



**Humanitarian Action in Darfur**  
**Weekly Bulletin No. 12**  
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**Key overall developments**

- Parts of the findings of the joint GoS/UN assessments teams were released this week. While Government officials and partners from the NGO sector and UN are working to cover gaps, the risks of increased morbidity and mortality are high. Major water shortages could develop within four weeks if fuel, incentives and spare parts are not continuously provided. No organizations have been able to address the gap in sanitation services; therefore the risk of a public health outbreak in camps or towns such as Kass is high. Up to 650,000 currently do not have access to full health care. Considerable work is underway to address the gaps in food, health, and water due to the dissolution/expulsion of NGOs. However, the humanitarian situation in Darfur remains fragile.
- WFP's emergency distribution in Darfur is ongoing as planned and expected to be complete in April, meeting the overall immediate general food distribution needs in Darfur. Important to this success are Food Relief Committees, already a part of WFP operations, elected by their communities, and trained by NGO staff to help with food distribution. However, activities such as monitoring, assessment, and beneficiary verification, all negatively impacted by the expulsion of NGOs, are vital to ensuring an effective, efficient and comprehensive operation. These services require experienced partners on the ground.
- Zam Zam camp in North Darfur remains of great concern. Upon the handover of the NFI Common Pipeline warehouse in El Fasher, essential non-food items and emergency shelter will be immediately dispatched and distributed. Emergency distribution modalities are being put in place jointly by UNJLC with other available agencies to address the emergency. This modality, however, is a one-time fix and not a long-term sustainable solution.

**Needs and response by sector**

***Education***

**South Darfur**

- 91 school uniforms for girls at Umzaifa Mixed School were distributed by World Vision.
- The NGO also trained 100 women on making fuel-efficient stoves.

***Food Security and Livelihoods***

**North Darfur**

- The population movement from Muhajariya and Sheiria areas into Zam Zam, Shangil Tobay, Shaddad and Dar el Salaam continues. Camp infrastructure and natural resources is currently strained beyond capacity. Recent reports indicate that approximately 40,000 people have arrived at Zam Zam camp since the conflict in Muhajariya began in January. WFP is distributing emergency food rations.

**South Darfur**

- New arrivals of displaced population from Muhajariya to Marla and those from Um El Khairat to Yasin and Dito are ongoing. An assessment mission at these locations indicated some 2,900 individuals from Um El Khairat in addition to over 3,600 displaced from Muhajariya. The assessment mission recommended a 15-day emergency ration be provided for Yassin and Dito new arrivals, followed by a food security assessment.
- Monthly food rations were distributed by World Vision to: Otash, Duma / Adwa, Mershing, Khorabashi and Krumji. A total of 76,831 beneficiaries received 1041.39 metric tons of food.
- Ninety-five beneficiaries were introduced to a cheese making project in Edd al Fursan and Diri.
- World Vision screened 2,000 farmers in Edd al Fursan, Norley, Romalyia and Alghaba to be given seeds during the upcoming seed fair events.
- It also provided 585 litres of fuel to 13 farmers' groups involved in fodder production in Diri, Adamboloyia, Norley, Edd al Fursan, Danganure, Alhoda, Umjanah and Umdabazi communities.
- Follow-up visits were made to fodder production groups in Edd al Fursan, Norley, Umjanah, Juru, Romalyia, Umdabazi and Alhoda communities.
- Three cattle trenches were constructed at Ganateer.
- In Edd al Fursan and Umzaifa, five community nurseries were established by World Vision.
- 7,500 polythene bags for nursery seedling production were provided in Shadida.
- 5,000 seedlings in Nitega farmers' group were nursed and 20 households were educated on seedling management. Ten others were also educated on seed improvement.
- World Vision also conducted three market surveys in Nitega area.

**West Darfur**

- TearFund presented the preliminary results of their nutrition survey implemented from 27 November to 4 December 2008. The results showed a GAM rate of 10.4 percent; the emergency threshold is 15 percent. The SAM rate of 1.2 percent is, however, above the emergency threshold of 1 percent. The recommendation is to continue targeted and blanket supplementary feeding and carry out a follow up survey to monitor the trends. However, given the current situation the feasibility of this remains to be seen, as West Darfur is the most negatively affected by the expulsion of NGOs.
- A team from Triangle GH in Um Dukhun is heading to rural areas to continue assessments for the coming cereal season. It will also monitor the last vegetable season and give out irrigation pumps (treadle or moto pumps).

## **Health and Nutrition**

### South Darfur

- Merlin is conducting an assessment before starting the feeding programme for children under five in Yassin, Seleah and Marla (southern Shaeria locality).
- Finnish Red Cross last week completed a five days basic midwifery training for 25 midwives in Buram locality.
- 300 mosquito nets were distributed to pregnant women and lactating mothers and children under five years in Abualmaki, Alhoda, Altaroor and Alghaba in Edd Al Fursan locality by World Vision.
- It also handled consultations for 1,733 patients in clinics in Manawashi, Mershing, Otash, Genena and Galdi, vaccinated 464 children and 55 mothers and provided ante-natal care to 382 women.
- Primary health care and health education at its health centres across South Darfur was provided.
- World Vision also treated 1,018 malnourished children in Manawashi, Mershing and camps around Nyala and gave them high-energy food.

### **Non-Food Items (NFIs)**

Transport and logistics is specifically impacted by the seizure of the NFI Common Pipeline warehouses previously managed by CARE. On 21 March it was agreed with the Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) that the warehouses' management will be handed over to UNJLC (the Nyala warehouse is already under UNJLC management as of 19 March).

### North Darfur

- The most critical humanitarian needs are in Zamzam Camp, where there are up to 40,000 newly-displaced individuals. Upon the handover of the NFI Common Pipeline warehouse in El Fasher, essential non-food items and emergency shelter will be immediately dispatched and distributed. Emergency distribution modalities are being put in place jointly by UNJLC with other available agencies to address the emergency. This modality, however, is a one-time fix and not a long-term sustainable solution.

## **Protection and Human Rights**

### South Darfur

- 628 children and 542 women were sensitised on children's rights and gender-based violence.
- Psychosocial support and care to 1,759 children at Child Friendly Spaces in Galdi, Alsalam, Manawashi and Mershing camps were provided by World Vision.
- It also trained 168 women on income generation and financial independence and continued to provide psychosocial support to 132 women in Galdi community.

## **Water and Sanitation**

### South Darfur

- Eight hand pumps in Shaffo, Umderso, Furla, Hella Baidda and Mershing were rehabilitated.
- The construction of 40 latrines in Altaror community was completed by World Vision.
- It also carried out water quality tests in Mershing and Manawashi; 41 samples from various water resources were taken and analysed.
- A clean-up campaign attended by 555 people in Duma, Mershing, Altaror, Adwa and Kereri was conducted by World Vision.
- The NGO also organised sensitisation sessions on hygiene promotion and construction of household latrines among communities across South Darfur.

### West Darfur

- A watsan team from Triangle GH is finishing an assessment on gaps in Um Dukhun after the departure of two expelled INGOs. The findings will enable TGH to make a mapping of all the water points in Um Dukhun
- On the 25 March the team will go to Muraya to assess the needs in terms of water point rehabilitation
- A used water system for Um Dukhun water points and clean TGH's wells will be set up.
- They will also proceed to the construction of concrete beams for our emergency stock of latrines.
- Regarding hygiene promotion (HP) activities at Um Dukhun level, annual HP survey is still ongoing. There will be Jerrican cleaning on Sunday and Monday, HP sessions for children on Tuesday and for women on Wednesday and a cleaning campaign on Thursday. On the same day there is also door to door HP sessions.

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

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