



# Tamils Rehabilitation Organisation

## DISASTER MANAGEMENT UNIT

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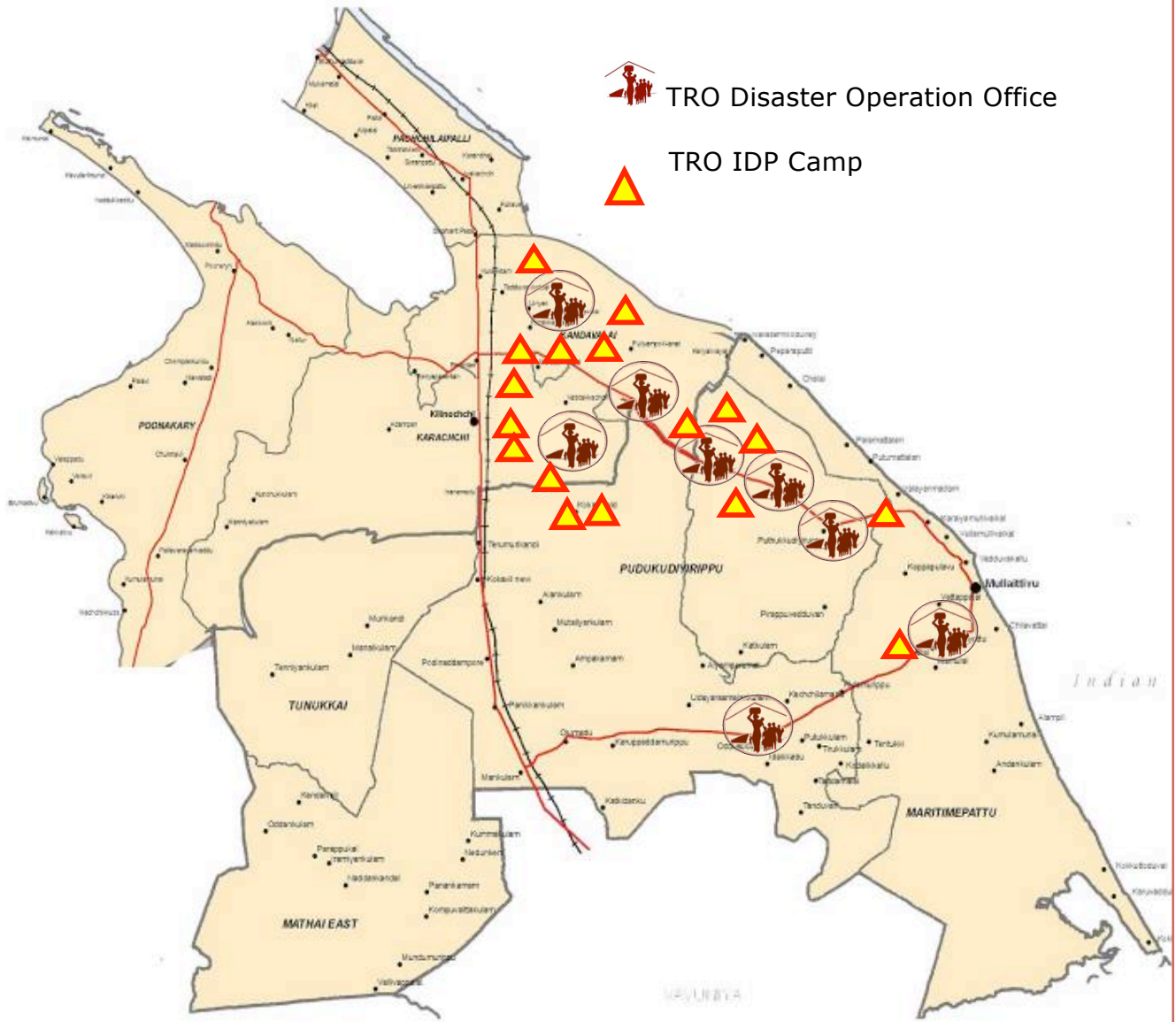
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## Progress Report of Humanitarian Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons in the Vanni 5 November 2008



**TRO HEADQUARTERS  
A9 Road  
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# TRO Disaster Operation Offices & IDP Camps Kilinochchi & Mullaitivu Districts



TRO Disaster Operation Offices	
Vaddakachchi	Udayarkaddu
Kandavalai	Mullaitivu/Puthukudiyiruppu
Tharmapuram	Mulliyavalai
Visuvamadhu	Odusuddan

# TRO's work for IDPs in the Vanni

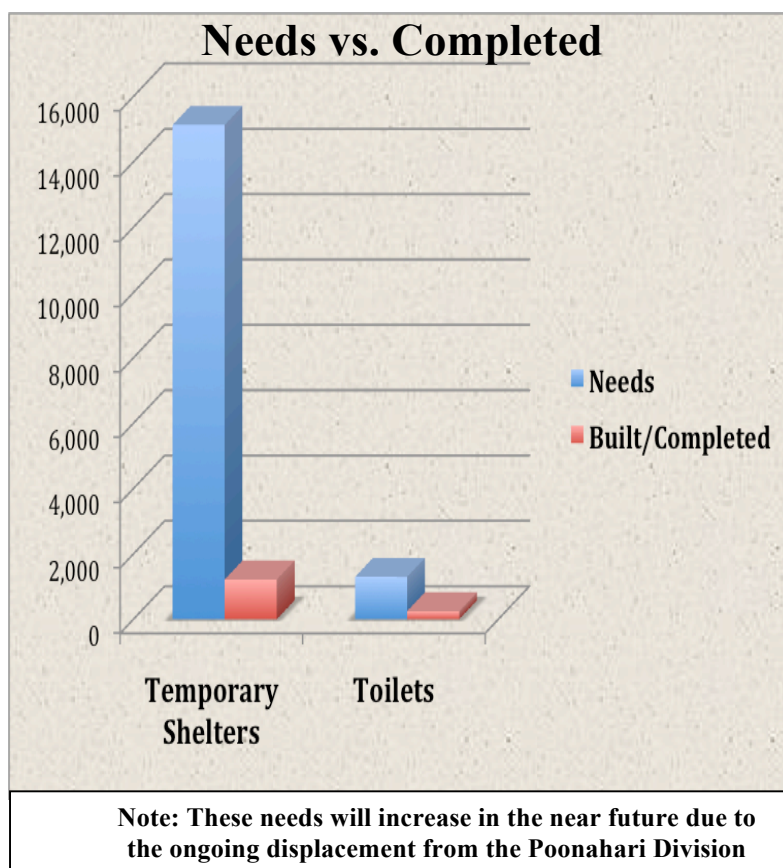
## 1) Current Situation

In response to humanitarian crisis in the Vanni, TRO has been implementing numerous projects for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the Mullaitivu and Kilinochchi Districts through its Disaster Management Unit (DMU).

The work has been implemented on the basis of needs assessments conducted by the TRO – Disaster Management Committee (DMC)

The main issues facing the IDPs and the civilian population of the Vanni are:

- Lack of humanitarian relief and other essential items: food, medicine, fuel, shelter, etc. due to embargoes and restrictions enforced on the Vanni by the Government of Sri Lanka.
- Indiscriminate bombing and shelling by the Sri Lanka Armed Forces
- Lack of access to the Vanni by the UN & international NGOs and the media



## 2) TRO – New Management Structure:

Due to the difficulties involved with travel, transportation, and communication within the Vanni, TRO has divided the Vanni into 8 divisions (Vaddakachchi, Kandavalai, Tharmapuram, Visvamadu, Udayarkaddu, Mullaitivu/Puthukudiyiruppu, Mulliyawalai, Oddusuddan) to facilitate humanitarian responses and assistance to the 327,730 IDPs (230,000 recent IDPs and 90,000 tsunami and other war affected who have been displaced since 2004) in the Mullaitivu and Kilinochchi Districts. This new management structure will allow TRO to better serve the needs of the IDPs at the grassroots. A large number of the TRO staff and volunteers are also either displaced or from the resident/host population.

Projects	Needs	Built/Completed
Temporary Shelters	15,130	1,215
Toilets	1,295	246

In addition to the Director, each division has a coordinator and a Rescue and Emergency Operations Team. In each division there are local Community Based Organizations (CBOs)

managing specific geographical areas covering several Grama Sevakar Officer Divisions. These CBOs coordinate “IDP Welfare Committees” which are responsible for a maximum of 300 families each. These committees are made up of prominent local persons, the Grama Sevakar Officer (GSO), CBO office bearers, village and religious leaders and representatives from the IDP populations. These committees are entrusted with the task of collecting IDP data and other information, assessing the needs of the IDPs, planning and implementing actions to meet those needs and engaging in continuous progress updating and reporting to higher authorities.



### 3) Situation Analysis and Actions Planned

Two coordination meetings are held each week: Wednesday for Mullaitivu District and Saturday for Kilinochchi District covering all sectors. Mr. Murthi, Director of the TRO Disaster Management Unit, chairs these coordination meetings where all matters relating to IDP management are discussed. All sector representatives participate and discuss work completed and needs assessments.

Extensive discussion results in quick action and progress, which is reviewed at the subsequent meetings. Planned inspection visits are made to IDP locations to have on the spot assessment of the ground level situation. Lands are inspected to assess the flood risk and vulnerable makeshift tents are removed to higher lands where new temporary shelters are built. Needs are identified, assessed and prioritized for action. TRO is committed to fulfil the needs within its capacity and strives to develop strategies to address all other needs. ICRC has put up hundreds of tarpaulin-roofed tents as an emergency measure with the promise of temporary cadjan roofing and mud walled shelters to be built later.

<b>Table 2: Displaced Population of the Vanni as on 29 October 2008</b>		
District	Families	Individuals
Kilinochchi District (Table 2a)	39,449	153,877
Mullaitivu District (Table 2b)	33,327	173,853
<b>Total</b>	<b>72,776</b>	<b>327,730</b>

<b>Table 2a: Breakdown of Population by Division: Kilinochchi District</b>		
AGA Division	Displaced Population as on 29-10-2008	
	Families	Individuals
Karachchi	13,334	50,426
Kandawalai	21,987	87,525
Poonakari	2,268	8,239
Maruthankerni	1,957	7,687
<b>Total</b>	<b>39,449</b>	<b>153,877</b>

<b>Table 21b: Breakdown of Population by Division: Mullaitivu District</b>		
AGA Division	Displaced Population as on 29-10-2008	
	Families	Individuals
Maritempattu	6,182	31,704
Puthukudiyiruppu	16,356	33,287
Oddusuddan	10,789	108,362
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,327</b>	<b>173,853</b>

TRO is conducting workshops in each division to train volunteers to engage in effective humanitarian work and to conduct needs assessment surveys. The committees established to

manage each “300 IDP family group” involve the IDPs and host community leaders in order to best address the communities’ needs. These committees are responsible for needs assessment surveys, implementation of relief work, monitoring, evaluation and reporting.



The needs assessments identified food supply and distribution as being the major problems faced by IDPs. Food supply and distribution is difficult due to the delays and restrictions imposed by the Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) and Ministry of Defence (MoD) on the food convoys and the quality of the roads resulting from a lack of adequate maintenance and the annual monsoon rains.

There continue to be problems with the approval and transportation of food and medicine to the Vanni through the Omathai Checkpoint. Food and Medicine that is approved by the Commissioner General of Essential Services (CGES) and the relevant Ministry in the capital is often blocked, delayed and/or the Officer in Charge arbitrarily reduces the amounts allowed at the checkpoint itself.

TRO has taken the responsibility of meeting the 40% deficit in the amount of food required for the IDPs in the coming months and for 2009. TRO and other local NGOs will cover the 40% shortfall in the quantities provided by the food convoys with the local production of rice, yams and pulses as well as other essential food items.



TRO and CBOs have switched to traditional methods of food production: watering, ploughing and transporting using oxen drawn ploughs and bullock carts, due to the lack of fuel (diesel and petrol), fertilizers and other inputs resulting from the embargoes and restrictions imposed by the GoSL.

The community and local authorities, in order to ensure a healthy environment and to prevent the spread of contagious diseases, insisted upon water seal toilets. In response, TRO engineers have designed a low cost, “cement-less” toilet, which will serve 4-5 families. TRO is providing chlorinated water for drinking and washing but this is hampered by the shortages of fuel for the water pumps and bowsers.



#### 4) Providing Transportation to IDPs

TRO provided transportation for IDPs who displaced from Poonahari and Kandavallai to Visuvamadu and Mullaitivu. During displacement TRO provides free transportation to as many IDPs as possible so that they are able to displace with as much of their possessions as possible.



#### 5) Supply of Cooked Food

TRO provided cooked food and dry rations for 1,100 families in Vaddakachchi. The food provided by the WFP and the Government Agent (GA) consists only of dry rations, TRO provides supplementary food items to complement these rations. Each food package cost Rs. 1,260.

Needs for 230,000 recent IDPs: 2500 – 3000 Metric Tons (MT) per month

WFP Convoys since the departure of the UN/iNGOs on September 15:

October 3:	WFP convoy - 59 lorries, 650 Metric Tons (MT)
October 17:	WFP convoy - 50 lorries, 750 MT
November 3:	WFP convoy - 29 lorries, 438 MT



Problems faced by the food convoys:

1. A9 & Mankulam-Oddusuddan Road, Kanagarayan Kulam-Oddusuddan Road shelling
2. Damage to roads due to heavy rain
3. Food stocks not adequate to distribute to all IDPs.
4. Governemnt of Sri Lanka restrictions and delays at Omanthai checkpoint

## 6) Non-Food Relief Items & Food

TRO provided nutritional food packages and “baby kits” for 350 pregnant and nursing women. Baby kits consist of: baby clothes, washing basin, towel, mat and bed sheet, blanket, diapers, Dettol, baby soap, baby powder, etc. Each package and baby kit cost Rs. 1,500.



## 7) Milk Food for Babies

In Visuvamadu, TRO provided milk food packets for 442 malnourished children between the ages of 3 and 5. These milk food packets were funded by a donation from the Tamils Schools Sports Association, (TSSA) UK.



## 8) Temporary Shelter

In Kandavallai Division, TRO has constructed 356 shelters and handed them over to the IDPs. Since the departure of the UN and international NGOs on 15 September 2008, TRO has been the lead agency in the coordination of temporary shelter construction. Due to the lack of construction materials (cement, tarpaulin, etc) TRO has been forced to utilize locally available materials to construct temporary shelters. Over 60% of the displaced are still without adequate temporary shelters due to the GoSL's restrictions and embargos on the transportation of building materials.



### 9) Provision of Cadjan

TRO has provided cadjan (woven coconut / palmyarah leaves) for roofing (see picture below) to 902 families in the Mullaitivu District. Each family received enough cadjan roofing to construct a temporary shelter (value: Rs. 4500/family). Due to the lack of construction materials (cement, tarpaulin) TRO has been forced to utilize locally available materials to construct temporary shelters. Over 60% of the displaced are still without adequate temporary shelters due to the GoSL's restrictions and embargos on the transportation of building materials.



### 10) Drinking Water

TRO provided 4 drinking water tanks and supplied water via bowsers for IDP camps in Udayakaddu and Vaddakachchi. The TRO-DMU and TRO-DMC engaged in well cleaning and well chlorination in Puthukuddirrupu and Punnaineeravi and dug 2 open wells. All of these activities were funded by a donation from the Technical Association of Tamils (TAOT), UK.





### 11) Construction of Temporary Toilets

TRO has constructed 201 toilets for IDP camps in the Kandavallai and Oddusuddan AGA Divisions with funding from TRO Canada. Due to a lack of cement and other building materials in the Vanni, these toilets are constructed of tarpaulin and locally available materials (see pictures).



### 12) Temporary Bathing Areas

TRO DMU, with funding from TRO Sweden, constructed 15 temporary bathing areas, at a cost of Rs. 7000 each. These areas (pictured below) are designed to give women privacy when bathing in the crowded IDP camps.



### 13) Nutritional Feeding Centres

TRO established 4 nutritional feeding centres for malnourished and undernourished children under 5-years of age and pregnant or nursing women. The centres are in Kathikadu, Murasumodai, Moonkilaru, and Oddusuddan Villages. The centres provide pre and post-natal nutritional care and nutritional education for malnourished women and infants.



#### 14) Education

TRO provided learning materials for IDP students who were lost these items during displacement. The TRO “Back-to-School” program has also been re-started.



TRO Volunteer hands over learning materials / school supplies to a child who has lost his parents. (woman in photo is his guardian)

#### 15) Food Production Support

The TRO-DMU provided seeds and other necessary inputs for home gardening to 210 IDP families with funding from TRO Norway. As a result of the difficulties importing food to the Vanni, due to Government of Sri Lanka restrictions, it is important that the local production of food is expanded. IDPs can supplement their WFP rations through home gardening.



#### 16) Repair of Irrigation Canals

In Thamapuram village, the TRO-DMU & DMC repaired 2500 meters of agricultural irrigation canals with the assistance of the local population and IDPs. Each participant was paid Rs. 540 for their labour. The restoration of these waterways will allow the farmers in the area to resume farming and food production. This project was funded by TRO Norway



## 17) Maintenance of IDP Camps

The TRO-DMU is responsible for the maintenance of 35 IDP camps in the Mullaitivu and Kilinochchi Districts. These camps are maintained through local Community Based Organizations (CBOs).



## 18) Health

Snakebites are causing severe problems to the IDPs due to areas that were not formerly inhabited being used for IDPs and a lack of adequate amounts of anti-snakebite serum available in the Vanni due to the quota of medicine requested by the Health authorities not being delivered. The heavy monsoon rains have also forced snakes out of their hiding places. Other health issues faced are a resurgence of Malaria and an increasing number of cases of diarrhoea due to the overcrowded conditions and the monsoon rains.

## 19) IDP Welfare Committees

TRO and local NGOs have organized IDP Welfare committees in every camp. Each of these committees represents up to 300 families and in camps with more than 300 families 2 or more committees are formed to provide a greater degree of representation. 113 committees have been established and are function in the Mullaitivu and Kilinochchi Districts. These committees are made up of prominent local persons, the Grama Sevakar Officer (GSO), CBO office bearers, village and religious leaders. These committees are entrusted with the task of collecting IDP data and other information, assessing the needs of the IDPs, planning and implementing actions to meet those needs and engaging in continuous progress updating and reporting to higher authorities.



## 20) Disaster Management Teams (DMT)

### a) Divisional DMT

TRO established Disaster Management Teams (DMT) in 8 divisions in the Mullaitivu and Kilinochchi Districts. These teams manage and supervise the humanitarian relief activities in the division. Each team consists of TRO Staff, volunteers, Divisional Secretariat (DS) Technical Officers, CBO representatives and other local leaders who conduct needs assessments and coordinate the humanitarian response to displacement.



### b) Coordinating Committees / Steering Committees

These are district level committees that TRO, local NGOs and other humanitarian actors participate in to ensure that the humanitarian response is coordinated, effective and that all actors are aware of their responsibilities. The committees meet every Wednesday to discuss all issues affecting of the delivery of humanitarian assistance to the IDPs. The progress of all projects and the problems faced by the NGOs and IDPs are discussed and solutions explored.



## 21) Urgent Needs

- Temporary shelter materials to build shelters for 15,130 families (Roofing sheets, cement & tarpaulin etc.)
- Toilet squatting pans & pipes for temporary toilets. (5,000 pieces)
- Non-Food Relief Items for 20,000 families
- "Baby kits" for 3,000 babies
- Maternity kits for 3,000 new / expecting women
- Mosquito nets
- Water filters & water purification tablets
- Fuel (petrol/diesel): for water supply (water pumps & bowsers) & health services (ICU, cold chain etc)



## 22) IDP Welfare Centres (Camps) Details

IDP Welfare Centres (Camps) Details						
No	Town/ Area	Name of Welfare Centre	Responsible Organization	Location	Houses	Families
1	Vattakatchi	Arun	ADO	Karuppikulam	30	35
2		Mathivathanan	PMDO	Mayavanoor	34	51
3		Panchaseelan	PMDO	Mayavanoor	120	136
4		Dharmini	PMDO	Puthukkaadu	50	42
5		Puradchi	PMDO	Ramanathapuram East	22	27
6		18 Housing scheme	NEDRO - Kn	Ramanathapuram East	18	20
7		16 Housing Scheme	NEDRO - Kn	Ramanathapuram East	21	16
8		Anpukkathir	NEDRO - Kn	Alady, Ramanathapuram	35	62
9		Arivumalar	PMDO	Oppo.of Mayavanoor School	40	40
10		Karuventhan	NEDRO - Kn	Ramanathapuram	26	26
11	Kandavalai	Kaavalan	KNDO	Sampukulam	75	75
12		Elilanpan	KNDO	Sampukulam	46	46
13		Suban	KNDO	Sampukulam	78	78
14		Pulimannan	KNDO	Kalmadhunagar	40	40
15		Ilango	KNDO	Kalmadhunagar	234	234
16		Illampuli	KNDO	Kalmadhunagar	50	50
17		Veeman	NEDRO - Kn	Kalmadhunagar	75	75
18		Ealapriya	NEDRO - Kn	Kalmadhunagar	55	55
19		Maalika	RRDO	Kattaikaadhu, Dharmapuram	60	60
20		Pugalmani	KPDO	Puliyampockkanai	360	360
21		Ealathevan	KPDO	Puliyampockkanai	100	100
22		Senthooran	KPDO	Nagendrapuram	45	45
23	Dharmapuram	Subesan	KPDO	Puliyampockkanai Near Health Dept.	35	35
24	Visvamadhu	Kanikeethan	TRRO	Alady, Dharmapuram west	100	100
25		Valluvarpuram Camp	SDO	Valluvarpuram,	78	78
26		Theravil	SDO	Theravil	35	35
27		Maanickapuram	SDO	Maanickapuram	20	20
28		Mayilvahanapuram	MWDO	Mayilvahanapuram	210	210
29		Punnaineeravi	MWDO	Punnaineeravi	282	282
30		Pramanthanaru	MWDO	Pramanthanaru	179	179
31		Selvaraj	PTDO	Kallaru	100	100
32	Udayarkattu	Suthanthirapuram Central	SEDO	Suthanthirapuram Central	20	20
33		Suthanthirapuram	SEDO	Suthanthirapuram	38	38
34		Suthanthirapuram	SEDO	Suthanthirapuram Colony	12	12
35	Mulliyavalai	Thanam	MPDO	Kepapulavu	52	52
	<b>Total</b>				2,775	2,834

Needs of Families Displaced by War / Ongoing Projects																							
Area	Organisation	Data			Needs							Monthly Report of current projects											
		Total Displaced Families	Total Permanent families	Formed teams	Land	Completed temp. Housings	Timber only	Cadajans	Wages only	Toilets only	Drinking water	Land		Housing					Toilets				
											Needed	Provided	Needed	Accepted to construct	Funded by	Completed up to date	Proposed deadline	Needed	Accepted to construct	Funds providers	Completed up to date	Proposed deadline	
Kandavalai	KNDO	2750	N/A	7		1150		450		123	8				42	TRO	28	15/11/08		124	TRO	75	10/11/08
	KDRRO	628	N/A	3		107	11	212		94				201	TRO (67), DRC (67), OXFAM (67)	TRO (25), DRC (26), OXFAM (16)			10	TRO	4		
	NEDRO / MN	1821	N/A	4	1640	641	281	334		25													
	RRDO	2065	347	6		650	76	156	24	124				25			12			25		23	
	KPDO	1436	318	4		183	210	350	210	40	10	175			30	TRO	25	30/10/08	210		TRO	53	
Vattakachi	PMDO	1800	N/A	2		218	152	150		94	84			166		158			20		8		
	ADO	1258	N/A	1				53		19						35							
	NEDRO / KN	2400	N/A	6		844	60	84	56	236	10			60	OXFAM NEDRO	57	30/10/08		5	TRO	5		
	KERO	1262	N/A	10	1800	491	350	450		195	6			119	TRO (83), OXFAM (36)	30			24	TRO	20		
	MRRO	913	N/A	2	345	385	41	8	14	108	101	435	52	195	47	TRO	16		108	21	TRO	17	
Viswamadhu	SDO	5654	N/A	2	30	1812	254	284		536	28	30		1812	105	ICRC	105			TRO	22		
Dharmapuram	MWDO / MN	5385	1115	10		1218	249	721		620	20	300		1760		5		700		TRO	5		

	PTDO	678	112	3		300		40		65				100	WUSC	52							
	TRRO	4413	607	8	450	1355	725	575	30	70	80	755		1850	25	OXFAM	2		25				
Udayarkattu	SEDO	4082	3098	13	112	1894	782	612	365	1880	957	112	88	315	90		88						
Puthukudiyiruppu	MPWS	881	N/A	10		702				490		155	155		155	TRO (50), ICRC (105)	TRO (10), ICRC (105)						
	NEDRO	612	3847			284	28					314					10						
	PTRO	1685	N/A	3		1035	13	28		75		100	50		50		50						
	TRRO	1098	N/A	3		200	62	67		61	3				468	ICRC (433), TRO (10), CARE (25)	ICRC (144), TRO (10), CARE (25)			74			
	WWDF	385	N/A	2		125				250	385				91	ICRC	60						
Mulliyavalai	MPDO	1239	1968	12	143	753		51		143	2	195	52	805	316	ICRC	52		152	9	ICRC	9	
Oddusuddan	NDRO	144	N/A	1	109	109	2	3		69	10	181		109	10	TRO	10			4	TRO		
	NDRO	152	N/A							86													
	TECH	523	N/A							133													
	MKDO	334	N/A			253				6Set	100	15		253	50	OXFAM	22		100	6	OXFAM		
	VDRO	273	N/A	1		136	13			14		78		7	7	TRO	7						
	MRRO	913		2	345	385	41	8	14	108	101	435	52	195	47	TRO	16		108	21	TRO	17	