

## OCHA KENYA Weekly Operational report 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> December, Eldoret

### **Humanitarian Situation**

IDPs voluntary groups who have purchased land are the ones moving out of main camps. The group moving to Mai Mahiu is experiencing difficulties moving their luggage from the ASK camp. Observations indicate that IDPs at the ASK camp are inviting relatives and friends who are not at the camp to contribute to land purchase, and also use GoK transport to move to these areas hence the large numbers reflected moving out while numbers at the camp remain high. This has made it difficult to tell the correct number of IDPs remaining at ASK camp, at Burnt Forest the number is 315 people while at Lugari there are 182 people. There has been no marked movement in transit sites but IDPs are accessing their farms in most areas including Uasin Gishu, Kwana and Trans Nzoia districts.

During the week, the MoEd and KRC officials attempted to take away tents, desks and other school equipment at the ASK but this was thwarted by IDPs who threatened to lynch anyone who tried to dismantle the school at the camp. IDPs are demanding that the camp should remain open and come January 2009, pupils will commence schooling at the location.

Plans for the 60<sup>th</sup> celebrations for the UHRD on 10<sup>th</sup> December are ongoing and humanitarian agencies, the Provincial Administration and the Local Authorities in the North Rift region will actively participate.

### **Key Humanitarian Issues**

#### **Child Protection/Education Cluster**

SCUK reported cases of two young girls, a 17 year old who has since been jailed for six months with an option for Kshs.15,000 fine for stealing Kshs.10,000 from MPESA while the other, a 13 year old who was living with her is now alone without any guardian. Equality Now, a legal support organisation has taken over the 17 year old's the District Children Officer is addressing assistance for the abandoned 13 year old.

SCUK reported that the child friendly spaces introduced in various return areas are enhancing peace building among the different communities and improving the children outlook and welfare with reference to nutrition and psychosocial wellbeing attributed to time allowed parents to undertake domestic chores and resulting in relaxed atmosphere.

Child Welfare Society of Kenya is undertaking verification exercise at the ASK camp for child headed households especially after candidates finished the national examinations.

CWSK reported that they are still conducting the verification exercise to establish correct numbers at the camp. So far out of the original number of 112 child headed households identified before examinations, only 9 are confirmed still living at the ASK camp, the rest have since joined their parents in return areas.

### **Peace Building and Reconciliation**

Further reports by the medial on the large presence of security forces in Kitale indicate that the District Commissioner for Trans Nzoia has stopped night entertainment from 12.00 midnight every day.

KRC reported that the Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) in various return areas being undertaken during the 16 days of activism are proceeding well with elderly men expressing their need to return home and start living normally. These men are afraid of what their young children are acquiring due to influence of living in tents in the small compounds. The youth expressed feeling abandoned and wished to continue with education on peace matters and psychosocial counselling to enhance peace in their return areas. The question of police stations in some areas was questioned by community members as was deemed to cater for only one community.

### **Protection, SGBV/SEA**

KRC reported that Female Genital Mutilation was ongoing in areas such as Kamuyu. Young girls were observed to have recently undergone the cultural rite. The issue of lack of food distribution to IDPs in the same area was a concern, this was attributed to missing names in registers. IDPs hoped this will be corrected to avoid sharing their rations which then do not last the one month. The Focused Group Discussions will continue until the end of the 16 days on the 10<sup>th</sup> December culminating in the Human Rights Day celebration planned in the region.