



## Humanitarian Action in the Sudan: Facts and Figures Snapshot, 28 August 2007

(For information on floods, please see the regular "Floods in the Sudan: Progress Report" series)

### **Displacement and returns**

#### *Refugee returns*

- Since 2005, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has assisted over 66,000 refugees to return home to Southern Sudan and the Three Areas, through organized and assisted voluntary repatriation movements.
- Since 01 January, 36,490 refugees have received assistance to return to the Sudan from the Central African Republic (CAR), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Libya, and Uganda. The UNHCR expects that by the end of 2007, a total of 102,000 persons will have returned from the countries of asylum during the year.
- In 2007, UNHCR has completed repatriation of Sudanese refugees from CAR and DRC. Returns from Ethiopia were suspended in May 2007 due to the rainy season, while limited numbers of returns continue today from Kenya and Uganda.

#### *New displacement in Darfur*

- Since the beginning of 2007, 248,414 persons have been newly displaced or re-displaced in Darfur. Over 78% of these movements appears attributable to activities by armed groups, while the remainder is attributable to inter-tribal fighting.
- The total of IDPs in Darfur is now over 2.2 million.

#### *Spontaneous IDP returns: report released by IOM*

- A new report released on 22 August by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) provides valuable insights into the protection and reintegration needs of IDPs who have spontaneously returned to Southern Sudan over the first six months of 2007. According to data compiled by IOM and its partners at 21 tracking points strategically located across northern and Southern Sudan, 68,870 IDPs were recorded travelling to Southern Sudan during that period. Over the same period, IOM also tracked 99,291 IDPs who had actually arrived in their villages of origin in the states of Lakes, Northern Bahr el-Ghazal, South Kordofan, Warrap, and Western Bahr el-Ghazal.
- Data from the tracking points shows that 38.5 % of all spontaneous returns were to Northern Bahr el-Ghazal State, and 22.7 % to South Kordofan.
- The report also shows that 26 per cent of the returning families were headed by single women and that the average family size had increased from an average of 3.5 persons in 2006 to 5.5 persons in 2007.
- According to the report, 55 per cent of those who have spontaneously returned to Southern Sudan are children and young people. This further underlines the urgent need to invest in appropriate educational and health facilities at a local level.

#### *Organized IDP returns*

- Since the launch on 03 February of the Joint Returns Plan under the auspices of the Government of National Unity (GoNU), the Government of Southern Sudan (GoSS), the United Nations, and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the following was achieved:
  - A total of 44,610 former IDPs have been assisted to return home. The figure includes movements from Khartoum and South Darfur to Southern Sudan and the Three Areas, within Southern Sudan, and within the Three Areas.
  - As part of the programme, IOM medically screened 45,254 IDPs prior to travel.
  - Prior to departure, IOM vaccinated 40,431 persons against meningitis, among whom 22,711 were also vaccinated against other diseases.

### **Sector activities**

#### **Common Services and Coordination**

- A Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) grant of US\$ 1.5 million has been approved, for humanitarian relief in areas of Southern Sudan affected by the Ugandan armed opposition group "Lord's Resistance Army" (LRA). The grant, processed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), has been entirely allocated to projects implemented by NGOs.

#### **Education**

##### *School enrolment*

- In Southern Sudan, estimated Gross Enrolment (GE) in primary schools has reached 1.2 million children, including 400,000 who have enrolled in 2007. Since 01 January, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has provided 11,378 student kits, 13,718 teacher kits, and 9 million exercise books, to support the increased demand for primary education. A total of 150 programme trainers and tutors were trained for fast-track training of teachers, 1,300 teachers were trained, and 1,100 teachers also received English language training.
- According to UNICEF and partners, the gains made in 2006 towards increased school enrolment in Darfur run the risk of being reversed. This is due to a shortage of teachers, in turn largely due to erratic payment of salaries. In 2007, 8,975 teachers (4,902 in North Darfur, 1,200 in South Darfur, and 2,873 in West Darfur) need to be recruited — 1,646 of them for schools in IDP camps (200 in North Darfur, 700 in South Darfur and 746 in West Darfur). For the upcoming 2007/2008 school year, UNICEF has confirmed that it will cover the training and provision of stipends for 2,296 untrained volunteer teachers for three months, at a cost of US\$ 70 per teacher per month, totalling US\$ 482,160. But for the rest of the school year (October to December) another US\$ 482,160 needs to be urgently mobilised. The Federal Ministry of Education has recently signed a technical agreement with UNICEF, which indicates that the Government will take over the payment of salaries for these volunteer teachers from 2008.
- With the double aim of supporting nutrition among children, and encouraging school attendance, UNICEF and the World Food Programme (WFP) are supporting nearly 60,000 children in Darfur through school-feeding assistance.

#### *School rehabilitation and materials*

- School rehabilitation and construction programmes supported by UNICEF have enabled an additional 35,000 children to access basic education in the north of Sudan during 2007.
- In 2007, UNICEF has provided over 240,000 children in the north of Sudan with quality learning materials and other school supplies.

### **Food Security and Livelihoods**

#### *Food Security*

- During the month of July, WFP provided 63,000 metric tons (MT) of food assistance to four million beneficiaries in the Sudan. Of these, 3.1 million were located in Darfur. The increased food distribution in Darfur (up from 2.5 million beneficiaries in June) was in response to a rise in vulnerability of rural residents, during the current pre-harvest 'hunger gap' season.
- In Darfur, food distribution resumed to some 160,000 persons, who had not been reached since April or May, thanks to the use of 'windows of opportunity' to conduct the distributions. However, 60,000 Darfurians remained out of reach in July, due to insecurity.
- In Southern Sudan, WFP provided food assistance to 608,000 beneficiaries during July. However, WFP was unable to reach 42 % of the intended beneficiaries during the month, due to heavy rains and floods which severely limited road access to many areas.
- Under WFP's 'Food-for-Education' school feeding programmes, the following numbers of schoolchildren are currently enrolled: 120,000 in Darfur, a further 120,000 in Southern Sudan, 53,600 in the Three Areas, 20,000 in eastern Sudan, and a further 20,000 in White Nile State.
- In July, WFP food rations were distributed to 260,000 returnees, mostly in Southern Sudan and the Three Areas.
- The WFP has made significant progress towards the implementation of the Universal Salt Iodization initiative (USI) in the Sudan, in partnership with UNICEF and the Ministry of Health (MoH). In Red Sea State, 24 salt iodization plants have been imported and distributed to local salt producers under this program, and a community awareness campaign is due to be launched.

#### *Livelihoods in Darfur*

- In Darfur, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) distributed 823 metric tons (MT) of crop seeds during July. This brings the total quantity pre-positioned across Darfur to 1,587 MT, to be planted during the current agricultural season — which is now well underway, lasting from June to October.
- The FAO also supported local blacksmiths in producing 16,000 hand tools, which are being delivered to farmers for use during the current planting season.
- As the rainy season also sees an increased incidence of animal disease outbreaks, FAO is supporting animal health services in Darfur. During July, it provided 1,200,000 doses of livestock vaccines, covering Hemorrhagic Septicaemia, Anthrax, Sheep Pox, and other diseases.
- The FAO has also supported the National Forestry Department (NFD) and the University of Zalingei in West Darfur, in the rehabilitation of four tree nurseries. This was part of a concerted effort to enhance natural resources management, and encourage a sustainable cohabitation between wood and fruit productions. In the operation, 425,000 tree seedlings were produced in El Geneina, Mukjar, and Zalingei, and started being distributed to beneficiaries during July.

#### *Livelihoods in Southern Sudan*

- The FAO global seeds and tools distribution for the 2007 planting season has been completed in July, with 113,463 beneficiaries among returnees and the host communities. The operation supplied 1,844 MT of seeds, and 480,000 pieces of agricultural tools.
- Distribution of seeds and tools on a smaller scale continues to address the needs of spontaneous returnees. Since 01 January, a total of 15,397 families, as well as nine primary schools involved in school gardening

activities, received 153 MT of crop seeds, 330 kilograms of vegetable seeds, 300 mango seedlings, and 19,331 common hand tools.

#### *Prioritization of return areas*

- In their continued efforts to ensure that return operations may contribute to the recovery of the areas with the highest numbers of returns, with IDPs as well as host communities at the forefront in such efforts, returnees as well as host communities in the areas of return have been prioritized for assistance in promoting local livelihoods. For example:
  - Since 01 January, 350 returnee households have been assisted through goat restocking in Abyei, and 345 in South Kordofan.
  - In Abyei alone, 8,500 returnee households will receive crop seeds during the current planting season.
  - In Abyei, preparations are underway for the distribution of fishing equipment to 2,000 fishing households, while 400 have already been assisted in this way in Blue Nile State.
- Returnees are also being prioritised for different types of livelihoods-related training. Since 01 January, the following has been achieved:
  - In Blue Nile State, over 130 people have also been trained in fishnet-making and fish preservation, and 60 women have been trained in cheese-making.
  - In Southern Kordofan, 80 returnee farmers were trained in animal traction ahead of the agricultural season, 40 in seed multiplication, and 40 in integrated pest management. Each of the beneficiaries is expected to assist at least two other households outside their own, thereby covering nearly 3,000 people in total.

#### **Governance and Rule of Law**

- Following the success of legal aid organisations supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in North and South Darfur, UNDP is supporting the establishment of a new legal aid organisation, named 'Wad' ('promise' in Arabic). This will consist of approximately thirty lawyers, who will, with the support of UNDP: provide legal aid to vulnerable and marginalized groups and individuals; conduct trainings on basic human rights and relevant Sudanese laws; and promote a culture of rule of law through awareness-raising and advocacy.

#### **Health and Nutrition**

##### *Child immunizations and wellbeing*

- Since 01 January, the following has been achieved:
  - One and a half million children were immunized against measles in Southern Sudan;
  - Six million children in northern Sudan, including Darfur, were immunized against polio.
  - Nearly 1.3 million children under five in northern Sudan have received vitamin A supplementation, thanks to UNICEF support.

##### *Malnutrition*

- The fourth Darfur Emergency Food Security and Nutrition Assessment (EFSNA) started on 13 August in all three states of Darfur. The survey, led by the Ministries of Health and Agriculture and supported by FAO, UNICEF, WFP, and a number of NGOs, provides an integrated analysis of food and nutritional vulnerability, enabling the monitoring of trends since September 2004. The survey, one of the most important planning tools available to those working in the humanitarian sector, is undertaken via a mixture of household, community, and focus group data collection. Over 130 data collectors will work for four weeks, to gather critical information from approximately 2,250 households. Final results of the survey are expected to be released in November.
- Since 01 January, over 12,500 children in Darfur have received nutritional support through supplementary or therapeutic feeding programmes supported by UNICEF.

##### *Reproductive health*

- The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) confirmed that Southern Sudan suffers the worst maternal mortality rate (MMR) in the world, with 2,037 deaths per 100,000 deliveries — meaning that over one woman in fifty dies during childbirth. The biggest challenge to reproductive health coverage is the limited availability of qualified health personnel at all levels. There are only eight qualified midwives in all of Southern Sudan, six of them being in the capital Juba. The Southern Sudan Ministry of Health, in close collaboration with UNFPA and partners, is working to address the situation.
- A four-week Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care (EmONC) training was carried out in June, for 50 health care workers from the states of Lakes, Northern Bahr el-Ghazal, and Upper Nile. In parallel, UNFPA provided essential reproductive health kits to the main hospitals in these three States, and helped establish maternity units and antenatal clinics.
- Meanwhile, reports and maternity surveys issued in July have indicated that Darfur is the region of highest fistula prevalence in the Sudan, requiring emergency operations for the affected women. Since the beginning of 2007, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has supported two fistula treatment and awareness campaigns, in El Fasher and Zalingei. More than 90 patients were operated and given the hope in a new healthy life.

#### **Mine Action**

- Since the start of demining operations in 2005, the United Nations and partners have achieved the following:

- A total of 6,906 mines were destroyed or moved for destruction, of which 6,304 in the South.
- A total of 587,355 pieces of unexploded ordnance (UXO) were destroyed or moved for destruction, of which 565,956 in the South.
- A total of 952 dangerous areas, with a surface of 24,324,419 square metres (m<sup>2</sup>), were cleared of mines and UXO in the Sudan. Of these, 464 areas, with a total surface of 12,002,055 m<sup>2</sup>, were in the South.
- Mine Risk Education was provided to 1,638,008 people, of whom 324,345 in the South.
- UNICEF has supported Mine Risk Education (MRE) activities in 2007, reaching more than 156,000 people in Southern Sudan, and a further 320,000 people in IDP camps, departure centres, and way stations in northern Sudan.
- So far, over 4,000 landmine victims have been identified in the Sudan and targeted for assistance, but the exact extent of the problem remains unknown. A needs assessment carried out in past few months in the areas of Juba and Wau identified 1,000 previously unrecorded landmine victims.
- The Second National Workshop on Victim Assistance will be held in Khartoum on 28 and 29 August, in order to present a two-year National Victim Assistance Work Plan developed jointly by the United Nations Mine Action Office (UNMAO), the National Mine Action Centre, and the Southern Sudan De-Mining Commission. The workshop will be a forum for the advocacy of victim assistance and disability issues in the Sudan. The workshop will promote the development of accessible services for mine victims and other persons with disabilities, and it will support the involvement of victims in victim assistance programmes.

#### **Non-Food Items (NFIs) and Emergency Shelter**

- A NFI 'basket', composed of sleeping mats, blankets, a jerry can, sanitary material, a piece of plastic sheeting, and female clothing, continues to be distributed to those displaced by violence in Darfur and now living in IDP camps, as well as disaster-affected populations, and other groups identified as particularly vulnerable. The operation, known as the NFI 'Common Pipeline', is coordinated by the United Nations Joint Logistics Centre (UNJLC).
- Across Darfur, despite increasing challenges in terms of access, the operation has served, since the beginning of this year, a total of almost 370,000 households (amounting to approximately 2.2 million people). The recipients have received essential household items, including over 340,000 blankets, and 444,000 jerry cans. In addition, the operation has provided almost 285,000 pieces of plastic sheeting — a vital commodity, especially in the rainy season.
- In Southern Sudan, 42,456 NFI kits have been distributed since the beginning of the year, to 54,202 households. A high percentage of the beneficiaries are spontaneous returnees.

#### **Water and Sanitation**

- In Southern Sudan, since 01 January, an additional 398 safe water sources were provided with UNICEF support, benefiting 230,000 people.
- In northern Sudan, thanks to UNICEF support, access to drinking water during 2007 has improved for over 1.1 million IDPs, returnees, and local communities.

#### **If you have inputs for the next edition, or questions and comments on this one, please contact:**

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