

SITUATION REPORT # 83

KILINOHCHI, MULLAITIVU, VAVUNIYA, MANNAR, TRINCOMALEE, BATTICALOA & AMPARA DISTRICTS

12-19 July 2007

KILINOHCHI & MULLAITIVU DISTRICTS

Situation update

- Shelling continues in areas south of Kilinochchi district, Vadamarachchi East and Poonakary.

Internally Displaced Persons

- On 17 July, ZOA assessed the situation of 80 fisher families, at the Chundikkulam IDP location in the uncleared areas of Vadamarachchi East. The report on cross sectoral findings is being compiled.

Sector Response

Shelter

- UNOPS as implementing partner for UNHCR distributed emergency shelter material for 25 shelters to those displaced from various locations and settled in Poonakary AGA division during the work.

Health

- The DPDHS (Deputy Provincial Director of Health Services) of Kilinochchi received 7,000 liters of diesel to be used to operate mobile health clinics and generators of the district, and is waiting for MoD permission to transport the fuel to Mullaitivu district health institutions, as part of the July quota.
- UNICEF nutrition screening activities are on going in Kandawalai and Karachchi MOH divisions. Screenings are complete in three MOH areas in Mullaitivu district and one MOH area in Kilinochchi district.

Water and Sanitation

- On 13 July, Oxfam installed a 1,000 liter capacity water tank at the Kunchuparanthan IDP location for 25 displaced families.

Education

- 18-19 July, UNICEF facilitated the emergency education training of 22 persons from the ZDE office of Kilinochchi, Thunukkai and Mullaitivu Zones.
- On 13 July, ZOA provided 19 bicycles to students of low incomes families at the Akkarayan Maha Vidyalayam School in Kilinochchi.
- ZOA distributed stationery and educational items to 20 displaced students settled in the Uruththirapuram village in Kilinochchi on 19 July.

NFRI

- Save the Children in Sri Lanka (SCiSL) made an NFRI and cloth distribution to 20 displaced families living in the Akkarayan and Poothanvayal villages in Kilinochchi, last week.

- On 18 July, UNHCR handed over a photocopying machine to the AGA of Poonakary to be used in the land office of Poonakary division [Kilinochchi] in land registration and land distribution services.

Protection

- UNHCR with the Medical Officer Health conducted HIV/AIDS awareness programmes at five schools in the Maritim Pattu and Puthukkudiyiruppu MOH divisions for 300 students.
- UNHCR organized awareness trainings on Sexual and Gender Based Violence [SGBV] for displaced women living in the Mullaivaikkal village in Mullaitivu district.

VAVUNIYA AND MANNAR DISTRICTS

Situation update

- The situation remains tense in both districts.

Internally Displaced Persons

- On 19 July, the GA reported that 2,675 families (9,790 persons) were displaced in Mannar and 2,517 families (8,682 persons) were displaced in Vavuniya.
- Humanitarian actors experience delays in transporting materials to the districts for development projects due to unload and reload procedures of items being transported at the newly installed Madawachchi check point. This has also resulted in a price increase of goods being transported into the districts due to expenses incurred in unloading and reloading the items at this check point.

Sector Response

NFRI

- 13-15 July, SCiSL distributed NFRI to 630 displaced families living in the uncleared areas of Kanagarayankulam, Puliyaikulam, Mannankulam and Sinnadampan in Vavuniya North DS division, under its ECHO (European Commission Humanitarian Aid) emergency response program.
- UNHCR distributed 43 NFRI packages to the displaced in Mannar town.
- On 17 July, SCiSL distributed two sets of children's cloth material to 140 displaced children living in the Paddanichchipuliyaikulam and Avaranthulawa GN division in Vavuniya district, under its ECHO emergency response program.

Water and Sanitation

- ZOA completed the construction of 44 toilets in Mannar town DS division and seven toilets and a dug well in Nanattan DS division in Mannar district.
- The Danish Refugee Council completed the construction of seven tube wells in the Kalmadhu and Kankankulam relocation sites in Vavuniya district.

Education

- 13 -15 July, SCiSL distributed educational kits to 1,000 displaced children living in Kanagarayankulam, Puliyaikulam, Mannankulam and Sinnadampan in Vavuniya North with ECHO funds.
- On 18 July, SCiSL distributed school bags to 215 displaced children at the Periyamaduru IDP location in Manthai west.
- ZOA renovated a 550 meter length access road to the Fatima Mathiya Maha Vithiyalam School in Pesalai, Mannar district.
- ILO with Valvothayam conducted six vocational training courses for 137 youth in Mannar district.

Food

- WFP transported 6.8 MT of sugar and 1.5 MT of vegetable oil into Vavuniya district during the reporting period.

Shelter

- UNHCR supported by Solidar and jointly with the Government is finalizing the identification of potential emergency accommodation sites.
- ZOA completed the construction seven temporary shelters, 19 semi-permanent shelters and upgraded five shelters for IDP families in Mannar DS Division.

TRINCOMALEE DISTRICT

Situation Update

- The situation remains tense.
- The Director for Trincomalee of the Ministry of Resettlement and Disaster Relief announced that the jungle is being cleared to resettle IDPs affected by the establishment of the Muttur East/Sampoor High Security Zone in Ralkuly. The Supreme Court dismissed the fundamental rights petition against the establishment of a High Security Zone in Muttur East/Sampoor.

Internally Displaced Persons

- The total number of returns to Eachchilampattai as of 17 July is 1,151 families (3,948 individuals). The next return movement scheduled for 19 July was postponed. Return movement to Poonagar scheduled for 01 August is being postponed due to transport issues and de-mining in the village is not yet finished.
- Authorities have returned 104 families (266 women) to Ralkuly. More than 100 IDPs from Ralkuly, who stayed behind in Kinniya, mainly consist of those from Navadaly, which has not yet been opened up for return as well as those who stay at the two IDP sites at schools in Kinniya. These sites have been closed since the 12 July returns but some children remain at these sites to continue their schooling activities.

Sector Response

Shelter

- The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) Camp Management Training team in Trincomalee completed a two day assessment in Vavuniya for possible care and maintenance in that area, did follow up training for IDP committees in Paddithidal, and completed the formation of new committees in the Kiliveddy plots.

Food Security

- FAO and ARC co-chaired the agriculture and food security sector coordination meeting this week with a special focus on emergency livelihood and food security interventions in Eachchilampattai. World Vision, Oxfam, CARE, UNDP, and FAO shared plans for upcoming interventions. FAO and ARC, along with INGO partners, will be further coordinating livelihood recovery and food security activities in Eachchilampattai through the creation of a set of intervention guidelines.
- On 05 July, FAO distributed red onion seeds to 100 farmers in Kumpurupiddi, Kuchchaveli DS division.

Education

- Four schools were reopened in Eachchilampattai DS division during reporting period. A total of seven schools have been reopened in the areas of resettlement in Eachchilampattai, and another two schools are

scheduled to be reopened. Education Authorities, UNICEF and Jesuit Refugee Service have provided teaching and learning materials to these schools and its students.

- Preliminary assessments show that the vast majority of grade 8 and lower grade students attend school. However, school attendance is low in grades 8 to 13 as many of them had dropped out 6-24 months ago due to the conflict and moved outside the village. UNICEF's catch up education is ongoing and, is working with partners to explore options to respond to identified gaps in the assessments.
- On 12 July, SCiSL handed over a laminating machine to Muttur Zonal Education Office to prepare identity cards for students. SCiSL will also bear the printing cost of examination papers for the displaced students.
- On 12 July, UNICEF handed over a pick-up vehicle to the Muttur Education Zone to improve education monitoring activities.
- On 13 July, UNICEF provided kerosene lighting and plastic furniture to ensure that IDP children in Kiliveddy and Paddithidal have a safe, lighted area conducive to night study. Over 130 children are currently attending night study centres to catch up for lost education.
- UNICEF, along with other agencies working in the education sector, completed a series of awareness meetings on the importance of education, at the Transit Sites in Kiliveddy and Paddithidal, this week. Agencies observed that enrolment at school had steadily increased in response to awareness raising programmes that have been conducted.
- On 13 July, SCiSL completed the construction of temporary learning spaces, in the Paddithidal IDP Transit Site for 120 children and in Barathipuram for 90 children.
- Following the recent return to Ralkuly and the subsequent closing of the IDP sites in Alankerny and Echchanthivu, 46 students are residing in and attending Alankerny School because the school in Ralkuly has not reopened. Following a request from the Alankerny school principle ZOA started providing food assistance from 16 July for two months.

Water and Sanitation

- On 17 July, Oxfam reported that the water trucked by Seruvila Pradeshiya Saba (local authority) to Eachchilampattai is contaminated as their water source is the Seruvila channel rather than the Oxfam water treatment plant in Kiliveddy. Oxfam offered to supply water from the treatment plant in Kiliveddy until the Verugal Treatment Plant becomes operational and the National Water Supply and Drainage Board offered to supply water from their treatment plant in Seruvila. The running distance for both options increases by six kilometers. The watsan group and the DPDHS will express their concern to authorities in Seruvila.
- Oxfam was asked to stop using the dumping site in Seruvila by the Seruvila Pradeshiya Saba for the dumping of human waste collected from IDP sites in the area. This site was allocated after several consultations with responsible authorities and agencies. Oxfam gully suckers will once again have to dump waste in Kantalai, which is costlier.
- Oxfam provided material to Muttur DS to construct ten temporary toilets in the Ralkuly area for recent returnees.

NFRI

- On 13 July, UNHCR with the support of other agencies distributed 163 returnee kits in Verugal and Eachchilampattai GN divisions.

BATTICALOA DISTRICT

Situation update

- With the announcement of the capture of Thopigala by the security forces no more shelling has been heard in town. Several checkpoints and continued presence of armed men dressed in civilian clothing in district are reported.

Internally Displaced Persons

- According to Government statistics as of 17 July, the total registered IDP population in the district is 12,966 families (48,627 individuals). This is a reduction from the 13,270 families displaced as of 10 July.
- Return of IDPs to Batticaloa west is complete except for Aythiyamalai North and South in Vavunathivu division where de-mining is not yet finished.
- The Ministry of Resettlement and Disaster Relief Services has produced a draft resettlement plan for the district and is receiving feed back and comments from UN agencies to finalize the plan.

Sector Response

Shelter

- Out of the planned 33 shelters at Kattumurivu in Vaharai division, construction work on 15 shelters is underway by IOM. During the reporting period, construction materials arrived at the Panichankerny site for 440 shelters.
- IOM's Shelter & watsan needs assessment is on-going at Thanthamalai, Kachakody Swamimalai and Pannichayadi Munmari GN divisions in Paddipalai DS division and Naripulthottam & Mahilavedduwan GN divisions in Vavunathivu DS division.
- During the reporting period, IOM decommissioned 72 shelters in Puthukudiyiruppu in Arayampathy division.
- The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) Camp Management Training team conducted meetings in sites towards future consolidation in Arayampathy division, and prepared site training for IDPs and camp managers of Kaluwanchikudy playground.

Food

- Basic food rations are provided by GA/WFP, Koinonia-ASB, Sewa Lanka and NCM Lanka. Despite continuous support by many organizations such as RKM, WUSC, Koinonia-ASB, World Concern, ArchenoVa, Sarvodaya, Help from Germany, SewaLanka and NCM on complementary food, there are gaps in the second half of July as only 50 per cent of the welfare centres and IDPs with host families will benefit from it.
- In the resettled areas, food assistance in the second half of July is as follows:
 1. In Vaharai, BRCS since end June provides three month cash grant scheme, which includes a monthly food component.
 2. In Vellavely, Paddipalai and Vavunathivu two weeks basic rations are provided by GA-WFP

Water and Sanitation

- UNICEF supports watsan activities at 48 camp sites in the district. There are still intensive needs in terms of care and maintenance and running of services such as garbage, gully sucking, bowsering as well as hygiene promotion/kit distribution. Agencies are also active in decommissioning of toilets and tube-wells at abandoned sites.
- There are a number of concerns due to dry season for returnees at their homes and bowsering needs to be re-routed as some sources are currently being over-pumped. Despite water bowsering in Vavunathivu

resettlement area by Pradesha Saba and World Vision, sufficient water is an issue in this division due to the drought. A need for a water purification plant was identified by the National Water Supply and Drainage Board in Vavunathivu.

- ArcheNova has built two tube wells and repaired one at the Kalliyankadu food stores camp in Manmunai North division.
- On 16 July, in Parangiyamadu, eight units of latrine and four pits were decommissioned by Oxfam GB.
- OXFAM GB, ArcheNova and UNICEF bowsered over 550,000 liters of water per day last week at sites in Valachchenai, Chenkalady, Kiran and Manmunai North.

NFRI

- ArcheNova distributed 310 packs of hygiene items to women at four IDP camps in Manmunai North.
- Oxfam GB distributed 1,510 hygiene kits to IDP families in 6 IDP camps in Valachchenai, Chenkalady, Kiran and Arayampathy divisions.

Protection

- On 16 July, SCiSL supported a Child Rights Convention awareness program for 45 children at Manpower I & II welfare centers in Manmunai North division.

Psycho-social

- 155 children participated and expressed their talents through children club activities and meetings which were held in 6 IDP welfare centres in Manmunai North division. These activities are conducted by YMCA and supported by SCiSL.
- On 13 July, to promote “child participation” in the child friendly spaces in the IDP camps, SCiSL organized “trainers of trainee” training programmes for 24 staff of partner organizations to enable them to contribute efficiently at the child friendly spaces.
- On 16 and 17 July, SCiSL conducted awareness sessions on Disaster Risk Reduction at seven IDP camps in Manmunai North division for 703 children

Education

- SCiSL continues to provide supplementary feeding to 1,612 displaced children through partner organizations in 43 early childhood development centers in Paddiruppu, Batticaloa and Kalkudah zones.
- SCiSL is supporting rapid learning classes in the Paddiruppu zone for 2,200 grade 5 students preparing for the scholarship examination and another 450 advanced level students preparing for their A/L examinations.

Health

- Merlin conducted health awareness programmes in 8 schools in 3 education zones on nutrition and food safety, oral health, hand washing and safe drinking water.
- Merlin’s mobile medical teams served 585 direct beneficiaries at 7 camps in Manmunai North division, 2 camps in Vaharai division and 2 camps in Arayampathy division. Merlin’s infection control department donated and installed 2 washer disinfectant machines at the Batticaloa Teaching Hospital.
- UNICEF under its Nutrition Rehabilitation Programme has noted that 74 malnourished children, with medical complications, who were treated at the Batticaloa Teaching Hospital, have all shown weight gain. Under the community level program, 8,571 children under 5 years of age have been screened and 405 children have been identified and registered since 15 March 2007. 192 children have shown sufficient weight gain and have been discharged; 139 children still continue the program.

Livelihood

- 12-15 July, the Agrarian Service Centre arranged a training programme with the support of Oxfam GB/ ESCO in Kiran division for 118 IDPs in host families on different knowledge and skill trainings.
- On 13 July, eight IDP families at the Savukkady IDP camp restarted their livelihood activities after receiving a grant from Oxfam GB for a mobile business.

AMPARA DISTRICT

Situation Update

- The situation remains tense.

Internally Displaced Persons

- As of 17 July, UNHCR reported that 6,290 individuals (1,651 families) were displaced. This is a reduction of 1361 families since May.

Sector Response

Food

- 51 WFP Food-For-Work totaling of 537 MT of mixed food commodities were approved by the National Project Steering Committee for 8,682 participants to rehabilitate and construct roads, toilets, shelters, a well and irrigation channels, as well home garden activities in the district

NFRI

- On 13 July, six IDP families in Addalachchenai and 167 IDP families in Alayadivembu received ICRC hygiene kits. Twenty six families also received standard ICRC baby parcels.

Education

- UNDP selected 20 students and teachers from Vinayagapuram Maha Vidyalaya –Thirukkivil for an exposure visit to Alturas in the western province under a sports for peace project.
- UNICEF donated three pick-up vehicles to ZDE Ampara, Kalmunai and Sammanthurai to engage in education monitoring activities.
- UNICEF constructed a temporary building at the Vinayagapuram relocated school to accommodate extra students.

Shelter

- IOM has identified 25 families from Kalmunai Muslim DS Division to be relocated and to have shelter upgrades.
- UNOPS reassessment of the tsunami camps sites with IOM help is ongoing.
- IOM completed upgrading 79 shelter kitchens for tsunami beneficiaries in Navithanveli DS Division.

Water and Sanitation

- UNICEF recently provided water quality testing equipment to DPDHS Kalmunai and the Water board and will train personnel on testing methods, 23 -25 July.
- IOM conducted two awareness workshops on solid waste management for 47 families in Thirukkivil DS division tsunami transitional shelter sites.
- IOM collected quotations for repairing ten tractors of the Kalmunai municipal council to start work on garbage collection at transitional shelter sites under Kalmunai Municipal council areas.

Livelihood

- UNDP distributed 50 high breed cattle among farmers in Navithanveli DS Division and stocked the Sagamam, Irakkamam and Rottai tanks with around 50,000 fingerlings to build capacity of inland fishermen.

JAFFNA DISTRICT (1 - 15 July 2007)

Situation update

- Shelling continues in the uncleared areas and in locations close to the FDL.
- The UN team in Jaffna is compiling a list of pending priority project supplies to be considered for allocation of space on government vessels for transport. UNHAS has also delivered 3,915 kg of cargo.

Internally Displaced Persons

- IDPs from Allaipiddy are not able to return to their original locations unless de-mining is completed and mine action clearance is issued. Permission for de-mining operations is pending for Kayts.
- The recent relocation of 8 IDP families from OLR Church to Navanthurai had taken place without notable concerns, though additional support in locations with watsan and shelter is required.
- Currently there are 29 IDP families from Allaipiddy living at OLR Church and out of the mentioned families, 10 families have given their consent to be relocated in Jaffna division by the local authorities while 2 families with 12 members and one family with 8 members are willing to move to Mallakam and Mathakal respectively.

Sector Response

Shelter

- During reporting period UNHCR facilitated the shipment of shelter materials from Colombo to Jaffna through Government vessel.
- UNHCR/JSAC has started upgrading/repair works on 51 existing shelters and construction of 07 new shelters for the IDP families living there in temporary cadjan huts at four old welfare centres in Tellipalay Division.
- UNHCR/JSAC has completed assessment for all the old welfare centres in Sandillipay/Chankanai Divisions and started supplying material to start the upgrading/repair works.
- UNHCR/JSAC is continuing the upgrading works of 25 existing shelters for the IDP families living in temporary cadjan huts at Neethanvan old WC in Chankanai and Kattudai II WC in Sandillipay Division.
- UNHCR/JSAC has completed assessment field missions for all the old welfare centres in Uduvil Division and is in the process of supplying material for the upgrading works.

NFRI

- UNHCR distributed on 5 July NFRIs to 81 IDP families living at Krishnan Koviladdy welfare centre in Kopay Division.
- UNHCR on 12 July distributed NFRIs to 82 IDP families at Pulavar WC in Sandillipay Division.

Water and Sanitation

- UNICEF in partnership with UNOPS continues to assist the Government in meeting the minimum water and sanitation requirements of 324 families (1,248 persons) in 13 temporary accommodation centers (TAC), host communities and primary schools.
- UNICEF distributed hygiene items (bathing soaps, laundry soaps, shampoo, jerry cans, buckets, baby soap, baby shampoo, baby powder) to 180 families living in 7 TACs in Jaffna. The UNICEF assisted market

survey is being done by the Jaffna University to assess the difficult situation for contractors operating in Jaffna peninsula with regard to availability of materials, accessibility and transport.

Protection

- UNHCR continues to monitor IDPs living at TACs. 13 TACs still remain functional – five in Karaveddy, five in Chavakachcheri, and three in Jaffna. UNHCR protection monitoring implementing partner DRC has been compiling the data of the initial assessment – respectively of WCs (Welfare Center) and TACs, and is in the process of presenting the findings. UNHCR would also assist in mapping relevant protection data, such as challenges to return and certain human rights violations.

Health

- UNICEF's Nutrition Rehabilitation Programme is ongoing with 228 severely wasted children and 10,750 moderately underweight children been registered in the programme. The screening process for the monthly growth monitoring done by MOH health workers in 7 DSs is ongoing.
- 124 boxes of High Energy Biscuits (992 kg) were airlifted to ensure continuity of the special food supplementation to 10,750 moderately underweight children.
- IOM donated a medical scanner to DPDHS for use in Chavachcheri hospital.

Food and Food Security

- Food distribution is on going at MPCs distribution points to 120,000 vulnerable individuals including IDPs, following the delivery of 451 MTs of rice, dhal and Sugar. WFP received from Colombo 816 MT of mixed commodities.
- The School feeding programme restarted after the delivery to schools of rice, dhal, sugar and oil, totaling 282MT.
- FAO airlifted and handed over the vaccines Raniket (1st & 2nd dose) and Hipravias (Fowl pox vaccines) to the Department of Animal Production and Health Jaffna, to support poultry in the district. Vaccination is ongoing.
- Veterinary Supplements (drugs, mineral mixtures and vaccines) granted by FAO to support 10,000 animals are presently being distributed by the Department of Animal Production & Health, which will assist up to 3,808 farm animals in 10 DS Divisions in Jaffna.

Education

- White Pigeon field trainers have conducted two training programmes and trained 60 youth on some life competencies such as interpersonal relationship, self awareness, decision making, problem solving, coping with emotion, coping with stress and prevention of HIV/AIDS and drugs abuse. Two community organizations, for youth were provided with sports items. Each of them received one cricket set, one badminton set and one volley ball and net.
- 2,314 stationery items were shipped to Jaffna and received at government store in Kondavil and is stored at the WFP warehouse in Kopay.
- IOM handed over children park materials, furniture, pre-school and a toilet to children of returnees from India at the Kalai Oli community Siruppiddy through the Divisional Secretary Kopay.
- IOM is constructing a water tank at Earlalai Pre-school.
- UNICEF continues to support JSAC, a local NGO partner, in conducting Child Friendly Spaces in five places of origin and in four children homes for over 650 children.