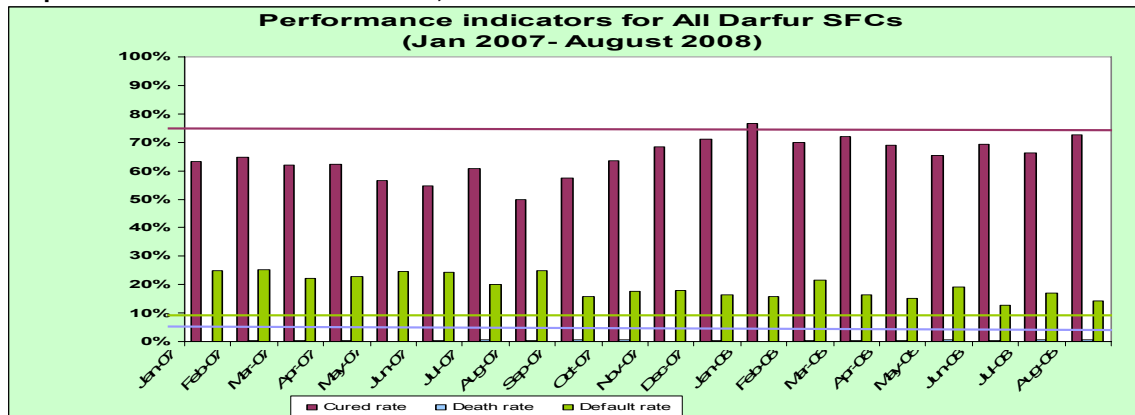


Across Darfur, performance indicators for SFCs improved in comparison to previous months, with increased recovery rates and improved defaulter rates which were attributed to the

<sup>1</sup> All nutrition surveys reported in this bulletin use the standard 30x30 cluster methodology in line with international standards unless otherwise stated.

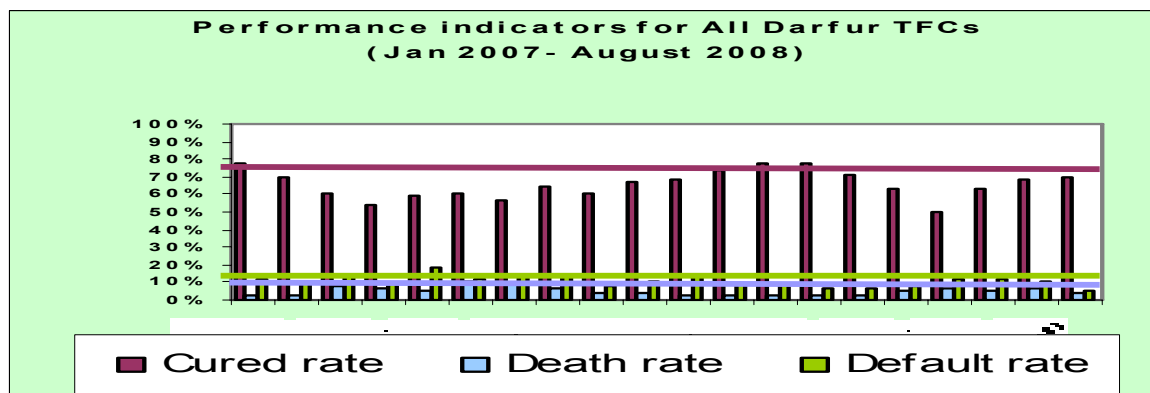
completion of the planting season and a consistent therapeutic feeding supply pipeline, and with successful pre-positioning of supplies prior to this year's rainy season. (Graph 7)

**Graph 7: SFC Performance statistics, Greater Darfur**



Performance indicators for TFCs improved in July and August, as recovery rates improved to 68.7 per cent in July and 69.3 per cent in August, and default rates improved to 10 per cent in July and 5 per cent in August. Although the decrease in admissions in July is still being analyzed, implementing partners believe that this year's cultivation period has resulted in more mothers and children being absent from TFC locations.

**Graph 8: TFC Performance statistics, Greater Darfur**



**19. Education:**

Preliminary data gathered at the beginning of the 2008 school year (June-July) showed encouraging progress with 126,619 children (96,923 boys and 56,696 girls) enrolled as 1st graders in the three states in Darfur. Total primary school enrolment in Darfur, according to Ministry of Education data, is now nearly 977,000 – 65 per cent of the primary school population.

In North Darfur, 234 classrooms were constructed and rehabilitated, benefiting 16,380 children including new entrants (grade 1 children), IDP children and remote, hard-to-reach and conflict affected children. Some 80,511 children (50% girls) in North Darfur benefited from provision of educational materials including textbooks, other teaching-learning aids, school furniture such as benches, seating mats and new blackboards etc. In addition, 12,125 girls in disadvantaged and low-enrolment communities received school uniforms, an important factor in increasing

enrolment.

In West Darfur, 186 classrooms were constructed and rehabilitated, benefiting at least 13,020 children in IDP camps, disadvantaged and difficult-to-reach communities. Provision of school supplies benefited 30,248 while 3,433 school girls in disadvantaged and low-enrolment communities received school uniforms.

In South Darfur, 219 classrooms were constructed and 332 classrooms rehabilitated to support at least 66,000 children in IDP camps, disadvantaged and difficult-to-reach communities. School materials and supplies reached 159,000 children. Eleven schools in South Darfur now have Child Clubs where around 5,000 children discuss, work together and take leadership in implementing their school activities such as peace promotion.

A recent assessment in Kalma camp in South Darfur found that approximately 21,000 children of school age were not going to school in the camp, while temporary classrooms for some 19,000 children were in need of serious repair. UNICEF provided 130 plastic sheets for Otash School and has initiated the rehabilitation of 20 classrooms which will benefit a total 1,038 pupils. UNHCR also provided 3,700 floor mats and 929 plastic sheets to respond to the emergency situation.

Across Darfur 1,875 government and volunteer teachers supporting IDP children and those in remote communities were trained on gender sensitive, child-centred learning approaches and core subject matters. This is expected to benefit some 50,000 children. Also, 287 members of Parent Teacher Committees and 936 members of village development committees benefited from training on school management, child-centred teaching and HIV/AIDS awareness.

The reduction in staff levels resulting from the increase in the UN security phase for Darfur has impacted on outreach and access, while the general deteriorating security situation has made assessment and monitoring of the education sector more difficult.

## **20. Protection**

Ongoing conflict and hostilities in all three Darfurs has left civilians exposed to numerous continuing protection concerns. All parties to the conflict have failed to differentiate between civilian and military targets and as a result, large displacements of civilians have continued.

Armed conflicts, including GoS aerial bombings have been reported in all three Darfurs. In North Darfur, the end of July saw unconfirmed reports of aerial bombings in the area east of Jebel Marra, including bombing in and around Tukumare on 16 July, Taryn on 18 and 19 July, and Kushina on 23 July. In South Darfur, inter-tribal fighting continued to trigger new displacements. During the last two weeks of August, for example, approximately 65 families fled to Kalma camp. The majority of these displaced persons were from the Fur tribe, having fled due to conflict between the Beni Halba and Tarjam in the Ed El Fursan area. In North Darfur, August saw new displacements from Kafod to Korma. Over two weeks, up to 80 households allegedly fled to Korma in order to avoid tribal/political violence. In West Darfur, following the GoS assaults in the corridor north of Geneina in February, the population movements in this area have remained very fluid, constantly moving back and forth to the Figeira, Senet and Birak areas of Chad.

Ongoing Darfur-wide food shortages from July to September continued to exacerbate already strained social circumstances, despite incremental increases in the food rations. In Otash camp, South Darfur, for example, many women and Sheikhs have attributed an increase in domestic violence to food shortages.

Cases of SGBV have also continued, particularly during firewood collection activities. In some instances, it has been claimed that rape is used to prevent women straying into firewood collection areas that have been claimed by other social or ethnic groups. In August, UNAMID commenced firewood patrols in selected camps to help prevent such acts, but the widespread

nature of the problem means that large numbers of assaults are still being reported.

All parties to the conflict have to a large extent ignored or paid disregard to the civilian and humanitarian nature of IDP camps. Continued humanitarian engagement on this issue has been to little effect. Ostensibly, the GoS raid on Kalma camp in late August occurred because of large arms caches being held in that location. The result of this raid, however, saw up to 33 people killed and numerous more injured or displaced within the camp.

Established protection working groups in El Fasher, Nyala, Geneina, and Zalingei, and newly formed protection working groups in Mornei, Habila and Mukjar, continue to meet regularly and share information on and coordinating responses to protection concerns.

#### **21. Child protection:**

In August, a new Family and Child Protection Unit officially opened in North Darfur, following the establishment of a similar unit in West Darfur earlier in the year. The units are managed by local GoS police, with support from UNICEF, and provide specialist services to victims, offenders and witnesses of abuse and exploitation – services include social work, legal aid, psychosocial support, forensic evidence collection and child friendly investigation. The Units are also engaged in awareness raising and monitoring in communities, targeting high-risk areas with prevention activities and messages and through community dialogue. Preparations for a third Unit in South Darfur are ongoing and will open with UNICEF support in January 2009.

In September 2008, Mine Risk Education was provided across Darfur reaching nearly 14,000 people in the month alone, including 9,044 children. Activities were conducted mainly in IDP camps and in public places such as markets and community centres. In September, no injuries relating to mines or unexploded ordnances were reported anywhere in Darfur.

In September, 54 children detained following the JEM attack on Omdurman, and subsequently released through a Presidential Pardon, arrived in West Darfur. The children were placed in an Interim Care Centre managed by the State Ministry of Social Welfare and the State Council for Child Welfare with support from UNICEF. All but one of these children were quickly reunited with their families. In addition, three children have been reunified in Khartoum, El Gedarif and White Nile states. To date, 38 children remain in the centre outside Khartoum, and should be reunified soon. UNICEF and partners are coordinating with the Governments of Sudan and Chad for the reunification of children of families identified in Chad and to establish inclusive reintegration programmes in the key areas of return.

#### **22. Refugees**

There continues to be regular movements to and from Chad and Central African Republic (CAR). Some of these movements are seasonal, some allegedly due to insecurity. In South Darfur, there are reports of more than 2,000 new arrivals from CAR, although lack of access has severely hindered the ability to confirm these numbers. In North Darfur, approximately 82 refugee returnees from Chad have been reported. In general, due to lack of access it is difficult to accurately estimate the total numbers of refugees in North and South Darfur. In West Darfur, there remain an estimated 45,000 refugees from Chad and 2,500 from CAR. Most of these refugees are NOT encamped but remain in border areas. The estimated total population of Um Shalaya Refugee Camp is almost 7000, while in Mukjar Camp there are approximately 800 refugees.

#### **23. Summary**

The humanitarian operation in Darfur has been put under further pressure during the third quarter of the year as a result of continued wide-spread insecurity leading to serious constraints in humanitarian access to outlying areas, large new population displacements and a greater caseload of beneficiaries, and high levels of targeted attacks against humanitarian workers and their assets. In addition, the introduction of UN Security Phase IV has led to the imposition of

ceilings on relocatable staff. So far, the humanitarian community has been able to continue providing the essential humanitarian services and keep the humanitarian situation under control, but there are serious challenges ahead. The major challenge is to find new ways to reach the conflict-affected populations in outlying areas in the light of the limits posed by wide-spread insecurity. Access to those in need will depend in large part on working closely with local communities while safeguarding the quality of services. Some NGOs have been able to forge strong relations with communities, allowing them to operate in areas that were previously off limits. Community workers will need additional training so they can take on increased responsibilities and maintain the quality of operations in remote locations.

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