



### SITUATION REPORT N° 17 – UGANDA FLOODS – 4 DECEMBER 2007

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- **ACCELERATED ROUTINE IMMUNISATION IN BUKEDEA AND KATAKWI EXTENDED FOR THREE ADDITIONAL DAYS**
- **PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF ASSESSMENT IN KATAKWI DISTRICT INDICATE MAJOR REMAINING NEEDS, ESPECIALLY FOR IDPS**

The information contained in this report has been gathered by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) from sources including the Government of Uganda, UN agencies, Non-Governmental Organizations and the Red Cross movement.

#### Situation Overview

1. Road access has been restored in the region as water levels have continued to recede with the onset of the dry season. In Katakwi, the water level in Omasia - Oriau swamp on the Toroma – Magoro road has receded and the road is in use by light vehicles. The road linking Katakwi to Amuria district through Usuk/ Acowa sub-counties is now accessible as the water level in Kirik river/ Ajeliek swamp has gone down. The water at Awoja Bridge in Soroti has also receded, although the bridge has not been officially re-opened.
2. Some repair works have started, although the need remains urgent for most affected roads. Major repair and rehabilitation of the Katakwi/Soroti highway is ongoing by the government. The rehabilitation of Magoro Corner is also ongoing.
3. According to the preliminary partial results of the eight day (26 November to 3 December) accelerated routine immunisation in Bukedea and Kumi districts, 7,968 of the targeted 23,000 children have so far been immunized in Bukedea and 15,267 of the targeted 55,380 children in Kumi. All targeted children are aged between six and 59 months. The exercise has been extended for a further three days until 6 December. The total number of measles cases reported to date is 36, with one death. The last case was reported on 28 November.
4. An inter-agency assessment was requested by Katakwi District and carried out with support from the humanitarian community on 28 November. Preliminary findings indicate major remaining needs in a number of sectors including health, water and sanitation, and improved access to services. The report will be finalised and shared shortly.

#### Humanitarian Response

Since the issuance of the last Situation Report, the following updates have been received:

##### **Camp Coordination and Camp Management**

*Cluster lead: UNHCR*

*Cluster members: ASB*

5. A number of tents were provided to the police and Anti Stock Theft Units (ASTUs) to deploy further detachments to strategic locations to strengthen the protection of IDP camps and some villages of return.
6. Camp profiling is ongoing and it is expected to be completed by the end of December 2007. The exercise includes population profiling and in-depth needs assessment and analysis.

##### **Early Recovery**

*Cluster Lead: UNDP*

*Cluster members: District Local Governments of Amuria and Katakwi, Office of the Prime Minister [OPM], CCF, Soroti Catholic Diocese Integrated Development Organisation (SOCADIDO), Premiere Urgence and URCS*

7. The cluster is currently working with these three major concerns:
  - **Governance:** supporting the formation of the Sub County Disaster Management Committees (SCDMC) in all sub-counties and a capacity building programme to ensure that SCDMCs will be equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills required to support communities to undertake early recovery activities.
  - **Support to returning IDPs and flood affected communities:** working with key partners, particularly district governments, in order to provide appropriate support to IDPs who have voluntarily returned or plan to return to their areas of origin and addressing the

early recovery needs of the communities affected by the floods.

- **Quick Impact Initiatives:** preparing the systems and procedures for the eventual roll out of the Quick Impact Initiatives. Efforts are being undertaken to ensure that the interventions will complement existing initiatives by partners; strengthen existing coping mechanisms of the communities; and maximize existing resources in the area.

### **Food Security**

*Cluster Lead: FAO and WFP*

*Cluster members: SOCADIDO, LWF, World Vision, TEMEDO, TEDDO, URCS, War on Want, Local Governments, Vision TERUDO, Pilgrim, PAG church, Uganda Scouts, BEKOA, Premiere Urgence, Africare*

8. Approximately 23,000 beneficiaries received seeds and tools in Teso region this season. This is about 50 per cent of the target population (50,000). Most of the seeds distributed consisted of vegetable seeds that can be planted during the current season.
9. Two key challenges for the cluster have been low quantity of inputs and delayed/late distributions. As a result, the distributions (number of persons covered) per location were quite small due to the limited quantity of inputs, particularly the cassava and sweet potatoes that are the main food security crops in the region. In addition, the planting materials arrived late and have not been planted by some communities.
10. The other challenge identified by the cluster is the need to identify and implement other non-agricultural based livelihood activities to support the communities to bridge the food gap which is expected between now (onset of the dry season) and July next year when the harvests of the first season crops are expected.
11. There have been unverified reports of bitter sweet potatoes in Katakwi, similar to reports in Soroti in October.
12. Livestock vaccination activities undertaken by the local government of Katakwi district are ongoing.
13. Another new partner, Africare, has joined the cluster.

### **Health, Nutrition and HIV/AIDS**

*Cluster Lead: World Health Organization (WHO)*

*Implementing members: UNICEF, Red Cross Society, Malteser, Pilgrim, MOH, Youth with Mission, Uganda Assemblies of God, Germany Emergency Doctors, Soroti Diocese, Oxfam, PSI, Malaria Consortium, THW, UNFPA*

14. An intensified eight day-long accelerated routine immunization exercise began on 26 November in Kumi and Bukedea to control the measles

outbreak. Preliminary partial results released on 3 December from a few health facilities indicate that Bukedea has immunized 7,968 of the targeted 23,000 children and Kumi has immunized 15,267 of the targeted 55,380 children. All are aged between six and 59 months.

15. Measles case detection has been strengthened. The cumulative number of cases since the outbreak is now 36, with one death. Thus, the Case Fatality Rate (CFR) is 2.7 per cent. The last reported case occurred on 28 November.
16. All suspected measles cases reported in Sironko, Manafwa and Bukwa have been investigated and the laboratory results found to be negative.
17. A total of 824 Village Health Teams (VHT) members were trained, mainly on disease surveillance, across all sub-counties of Amuria District.
18. Three mobile clinic teams attended to 2,418 patients in areas far away from functional health facilities in Katakwi and Amuria.
19. Insecticide Treated Mosquito Nets (ITNs) were distributed to communities in Sironko and Kapchorwa districts.
20. Ongoing activities in the cluster since the last reports are water purification and provision of chlorine tablets for household water treatment in Amuria, Katakwi, Kumi and Bukedea and health education, with emphasis on control of malaria, diarrhoeal diseases and measles, in the districts of Sironko, Kapchorwa, Kumi and Bukedea. Film vans, mobile clinic teams and VHTs continue to be supported in Katakwi and Amuria districts.

### **Protection**

*Cluster Lead: UNHCR*

No input for this week

### **Shelter and Non Food Items (NFI)**

*Cluster Lead: UNICEF*

*Cluster members: ASB and SOCADIDO*

No input for this week.

### **Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)**

*Cluster lead: UNICEF*

*Cluster members: URCS, OXFAM, Directorate of Water, Pilgrim, MoH, CESVI, Premiere Urgence*

21. Well disinfection was done in six locations in Sironko District and one location in Kumi District.
22. Safe water kits have been distributed to approximately 1,000 people in Bukedea.
23. Two new boreholes were constructed at Aketa Health Centre III and Ongongoja camp in Ongongoja Sub-County, Katakwi District.

24. The cluster facilitated the collection of an additional 15 water samples from a range of districts throughout Teso, Bugisu, and Sebei sub-regions.
25. Construction of semi-permanent latrines was completed in 5 schools in Bukedea and Amuria.
26. Ongoing activities in the cluster since the last report are emergency supply of treated water in Oongora (Katakwi) for approximately 500 families and WASH Assessment in all sub-counties in Katakwi District in co-ordination with District Authorities.

## Coordination

27. Weekly meetings were held by the Early Recovery, WASH, Food Security and Health, Nutrition and HIV/AIDS clusters.
28. Two extraordinary District Disaster Management Committee meetings were held in Katakwi on 26 and 27 November to plan for the inter-agency assessment carried out 28 November.
29. **The present will be the final Situation Report dedicated specifically to the Floods Response in the Teso, Bugisu and Sebei sub-regions.** In future, the Floods Response will be covered within the regular monthly reporting on humanitarian action in Uganda.
30. The second Progress Report on the Uganda Floods Flash Appeal is expected to be released in the coming week.

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