

This report covers the period from 20 to 21 May 2009. The next report will be issued on or around 22 May.

I. Highlights

- United Nations Secretary-General, Mr. Ban Ki-Moon, will visit Sri Lanka from 22 to 23 May 2009. He will be accompanied by the Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mr. John Holmes and the USG for Political Affairs, Mr. Lynn Pascoe.
- The United Nations Secretary-General's Chef de Cabinet, Mr. Vijay Nambiar, and the UN Resident/ Humanitarian Coordination in Sri Lanka visited the Menik Farm IDP site in Vavuniya today.

II. Access & Security

- In Vavuniya, access to Menik Farm remains restricted for humanitarian agencies. As a result, most services in zones 1, 2 and 3 remain temporarily suspended. However, limited movements continue in zone 4 to support the erection of tents, ongoing sanitation work and food distribution.

III. Situation Overview

IDPs		
During the period 27 October 2008 to 21 May 2009		271,781 persons crossed to the Government controlled areas from the conflict zone. This represents an increase of 52,371 IDPs since the last report (Sitrep No.15) on 19 May 2009. The increase is mainly due to improved, systematic registration being undertaken in the camps.
Vavuniya Camps:	251,596 ¹	269,464 people are accommodated in temporary camps.
Mannar Camps:	140 ²	
Jaffna Camps:	11,086 ³	
Trincomalee Camps:	6,642	
Hospitals:		2,317⁴ IDPs (injured and care givers) are in hospitals in various districts ⁵ as of 18 May 2009.
RELEASES		
Vavuniya Camps:	1,489	1,537 people have been released from temporary camps into host families and elders' homes as of 21 May 2009. The majority of these people are elderly, mentally challenged individuals and other vulnerable groups.
Mannar Camps:	5	
Jaffna Camps:	43	
The UN estimates that between 30,000 – 50,000 people who fled the conflict zone since 15 May are still in transit.		

- On 20 May, a joint UN mission visited Vavuniya in order to assess living conditions in Menik Farm and discuss access issues. Senior representatives from UNHCR, UNICEF, OCHA and WFP participated.

¹ Source: Government, UNHCR (Vavuniya) and Divisional Secretary Vavuniya (DS VA)

² Source: Assistant Project Director Office (PDA Office Kachcheri)

³ Source: GA office (Jaffna)

⁴ Source: Programme Coordinator (GH Trincomalee)

⁵ This includes General Hospital Trincomalee, Base Hospital Kanthalai, Peripheral Unit Thampalakamam, Field Hospital Pulmoddai, Base Hospital Padaviya, National Hospital Colombo, Teaching Hospital Kandy, Cancer Hospital Maharagama, General Hospital Polonnaruwa, and General Hospital Mannar.

Missing data for the hospitals of Vavuniya and some other locations is estimated at 1,500 people.

IV. Humanitarian Response

Food

- In Jaffna, as of 21 May, IOM, ZOA Refugee Care and Lanka Evangelical Alliance Development Service (LEADS) completed three community kitchens at the Kodikamam Ramavil Site A&B. Community cooking has now commenced at this site.
- In Trincomalee, the Food cluster met the Government Agent (GA) on 18 May to ensure a coordinated and streamlined approach in food distribution. The agencies and the GA agreed on a set menu in order to avoid differences in complementary food supplied in the camp.
- In Trincomalee a communal kitchen set up by ZOA, started on 21 May with cooking pots provided by WFP and UNHCR. WFP provides basic food commodities. World Concern, ZOA, Organization for Eelam Refugees Rehabilitation (OfERR) and AHAM provide complementary food which should be sufficient until 19 July 2009.

Shelter

- In Vavuniya, as of 20 May, 1,785 family tents have been erected by humanitarian actors in Menik Farm zone 4.
- In Jaffna, IOM, JASC, Sewa Lanka, LEADS and ZOA continue to build emergency shelters at Kodikamam Ramavil Site B&C.
- In Jaffna, World Vision is erecting a 100' X10' portable tent to be used as a common space in the Mirusuvil IDP site.
- In Trincomalee, work on plot 2 of the Sahanagama IDP site in Pulmoddai, is nearing completion, with PIN finishing the last 150 shelters. Land clearing has started in plot 1 and ZOA has committed to build 250 shelters while IOM has committed to set up another 500.

NFI

- In Vavuniya, as of 20 May, 14,228 NFI packs and 37,218 hygiene kits are available for distribution.
- In Vavuniya, the distribution of NFIs in Menik Farm zone 4 was started by some agencies. (Sewa Lanka Foundation covered blocks 46 & 47). The NFI sector is exploring possibilities to continue distribution despite access restrictions.

Health

- In Vavuniya, on 19 May, a French medical organization named 'La Chaine de l'Espoir' arrived with two surgeons who are currently deployed to support the French medical team in Cheddikulam hospital. The agency is assessing other medical needs for a longer term intervention. They have capacity for hospital management, surgery and specialized medicine, including reproductive health.
- In Vavuniya on 20 May, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) opened a field hospital near Menik Farm with a capacity of 100 beds. This facility will provide additional capacity to assist with the influx of wounded from the conflict area. Three surgeons and four anesthetists have been assigned to the field hospital, which was opened with the support of the Ministry of Healthcare and Nutrition.
- In Jaffna, the International Relief and Development Agency is constructing a semi permanent ward at the Chavakachcheeri base hospital at a cost of US\$ 27,000 (SLR 3.1 million). Funding was provided by WHO. This ward will provide services for IDP patients.
- In Jaffna, FORUT is supporting mobile clinics run by the Regional Department of Health Services (RDHS) by providing medication for children under 5 years of age. Medication includes Amoxycillin, Erythromycin, Cotrimaxazole, Paracetamol and Piriton.
- In Pulmoddai, 3 doctors and 6 nurses provide health services at the Sahangama IDP site. The RDHS has requested additional medical staff from Colombo and Trincomalee.

Protection

- In Vavuniya, more than 100 children who were displaced from various children's homes in the Vanni are currently accommodated in Menik Farm zone 4.
- In Jaffna on 21 May, UNICEF distributed four recreational and education kits for 560 IDP children between the ages of 1-18 years at the Kodikamam Ramavil Site A&B.

V. Communication / Advocacy

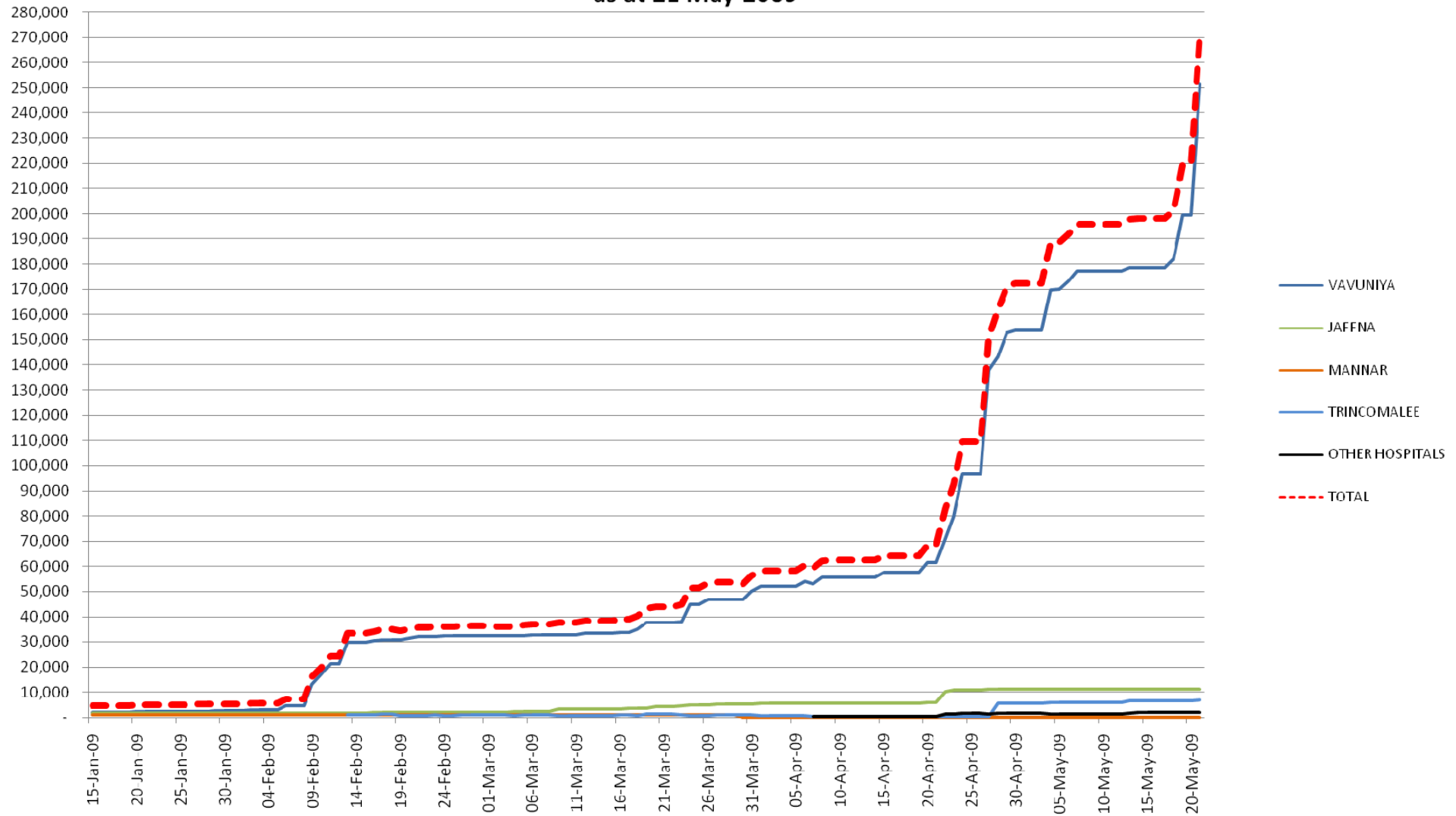
- On 19 May, in a statement on the cessation of fighting in Sri Lanka the Spokesperson of the US Department of State said “the United States welcomes the cessation of fighting in Sri Lanka and the apparent conclusion to its long-running conflict.” It also said “the US remains deeply concerned for the welfare of the hundreds of thousands of IDPs uprooted by the recent fighting”, and urged “the Government to allow humanitarian access to the camps and to work hand-in-hand with the UN, ICRC, and non-government organizations to ensure all IDPs are accorded rights and care meeting the highest international standards.”
- The UN Human Rights Council will hold a special session on 25 May to discuss the human rights situation in Sri Lanka. The special session is being convened following the request submitted by Germany on behalf of 17 members of the Human Rights Council.

VI. Funding / CHAP

- As of 21 May, the 2009 CHAP for Sri Lanka is 39 percent funded, with US\$ 60,776,040 received out of the US\$ 155,112,669 required. In addition, US\$ 25,835,490 has been pledged by various donors, which would bring the level of funding up to 49 percent once the contributions are received.

All humanitarian partners including donors and recipient agencies are encouraged to inform FTS of cash and in-kind contributions by sending an email to: fts@reliefweb.int

IDP Arrivals/Registrations in Jaffna, Vavuniya, Mannar, Trincomalee Districts and other locations as at 21 May 2009



OTHER HOSPITALS - National Hospital Colombo, Teaching Hospital Kandy, Cancer Hospital Maharagama, General Hospital Polonnaruwa, Base Hospital Padaviya, General Hospital Mannar

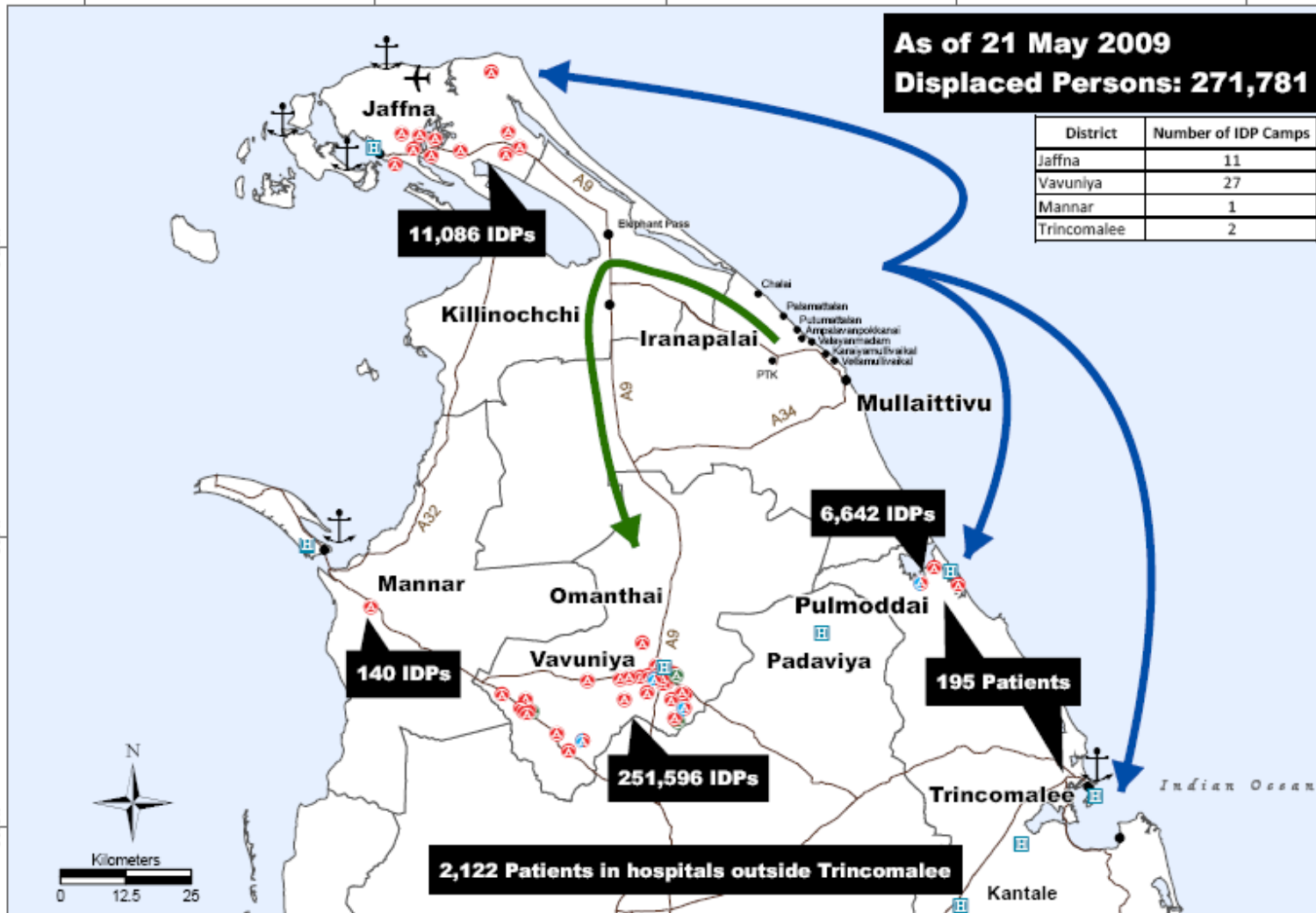
* No data available for Vavuniya and Jaffna Hospitals

The mission of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is to mobilize and coordinate effective and principled humanitarian action in partnership with national and international actors.

Vanni IDP Movements

As of 21 May, 2009

Northern Area



Area Detail



Legend

- District Boundary
- Semi Permanent Shelter Sites
- Emergency Shelter Sites
- New site identified for Emergency Shelter
- Hospitals with Vanni injured patients
- Ports
- Domestic Airports
- IDP movement by sea
- IDP movement by Land

Data source:
UNHCR Colombo.

Updated as at: 21-May-2009
 Produced on: 21-May-2009
 Projection / Datum: Transverse Mercator Kandawala
 Admin boundaries provided by: Survey Department, Government of Sri Lanka
 MapNumber: OCHA/KO/asesa/IDP/01a/v15
 This map is designed for printing on A4 size
 The boundaries, names and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

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