DARFUR NFI COMMON PIPELINE QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORT

April – June 2008

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Introduction

During this quarter (April – June 08), CARE M&E Field Monitors were able to reach more distributions in South and West Darfur states than in any previous periods. In North Darfur, on-site monitoring was not possible due to limited distributions and insecurity. In South Darfur the team was able to access most locations to monitor the distributions through UNAMID-organized convoys with other NGOs working in Mershing camps. Field Monitors visited Bendisi and conducted On-site Distribution Monitoring (ODM) and Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) activities.

The CARE M&E team is composed of seven people: six field monitors and one M&E officer, two field monitors in each Darfur state. An M&E Coordinator is due to arrive in Sudan soon to increase the capacity of the team. The CARE M&E team conducts Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) – focus group discussions and surveys – and On-site Distribution Monitoring (ODM) – observations, focus group discussions, surveys, and Market Surveys.

1. Post-distribution monitoring (PDM)

PDM was carried out between 1 to 5 months after distribution has occurred for the below eight sites in order to gauge how beneficiaries perceived usefulness, quality and quantity of the items. The teams also assess whether any of the items are being sold on local markets. The respondents of the PDM surveys were 71% female and 29% male[1]. 53% of those interviewed were the household head while 47% were representing the household head. The average reported household size was six persons, which is in line with current NFI CP planning estimates. According to the surveys, all respondents surveyed said that they had received NFIs and 99% of these households still have the items in their possession.

Post Distribution Monitoring Activities				
Si	**Site**	**Locality**	**State Name**	**Sample size**
1	Dab naira	Mershing	South Darfur	30
2	Omm Gozain	Mershing		30
3	Shawaia	Mershing		30
4	Bendisi	Wadisalih	West Darfur	50
5	Abusuroug	Kulbus		50
6	Abuzar	Geniena		30
7	Krenek	Geniena		60
8	Abushouk	El Fasher	North Darfur	30
Total				**310**

a. Focus group discussions (FGD):

Results of the focus group discussions conducted in several locations with beneficiaries indicate that most of the distributing NGOs managed to build good relationships with communities in terms of participation in the distribution of NFIs and information dissemination regarding their roles (i.e. what items, how many items, and distribution date). Some respondents still raised concerns about their entitlements including quantity and quality of some items.

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[1]. *The statistic above is only to show the gender of the respondent. It does not represent the gender breakdown of the beneficiaries.*

Mershing respondents reported that they were dissatisfied with the registration process that was conducted by the NGO. They reported that many HHs were missed during the registration process. They also reported that during the distribution, some people attacked the site and looted some items from the distribution site and also from the beneficiaries who had just received NFIs. This led to disruption of the distribution process.

Respondents said that the quality of the current UNICEF blankets is good because it is big and softer compared to the one distributed in August 2007 which beneficiaries in Mershing described as rough. They also said that the current UNICEF plastic sheet (blue / white) is not durable due to bad fabric quality.

Respondents in Mershing reported that the size of sleeping mat was slightly smaller and of inferior quality compared to the ones received previously. The respondents said that they were not satisfied with the quantity of the plastic sheeting and suggested that 2 or 3 plastic sheets per house hold would be better instead of 1 plastic sheet.

Respondents recommended that the mosquito nets should be distributed along other NFIs instead of distributing them separately because the NGOs kept the items in their stores/centers for certain targeted beneficiaries such as pregnant and lactating mothers

Respondents also expressed urgent need for more plastic sheeting during the rainy season to replace old sheets and also requested cooking utensils.

The respondents reported that they sell some of plastic sheet which is the most valuable item in order to meet other pressing needs. It is also important to mention that the thick plastic covers of each bale of plastic sheets are used to make school bags as an additional income source for their families and one bag is sold at 1.5 SDG. The covers are collected by the NFI distribution volunteers who sell them in the market in order to make school bags.

Wadi Saleh: In Bendisi, the FGD respondents reported that the NGOs and beneficiaries are working together and ensuring full participation and coordination when distributions took place, each one knowing their roles. Regarding quality of the items, they reported that plastic sheets are of good quality but the quantity distributed per household is not enough. Women toap fabric is good but the color is too bright. The blankets are rough and itchy and the IDPs recommended softer ones[2]. Beneficiaries in this area previously received the dark grey USAID blankets.

It is important to mention that the covers of the sleeping mats and blankets are used to make ropes which are sold in the market at 3 SDG each as an additional income source for the family.
The respondents of Focus Group Discussion (FGD) requested to have more plastic sheets, soap, cooking utensils, children's clothing and beds. They also expressed concern about lack of security in their areas and requested UNAMID patrols in their areas.

Elfasher: The M&E team also conducted a Focus Group Discussion (FGD) in El Salam camp with a group composed of four females and six males. Respondents reported that the relationship with the community in terms of participation in the distribution and information dissemination regarding the distribution their roles is good but recommended to select distribution sites with shelter while waiting in line and a water point close by. Regarding quality of items, they reported that the items were good but not enough to meet their needs especially the plastic sheets.

[2] These are the same blankets that the Mershing IDPs described as soft.

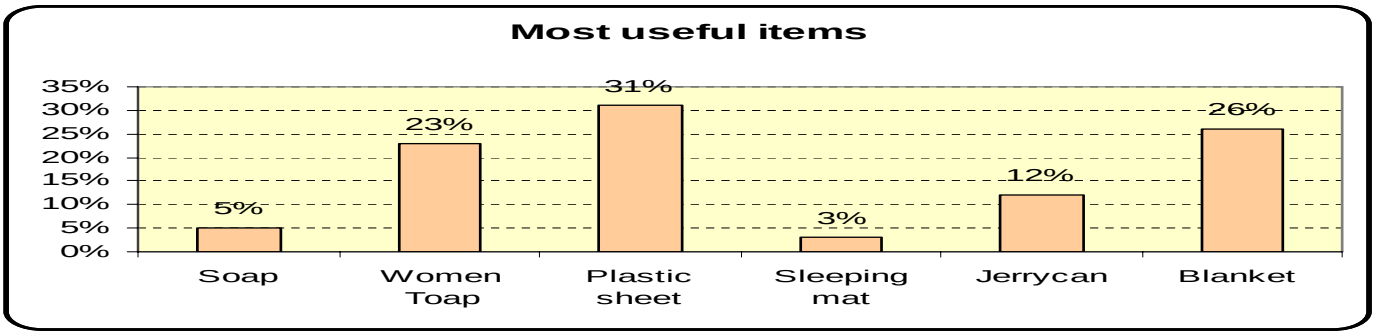
Plastic sheeting survey in North Darfur:

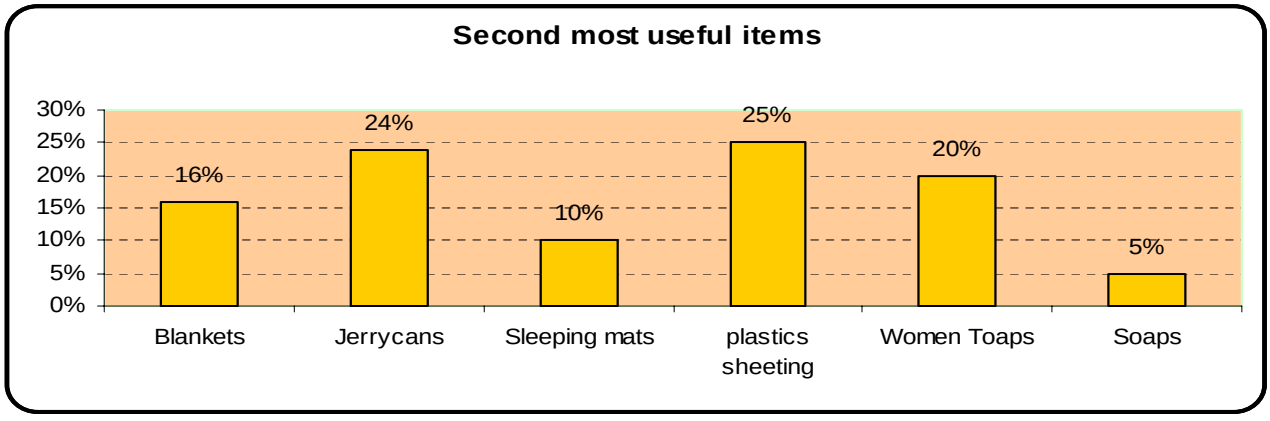
Due to limited stocks, the need to target distributions has increased in the last few months. For example, in North Darfur, one NGO in North Darfur conducted a plastic sheet assessment to cover 13,356 HHs but UNJLC approved NFIs for 4031 HHs. The IDPs in Elsalam refused the idea of partial targeting and threatened not to cooperate during distributions if partial distributions were to go ahead. UNJLC and partner NGOs met and agreed to conduct a new assessment in which all NGOs would participate (with trained staff). The plan is to carry out the process in the camps of Zamzam, Abushouk and Elsalam. OCHA will lead the process and CARE M&E field monitors will assist. The results of the survey are below. The table below shows the results of survey conducted by NGOs and distribution targeting 4031 house holds would be done in July 08.

Number of HH	individual	Condition of NFI			
		Good	Normal	bad	HHs with no plastic sheet
13356	47,856	47	856	8,422	4,031

b. Survey

In the PDM questionnaire, the M&E team asked the beneficiaries to rank the Common Pipeline NFIs by first most useful and second most useful items.

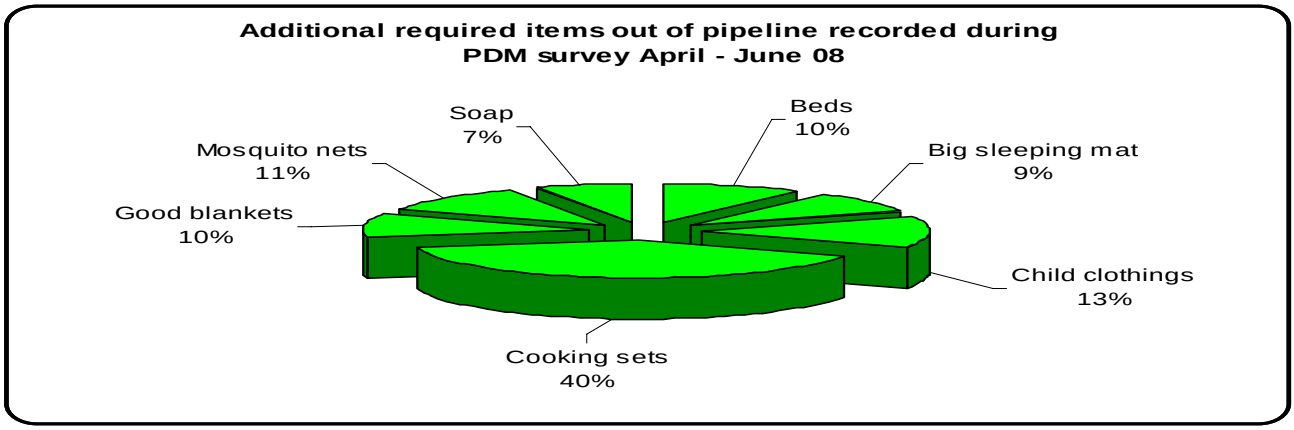




c. Additional Items Needed

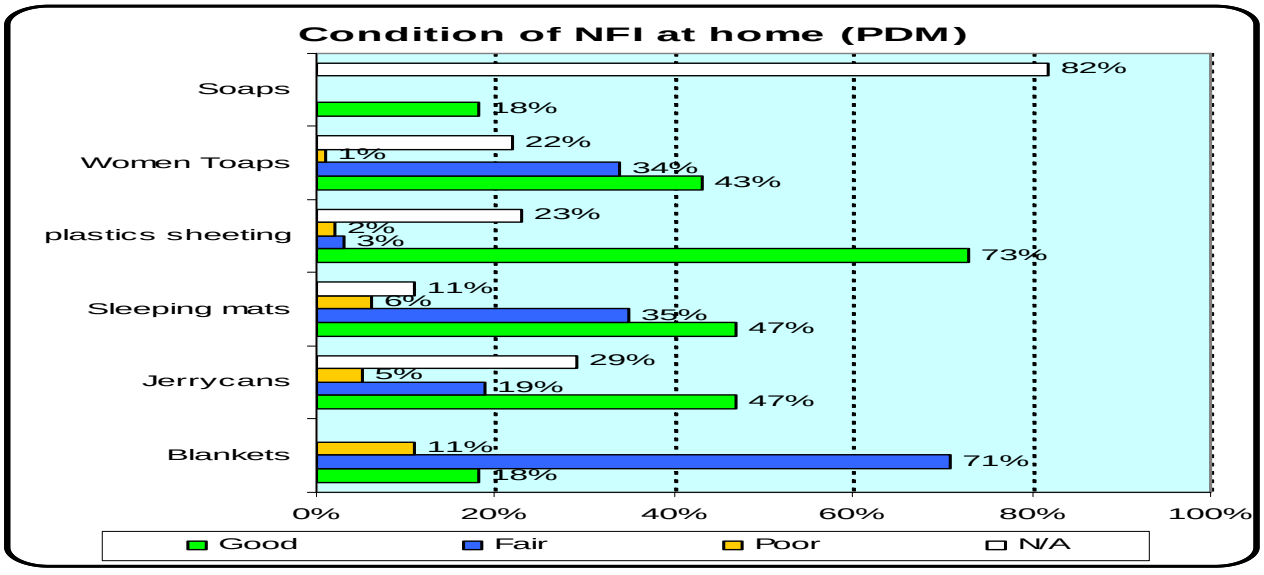
In the PDM, respondents were asked to indicate which items they need most urgently that are not currently being distributed through the NFI Common Pipeline.

Most of these items have been mentioned in previous M&E reports, but during this quarter beneficiaries are asking for cooking sets (40%) children's clothing (13%) and beds (10%) and 11% for mosquito nets due to rainy season.



d. Condition of NFIs at home

As part of the PDM, the M&E team asked respondents to report on the quality of the NFIs that they still have at home in order to test the durability of the items that were previously received. 75% of the items had been received in the past 3 months or less with only 4 percent of the items received as long as a year ago (20% of the total plastic).



2. On site Distribution Monitoring (ODM)

ODM provides an overview of the distribution methods used by partners and information on the quality of items as perceived by the beneficiaries during the distribution. North Darfur had no on-site distribution monitoring due to insecurity.

On-Site Distribution Monitoring Activities					
SI	**Site**	**Darfur State**	**HH Served**	**Sample Size**	**NGO Partners**
1	AL Salam Camp	South Darfur	709	31	Humedica
2	Coffing Village	West Darfur Bendiz	266	50	Triangle
3	Damra Zalta		127	50	Triangle
4	For Baranga	West Darfur Habila	1030	20	CHF
5	Hashaba	South Darfur Mershing	946	30	NCA
6	Riyadh	West Darfur	1704	20	Triangle
7	Silo	South Darfur Mershing	1290	30	NCA
8	Wastani	South Darfur Mershing	405	30	NCA
Total				**261**	

261 household recipients in 8 sites were surveyed during distribution exercises, of which 56% were female and 44% were male[3]. 65% of beneficiaries who reported to the site to collect NFIs were the household head, while 35% were family members. On average the family size was six members per household.

a. Quantity of NFIs received by beneficiaries

In this quarter the quantities of items received by beneficiaries were below the full NFI Common Pipeline basket because most distributions were replenishment/replacement of items.

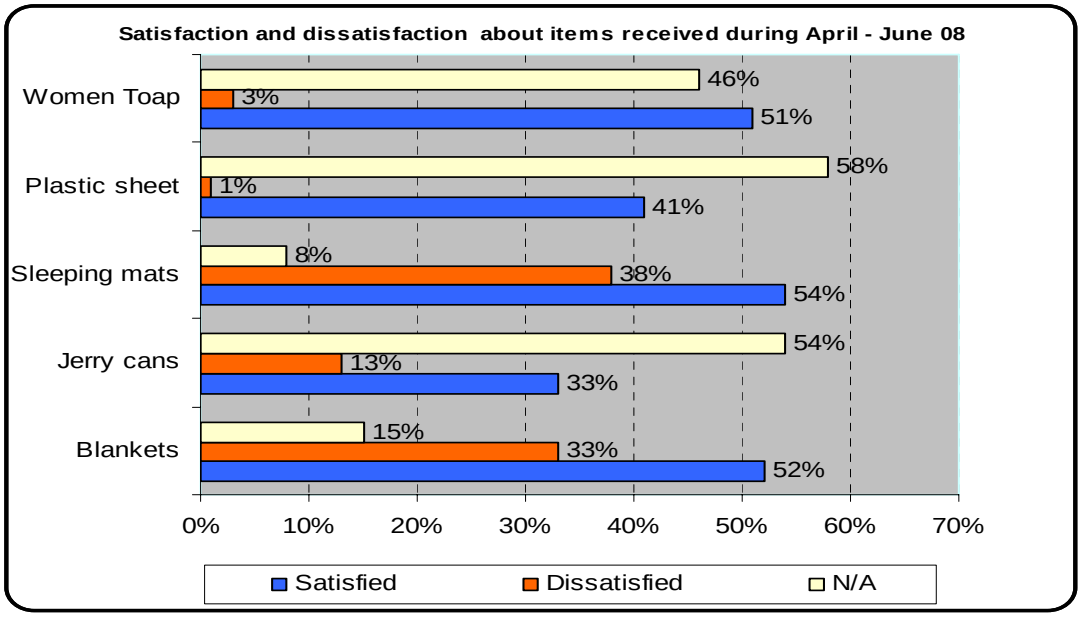
Items	Blankets	Sleeping mats	Jerry cans	Plastic sheeting	Women clothing
Standard basket	**3**	**3**	**2**	**1**	**2**
Quantity received	2	2	2	1	1

b. Quality/condition of NFIs received by beneficiaries

46% of respondents reported that they were satisfied with the items received and 18% said they were dissatisfied with quantity of items while 36% did not answer because they did not receive all the items.

Some beneficiaries in Al Salam camp in Nyala said that they had been given damaged sleeping mats distributed by NGO from their own pipeline (not the Common Pipeline).

[3] *The statistic above is only to show the gender of the respondent. It does not represent the gender breakdown of the beneficiaries.*



c. Distribution Methodologies

Respondents reported an average waiting time of one and a half hours for the distributions. 98% said they were satisfied with the distributions while 2% said they were not satisfied with distribution in their camp.

The CARE monitors observed that one distribution in South Darfur was not well organized because the distributing NGO did not involve community members and leaders in the planning and implementation of distribution. As a result people who were not registered for distribution attacked and looted items from the center and from beneficiaries who had already received NFIs. The M&E team shared this with UNJLC who later discussed it with the organization on how to improve the distribution methods for the next distribution.

The M&E monitors noted that distributions in all other locations were successfully conducted because the distributing partner involved community members and leaders in the planning and implementation of distributions during this reporting period.

It was reported that some NGOs had requested NFIs and then stored them at their camp facilities or in their own warehouse before distributing them to beneficiaries. While some storage time is needed for the NGO to prepare the distribution, longer-term storage could cause problems such as theft or looting of NFIs and may make beneficiaries resentful. As a result, some NGOs have requested CARE to transport NFIs back from their warehouses to CARE warehouses. In some cases, items have been damaged during their storage and/or gone missing.

In AbuZar camp UNJLC targeted new arrivals from Saraf Gidad, CARE monitors reported that old IDPs threatened to disrupt distribution if they were not included in the distribution with new arrivals. A similar problem was reported in Habilla camp where the distribution had to be postponed.

d. Information campaign

85% of the respondents said they knew when and where distribution would occur and which and how many items they would be receiving. 85% of the respondents who knew about the distribution said that they received the information from community leaders and 1% directly from NGOs while 2% from community group and 12% did not respond. Of the 15% respondents who said that they did not know about the distribution in advance, 12% of these said that they followed the crowds and 88% did do not have clear response.

3. Market Surveys – NFI Prices

The M&E team visited the main markets where NFIs are sold in the state capitals as well as the markets in the camps. The prices of the plastic sheeting had increased by over 100% compared to the January-March quarter due to rainy season. The most sold item in the markets in all the three states during this period was plastic sheeting probably due to the rainy season.

NFI	Average Market Prices by Location in SDG					
		South Darfur	*W. Darfur*	*N. Darfur*	*Average price*	*Jan-Mar Price*
		Nyala	*Geneina*	*Fasher*		
Plastic Sheeting		60	70	65	**65**	**32.5**
Blankets		7	10	n/a	**8.5**	**10**
Jerry Cans		5	8	n/a	**6.5**	**6**
Sleeping Mats		5	6	n/a	**5.5**	**6**
Women Toap		10	15	10	**12**	**14**

Traders in North Darfur said that the main source of the items are IDPs while in Nyala and El Geniena traders said that they got the items from other traders and from IDPs.

In Mershing camps (South Darfur), the monitors saw some IDPs selling plastic sheeting immediately after they received the items from the distribution to local traders.

The monitors in North Darfur observed that there were more plastic sheets sold in Al Salam and Abushok camps and El Fasher main markets than in previous quarters. The M&E team saw a little more NFIs for sale in Nyala (South Darfur) than in El Fasher or Geneina. 15 vendors selling NFIs from Common Pipeline were surveyed in El Geniena market but the quantities were very limited.

CARE Nyala monitors visited mobile markets in addition to the main market where NFIs are sold to assess the availability of the items and noted that traders have additional stocks of NFIs in their stores than what they display in their shops.

CARE M&E team wishes to thank UNJLC, UNICEF, OCHA and the distributing NGOs for their support during implementation of their activities. Additional information regarding the M&E results is available upon request.