



**THE LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION  
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LUTHERISCHER WELTBUND – FEDERACIÓN LUTERANA MUNDIAL –  
FÉDÉRATION LUTHÉRIENNE MONDIALE**

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**Department for World Service / Kenya-Sudan Programme**

**MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS Dec 2007**

**GENERAL CURRENT SITUATION in the countries:**

**Kenya**

December was undoubtedly a very important month in the history of this country. The entire month was absorbed by the parliamentary and presidential elections. Nothing else seemed to be important. Elections took place between Christmas and new Year, December the 27<sup>th</sup>. Normally at that time Kenya comes to some sort of standstill, but now activity levels remained high. The election procedure passed reasonably well, but independent observers spoke of serious irregularities, and possibilities of rigging. The election result announcement took so much time that tensions grew in the country which started erupting on the 29<sup>th</sup> and the 30<sup>th</sup>. And when it was announced on the 30<sup>th</sup>, and the president sworn in within the hour, there were serious outbreaks of violence, also reported widely in the world press. Only on January the 4<sup>th</sup> did the situation start to quieten slowly, leaving more than 300 people dead and 256,000 people displaced, without a clear solution.

**South Sudan**

Please see the short report below. From January 2008 LWF Sudan is an independent program, has actually been like that since October, but will continue to be strongly supported by LWF Kenya. Most Logistics and all Financial support will come from Nairobi. However, even for neighboring countries, the crisis in Kenya has great influence.

**OVERVIEW OF LWF KENYA/SUDAN:**

**Kakuma Refugee Camp**

1. SUMMARY.

The main focus for the Kakuma project during the period under review was to finalize project activities for 2007. Major activities scaled down from 21<sup>st</sup> December 2007, and most staff were released to proceed for Christmas break. A skeleton staff was left behind to attend to essential services such as food/water distribution, and security. The project coordinator joined other senior LWF Kenya staff for a three days retreat in Mombassa. The major outcome of this exercise was review of the draft management manual for the LWF Kenya program, and sharing emerging issues from various departments and projects. During the period under review, LWF was in the process of developing an ACT appeal to absorb some budgetary reductions caused by reduced funding from Kakuma's regular donors

The camp population during the month of December stood at 60,842. A total of 698 (400 male, 298 female) new asylum seekers, and Somali refugees relocated from Dadaab camp, joined the camp while 899(546 male, 351 female) Sudanese refugees were repatriated back to Sudan through the UNHCR- led volrep process.

## 2. MAJOR ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED.

- Six senior staff from the Kakuma project, accompanied by the refugee program manager based in Nairobi Office attended a two days retreat in Lokichoggio, a town near the Kenya- Sudan border. The purpose was to review 2007 work plans and budget and take action on pending activities prior to project closure. The major outcome for this exercise was re- prioritization of tasks, and assignment of focal persons to accomplish the same.
- LWF distributed 1175.593 Metric Tonnes (MTs) of food stuffs received from WFP to 60,842 beneficiaries. This included UNHCR-supplemented rations of 31.081 MTs of ground nuts and 42.623 MTs of green grams. These provisions enabled the refugee population at Kakuma receive food that had a calorific value of 2,421.65 Kilocalories/person/day, which was above the recommended SPHERE standards value of 2100Kilcal/p/d.This maintained the nutrition standards of the refugees at optimal levels.
- The annual December youth activities were conducted in the camp. Apart from positively engaging the youth's free time, the December holiday activities also serve to educate the youth on relevant social issues and promote peaceful coexistence during this festive period. The major activities included, Hygiene promotion, Peace discussions, Reproductive health awareness, Day screening of films, Drama, Song and dance, Repatriation awareness, Debate sessions, Art & Craft contests and Environmental awareness sessions and sports.
- LWF supplied an average of 24.7l/h/d of water in the reporting period. This was an increase of 9.5% from the previous supply of 22.6/p/d in the month of November. The slight increase occurred as a result of minimal spillages as negligible pipe bursts were experienced.
- LWF staff establishment in Kakuma during December 2007 stood at 150 (97male and 53 female) nationals, 1,408 (928 male and 480female) incentive workers and 165 (113 Males and 52 Females) casual workers, which is a total labor force of 1,723

## 3. MAJOR CHALLENGES.

There was lack of essential supplies in Kakuma due to transportation hitches caused by post election violence.

## 4. HUMAN INTEREST STORY.

It is a widely accepted fact that economic power is key to independence and self sustenance. It should therefore also be accepted that a woman who is economically stable is also independent and self-reliant. It is based on this precipice that the tailoring programme was started in Kakuma to benefit vulnerable members of the refugee community. From its humble beginnings in 1992 with a handful of students (mostly

men) and operating out of one centre, that it is now one of the success stories out of Kakuma. In 2003, the programme shifted its focus to women. It actively sought to enlist women in its one year programme ultimately boosting their status in the community. It is from this class that the focus of this story comes to play.

Rebecca Ayak. Rebecca was one in hundreds of women who applied for the 1 year course. As a pioneer in the first women's only class, one can only imagine the challenges she went through to gain acceptance and respect in her community. As a single mother her driving force was ensuring that her children received all their basic needs. Upon graduating, she joined other women in a community based tailoring group and started working. Since her humble beginnings, Rebecca went on to become an Assistant Tailoring Instructor in LWF. She served us for 3 years before self repatriating and starting her own dress-making shop back home in Sudan. Through such initiatives, LWF has in the process contributed to rebuilding post war Sudan, through supplying the much needed skilled man power.

### **Turkana Host Community**

#### Introduction

The December 2007 month had little rainfall for two days spread all over the project area. This improved water availability for both human and livestock. The month marked activities that closed the year's plan of action.

#### Peace Building and conflict resolution

1. Meeting with Lokichoggio, Kakuma and Oropoi division (LOKADO, a local CBO involved in peace building and reconciliation activity). This was an introductory meeting with the CBO working in partnership with LWF on peace building and conflict resolution covering both internal and cross border regions. At hand was the issue of stolen animals from Oropoi division into Uganda and successful negotiations led to return of over 40 cattle in December. Intended conflict over the grazing borders in the *elemi triangle* between the Toposa community of Sudan and the Turkana was also suppressed through cross border negotiations. LWF participated at advisory level working with the local administration on the Kenyan side.
2. A refresher training course was held for community leaders in Kakuma on 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> December attracting 35 attendees. Participants were drawn from Oropoi, Kakuma and Lokichoggio divisions.
3. A training course for 80 Adakar leaders on peace building and conflict resolution was done in Letea, Kakuma and Kalobeyei for three days between the periods 13<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> December 2007. Participants were in groups of 20.

The trainings are geared to moderating transformation of host Turkana community to coexist peacefully with their neighbouring communities and the refugee population within Kakuma. It is noted that the Turkana cross border conflicts end up internally and therefore affecting harmony with other internal communities hosted in Kakuma camp. A collaborated effort of the governments in the region, international and the local agencies and the communities' leadership structures could alleviate this perennial problem. Uganda is currently disarming its local population just across the border and this is a positive step towards establishing a free of small arms region if the other respective governments also follow suit.

In whole the trainings are perceived by participants as a big step in imparting peace building and arbitration skills thus reducing community hostility and conflicts and promoting peace and reconciliation as they are armed with skills to solve their own issues at community level.

#### Water development

1. A visit was conducted by the project coordinator to some of the nearby water projects. This was also a meet the community visits and it was noted that some broken down pumps needed urgent repairs and further trainings for water management associations. Repaired as a result of the visit follow-up is the Komudei borehole that needed kits. Many of the water pans had dried up as a result of long period of drought. A lot of work on repairs of the water boreholes and pumps will be done in the next quarter. The project region is still a water deficit area and more water sources are needed.
2. The Lonyaduk borehole is ready but for installation of a Duba pump only. This installation was not done due to funding shortage at the time and will be done in the next quarter.

#### Improved Livelihoods

Meeting with Kakuma livestock traders Association officials was done twice during the month to map out on how to harmonize trade within the livestock markets in the region. This will be followed up in the next quarter.

#### Animal Health

A visit to the Letea and Kalobeyei drugs stores showed that they are operational and managed well by the community. However, some expired drugs were found and respective advice on quick disposal was given. Reports should reach LWF project office two months before drugs expire so that they could be allocated to other areas of demand. Stores should avoid drugs expiring in their hands. As a measure, more management trainings would be done to streamline this aspect. The general health of animals was good during the December period. The PPR disease in goats continued to spread to some area that did not receive vaccination. The ministry of livestock continues to collaborate with LWF in this respect to minimize loses in area due to the disease through blanket vaccination of the goat population. However this activity is not ongoing at present due to lack of funds..

#### Meetings Attended

- 1) Turkana District steering group meeting attended on the 18<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2007.
- 2) LWF - JMT meeting in Mombasa on 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> December.
- 3) The presidential visit to Kakuma created a Kakuma sub-district. This administrative division is lesser than a district and is semiautonomous headed by a DO1.

#### **Dadaab Refugee Camp**

On the whole the month of December was busy and short. The heavy rains stopped and the road between Garissa and Dadaab was accessible. Below are the highlights.

#### (A) Field work activities

- 1) The field staff completed the sensitization and embarked on forming action groups and working groups and training plans, though there are still areas that have not been internalized.
- 2) Field positions have been advertised and some interviews conducted.
- 3) UNHCR has identified locations for LWF for construction of camp offices.
- 4) UNHCR has requested LWF to put on hold work on transit and reception centres, as a suitable location has to be identified.
- 5) All the technical staff have submitted monthly reports. The site planning report makes good reading.

(B) Construction

- 1) The delivery of sand and concrete was successfully completed.
- 2) The contract for construction was successfully negotiated and signed.
- 3) Work is due to start immediately.

(C) Staffing

Urgent staffing matters have been discussed and agreed upon in-house and with UNHCR.

(D) New responsibilities

- 1) LWF has been fully accepted as the camp management agency and is expected to take full charge.
- 2) Proposals of expected staffing has been discussed with UNHCR.

(E) New Arrivals

From 1<sup>st</sup> November to 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2007, 2300 Somali people have crossed into Kenya.

(F) The situation in Somalia

- 1) The causes of movements of people in Somalia are insecurity / conflict, floods, lack of livelihood, forced return, IDP returns.
- 2) An estimated 279,000 people have been displaced in Mogadishu alone between 1<sup>st</sup> Dec. and 14<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2007.
- 3) During third week of December there was general calm in Somalia.

**LWF Sudan (Panyagor, Yirol, Ikotos, Torit)**

**Panyagor**

**Introduction.**

The month of December has been dry; however, many houses are still submersed in water in Kongor and Jongolei payams. Security remains a problem in the two counties of Duk and Twic East due to cattle raiding activities by the Murle.

**Project activities**

Peace building and conflict resolution activities continued during the month. Seven peace meetings were conducted in Nyuak (03) and Lith (04) Payams attended by 256 participants

418 flood victims and venerable groups were distributed with second hand clothes.

Eighteen latrine slabs were distributed to the two counties of Twic East and Duk.

Construction of the two primary schools continued. In Wunlit, roofing, external plastering, fixing of twelve window frames and doors were done.

In Marial, raising of wall, roofing, external plastering, fixing of doors and window frames were completed as well as flooring, internal plastering and painting  
Eighty desks were assembled and transported to Aluel primary school.  
The construction of the dining hall at the secondary school was also completed in the reporting period.

#### **Yirol**

- Training of thirty one (31) local authorities in the 3 Counties of Yirol East, West and Awerial in resources management, time management, resources mobilization and market revenue to enhance their administrative and management capacities at the County level for better service delivery to the communities was conducted.
- Training of newly recruited staff (CDAs), in community mobilization, HIV/AIDS, proposal writing, Gender, resources mobilization and participatory development methods to improve on staff capacity to deliver was also conducted.
- One (1) inter-payam meeting carried out between the peace committees of Abang in Yirol west and Lou in Yirol east.
- Monthly peace committee meetings were held in the 5 payams with over 20 participants.

**End**