



**Humanitarian Action in Darfur**  
**Weekly Bulletin No. 27**  
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**Key overall developments**

- According to WHO no cases of Influenza A (H1N1) in Sudan, have been reported so far. No cases of suspected Influenza A (H1N1) reported. Acute Respiratory Infections (ARI), Bloody Diarrhoea (BD), Clinical Malaria (MAL) and Acute Jaundice Syndrome (AJS) continue to be the principle diseases/conditions of public health significance in Darfur states. In addition, 14 suspected cases of AJS were reported in North Darfur, 18 cases in South Darfur and six cases from West Darfur. Suspected cases of meningitis were reported from North Darfur, one case from Abu Shouk and three cases from Shangel Tobaya.
- After the expulsion of MSF-F and evacuation of MSF Swiss from Jebel Marra, most of rebel held areas have been inaccessible for the provision of health services for SMOH.
- Preparations for the rainy season are ongoing although the humanitarian community's capacity to respond is not confirmed.
- On 3 July three staff of NGO GOAL – two female international staff and one guard from national staff – were abducted from the organisation's guest house in Kutum, North Darfur by seven armed men. The perpetrators fled and released the guard unharmed outside Kutum. The two female staff members are still in captivity. Remaining GOAL staff have been relocated from Kutum to El Fasher. According to media reports, the state minister for humanitarian affairs says contact has been made with the kidnappers and a ransom demanded. Irish and Ugandan representatives are in Khartoum and in El Fasher to try to secure the release of their nationals.
- The NFI Common Pipeline partners, UNJLC, UNICEF and IOM, continue to approach donors regarding the Common Appeal for funding. The Appeal addresses operational requirements for the second half of 2009, emphasising the activities with the most pressing gaps – warehousing and transportation. During discussions, donors are being equally encouraged to fund needs assessment and distribution partners to ensure NFIs can be delivered to beneficiaries in need in a timely manner and the Pipeline can continue to function effectively.

**Needs and response by sector**

***Education***

***North Darfur***

**Regular activities**

- In coordination with UNICEF, the State Ministry of Education provided supplies to the NGO Plan Sudan to assist in the reconstruction of six classrooms in Abu Shouk camp which were destroyed by fire earlier this year. More than 300 children will benefit from the new classroom space.
- The first round of training in the UNICEF-supported life skills curriculum was undertaken for 120 teachers from primary and secondary schools in Kebkabiya, Saraf Omra and Serif.

***South Darfur***

**Regular activities**

- The State Ministry of Education received funds from UNICEF to construct 30 classrooms and to repair a similar number in Kalma camp. The project will be undertaken in partnership with the local Parent Teachers' Association - the Association will provide half of the labour costs incurred in the initiative.
- The NGO Humedica began reconstruction of 11 temporary classrooms at Al Zahra School in Kass with UNICEF assistance. The classrooms will provide opportunities to at least 700 children, while construction of eight new temporary classrooms in Asalam IDP camp will benefit 480 children.
- With UNICEF assistance, the NGO Samaritan's Purse distributed textbooks, school stationery, chalk boards, plastic sheeting and other school materials in the Tulus area, benefiting more than 4,700 children. UNICEF has also provided enough plastic sheeting to provide shelter for 44 classrooms and offices in Otash and Sakali IDP camps, along with seating mats, benefiting up to 2,640 pupils.
- World Vision implemented the following key programme activities in South Darfur during the past week:
  - Distributed learning and teaching materials – blackboards, chalk, exercise books, pencils, rubbers, rulers and sharpeners – at adult education centres in Otash camp.
  - Rehabilitated four classrooms and two offices in Saad School up to roofing stage.

***West Darfur***

**Regular activities**

- With UNICEF support, the State Ministry of Education repaired 160 temporary classrooms in Zalingei camp for internally displaced persons, with a further 40 still being worked on. More than 12,000 children will benefit from the project.

## ***Food Security and Livelihoods***

### North Darfur

#### **Regular activities**

- WFP provided three months' food rations that were distributed to beneficiaries in South Dar-e-Zaghawa to mitigate food assistance disruptions in food assistance during the rainy season when road access becomes impossible. Similar distributions are being completed in Saraf Omra and Kebkabiya.
- New IDPs have been reported in Tawila camps during recent fighting in Jebel Marra and Jebel Si. WFP and partners are planning to verify the new arrivals.
- Under the Food for Education programme, food deliveries were completed to 415 schools in seven localities in North Darfur. This will benefit nearly 180,000 children who will receive a daily cooked meal at school.
- As part of the Blanket Supplementary Feeding impact monitoring, the second round of Mid Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) screenings of 300 children under-five has been completed in Abu Shouk and in Zam Zam camps. The first round of screening was completed in Sayah, Mellit and Malha while the screening plans in Kutum are currently on hold due to insecurity. Meanwhile, the first round of MUAC screenings of children under-five is ongoing in Tawila, Dali and Rwanda.

### South Darfur

#### **Regular activities**

- WFP and partners verified 522 IDP households from Alfidros to Um Alkhairate. A further 158 new arrivals were received at Al Neem camp, the majority of whom are ration cardholders. In Beliel camp, 463 individuals from Muhajiriya are being added to the Beliel caseload.
- Verifications of children under-five are ongoing in Kalma sector 1, while June blanket supplementary feeding ration distributions have been completed in all sectors of Otash camp, Khor Omer, Em Neem and Ed Daein.
- World Vision implemented the following key programme activities in South Darfur during the past week:
  - Completed distributions of premix rations for children under five at Otash and Kalma Internally Displaced Person (IDP) camps. A total of 29,828 children benefited from 134.23 metric tonnes of supplementary food.
  - Received food for monthly general distributions at Almalam, Krumje, Manawashi and Mershing camps and settlements.
  - Distributed seeds and tools to 1,052 farmers in Sakali and Mosse IDP camps.
  - Trained 150 volunteer leader farmers on land preparation in Edd al Fursan, Abu Almaki, Boba, Eraida and Ganateer, all in Edd al Fursan locality.
  - Identified 300 households that will receive chickens and training on poultry management in Rehed Al Birdi locality.

### West Darfur

#### **Regular activities**

- WFP's seasonal food supports beneficiaries in Hajar Tama, Umshalaya, Genderni and Romalia in Mornie. Beneficiaries will receive General Food Distribution rations during the hunger gap.
- WFP has nearly completed (88 percent) the pre-positioning of 12,700 metric tonne of food in remote locations that become inaccessible during the rainy season.
- WFP assessed five schools in Habila and Mukjar for possible inclusion in the Food for Education programme. Unfortunately, none of the schools met the basic criteria of storage and cooking facilities, as well as having a water source and sanitation facilities. The State Ministry of Education is attempting to obtain non-food items, such as plastic sheeting, from other sources.

## ***Health and Nutrition***

### North Darfur

#### **Regular activities**

- WHO and the National Malaria Control Programme supported the training of 40 laboratory technicians on malaria laboratory investigation in Fasher hospital.

### South Darfur

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

- In support of nutrition programmes in Kalma camp, UNICEF provided 50 cartons of nutritional paste and covered the incentive costs of 66 staff now working in the Therapeutic Feeding Centres under the auspices of the State Ministry of Health. UNICEF has also provided essential medicines, nutritional supplies and soap to Feina, as well as covering costs of staff formerly working with expelled NGOs.
- UNICEF assisted the State Ministry of Health to complete repairs to feeding centres in Kerere and Asalam camps.

#### **Regular activities**

- WHO South Darfur in collaboration with the State Ministry of Health (SMoH) conducted training sessions for 327 health cadres from different localities.
- Routine Public Health Care (PHC) activities are continuing in Girayda. In light of the rains, Community Health Promoters and Community Reproductive Health Promoters are intensifying their community work and education to mitigate any epidemics.
- One case of Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD) was referred to Girayda Hospital in the last week; this was later proved not to be cholera. Patient attendance has dropped recently, which could be attributed to population movements to

the nearby villages for cultivation or for settlement. Merlin is planning to conduct an assessment in Girayda to clarify this and to improve understanding of the current context.

- Official data shows that nearly 800,000 children were reached by recent polio immunisation campaigns in South Darfur - higher than the expected target, even though some areas - mainly in the Eastern Jebel Marra region - were not reached by vaccinators due to insecurity.
- UNICEF provided 200 cartons of nutritional paste to the NGO MDM, and 500 cartons to Tearfund, through the State Ministry of Health in support of specialist feeding programmes.
- World Vision implemented the following key programme activities in South Darfur during the past week:
  - Handled consultations for 1,852 patients at clinics in Galdi, El Geneina, Manawashi, Mershing and Otash; vaccinated 104 children and 436 mothers and provided ante-natal care to 552 women.
  - Treated 355 malnourished children in Manawashi and Mershing and gave them high energy food. Referred six severely malnourished children to Nyala.
  - Conducted health education for 1,385 people through community mobilisation.
- Supplies and drugs dispatched by WHO to the Nyala teaching hospital are adequate to treat around 100 patients.
- According to a set schedule for monitoring visits Girayda hospital was visited and gaps were found in the area of HR lab reagents . SMOH is dispatching the necessary reagents to the hospital.

#### West Darfur

##### **Regular activities**

- Two training workshops for Rapid Response Teams in El Geneina and Zalingei in West Darfur were conducted jointly by WHO/ SMOH for 12 participants.
- WHO in West Darfur received communication equipment from Khartoum and started establishing them in 10 health facilities of Northern Corridor in order to enhance the surveillance system coverage within the remote areas of West Darfur before the upcoming rainy season.
- Construction of a new obstetrical and gynaecological ward in Kutum rural hospital started this week while El Geneina Teaching Hospital started the rehabilitation of the operation theatre.

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

##### North Darfur

##### **Regular activities**

- This week in North Darfur, the African Humanitarian Action (AHA) supported 182 households of IDPs requiring replenishment in El Fasher with essential rainy season items – plastic sheeting and jerry cans – from the NFI Common Pipeline.

##### South Darfur

##### **Regular activities**

- Approximately 509 mosquito nets were distributed by Merlin in Margarine, 1889 in Umgunia and 2699 in Yassin.
- PODR (NGO) distributed NFI Common Pipeline items in Mosey camp, supporting 44 newly-displaced households and 875 households requiring replenishment.

##### West Darfur

##### **Regular activities**

- In West Darfur, the NFI Common Pipeline provided plastic sheeting to Medair for use in three camps and 15 rural locations to support their primary health care facilities during the rainy season.
- NFI Common Pipeline plastic sheeting was also provided to UNICEF for rehabilitation of therapeutic feeding centres in five locations.

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

##### South Darfur

##### **Regular activities**

- The South Darfur State Community Radio has established 25 new listening groups in Asalam and Elwehda, with UNICEF support. The groups have been distributing HIV and AIDS prevention messages, reaching some 750 young people.
- World Vision implemented the following key programme activities in South Darfur during the past week:
  - Sensitised 577 women, 70 men and 1267 children on children's issues and rights and gender issues at Asalam, Manawashi and Mershing Child Friendly Spaces.
  - Provided care and psychosocial support to 1,250 children at Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) in Asalam, Galdi, Manawashi and Mershing.
  - Conducted adult literacy classes for 1,233 women in Manawashi, Mershing and Otash, and trained 40 others on the management of their income generation activities in Galdi, Manawashi and Mershing, while 35 were trained on the construction of fuel-efficient stoves in Manawashi and Mershing.

##### West Darfur

##### **Regular activities**

- The newly constructed dam by national authorities on the Albel valley recently in February/March 2009 created several concerns expressed by the local authorities. About 700 households (HH) are prone to be affected by flood and 356 HHs will be separated by the Wadi from essential services including health. A contingency plan for health has been drafted by SMOH/WHO and shared with partners. Two temporary clinics are required to be established in Abuja and Umdouwin areas which will be isolated during rainy season, pre-positioning of essential drugs and supplies (including AWD preparedness) and Environmental Health supplies were included.

## **Water and Sanitation**

### North Darfur

#### **Regular activities**

- With assistance from UNICEF, the State Water Corporation, supported hygiene promoters in conducting more than 6,300 household visits in Abu Shouk camp for internally displaced persons, while in Zam Zam camp, the partners facilitated more than 700 similar visits to promote good hygiene practices, in addition to cleaning more than 3,400 jerry cans to prevent contamination. In Kutum, the State Water Corporation, aided by UNICEF, undertook the same exercise, reaching more than 200 households and cleaning more than 6,000 jerry cans. Another exercise was undertaken in Kassab.
- The State Water Corporation, with UNICEF support, helped in the repair of 74 communal latrines and the construction of further 26 in Kassab camp.

### South Darfur

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

- In Kalma camp, the NGO ARC, assisted by UNICEF, was able to restart water supply through motorised systems in sectors formerly managed by expelled NGOs and the State Water Corporation. At the same time, ARC chlorinated 27 hand pumps in the camp.
- In Kass, UNICEF supported the repair of 31 latrines. Three cleaning campaigns were also organized in areas formerly supported by ACF and Oxfam. Meanwhile, the dissemination of hygiene messages was undertaken in 742 household visits, reaching more than 3,200 people.
- In Al Salaam camp, 85 household latrines have been constructed by the State Water Corporation, with UNICEF assistance, while in Otash camp the two partners undertook repairs to some 200 household latrines.
- WHO supported a team from SMOH to conduct water sources mapping and quality control in the camps around El Fasher and El Fasher town. The team visited 23 water sources in Abu Shouk, Asalam and Zam Zam camps. The result showed 21 samples within the standard rate (0.3mg/l to 0.6mg/l) and two samples with less than the standard levels, one sample in Zam Zam and the other in Asalam camp. AWD plan for the water and Environmental sanitation groups were developed and also draft vector control master plan for the North Darfur was also developed.

#### **Regular activities**

- World Vision implemented the following key programme activities in South Darfur during the past week:
  - Repaired two hand pumps in Manawashi and Mershing.
  - Drilled a borehole in Barkoal Albaranda, Edd al Fursan, and installed two hand pumps in Ubjaradiil and one in Killing, Rehed al Birdi locality.
  - Lined 13 family latrines in Manawashi and Mershing and received materials for the construction of 100 new latrines.
  - Conducted a clean-up campaign attended by 473 people in Duma and Juruf.
  - Conducted hygiene promotion visits to 473 households in Bulbul tembisco, Muhajiriya and Manawashi.
  - Fenced five water points in Juruf using iron angles and wire mesh constructed a generator house and provided items for setting up a water system in Jughma village, Edd al Fursan locality.
  - Conducted Participatory *Hygiene* and Sanitation Transformation training (for 333 people (63 children, 78 men and 192 women) in Killing and Ubjaradiil villages in Rehed al Birdi.
- According to a set schedule for monitoring visits Girayda hospital was visited and gaps were found in the area of lab reagents – actions taken on Thursday and the SMOH is dispatching the necessary reagents to the hospital.
- This week the joint team from SMOH/ Water, Environmental and Sanitation (WES) visited Sakali, El Serif and Otash camps conducting simple water quality control. Twenty one samples were taken from water points and analysed for residual chlorine (FRC), in 20 samples the FRC level is within the required (0.2 – 0.5 mg/l). One sample was found with low residual chlorine level (Otash camp).
- Additionally 128 samples were taken from Musse and Otash; most of the samples were with FRC level between 0.1 - 0.3 mg/l. Following the low level of residual chlorine in El Serif and Sakali camps, corrective measures and refresher trainings were done by the team in both camps.

### West Darfur

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

- The State Water Corporation, aided by UNICEF, has repaired and constructed more than 200 latrines in Garcila, Nertiti, Taiba and Krinding. In Nertiti, Garcila and Teraige, the two partners also supported cleaning campaigns, benefiting more than 1,300 households.
- The State Water Corporation and UNICEF also completed installation of six hand pumps in Ardamata camp for internally displaced persons, which will ensure clean water supply for some 3,000 people.
- Hygiene promotion campaigns, led by the State Water Corporation and supported by UNICEF, reached more than 500 households in Dorti, Ardamata and Ryiad camps.

**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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