

## Kenya Situation Report

Health Cluster team, ELDORET  
20 - 21 February 2008

### Overview of activities

During the period under review, the WHO team in Eldoret joined the Provincial Health Management Team (PHMT) from Nakuru which is on a supervision and fact finding mission in the North Rift region of the province. On 20 -21 February, the team visited Trans Nzoia East and West districts. At the local level, the PHMT were joined by the respective DHMTs from the two districts. The teams carried out the following activities:

- Held meetings with the two DHMTs from the two districts at Kitale District Hospital on 20.02.08
- Visited Makutano and Noigam Camps (Trans Nzoia East) on 20.02.08
- Visited ASK showground camp in Kitale and Endebes camp (Trans Nzoia East) on 21.02.08.

### Security

- The security situation in Eldoret town and its surroundings remained calm.

### Summary of events

#### Meetings with DHMTs from East and West Trans Nzoia districts

- The team were briefing by the Medical Superintendent of Kitale District Hospital. The doctor reported that the hospital was seriously affected by the crisis:
  - High number of patients with serious injuries as result of the clashes,
  - High number of surgical cases which were operated free of charge
  - Mortuary services stretched – the 12 body capacity was stretched to 120. All were from victims of the crisis. All attended to at no charges.
  - The hospital had also to open an extra male ward in order to cope with the huge number of victims.
  - Stretching of the limited number of health workers due to increase workload and long working hours in order to cope with the crisis.
  - As a result of all the above, the hospital lost the necessary funds it used to generate since the services were offered free of charge. The resources such as drugs, I.V. fluids, and reagents also ran short due to excessive demand.
  - The Med Superintendent was however happy that the hospital played its rightful role and was extremely pleased with staff for the superb work they did.
- The DHMT reported that disease surveillance was going on well but were extremely handicapped with lack of reagents to carry out some of the basic laboratory analysis that are essential for disease surveillance. As a result of this the team with approval from the visiting PHMT members submitted a request to WHO-KENYA to assist and improve the capacity of the laboratory.
- Both the visiting PHMT and the two DHMT members from the districts impressed on the need to improve the capacity of the Kitale District Hospital laboratory. This they this is because of the strategic position the hospital occupies since it serves the whole of the North Rift region including Turkana and West Pokot districts among others.
- Challenges include: Limited lab resources for disease surveillance, limited health workers, lack of cold chain system for Trans Nzoia East district among others.
- Two health facilities – Mt. Elgon National Park dispensary and Kimondo dispensary are still closed due to threats to the lives of the health workers.

- The DHMTs provided the current populations of the IDP camps in the two districts which were as follows:

<b>District/IDP Camp</b>	<b>IDP Populatio</b>	<b>No. of Toilets</b>	<b>No. of Bathrooms</b>	<b>No. of Water capacity</b>	<b>Number of Refuse disposal pits</b>
<b>Trans Nzoia West</b>					
Kitale Showground	1,700	6*	6	15,000	2
Waumini	1,350	4*	6	10,000	1
Pefa Church	2,800	4*	6	15,00	1
Explosion Chur	600	4*	3	10,000	1
Sikhendu	2,300	6*	2	B/hole	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,750</b>				
<b>Trans Nzoia East</b>					
Noigam	13,755 <sup>1</sup>	58*	40	25,000	3
Endebes	6,867	88	40	65,000	5
Makutano	2,894	10*	4	3,600	1
kesogon	1,874	4*	0	10,000	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,381</b>				

\* Construction of other toilets going on

### Visit to Makutano and Noigam IDP Camps in Trans Nzoia East District

#### Makutano Camp:

- Of the 2894 inmates, 777 have tents while the rest stay with friends or at the church.
- Water shortage due vandalism
- Lack of adequate food .
- Several severely malnourished children noted. No Unimix available according to the KRCS official but asked to collect from Noigam camp which had adequate amount.
- Complaints of lack of soap and KRCS officer asked to follow up urgently.
- Fuel for cooking a big problem
- Agencies involved include: KRCS, Oxfam and MOH.

#### Noigam Camp:

- Population of 13 755 of which 7254 stay outside the camp
- Pregnant mothers 54 while the lactating were 25.
- Observed good sanitary services being offered by Oxfam GB and other agencies.
- Improved toilet construction and garbage collection
- Adequate food supply including Unimix
- IDSR reports being submitted on weekly basis.
- In general good progress has been noted regarding sanitation, health promotion and other basic services.

### Visit to ASK showground camp in Kitale (Trans Nzoia West) and Endebes camp (Trans Nzoia East) on 21.02.08.

#### Ask Showground Camp (Kitale)

Agencies working here include KRCS, IMC, MOH and MSF B among others. Major challenges raised by the population and officials of the camp:

- Limited number of toilets – construction going now
- Lack of static health facility in the camp – team approved a static health facilities in the camp. Two mothers were reported to have delivered in the camp, one of them assisted by good Samaritans.
- Erratic water supply.
- Poor refuse collection
- Lack of adequate shelter for some of the families
- Schools for the children are problem but are being absorbed in the nearby ones.

<sup>1</sup> The number of IDPs in the camp is 6,921.

- Observed that good supply of food and other non-food items received in the camp and were for ready for distribution.

Endebes IDP Camp in Trans Nzoia East.

- This camp has a total population of 8,081 IDPs indicating a rising number.
- Currently the agencies involved include KRCS, IMC, MOH and MSF B. MSF has done a good job in the areas of water provision, sanitation, and health promotion. The camp is one of the best managed. Also run a clinic in the camp and seconded other health workers at the sub-district hospital.
- Concerns raised that the IDPs were being asked to pay for laboratory services. MSF B now assisting in meeting these demands
- Lab lacks reagent for the lab test to be done.
- Clinical officer reported seeing five cases of bloody diarrhoea but no investigation done due to limited resources including polypots for specimen collection.
- Challenges facing this camp: lack of space for expansion hence the no more registration is taking place despite the daily new arrivals; lack of space to keep the animals which loiter and litter the whole camp.

**For further information**

<http://www.afro.who.int/>

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