

ALKO IDPS STATUS BRIEF AS AT 25TH APRIL 2011.

On 19th April 2011 the government through the Ministry of Special programmes (MoSSP) transported some IDPs from Rongai Alko camp hoping to resettle them in Trans-Nzoia, Kwanza District. The total number of those transported was 255 households with an approximate population of 570 people including children.

RECEPTION

On arrival to Endebess, these IDPS were turned away by furious residents opposed to the resettlement attempt. They wanted their own IDPs and squatters to be resettled first. This forced the Provincial Administration to act swiftly by transferring the families to an alternative site pending further determination to the matter.

CURRENT LOCATION.

These families are currently camping at Soil Conservation Primary School which is next to the Ministry of Agriculture Offices in Kitale Town. Through the province Administration, they have been allowed to pitch their tents for a while before a solution is reached on either to return them back to Nakuru or be resettled on the earmarked land.

PRESENT NGOS / HUMANITARIAN AGENCIES / GoK MINISTRIES .

1. Ministry of State for Special Programmes.

Ministry officials have been on the ground throughout to ensure several arrangements to do with food provision, access to treatment, distribution of tents and other basic needs are well taken care of.

2. Provincial Administration

Has been instrumental in the implementation of above along with providing 24 hours security vigilance to the IDPs camp. Kwanza District Commissioner spends most of his time interacting with these IDPs in the day. Administration Police patrol has been maximized to reduce fear that once affected the IDPs on arrival. Clean water and firewood is delivered to the camp and distributed to the satisfaction of all families.

3. Catholic Church

Continues to provide both material and spiritual support to the families. Others are the Faith Community (Kitale Based) and local residents who have began to appreciate the displaced families .For example the Pokot Community donated over three bags of clothing to IDPs through the Catholic Church on 23rd April 2011.

Opinions of IDPs (ALKO) about the land targeted for their resettlement:

On their arrival to Trans-Nzoia the provincial Administration organized an IDPs leaders committee to visit the said land before they joined the rest in the camp. A close interview with the same however revealed as follows:

- That the land lies in the boarder of West Pokot and Trans-Nzoia which has a recurrent security problem.
- That they (leaders) learnt from residents that they only forced resettlement would not work as residents in the neighbourhood will oppose it as they did on arrival.
- That part of the land is swampy and would not be sufficient for human habitation. This they referred to the 90 acres of land that the government wants to use as a transit site before finally transferring some of the families elsewhere. Some 34 families are expected to remain there at the end of the process.

N/B In mild tones, families are divided over whether to take or refuse the offer citing insecurity among other reasons.

RECOMMENDATION:

- That the process of consultation between relevant actors including the local politicians, provincial administration, local, IDPs and squatters leaders is necessary for amicable solution to be reached.
 - That the IDPS who have been targeted for that resettlement should be adequately informed of the process and their reactions noted accordingly to avoid repercussions.
 - Need for adequate food supply is required along with proper arrangement of families to take their children to the nearby school immediately they re-open.
 - An arrangement for shelter construction must be in place before to avoid further disasters attributed to adverse weather conditions.
 - Finally the whole process must be expedited for beneficiaries to engage fully in socio-economic activities.

REPORT MADE BY;

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