



THE
LUTHERAN
WORLD
FEDERATION

actalliance

Kenya – Djibouti



October 23 – 2014

Program Update

The bigger picture

South Sudan

The latest numbers available from South Sudan indicate that **1.4 million** people are displaced within South Sudan (IDPs) (OCHA estimates), **463,000** are displaced outside of South Sudan (OCHA estimates), **100,300** are seeking shelter with the UN (UNMISS estimates) and **1.5 million** people are projected to remain in “emergency” or “crisis” level of food insecurity through December 2014 (IPC, September 2014).

An *Implementation Matrix of the Cessation of Hostilities (CoH)* agreement was signed on 25th August 2014 by the Government and the SPLM/A (in opposition). The matrix aims to operationalize the cessation of hostilities agreement that was agreed 23rd of January 2014. The August agreement was violated almost immediately, but the parties agreed to meet in Arusha in October to renew their commitment to the peace process. Some analysts mean that there is a “flicker of hope” as the talks in Arusha began with an acceptance of responsibility. The parties did accept that they are jointly responsible for the war that has devastated the country over the past 10 months.

Another reason for some optimism is the international pressure on the South Sudanese to settle their differences peacefully. Tanzanian, South African, Ethiopia, USA and UK have all given their backing to the process, and Finland’s former president, Martti Ahtisaari, has been trying to bring the parties together.

There is of course no guarantee that the Arusha initiative will not collapse. The distrust and anger between people in South Sudan is deep and goes back many years in history. The situation remains volatile and unpredictable. With the huge numbers of displaced people, and the predicted gap in food during the coming months, further movement of people from South Sudan to neighbouring countries remain likely.

Somalia

In September 2014, there were 967,038 Somali refugees in the region hosted mainly in Kenya, Ethiopia, Yemen, Eritrea, Djibouti and Uganda.

A reported 347 Somalis were deported by air to Mogadishu from Saudi Arabia during September. An estimated 7,300 new IDPs were recorded in August and September as a result of the AMISOM and Somali National Armed Forces offensive in South Central Somalia, particularly in Middle Juba and Lower Shabelle. Displacement resulting from insecurity particularly clan-fighting in Lower Shabelle was also recorded.

The expected drought and food shortage is estimated to put up to 1,000,000 people at risk of starvation in south and central Somalia early 2015.

The wider region

During September 12,768 migrants/refugees crossed over to Yemen via the Red Sea (Djibouti) and the Arabian Sea (Somaliland/Puntland). This is a 21% increase compared to August. It is also double the number of migrants/refugees compared to the number that arrived in September 2013. During 2014 (January – September) more than 61,000 migrants have arrived in Yemen, making the average monthly arrivals being the highest since 2006.

Kenya is now host to just above 580,000 refugees and asylum seekers. Officially 50,000 of them are in Nairobi. The largest number of refugees and asylum seekers remain Somali nationals (429,000), followed by South Sudanese (87,000), and Ethiopians (30,000).

It is estimated that tens of thousands of undocumented migrants continue to reside in Kenya, predominantly in urban areas.

New refugee law in Kenya

According to some reports a new law will soon be enacted to replace the older *Refugees Act* of 2006. The Government of Kenya says that Kenya is also putting in place a national asylum policy which will provide input to the proposed refugee law. The aim is said to be to have the new asylum policy in place by the end of 2014.

The new law will include a provision to allow refugees to live in urban areas, it is said. However, they need to have “special reasons” for this such as attending school or for health reasons. Under the proposed new law, persons seeking asylum will be required to report this to an immigration officer within 14 days of entering Kenya. The current law has set a period of 30 days.

The LWF World Service Operational Areas

Dadaab

The UNHCR/WFP JAM (Joint Assessment Mission) for the Kenya Refugee Operation took place in Dadaab (23 - 27 June 2014). Some of the main recommendations relevant to LWF programming include

- To evaluate the impact of the School Meals Program (SMP) to establish how important it is for the Education
- To replace the Take Home Ration Component (THR) for girls with another complementary service (targeting girls) to see what the best ways to encourage girls' education is.
- Rehabilitate the dilapidated kitchens in specific schools and ensure the establishment of new schools is accompanied with the construction of kitchen facilities to guarantee the commencement of school meals program with the opening of new schools. This is something the LWF is already doing as several of you know.

Preparations for spontaneous voluntary return to Somalia are ongoing. On the 10th of October, a Cross Border Voluntary Return Coordination Meeting took place in Dhobley, Somalia. UNHCR Kenya met with representatives of the Kenya and Somali governments, and UNHCR Somalia office, AMISOM liaison officers as well as UN agencies and NGOs based in Somalia and the border region.

Five UNHCR Repatriation Assistants participated in a two-day training session on Mine Risk Education (MRE) held in Dadaab on 9th and 10th October. The session was organized by NRC and delivered by the Danish Demining Group (DDG) who is also undertaking MRE in Somalia. The training included participants from DRA engaged at the Return Help Desks across the camps.

During the first two weeks of October, 21 individuals departed Dadaab for onward resettlement to the USA and Sweden.

In the LWF managed schools in Hagadera and Kambioos 19,565 students took part in learning, 7,569 of them being girls. In total in Kenya and Djibouti LWF now have about 85,000 learners in schools managed by us.

Water tanks for Duksi's (preschools) is being installed by LWF this month, and an assessment has been carried out for Undugu primary, Upendo primary, Ifiti primary and Hagadera secondary school to establish how many classrooms that need urgent renovations. LWF is in discussion with UNHCR to undertake these renovations later this year or in 2015.

The LWF managed Community Peace and Protection Teams (CPPTs) continue to address common cases of insecurity, protection and criminal activities. Depending on the nature of the case, the CPPTs may intervene to solve it or refer it to community members, agencies, UNHCR or the Kenyan police.

358,101 refugees are now officially living in Dadaab. 108,324 in Hagadera refugee camp and 20,545 in Kambioos, the two camps where LWF is doing most of our work.

Djibouti

Sensitization on cash vouchers has been done by the WFP with the support of LWF. The plan is to move into voucher systems rather than previous and more traditional types of food distribution.

The main activity for all agencies in the Djibouti refugee camps now is the ongoing planning for a verification exercise. The exercise is scheduled to take place in Ali Addeh, and refugees in Holl Holl will be facilitated to come to Ali Addeh between November and December. Refugees in Djiboutiville will be verified in January 2015.

After the verification we will know the exact number of refugees in Djibouti, and also have improved profiling. What exactly will be registered is still being reviewed, but better age and gender data will definitely be available after the verification.

Otherwise the LWF team is busy finalizing ongoing activities in all sectors.

We are planning for several assessments parallel to the UNHCR verification, to assess the needs and gaps in psychosocial supports and child protection especially. Together with the verification this will enable us to fine tune implementation in 2015.

Kakuma

This week there's been severe flooding in the Kakuma refugee camp after heavy rains in the area. The seasonal *Tarach River* that cuts right through the camp burst its banks and the water swept away several houses, while many other were flooded. An initial assessment concludes that 552 houses were either swept away completely or severely damaged. Nine people are confirmed dead, and some more are still missing (eight host community members and one refugee confirmed dead).

Later a total of 278 households consisting of 1,188 individuals were registered as being the worst affected by the floods and in need of immediate support (non food items as well as food). These people will need to stay in a temporary shelter for some time until new shelters can be available so they can go back to the camp again. One school (Kakuma Secondary) was adversely affected with eight classrooms damaged, two of them badly.

Two sections of the main water pipelines crossing the river bed were swept away. One serves Kakuma IV (the new area with new arrivals from South Sudan) and one serving two boarding schools. We are therefore again supplying water via trucks (expensive but currently there is no alternative) and will as soon as possible replace the pipes, and in some parts re-route the pipeline.

The UNHCR/WFP JAM (Joint Assessment Mission) for the Kenya Refugee Operation took place in Dadaab (30 June - 01 July 2014). Some of the main recommendations relevant to LWF programming include

- To evaluate the impact of the School Meals Program (SMP) to establish how important it is for the Education
- To replace the Take Home Ration Component (THR) for girls with another complementary service (targeting girls) to see what the best ways to encourage girl's education is.
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UNHCR's "most likely" scenario projects that 100,000 new refugees from South Sudan will arrive in Kakuma during 2014. This would mean that the influx from South Sudan during the last two months of 2014 will increase significantly, back to the levels near to 1,000 new arrivals per day. LWF also estimate that the influx will increase, but probably later in the year and into January and February 2015. A likely scenario is that people begin to leave South Sudan in large numbers towards mid December, based on food insecurity, dry season making movement easier, continued violence and – simply – based on experience from working in Kakuma for 22 years we have seen the patterns of when people are more likely to move.

As Kakuma refugee camp has reached its capacity (and well beyond), the UNHCR and the Government of Kenya continue negotiations with local authorities for a new camp in Turkana County. Given the resource constraints facing the refugee operation, WFP is already warning that there "*... will be a significant pipeline break in December...*". this means WFP is already now saying that they won't be able to get enough food through to Kakuma in December to feed all refugees. WFP continues by stating that "*...this may worsen the already critical nutrition situation among children*".

175,678 is the latest available total population figure for Kakuma, out of which 101,712 are children.

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