

Kenya Humanitarian Forum – Nairobi – 1 August 2008

1. Security Update

Overall in Kenya the situation is calm. No incidences were recorded in Nairobi, Nakuru, Naivasha, and Eldoret. Furthermore, Kakuma and Lokichokio remain calm.

2. Cluster Reports

Education Cluster

- Monitoring field visits to transit camps are on-going. Please note that schools are currently closed.
- Education Cluster meeting was not held since 3 months, and is planned to be held in the upcoming week under the lead of the Ministry of Education and UNICEF.

CCCM

- KRCS working on data entry of IDP registration for return. UNHCR has carried out data entry trainings for IOM in Eldoret.
- Camp clean-up by KRCS and government of closed camps
- In Kisumu, UNHCR will undertake in partnership with the Kenya Community Paralegal Association an assessment of protection concerns among IDPs integrated in host communities.
- Although KRCS pulled out, there are still 7000IDPs remaining in Nakuru Showground.

Shelter & NFI

- Goal constructed 482 transitional shelter kits in Kipkelion – evaluation of project is upcoming. Next phase is that DRC will build 700 transitional shelter kits in Molo district. Overall, it is intended to provide 3,500 transitional kits in Kipkelion and Molo.

Protection

- UNHCR Kisumu Office has planned a six-month intervention project on HIV/AIDS in the region. The office is working in partnership with DEVLINK and Liverpool VCT. The project will fit in the National HIV/AIDS Strategy.
- Training on interviewing of victims of violence was carried out by UNHCR/ as psychologist for community services in Nakuru yesterday and previously in Nairobi. (Rebecca Dempster)

Food Aid

- Currently, in total 214,000 IDPs are supported with food aid, of which 114,000 are located in North Rift and 100,000 in South Rift. GoK contributed in-kind 65,000 metric tons of cereals. Further donations from GoK are not expected at this stage, and therefore, the cereals pipeline will depend heavily on purchases from South Africa in the upcoming months. The first shipment of maize is expected to dock in Mombasa by the end of August.
- Joint FAO and WFP and Ministry of Agriculture Programme for input fairs through cash-vouchers for 20,000 farmers in 9 districts in the PEV areas. Expectation is that former IDPs will harvest in September 2008, and consequently food aid can be reduced significantly / phased out.
- Expected draft report for Short-Rain Assessment will be issued by mid August.

Early Recovery

- Correction to last week's meeting minutes: 34,000 households (not 44 000) are currently targeted for voucher schemes.
- UNDP is drafting a Recovery Strategy. The main pillars of the strategy will include: Livelihoods, Peace and Reconciliation and Social Cohesion. Furthermore, the strategy will focus on women and youth.
- UNEP is planning to organize an assessment, Expected Outputs: Assessment report, template of environmental mgt, and environmental mgt tool kit.

3. Presentation on the Youth Enterprise Development Fund

A presentation briefing by a representative of the Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDF) was held. Its purpose is to address the inability of most young people to access capital for business ventures. The fund was allocated KSH.1 billion in the financial year 2006/7, 0.75 Billion in 2007/2008 and 0.5 billion in 2008/2009. The YEDF is now a state corporation. Objectives of the Youth Enterprise Development Fund are the following:

- To provide loans for on-lending to youth enterprises
- To attract and facilitate investment in the creation of commercial infrastructure beneficial to youth enterprises
- To support youth enterprises develop linkages with large enterprises
- To facilitate domestic & international marketing of youth products
- To facilitate the youth access employment in foreign labor markets

The target group is Kenyan youth between the age of 18 to 35 years, who wish to start or expand business ventures in Kenya. These may be individual youth enterprise owners and group-owned youth enterprises. The YEDF has accomplished the following achievements since 2007:

- Financed over 39,000 youth enterprises across the country to the tune of Ksh. 1.1 billion through FIs.
- Financed over 6,200 youth groups spread across all constituencies, at Ksh. 266 million.
- Trained over 97,000 young entrepreneurs.
- Facilitated a business plan competition in which over 6,000 young Kenyans participated.
- Supported 702 young people to work abroad, mainly in the Gulf region.
- Assisted thousands of young entrepreneurs to market their products through trade fairs.
- Triggered private sector interest to finance youth enterprises through leverage.
- Integrated thousands of youth into mainstream financial services.
- Encouraged formation of “positive purpose” groups by thousands of youth.

The following challenges are faced by the YEDF initiative:

- Many young people lack entrepreneurial skills.
- Lack of credible FIs in some areas of Kenya.
- Earlier perception that YEDF is political.
- Some youth still have inadequate information on YEDF.
- Demand for services of the Fund is very high compared to the resources allocated.
- Many young people are unable to access financial services due to far distances between their homes and the nearest financial institution. This may at times have a negative effect on uptake and on repayment.

Please see for further details of the YEDF at presentation, which will be send out along with the meeting minutes. After the presentation, a Q&A session was conducted for/by the participants of the Kenya Humanitarian Forum. The following discussions were held:

- Cultural exchange between youth of Central Province and Maraquesh was initiated in order to strengthen Peace and Reconciliation effort. It was noted that this though is not part of the programme of the YEDF as it has no enterprise component, but rather a peace and reconciliation initiative by the Ministry of Youth and UNDP.
- 60% of fund beneficiaries are women. Kenya Women Finance Trust was given 200 million Ksh from the fund. Furthermore, groups with higher percentages of women are more likely to be funded.
- Most youth entrepreneurs are between the age of 22-35 years.
- World Vision has a Microfinance Department and interested for cooperation with the YEDF. After this expression of interest YEDF and World Vision will follow up on the possibility of working together.

- One of challenges faced of the YEDF is access of information to youth about the fund. Therefore, a communication strategy was designed in order to try reaching the youth. This includes creative methods such as community theatre groups and the use of structures of religious organizations in order to facilitate access to information about the fund.
- A feedback mechanisms of lessons learned back to the fund management does not exist yet. The problem is that there is no adequate staffing for management of the fund. However, the target is to strengthen the fund staffing in the next few months.
- The representative of the YEDF encouraged all meeting participants as welcomed partners for future collaboration with the fund.

4. **AOB**

- The IASC decided that a system of focal points on converging issues (i.e. land use issues, issues of humanitarian access, environment) shall be established under the coordination of OCHA. **Action Point: Next week an update on the progress of the focal point system will be given by OCHA in the next Kenya Humanitarian Forum.**
- Save the Children and IRC will hold a one week assessment in Mount Elgon starting next Tuesday, 05.08.2008.
- “CERF for IDP Assistance” was revised to 3Mio US\$. OCHA is still waiting for feedback from the CERF Secretariat. Moreover, **Kenya was asked to revise the “CERF for Food Security Assistance” to 5 Mio US\$ as the CERF Secretariat was flooded with worldwide applications.**
- USAID pointed to the decreased attention on the urban food crisis. To this regard, Soliderite highlighted that it wrote a proposal two months ago, and is still looking for donors. Furthermore, it was noted that the urban food crisis was part of the “Food Security CERF” application. USAID noted that food aid is not necessarily the most adequate response, but rather access to markets needs to be strengthened. **Action point: Several meeting participants were interested to develop a joint plan forward on the issue. OCHA will follow up.** Furthermore, it was noted that quite a number of partners and capacities are operating on the ground, which do not surface because many small NGOs/CBOs don't have the time to attend meetings and, thus their efforts are not highly visible to the humanitarian community.