



**Humanitarian Action in Darfur**  
**Weekly Bulletin No. 14**  
**09 April 2009**

**Key overall developments**

- WFP has nearly completed one-off emergency food distributions to meet March and April food needs of Darfur beneficiaries in areas formerly covered by the expelled NGOs. Operational planning is being worked out to cover May and June beneficiary food requirements.
- Following several discussions and negotiations with Kalma IDP camp leadership, food distributions started on 7 April after nearly three weeks of the IDPs' refusal of all humanitarian assistance in protest of the Government's expulsion of INGOs. The camp leaders agreed on the basis that WFP staff must be present at distribution sites, and that only familiar World Vision staff, WFP partner covering Kalma camp, should carry out food distributions. Meanwhile, they continue to refuse all other humanitarian services and negotiations continue.
- Discussions are ongoing between UNJLC and GoS/HAC at a Khartoum and state level to agree the return of the Non-Food Items (NFI) Common Pipeline warehouses in North and West Darfur previously managed by CARE. In South Darfur, UNJLC has assumed management of the warehouse and additional staff have been recruited to support warehousing activities. A physical stock count confirmed that all stocks were untouched and the first dispatches of NFIs from the Nyala warehouse were effected during the reporting period, with NGOs transporting items from the warehouse to the distribution point themselves. In North and West Darfur, UNJLC is on standby to assume management of the warehouses upon their handover and physical stock counts will be carried out in both locations. Work to identify an emergency transportation service provider for the NFI Common Pipeline is ongoing and in the interim period partners, as an emergency modality, will continue to effect transport to the distribution point themselves.

**Needs and response by sector**

**Education**

North Darfur

**Short-term response to NGO suspensions**

- The State Ministry of Education has requested assistance from an international NGO in partnership with UNICEF and WFP to support school feeding programmes in North Darfur, ahead of the start of the new academic year in July.

**Regular activities**

- In partnership with UNICEF, the National Military Service unit in North Darfur has released 100 teachers to support adult and youth education activities in the state.

South Darfur

- Construction of 15 temporary classrooms was completed in the South Sharia area, in a partnership between UNICEF, the State Ministry of Health and an international NGO. More than 2,600 children will benefit from the project when schools re-open in July.
- 80% of the construction of floors of classes was completed at the World Vision-run Asalam community centre.
- Training of 92 teachers from Nyala and Ed al Fursan localities was facilitated by WV

**Food Security and Livelihoods**

North Darfur

- WFP carried out a mission to Um Keddada to verify the number of beneficiaries that would require assistance during the hunger gap. WFP's seasonal food support is expected to commence in April in support of targeted food insecure rural households during the hunger gap only. Local Food Aid Management Committees are being re-activated in 66 targeted villages.
- Arrivals of displaced population from Muhajariya, Shearia, Abu Dangel, and Labado in South Darfur continued to be reported during the week, particularly heading to Zamzam IDP camp and other areas such as Dar El Salam locality. A total of 42,605 individuals were reported as new arrivals in Zamzam camp, further exacerbating already constrained conditions at the camp.
- Verification exercises are ongoing to confirm the number of new arrivals from South Darfur to Dar El Salaam town, Shangil Tobayi and Shadad camps, and Tawilla area.
- WFP and partners are working on community sensitisation and screening of children under-five in preparation for the Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP). In April, about 100,000 children will be targeted across North Darfur. A WFP field mission to Fata Borno camp completed BSFP sensitization and screenings. In Kebkabiya town, WFP held meetings with community leaders and trained 100 volunteers to carry out physical screening of

children under-five. Similar screening exercises were carried out by WFP partners, Sudanese Red Cross (SRC) and International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Zamzam camp.

#### South Darfur

- In Ed Daein, WFP and partners verified 1,330 new arrivals from Abu Dangel and Muhajariya during the week. These groups will be included in the April food distribution plan. A further 602 new arrivals from Muhajariya to Beleil are under verification.
- In preparation for the start of school feeding in selected schools in Ed Daein, WFP met with representatives of the Ministry of Education, school administrators and Parent – Teacher Associations to discuss and clarify roles and responsibilities of each group for the implementation of the Food for Education programme.
- In Seleah and Yassin, WFP trained 29 participants from Merlin, a WFP partner, to carry out community level training on the implementation of BSFP as well as to introduce the new BSFP ration (corn-soya blend, dried skimmed milk and vegetable oil). Two orientation sessions were also held with 46 community leaders and 32 caretakers from the two localities.
- WFP, UNICEF and the Ministry of Health signed a Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that highlights roles and responsibilities to ensure the continuation of the feeding centres in expelled INGO locations in Nyala, Kass and Ed al Fursan.
- World Vision (WV) completed general food distributions in Asalam camp for displaced people. A total of 41,828 beneficiaries at the camp received 543.8054 metric tons of food. Food distributions for more than 80,000 people resumed at Kalma camp after a three-week delay caused by blockage of aid to the camp.
- Ploughing and sowing of seeds and the construction of a water tank on a demonstration farm in Edd al Fursan was facilitated by World Vision.
- The INGO supported the planting of 800 acacia, 840 papaya and 640 mango seeds and tomatoes on 11 plots in Shadida.
- Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) submitted a drip irrigation kit from for 100 square metres plot.
- WV Trained 10 farmers on irrigation and land preparation for vegetable production. It also facilitated the planting of okra seeds on 100 plots, purslane seeds on five plots, Jew's mallow on 15 plots, cucumber on 21, and water melon at Nitega.

#### West Darfur

- On 01 April, UNHCR Mukjar held a community sensitization session in the Chadian refugee camp on the upcoming food distribution. New organisational groups were formed by UNHCR for the April distribution.
- Triangle Génération Humanitaire (TGH) is finalising beneficiaries' list update for distribution in Geneina rural areas.
- The analysis of TGH post-harvest assessment for Geneina rural areas is on the way.
- At Geneina level, TGH team is planning distribution of cereal seeds as well as training of referent farmers.

### **Health and Nutrition**

#### North Darfur

##### **Short-term response to NGO suspensions**

- The State Ministry of Health has requested support from UNICEF, in partnership with an international NGO to establish an outpatient treatment centre in Zamzam camp for internally displaced persons, including nutritional screening services.
- UNICEF and an international NGO have completed distribution of blanket supplementary foods for nearly 6,000 children under the age of five in Zamzam camp. UNICEF has also provided financial assistance to the State Ministry of Health to ensure the operation of feeding centres in Abu Shouk and Al Salaam IDP camps.

##### **Regular activities**

- UNICEF has supported the establishment of a new health facility in Tawilla, to be managed by the State Ministry of Health. Assistance included provision of essential drugs and equipment.

#### South Darfur

##### **Short-term response to NGO suspensions**

- 74 cases of suspected meningitis have been reported to date in South Darfur. UNICEF and WHO are supporting the State Ministry of Health to implement rapid vaccination campaigns - in the last week over 42,000 people were vaccinated in Beleil village, more than 24,000 people in Al Jeer while immunization is ongoing for nearly 52,000 people in Al Salaam IDP camp.

##### **Regular activities**

- World Vision conducted consultations for 2,904 patients at clinics in Galdi, Geneina, Manawashi, Mershing and Otash; vaccinated 589 children and 89 mothers and provided ante-natal care to 230 women.
- 59 Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs) from 26 villages in Edd al Fursan locality received WV training and the INGO distributed 65 sets of uniform and 65 metal pots to them.
- 80 pieces of Insecticide Treated Nets (ITNs) were distributed to pregnant/ lactating women and children under five by World Vision.
- WV provided primary health care and health education to thousands of people at health centres across South Darfur.
- 1,035 malnourished children in Manawashi, Mershing and camps around Nyala were treated and given high energy food by WV.

#### West Darfur

##### **Short-term response to NGO suspensions**

- In response to outbreaks of meningitis, UNICEF and WHO have supported the vaccination of nearly 18,000 people to date in non-government controlled areas of Kutrum and Ketti, in partnership with an international organization. Vaccination is also ongoing in Thor, while planning is in place for possible vaccinations in the Guildo area.

- Two feeding centres closed after the suspension of NGO partners have re-opened after UNICEF agreed to provide temporary financial assistance for former NGO staff to run the programmes. Under similar arrangements, it is expected that eight additional centres will resume activities in the next week. An agreement was also reached between the State Ministry of Health, UNICEF and WFP to support supplementary feeding programmes in Zalingei and Nertiti, affected by the suspension of NGOs in these areas.

#### **Regular activities**

- The State Ministry of Health, supported by UNICEF, started a two week training programme on infant and young child feeding practices for 40 government nutrition officers and assistants. The training is designed to strengthen the Ministry's capacity to provide guidance and support on feeding practices to mothers.

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

##### North Darfur

- Following large scale displacement in Zamzam camp, an inter-agency assessment team has been established by UNJLC in North Darfur to assess the NFI needs of newly-displaced populations and an assessment mission is scheduled to take place shortly.

##### South Darfur

- On 1 April, the first dispatch of NFIs since UNJLC assumed management was effected from the NFI Common Pipeline warehouse in South Darfur. Dispatched items included jerry cans, plastic sheeting, blankets, sleeping mats, women's clothing and cooking sets. Distributions were carried out by Samaritan's Purse (SP) to support newly-displaced households in Marla.
- Following a fire in Otash camp, Rehaid El Fursan Rural Development supported six households with essential household items and emergency shelter from the NFI Common Pipeline.
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##### West Darfur

- In the Foro Burunga locality, INTERSOS has made progress in forming local committees to identify persons with specific needs with a view towards upcoming NFI distribution. Committees have been formed and trained at the village level.

#### **Protection and Human Rights**

##### North Darfur

- UNICEF has continued to provide assistance to the State Water Corporation to maintain water, sanitation and hygiene education activities in four of the major IDP camps in North Darfur, as well as in rural areas. Activities have included installation of eight new hand pumps and maintenance of 19 other pumps, as well as hygiene promotion campaigns reaching more than 6,000 households.
- Most of the victims of last week's fire in Abuzar camp received food and NFIs assistance, while shelter construction is still going on. Two IDP committees have been formed to manage the situation.
- From 31 March to 02 April, UNHCR El Fasher went on mission to Shangil Tobayi. It has been observed that the presence of armed elements seems to have decreased and that tensions between IDPs and residents are visibly reduced.
- Following UNHCR's mission to Kebkabiya last week, a draft comprehensive protection strategy for the Kebkabiya area was presented to relevant agencies and organizations. The strategy includes measures to address the lawlessness and impunity in the area.

##### South Darfur

- A three day training programme on child rights issues for 36 adults and 26 children involved in children's clubs in South Darfur was undertaken with the support of UNICEF.
- A new television and radio awareness campaign on prevention of HIV transmission got underway, targeting 35,000 people. The information spots, supported by UNICEF in partnership with the State Television and Radio service, will be broadcast on a regular basis.
- 618 children and 44 women were sensitised on children's rights and gender issues by World Vision.
- The INGO conducted adult literacy classes for 632 women and trained 13 on the management of income generation activities and continued to provide psychosocial support to the women in Galdi and Asalam.
- WV provided psychosocial support and care to 1,576 children at Child Friendly Spaces in Galdi, Asalam, Manawashi and Mershing camps.
- In the past week, three asylum seekers approached UNHCR Nyala for protection advice and assistance. One of the refugees from Chad has serious medical problems. UNHCR is facilitating his access to medical attention at Nyala Hospital.

##### West Darfur

- Following advocacy by UNICEF, the State Minister of Information committed to ensuring the resumption of state radio and television services in West Darfur by June 2009. Radio is especially important as a tool for disseminating key messages on issues ranging from health care to education and the absence of such programming has been seen as a critical gap in communication.
- Under a partnership between UNICEF, the State Ministry of Social Welfare, the State Ministry of Youth and an international NGO, activities have commenced in support of services to vulnerable young people in the state. In the last week, four ministry officials seconded to the NGO and four young people undertook joint training on youth-to-youth mentoring.

- On 29 March in Dulmanga village, West Darfur, a fire affected 11 households. INTERSOS distributed NFIs provided by UNHCR to these families. On 30 March, a fire was reported to have affected some families in Waro village in Wadi Salih locality, West Darfur. INTERSOS staff are on the ground assessing and identifying the needs of this affected population.
- UNHCR Habila staff visited the villages of Mangarsa, Salah, Foro Burunga town, Tandusa, Hemida, Kaja Bagul, Jemmeza Nabakayah, Jemmeza A, and Ramakaya during the week. In addition to conducting protection assessments, project impact assessments were also carried out. A number of issues were observed, particularly in water, health, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), security, and crop destruction. Complaints of water borne diseases were cited at most villages surrounding Foro Burunga.
- The Sudanese Red Crescent Society, a partner of UNHCR, joined the UNHCR mission to Bendisi to monitor Child Friendly Spaces (CFSs) in Bendisi and to hold talks with the Locality Commissioner and HAC to enable the establishment of two new CFSs in Bendisi Shamal.

## **Water and Sanitation**

### **South Darfur**

#### **Regular activities**

- UNICEF provided assistance to the State Water Corporation to deliver household hygiene promotion activities to more than 1,000 households in Otash, Al Salaam and Mossai IDP camps. Sanitation and hygiene education are both programmatic areas where government partners have limited capacity to take on the role previously provided by the suspended NGOs.
- UNICEF is finalising a new agreement with an international NGO to manage water supply in the Finna area. Meanwhile, the State Water Corporation continues to absorb staff from suspended NGOs to boost its technical capacity - five former staff were recruited by the State Water Corporation in the last week.
- World Vision rehabilitated three hand pumps in Bulbul and Duma and three boreholes at Almadina, Almaslakh and Alshuib villages in Edd al Fursan.
- Construction of 40 slabs for new latrines in Manawashi was completed.
- The INGO Carried out water quality tests in Manawashi and Mershing – samples from various water resources were taken and analysed.
- A clean-up campaign attended by 579 people in Adwa, Duma and Kerrey Internally Displace Person (IDP) camps and settlements was conducted by WV.
- Communities across South Darfur attended WV sensitisation sessions on hygiene promotion and construction of household latrines.

### **West Darfur**

#### **Short-term response to NGO suspensions**

- While water supplies in areas affected by the NGO suspensions continue to be managed by the State Water Corporations, sanitation and hygiene education programmes have effectively stopped in most areas due to lack of available capacity. UNICEF is working with the State Water Corporation to identify former NGO staff who may be able to provide hygiene education activities on a temporary basis, ahead of the annual rainy season. In the next ten days UNICEF will also cease temporary payments to the State Water Corporation to cover fuel and incentive costs for 18 water systems, in line with the government commitment to take over all funding of the water supply programme in West Darfur.
- UNICEF provided assistance to the State Water Corporation to undertake limited hygiene education activities in Krenik, El Geneina, Dortei, Ardamata and Ryad IDP camps, reaching nearly 650 households. Meanwhile, UNICEF has established a new partnership agreement with an international NGO to provide hygiene education in ten schools and feeding centres.

#### **Regular activities**

- In Ryad camp (Geneina) TGH continues maintenance of water points, garbage collection and community mobilisation. Hygiene promotion (HP) sessions and shelter visits are still going on.
- TGH plans a progressive increase of water level in Ryad camp due to coming hot season.
- TGH team will proceed to an assessment of latrine rehabilitation needs in Ryad camp.
- The result of Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) survey on TGH HP activities at Geneina level are under analysis.

**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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