

Sri Lanka: Sri Lanka: Vanni Emergency OCHA Situation Report No. 17

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This report covers the period from 22 to 25 May 2009. The next report will be issued on or around 27 May.

I. Highlights

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- The UN Human Rights Council will hold a special session on 26 May to discuss the human rights situation in Sri Lanka.

II. Access & Security

- In Vavuniya, access to Menik Farm remains restricted for humanitarian agencies. Limited movements continue in zone 4 to support the erection of tents, ongoing sanitation work and food distribution.
- In Vavuniya on 23 May, the Competent Authority (CA) put in place procedures for UN and I/NGO national staff entering the Menik Farm IDP site. Temporary ID cards will be issued for national staff entering the camp and they will be required to leave these cards at the gate and retrieve them when exiting the camp. International staff can enter the camp by showing their official IDs and will not have to leave them at the entrance.

III. Situation Overview

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III. Situation Overview

IDPs		
During the period 27 October 2008 to 22 May 2009		286,721 persons crossed to the Government controlled areas from the conflict zone. This represents an increase of 14,940 IDPs since the last report (Sitrep No.16) on 21 May 2009. The increase is mainly due to improved, systematic registration being undertaken in the camps.
Vavuniya Camps:	266,536 ¹	284,404 people are accommodated in temporary camps.
Mannar Camps:	140 ²	
Jaffna Camps:	11,086 ³	
Trincomalee Camps:	6,642	
Hospitals:		2,317 ⁴ IDPs (injured and care givers) are in hospitals in various districts ⁵ as of 18 May 2009.
RELEASES		
Vavuniya Camps:	1,489	1,537 people have been released from temporary camps into host families and elders' homes as of 21 May 2009. The majority of these people are elderly, mentally challenged individuals and other vulnerable groups.
Mannar Camps:	5	
Jaffna Camps:	43	

¹ Source: Government, UNHCR (Vavuniya) and Divisional Secretary Vavuniya (DS VA)

² Source: Assistant Project Director Office (PDA Office Kachcheri)

³ Source: GA office (Jaffna)

⁴ Source: Programme Coordinator (GH Trincomalee)

⁵ This includes General Hospital Trincomalee, Base Hospital Kanthalai, Peripheral Unit Thampalakamam, Field Hospital Pulmoddai, Base Hospital Padaviya, National Hospital Colombo, Teaching Hospital Kandy, Cancer Hospital Maharagama, General Hospital Polonnaruwa, and General Hospital Mannar. Missing data for the hospitals of Vavuniya and some other locations is estimated at 1,500 people.

IV. Humanitarian Response

Food

- In Vavuniya, WFP distributed 1,618.097MT of basic food items in the district during the period 1 to 21 May 2009.
- In Vavuniya, agencies providing support for cooking meals in IDP sites in the district agreed last week to extend their services till 31 May. Caritas Valvuthoyam has resources to continue community feeding until 15 June.

Shelter

- In Vavuniya, as of 24 May, 2,248 tents were erected in Menik Farm zone 4.
- In Jaffna, IOM completed 102 emergency shelters at the Kodikamam Ramavil site B and C. The site will have the capacity to accommodate a total of 600 emergency shelters once clearing and leveling is completed. Several agencies, including Sewa Lanka, JASC, Lanka Evangelical Alliance Development Service (LEADS) and ZOA Refugee Care will provide materials for construction.

WASH

- In Vavuniya the WASH cluster has identified a need to make special provisions for latrines for vulnerable people in Menik Farm zone 3. Six hundred vulnerable people have been identified in the zone.
- In Vavuniya, on 21 May OXFAM committed to constructing 200 emergency latrines in Menik Farm zone 4. Solidar, IOM, UNOPS and CARE are already providing WASH facilities in this zone.
- In Vavuniya, as of 21 May, 60 trench latrines, 76 emergency latrines and 11 bathing spaces were erected in Menik Farm zone 4. 103 water tanks with a capacity of 1,000 liters each have also been placed there.
- In zones 1 and 2 of Menik Farm, 260 volunteers have been selected from within the IDP community to work as hygiene promoters and hygiene promotion activities have started.
- In Vavuniya, the National Water Supply and Drainage Board (NWS&DB) announced that the 'Malvathu Oya' water supply project will be operational from 29 May. The project will provide water to Menik Farm zone 1, 2 & 3.
- In Vavuniya, the provision of sanitation facilities in Menik Farm zone 4 has been extended by several actors. Oxfam will provide 300 additional emergency latrines while UNOPS and IOM completed 34 emergency latrines during the last week.
- In Jaffna, IOM provided a 13,250 litre water bowser and a 6,000 litres gully sucker to the Government Agent's (GA) office to support WASH activities in IDP camps. IOM will also cover running costs for two months with possible extension.

Health

- In Mannar, the Government hospital is facing a shortage of staff to treat new admissions of more than 1,500 injured IDPs from the conflict zone.
- On 22 May, the Indian Government dispatched a team of 27 doctors and paramedics to northern Sri Lanka to support IDPs. The medical team includes a surgeon and pediatrician. The team will also bring about 30MT of medicines worth more than US\$ 63,500 (INR 3 million) to replenish stores at the Field Hospital run by the Indian Armed Forces in Pulmoddai.

V. Communication / Advocacy

- On 23 May, issuing a joint statement at the conclusion of the UN Secretary General's visit to Sri Lanka, the Sri Lankan President and the Secretary General agreed that addressing the aspirations and grievances of all communities and working towards a lasting political solution was fundamental to ensuring long-term socio-economic development in Sri Lanka.
- The UN Human Rights Council will hold a special session on 26 May to discuss the human rights situation in Sri Lanka.
- On 20 and 21 May, Indian National Security Advisor M.K. Narayanan, and Foreign Secretary S. Menon, visited Sri Lanka and met Sri Lankan President Mahinda Rajapakse, senior Government officials and political parties. They "emphasized the urgent need to resettle the IDPs in their villages and towns of habitation" and to "provide to them necessary basic and civic infrastructure and means of livelihood to resume their normal lives as early as possible." The Government of India committed to provide all possible assistance in the implementation

of the 180-day resettlement plan outlined by the Sri Lankan Government, especially in activities such as demining, provision of civil infrastructure and reconstruction of houses.

VI. Funding / CHAP

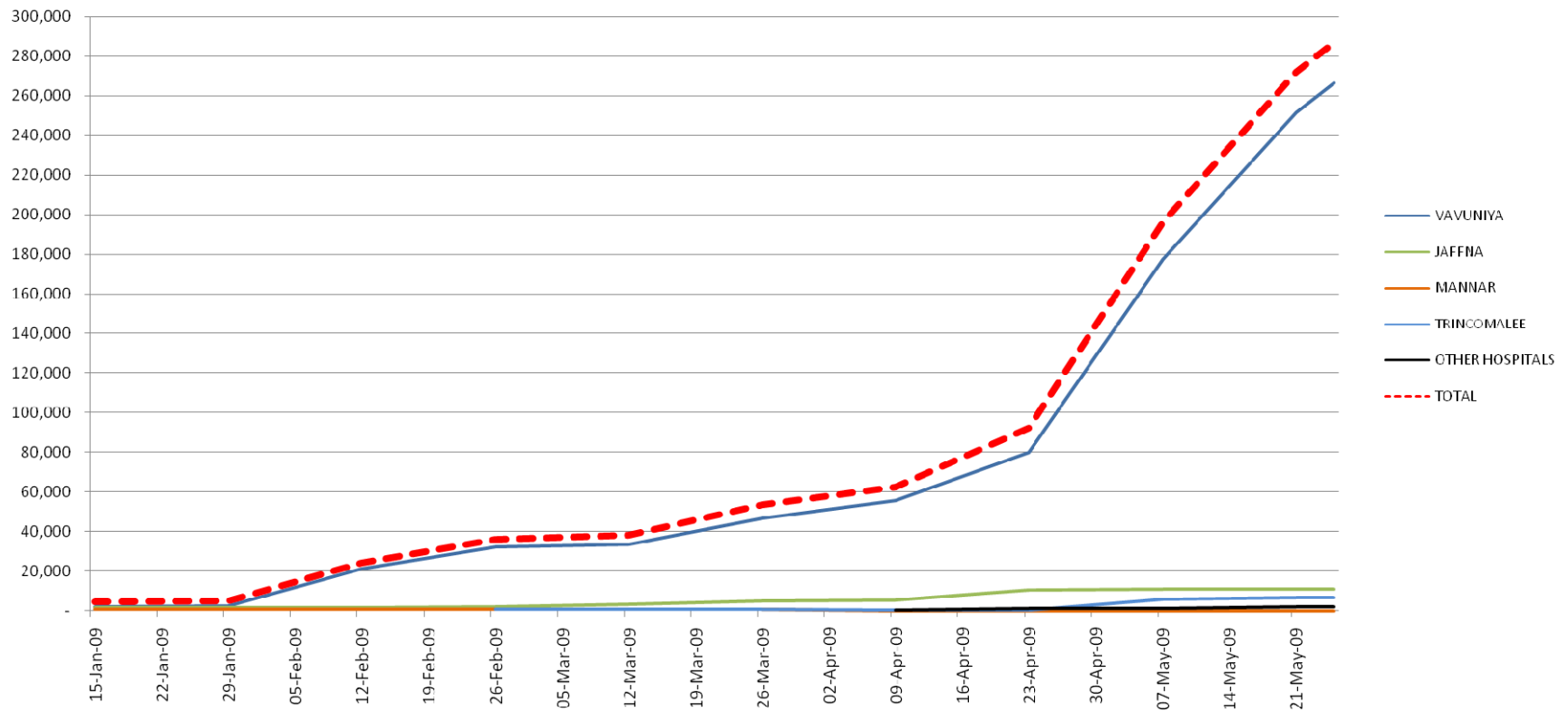
- As of 25 May, the 2009 CHAP for Sri Lanka is 39 percent funded, with US\$ 60,776,039 received out of the \$155,112,669 required. In addition, \$26,453,537 has been pledged by various donors, which would bring the level of funding up to 56 percent once the contributions are received.

All humanitarian partners including donors and recipient agencies are encouraged to inform FTS of cash and in-kind contributions by sending an email to: fts@reliefweb.int



UN Secretary General Mr. Ban Ki-moon visited IDP sites in Vavuniya on 23 May 2009

IDP Arrivals/Registrations in Jaffna, Vavuniya, Mannar, Trincomalee Districts and other locations as at 25 May 2009



OTHER HOSPITALS - National Hospital Colombo, Teaching Hospital Kandy, Cancer Hospital Maharagama, General Hospital Polonnaruwa, Base Hospital Padaviya, General Hospital Mannar

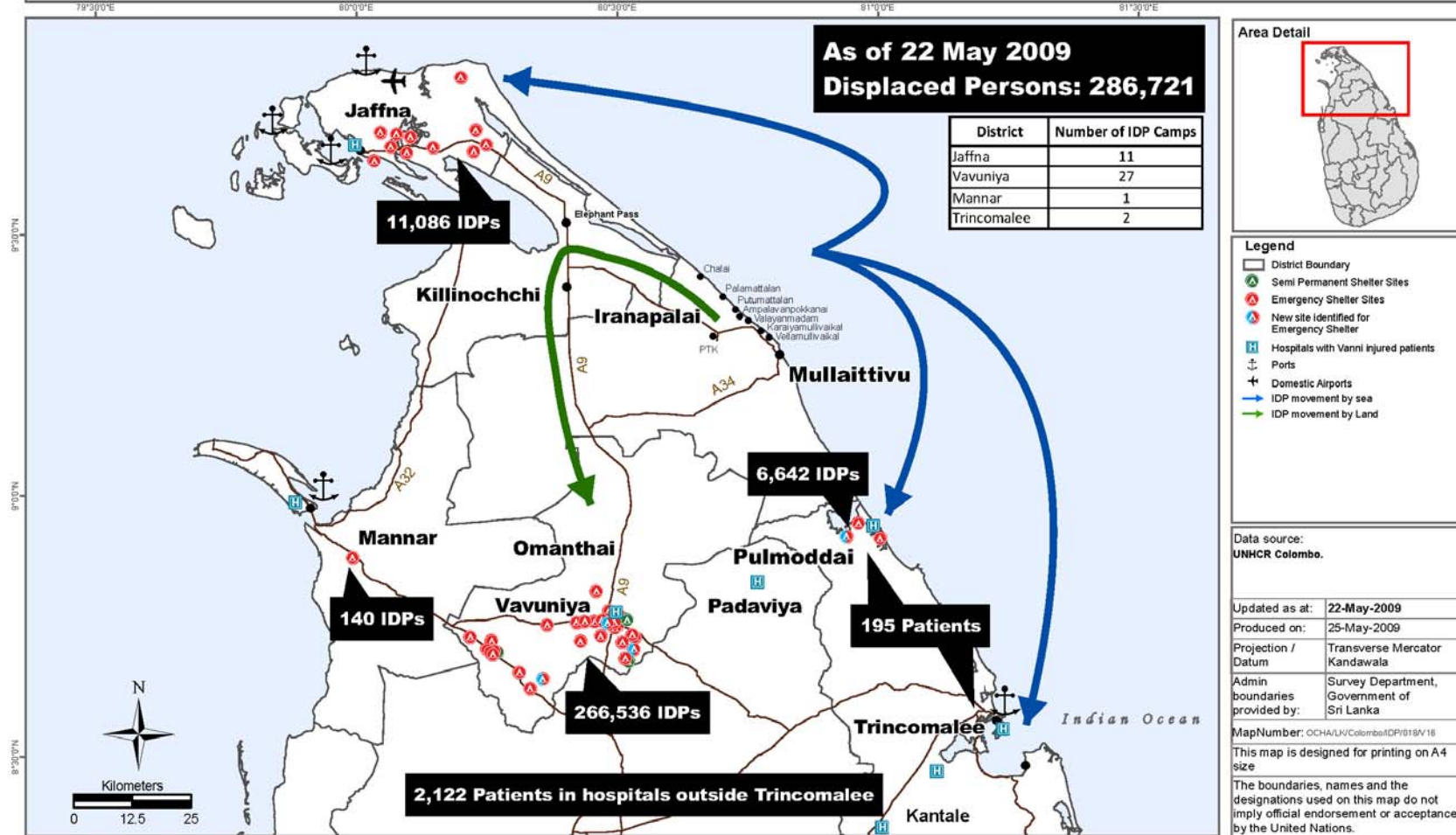
Missing data for hospitals in Vavuniya and other locations estimated at 1,500

The mission of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is to mobilize and coordinate effective and principled humanitarian action in partnership with national and international actors.

Vanni IDP Movements

As of 22 May, 2009

Northern Area



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