

IDP Working Group

22nd August 2008

Baidoa:

- IDP WG at field level will meet every two weeks irrespective of whose precisely is available because if waiting for the 'right' people to attend, particularly from Nairobi, meetings might never occur. Minutes from that meeting were circulated.
- It is estimated that roughly 40 IDP camps exist though only 12 to 15 seem to have full-time IDPs
- UNHCR will lead a Mission from 25 to 26 August 2008 to look at, among other issues, the Authority's insistence on relocating IDPs from where they are living to another location. Those affected, however, have indicated that they do not want to move to the new location. (Ed: *The Mission was cancelled for security reasons, the Al-Shabaab raided Baydhabo on the weekend of the 23rd of August*)
- It was raised that there seems to be a disconnect in timing between the distribution of S.F.P. and G.F.D., which is a result of the limited capacity of NGOs partners on the ground to respond more quickly to increasing needs
- Food distribution in urban areas, particularly those with mixed IDPs is very difficult, and so far, has resulted in very few projects on how proper identification of target groups can be done. If any agency has a project proposal on how to distribute food in a targeted fashion in an urban setting, they should contact WFP.
- It was reiterated that the original strategy developed in April to have livelihood project as the basis of food interventions rather than G.F.D. remains in place. However, due to the fact that the livelihood projects have not yet been implemented G.F.D. remain unavoidable
- There is a need at the NBO level to discuss with ICRC what NFI distributions they have done because it is not happening on the ground.
- There is a fair amount of negative propaganda being broadcast that the international community is doing nothing to help the displaced and poor.

Belet Weyne

- An operational meeting specifically addressing the emergency response will take place on 29 August;
- The focus will be on the 3Ws
- As an agenda item, the issue of streamlining communication will be discussed;

Bossaso

- The 2 year old Joint Programme plan has stalled, in part, due to a manager for the Programme not being in place since June, and the fact that some agencies do not have the operational capacity on the ground
- Over all concern in Puntland is that there is a lack of presence on the ground, including international presence for which the blame was placed on the ceiling imposed
- FAO has hired a new Livelihoods Coordinator

Afgooye Corridor/ Periphery

- The total lack of international presence on the ground makes it difficult to know exactly what is happening
- The recent killing of civilians has caused some displacement but the general consensus is that even if the violence escalates in the corridor, most people will remain because there is no other place for them to flee to
- A current problem is that the settlement data that many agencies are using for programmatic purposes is outdated; consequently, current lists of settlements do not necessarily match with what agencies have. It is not clear whether the 'new' settlements are actually new, or simply have been renamed or carved out of existing camps, for example
- Though security remains a significant issue, food distribution continues with the monthly target being 365,000
- WASH raised the concern that there continues to be a lack of latrines, but that the good news is that a NGO may be willing to build up to 6000 additional latrines
- K50 is operational and can be used to stay overnight. While meetings can be held at K50, it is not possible to travel
- It was agreed that the movement of people will be continued to be tracked as best as possible with a view of improving programmatic responses

NEXT MEETING: T.B.A.