

DADAAB REFUGEE CAMPS, KENYA

UNHCR DADAAB BI-WEEKLY UPDATE

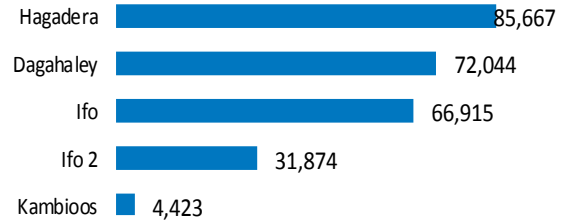
16 - 28 February 2017

UPDATES

Population as of 28 February 2017: **260,923**

Refugees: **258,774**

Asylum seekers: **2,149**



HIGHLIGHTS

Voluntary repatriation

- In total, as of 28th February, 52,591 Somali refugees returned home since 8th December 2014, when UNHCR started supporting voluntary return of Somali refugees in Kenya, out of which 13,277 were supported in 2017 alone.

Road convoys were organized from Dadaab to Dhobley respectively on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Flights to Mogadishu have resumed on 27th February after a long suspension due to security restrictions in Mogadishu since December 2016.

- The Monthly Cross Border Coordination Meeting on voluntary repatriation to Somalia was held on 28th February 2017 in Nairobi. The meeting was attended by representatives from Government of Kenya, Government of Somalia, UNHCR Kenya and Somalia. Participant deliberated on the drought situation and the looming famine in Somalia and its impact on voluntary repatriation. It was agreed that voluntary repatriation from Kenya to Somalia will continue, while the drought situation will be closely monitored.
- Plans for Go and See visits to places of return in Somalia have been finalized. On 9th March 2017, 15 refugee delegates will depart for Baidoa, another 15 refugee delegates will depart for Kismayu, and the two groups are expected to return back to Dadaab on 13th March.

Relocation to Kakuma

- During the month of February, 376 households / 1,423 individuals relocated from Dadaab to Kalobeyei in Kakuma. A total of 894 households / 2,891 individuals have been relocated since the process started in November 2016.



Photo: UNHCR/A. Nasrullah

A nine-year-old refugee girl from Congo pose for a photo at the Ifo camp transit center where they overnight before leaving for Kalobeyei, Kakuma.

UPDATES

Protection

- **Drought mitigation meeting:** UNHCR participated in a drought mitigation meeting organized by National Drought Management Authority in Garissa on 17th February to update on the drought situation in the county, which has affected both the host communities, and the refugee populations in Garissa. The meeting noted that key sectors like water, livestock and education has been affected putting constraints on the little available resources. This has the potential of causing conflicts amongst the nomadic communities. UNHCR shared that water trucking to 16 villages in Dadaab and Fafi has commenced and UNHCR was also repairing boreholes for both short and long term interventions of the draught. The meeting agreed to strengthen an inter-agency disaster response Centre where information and resources are pooled to be able to intervene in a coordinated and timely manner
- **Camp consolidation:** The process of Kambioos camp consolidation started on Monday 30th January 2017 with the transfer of the first groups of refugees from Kambioos to Hagadera camp.
- As of 24th February, a total of 1161 households (5089 individuals) have been allocated plots in Hagadera. In addition, 499 households have already collected their shelter kits and have started construction of their shelters. The distribution of shelter kits continued on Monday 27th February.
- Person with specific need (PSN) and non-Somali nationalities who were exempted to relocate to Kalobeyei due to protection concern are expected to be relocated this week to Hagadera camp to an area near essential services. The vulnerable families will be fully supported on shelter construction and transportation.
- All families relocated to Hagadera camp will receive their food entitlement at Hagadera Food Distribution Point for the month of March food cycle.
- **New Arrivals Registration:** Out of the total 2,045 new arrivals/unregistered individuals pending for registration across all the camps, 214 individuals were registered since the beginning of the registration of new arrivals started on 14th February by the Refugee Affairs Secretariat (RAS) and UNHCR. However, RAS has received instructions on 21st February from Regional Coordinator in Garissa County to suspend the registration of new arrivals until further notice. Therefore, UNHCR has been engaging with the relevant authorities in discussions to resume the registration of new arrivals.
- **Legal Aid Clinic:** 21 (3 males, 2 females, 9 boys and 7 girls) were provided with psychosocial counselling in court, prison and at the Child Rescue Centre on how to cope with their current situations and updated on the progress of their cases along with being provided with pre-trial preparation.
- **Arrest/legal representations in Court:** During the reporting period, in Garissa 07 persons of concern (1 male, 2 boys and 4 girls) were represented in court and 06 (01 male, 2 boys and 3 girls) were represented for migration related charges while one girl was represented in an SGBV case. In addition, 3 persons (1 male, 2 boys) were charged with residing outside designated areas. Three girls from Uganda were charged with being unlawfully present in the country and one girl was represented in a case in which three women are facing charges of Child Trafficking and Child Prostitution.



Children from the drought affected host community villages walk long distances to gather water for their families.

Photo: UNHCR/A. Nasrullah

UNHCR and its partner agencies including Refugee Consortium of Kenya (RCK) and Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) maintained its strategic partnership with the Government of Kenya to ensure social and legal support to persons of concern in Garissa.

Child Protection

- Best Interest Determination (BID) Panel meetings were held on 15th, 17th, 22nd, and 24th February. In total, 116 BIDs were reviewed, of which 83 BIDs were referred to explore the possibility of voluntary repatriation as a durable solution, 23 BIDs which explored resettlement as a durable solution, 3 BIDs requested to explore relocation to Kakuma, and 7 BIDs to identify temporary care arrangements.
- The monthly Child Protection Working Group meeting was held on 27th February. In attendance were Save the Children International (SCI), Terre des Hommes (TDH), Film Aid, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), KRCS and UNHCR. Issues discussed included: monthly activities update from partners, updates on the voluntary repatriation and relocation process, preliminary review of Child Protection issues arising from the participatory assessment and update on the development of the Child Protection messages.
- In Garissa regular visits and follow up of children of the three persons of concern at the Children Rescue Centre is ongoing. The office kept constant contact with the management of the Children Rescue Centre with the purpose of getting abreast of protection services for the children.



Refugee children in Ifo camp of Dadaab.

Photo: UNHCR/A. Nasrullah

Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)

- An Inter – Agency Coordination meeting took place on 28th February where the participants highlighted that SGBV incidences continued to affect women and girls, men and boys in the camps. Instances of rape, defilement and physical assault continued to take place in the camps. Harmful traditional practices continued to hinder access to life saving assistance including health and access to justice. In this regard, there is an inter-agency approach towards developing tools that can provide better platform for SGBV messaging to the community to enhance access to the lifesaving assistance. In addition, Inter-agency camp based coordination meetings took place in each camp, resulting in four coordination sessions, four case conferences and one Safe haven panel.
- Safe Haven Panel meeting to review cases was held on 24th February where various protection partners deliberated on the 15 cases accommodated at the facility. It was resolved that there was need to review the exit strategies and explore local camp solutions for the five cases identified for discharge in light of the limited durable solution options.

Education

- During the reporting period, Education team with inputs from Education implementing Agencies prepared and submitted Educate A Child (EAC) and UNHCR annual reports for 2016. Despite the challenges faced in 2016 and the negative impact of government's camp closure announcement on education, a total of 78,942 (31,887 girls) students out of 134,686 school-aged children were enrolled in institutions of formal learning in Dadaab in 2016 representing an average gross enrolment of 59% at all levels. The major constraints in 2016 as captured in the annual reports included camp closure announcement, camp consolidation, repatriation and relocation which posed uncertainty among learners leading to increase in dropout rates, poor attendance rates and drop in performance.

- For the period 20th to 22nd February, a team from Humanitarian Educational Accelerator (HEA), World University Service of Canada (WUSC) and American Institute of Researchers (AIR) was in Dadaab to conduct a training on evaluation of remedial classes programme. The project which will be implemented by WUSC and Windle Trust Kenya (WTK) seeks to provide impact evaluation evidence of WUSC's remedial education model through process evaluation and rigorous monitoring. In the process, the project will also build capacity of both WUSC and WTK's ability to carry out rigorous Monitoring & Evaluation in the future. As an outcome, the project will document how remedial classes work as well as generate data necessary for making and drawing useful conclusions about its relevance to UN and Government of Kenya education policy.

Photo: UNHCR/A. Nasrullah



Refugee students in their classroom at Hurmod primary school, in Ifo camp.

- Secondary school students and teachers in seven secondary schools run by WTK and three Accelerated Education Programmes (AEP) run by RET International - offering secondary education - went for a midterm break from 25th February and are expected to report back on 5th March. Midterm break is a requirement by Ministry of Education taken once every term to allow secondary school teachers and learners time to recuperate.

Food Security and Nutrition

- Joint evaluation for the Cooperating Partner's (CP) was conducted for all the nutrition partners. The aim of the partnership evaluation was to review performance of WFP and its cooperating partners in relation to responsibilities as agreed upon in Field Level Agreements (FLAs).
- A total of 10 community dialogue sessions and 10 family bazaar sessions aimed at promoting adoption of optimal Maternal Infant and Young Child Nutrition (MIYCN) practices were conducted across all the camps.
- Live radio show was conducted at radio Gargaar. The show aimed at passing vital messages to the refugees. The show provided a platform where listeners were given opportunity to call and ask question which were answered satisfactorily by the competent team. Key issues discussed during the session include; Bamba Chakula and dietary diversity.



Acute malnutrition stabilization ward in Ifo camp hospital of Dadaab.

Photo: UNHCR/A. Nasrullah

Water and Sanitation

- During the reporting period, on average, UNHCR supplied 31.8 liters of water per day per capita from 29 boreholes to the entire refugee population in the five Dadaab camps. 26 of these boreholes operate on Solar PV – Diesel hybrid system. The water supply schemes convey water to 47 tanks with a total storage capacity of 5,950 m³, from where the water distributed to refugees through 909 tap stands scattered around the five camps.

Contacts:

UNHCR Dadaab External Relations Unit, kendapi@unhcr.org
 Web portal on Somali Displacement:
<http://data.unhcr.org/horn-of-africa/regional.php>

facebook.com/unhcrkenya
twitter.com/UNHCR_Kenya
www.unhcr.org/ke