



OFFICE OF UN RESIDENT AND HUMANITARIAN CO-ORDINATOR
FOR THE SUDAN

UN HUMANITARIAN SITUATION REPORT
DARFUR CRISIS, SUDAN

Tuesday, 02 March 2004

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KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Insecurity continues throughout all the three Darfur states. Reports and eyewitness accounts of Jenjaweed attacks are reported on a daily-basis.
- A second mine incident was reported on 29 February in West Darfur on the road to Mukjar.
- The Nyala-Geneina road has been cleared by UN security and is now open for humanitarian operations.
- A Joint Logistics Cell (JLC) consultant has arrived in Khartoum and is expected to head to Darfur in the coming days.

Security:

1. North Darfur After eyewitness accounts by humanitarian actors of looting by the Jenjaweed in Tawilla town on 27 February, UNSECOORD sent out a team to investigate the situation in the town and has temporarily halted all UN movement from El Fasher to Kebkabiya until it clears Tawilla town. The El Fasher – Umm Keddada road and the El Fasher – Nyala roads are also still not considered safe. This continues to create major hurdles for the transport of humanitarian goods and movement of staff. Other areas east and SE of El Fasher are still closed for UN staff movement due to insecurity.
2. West Darfur: UN security reports that the situation remains quite but tense inside El Geneina town, however outside town, insecurity is prevalent, including reports of looting of humanitarian assistance by Jenjaweed in Mornei. UNSECOORD is currently investigating reports of insecurity in Sirba (Kulbus province). Four new locations in the Zalingi and Garsilla area have been cleared for humanitarian assessment missions (Nertiti, Zalingi, Garsilla and Deleij). An assessment team will head out to Zelingi tomorrow. UNSECORD has also cleared the Nyala-El Geneina road. It is hoped that this will ease some of the logistical hurdle in bringing in humanitarian goods.
3. South Darfur: An inter-agency assessment team which travelled to Kass area report systematic burning of villages by the Jenjaweed around the area and there are reports of thousands additional Jenjaweed heading towards the Kass area. About 11 kms from Nyala, the village of Gereisa was attacked early this morning by armed horsemen, 15 people were killed and around 30 people with gun shot wounds were admitted to Nyala hospital.

Darfur

Numbers of Affected Population

4. In general, the newly accessible vulnerable groups are coping better than expected, however, the conditions of IDPs in Mornei and Seraf Umra seem to be deteriorating with visible signs of malnutrition. The majority of the IDPs encountered are women, children and the elderly.
5. North Darfur: The IDP numbers in North Darfur include: Kutum (123,000: number to be verified by an assessment team) Kebkabiya (45,057 IDPs with a daily influx of new IDPs), Birka Sayira (5,000), Saraf Oumra (49,000) and Tawilla (9,300). GOAL reports that following the placement of 30-40 police officers in Fata Borno, some IDPs have begun to move to the town from Kutum as protection remains their main concern.
6. Following the 27 February attack on Tawilla town, people have started leaving the town, mainly West towards El Fasher, while others have scattered in the surrounding areas. It is reported that about 2,000 IDPs from the recent Tawilla attack may be residing in Shagron and Golo villages, some 15 and 7 km West of El Fasher town. Some 200 IDP families from the Eastern part of Kutum are reported to be residing in Abrel Arum and Turba villages just North of El Fasher town.
7. An assessment will be undertaken in the next 48 hours, Mellit town to verify IDP numbers of 7,300 IDPs.
8. South Darfur: IDP numbers in South Darfur include: Korole (3,000), Kailak camp (16,000) Aburumo camp (9,000), and Kalma camp (3,097).
9. West Darfur: An inter-agency assessment team visited Kerinic camp and is verifying the number of 31,844 IDPs. Four new locations in the Zalingi and Garsilla area have been cleared for humanitarian assessment missions (Nertiti, Zalingi, Garsilla and Deleij). An inter-agency assessment team will head out to Zelingi tomorrow, 03 March.

Protection

10. South Darfur: Military personnel (number unknown) are providing some security to IDPs in Kalma camp just outside Nyala town. However, protection of these and other IDPs in other parts of South Darfur is of priority concern. As reflected in the rapid assessment teams report (posted on the UN Sudan Information Gateway, www.unsudanig.org), IDPs in Kass area have insisted that their main concern was protection and even asked the team not to provide humanitarian assistance under the current circumstances.
11. North Darfur: The incident in Tawilla confirm the pattern of Janjaweed attacks all over Darfur, where village lootings often are accompanied by killings, especially of young and middle-aged men. According to some reports, Tawilla IDPs are being prevented from entering El Fasher town, while Kebkabiya IDPs are being prevented by Janjaweed from moving more than 1-2 km out of Kebkabiya town.
12. Several cases of rape are being reported daily to the police in the Kutum area. ICRC, UNICEF, SC-UK, and Oxfam are collecting data on rape cases. ICRC is also working on the protection issue in Kutum and is assessing the protection situation in Kebkabiya. The issue of unaccompanied children is also a problem especially in Kebkabiya. A UNICEF child protection officer met with ICRC, GOAL and Oxfam in Kutum to identify the responsibilities of each agency in tracing and reuniting of separated children.
13. West Darfur: A meeting between HAC, UN agencies, Medair and some local NGOs was held on 29 February to discuss relocation of IDPs to Ardamata camp. It was agreed that all

relocation of IDPs must be voluntary, that there be adequate protection and that basic services such as water, sanitation, primary health care, protection and food be provided. It was agreed that the relocation will be carried out in small and manageable steps and that the relocation committee will closely monitor the process.

Food

14. South Darfur: HAC reportedly sent 500MT of food items to Shattaya, SW of Kass.
15. WFP have completed the registration of IDPs in Kalma camp and will deliver one-month supply of food to 3,097 people commencing tomorrow. This is an increase of 200 new households compared to the February distribution. The new arrivals are reportedly from West Darfur.
16. North Darfur: SRC is currently registering people in Saraf Omra, where the food security situation is reported as desperate. However, because of concerns of looting of supplies from beneficiaries, WFP is considering providing half-rations (i.e. for two weeks only).
17. German AgroAction has according to DED received emergency funds and will arrive with three staff on 4 March to set up its activities. The agency is considering helping WFP with food distribution and possibly with NFIs, probably in Kutum or Kebkabiya
18. West Darfur: WFP has delivered one-month rations for 6,000 people in Garsilla and two month rations for 9,000 persons in Zalingi. The current WFP food stock is 534 MT. WFP will start its next food distributions with Morni, Krenic and Sissi camps based on the recommendation of the inter-agency joint assessment. Although the stock situation is improving, according to WFP, Morni alone requires 900 MTs of food for one month. Replenishing the stocks has been delayed due to the schedule of GoS escorts but more food should be arriving from Nyala. An additional stock is expected within 4 days from El Obeid.
19. In Kerinic camp, local authorities have distributed 18 MT of Sorghum donated by HAC to affected IDPs (4,732 persons/921 households).

Health

20. South Darfur: The inter-agency assessment team has released a comprehensive report about the situation of IDPs in Kass area. Protection, as in other areas of Darfur has been stressed by the IDPs. In general IDPs do not seem to suffer from malnutrition and there has been no major disease outbreak, however, there are major deficiencies in water provision and provision of basic health facilities.
21. The 50-bed hospital in Kass town has two doctors. It has received 16 cases over the past two weeks. An assessment team indicates that there is no blood bank, only routine laboratory, and operating room and a pharmacy. There are no trauma kits and supplies, and patients are asked to pay for drugs. UNICEF/WHO are working on ensuring re-supply of the hospital.
22. North Darfur: In Kutum, environmental sanitation remains a major problem. From 23 –29 February, 147 animals have died due to starvation. There is a need to spray appropriate insecticides, encourage disposal of carcasses, and increase awareness of population on simple hygiene measures. SRC has started to conduct an awareness campaign. WHO with MoH are looking at how best to address this issue.

23. Vaccination campaigns by the State Ministry of Health have been completed in Kutum, including measles, meningitis and additional vaccines for the 6 most common childhood diseases. A similar campaign is currently underway in Kebkabiya, with WHO technical support and using UNICEF supplies.
24. MOH, SC-UK, and GOAL are conducting a nutrition survey in Kutum supported by UNICEF. UNICEF has provided basic essential drugs to the GOAL health center in Kutum to meet the needs of 50,000 persons for 2 months. 30 PHC kits and mosquito nets are also on their way to Kutum but have been delayed due to difficult road transportation conditions.
25. West Darfur: An interagency mission conducted assessments of the health situation in Krenik IDP camp, 62 km east of Geneina. Sanitation conditions are described as poor and only two water pumps both of which are broken. UNICEF plans to repair them. Initial impressions indicate that there does not seem to be malnutrition problems. No measles or meningitis cases have been reported. There is one health facility in the camp, which provides EPI services, once a week to approximately 100-150 children. All medical supplies are provided by the health insurance scheme. The IDPs that are not covered by the insurance have to pay for medications. The main diseases reported are diarrhea, dysentery, eye diseases and upper respiratory tract infections. SRC operates a pharmacy in the village, but there are limited supplies. The need to have more facilities and more human resources to address the needs of the population has been highlighted by MSF.
26. MSF-F reports that IDPs in Krenk and Sisi, NW of Mornei have no access to drinking water and have little food or medical assistance. MSF-France has counted 44 fresh graves – 17 of young children, which could indicate a very high mortality rate. MSF's team in Mornei is treating 159 severely malnourished children and 450 moderately malnourished children. There are concerns that the nutritional situation could deteriorate further. In addition, MSF has diagnosed three cases of meningitis over the past week. MSF has 60,000 doses of meningitis vaccines stored in Zalingei that could be mobilized if needed.
27. WHO has visited the hospital in Geneina. Although all patients are registered, there is unfortunately no system for keeping basic data on patients. The hospital is fully occupied, does not have regular electricity, no X-ray machine, very limited laboratory facility and urgently needs additional staff, especially qualified surgeons and drugs. Although drugs for emergencies and accidents are free, patients have to pay for drugs. From the information on communicable diseases collected by WHO, it seems that 30-50% of cases seen are Malaria. UNICEF has airlifted 37 PHC kits into West Darfur.
28. UNICEF has supported a measles vaccination and Vitamin A supplementation for some 9,800 children in Mornei, 1,500 children in Ardamattu camp, 700 in Ed Duem camp and 300 in Pilgrim camp.

Water and Sanitation

29. North Darfur: Sanitation activities, garbage collection and spraying have started in Kutum but there is still a need for more agencies working in camp management and sanitation. In Kebkabiya, ICRC is setting up a new water system (awaiting for details).
30. West Darfur: Camps around Geneina towns are in need of more latrines and soap. WES is planning to put two more bladder tanks and 5 hand pumps in Ardamata camp (timing unknown). Medair is currently planning to install 50 more latrines and are in the process of rehabilitating the existing well and UNICEF has provided 50 pit latrines and provided a regular tanker in the camp. Upon request from HAC, UNICEF provided 10 rolls of plastic sheeting for temporary shelter for more than 12,000 IDPs gathered in Deleig.

Shelter

31. Adequate shelter provision remains a major concern across the Darfurs. GOAL has volunteered to be a lead agency on shelter in Kutum. Working together to develop a consolidate view of the sector and to make recommendations for addressing critical gaps.

Planned Actions

32. The international community remains seriously concerned about the protection of IDPs and other vulnerable population. Humanitarian actors agree that unless the pressing issue of protection of IDPs and other vulnerable population is resolved at the highest levels, no amount of humanitarian access to affected areas can bring genuine relief to those in need, as any assistance without adequate security is putting IDPs in additional risk of being looted, raped, or killed.

33. The UN is concerned that the International Humanitarian Partnership (IHP) support module, which will provide much needed support the expanding of operations in the Darfurs is still in Khartoum and has been waiting for clearances for the equipment. We are working closely with the authorities to have equipment released quickly.

34. Although the problem of capacity of humanitarian actors to provide assistance on the ground remains, additional INGOs are gearing up to start operations in the Dafurs. Action Contre la Faim (ACF), International Red Cross (IRC), Save the Children-US, Care International, Concern, Norwegian Refugees Council (NRC) and German AgroAction, all hope to start operations in the Darfurs in the near future. ICRC is also planning to greatly increase its presence.

NEXT UPDATE: The next humanitarian operational update will be released on Thursday, 4 March.