

UNICEF DARFUR EMERGENCY MONTHLY REPORT

REVIEW OF THE 120 DAY HUMANITARIAN ACTION PLAN

(1 September – 20 December 2004)



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i. Programmatic Overview of the Period

The recent crisis in Darfur, beginning March 2003, rose from an isolated insurgency to a full-scale conflict affecting close to 2.2 million persons by the end of November, 2004. Unfortunately, despite early evidence of widespread violence and population displacement, the international humanitarian response to the conflict was initially delayed. In May 2004, in order to accelerate and streamline assistance, the UN and NGO community developed the 90 Day and 120 Day Humanitarian Action Plans for Darfur. The plans served as programmatic planning tools, setting targets for delivery during the period of 1 June to 31 August and 1 September to 31 December, respectively. UNICEF was appointed as Sector Coordinator in the areas of WES, Nutrition and Education and became the focal point for Child Protection and Primary Health Care, within the larger Protection and Health Coordination groups.

Now, at the close of the 120 Day Plan, it is safe to say that the expansion of programmes has been remarkable. Due to the efforts of all implementing partners, over 999,660 persons have benefited from increased access to safe water. Approximately 867,950 persons can now access sanitary facilities. Some 1,395,900 persons are covered through expansion of primary health care facilities and over 49 therapeutic and 50 supplementary feeding centres assisted approximately 37,000 severely malnourished children this month. Also promising is that over 139,000 conflict affected children are currently enrolled in school.

Over the 90 Day Period, increased donor funding, the deployment of additional staff and the arrival of a new implementing partners from the NGO community resulted in a dramatic expansion of implementation across all sectors. Unfortunately, as the achievements grew, so did the insecurity and the size of the displaced and host population, meaning that although UNICEF met or exceeded all targets set, the progress was not sufficient to adequately cover the growing need. UNICEF's 120 Day Plan, in turn, has been characterized by more modest expansion of programmes and increasingly crucial efforts to consolidate progress through maintenance (and repair) of services and the development of standards for quality control. Although the progress during both periods is significant, most achievements have not met the cumulative targets established for 31 December and remain inadequate in comparison with the needs of conflict-affected communities.

Increased insecurity and decreased access to vulnerable communities (as well as the holy month of Ramadan) affected implementation the 120-day period—but UNICEF was also constrained by a lack of funding in the key sector of WES and limited human resources for sector coordination and administration of programmes across the other sectors. In total, 70 positions (or 44%) of the total staff structure proposed to handle the emergency through 2005 are currently vacant or under recruitment. The Child Protection sector reports a limited number of NGO partners and a general lack of pro-active government involvement, thus constraining field capacity to implement and monitor activities. The primary reason for modest progress against targets however, has been the increasingly stretched capacity of UNICEF's government partners. In particular, the Ministries of Education and WES have encountered gaps in human resources which severely constrained growth.

ii. Political and Humanitarian Overview

At the end of the year, forecasts for 2005 look grim. In November, the UN Secretary General noted that any political progress on Darfur had been overshadowed by a regression in the security situation. Despite the signing of two Humanitarian and Security Protocols on 9 November and continued talks in Abuja, insecurity and fighting has increased, resulting in more population displacement. In North Darfur, the attack on Tawilla by the SLA on 22 November, followed by government retaliatory actions was a major setback. Similarly, attacks on police posts in Kalma camp, South Darfur on 13 and 22 November by suspected SLA members, led to several retaliatory attacks by the GoS. The outbreak of fighting is set against a backdrop of increasingly mobilized cattle rustling and tribal clashes for access to traditional nomadic grazing grounds.

Also complicating matters has been the rise of additional rebel groups including the National Movement for Reform and Development (NMRD), a break-away faction of the JEM, based in West Darfur, and the Sudanese National Movement for the Eradication of Marginalisation (SNMEM), based in Kordofan. Both claim to be fighting for power and wealth sharing and inclusion in internationally mediated negotiations for a settlement to the conflict. The NMRD attacked four villages around the Kulbus area in November while supportive operations by elements of the Chadian army were reported across the border. The NMRD signed an "eight-point plan" with the government however, in which they agreed to a "definitive end to hostilities" and respect to agreements struck (and broken) by other rebel groups. The SNMEM attacked a small oil field in South Darfur killing 15 people but not interrupting the 3,000 barrel per day capacity of the station.

This increasingly militarized and volatile environment has led to a marked decrease in security for both civilians, aid workers and observers. The Abu Shouk and Kalma camps have become overburdened with new arrivals, fleeing fighting in their region –while UN Security has deemed many roads and regions (mostly surrounding areas of SLM/A control) unsafe, thus restricting access to many vulnerable communities. The Under-Secretary General Prendergast reported that the percentage of vulnerable persons accessible in Darfur fell from about 90 to 80 percent in November, due to increased insecurity. In North Darfur, where tens of thousands were cut off from relief following the Tawilla attack, the percentage fell to 67 percent.

Despite restrictions, NGOs and UN staff have encountered dangerous elements, most dramatically evidenced by the death of four SC-UK staff members during this period. Two were killed in a landmine incident in North Darfur in October while two were recently shot by armed militia in South Darfur. These incidents have resulted in the withdrawal of this important partner from Darfur and a re-organization of responsibilities in their absence. Also notable was the shooting of an AU observer investigating the confrontation between armed militia and the SLA in Adwah village, South Darfur. He sustained only minor injuries but the AU were forced to withdraw from their investigation in the areas.

The final result is a highly vulnerable and often insecure displaced population (approximately 1.66 million persons), rendered almost completely dependant on humanitarian assistance—and an increasingly sensitive host community (some 530,209 hosts and affected residents), that continues to suffer from the effects of economic collapse and severe agricultural drought.¹ Conditions in camps are variable, depending on a variety of factors including access. Geographic inequalities in services, (between camps and between host communities and the displaced) have resulted in tension and a "pull-factor" towards IDP locations, particularly notable in locations where food stocks are depleted.

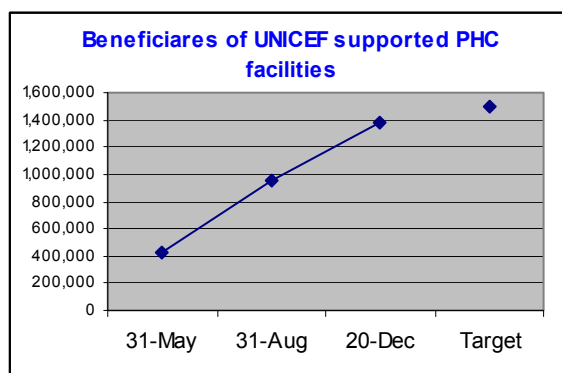
Exacerbating the situation in this period were unexpected and controversial government relocations, conducted in a manner contrary to the memorandum of understanding signed by the GoS, IOM and the UN on return issues in August. By the end of the year however, the government committed to work jointly with the UN to identify new sites for proper and voluntary relocations. Plans are also being made for limited and voluntary UN and government assisted returns, particularly in some villages of West Darfur.

Child protection concerns such as separated children, children associated with the fighting forces and victims of sexual and gender based violence persist. Women who have conceived children through rape are of particular concern as they are often abandoned by families and some have in turn, abandoned their new babies.

¹ The total conflict affected population of Darfur has decreased by 89,281 since October, entirely due to improved registration of residents and host communities. OCHA Humanitarian Needs Profile, No. 9.

1. PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

The UNICEF 120 Day Plan set its targets on a population of 1.5 million conflict affected persons and set a contingency plan for coverage of 2 million. The target for increasing primary health care coverage was to be pursued both by increasing the number of Primary Health Care clinics to cover new areas – and by increasing the quality of care with adequate training and staffing, so that clinics and mobile teams could properly care for those in reach. From September to December, an additional 32 fixed PHC facilities and 8 mobile teams were established, with support from UNICEF in the form of essential drugs, technical equipment, and/or coordination and training. The total number of PHCs supported by UNICEF then is 144 fixed facilities and/or dispensaries and 23 mobile teams which reach approximately 1,395,755 beneficiaries, as detailed in the table below (only PHCs that are adequately staffed have beneficiaries included in this count). These UNICEF supported facilities are assumed to be approximately three quarters of the total PHCs operating in Darfur.



UNICEF Supported Primary Health Care Facilities in Darfur

	West	North	South	Total
Beneficiaries	495,000	388,000	512,755	1,395,755
Fixed facilities (and dispensaries)	60	26	58	144
Mobile teams	14	5	4	23

These accomplishments, although significant, still fall short of the target goals. There are geographic gaps in coverage and also gaps in the quality of care which must be addressed. Geographic gaps in coverage are due to a combination of increased insecurity during the past months—but also due to the difficulties involved with servicing remote locations. Fixed facilities and mobile teams in the SLM/A areas of Hashaba, Bashim, Gabr El Ghanam, KulKul and Dissa, North Darfur, continue to operate however, with UNICEF support. UNICEF has coordinated helicopter drops of essential medicines to these locations and others in the Mellit area when access was restricted. IRC is interested in enhancing the antenatal care, training and rehabilitation of the Hashaba site while WHO is planning to build a referral medical unit with 10 beds close to the facility.

In terms of quality of care, the number of UNICEF routine monitoring visits to health facilities has increased since the 90 Day Plan, but with the larger sampling, a more accurate picture of the conditions of health facilities is emerging. Generally, there was an 80% recorded presence of essential drugs in monitored facilities since May; 50% availability of EPI services and 65% availability of Ante-Natal Care (two thirds of patients receiving iron/folate supplements). These figures indicate a need for improvement, especially in ensuring EPI services.

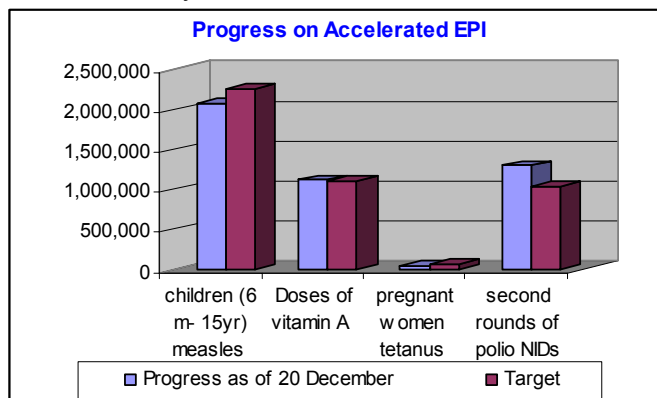
On the positive side, there has been a significant advance in training doctors and medical assistants through the period, providing an improvement to quality of care which is difficult to quantify. Since June, there have been 261 persons enrolled in sessions for correct case management, 119 in Maternal Health and approximately 82 in routine EPI training. Also positive are improvements to the overall coordination mechanisms for primary health care. The Workshop titled "Primary Health Care response in Darfur: Lessons Learned and Challenges Ahead", was held in Khartoum on 17-18 October 2004 and was attended by more than 158 representatives from Federal and State Ministry of Health, UN Agencies and NGOs. Follow-up meetings in the field have been very successful at addressing issues such as the production of a standard reporting form, which has been developed by UNICEF in collaboration with WHO.

Accelerated EPI

An unfortunate development over the last 120 days has been the spread of wild polio cases through Sudan. In total, 96 cases have been confirmed in Sudan, while 137 remaining pending laboratory assessments. One case has been confirmed in North Darfur, eight in South Darfur and two in West Darfur. The Darfur states have just

completed the second round of National Immunization Days however, and preliminary results indicate that close to 1,289,817 children received the OPV (223,929 children out of 383,396 in North Darfur, 723,769 out of 671,809 in South Darfur; 342,119 out of 350,493 in West Darfur).

This campaign however, did not reach all insecure areas. Thanks to the determined efforts of WHO, UNICEF, WFP, Saudi R C, Malteser, GOAL, ICRC, Leprosy Mission and SC-UK, approximately 36,395 children under five were immunized in SLM/A areas, thus covering 75% of the target population in these special regions – but due to insecurity, El Leite, El Tawaisha and Muzbat areas were not covered at all. South and West Darfur also



have geographic gaps in coverage. UNICEF hopes to cover these gaps through two polio NIDs that will take place in January and February, both in Darfur and Sudan as a whole. UNICEF is investigating the resource requirements for a large scale communications, advocacy and health strategy for increasing social mobilization for these additional campaigns.

Measles is another highly communicable disease which requires continued routine EPI and mop-up campaigns for areas not sufficiently covered during the June campaign.

Special campaigns in the SLM/A areas of North Darfur in September reached approximately 30,000 children, while an emergency measles mop-up campaign in Umtajok, Krenick, Azerni and Kafanwith in West Darfur during December has reached 12,490 children, through the efforts of SMoH, UNICEF, SC-US and MSF-CH. Insecurity in North Darfur also highlighted a dangerous gap in coverage as communities fleeing fighting in the Tawilla region arrived at Abu Shouk without measles vaccination. An emergency campaign between 5 -20 December immunized approximately 13,997 children, thus bringing the Darfur total to over 2,079,487.

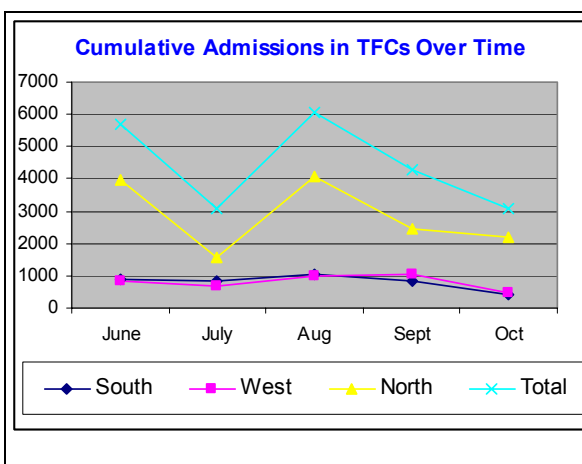
Routine EPI has made advances through the 120-day period, despite having competition through accelerated programmes and increased insecurity. Routine EPI coverage, estimated by using DPT3 coverage as a proxy indicator, has moved from 32% annualized rate target in first quarter, to 35% at the end of the 2nd quarter, to probably close to 40% or more by the end of the year. A gap of over 60% remains – but the indication of slow improvement is promising for UNICEF and partners involved.

2. NUTRITION

The nutritional situation in Darfur is improving at a slow pace. The target for the 120-Day Plan (September-December) was to establish an additional 11 SFC/TFCs, bringing the total number of SFC/TFCs to 41, by the end of December. To date, 49 TFCs have been established, (30 in West Darfur, 11 in South Darfur and 8 in North Darfur), however 3 of these centres have been suspended due to insecurity. Additionally, there are over 50 SFPs (46 are SFCs targeting moderately malnourished children while 7 provide blanket feeding for all children under five)— but not all SFCs are supported by UNICEF.² During the month of November, approximately 36,754 children were assisted with nutrition programmes.

Thanks to these interventions (and the expansion and stabilization of general food rations through WFP), admissions in some SFCs and TFCs have appeared to stabilize and decrease, thus indicating a possible decrease in the global acute malnutrition rate for these locations. The graph below shows cumulative admission numbers from most TFCs (that reported to UNICEF) over time Some of the growth in admissions is related to the growth of the sector while some of the downward trend in admissions could be related to a variety of factors including closures of TFCs. Nevertheless, there is some indication that fewer children are entering the centres, despite active-case finding programmes in each state.

² Under the MOU between UNICEF and WFP, UNICEF provides milk and nutritional inputs to TFCs, while WFP provides food for supplementary feeding. Many TFCs and SFCs also benefit from technical inputs, coordination and information support from UNICEF.



A proper evaluation of the nutrition situation must be conducted through a series of nutritional surveys in order to establish the average GAM for Darfur. Individual surveys in November do however, support the evidence of improvement. ACF conducted a follow-up survey in Abu Shouk in November after one released in June 2004, and the rate of global acute malnutrition was recorded at 27.8%, including 2.4% severe acute malnutrition. This is a substantial improvement when compared to 39% GAM and 9.7% SAM of June –but it still indicates an emergency level situation. Also promising was the estimation of the under-five mortality rate of 2.6/10,000/day in comparison to 6.76/10,000/day at the peak of the crisis. Another survey conducted in Serif Ummra, South Darfur by MSF Belgium, revealed a GAM of 14.7% and SAM

at 2.7%. Recommendations are for continued SFP and TFP support, general ration distribution, as well as continued nutrition, mortality and morbidity surveillance.

These indicators however, as with indicators of Darfur-wide coverage expressed in other documents, must be interpreted with care as there can be great geographic variation in food security and nutritional status. Selective feeding programmes are only implemented in areas where a need has been identified and conditions permit the intervention. There are regions, (such as Mellit, Malha, Tina, Kornoi and Umm Baru) that continue to be inaccessible, especially following the landmine incident, while others (such as Tawila, Malha, Mershing, Manawashe and Duma) have experienced interruptions and closures of feeding programmes due to insecurity. In addition to distribution of programmes, general food rations only reached 61% of the conflict affected in November and the harvest was almost completely missed, meaning that food insecurity will remain a defining part of this emergency through the coming year.

Understanding the need for more systematic surveys, a comprehensive plan has been drafted by the Nutrition co-ordination groups in South and West Darfur, for surveys and assessments in 2005. Gaps areas will be filled by UNICEF, as a sector coordinator. To facilitate this process, a technical task force is being formed comprising of NGOs, UNICEF, WHO, WFP, MOH and the International Health Directorate. Two UNICEF consultants will be hired to help further establish and disseminate standards for survey and data collection. Efforts to improve defaulter tracing are also being developed, in response to the continued high rate of women and children leaving TFCs before being cured.

One of the primary reasons behind the growth of the nutrition sector was the development of the Community Therapeutic Care (CTC) approach to therapeutic which is specially designed for out-patient care in remote areas with scattered populations. A workshop on CTC has been completed in El Fasher where 30 NGOs and MOH worker were trained, with tailored training provided to GOAL staff by Valid International, an effort to promote standardization of the programmes among implementing partners.

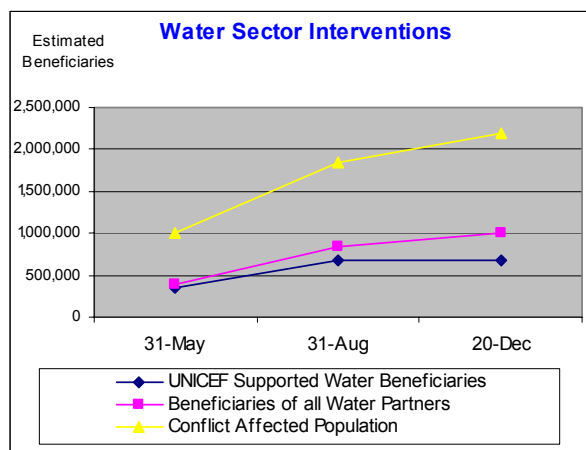
3. WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL SANITATION

Water

According to the latest sector-wide statistics released in November, there are approximately 999,552 conflict affected persons in Darfur that have benefited from improved access to safe water, through the efforts of UNICEF, NWC/WES and various NGO partners, since April/May. A rough calculation of UNICEF contribution is that we are supporting just under 700,000 of this number³. These accomplishments are very significant when considering the incredible logistical and coordination challenges encountered – but unfortunately, they have not met the goals set for 31 December (coverage for over 1.5 million persons) , nor the current estimations of need

³ According to conversions which agree that beneficiaries received 20 Litres of water per day; 1 new hand-pump = 500 beneficiaries; 1 rehabilitated hand-pump = 250 beneficiaries; water systems/yards/hand-dug wells with submersible pumps = 5,000 beneficiaries; water tankers operational in December = 1600 beneficiaries per tanker.

in Darfur. Approximately 119,443 persons still lack sufficient access to services (around 989,880 of these are considered accessible at this time). The progress therefore, is only 66% of the target and 56% of the perceived need.



All estimations of coverage should be considered with caution, as they are rough planning figures based on agreed conversions from deliverables. They do not take into account the quality of services— nor the exact quantity of water (in litres) that is provided. These estimates only record **access** to services constructed and rehabilitated (since they are capped at the population of specific sites) but there could be non-functional, thus decreasing the **actual** number or persons covered (or litres of water delivered). This is why systematic monitoring and maintenance of services is so essential and must be better developed in the coming period.

Moving away from beneficiaries to services delivered, one can find a rough breakdown of UNICEF supported activities, as implemented by NWC/WES and several NGO partners receiving drilling and hand-pumps from UNICEF, in the table below. The figures (and in the associated chart displayed above), indicate that UNICEF implementation rose sharply during the 90-Day Plan and then levelled-off during the last 120 days.

UNICEF supported services in Water, 20 December.

	South			West			North			Total 20-Dec	Target 31-Dec	% of target
	31-May	31-Aug	20-Dec	31-May	31-Aug	20-Dec	31-May	31-Aug	20-Dec			
new hand-pumps	112	47	45	166	68	8	230	48	16	740	447	166%
new water yards/hand-dug wells with	5	2	4	6	3	0	12	7	0	39	31	126%
rehab hand-pump	n/a	49	1	n/a	8	10	n/a	17	50	135	413	33%
rehab water yards	n/a	0	2	n/a	1	0	n/a	0	0	3	11	27%
tankers operating	0	15	15	0	6	8	0	17	17	40	48	83%

The most significant factor constraining expansion is the fact that UNICEF’s primary partner, the government body of NWC/WES, stretched its human resource capacity by the end of the 90-Day Plan. WES has been involved in every part of water delivery, maintenance and quality control –as well as sanitation services and hygiene promotion. Routine delivery of water (such as water tankering/filling bladders), combined with operation, maintenance and repair of services has naturally detracted from further expansion of the sector. The government is unable to commit more persons to relief efforts in Darfur, and so UNICEF cooperation agreements in 2005 will emphasize more involvement of NGOs.

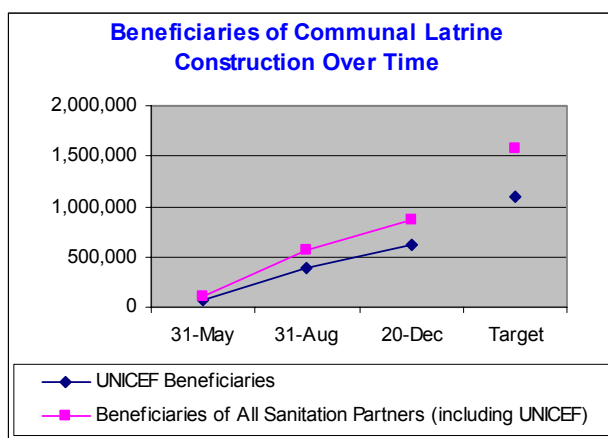
The second factor constraining expansion is the limitations of the available drilling equipment. At present, UNICEF is relying primarily on three old and frequently inoperable government drill rigs which require an enormous amount of energy and resources for repair. Private sector contracts have been successfully conducted with two rigs (and other contracts are underway), but the inability for rigs to perform at optimal levels resulted in a slowing of implementation. In addition, all rigs were only capable of drilling in the BC and AF hydro-geological formation (not for deep depths), and many rigs were limited to GoS controlled areas due to insecurity, which worsened over the last months. By April 2005 however, there should be 13 to 16 operational rigs in Darfur (10 through the NGO community, the 3 NWC/WES unreliable rigs, and 3 new rigs being commissioned for Spring 2005). These rigs, combined with those available through private sector contracts should be sufficient to address drilling requirements.

Underlining the above challenges is the quantity and timing of donor funds received for Darfur WES interventions. As of 31 August, approximately 50% of estimated requirements were received for water and sanitation activities. This number has risen to 77%, largely through a generous contribution of the Japan National Committee in December, but the timing and amount of donor contributions were still not sufficient to cover the expansion of services outlined in the 120 Day Plan. In most cases, funds have been designated for delivery, but very little has been allocated specifically for development of planning, coordination, management and monitoring. Staffing capacity at UNICEF, both in the field and Khartoum, has been heavily burdened with administration of programmes as well as trying to coordinate and enforce national standards for water quality and resource management. An Oxfam Secondee to UNICEF developed and implemented several field based training programmes for the humanitarian community, government partners and IDP communities on Sphere Project standards and national guidelines for water resource development – but still more funding for this and delivery of services is needed.

Enforcing standards for water quality and resource management is not only essential for this emergency, but for future generations of Darfur residents, who must maintain these water sources and services through time. A poorly planned and regulated strategy for this intervention can have implications for the sustainability and quality of ground water reserves. UNICEF would like to focus the early months of 2005 towards developing a fully integrated water resource management (IWRM) strategy to develop and protect the fragile water ecosystems for future generations. This project would focus on surveillance and monitoring capacity with a preliminary base-line survey to assess present water use; increasing groundwater drilling through an emphasis on private sector contractors; development of geo-physical survey capacity with training and equipment and developing alternative water sources in order to protect and enhance ground-water recharge. Agreement is currently being reached with OFDA to support three hydro-geologists teams for these activities.

Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion

According to figures of sector wide progress released for the month of November, approximately 799,525 persons benefited from improved access to sanitation facilities, through the work of all implementing partners since May. UNICEF has supported the construction of approximately 30,788 latrines and has therefore assisted approximately 615,760 internally displaced persons from the total. As illustrated in the chart below, this achievement is significantly below the 120 Day Target set at 1,094,560 beneficiaries supported by UNICEF and just over 1,500,000 by the sector as a whole. According to the current estimations of need there is a gap of over 791,819 displaced persons, or 48% of the total IDPs. Approximately 680,000 of these are considered accessible at this time.



UNICEF has completed latrine construction in coordination with NWC/WES and a private contractor. Although the choice to work through the private sector was based on an urgent need for rapid interventions and a distinct lack of operational partners working in sanitation, the capacity of NGOs is increasing, as illustrated by the growing difference between UNICEF supported latrines and the sector as a whole, in the chart to the right. Considering the stretched capacity of NWC/WES at this time, and the difficulties that were experienced regarding monitoring, reporting and quality control with the private contractor, UNICEF will explore increased implementation through NGOs in 2005.

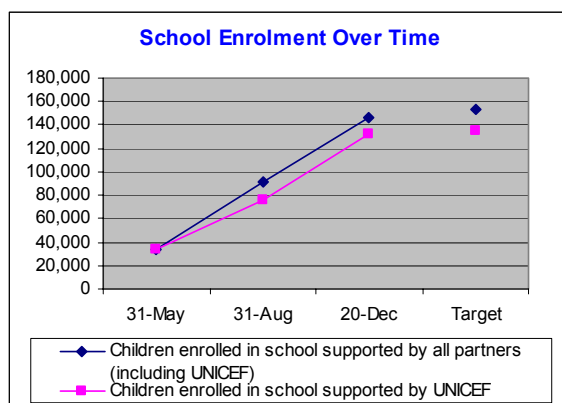
Future agreements will ensure more stringent reporting procedures and mechanisms for certification of work as

well as sensitivity to community based initiatives which private sector work can disturb.

4. EDUCATION

As of the end of November, approximately 146,693 conflict-affected children were enrolled in classes (North Darfur 71,963, South Darfur 37,396, West Darfur 37,334 pupils) against a 31 December target of 153,395 children. Approximately 132,756 of this number are supported by UNICEF while the remainder is independently supported by other NGO partners. When compared with the enrolment figures of 31 August (75,683 children)

we can see that UNICEF enrolment almost doubled during the period, but did not meet the designated target. When compared with need in the sector, there is still a gap, of approximately 338,414, or 69 % to full enrolment. Since historic enrolment levels have not exceeded 60%, this progress is considerable.



There are also positive developments regarding the gender ratio for enrolment. Girls' education in the region has historically been hampered by cultural and traditional beliefs about girls' right to education. According to MoE statistics for all schools in Darfur during 2002/2003, the GER was 49.7% boys and 33.9% girls. A gender breakdown for this year's conflict-affected children (not all schools) is only available as of 31 November and is illustrated in the table below.

December figures will be available at the close of month but it is obvious that there is great improvement. Girls make up approximately 47% of the total conflict affected children enrolled. This increase may be due to partly to the separation of displaced families from their homes and livelihoods which usually require labour from young girls – but some credit must

be given to the efforts of UNICEF and other Education partners who have provided school uniforms to girls as a way of stimulating enrolment. Since May, UNICEF has provided over 30,000 uniforms to conflict affected children in Darfur.

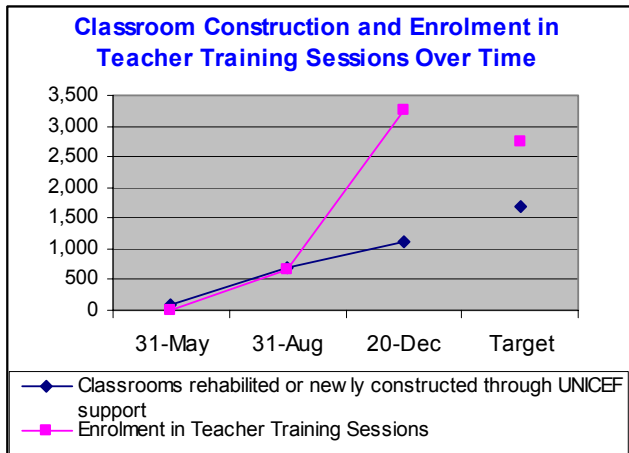
Enrolments by gender as of 31 November

Location	Boys Enrolment		Girls Enrolment		Total
	Number	%	Number	%	
North Darfur	33,308	52	30,751	48	64,059
South Darfur	17,220	50	17,046	50	34,266
West Darfur	16,344	57	12,082	43	28,426
Total	66,872	54	59,879	46	126,751

This enrolment rate has increased steadily, due in part to the continuous construction of temporary classrooms and/or rehabilitation of existing school facilities. As of 18 December, approximately 1,188 temporary classrooms have been constructed or assembled as tents while 54 permanent classrooms in host communities have been rehabilitated. In addition to the construction of these classrooms in Darfur, 120 classroom tents were supplied to UNICEF's interventions in Eastern Chad. A technical advisor was also sent to assist with the assembly of the tents. The Darfur progress is just short of the goal of 1,688 classrooms – but in several places, classroom construction has actually been put on hold due to the fact that there are not adequate numbers of properly qualified teachers to staff new structures.

There has always been a historical shortage of teachers in Darfur and since they are government employees paid through locally raised taxes, the conflict has further disrupted the systems for assignment and salary. Government structures do not permitted inter-state movements of teachers thus those who are relocated or displaced in another state due to the conflict are required to receive their payments from their original state, which is obviously not possible for most IDPs. The humanitarian community has been reluctant to create parallel and potentially unsustainable cash-based incentive structures but it is clear that some additional programmes are needed, especially for volunteer teachers and those who are salaried but have not been paid for long periods. A number of schemes to boost recruitment and commitment have evolved including Food-for-Work, NFI distribution and teacher training.

The first distribution of food for volunteer teachers was on 8 December in West Darfur, facilitated by WFP. Approximately 173 teachers received 4L oil and 1 Kg. of sugar each. There are advocacy efforts to increase this ration, ensure that it is equally distributed in all Darfur, and also provide a one-time supply of non-food items to volunteer teachers and volunteer guards. In North Darfur, following weeks of upset and interrupted classes, the MOE has given a small incentive to teachers in Abu Shouk to be used for transport each month. MoE efforts have enabled the number of teachers to increase to 212 in Abu Shouk and 68 in Zam Zam and thus, classes have resumed.



In addition to these efforts, UNICEF and partners continue to support short-term teacher training programmes (with teacher's manuals) as a way to both increase quality of education and provide additional incentives for teachers. UNICEF programmes particularly target IDP volunteer teachers. Enrolment in UNICEF-supported sessions for teaching methodology, peace education and/or psycho-social support is reported at 1,479 teachers as of 20 December (400 in North Darfur, 351 in South Darfur and 728 in West Darfur). This is against a UNICEF 31 December target of 1,434. Some teachers have enrolled in multiple classes so the actual number of individual teachers may be less. Despite these efforts, the demand for teachers still outstrips supply.

On the school feeding front, a general MOU was signed between WFP, UNICEF and the MoE in Khartoum to clarify roles in school-feeding programmes for all of Sudan –while efforts are underway to secure a Darfur-specific agreement that should impact around 150,000 high risk children by the end of 2005. At present, there are no functional programmes in place. Negotiations are underway in the three states however, to identify implementing partners and prioritize schools for a gradual implementation plan. In the meantime, WFP has agreed to issue 111 MT of high energy biscuits for the IDP children in Abu Shouk, El Fasher and Zam Zam. IRC has agreed in principle to distribute.

Another essential element guaranteeing the sustainability of schools is the continuous provision of teaching and learning materials, for teachers and pupils respectively. Materials are supplied to all temporary and some permanent schools and include classroom, pupil, and recreation kits, in addition to supply of textbooks library to a number of schools. The kits contain exercise books, pencils, and chalk etc. as well as skipping ropes, volley balls and soccer balls etc for the playground. Darfur is the only region of Sudan where UNICEF provides text books.

5. CHILD PROTECTION

Child Protection activities through the 90 and 120 Day Plans aimed at strengthening the elements which make a protective environment for children. This included advocating with Government and NGOs on children's right to protection, capacity building of those organisations and communities dealing with children, monitoring and reporting on child protection abuses, and developing services for recovery and reintegration of children affected by the conflict. Key issues evident at the start of the 120 Day Plan included:

- An increased number of children associated with armed forces and groups;
- Continued reports of rape and other forms of gender based violence;
- Increased numbers of (IDP) children living on the streets of host communities;
- More pressure on families hosting separated children and orphans;
- Many children born as a result of rape, and the high probability of their abandonment;
- A significant lack of activities/projects for adolescent boys/girls;
- Concern for conflict -affected children, including orphans and children in detention.

As a result, the core objectives in the sector focused on the following activities:

Coordination

Over the 120 Day Period, the coordination structure for protection issues evolved and specialized further. The UNCT endorsed in early October 2004 an overall protection strategy for Darfur, in which five priorities were identified, (protection of in-camp populations, protection of non-camp populations, sexual and gender based violence, involuntary returns/relocations and child protection). The protection structure in Khartoum now includes a Protection Steering Group, whose membership is composed of the key UN agencies, the AU, ICRC and 4-5 key NGOs working in the area of protection; a Protection Forum that convenes weekly, open to all

NGOs actors and donors; a Child Protection Working Group, that is chaired by UNICEF and includes all UN agencies, international NGOs and a selected number of National NGOs, and; a Sexual and Gender Based Violence Group, chaired by UNFPA. Similar divisions and groups exist at the Darfur level, but not always with the same chair.

Promotion of children and child rights based programming in the wider humanitarian response

Orientation during this period organized for 549 humanitarian personnel on children's rights, child rights based programming. In collaboration with UN agencies, notably UNOCHA, UNDP, UNFPA and UNHCR an orientation session for 612 of the AU observers was organised in North and West Darfur. However, the announcement of the further expansion of AU forces on the ground has raised concern about the need for wider dissemination of the principles of the Code of Conduct and increased training in Child Rights and SGBV. A joint UNICEF/AU meeting will take place in mid-January in Addis Ababa to discuss the expansion of training programmes to include all new troops arriving in the New Year.

A reference booklet containing practical guidelines on incorporating child rights into the wider humanitarian response, notably the sectors of water and sanitation, health, nutrition, education, and the prevention and response to sexual and gender based violence was published in Arabic and English in mid-December. A distribution plan, including orientation sessions for staff will be implemented starting early 2005.

Strengthening the psychosocial well being of children

The total number of children provided with access to psychosocial support outside the school context was 59,465, exceeding the target set for 31 December (the 90 + 120 Day achievements) – of 52,200. There are over 121 Child Spaces now operating in Darfur but the deteriorating security situation in and around IDPs camps, particularly in South Darfur, has reduced the attendance levels. The number of children provided with access to psychosocial support within schools was 119,975 against a target of 113,959 for the end of December. A total of 490 animators and 350 teachers have received training to provide psychosocial support through creative activities in schools and centres.

Prevention and response to SGBV against children and women

During the reporting period, UNICEF took the lead action for disseminating the six principles of the code of conduct for the protection of children and women from sexual abuse and exploitation during humanitarian crises. Collaboration was sought with UNFPA in some states. A total of 536 humanitarian personnel working in Darfur received orientation on sexual and gender based violence and the code of conduct. Success was also achieved in terms of establishing referral systems for the physical and psychosocial recovery of rape and gender based violence. At least one system is now in place in each one of the three Darfur States. UNHCR, IRC, Save the Children UK, MSF Holland and MSF Belgium are the main organizations involved.

Promotion of children's rights and child protection among law enforcement actors

Sensitization of the law enforcement actors on children's rights and protection of IDPs children and women from sexual violence was pursued during the reporting period through a two-pronged approach: first, organization of orientation sessions for the new police recruits in Darfur: a total of 129 policemen and women have benefited from these sessions and second, integration of a child rights and child protection module into the training organized by UNDP and IRC for police, judiciary and other law enforcement actors.

An agreement was reached with UNDP to incorporate a module on child rights and child protection within the context of the training on the rule of law that UNDP is organizing for members of the police, judiciary, security officials and NGOs in the three States of Darfur. The agreement covered the states of South and West Darfur. A total of 612 personnel have received this orientation. No action was taken regarding the in-depth training of police working in Darfur. There are a number of reasons for this, including the realization that police training needs to come within the context of a wider and more comprehensive strategic workplan to address sexual and gender based violence, and not as a stand alone training activity.

Identification, registration, care, tracing and reunification of separated children

Efforts continued to be exerted to ensure the implementation of the inter-agency framework on separated children. It is worth noting in this context that the relationship and interaction between ICRC, UNICEF and the child protection agencies that are monitoring the care and protection of separated children has improved to a large extent in South and West Darfur. Over 492 separated children have been rapidly registered and referred to partners for assistance.

Limited success was achieved in terms of promoting principles related to the *prevention* of separation of children. The security situation and the occurrence of forced relocations South and North Darfur have been the main motivations for training sessions, but also the main obstacle to holding them. At the end of November, however, an orientation session organized by UNICEF and SC-UK was organized in one of the IDPs camps that is most likely to be relocated in South Darfur. The session was attended by 51 community leaders and focused on the potential circumstances for separation, preventive measures that can reduce the occurrence of separation, as well as rapid registration forms for family tracing.

Ensuring the demobilization and reintegration of children associated with the fighting forces while preventing further recruitment

Not much progress has been made with regard to the objectives set forth on demobilization of child soldiers. The reasons include the rather ambiguous position of Government on this sensitive issue; a lack of protection activities in the SLA controlled areas and overstretched human resource capacity in all organisations. Nevertheless, around 21 youth committees have been established to consider these issues.

Monitoring and preparation for long-term child protection programming in Darfur

An information collection tool on key child protection indicators had been developed about six months ago by UNICEF and shared with the Child Protection Working Groups for collection of information. However, it was not possible this period to ensure sustainable information collection due to a rather unsystematic method of compilation, a lack of clarity on the purpose of information collection and a lack of orientation on the tool. This is an area for improvement in the New Year.

A summary of progress is detailed in the Table below:

Target by 31 Dec (90 + 120 Day Target)	Activity	Progress made as of 20 Dec
Promotion of children and child rights based programming in the wider humanitarian response		
500	Newly arriving humanitarian personnel and AU monitors oriented (through 12 sessions-- one session per month per state) on children's rights and child rights based programming in the wider humanitarian persons.	549
3	Meetings for the trainers that participated in the TOTs during the 90 day period (one meeting per state) to develop of a plan of action for follow-up.	
Strengthening the psychosocial well being of children		
52,201	Children provided with access to psychosocial support outside the context of schools	59,465
144	Animators trained on psychosocial support	490
250	School teachers trained on psychosocial support	350
113,959	Provide access to psychosocial support within the IDPs and host community schools for 63,000 children	119,975
Prevention and response to SGBV against children and women		
590	School teachers oriented on the code of conduct regarding the protection of children and women from sexual abuse and exploitation during humanitarian crises	48
1,318	New humanitarian staff in the Darfur region oriented on the code of conduct	536
3	referral mechanisms and services for victims of rape and sexual violence established	3
Promotion of children's rights and child protection among law enforcement actors		
1000	Police officers, judiciary members and/or NGO partners reached by ensuring that one session on children's rights and child protection is included in all UNDP supported training on rule of law	612
225	New police recruits trained on children's rights and community based policing	129
778	Police officers receiving in-depth training on protection from SGBV	n/a
Ensuring the DDDR of children associated with the fighting forces while preventing further recruitment		
3	Meetings among partners on the implementation of the Optional Protocol to the CRC	1
9	Youth Committees established in IDP locations (three in each state)	21
1500	Demobilized youth provided with access to livelihood opportunities	350
9	Community sensitization meetings with IDPs leaders and women's groups on children associated with the fighting forces	n/a

6. NON FOOD ITEMS

UNICEF continues to procure shelter and non-food items (NFIs) and transport them in partnership with CARE International, to organisations in Darfur. UNJLC coordinates the distribution of NFIs to implementing partners and communities in the field with OCHA. UNICEF and CARE participate in the coordination committees at both state and national levels to prioritize items for procurement. Thanks to the Governments of Canada, Germany, the United Kingdom, USAID/OFDA and ECHO as well as various UNICEF National Committees, over 5 million dollars worth of NFIs have been delivered or are in the pipeline to Darfur, as of mid-December, through the UNICEF framework agreement with Care International. The quantities of these items are detailed in the table below.

Quantity of Non-Food Items Distributed or in the Pipeline for Darfur

Quantity	Item
78,000	wool blankets
588,297	15 litre plastic buckets
247,000	18 litre jerry can
62,200	LLTN mosquito nets
5	10x20 Rubb Halls
42,000	sleeping mats
8,289,835	100 gram laundry soap
9,124,200	100 gram hand soap
993	4x50 plastic tarpaulin
48,018	4x5 plastic tarpaulin
172,600	Pieces of Toap (womens clothing)



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7. OVERVIEW OF FUNDING and MEDIA RELATIONS

During this period the Italian National Committee visited Darfur between 3-8 October, Goodwill Ambassador Mia Farrow and her son Seamus O'Sullivan Farrow visited between the 5-10 November. UNICEF provided support to over 15 international journalists traveling to Darfur, including five interviews on major networks and print media outlets for the Special Representative Keith McKenzie. Efforts to spread awareness of the crisis in Darfur and publicize the work of UNICEF have been well received.

UNICEF has requested US\$ 70,018,016 for Darfur-specific activities. Requirements have been revised to meet the needs of increased numbers of conflicted-affected persons. These do not include the estimated costs for the in-kind assistance received from USAID/OFDA and DFID. The estimated costs, including transportation costs, for the in-kind assistance as worked out by UNJLC is about \$US 4,685,699. The following is a breakdown of the funding per sector.

	Health and Nutrition	Watsan	Education	Child Protection	NFIs Emergency Response	Coordination & Planning	Total
Target	11,600,000	23,600,000	3,700,000	1,191,680	29,926,336	n/a	70,018,016
Total Funded	18,153,757	18,226,962	5,913,073	3,127,747	8,625,312	15,671	54,062,518
Unfunded Balance	(6,553,757)	5,373,038	(2,213,073)	(1,936,067)	21,301,024	(15,671)	12,178,108
% Funded	156.5%	77.2%	159.8%	262.5%	28.8%	n/a	82.6%

