

Rapid Assessment to the Self-Help Relocation sites, South Rift, Kenya.



UNOCHA, Kenya

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	3
OBJECTIVE	3
METHODOLOGY	3
Data collection and analysis	4
FINDINGS	4
Demographic composition	5
Household Head	5
Shelter	5
Government resettlement support	5
Land Ownership	6
Livelihoods	6
Food	7
Firewood sources	7
Health	8
Security and safety	8
Sanitation facilities	9
Gender issues	9
CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	10
1. Child headed Households	10
2. Shelter	10
3. Cooking energy	10
4. Food aid	10
5. Water and Sanitation	10
6. Education	10
7. Government support	10
Annex 1: District of displacement	11

INTRODUCTION

The Post Election Violence that was experienced in Kenya in December 2007 led to the displacement of over 500,000 people across the country. More than a year after the violence, the effects continue to be felt in the whole country and more so in return areas, transit sites and the self-help relocation sites.

In May 2008, the government of Kenya launched the 'Operation Rudi Nyumbani' (Operation return home) in effort to resettle internally displaced persons (IDPs). With this operation the government gave out Kshs. 10000 as resettlement support to IDPs who were willing to return to their pre-violence areas of residence. A considerable number of IDPs left the camps and returned to the previous areas of residence while others relocated to different areas. The Operation Rudi Nyumbani was followed by Operation Tujenge Pamoja (Operation build together) which aimed at reconstructing the destroyed houses and supporting livelihood recovery for people who had returned to their farms. The operation Tujenge pamoja was followed by Ujirani Mwema (good neighbourhoods) which emphasised peace and reconciliation and reintegration of the returning people.

These operations were not without shortcomings; a significant number of IDPs could not return to their previous areas residence for several reasons. Some felt insecure after experiencing recurring violence in every general election since 1992. Others were tenants on other peoples' premises or land and as such had nowhere to return to. Another group included squatters who were displaced during the violence were not allowed to return by their previous host. These categories remained in the camps until late in 2008 when some of them started self help initiatives by pooling together the Kshs. 10000 government resettlement support and purchasing land communally.

As at 3rd April 2009 when the rapid assessment was finalised, there were a total of 18 self help relocation sites in the South Rift districts. These were in Molo (2), Nakuru (4), Naivasha (10) and Nyandarua (2). As of 13th May 2009, the sites had increased to 20 after two more were formed in Naivasha (205 households) and Nakuru North (300 households).

The self –help groups face a unique challenge after spending the Kshs. 10,000 resettlement support in land purchase. They have largely been left out by the shelter and livelihood support programmes which often target returnees who went to their farms and previous areas of residence. It is for this uniqueness that UNOCHA and other partners set out to undertake a rapid assessment in the relocation sites in the South Rift region.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of the rapid assessment was to establish the humanitarian conditions at relocation sites. Specific objectives were:

1. Construct a profile for each Self-help relocation site in the South Rift, including analysis of the livelihood activities and demographic stratification.
2. Document the humanitarian situation and identify gaps.
3. Assess level of integration with the surrounding community groups.
4. Identify priorities for recovery and recommendations for the development of a post conflict strategy.

METHODOLOGY

The assessment was conducted between 30th March and 3rd April 2009. Participating agencies were UNOCHA, UNHCR, Save the Children UK (SCUK), Danish refugee Council (DRC),

UNDP neighbourhood volunteers, St, Mary’s Mission Hospital and Molo Street Children Project (MSCP).

The assessment involved a review of the Nakuru hub reports and visit to 18 relocation sites in the South rift; namely Molo good hope, and Tuinuane in Molo district, Kikopey Vumilia, Kikopey Ebenezer, Gitare, GTI, Jikaze, Fumilia, Vumilia, Amani, Maono yetu and Muoroto B in Naivasha district, Minto, ALKO, Muoroto A and Pipeline in Nakuru district, Word of faith in Ol kalau, and Mawingu/Shalom city in Nyandarua district.

Selection of the sample for household interviews was based on a 5% of the total household population in each site. Identification of the respondents was done randomly at the site. At least one focus group discussion was conducted at every site. A total of 322 households were interviewed and 23 focus group discussions conducted.

Data collection and analysis

Data collection was done through review of previous reports, focused group discussions, administration of household questionnaires in randomly selected households and direct observation. The questionnaire contained simple open ended questions, some guided questions and use of proportional piling.

Data analysis was done using excel spreadsheets and presentation has been done in text and graphics.

FINDINGS

Self help relocation sites per district.

The table below summarizes the population figures for the 18 self help relocation sites visited during the exercise. The figures were obtained through the profiling forms which were filled by each site.

Table 1: population figures per site

District	Name of Site	No. of households	Population
Molo	Kibunja	78	410
	Mitoni	183	915
	Total	261	1325
Naivasha	Amani	62	399
	Kikopey Ebenezar	232	998
	Kikopey Vumilia	196	961
	Jikaze	141	830
	GTI	10	44
	Gitare/Jerusalem	30	130
	Maono yetu	24	131
	Muoroto B	33	129
	Vumilia	236	1354
	Fumilia	257	1256
	Total	1221	6232
Nakuru	Alko	839	3329
	Pipeline	943	5789
	Minto	94	474
	Muoroto A	23	58
	Total	1899	9649
Nyandarua	Mawingu/Shalom	3469	14660
Ol Kalau	Word of Faith	182	628
	Totals	7032	32495

Demographic composition

Data collected through the profiling exercise in each of the visited sites indicated that there was a total of 7,032 households in the 18 relocation sites with a total of 32,495 persons. The table below gives the age and gender disaggregation.

Table 2. Demographic composition

Age	Under 5s		5 - 18		Over 18		Totals	
Gender	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Numbers	3974	4083	5775	5910	5592	7161	15341	17154
Percentage	12%	13%	18%	18%	17%	22%	47%	53%

The percentage of females was higher than males across all the age brackets and highest in females over 18 years who accounted for 22% of this age bracket. Females accounted for 53% of the total site population.

Household Head

Findings from the sampled households pointed out that majority of the households in the relocation sites were male headed. As summarized in Table 3 below, 58% of the households were headed by males, 40% by females and 2% by children.

Table 3: Household head

Head	Male	Female	Child
Number	185	130	7
Percentage	58%	40%	2%

Shelter

Shelter remains critical in nearly all the sites. Though 320 households out of the 322 interviewed reported to have shelter, these were mainly tents and makeshift structures. As summarized in Table 4; below, 89.7% of the shelter units in the self help relocation sites were the tents and 10% were makeshift (plastic sheeting) shelter units. Over 90% of the tents were worn out and leaking.

Table 4: Shelter type

Type	Tents	Makeshift (polythene)	Permanent	Total
Numbers	287	32	1	320
Percentage	89.7%	10%	0.3%	100

Only a few households in Jikaze relocation site in Mahi Mahiu, Naivasha district had benefited from permanent shelter units constructed by Mabati Rolling Mills (MRM).

Government resettlement support

Findings from the profiling exercise indicated that 61% of the households in the 18 relocation sites in the South rift had received the Kshs. 10,000 resettlement support given by the government. However, 39% had not received the support due to anomalies in the government registers. Some reported that their names were missing from the payment registers while others had their money collected and signed off by unknown persons. Appeals for payment had been forwarded to the Ministry of Special Programmes for consideration.

Table 5: Government Support

Kshs. 10000 status			Kshs. 25000 status		
	#	percentage		#	percentage
Received	4321	61%	Received	1350	19%
Not received	2711	39%	Not received	5682	81%
Total	7032			7032	

A much smaller number had received the Kshs. 25,000 shelter support from the government. Only 19% indicated they had been given the shelter support with over 81% still expecting to receive the support.

10 out 18 relocation sites in the south rift (i.e. 9 sites in Naivasha and 1 in Nakuru) had received the Kshs. 25000 shelter support from the government. The money was however not utilised for shelter construction as majority of the households spent it on other activities such as purchasing land, paying school fees, and renting agricultural land.

Land Ownership

A check on the number of those who owned land before the displacement indicated that majority of the households in the self help relocation sites had no land previously. Out of the 7032 households, only 16% owned land in the pre-displacement areas of residence, 84% were either renting farm land or business premises.

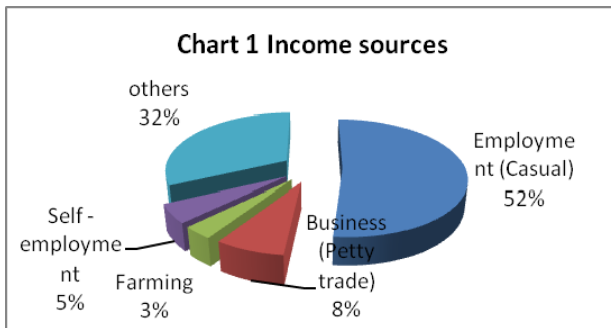
Table 6: Previous land ownership

Status	Number	percentage
Owned land	1113	16%
Had no land	5919	84%
Total	7032	100

Some of those who owned land were not willing to go back to their land and some were even contemplating selling or leasing out their land.

Livelihoods

The assessment looked at the economic activities at the relocation sites. According to chart 1 below, the common source of income for the households was casual labour in the neighbouring farms, other sources included sale of relief food, benevolent wishers, petty trade, and self employment.



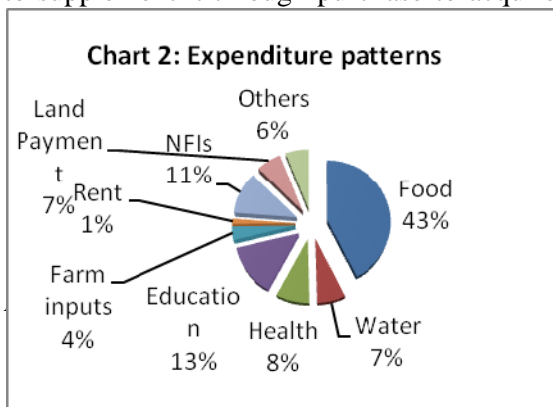
Casual labour in neighbouring farms accounted for 52% of the households' income. This was due because the assessment was carried out during the rain season. Other sources which included sale of relief food and remittances accounted for 32%. In ALKO relocation site in Nakuru, a group of women reported that they were engaging in commercial sex in the

nearby trading centre.

Expenditure patterns

Although the survey was conducted in the same month when food aid under WFP Emergency Operation was concluded, a larger proportion of household expenditure was on food purchase. Respondents reported that food rations from food relief were not sufficient and had to supplement it through purchase to acquire other items that were not supplied in the food

basket such as salt and milk.

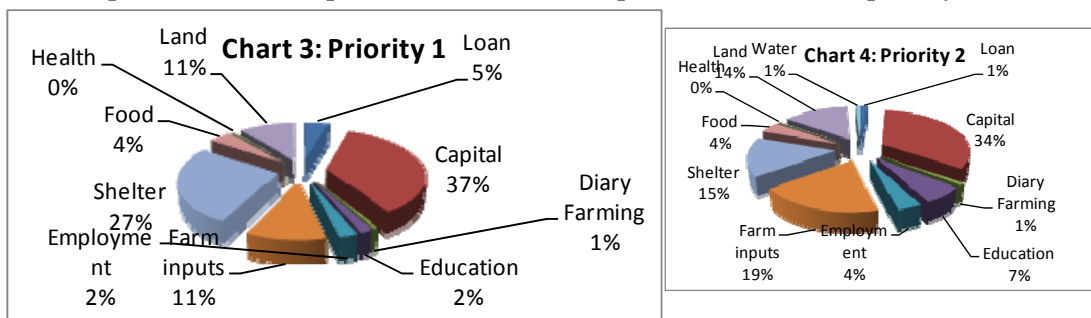


As summarized in chart 2 a considerable expenditure went to education and NFIs which accounted for 13% and 11% respectively. Other expenditure was on farm inputs which included renting land, purchase

of seeds and tools. On rent, some households rented houses in nearby towns due to lack of shelter. Some parents were forced to rent shelter for their adult children because they could not share the same tent due to cultural and privacy considerations.

Priorities

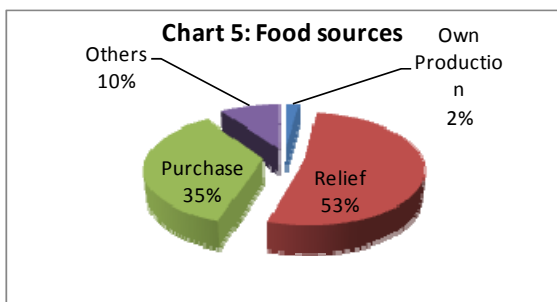
The survey sought to identify the returnees' priorities for them to be able to stand on their own and pick up life again. The respondents were asked to state their two main priorities. As summarised in the chart 3 and 4 below most of the respondents highlighted the need for initial capital. 37% of respondents mentioned capital as their main priority, followed by



shelter with 27%. On the second priority as summarised in chart 4, initial capital featured as the top second priority. This clearly indicated the need for the livelihood support in terms of business capital and farm inputs.

Food

Through proportional piling respondents identified the main food sources for the household in month preceding the survey. As summarized in the chart below, the main source of food was relief food from the World Food Programme EMOP implemented by the Kenya Red Cross (KRC).



Relief food accounted for 53% of the food consumed in the household in the preceding month (March 2009) when EMOP was operational. Purchase from the market was also a significant source of food accounting for 35%. Other sources included borrowing and donations from benevolent wishers. Own production was at a minimal 2% and included some households who had kitchen

gardens and poultry. The food aid programme was however concluded at the end of March 2009.

Cooking energy

The assessment also looked at the type of energy used in the preparation of food. Respondents were asked to give the type of energy used in cooking. From the assessment responses firewood was the main source of cooking energy. As summarized in table 7 below, 82% of the cooking energy was from firewood seconded by charcoal at 13%.

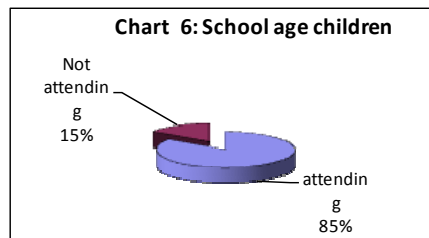
Table 7: Type of cooking energy

Type	Charcoal	Firewood	Cow dung	Kerosene	Others
Number	41	264	14	2	1
percentage	13%	82%	4%	1%	0%

Most of households in the relocation sites relied on borrowing firewood from neighbours and collecting it from the neighbouring forests since the site had no own forests. The collection of firewood from the forests was reported to be a potential source of conflict between the returnees and the neighbouring community, particularly in Mawingu, Nyandarua district where the surrounding community was against collection of firewood in private forests.

Education

Primary school education was largely accessible in most of the sites. 85% of the school age children were in school with 15% being out of school due to reasons ranging from lack of resources for uniforms and school level expenses such as support to parents managed school feeding programmes, tuition and development funds. Lack of school fees for secondary school education was mentioned as a challenge in nearly every site.

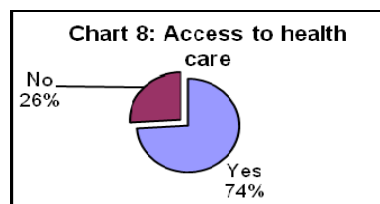
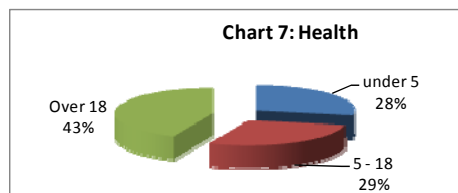


The reintegration into the neighbourhood schools poses a challenge due to language barrier. Most of the returnee children were from cosmopolitan schools where the language of communication was Kiswahili and English but in Mawingu relocation site the language of instruction for lower primary is Kikuyu which makes it difficult for the newcomers to

comprehend. Some parents attributed the poor performance of their children to the language problems.

Health

The assessment looked at the disease patterns in the relocation sites for the past one month, and the ages affected. Through group discussions the common diseases in the relocation sites were identified as Malaria, flu, typhoid and pneumonia (not in any particular order). The assessment analysed the ages of those who had fallen ill in the past month and as summarised in the Chart 7 below established that 43% of were over 18 years and under-5s accounted for 28% of those who were taken ill.



On access to health care, 74% of those who fell ill sought health care either from neighbouring facilities or mobile clinics. 26% did not seek health care due to lack of money for user charges and medication.

Health services were available from nearby health centres and irregular mobile clinics from NGOs and Ministry of Health. The average distance to the health facilities was 6 kilometres and a walking time of 2.5 hours according to the focus group discussions.

Security and safety

One of the main reasons for moving to relocation sites was that most of the people could not go back to their previous areas of residence. The assessment sought to get the returnees perception on security and safety at the sites.

As summarized in the table 8, 89% of the respondents felt secure within the neighbouring community.

Table 8: Security and safety perception

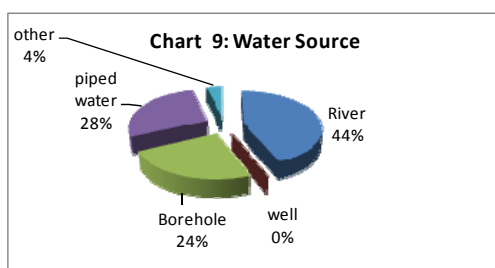
Security and safety within the group		Security and safety within surrounding community	
Yes	No	Yes	No
276	46	288	34
86%	14%	89%	11%

Relations with the neighbours were cordial and interacted in various activities such as religion, school activities, funeral and trade. Perception of security within the group was however lower as compared to within the surrounding communities. 86% felt secure within the group but 14% felt insecure due to petty theft in the tents and poor leadership.

Though the feeling of safety and secure was high both within the group and the surrounding community, most of the respondents in the household interviews proposed establishment of a police post and more reintegration programmes with the surrounding community.

Water and sanitation

Access to portable water was a challenge in most of the sites. Respondents were asked to name their main source of water. As summarized in the chart 9 below, responses from focus group discussions indicated that the common source of water was the nearby rivers accounting for 44%.



Piped water the second followed by boreholes. The average distance from the water points was 7 kilometres and walking time of 2.70 hours one way.

Sanitation facilities

All the relocation sites had toilets but the numbers were on average below the emergency thresholds of 20 people per toilet. The average ratio of toilets was 1 toilet to 83 people. The main challenge in digging more pit latrines remains the size of land and density of population on these sites. The sustainable way of exhaustible pit latrines is hampered by lack of resources. The digging of pit latrines in most of the sites particularly in Mawingu relocation sites with 14,000 people will not be sustainable and very soon the group may have nowhere to dig more latrines. Though the survey didn't capture the bath shelters ratio, physical observation revealed a lower number compared to the toilets.

Gender issues

From the group discussions, it was clear that access to sanitary pads was irregular. Most of the women could not afford sanitary pads due to economic constraints.

Cases of Sexual Gender Based Violence were reported though documentation and reporting was poor. Forced Female circumcision was reported in Mawingu relocation site where six girls were said to have been forced to circumcision.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Though not exhaustive, the following recommendations can be drawn from the rapid assessment.

1. Child headed Households

As presented in the findings, 2% of the interviewed households were child headed, it presents serious concerns given the circumstances and the covariate vulnerability in these relocation sites. Special attention needs to be paid to this category of households.

2. Shelter

Shelter is clearly a need in the relocation sites but the provision of shelter alone will not suffice. 99.7% of the shelters were tents and makeshift structures and already leaking. Some of respondents claimed that shelter without accompanied livelihood support will not sustain them. An integration of shelter and livelihood support will thus be necessary at these sites.

3. Cooking energy

Reliance on firewood as the cooking energy may not be sustainable in the long run. Most of the sites are occupying small blocks of land which have no forests. Energy saving stoves would help ease pressure on firewood demand.

4. Food aid

Expenditure on food purchase was at 43%, which meant that a huge amount of resources was on household consumption as compared to investing in livelihood sustainability. Short term food relief in combination with recovery efforts is recommended.

5. Water and Sanitation

Majority of the people at the relocation sites accessed water from nearby rivers. 44% of the households got water from the rivers. This may be the case even for other communities in the area since piped water was always at a cost. There is need for hygiene promotion campaigns to ensure safe water use at the household level both for the sites and surrounding communities.

Adequate sanitation facilities remain a challenge in most of the sites due to limited space and high population density. The survey revealed an average of 1 toilet for 83 people. The digging of more toilets may not be sustainable due to the size of land. As such construction of exhaustible toilets is recommended.

6. Education

Considerable number of school age children is still out of schools in these sites. The survey revealed that 15% of the children were out of school due to various reasons including lack of money and food. There is need to address challenges to access and also the pressure created on existing facilities.

7. Government support

A number of returnees to the self help relocation sites are yet to receive the Kshs. 10,000 and the Kshs. 25,000 from the government. Some of them had their names missing from the registers and have been following up with the government authorities without much success. Though the district authorities have forwarded appeal cases to the Ministry of Special Programmes, there is need to expedite the pending payments and appeal cases.

A more sector specific analysis may be necessary to advise programmatic decisions in the self-help relocation sites.

Annex 1: District of displacement

District of Pre-violence residence	No. of Families
Baringo	3
BURNT FOREST	47
ELDORET	115
KAKAMEGA	24
KEIYO	3
KERICHO	651
KIPKELION	548
KISUMU	55
KITALE	9
KOIBATEK	251
LAIKIPIA	1
LUGARI	16
Makutano	1
Matunda	2
MAU NAROK	8
MIGORI	3
Molo	1479
MUMIAS	3
Naivasha	2
Nakuru	1628
Nakuru North	6
Nandi	27
Nandi East	6
NANDI HILLS	12
Nandi North	69
Nandi South	86
Narok	354
Narok south	62
NYANDARUA	4
Nyando	1
NYANZA	4
RAVINE	1
TIMBOROA	41
TURBO	4
UASIN GISHU	1506
Grand Total	7032