

DADAAB REFUGEE CAMPS, KENYA

UNHCR DADAAB MONTHLY UPDATE

16 - 30 April 2016

UPDATES

Population as of 30th April 2016: **343,884**

Refugees: **340,775**

Asylum seekers: **3,109**

Hagadera  106,219

Dagahaley  87,374

Ifo  83,851

Ifo 2  47,993

Kambios  18,447

HIGHLIGHTS

Voluntary repatriation

- During the reporting period, a total of 312 returnees have been assisted to voluntarily return to Somalia by flight: 159 to Mogadishu, 76 to Kismayu and 77 to Baidoa. Since the repatriation process started in December 2014, 63 road convoys and 75 flights have been organized to Somalia (67 Mogadishu, 4 Kismayu and 4 to Baidoa). In Total 13,800 returnees were supported as of 28th April 2016 out of which 7,703 were assisted between January and April 2016.
- Road convoys transporting returnees to Dhobley Way Station for onward travel to their various places of return in South and Central Somalia (i.e. Baidoa, Kismayu and luuq) have been temporarily suspended as roads became impassable due to rains. However, flights to Baidoa and Kismayu are currently the only option and this arrangement will continue until road conditions improve.



Six-year-old Sidahmed returned to Somalia with his family after spending six years in Dadaab camps.

Photo: UNHCR/A. Nasrullah

Resettlement

- During the second half of April, a total of 9 cases comprising of 47 individuals underwent resettlement case composition interviews. 42 cases comprising of 141 individuals were interviewed and assessed for possible submission to various resettlement countries.
- Since 1st January 2016, 662 individuals (including new born babies added on to cases already in the pipeline) have been submitted to resettlement countries.
- A total of 14 individuals are confirmed to have departed Nairobi for onward resettlement to the United States of America and Australia. Since 1st January 2016, 495 individuals have departed to resettlement countries.
- A total of 13 movement passes were prepared and issued for individuals departing Dadaab for onward resettlement countries. An additional 17 movement passes were prepared and issued for 51 individuals being moved to Kakuma for UK bio-metric screening and cultural orientation.
- During the reporting period, resettlement case status feedback and counselling was provided for 150 individuals in camps.

UPDATES

Protection

- **Access to Justice:** on 28th April, the High Court Judge based at the High Court in Garissa County visited Dadaab to assess the progress of the construction of the court house in Dadaab town. UNHCR has supported the construction of the court house which is 50% complete. The Judge supported initiatives on capacity building for judiciary officials. During a joint briefing session, the Judge mentioned that judiciary staff will be deployed to provide services at the court. The Khadi Mobile court was in session from 25-29 April where he adjudicated on personal law issues of refugees professing the Muslim faith.
- **Youth engagement:** UNHCR conducted youth engagement meeting at the community level targeting sports activities for the youth. So far, about 97 youth football clubs have been registered. It is anticipated that the recently organized football league will actively engage the youth in meaningful activities that would help them in their lives. During a meeting that was organized on April 25, 2016 it was agreed that protection information /messages will be relayed during the games among the Youths. The messages will have specific contents like Youth on peace advocacy, SGBV, effects of drugs to youths and early marriages.

Refugee Status Determination (RSD)

- During the reporting period, 59 cases were scheduled for RSD interviews whereby 51 cases showed and were interviewed. In addition, 12 cases were rescheduled, nine were no shows and 12 cases were notified.

Registration

- During the period under review, 83 new born were registered in the UNHCR database, out which 20 of whom being assigned in situ birth status.
- 62 new arrivals/unregistered refugees identified as vulnerable cases, were registered in UNHCR database after fulfilling all the necessary procedures.
- On 18th April, a meeting was held with NCK and UNHCR to discuss on the modalities of the recruitment of 62 additional staff who will be utilized during the verification exercise, therefore NCK has submitted a proposed budget to UNHCR Programme unit. On 20th and 25th April a separate meetings were held between UNHCR, DRA, NCK, Host community leaders and a representative from the office of the Deputy county commissioner to discuss mainly the recruitment of 62 verification staff under administration of NCK. It was agreed that a ratio of 36 staff from Dadaab and 26 staff from Fafi host community will be recruited.

Child Protection

- The Dadaab Inter Agency Best Interest Determination (BID) Panel meeting was held on 27th April where 19 cases (11 resettlement, five voluntary repatriation and 3 protection cases) of children in need of consideration for durable solutions and interventions for children facing diverse protection risks were discussed. The presentations were compiled and presented by Save the Children International and Terre Des Homme with the participation of RCK, HI, DRC and UNHCR.
- The County Civil registrar responsible for issuing birth and death certificates commenced the periodic circuit ride to Dadaab on 25th April. UNHCR jointly with the office of the County Civil registrar convened a meeting with the main medical partners to inform them of the Ministry of Health's directive on the hospital procedures governing the notification of births for children born at home. Following the meeting, it is envisioned that the phenomenon of home births will be reduced. To this end, the hospitals in the camps have engaged the community to embrace the practice of hospital delivery.



Refugee children from Gambella community of Ethiopia living in Ifo camp of Dadaab.

Photo: UNHCR/A. Nasrullah

SGBV

- During the second half of April, five Inter-Agency SGBV case management conference meetings were organized by various protection partners. For each of the cases that were confidentially discussed, protection interventions including psycho-social counselling, referral for medical, legal, material, security and community-based protection support were recommended. In addition, the monthly Inter Agency Safe haven Panel meeting was convened with the view of facilitating assistance to survivors of SGBV who owing to life threatening circumstances, were admitted at the safe haven. The forum that was held on 27th April, deliberated on 8 cases.

Education

- UNHCR in collaboration with Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and TdH conducted mass campaign targeting enrolment of children out of school, especially those from the minority communities like the Somali Bantu. The Information campaign also included awareness against Cholera and de-afforestation.
- UNHCR held a meeting with Handicap International (HI) to discuss challenges that Persons with disabilities are facing in the camp. During the meeting, UNHCR Education team shared with Handicap the plans in place to address the challenge of low transition rates to secondary school among students with disabilities. In 2017 Country Operations Plan, funds were set aside to establish a special unit in a secondary school in each camp.
- Inter-Agency monthly Education working group meeting took place on 27th April. Project Manager for Borderless Higher Education for Refugees (BHER) also attended the meeting.

With schools having closed for April break, the key highlights for the month of April included Adult Education training being undertaken by AVSI Foundation, Early Childhood Development teacher training by CARE, Cholera response and Peace education being undertaken by FilmAid, Primary teachers' capacity building by LWF, BHER's Diploma and Certificate courses by WTK and students on scholarships undertaking medical courses in session.

- The Project Manager for Borderless Higher Education for Refugees (BHER) was in Dadaab to meet key stakeholders in the BHER programme. A series of meetings were held with BHER students and with UNHCR Education and Health sectors to deliberate on the upcoming Bachelor of Science in Community Health Education degree course set to commence in September 2016. BHER Diploma holders will qualify to undertake the degree course.

Students enrolled in the BHER programme were in session with lecturers from participating universities on ground. Students are undertaking Diploma courses in Primary and Secondary Education, and Elementary courses in Early Childhood Development.

- Alternative Basic Education (ABE) review validation workshop took place on 28th April 2016 organized by UNICEF. The validation workshop was a follow up of a review undertaken by a consultant hired by UNICEF to evaluate the just ended ABE project that was implemented by Save the Children International (SCI). The workshop aimed at validating the responses received from education stakeholders interviewed before the consultant embarks on drafting the final report.



Students from Central Primary School in Hagadera camp in Dadaab, Kenya.

Photo: UNHCR/A. Nasrullah

Food Security and Nutrition

- Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) completed data collection for the sentinel surveillance, which involves measuring nutritional status of children in 30 blocks selected on the basis on high admissions to the nutrition programme.
- Islamic Relief Kenya (IRK) conducted a Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition (MIYCN) training for 19 nurses from 18th to 23rd April, which was aimed at building the capacity of staff in the key sections of Ifo hospital and health posts on integration of MIYCN in the nutrition programme.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- Under Artists for Refugees Project (A4R), UNHCR, through DRC, continues to support access to livelihoods by refugee youth through talent development (performing and visual arts) of identified refugee youths. Two Kenyan artists are contracted to facilitate a mentorship programme. During the reporting period, UNHCR jointly with DRC agreed on a work plan of activities and finalised preparation of agreements with two renowned Kenyan artists.

A partner stakeholders' forum, attended by UNHCR, DRC, FilmAid, RET and LWF, was held on the 25th April during which plans for community mobilisation, sensitisation and engagement were reviewed. The participants agreed on broader approaches to enhance information dissemination on the project target and objectives within the camp. Call for applications by interested and talented refugees to be disseminated through varied channels and community meetings to be held with the camps leadership.

- The community open air market in Kambioos camp, recently opened by UNHCR, was handed over to a selected camp committee comprising of business persons, community members from the host and refugee communities. The market offers a trading space for traders in Kambioos camp and its environs.
- UNHCR through DRC, supported up-to 500 refugees who attended financial literacy trainings across all camps. The participants who will ultimately be supported to form community saving and loans groups were trained on basic money management skills including household budgeting techniques. UNHCR team briefly attended a training session in Ifo camp and separately visited one group; the 'Alfata Savings and Loans group' in Ifo, during which the team observed the group's saving activities.

For the period January to April 2016, up-to 72 community savings and loans groups, comprising of 905 members with a saving portfolio of Kshs. 129,800, have been established and are being supported across all the five camps.

- Following bilateral engagement between UNHCR and the American Refugee Committee (ARC), livelihoods unit received and reviewed a proposal by ARC Somalia aimed at enhancing cross border linkage through promoting job placement of returnees from Dadaab to employment opportunities in public and private sectors in Mogadishu and Lower Juba regions.



Alfata Savings and Loans group in Ifo camp, during their saving activities.

Photo: UNHCR/A. Nasrullah

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