

South Sudan Update



5th January 2012

Southern Kordofan Refugees in Unity State, South Sudan

The situation in Yida has been relatively calm, although uncertainty remains over the developing situation along the border with the Republic of Sudan. Between the 26th and 31st December there were 723 new arrivals at the settlement. The humanitarian community continues to work to support to voluntary movement of refugees away from the border area. Discussions have taken place with the camp leadership to ensure their involvement and support for the relocation plans. Next week, the High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr. António Guterres, will meet with the camp leadership in Juba to discuss the issues they are facing and highlight UNHCR concerns regarding Yida's proximity to the border.

Despite the promotion of relocation, critical lifesaving activities continue in a predictable manner at the Yida site. CARE has nine health staff present, including two nurses from the refugee community, and two nurses from the host community. In addition, the MSF clinic has 8 staff, including a doctor. Care, WHO, UNICEF and MSF, have met with the Ministry of Health to discuss the supply chain of medicines and ensure that the clinics continue to receive essential drugs. In terms of nutrition, Samaritan's Purse is supporting 423 refugees in a supplementary feeding programme and 156 in a therapeutic feeding programme.

UNHCR has held meetings with the County Commissioner and the Unity State Governor regarding the issue of allocating additional alternative sites for the Yida refugees. In addition, work is ongoing to improve the facilities at the sites already selected. In Nyeel, there are two new boreholes, and the health clinic is functioning well, currently serving the host community. Agencies are also looking ahead to the activities that can be carried out if and when the refugees begin to relocate; Acted has livelihoods interventions planned in the relocation sites. A discussion has taken place with the Unity Ministry of education regarding expanding primary and secondary education facilities in relocation sites.