



Office of UN Deputy Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Sudan
UN Resident and Humanitarian Co-ordinator

Darfur Humanitarian Profile No. 34



Situation as of 01 January 2009

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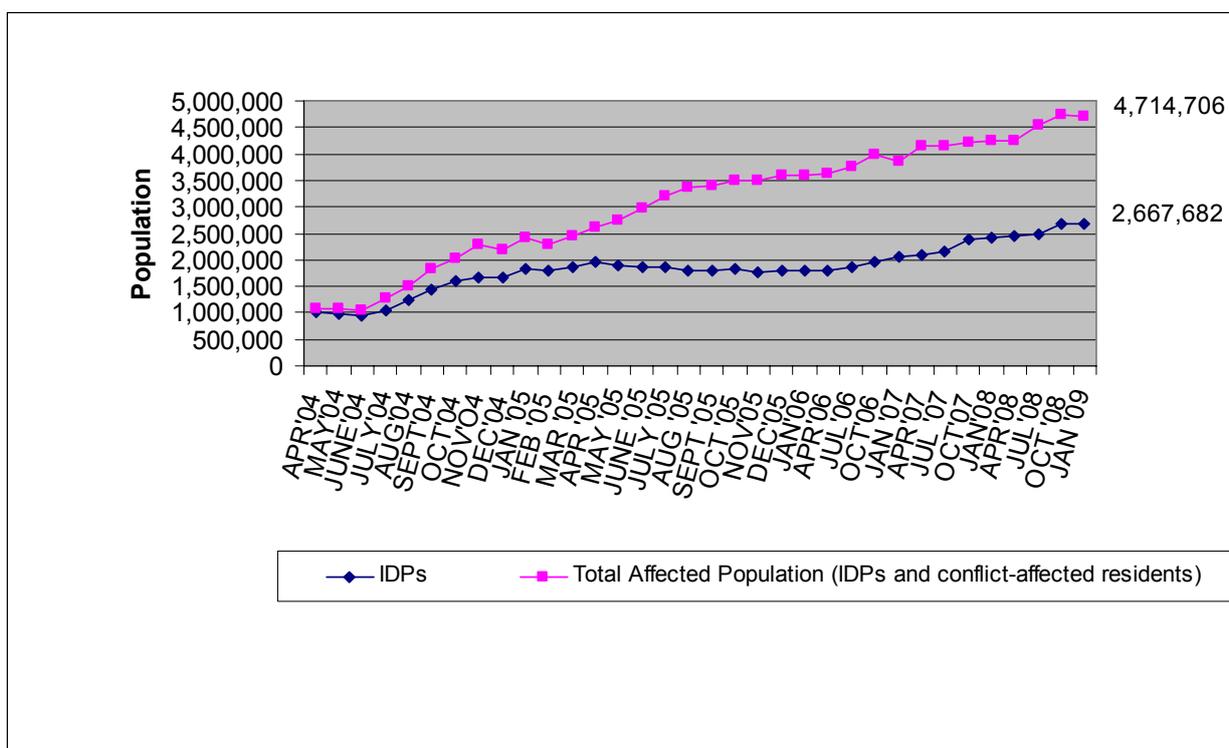
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I. Affected Population – trends and analysis

1. The trend of high levels of violence that has characterized 2008 continued during the last quarter of the year. Armed confrontations between Government of Sudan (GoS) forces and opposition groups and inter-tribal fighting caused further new population displacements, although numbers of displaced in camps remained largely stable with respect to the previous report of 1 October. In 2008, some 317,000 people were newly displaced, often for the second or third time since the conflict started in early 2003. By 1 January 2009, there were nearly 2.7 million Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Darfur. An additional two million residents continued to be directly affected by the conflict. Targeted violence against humanitarian workers and their assets continued at alarmingly high levels, further constraining humanitarian access.

**CHART 1. Estimated Number of IDPs and Total Affected Population
(UN estimates since April 2004)**

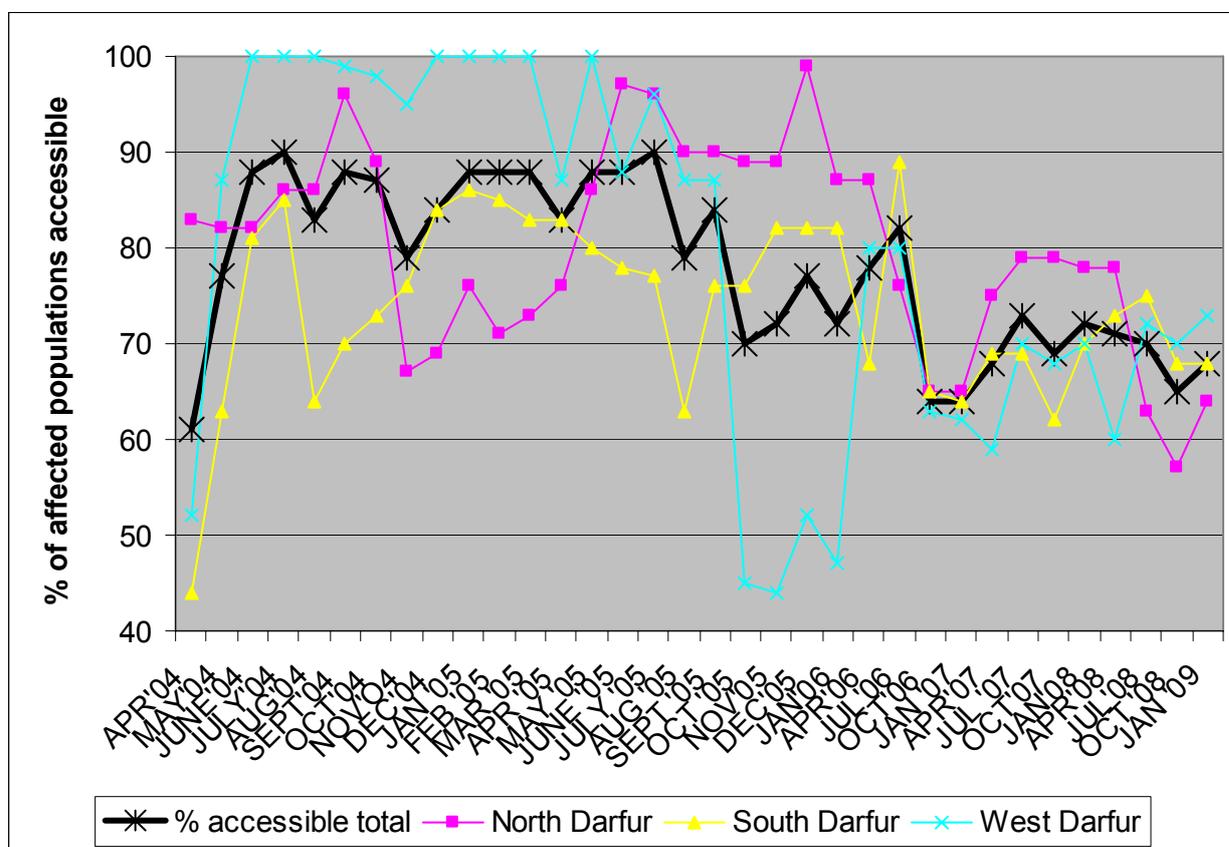


II. Humanitarian Access

2. Humanitarian access in Darfur is primarily determined by a combination of three factors:
- The degree of general insecurity, which may require the United Nations and other humanitarian partners to suspend or limit operations in certain unsafe areas for a certain amount of time;
 - The continued harassment of humanitarian organizations and workers, including blanket denial of humanitarian access, bureaucratic obstacles, detention and intimidation of national staff, bullying and temporary denial of access to affected areas and IDP camps.
 - Targeted attacks on humanitarians and their assets, including hijacking of cars and abduction of personnel, physical violence directed towards humanitarian workers, road ambushes, destruction of NGO assets and armed break-ins in humanitarian compounds/centres.

Chart 2 shows the trend of the affected populations accessible according to UN security standards since April 2004. In December 2008, overall UN accessibility in Darfur slightly improved to 68 percent, up from 65 percent in October. However, access to rural areas in Darfur continued to be seriously constrained. It remains important to underline that NGOs and Red Cross/Crescent Movements may assist people in UN no-go or limited access areas, but they have become similarly way of access areas with a high risk of targeted and random road banditry and armed confrontations.

CHART 2. Percent of Affected Population Accessible to UN Humanitarian Aid since April 2004



3. Insecurity continued at high levels during the last quarter of the year. In October, fighting between Ma'aliya militia and SLA-MM continued in the Muhajariya area of South Darfur. Reportedly, over a dozen villages were destroyed and nearly 13,000 people displaced. On 12 November, at the end of the People of Sudan Initiative Forum, President Bashir declared an immediate ceasefire in Darfur, promised to disarm the militias and pledged to support UNAMID in its peacekeeping task. However, on 13 November, clashes between rebels and GoS forces including GoS aerial bombings resumed in North Darfur lasting for some ten days, temporarily displacing an unknown number of people. Armed confrontations including aerial bombings continued in December. During the last three months of the year, some 27,000 people have been newly displaced in Darfur bringing the total to 317,000 newly displaced in the whole of 2008, against 300,000 in 2007.

4. Humanitarian workers and their assets continued to be victims of violent attacks. Between October and December, 12 Sudanese aid workers were wounded and armed men assaulted 48 humanitarian centres/compounds. In the whole of 2008, 11 national humanitarians were killed and 36 injured. In 2007, 13 aid workers had been killed and 24 wounded. Humanitarian premises have been assaulted/broken into 192 times during 2008 against 93 in 2007. Due to general insecurity and targeted attacks, humanitarians had to relocate on eight occasions during the reporting period, thereby temporarily affecting assistance to hundreds of thousands of conflict-affected people.

5. Between October and December, 49 humanitarian vehicles were hijacked, bringing the total to 277 in 2008. This number includes 110 WFP contracted and fleet trucks hijacked in 2008, thereby seriously hampering food supplies to Darfur. During these hijackings, 48 staff members were temporarily abducted during the last quarter of the year, 218 during the whole year. Four WFP-contracted drivers remain missing. In comparison: during the entire year 2007, 137 vehicles had been hijacked and 147 humanitarians abducted. In addition, 38 UNAMID vehicles have been hijacked in 2008. A number of the hijacked vehicles have been retrieved, some in bad condition. Various factions of the rebel movements as well as militias and Chadian rebels have been involved in the hijacking of humanitarian vehicles, to be used in combat or offered for sale.

6. Of particular concern was the violent protest of IDPs in Garsila (West Darfur) in December, demanding UNAMID protection. The IDPs threatened to burn down the OCHA compound and temporarily took four OCHA guards hostage. In October, another UN office in Mukjar, also in West Darfur, had been assaulted by Chadian refugees who beat the staff and damaged vehicles and property.

7. The 2007 Joint Communiqué and the General Directory of Procedures outlining the bureaucratic requirements for NGOs operating in Sudan have continued to improve the working conditions for NGOs in Darfur. Two joint committees at federal level, a High Level Committee and a Joint Tripartite Joint Technical Committee (TJTC) involving GoS, UN and NGOs, continued to meet on a regular basis to follow up on the implementation of the Joint Communiqué and find appropriate solutions and recommendations. Tripartite Joint Technical Committees at state level in West and South Darfur started to have regular meetings.

8. Very positive and welcome news came on 17 November, when the Minister of Humanitarian Affairs issued a decree extending the Darfur Moratorium until 31 January 2010. The decree reaffirmed the Government's commitment to facilitate all procedures for the flow of humanitarian relief, to enable the UN and national and international NGOs to perform their humanitarian role properly.

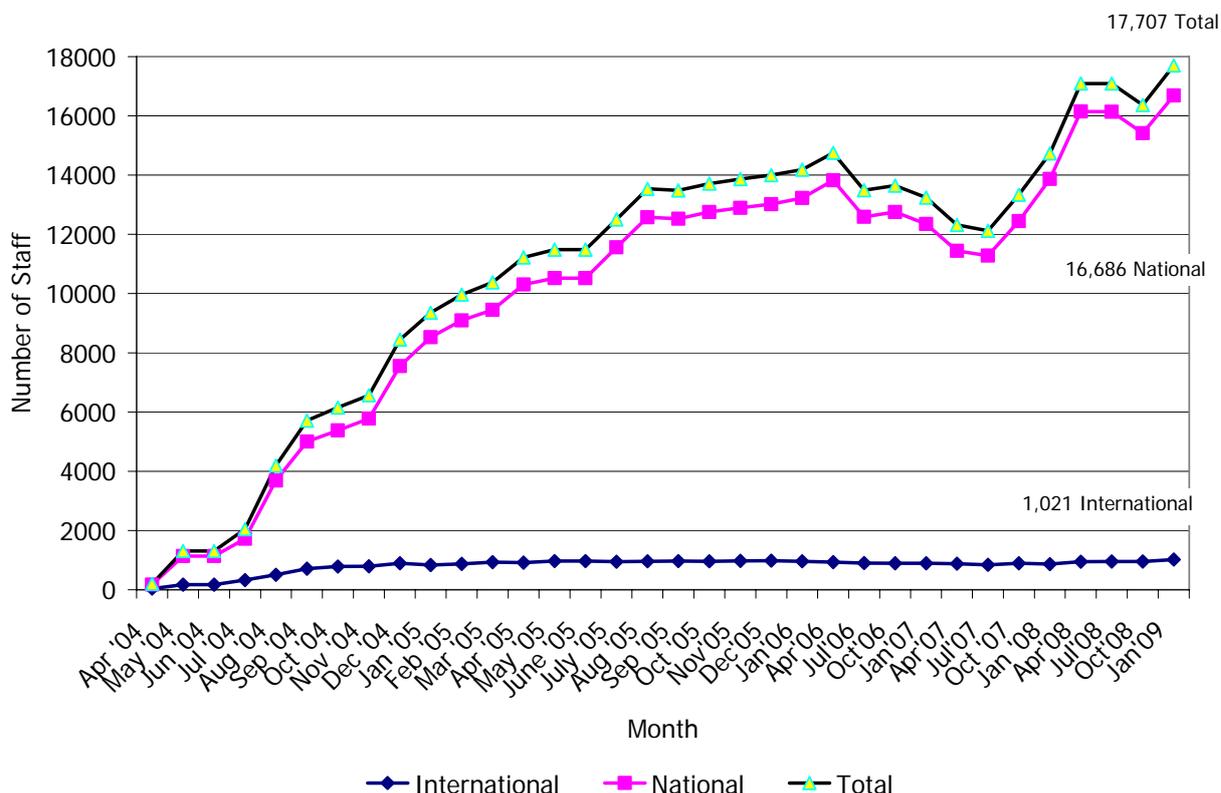
9. Nonetheless, during the last quarter of the year, local Government of Sudan authorities throughout Darfur have occasionally obstructed humanitarian operations. In October in West

Darfur, three UN vehicles were stopped by GoS security forces in Geneina and their drivers temporarily detained. An NGO in Habila reported continuous harassment and even prevention of travel out of town as a result of being suspected to be a source of Gender Based Violence (GBV)-related information. Still in October, in South Darfur, Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) restricted some essential activities of a number of NGOs. GoS-imposed restrictions on fuel continued to jeopardize the functioning of the water systems in Kalma camp. NGOs have also been denied transports of medicines to Deribat, and NFIs to Muhajariya, Abu Dungal and Ed Daein. In Kass, NGOs reported difficulties in obtaining travel permits to some areas in the locality. UN staff members were stopped and questioned in Nyala airport by National Security (NS) officers for having a UNMIS ID card instead of a UNAMID one. One UN head of office was expelled from South Darfur in October for allegedly not being cooperative on this issue. In Khartoum, four UN staff members were prevented from boarding a UN flight to Nyala for not having a UNAMID ID card. In November, In South Darfur, four national staff members from two different NGOs were reportedly denied to board UN flights by National Security officers at Nyala airport. In West Darfur, an NGO was denied permission to travel into the field on two occasions by NS who demanded an NS permit in addition to the HAC travel permit. Fuel supplies into Kalma camp continued to be periodically restricted and/or delayed.

III. Response Capacity – aid workers in Darfur

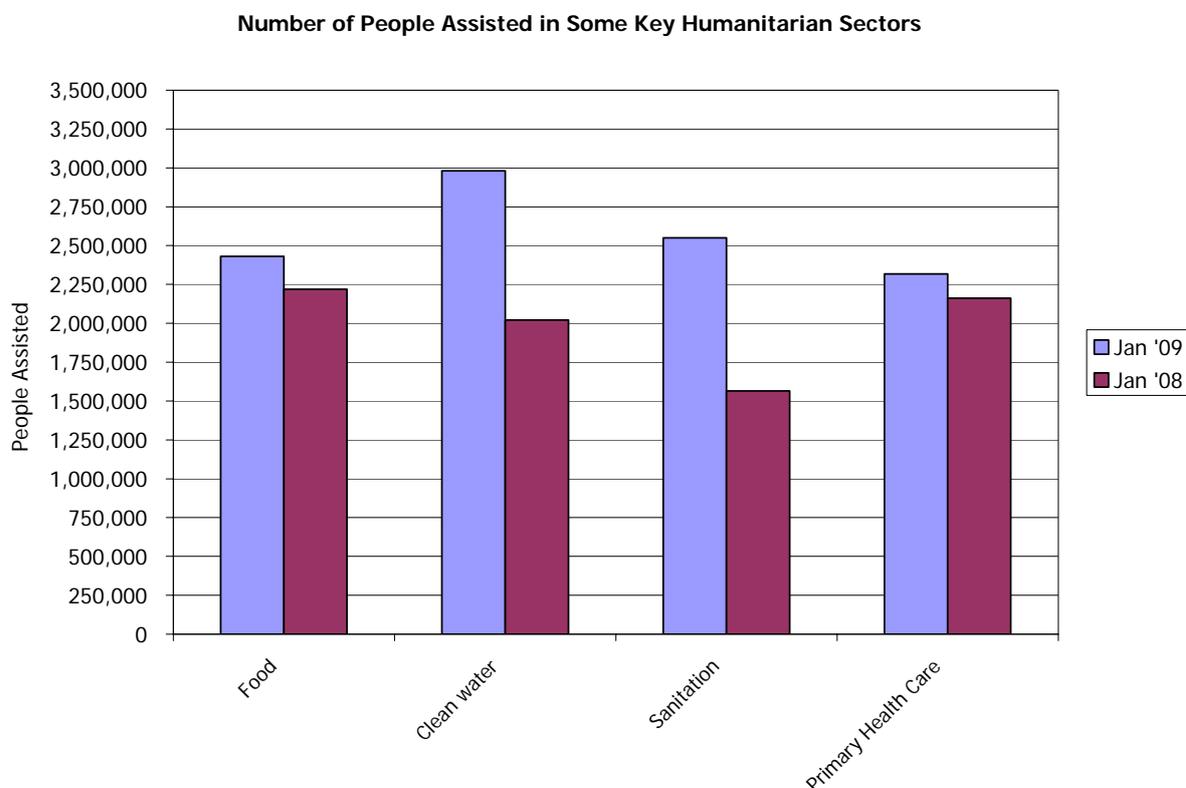
10. The number of national and international humanitarian workers in the region has increased to a record 17,700, following a temporary drop after the introduction of Security Phase IV in July. Sudanese nationals still constitute around 94 percent of the total numbers of humanitarian workers in Darfur. Some 85 NGOs and Red Cross/Crescent Movement and 16 UN agencies (including IOM) continue to support the 4.7 million conflict-affected populations in Darfur, making it the largest humanitarian operation in the world.

Chart 3. Trend of Humanitarian Staff Working in Darfur (April 2004 – January 2008)



IV. Provision and Quality of Assistance

CHART 4. Number of People Assisted in Key Humanitarian Sectors January 2008 – January 2009



11. Field work for the 2008 Darfur Nutrition Assessment, undertaken by the Ministry of Health, HAC and UNICEF was completed in November. Assessment teams were able to access the required 45 villages, although insecurity in some areas required some survey clusters to be replaced with others. The Assessment was undertaken parallel to the Darfur Food Security and Livelihoods Assessment, conducted by HAC, the Ministry of Agriculture, FAO and WFP. Results of both assessments are expected to be released in early 2009.

An in-depth sector update for 2008 with emphasis on the last quarter

12. Food:

In partnership with 29 NGOs in Darfur, WFP assisted nearly 4 million conflict-affected people in Darfur in 2008. WFP had planned to assist some 3.7 million people, but a poorer than expected harvest in the region led the agency to increase its 2008 budget in order to support an increase in the number of households during the hunger gap. The bulk of WFP's food assistance was delivered through the General Food Distribution (GFD) activity, in which food support was provided to highly vulnerable households who have been affected by conflict, covering approximately 2.3 million IDPs and 1.6 million rural residents and host-communities. While IDPs benefited from year-round GFD, rural residents received seasonal food assistance during the hunger gap.

Apart from GFD, other nutrition interventions were expanded in 2008 to provide nutrition support to different sub-groups of the population. A Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP) was introduced earlier in 2008 to increase the outreach of supplementary feeding, using nutrient rich foods, to children under-five in an attempt to stave off malnutrition levels that traditionally

rise during the hunger gap and rainy season. This was in addition to the regular Supplementary Feeding Programme, which continued to assist malnourished women and children through established feeding centres in the region. WFP also expanded its Food for Education (FFE) programme in Darfur, reaching 304,000 school children with a daily cooked meal at school with the objectives of supporting national education goals of increasing enrolment and encouraging regular attendance, while alleviating hunger in children. This figure more than doubled the number of children reached in 2007 through FFE. Despite insecure conditions in Darfur, WFP and its partners have been able to implement small-scale early recovery projects in relatively secure locations to improve community infrastructure or support kitchen-garden initiatives. In 2008, WFP supported a water reservoir rehabilitation project in North Darfur to improve water access for 800 households. Furthermore, a community garden project was initiated for 25 IDP women in Otash camp in South Darfur, in which the women have benefited from a diversity of food and income from vegetable sales. It is hoped that these projects can be replicated in the future across the region as the security situation permits.

The operating environment in Darfur in 2008 was much worse compared to previous years. Targeted banditry attacks against the humanitarian community escalated this year. WFP alone suffered 110 vehicle hijackings, two drivers killed and 42 drivers abducted. Some of the drivers and vehicles were later recovered. However, the increased violence significantly affected food deliveries, with transporters more reluctant to make deliveries to Darfur. In May, WFP was forced to cut food rations due to a slow down in the pace of deliveries, which slightly improved towards the end of the year. Insecurity in Darfur also impeded access to beneficiaries, where the number of beneficiaries that could not be reached peaked at 272,000 in October, the majority due to the suspension of activities by German Agro Action, a key WFP partner in North Darfur as a result of targeted attacks against its staff.

During the last quarter of 2008, GFD support declined from a peak of 3.3 million beneficiaries in September to 2.3 million in December, following the start of the harvest period. However, food assistance continued to IDPs residing in camps, and other vulnerable groups including some 35,000 people displaced by fighting in October in Shearia, South Darfur. The 2008 Darfur Food Security and Livelihoods Assessment, carried out in October 2008, will identify vulnerability levels and guide programme planning for 2009.

During the first half of 2008, the malnutrition levels varied greatly across the region according to various local surveys which showed global acute malnutrition (GAM) rates ranging from seven percent in March 2008 in Kalma Camp, South Darfur, to 30.4 percent in June 2008 in Al Salam Camp, South Darfur. However, towards the end of the year, indications showed the nutrition levels were stabilising, as a decline in admissions to supplementary feeding centres was observed. The 2008 Darfur Nutrition Assessment, results of which are expected shortly, will confirm the nutrition situation of the region. Meanwhile, WFP nutrition support continued during the quarter to malnourished women and children, reaching 25,000 beneficiaries on average during the month under targeted Supplementary Feeding. The Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP) was concluded in parts of Darfur during this period, and preparations for the 2009 season were initiated. In 2008, the BSFP reached 212,000 children.

Through the Food for Education (FFE) Programme, children in food insecure areas receive additional support through the provision of one meal a day at school, to encourage enrolment and attendance. WFP continued to work with respective State Ministries of Education towards further expansion of the FFE programme. In West Darfur, 29 schools in rural Geneina were assessed for possible inclusion in the programme. School infrastructure and low enrolment were key challenges identified in assessed schools, and the communities requested for assistance to support the schools, particularly to promote Girls' education. WFP and its partners also continued training activities for School Administration staff and Parent Teacher Associations (PTA) members involved in the FFE programme to ensure proper implementation of the project. Approximately 235 people associated with 71 schools participated in FFE trainings and workshops during the quarter. In 2008, 304,000 children in Darfur benefited from FFE.

13. **Agriculture:**

With the exception of some parts of South Darfur that are still suffering from the effects of a bad 2007 season, the food security situation in most of the Darfur region has been relatively good compared to recent years. In the 2008 crop season, IDPs in camps in South Darfur such as El Sereif, Al Salam and Sakali managed to cultivate land and were provided inputs by FAO through ACF, SDCO and ZOA. A total of 5,317 households were reached.

In West Darfur, thanks to a combination of factors like good rains, the resultant good harvest and continued WFP food aid distributions, the food security situation has largely improved. Nevertheless, there have been individual reports of crop destruction in Geneina, Muli Gokar and Garsila and the risk of cattle rustling remains very high. In North Darfur, FAO had pre-positioned and distributed two metric tons of assorted vegetable seeds for the winter season.

FAO has joined with the WFP and implementing partners in South Darfur in launching a Food for Seed Protection (FFSP) activity. The objective of this campaign is to help protect seeds from being consumed by farmers during the hunger gap (the stretch of period before the harvest when food stocks run low). A total of 231,718 individuals (46,378 house holds) have benefited from this activity.

FAO supported implementing partners in the training of 108 Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) in different parts of West Darfur State such as Garsila, Zalengei, Kerenik, Beida, Mukjar and Bindisi. These CAHWs will contribute greatly to the livestock vaccination and treatment outreach activities in remote areas. In North Darfur, FAO provided support to implementing partners CHF, COOPI and Relief International to treat 20,589 animals and to vaccinate 28,028 animals in IDP camps in El Fasher, Malha, Mallit and Kabkabiya and supported AHA in providing refresher training to 25 CAHWs. In South Darfur, FAO partnered with the Ministry of Animal Resources and contributed to the vaccination of 195,000 animals in Al-Wihda locality. The exercise targeted about 7,800 nomadic households. The main objective of this intervention was to contribute to the peace building and reconciliation process between farmers and nomads in the area. FAO also partnered with Samaritan's Purse to conduct a de-worming campaign for 40,000 animals owned by nomads in the Tegai village north of Nyala.

After lengthy negotiations between FAO and the State Ministry of Animal Resources in West Darfur, an agreement was reached on the implementation of free livestock vaccinations in areas such as IDP camps that are inaccessible to government vaccination teams and other remote areas in general. The issue was a bone of contention with the Ministry originally rejecting free livestock vaccinations on the grounds that it would compromise the cost-recovery livestock vaccinations their animal health workers carry out.

Through FAO support, a Livestock Working Group that brings together government partners and partners in the Food Security and Livelihoods Sector with a livestock component has been created in South Darfur. The group oversees coordination on livestock issues and provides a forum for discussion and policy formulation for that sector.

FAO carried out a number of assessments to assist in planning and situation analysis. The Darfur Food Security, Livelihoods and Nutrition Assessment was carried out in partnership with WFP, the Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) and UNICEF in late October and early November. Earlier assessments carried out by the FAO included the Rapid Livestock Needs Assessment with COOPI in West Darfur and the Rapid Assessment for the 2008 Agricultural Season in North Darfur State carried out in partnership with the State Ministry of Agriculture.

14. **Non-food items and emergency shelter:**

The focus of the Non-Food Item (NFI) and Emergency Shelter (ES) Sector is to ensure the timely provision of essential non-food and emergency shelter items to people affected by conflict and disaster and other extremely vulnerable populations. As Sector Lead, UNJLC

continued to respond to the emergency needs of newly-displaced households throughout the reporting period. With the onset of winter, UNJLC and Sector partners coordinated with IDP leaders in camps to reinforce the policy of targeted distributions and ensure the smooth implementation of winterization distributions. UNJLC and partners then worked in coordination to carry out needs-assessments and household verifications, establish distribution schedules and distribute NFIs to verified households. Distributions of winterization items throughout Darfur are nearly complete, although some areas remain inaccessible for security reasons. Once finalized, it is estimated that approximately 100,000 households will have been served with essential household items from the NFI Common Pipeline in Darfur.

In addition, UNJLC coordinated the implementation of the Darfur Cooking Set Pilot Project in all three Darfur states. The project aims to determine whether cooking sets should be included within the NFI Common Pipeline as an essential non-food item for newly-displaced households and to assess the suitability of nationally- versus internationally-procured sets. Following the distribution of 1,830 sets in North and South Darfur in November and December, CARE's Monitoring & Evaluation Team followed up to assess the outcomes of the Project. Recommendations for next steps will be presented at the next NFI Common Pipeline Advisory Panel Meeting.

In October, UNJLC launched the 2009 NFI Common Pipeline Common Appeal for Northern Sudan. The US\$16.47 million appeal supports the provision of NFIs and ES to IDPs requiring assistance. Since the launch of the Common Appeal, the Common Pipeline in North Sudan has secured €1.5 million from ECHO for UNICEF procurement and a proposed additional US\$2 million in the first allocation round of the Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF), also intended for procurement. A total of US\$23 million was allocated to the Darfur region during CHF first round allocation and as Sector Lead UNJLC will advocate for NFI and ES funding for Sector partner.

In the final quarter of 2008, distributions from the NFI Common Pipeline supported 86,678 households, of which approximately 88 percent were IDPs requiring replenishment/replacement items, 12 percent were newly displaced populations and 0.6 percent of distributions were disaster-affected households and spontaneous returns. Items distributed over the three-month period included 92,789 blankets, 69,375 plastic sleeping mats, 57,703 jerry cans, 9,842 pieces of plastic sheeting, 18,135 women's clothes, 1,830 cooking sets and 575 pieces of sanitary material.

Coordinating and participating partners included ACF, AHA, CHF International, CRS, GAA, Great Family, Helpage, Humedica, IRW, NCA, Noon Charity Organization, OXFAM, PODR, Rehaid El Fursan Rural Development, Save the Children-US, Solidarité, SRCS, TDH, Tearfund, and UNHCR.

15. **Water and sanitation:**

In early 2008, UNICEF received Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) resources to urgently provide water, sanitation and hygiene services for people displaced in the northern corridor of West Darfur. UNICEF and partners in West Darfur re-established water supply for 17,000 IDPs and provided sanitation facilities for 18,000 IDPs affected by the conflict. A total of 39,500 persons were reached with supplies of soap, and supporting hygiene information campaigns.

With contributions from all water and sanitation sector agencies in 2008, access to improved water supply facilities was provided for the first time for 375,500 people and 86,000 school children in 215 schools, re-established for 1,025,500 people and maintained for 1,087,000 people in the Darfur region. Access to safe means of excreta disposal was newly provided for 158,970 people and 94,800 school children in 237 schools and re-established for 256,080 people. A total of 3.6 million people were reached with hygiene information programmes. CHF funds made available to water and sanitation sector agencies from the first and second allocations significantly contributed to these results.

A multi-sector collaboration enhanced prevention, preparedness and planning activities for annual acute watery diarrhoea and flooding, including pre-positioning of emergency supplies. The provision of chlorinated water and soap, combined with hygiene information, contributed to zero incidence of acute watery diarrhoea or cholera reported in Darfur in 2008, for the second consecutive year, compared to a total of 2,567 cases with 130 deaths in 2006.

Ground water monitoring indicates that ground water levels are receding and ground water is gradually being depleted at some IDP and urban locations in Darfur. With support from ECHO, UNICEF and sector partners conducted studies to identify potential sites and designs for artificial recharge structures at vulnerable IDP locations in North and South Darfur. UNEP and UNICEF agreed to combine resources and enter into a memorandum of understanding to support an Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Project in Darfur.

UNICEF and CARE are supporting the Public Water Corporation (PWC) to develop a water supply, sanitation and hygiene policy in collaboration with sector partners and other stakeholders. The Policy Steering Committee held several meetings during 2008 and developed a second draft policy paper for further consultation.

16. **Health:**

The continuing insecurity in the Darfur region led to health monitoring and supervision activities or interventions being impeded or suspended. In addition, activities of some implementing partners who support the delivery of primary health care services were also constrained in some localities to the detriment of the population. Nevertheless focus was maintained on mitigating the impact of the Darfur emergency through the provision of essential health care for conflict affected populations. The key activities of UNICEF and implementing partners in 2008 included the provision of primary and secondary health care including training of health service providers.

Overall, 2.3 million people – or 88 percent of the accessible population in the three Darfur states – gained access to primary health care services. The provision of 1,520 primary health centre kits benefited some 1.66 million people. Twenty health facilities were equipped with 445 midwifery kits and 32 emergency obstetric care kits to enable delivery of basic and emergency obstetric care services to pregnant women with complications. Throughout the year, 49,675 pregnant women received ante-natal care in Darfur.

By end of October 2008 a total 160,460 (57 percent) children under the age of one (of the planned 279,322) had received three doses of DTP/Pentavalent vaccine. To boost this coverage and reach a goal 70 percent, three rounds of accelerated routine Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) campaigns were launched in the last quarter (final data yet to be disseminated). Also 120,062 pregnant women (38 percent) out of the 314,275 planned received Tetanus Toxoid vaccine. One positive case of polio was notified in Geneina, West Darfur, in July. As a consequence, in addition to two planned polio National Immunization Days (NIDs), three supplementary polio NIDs were implemented during August, October and November with an average coverage of 90 percent. There were outbreaks of diseases including hepatitis E and meningitis in Nertiti, West Darfur mitigated by a mass vaccination campaign reaching 34,000 and 30,000 people in respective campaigns.

During the jump start and pulse phases of the Sudan Accelerated Child Survival Initiative, 1,024,309 (98 percent of target) children aged nine months to five years, were immunized against measles. As part of anti-malaria efforts 388,168 Long-Lasting Insecticide Treated Bed nets were distributed in North and West Darfur, while 180,000 anti-malarial treatments were also administered. 1,039,040 (98 percent of target) children under the age of five received two doses of vitamin A, with a second dose administered during the October polio NIDs, achieving the same coverage. Of a planned 1,050,602 children, 840,038 received de-worming treatment. A package of key messages on hand washing, personal hygiene, and importance of routine immunization, mosquito nets and exclusive breastfeeding were broadcast through radio/TV/loud speaker communication channels, targeting the whole Darfur population.

Over 4,200 cases of bloody diarrhoea were reported from IDP camps in South and North Darfur and implementing partners continued activities to educate and mobilise communities to improve health and hygiene practices and reduce the burden of illness

With support from UNICEF, various training courses in EPI, malaria, Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses (IMCI), emergency planning and response, hygiene promotion, reproductive health and ante-natal care, were provided to total 3,241 service providers. In North Darfur, 160 primary school teachers were trained on the causes, transmission, complications and prevention of Bilharziasis. Mapping of health facilities in Darfur was also undertaken as part of health system strengthening activities.

17. Nutrition:

In 2008, over 13,000 children under five years of age were reported to be admitted to therapeutic feeding centres, while over 40,000 children under five were admitted to targeted supplementary feeding programmes.

Sector partners provided material, financial and technical support to ensure that basic nutrition services were delivered in Darfur. Support included procurement and distribution of therapeutic feeding supplies, drugs, and anthropometric equipment; capacity building in areas of supplementary and therapeutic feeding as well as data analysis; and nutrition information collection. Routine coordination mechanisms were complemented by strategic meetings to prepare for the hunger gap as well as share operational experience between partners. Large scale blanket feeding programmes were introduced across North Darfur and in key areas in other states. Large scale micronutrient campaigns were conducted, providing vitamin A, lipiodol, de-worming as well as key health and hygiene messages in order to ensure delivery of low cost, high impact interventions to children under five in Darfur.

Available localized nutrition survey data of 2008 that has been cleared by the government for dissemination indicate that the nutrition situation evolved as expected during the hunger gap, as global acute malnutrition (GAM) rates in all nutrition surveys conducted after April 2008 (with the exception of Um Dukhun) surpassed the emergency threshold of 15 percent. However, in comparing the data to nutrition survey data from 2007 in the same season, the GAM rates in 2008 are similar or lower than those in 2007, with the exception of Tulus (South Darfur), where increased displacement following insecurity, limited services, and collection of data once the hunger gap had begun in 2008 contributed to the difference in GAM rates between 2007 and 2008.

Darfur State	Locality	Previous data	2008 data
South	Shangil Tobai	No comparable data	9% * February 2008
South	Al Salaam, sector 10	No comparable data	11.7% * February 2008
South	Gereida	6.4% February 2007	8.9% February 2008
South	Kalma	22.6% * April 2007	10.7% March 2008
West	Beida locality	19.5% June 2007	9.0 % March 2008
South	Otash	17.2% May 2007	19.5% June 2008
South	Kass	17.8% June 2007	14.2 % June 2008
South	Ed Daien	29.7% June 2007	24.2% June 2008
North	Mellit	No comparable data	21.0% June 2008
North	El Fasher Town	No comparable data	13.5% June 2008
West	Um Dukhun	No comparable data	8.6% June 2008
South	Tulus	14.1% April 2007	22.1% June 2008
North	Kebkabiya	27.2% June 2007	24.2% June 2008
North	Abu Shouk Al Salaam	30.4% June 2007	17.9% June 2008

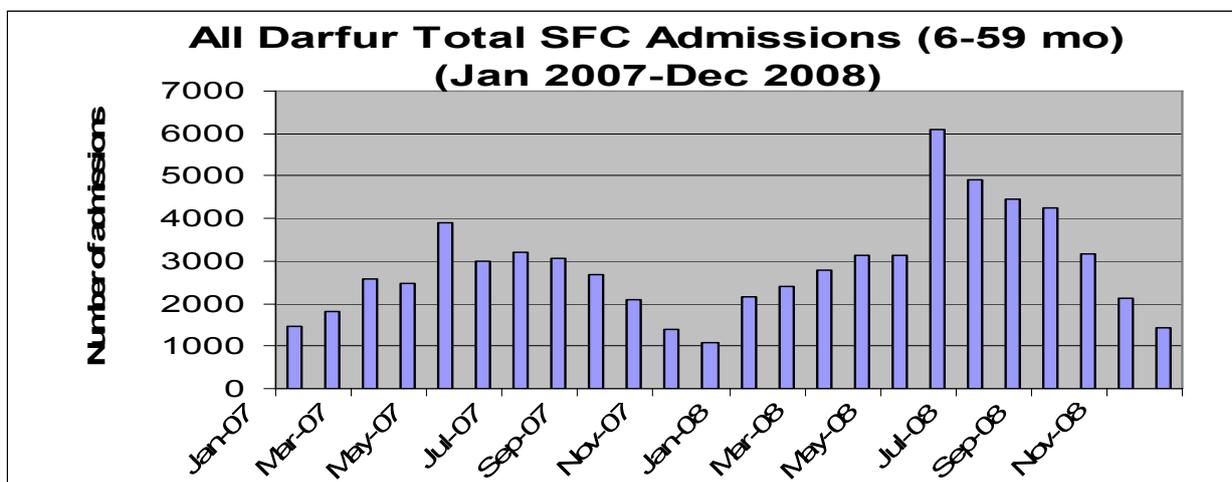
North	Zam Zam	20.4%	August 2007	18.4%	June 2008
South	Kateela	No comparable data		19.0%	June 2008
West	Mornei Town	No comparable data		14.9%	July 2008
South	Gereida	18.8%	June 2008	14%	July 2008
South	Al Salaam	23.3%	May 2007	19.2%	July 2008
West	Geneina town	17.4%	June 2007	12.0%	August 2008

*Rapid assessment data therefore not directly comparable to 30x30 nutrition survey.

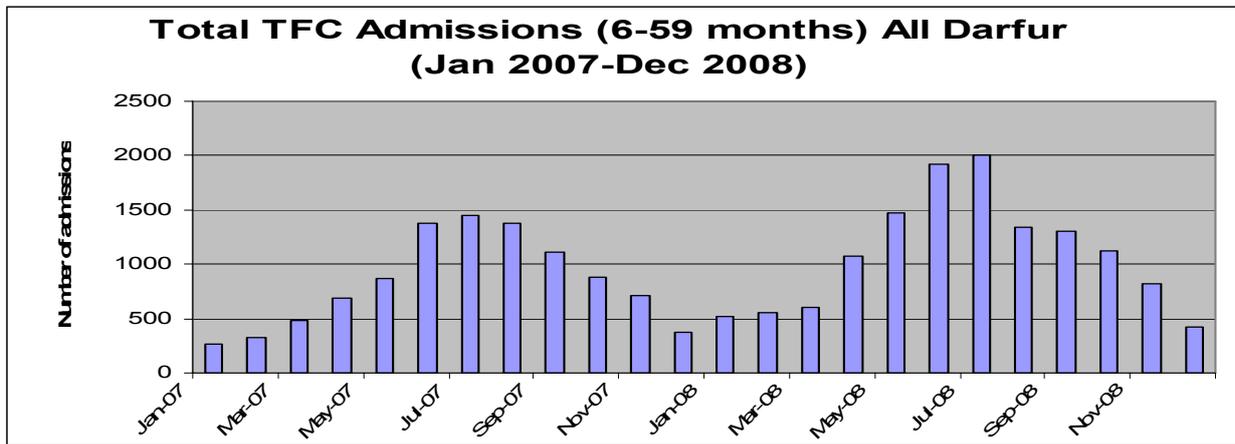
The Darfur Nutrition Assessment (DNA), a partnership activity between the Federal Ministry of Health, the Humanitarian Aid Commission and UNICEF, was conducted in October and November. The DNA collected information on basic demographics, household characteristics, child nutrition status and health, nutrition status and health of mothers with a child under five and/or pregnant women, micronutrient supplementation, targeted nutrition programmes, mortality, food consumption, infant and young child feeding practices, as well as water and sanitation. Results are being finalized as of this writing.

Admissions into Supplementary Feeding Centres (SFCs) and Therapeutic Feeding Centres (TFCs) across Greater Darfur did exhibit a seasonal pattern, increasing during the hunger gap, and decreasing after the peak in July. Several large scale SFCs were opened during the hunger gap, contributing in part to the larger caseload reported in 2008.

Graph 5: SFC admissions, Greater Darfur

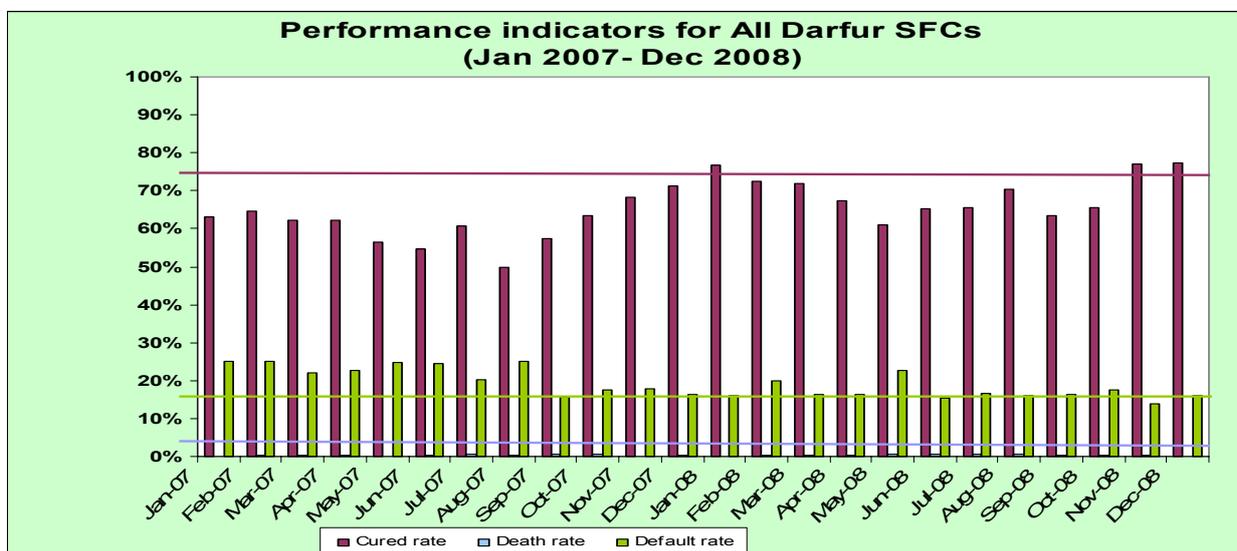


Graph 6: TFC admissions, Greater Darfur

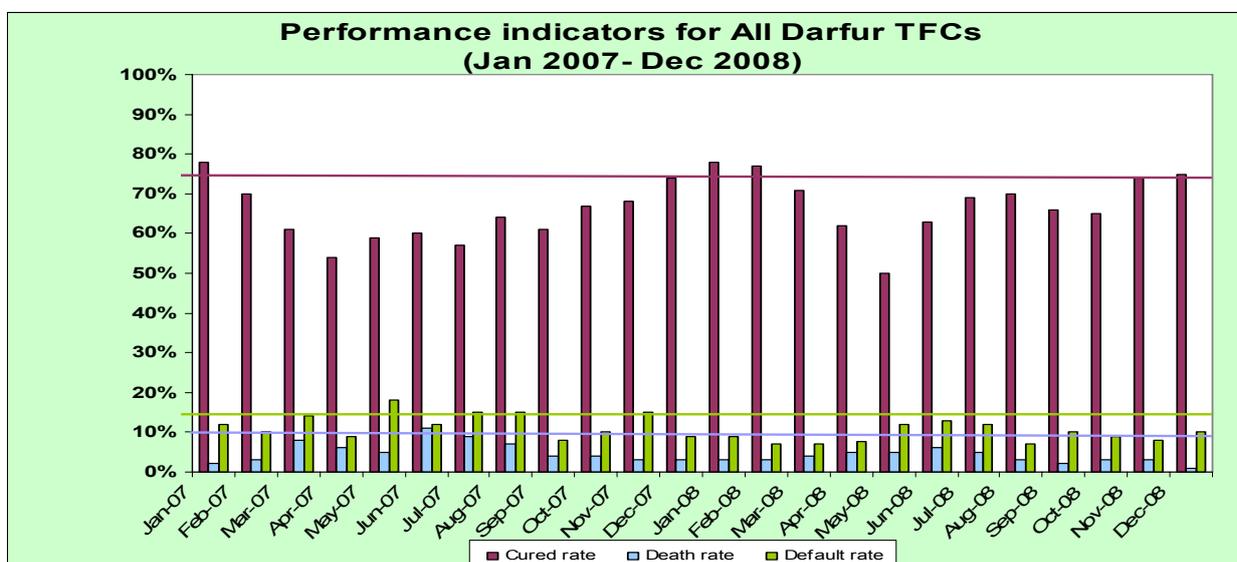


Across Darfur, performance indicators for SFCs and TFC/OTPs continued to improve in the last quarter, with increased recovery rates and improved defaulter rates.

Graph 7: Performance indicators in Supplementary Feeding Centres



Graph 8: Performance indicators in Therapeutic Feeding Centres



18. **Education:**

Preliminary data as of December 2008 showed that 168,469 children (94,395 boys and 74,074 girls) are newly enrolled in primary school across Darfur.

More than 1,100 classrooms were constructed or rehabilitated in 2008 by UNICEF, benefiting an estimated 54,670 children and more than 278,000 children received essential educational materials.

Some 1,879 teachers received training to enhance the quality of education in Darfur, while 372 members of Parent Teacher Associations (PTA) received training on issues including child-centred methodologies and school co-management.

State government support to education was demonstrated with the allocation of an additional US\$ 2 million dollars for school infrastructure and furniture by the North Darfur State Ministry of Education and the contribution of US\$ 2 million by the South Darfur Ministry of Education for school infrastructure alongside a pledge for a further US\$ 3 million dollars in 2009. The West Darfur State Ministry of Education officially recruited 1,000 former volunteer teachers and included them on the government payroll during 2008.

19. **Protection**

During this period, the concerns for the protection of civilian populations in Darfur remained high. Military operations and attacks against the civilian population perpetrated by Government forces, government-backed militias and rebel factions and clashes between rival tribes continued to affect a number of locations in Darfur and provoke new and secondary internal displacement. The areas of Eastern Jebel Marra (September-October), the Birmaza/Disa area north of Kutum (October), areas North West of Kutum (mid November) and more recently Tulus, Buram and Muhajariya areas of South Darfur (December) have been among the most affected. Amidst challenges in access, Protection Agencies and NGOs continued their efforts to increase their reach to the population by organizing and participating in inter-agency missions to assess the protection situation in conflict-affected areas and plan interventions accordingly.

Particularly towards the end of 2008, a growing number of credible reports were received regarding a build-up of regular and irregular armed elements in areas of North and West Darfur, as well as movements of government and irregular forces on the Chadian side of the border. The ongoing militarization/mobilization continued to be coupled with the proliferation of arms, the fragmentation of armed groups and increasingly complex local conflict dynamics. These factors continued to pose one of the most serious humanitarian protection concerns for the civilian population in Darfur camps and rural areas. In an effort to improve humanitarian advocacy with parties to the conflict, in December 2008 a delegation from the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue (CHD) in Geneva held a series of workshops with some of the factions (JEM, SLA/MM and SLA/AW) in the Jebel Marra area, aimed at engaging those Non-State actors in a dialogue on the importance of respect for humanitarian principles. Interventions touched upon key protection principles and the obligations of parties in conflict vis-à-vis the civilian population.

In IDP camps, especially in South and North Darfur, concern remains focused on the level of tension and violence caused by the presence of armed groups and by the attitude of different segments of Law Enforcement Structures (Border guards, Central Reserve Police) as well as by increasing criminal activity related to alcohol production, gambling and prostitution with numerous incidents recorded throughout Darfur. In their dialogue with UNAMID, protection actors continued to encourage an increased and more flexible presence of UNAMID patrols and welcomed the initiatives in locations such as Kalma and Zam Zam where this extension has

been put into full effect. In addition, a consensus continued among protection actors for improved information sharing and the planning of activities between the humanitarian community and UNAMID to increase prevention, deterrence and response in case of Kalma-like incidents. In this respect, the PWG in South Darfur proposed a Standard Operating Procedure for humanitarian and physical protection response. It aims at defining the respective responsibilities of the various actors before, during and after incidents/attacks in IDP camps/settlements. This model may be extended to other camp situations in Darfur.

Humanitarian actors continued to assess reports of returns and it appears that the large majority of these are of a seasonal or temporary nature. Through initiatives undertaken by the Return Working Groups, protection actors continued to advocate with HAC and State authorities on the principles of safe, voluntary and dignified return and freedom of movement. In this respect, particular attention during the period was devoted to potential or announced relocations from IDP camps - notably in Nyala, Kass and Zalingei areas. The HAC announcement at the end of the year of a likely relocation of IDPs from Kass camp to Kass rural areas in South Darfur was followed up at inter-agency level and missions are planned for 2009 to assess the authorities' relocation plans.

An increase in Gender Based Violence (GBV) incidents has been reported in West and South Darfur IDP camps, in the Kass area of South Darfur as well as in some areas of North Darfur (Tawilla), with common patterns involving women travelling outside the camps to farm or collect firewood. In several instances, GBV issues became increasingly difficult to address, for reasons including an obstructive attitude of authorities towards actors involved in monitoring, referral and response. Through GBV Core Groups, and also on the occasion of the visit of the Emergency Relief Coordinator in November, protection actors have denounced these restrictions and obstructions from State authorities on projects related to GBV and women's health run by specialised medical and/or protection INGOs in IDP camps and rural areas. Protection actors have highlighted the impact on beneficiaries, evident from the findings of numerous interagency missions, most notably in South Darfur (Kass area): deprivation of essential medical services and an utter loss of victim confidence in reporting sexual crimes and seeking treatment and legal redress. The welcomed renewal of the Joint Communiqué will have to be reflected in concrete improvement on this front.

Drawing from extensive case analysis and jurisprudence, UNDP with UNFPA, UNAMID Gender, UNAMID Human Rights and UNHCR continued to seek to improve and harmonize the approach to provide information to survivors and other legal justice actors on how to seek legal support for victims and redress on GBV crimes. The key messages of this advocacy strategy, to be pursued throughout Darfur, highlight that form 8 is not required to pursue justice in Courts and encourage legal redress as an important protection response.

On 12 November 2008, UNHCR Nyala hosted an All Darfur Protection Working Group meeting, a periodical event to share lessons learnt and try to formulate best practices and guidance. The meeting, also attended by the Deputy Humanitarian Co-ordinator, gathered representatives from UN protection agencies, other International Organisations and NGOs active in protection from all three Darfur states, as well as UNAMID representatives. Amidst regional specificities, consensus was reached on some critical points: the importance to see UNAMID implementing a robust Chapter VII component to prevent and respond to acute and chronic protection needs of civilians, through well-defined roles for the military and police actors on the ground; the need to ensure a consistent participation of UNAMID in Working Groups and other fora; the need for and increased engagement with government authorities underscoring their primary responsibility for the protection of civilians. On a second thematic, consensus was reached on an increased engagement and improved provision of appropriate protection and assistance to pastoralist/nomadic communities. As a result, a "Guidance Note" is being prepared by the Darfur PWGs outlining agreed principles of engagement with these groups.

After numerous strategic planning meetings organised in all three Darfur States for the 2009 UN and Partners Work Plan, all actors in the Protection/Human Rights and Rule of Law Sector finalized and submitted their projects. At the end of December 2008, the sector included 25

projects, submitted by 20 actors with overall requirements of USD 48.1 million (4.6 percent of the overall requirements for Darfur). Some 60 percent of the projects intend to target both camps and rural areas, with a marked prevalence (45 percent) of projects targeting children and youth, particularly in camp-like situations, as well as gender and GBV (25 percent).

20. **Child protection:**

Child Protection Coordination Groups have been functioning in all three Darfur states, and played a key role in influencing legal reforms, strengthening referral systems for vulnerable children, mapping of activities, and increasing advocacy and awareness on specific child protection issues.

A mechanism to document and respond to grave child rights violations was strengthened with the support of UNMIS, UNAMID and other UN agencies and progress was made in establishing a joint forum including the National Council for Child Welfare (NCCW), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Advisory Council for Human Rights, the Northern Sudan DDR Commission, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Defence, the Humanitarian Affairs Commission and the National Committee for Humanitarian Law, and the UN (represented by UNICEF, UNMIS and UNAMID) to review progress on recommendations of the Secretary-General's report and other pending issues related to children affected by armed conflict in Sudan and encourages information sharing on reported incidents.

Improved protection for children associated with armed forces and groups in Darfur was provided through a range of initiatives that included the training of 180 officers from the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) in South Darfur, North Darfur and Khartoum on child rights and protection issues, which subsequently led to the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between UNICEF, NCCW and SAF to support the establishment of a child rights unit and systematic training structures.

Advocacy efforts by international agencies contributed to the protection of children associated with the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) who were detained following the May attack on Omdurman. Ninety-nine children were provided with welfare services in line with international standards, under the supervision of the NCCW. UNICEF and the ICRC supported family tracing, reunification and reintegration activities, with all children reunited with their families by the end of the year.

The process of child disarmament, demobilization and reintegration in Darfur was launched by the North Sudan DDR Commission and the Transitional Darfur Regional Authority (TDRA) while representatives of the six movements who are signatories to the Darfur Peace Agreement agreed on a plan of action and modalities for the future release, family reunification and reintegration of children associated with their groups.

Support to strengthened capacity in the protection sector included the provision of training to community leaders, youth workers and NGO staff on providing psychosocial support for survivors of gender-based violence, and training of teachers on the delivery of mine risk education in schools.

Two new Family and Child Protection Units managed by the Sudanese police were established in West and North Darfur, providing professional care and assistance to children and women affected by crime, violence and abuse

More than 210,000 children benefited from psychosocial support, social worker follow-up, non-formal education and other opportunities through the operation of Child Friendly Spaces and youth centres.

21. **Refugees**

Increased refugee inflows were reported in West Darfur, fleeing insecurity in certain areas of

eastern Chad. It was assessed that the latest arrivals in northern West Darfur originated predominantly from villages surrounding Birak in Chad, whilst refugees in southern West Darfur originated from Chad as well as CAR. While efforts are ongoing to improve the level of services in the Um Shalaya refugee camp, continued influxes suggest the need for timely negotiations with government actors, to identify appropriate locations to house refugee populations currently located close to border areas, in order to ensure the safety and integrity of both refugee and host populations in these regions. Meanwhile, some limited refugee returns to Darfur continued to be observed, including to southern Dar Zaghawa in North Darfur, Um Dukhun and Habila in West Darfur. Their most immediate humanitarian needs have been addressed.

22. **Summary**

Despite increased constraints during the course of 2008, resulting from the consistently high prevalence of armed conflict and insecurity, as well as significantly increased targeted attacks against humanitarian actors and assets, the humanitarian situation in Darfur continued to remain largely under control thanks to a massive humanitarian operation. No epidemics were reported and malnutrition levels remained at manageable levels. However, the humanitarian challenges are growing with every month that passes in this six year old conflict and the humanitarian situation may spiral out of control any moment. The numbers of IDPs and conflict-affected people are growing continuously while access to rural areas is severely hampered, creating a pull effect towards major towns and IDP settlements and further eroding the socio-economic fabric of Darfur.
