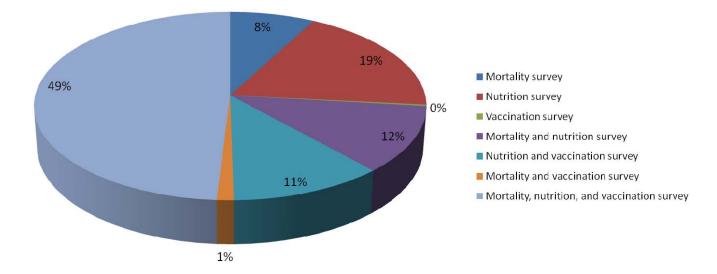
#### Newsletter 6 - July 2008

# Over 2000 surveys since 2000!



#### From the director's desk

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Dear CE-DAT friends,

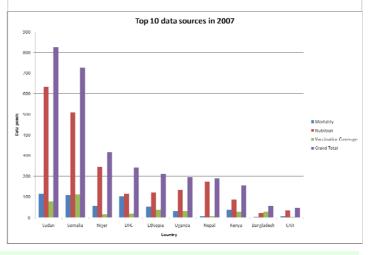
We're celebrating a milestone as CE-DAT soared past its 2000<sup>th</sup> survey mark. Over the last five busy years, CE-DAT has compiled one of the most comprehensive sources of acute malnutrition and mortality survey data since 2000 - and we're only getting started.

CE-DAT just held its annual Expert Group Meeting to define a system to evaluate the reliability of surveys, identify relevant morbidity data, define modalities for reporting surveillance data, and define a modality for the inclusion of contextual information in CE-DAT. This year's expert panel consisted of Oleg Bilukha (CDC), Colleen Hardy (IRC), Paul Spiegel (UNHCR) and Michel Van Herp (MSF-B).

CE-DAT is also proud to announce a new series of publications, including briefs on: the effects of rising food prices on nutrition feeding programs, nutrition in Haiti during the unstable period of April 2004 to April 2005, South Asian displaced populations, and a CE-DAT opinion on the OCHA mortality estimate for Darfur. In the near future, a brief on the nutritional and mortality situation

## Year in review 2007

For the year 2007, CE-DAT has obtained 255 anthropometric surveys accounting for 3224 data points, consisting in 2277 nutrition, 565 mortality, and 382 vaccination coverage indicator points. These surveys came primarily from 19 different non-governmental organizations and 4 inter-governmental organizations. The top nongovernmental survey providers for CE-DAT in 2007 were: ACF International Network (supplied nearly 25% of all surveys)\*, Concern\*, Tearfund\*, GOAL\*, IMC\*, World Vision, and MSF-B.\* denotes CE-DAT partner organizations



CE-DAT is a global database on the human impact of conflicts and other complex humanitarian emergencies and serves as a unique source of health indicators for monitoring conflict-affected populations and for the production of trend analyses, impact briefings and policy recommendations

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#### Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters

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## From the director's desk (Cont'd)

Palestinian Territories will be available, as will an innovative new mortality graphing technique. CE-DAT has also made a contribution to the Small Arms Survey's 2008 Global Burden of Armed Conflict report that will be published this fall. We also continue to study and monitor populations of concern in Darfur and Iraq.

The push towards better CE-DAT outputs and enhanced user-friendliness continues this summer as CE-DAT adds screencast tutorials for use of the website and database to its homepage at <u>www.cedat.be</u>. Similarly, a new call for tender will see an update to the website's look and feel to provide for a more attractive and intuitive user experience in 2009.

Finally, CE-DAT continues to push the technological envelope. With a view to the long term, CE-DAT has: upgraded its servers with the latest and most secure open source technologies, planned an upgrade of its core database to a state-of-art database engine, established first contacts with Microsoft and Google to discuss possible collaborations, and begun conversations with partner organizations on the standardization of health data-sharing.

Should you have any comments or questions for the CE-DAT team, please feel free to contact us.

Thank you for your continued support!

Debarati

Debby Sapir, Director

## **Recent CE-DAT surveys**

Findings of a Multi-Indicator Nutrition, Health, Watsan and Mortality Survey - Twic County, Warap State, South Sudan -March 2008 Survey start date: March 19, 2008

Findings of a Multi-Indicator Nutrition, Health, Watsan and Mortality Survey - Kurmuk County, Blue Nile State, Sudan -February 2008 Survey start date: February 18, 2008

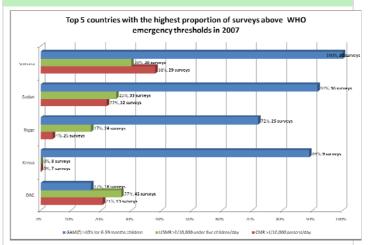
Multi-Indicators Clusters Survey Report - Kutum Locality, North Darfur State, North Sudan (Kutul Town, Fata Borno and Kassab camps) - 31st December 2007 - 9th January 2008 Survey start date: December 31, 2007

Multi-Indicators Clusters Survey Report - Abyei County, North-Sudan - 2-10 December 2007 Survey start date: December 2, 2007

Report of the Multi Indicator Cluster Sample Survey - Kassala State, North Sudan - 10th-17th November 2007 Survey start date: November 10, 2007

Report of the Rapid Nutrition Assessment in the floodaffected districts of Lango, Teso and Elgon sub-regions of Uganda. November 2007. Survey start date: November 1, 2007

## Year in review 2007 (Cont'd)



Based on the 2007 survey reporting, five countries stood out as having high proportions of surveys reporting emergency or critical indicator values. These countries are pictured in the bar chart above with the total number of reported surveys in bold next to the percentage of those surveys returning emergency level indicator values for malnutrition and mortality.

Among the observations that might be made from the chart is the greater sensitivity of a GAM threshold of >10% (Z) for classifying a situation as an emergency. In fact, the large gap between the percentage of surveys reporting emergency GAM and emergency mortality levels may be an indication that a threshold value of >10% (Z) is too low, and that perhaps the critical threshold value of >15%(Z) would be more appropriate for identifying emergency situations.

That being said, we see some interesting patterns in Kenya and the DRC that illustrate the usefulness of GAM for identifying emergencies. For example, in Kenya all but one survey reported emergency GAM, however no surveys reported emergency levels of mortality. This could be due to under-reporting as much of the population being surveyed is on food distribution and would lose rations for every reported death in the household.

In the DRC, surveillance data from the surveys shows a high burden of mortality from disease rather than malnutrition. This is particularly true for malaria, ARI, assorted infectious diseases, and in one survey, HIV/AIDS.

## **CE-DAT and CRED News**

#### **Recent Events**

2nd CE-DAT Expert Group Meeting in Brussels, Belgium. July  $4^{\text{th}}$  &  $5^{\text{th}},\,2008$ 

#### **Recently Published**

- Brief on the impact of food price inflation on nutrition feeding programs. <u>link</u>
- CE-DAT's view on the UN OCHA mortality estimate in Darfur. <u>link</u>
- CE-DAT Haiti 2004-2005 brief. link
- South Asia displaced populations brief link