



### SITUATION REPORT N° 13 – UGANDA FLOODS – 6 NOVEMBER 2007

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- **1,422 CANDIDATES IN KATAKWI AND AMURIA SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THEIR PRIMARY LEAVING EXAMS IN TEMPORARY LEARNING CENTRES AND OVERNIGHT FACILITIES**
- **1,000 ACRES OF SWEET POTATO FIELDS DAMAGED BY AN INFESTATION OF CATERPILLARS IN SOROTI**
- **63% OF 150 WATER SOURCES TESTED IN TESO, BUGISU AND SEBEI SHOW HIGH LEVEL OF CONTAMINATION**

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.



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

#### Situation Overview

1. There has been some improvement in the road condition in some of the areas affected by floods in Katakwi and Amuria, although road access remains a challenge. The road between Usuk and Adacar in Katakwi has been graded and repaired and the district is working on the stretch linking Adacar to Ngariam Corner. The water level at Agu Bridge has gone down.

2. Some areas remain inaccessible by road. Some agencies have experienced problems accessing Kaberamaido district following recent rainfall, particularly in the vicinity of Anyara. Access to Tajar from Bukedea remains difficult especially when it rains. The direct route from Katakwi town to Magoro remains closed, as the bridge on the Toroma to Magoro section remains impassable. The alternate route from Katakwi to Magoro via Ngariam Corner is blocked by a stranded truck.

3. Boat services continued to be used in Awoja bridge area; although the latest assessment indicates that the

water level had significantly decreased. If current weather conditions and water levels remain, the boat service will be required for another two weeks.

4. The level of humanitarian response continues to be affected by the limited number of partners on the ground. Nevertheless, some progress has been registered:

5. In Education, a total of 1,442 pupils in Katakwi, Amuria and Kapchorwa have been supported to sit their PLE exams by the establishment of temporary Learning Spaces and overnight facilities and the supply of scholastic and sanitary materials.

6. Progress has also been made in the area of access to essential drugs both at fixed health facilities and mobile clinics for the floods affected population in Katakwi and Amuria districts.

7. In Kaberamaido District, Ogerai Parish has been cut off by floods since July 2007. Supervision of services by the district officials, delivery of medicines/supplies and other requirements to the area has not been possible due to poor road access. The actual estimation of the flood damage is not possible due to lack of assessment.

8. The floods have subsided but the effects on malaria morbidity and diarrheal diseases as evidenced with the rise in dysentery calls for immediate response.

9. No disease epidemics have so far been reported in the district. Surveillance remains heightened in all flood affected districts. The clusters in Soroti maintain stand by capacity for epidemic response.

#### Priority Needs

10. The priority areas for the response, as identified by the Humanitarian Coordinator following consultation with the clusters and the Government, remain:

- Stabilising the food security situation;
- Preventing disease outbreaks and ensuring capacity to respond to health emergencies;

- Re-opening schools and ensuring access to primary education;
- Responding to the urgent needs of the most vulnerable;
- Ensuring physical access to the most vulnerable, and continuing inter-cluster assessments;
- Understanding the early recovery needs of the affected population and prioritising recovery interventions.

## Humanitarian Response

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

### Camp Coordination/Camp Management

*Cluster lead: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)*  
*Cluster members: ASB*

11. Three camp management teams have been formed to increase participation of IDPs in management of camps.

12. Four camps in Amuria and Katakwi have been identified to be considered for return. Further discussions will be conducted during the week to assess their readiness and willingness to return.

### Education

*Cluster lead: United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)*  
*Cluster members: CEREDO, Global Care, PCU/FIDA International, UWESO, WFP, World Vision*

13. An estimated 100,000 primary school children have been supported to access education in the flood-affected areas. Of these, 1422 are Primary Leaving Examination (PLE) candidates who have benefited from temporary learning centres or overnight accommodation. Among these are 17 children with special needs and one child mother still breast-feeding her baby.

14. All temporary learning centres in the districts of Amuria and Katakwi are fully operational with a total of 812 pupils having sat their PLE exams from 5 to 6 November 2007. An additional 610 PLE candidates from villages that were greatly affected by floods in Kapchorwa district sat exams in overnight facilities set up in six locations. This intervention has been of special advantage for children from Ngariam sub-county in Katakwi and Chepsukunya sub-county in Kapchorwa whose homes are prone to chronic insecurity arising out of cattle raiding.

15. A total 18,541 PLE candidates received mathematical sets, pens and rulers. 8339 girls received sanitary materials (cloth, soap and underwear).

16. Up to 800 children and 24 teachers from the districts of Katakwi, Amuria and Bukedea benefited from improved temporary learning spaces in form of tents: Iyalakwe received 1 classroom tent and 6 teachers' tents; Obalanga got 1 classroom tent and 5 teachers' tents; Oditel received 1 classroom tent and 5 teachers' tents; Opot received 1 classroom tent and 4 teachers' tents; Moru Arengan got 2 classroom tents; Omasia P.S. in Moru Ongora IDP Camp received 4 teachers' tents; Kasechi and Kotokot received 1 classroom each

### 17. Identified gaps in the Education cluster include

- Two schools in Obalanga (Amuria) remain inaccessible.
- An estimated 5,000 pupils still lack accommodation after their classrooms (mostly temporary structures) were severely damaged by the floods.
- Up to 60 teachers lack accommodation.
- Five schools in Bukedea are still closed and the pupils displaced to other locations. This has not only disrupted their life but also puts pressure on the facilities in the host schools.
- Though there are no definite statistics as yet, schools across the region are reporting about 30 per cent reduction in school attendance particularly for the lower primary classes.
- The Bugisu and Sebei sub-regions as well as southern Teso lack partners in the education sector. This has posed challenges in mobilizing the necessary resources for these areas.

### Food Security

*Cluster leads: Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and World Food Programme (WFP)*

*Cluster Members: BEKOA, CWW, Humanity First Uganda, Lutheran World Federation (LWF), PAG Church, Pilgrim, Uganda Red Cross, SOCADIDO, TEMEDO, TEDDO, UAOG, Uganda Scouts, Vision Terudo, War on Want, World Vision*

18. An outbreak of sweet potato worm infestation has been reported in Soroti. As of 5 November, at least 1,000 acres of sweet potato gardens have been attacked. It is suspected that the infestation is one of the post floods effects. The hornworm of the hawkmoth (*Agrius Cingulatus*) is suspected to be the cause of the infestation.

19. The attack could have serious food security implications since the sweet potato is the second major food security crop after the destruction caused by the floods on the cassava.

20. A total of 1,640 households in Abarilela, Acowa, Morungatuny and Kuju sub counties in Amuria were supplied with cassava cuttings.

21. To date, a total of 2,545 metric tons of food aid to 153,984 beneficiaries in both Teso, Bugisu and Sebei flood-affected areas. In the coming week, the agency expects to reach about 21,300 people in the areas remaining in Katakwi and this will mark the end of the first cycle of distribution.

22. The initial findings of the Crop and Food Supply Assessment (CFSA) mission in Teso indicate that there is a mixed situation across the region which might require increased interventions from the month of December.

23. A rapid nutrition assessment is underway in Teso and will be ending in a week's time. Both these assessments will feed into the next course of action regarding food aid interventions in affected areas.

24. The Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) is due to start in Teso this week.

25. One challenge for food aid distribution has been the recent rains that have again worsened the roads particularly in Katakwi (Ngariam Corner). This has delayed planned distributions in that area however all is being done to ensure completion of distributions by 7 November.

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

*Cluster lead: World Health Organization (WHO)*

*Cluster members: AMREF, Germany Emergency Doctors, Malaria Consortium, Malteser, Oxfam, Pilgrim, PSI, Red Cross, SOCADIDO, Uganda Assemblies of God, UNFPA, UNICEF, Youth with Mission*

26. Cases of increasing dysentery and diarrhoea diseases identified through weekly epidemiological reports in Kolir and Malera sub-counties in Bukedea district were investigated. Control activities including water source testing and water purification, health education and case investigations have been put in place jointly by different clusters.

27. Essential drugs consisting of Coartem, oral rehydration salts (ORS) and antibiotics were delivered to Kaberamaido and Soroti districts from NMS and distributed to some of the health facilities especially in the hard to reach areas.

28. An assessment has been conducted on the functionality and coverage of health units in Bugisu in order to strengthen the system and identify critical gaps to be filled.

29. Seven new emergency health kits were distributed to seven Health Center IV and Health Centre III and (HC IVs and HC IIIs) in Soroti district.

30. A total of 375 mama kits were distributed to 20 health facilities in Soroti.

31. Mobile clinic teams attended to 1,763 patients in isolated communities of Amuria and Katakwi.

32. Water purification in Ongora camp in Magoro (Katakwi) and provision of chlorine tablets for household water treatment in Amuria and Katakwi is continuing.

33. Partners donated 66 cartons of assorted drugs and supplies to three health facilities in Katakwi and for mobile clinics in Ongongoja sub county Katakwi, to Amuria district and Katakwi, Kumi and Bukedea worth

Ug. Shs. 171,302,233 to meet a projected three months drug and supplies requirements for these districts.

34. Other interventions included support through 4 mobile clinic teams in areas far from functional health facilities.

35. Additional emergency drugs have been provided to Kumi district; more drugs for other districts are to be distributed.

36. In Sironko District, the Ministry of Health (MoH) is conducting health education using the film van with emphasis on control of malaria and diarrhoeal diseases.

37. In Sironko District, members of the District Health Team (DHT) met to discuss how to improve on the district surveillance system and the urgency of having an EPR team (current coverage of the district by the IDSR system stands at less than 75 per cent).

38. Sironko District has reported the risk of land slide following earth cracking in several places in Gibuzale Parish, Sisuyi Sub-county. Four households have already been displaced while others have sunk.

39. Training of laboratory personnel in early detection of epidemics is underway in Soroti. Trainees are from Karamoja, Teso and Bugisu regions.

40. A baseline nutritional assessment is being conducted in Teso, Sebei and Bugisu regions to better inform interventions in the sector.

41. Moroto District Hospital has received the following medical supplies to support service provision: Sodium Lactate Compound IV 500 480; Syringe Luer 5ml with needle 100; Syringe Luer 10ml with needle 100.

42. Radio talk shows on cholera have been aired on Radio Rhino in Lira district, aimed at reducing the vulnerability of flood-affected people.

43. Health units reporting high dysentery cases were identified and samples have been taken and results of culture from Lira Regional referral lab suggested no growth.

44. Training of laboratory personnel from the five districts of Lango region and inclusive of Kaberamido district on diagnosis of epidemic diseases was conducted in Lira.

45. In Pader district, follow up to the distribution of hygiene promoters' tool kits distributed in Canbel and Atade camps in Awere sub-county was conducted, with the findings showing that the community has started using them.

46. Household water chlorination using stock solutions continued in Atanga-Lacekocot.

47. A community dialogue on floods and its effects, and hygiene promotion including video shows, particularly on diarrhoeal diseases and cholera, has been held in Atanga sub-county.

48. Rapid assessments of the nutrition status of children in the flood-affected areas will be conducted.

49. Updated surveillance data for the week was circulated to all the partners: malaria, respiratory tract infection and diarrhoeal diseases on the increase.

50. In Lango region, most roads are open and routine outreaches for the child days are on going in all the previously affected sub-counties

51. In Kitgum Districts, delivery of services/ operations have normalised. Road access to health facilities is now largely good in all sub-counties in the districts of Kitgum and Lango region save for the loose road surfaces.

52. Medical drugs and supplies for Kitgum Hospital and Lango region districts have been delivered from Joint Medical Stores.

### **Logistics**

*Cluster lead: World Food Programme (WFP)*

53. Owing to increased accessibility to the flood affected areas by road, the Logistics Cluster will begin scaling down the air operation from three helicopters to 1 helicopter by the end of November. The cluster is now planning its exit strategy and handover of assets.

54. To date, the helicopter operation has conducted 336 cargo missions and transported a total of 586.1mt of relief items to 76 inaccessible locations in the Teso Region, 631 relief staff, including both distribution and assessment teams.

55. The cluster has resumed producing regularly updated Road Condition maps and Air Operations Maps analyzing the Cargo Movements following the deployment of a GIS officer.

56. In Katakwi Town, the temporary storage warehouse of 350m<sup>2</sup> has some space available for NFI storage to allow pre-positioning for airlifts and contingency.

57. Detailed maps, road condition updates and other information are available at the Logistics cluster website: [www.logcluster.org/uganda-floods](http://www.logcluster.org/uganda-floods).

### **Non Food Items (NFIs) Working Group**

*Working Group lead: UNICEF*

*Working Group members: Action Aid, ADRA, ASB, CARE, CCF, Concern Worldwide, GVC, IOM, LWF, Oxfam, TEDDO, TPO, URCS, War on Want, World Vision*

58. A total of 29,712 NFI family kits and 24,481 safe water kits have been distributed to date.

59. The Working Group lead encourages all organizations working on NFIs to work in complement,

particularly given the difficulties faced by some in procuring all the items contained in the standard NFI kit.

### **Protection**

*Cluster lead: UNHCR; sub-cluster leads: OHCHR, CCF (on behalf of UNICEF)*

*Cluster members: ASB, TPO, Grassland Foundation, Katakwi Children's Voice*

60. The cluster has conducted a number of assessments which identified protection concerns mainly related to increased exposure of women and children to sexual abuse and exploitation associated with mixed sleeping arrangements, shared bathing shelters and latrines. Domestic violence, high numbers of school drop outs as a result of the floods, lack of recreational activities for children and youth and lack of access to assistance and basic services was also identified as areas of protection concern. As a response, child protection agencies together with community-based child protection structures continue to conduct community education and sensitizations on protection issues and engage children and youth in psychosocial activities. In addition, a total number of 1,478 EVI households identified by child protection agencies have so far received support in form of food and non-food items.

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

*Cluster lead: UNICEF*

*Cluster members: ACTED, ASB, CCF, CESVI, CHIPS, GOAL, GVC, IOM, LWF, Oxfam, Première Urgence, PSI, THW, URCS, Water Aid, Water Mission International, World Vision*

61. Completion of emergency work on six boreholes, two shallow wells and two springs is underway in Gweri, Katine, Tubur, and Bugondo sub counties, Soroti district.

62. In support of education for the children in the flood affected areas, temporary water and sanitation and bathing facilities were provided to approximately 500 PLE candidates in Amuria and Katakwi. 32 blocks of temporary school latrines were also constructed in Amuria, Katakwi and Bukedea, benefiting approximately 16,000 pupils.

63. Emergency supply of treated water continued in Ongoora for approximately 500 families as well as hygiene promotion through VHTs with assistance from 45 hygiene promotion staff in Amuria and Katakwi.

64. A total of 151 water samples have been collected from a range of districts throughout Teso, Bugisu and Sebei sub-regions giving an indication that 63% of water sources have worrying level of contamination.

65. Teachers were trained in hygiene promotion in Maleral, Kidongole, Kaberamaido, sub-counties in Bukedea district.

66. There is a lack of emergency hand pump borehole repair teams in the affected areas. Some organisations

are beginning to form teams but many more will still be required if safe water sources are to be provided before the household safe water kits have been exhausted.

67. Slow progress is being made with emergency latrine construction in the community as many implementing organisations prefer to construct semi-permanent facilities.

## Coordination

68. The clusters continue to hold weekly coordination meetings and joint assessments in the floods affected areas. The 3Ws and maps have improved information sharing in the clusters.

69. The User Group meeting discussed the ongoing scaling down of the helicopter operation, with suggestions to maintain one helicopter up to the end of the month for contingency and priority operations.

70. An inter-agency assessment has been conducted in Bukwo district. The report will be available next week.

### 71. Funding Update

Current funding for the US\$ 41 million Uganda Floods Flash Appeal stands at US\$ 13 million, or 33.3 per cent of total requirements. Financial tracking system is available on OCHA's Financial Tracking System (FTS)

at: <http://ocha.unog.ch/fts2/pageloader.aspx?page=emerg-emergencyDetails&appealID=779>

72. Donors are encouraged to turn their pledges into contributions in order to maintain cash flow and sustain operations.

73. A Google Group for Uganda Floods has been opened for sharing assessments, maps, breaking information and other reports on the emergency humanitarian response to the flood disaster: <http://groups.google.com/group/ugandafloods>

**74. OCHA will continue to issue regular Situation Reports on a weekly basis. Agencies participating in the floods response are requested to report through the following Soroti-based cluster leads:**

CCCM – Mohammed God Boudin (UNHCR)  
Early Recovery – Winston Camarinas (UNDP)  
Education – Joan Ejangu (UNICEF)  
Food Security – Geoffrey Ebong (WFP)  
Food Security (Production) – Joseph Egabu (FAO)  
Health Nutrition and HIV – Yoti Zabulon (WHO)  
Logistics – Anastazia Lubkovskaya (WFP)  
Protection – Eli Fryjordet (UNHCR)  
- Human Rights/Rule of Law – Silvia Lavagnoli (OHCHR)  
- Child Protection/GBV – Vera Chrobok (CCF)  
Shelter and NFIs – Massimo Altimari (UNICEF)  
Water Sanitation and Hygiene – Brett Maynard (UNICEF)

### For more information, please contact:

Kristen Knutson, Public Information and Donor Liaison Officer, OCHA-Uganda: +256 312 244 888, +256 772 759 996 (mobile), [knutson@un.org](mailto:knutson@un.org); Lydia Mirembe Ssenyonjo, National Information Officer, OCHA-Uganda: +256 312 244 890, [mirembessenyonjo@un.org](mailto:mirembessenyonjo@un.org); Chris Hyslop, Desk Officer, OCHA-New York: +1 917 367 9457, [hyslopc@un.org](mailto:hyslopc@un.org); Stephanie Bunker, Public Information Officer, OCHA-New York: +1 917 367 5126, +1 917 892 1679 (mobile), [bunker@un.org](mailto:bunker@un.org); Elisabeth Byrs, Public Information Officer, OCHA-Geneva: +41 22 917 2653, [byrs@un.org](mailto:byrs@un.org).