

SITUATION REPORT # 84

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

19-26 July 2007

KILINOHCHI & MULLAITIVU DISTRICTS

Situation update

- On 19 July, the Puliyaikulam Forward Defence Line (FDL) EXIT/ENTRY point came was shelled.
- Shelling continues in areas south of Kilinochchi district, Vadamarachchi East, Poonakary and Madhu division of Mannar district.

Internally Displaced Persons

- The Additional GA-Mullaitivu reported at the District IDP review meeting on 24 July that there were IDP movements from areas closer to FDLs of Mannar and Puliyaikulam to Manthai East and Thunukkai AGA divisions in Mullaitivu. Respective AGAs are in the process recording these displacement figures.

Sector Response

Shelter

- UNOPS as the implementing partner of UNHCR for temporary shelter, distributed material for 25 temporary shelters to IDPs displaced to Poonakary division- Kilinochchi.
- Solidar completed 41 temporary shelters out of the planned 52 shelters for IDPs living in Karachchi and Kandawalai AGA divisions in Kilinochchi District.
- As of 24 July, Oxfam had completed 250 temporary shelters out of a committed 295 in several IDP locations in Mullaitivu district.
- FORUT put up 20 frames of temporary shelters out of a committed 150 in Mullaitivu.

Health

- Solidar with the Zonal Directors Education and the two Deputy Provincial Director of Health Services (DPDHS) conducted awareness programmes on hygiene in six schools for 1,150 students.

Water and Sanitation

- Oxfam through its implementing partners is currently constructing 20 wells and 44 temporary latrines for IDPs settled in different locations in Mullaitivu district.

NFRI

- On 20 July, UNICEF issued NFRI kits to 181 IDPs families living in Manthai East Division in Mullaitivu district.

Protection

- The de-miners, Norwegian People Aid (NPA), has been provided a list of 154 locations in Poonakary and Karachchi AGA divisions where UNOPS is implementing a UNHCR temporary shelter programme for IDPs, to determine the actual mine or UXO threat in these locations.
- Fifteen staff from FORUT were briefed on the current Mine/UXO situation in the Vanni region by NPA teams.
- One manual team from NPA is conducting Battle Area Clearance activities closer to an IDP camp located at Korakkankaddu and Paranthan in Kilinochchi district, where 25 IDP families have been settled without pre-assessment soon after the displacement.

- On 19 and 20 July, Danish Refugee Council (DRC) conducted a workshop on human rights for 40 staff and Grama Niladaries in Kandawalai and Vadamarachchi East AGA divisions.

Food

- On 20 and 23 July, WFP transported 60 MT of wheat flour and 20 MT of sugar from Vavuniya for ongoing IDP dry ration distributions in Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu districts.

Livelihood

- FAO, through its implementing partner FORUT distributed training booklets on backyard poultry to 150 IDPs settled in Mullaitivu last week.

VAVUNIYA AND MANNAR DISTRICTS

Situation update

- The situation remains tense in both districts.

Internally Displaced Districts

- The GA office reported that there are 2,675 families (9,790 individuals) displaced in Mannar district and 2,517 families (8,682 individuals) displaced in Vavuniya district as of 19 July 2007. There is a low scale displacement of persons from the uncleared areas of Manthai west DS division to the cleared areas in Mannar town division.

Sector response

NFRI

- On 20 July, Save the Children in Sri Lanka (SCiSL) distributed two sets of cloth material to 219 displaced children living in Maharampaikulam and Thonikkal and 50 NFRI packages to displaced families in Katharsinnakkulam and Thonikkal in Vavuniya district under its ECHO funded (European Commission Humanitarian Aid) emergency response program.

Water and Sanitation

- ZOA completed the construction of 13 toilets for IDP families in Mannar town DS division.

Education

- ZOA Mannar signed an agreement with the Zonal Education office for a project which aims to further prepare 1,245 students to sit for the English Language paper at the G.C.E (O/L) examination in 2007 with the help of 42 teachers as only a limited number of English teachers are available in the predominantly Tamil speaking areas of the northeast.
- On 19 and 20 July, SCiSL distributed educational kits to 240 displaced children at the Periyamadu IDP location in Manthai West and educational kits to 95 displaced children in Katharsinnakkulam, Thonikkal in Vavuniya district under its ECHO funded emergency response program.
- ZOA and its partner organization LEADS commenced a non-formal education programme at three locations in Mannar and Nanattan DS division and completed two activity garden sessions (pre-school activity) in Pandaraveli, Madkkarai Mannar district.

Protection

- UNHCR has identified a very low scale return trend of Sri Lankan refugees from India to Mannar and elsewhere in Sri Lanka and continue to monitor the situation with IOM and others protection actors.
- A total of 97 school children and 18 youth benefited this week from ZOA and its partner FAMILIAN's psychosocial program in the Madhukarai, Shanthipuram and Errukalampity areas.
- UNHCR is finalizing an assessment of IDP villages in Vavuniya, which aims to identify and address the needs of long term IDPs.

Food

- WFP transported 5.79 MT of rice, 29.52 MT of wheat flour, 1.88 MT of sugar to Mannar district and 15.14 MT of rice, 2.69 MT of wheat flour, 3.2 MT of dhal and 3.25 MT of sugar to Vavuniya district during the reporting period for the IDP dry ration distributions.

Health

- World Vision completed 19 Mobile Medical Clinics and 20 Health Awareness (Education) programs in Chedikkulam, with the support of the MOH Chedikkulam, in 19 villages and one school for 3,246 individuals.
- On 18 and 19 July, ZOA organized a two-day basic health programme on women's health in Pesalai and Chementheevu in Mannar district for 89 persons while its partner MARDAP screened 30 disabled persons.
- Oxfam is waiting for Ministry of Defense clearance to transport 500 hygiene kits for distribution to IDPs in Vavuniya North.

Livelihood

- On 26 July, Oxfam donated a three wheeler to the Vavuniya Cattle Breeder's Cooperative Society milk collection center to collect more milk.

Shelter

- ZOA completed the construction of three temporary shelters, ten semi-permanent shelters and upgraded three shelters for displaced families in Mannar DS Division.
- ZOA and its partner renovated a 7.5 kilometer access road in Madhukarai in Nanattan DS division using gravel.

Capacity building

- On 19 July, CARE International in coordination with the District Disaster Management Unit (DDMU) completed a Village Emergency Preparedness Plan (VEPP) in the Thottaveli, Sinnakaraisal, Poovarasankulam, Arthikully, Mottakaddai, Achankulam and Uppukulam villages in Mannar district. Currently early warning system, search & rescue and evacuation, shelter and relief management, health and first aid, water and sanitation and carcass disposal and patrolling/vigilance sub-committee are been formed to address the needs of IDPs specifically for the effective and efficient implementation of VEPP.
- On 21 July, UNHCR and UNDSS conducted an awareness raising session on the United Nation's mandate, global and Sri Lanka specific activities for the police in Mannar.

TRINCOMALEE DISTRICT

Situation Report

- The situation remains tense.
- The Hartal called by the Tamil National Alliance to protest against the Government's decision to create a Special High Security Zone in Muttur East/ Sampoor was observed by Tamil private businesses on 25 July.
- Authorities claim that SLF and TMVP recovered a 5kg bomb close to a children's playground in Trincomalee town on 18 July.

Internally Displaced Persons

- A return movement on 23 July brought back 158 families from Batticaloa to Eachchilampattai DS Division, Trincomalee. A further 54 families were reported to have returned from the Kiliveddy transit sites to Eachchilampattai.

Sector Response

Shelter

- ZOA commenced the construction of 50 semi-permanent shelters in the Poonagar village in Eachchilampattai DS Division and erected the roofs of an additional 30 shelters. No returnees have yet arrived in Poonagar where mine clearance work is ongoing. Twenty families who previously resided in Poonagar and now at the Kiliveddy

Temporary Shelter Sites have informed ZOA of their previous home locations in preparation for their return from the Kiliveddy site.

- ZOA can not go ahead with the implementation of 74 semi-permanent shelters in Verugal GN Division due to 50 meter security buffer zone either side of the road, which includes the area where these families previously resided in tsunami temporary shelters. A new location needs to be identified. The returnees have expressed a preference to be moved to the nearby Sooranagar village.
- A number of agencies wish to assist returnee groups with a full package of shelter, watsan and livelihood recovery support. It is imperative that all these agencies report and coordinate with relevant sector groups in order to avoid overlapping and gaps.
- IOM is conducting an assessment in Valaithottam Village, Anaitheevu GN Division Eachchilampattai in order to construct 38 new shelters and repair 68 partially damaged shelters for recent returnees.
- UNHCR requests agencies with a commitment to work on partially damaged shelter in Eachchilampattai to attend a special working group 30 July in order allocate “who does what where” in the division. The division of shelter repair according to degree of damage using a standardized 1-5 categorization system, rather than a geographical allocation will also be discussed.
- IOM completed the construction of 14 transitional shelters to beneficiaries in Naduthivu and made the handover on 19 July the DS Muttur.
- IOM completed the repair of 53 partially damaged shelters in Neithal Nagar, Thaqwa Nagar and Naduthivu in Muttur DS Division.
- IOM completed the construction of four Long Shelters for IDPs at the Hindu Cultural Hall in Town and Gravets. Work continues on one more such shelter.
- IOM conducted an assessment of the Kiliveddy Temporary Transit Sites to identify care and maintenance needs.

Health

- The ICRC is supporting the returnees to Eachchilampattai with one hygiene kit for each returnee family in addition to a tarpaulin and jerry cans.

Food

- On 20 July, the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) distributed supplementary food commodities to 750 IDP families in the Kiliveddy and Paddithidal Transit Sites.

Livelihood

- FAO with the Department of Agriculture distributed 70 vegetable and agriculture tool kits to 70 resettled families in Mavadichchenai and Eachchilampattai on 23 July.

Education

- Out of the seven schools operational in Eachchilampattai schools, two schools function within other school premises as one school’s building is heavily damaged and children have concerns attending the school in their own village. The shortage of teaching staff has improved and albeit gaps exist, and UNICEF continues to distribute additional school supplies.
- An assessment conducted amongst children in the Kiliveddy School shows that out of the 706 displaced children, 30 per cent are one or more years overage for their current classes. The survey also shows that only 32 per cent attend school 80-100 per cent of the time. A meeting with all stakeholders for child related activities in Kiliveddy Transit Sites took place on 19 July, and concerns were raised by the principle, volunteers and others regarding the volume and appropriateness of programs being offered. A survey is being done amongst parents and children to evaluate ongoing programs. UNICEF, supported by JRS, AHEM and Sarvodaya is taking lead in compiling the information, and outcomes and necessary action will be discussed with all partners.
- Second term exams for all schools in Trincomalee District were due to start on 26 July, but were postponed due to a Hartal.
- The Zonal Education Office in Muttur is working towards reopening the Ralkuly School for the third term starting 04 September. ZOA is supporting the 46 children attached to this school in Kinniya, who have mainly remained with host families.

- Learning kits comprising of exercise books, pens, pencils and colour pencils were distributed this week by SCiSL to 15 displaced children who recently enrolled in two schools in Trincomalee town.

Water and Sanitation

- UNICEF supported two schools in Eachchilampattai with five water filters and provided ZOA with two calcium hypochlorite drums for the distribution of water in Eachchilampattai.
- The Pradesha Saba of Verugal and ICRC are proceeding with well cleaning activities in Eachchilampattai at an average rate of 6 and 8 wells cleaned daily, respectively. The Pradesha Saba of Verugal is also distributing on average 10,000 liters a day in the Division.
- The GA reports a need of around 400 toilets to be constructed for returnees to Eachchilampattai. Agencies will meet at UNICEF on 31 July to share responsibilities and areas. An estimated 80 per cent of homes were without individual toilets in the DS Division before even before the conflict.
- IOM has constructed 50 permanent toilets for the tsunami-affected in Jamaliya, Salli and Kinniya.

NFRI

- This week, SCiSL handed over 168 resettlement kits, 180 sarongs, 180 saris and 90 pre-teen shirts to returnees from Kiliveddy to the Thanganagar village.

Protection

- Twenty six camp facilitators from Paddithidal camp participated in the second phase of a Training of Trainers program conducted by SCiSL on the convention of the rights of the child and community mobilization.
- A Disaster Risk Reduction mitigation event was held by SCiSL at the Paddithidal camp for 125 children on mitigating malaria threats.

BATTICALOA DISTRICT

Situation update

- In Batticaloa, there is a continued presence of armed civilians in IDP camps, return areas of Batticaloa West as well as close to certain political party offices in the District. This causes security concerns among the civilian population as well as the humanitarian community.

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).
- Apart from World Vision which had regular access to the West part of the district for a few weeks now, the three NGOs- SCiSL, Caritas EHED and Terre des Hommes (TdH) were allowed access this week. Hence more assistance has reached returnees.

Sector Response

Shelter

- Twelve shelters in Aalankulam in Vaharai division are under construction by IOM.
- IOM's Shelter & Wat/San Need Assessment of Thanthamalai GN division is complete while assessments of the three GN divisions in Paddipalai DS division are ongoing. Eighty per cent of the needs assessment of the Naripulthottam and Mahilavedduwan GN divisions in Vavunathivu DS division is complete.
- IOM decommissioned 16 shelters at the Saththurukondan IDP site in Manmunai North division.

Food

- A total of 165.398 MT of GA/WFP dry rations were distributed to 26,845 IDPs in camps and with host families in six divisions.

Resettled area	Dry rations (cereals, sugar, oil) for two weeks in MT	No. of persons
Paddipalai	133.114	21,609

Vellavelly	88,333	14,340
Vavunathivu	76,36	12,396

Water and Sanitation

- Oxfam GB signed an agreement with the Zonal education department to construct toilets and tube wells in the Schools in Chenkalady and Kiran divisions where students residing in IDP camps are schooling.
- There are currently 49 camps with 30,000 IDPs where watsan activities continue to be coordinated by UNICEF.
- UNICEF with the Water Board and Pradeshiya Saba assessed the water situation of three villages in Vavunathivu. UNICEF provided clean up kits and wheelbarrows to the Pradeshiya Saba Vavunathivu. On 20 July, Oxfam GB distributed 26 latrine cleaning kits at Valachchenai, Kiran and Arayampathy.
- During reporting period, OXFAM GB and ArcheNova/ UNICEF distributed over 500,000 liters of water per day to sites in Valachchenai, Chenkalady, Kiran and Manmunai North.

NFRIs

- On 20-24 July, Oxfam GB distributed 71 hygiene kits, 61 jerry cans, 30 soaps and 71 food covers in the Kovilkulan IDP camp in Arayampathy division and 300 hygiene kits for families staying with host families in Shanthively in Chenkalady division.

Psycho-social

- During the week, Merlin provided gender awareness training to 52 Grama Niladaries (GNs), Samurdhi officers and community health volunteers at the Arayampathy DS office.

Education

- Displaced children reported to NGOs and UNICEF unable to register for the government A/L and O/L examinations as they do not possess the state issued national identity cards. Follow up with the Ministry Of Education and Batticaloa ZDEs is ongoing.

Health

- During the week, Oxfam GB conducted 21 health education sessions on community on garbage disposal, use of water, vector control, latrine use and the upkeep of a cleanly environment while seven weekly camp cleaning events also took place.
- Oxfam GB finalized a volunteers' manual with the collaboration of DPDHS (health department) and UNICEF and was circulated among NGOs, MOHs, DPDHS and other stakeholders this week. The manual will help in future hygiene promotion activities in the field.
- Merlin donated 330 meters of poplin cloth used to wrap new born babies and green cloth for packing child delivery sets for autoclaving to the Kaluwanchikudy Base Hospital, Periya Kallar, Kathankudy and Arayampathy district hospitals.
- On 24 July, Oxfam GB distributed two camp cleaning kits and six garbage bins at the Kovilkulan camp in Arayampathy division.

Livelihood

- FAO provided 400 families in Vellavelly division (4 villages) with vegetable seeds fertilizer and tools and distributed backyard poultry inputs (10 one month old chicks and starter mash pack per beneficiary) to 350 vulnerable IDP host families Kiran division.
- FAO provided poultry vaccines to the Department of Animal Production and Health in the district.
- From 20- 24 July, Oxfam GB's 7th round of skill training on agriculture was completed by the Agrarian Service in Kiran division where 68 members from displaced and host families participated.
- Agriculture skill trainings for 200 farmers in Savukkady and Iyankerny IDP camps in Chenkalady division with the coordination of department of Agrarian Development, Department of Agriculture and Agriculture Insurance Board have been started by Oxfam GB from 20 July.

- On 18 July, OXFAM GB started a training on ornament making with coconut shells at the Savukkady IDP camp in Chenkalady division for 30 beneficiaries for 20 days.

AMPARA DISTRICT

Situation Update

- The situation remains tense.

Internally Displaced Persons

- UNHCR reports that there are no changes to 6,290 individuals (1,651 families) reported as displaced last week.

Sector Response

NFRI

- UNHCR distributed 292 UNICEF hygiene kits to conflict IDPs in Kalmunai Tamil, Navithanveli, Sammanthurai, Akkaraipattu, and Pottuvil.

Education

- UNICEF gave the Sammanthurai ZDE office 325 school education packs to be distributed to displaced and vulnerable students.

Protection

- UNICEF conducted an awareness program on Mine Risk Education at the Hulannuge Vidyalaya School on 25 July for school children, teachers and Sarvodaya volunteers.

Health

- Merlin facilitated health related speeches, songs, oral awareness sessions, dramas and demonstrations on health and hygiene topics in 22 schools for over 5,257 students, teachers and parents as part of their School Health Promotion Program in seventy one schools in Ampara.
- Merlin in conjunction with the Deputy Provincial Director of Health Services (DPDHS) Kalmunai Mobile Dental Bus conducted an oral health awareness campaign in one school for 537 students, teachers and parents.
- Merlin provided training on nutritional home gardening for 25 teachers and students of nine schools in Navithanveli.
- Merlin with the MOH conducted a TB awareness program in Sammanthurai for 134 students and teachers.

Livelihood

- The Bakmitiyawa and Pannalgama villages are been considered for FAO livelihood assistance, where many families are affected by night displacement and have no access to their paddy field.

Food Security

- FAO with the Department of Agriculture distributed four-wheel paddy threshers to four vulnerable farmer societies in the Kalmunai, Palamunai, Nintavur, Alayadivembu divisions.
- FAO completed a field level nutrition training for 151 lactating and pregnant mothers in the Pandiruppu, Vinayapuram, Kudakalli, Sinnaullai and Panama villages.