

DADAAB REFUGEE CAMPS, KENYA

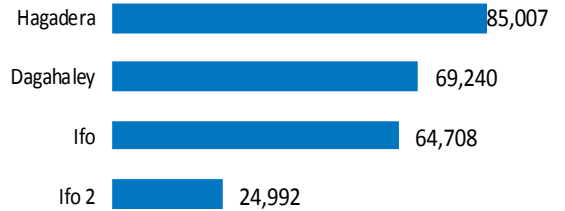
UNHCR DADAAB BI-WEEKLY UPDATE

01 - 15 July 2017

UPDATES

Population as of 15th July 2017: **243,947**

Refugees: 242,298
Asylum seekers: 1,649



HIGHLIGHTS

Voluntary repatriation

- During the reporting period, 423 refugees were supported to return to their homes in Somalia by flight. As of 15th July 2017, 67,402 Somali refugees have returned home since 8th December 2014, when UNHCR started supporting voluntary return of Somali refugees in Kenya, out of which 28,088 were supported in 2017 alone. The cumulative total number of persons repatriated from Kenya to Somalia currently stands at 69,181.
- Road convoy movements remained on hold and facilitation of voluntary repatriation to Somalia by air is limited to Mogadishu and Kismayu.
- To enhance refugees' understanding of the voluntary return process, UNHCR embarked on an information campaign by producing audio and video awareness materials that will help potential returnees understand all the procedures involved in the repatriation process and to create awareness and sensitize the refugee community on the voluntariness of the process.
- The period under review continued to record a reduced trend on voluntary return and number of refugees approaching the Return Help Desks (RHDs). Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) has recently conducted a survey to determine reasons for 'no shows' of refugees' scheduled for return. The finding of the survey shows that drought, poor education, suspension of road movements, cholera outbreak and general health concerns are among the main reasons for 'no shows' and low interest among the refugees in Dadaab camps.



Refugee children from Dadaab camps look from the bus window before embarking on their return journey to Somalia.

Photo: UNHCR/A. Nasrullah

UPDATES

Protection

- **Relocation to Kalobeyei (Kakuma):** On 5th July, a meeting on relocation was held in Dadaab between UNHCR and local authorities. During the meeting, cholera outbreak in Dadaab and Kakuma, the influx of South Sudanese refugees in Kakuma and its impact on relocation, reluctance of non-Somali refugees to relocate to Kakuma, inadequate schools in Kakuma and lack of asylum space were discussed. The Deputy County Commissioner (DCC) emphasized that the relocation is mandatory except for cases with protection concerns and other compelling reasons highlighted by UNHCR. During the meeting, a go-and-see visit to Kakuma by representatives from both UNHCR and local authorities was proposed to assess the conditions in Kakuma Refugee Camp and to visit non-Somali refugees who were relocated to Kalobeyei. The mission will also hold discussions with Kakuma DCC, Camp Manager and UNHCR. Following this visit, the DCC Dadaab will present a report to the Interior Cabinet Secretary recommending steps to be taken for resumption of relocation.
- **Continuous Registration:** During the reporting period, a total of 59 new born babies issued with birth certificates were registered.
- **Civil Registrar's Mission to the Camps:** On 10th July, the District Civil Registrar commenced his one month mission to the camps with scheduled visits. The Civil Registrar is scheduled to issue civil documents to over 1500 new-born children. He will also hold sensitization forums with health agencies on birth notifications.
- **Undocumented persons:** As at 15th July, the total number of undocumented individuals recorded across the camps was 3,822. 3,639 individuals are Somali nationals while 183 are from other nationalities. UNHCR continue to advocate for the registration of all undocumented persons and new arrivals across the camps which would enable adequate protection and assistance of those deserving them. Meanwhile, UNHCR and Refugee Affairs Secretariat (RAS) have agreed to undertake a joint profiling of new arrivals across all the camps every Wednesday.

Child Protection

- On 5th July, the monthly Child Protection Working Group meeting was held with UNHCR, UNICEF, Save the Children, Terre Des Hommes (TdH), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), FilmAid and the Department of Children's Services in attendance. Partners were briefed on the findings of a rapid assessment conducted in Dadaab by Save the Children in May 2017 on the effects of the recent floods and drought. Key findings highlighted include, gaps in shelter and support for new arrivals, risks of child labour and exploitation and caregiver's challenges in buying scholastic and sleeping materials destroyed during the floods.

In addition, the Children's Department Officer reviewed the government foster care placement procedures, and provided guidance on assessment of children's cases in the voluntary repatriation process to prevent family separation. Government documentation on the same was shared for reference.



Photo: UNHCR/A. Nasrullah

Refugee children in front of their house in Hagadera camp of Dadaab.

Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)

- During the Inter-Agency SGBV Coordination meeting held on 10th July, UNHCR SGBV partners committed to conduct periodic community focus group discussions on the causes of violence and plan effective strategies for preventing violence at community level. Understanding survivors' pathways to recovery and public education campaigns through normal GBV coordination activities can improve interventions and will also inform other SGBV prevention and response interventions at camp level.
- In an effort to continuously map out the Somali Traditional Dispute Resolution mechanism that has impacted on the rights of women and children in accessing assistance, a Focus Group discussion with 15 Maslaha members was conducted in Ifo camp. Issues such as forced/early marriage and FGM were discussed and emphasis laid on the fact that these cases need to be tried in court and not through traditional dispute resolution mechanisms.
- Four information dissemination sessions for 133 beneficiaries were held to share key SGBV messages and issues affecting the community. Messages disseminated were on: rape - what it actually entails, its' effects and consequences on different members of the community; the referral pathway; forced and early marriage; domestic violence; and girl child education.



Food Security and Nutrition

- The general food distribution for the month of July was commenced on 1st July. It was completed successfully across all the four camps by 8th July with no major incident reported.
- During the reporting period, a total of four Community dialogue sessions and four family bazaar sessions aimed at promoting optimal Maternal, Infant, and Young Child Nutrition (MICYN) practices were conducted.
- Monthly Mother to Mother Support Groups (MtMSGs) meetings aimed at promoting, supporting and protecting optimal maternal, infant and young child feeding practices were conducted in Hagadera, Ifo and Ifo2 camps.



Education

- From 3rd to 5th July, a team from World University Services of Canada hosted by Windle Trust Kenya (WTK) trained teachers and community mobilizers on Girl Remedial studies program. The team conducted a two day workshop on documentation of skills, data verification & analysis, monitoring & evaluation, quality assurance and standards for the program.
- On 5th July, Instant Network schools (INS) power outage in Ifo camp was discussed with WTK providing a renovation budget shared with the UNHCR programme for consideration. The power problem began during the recent floods affecting WTK cabling prompting CARE to disconnect the generator until the re-cabling is done. This in turn affected the communication radios for the Instant Network Schools.
- On 6th July, Lutheran World Federation (LWF) held an annual prize giving day attended by education stakeholders in Hagadera camp. The best Board of Management (BOM), teachers, auxiliary staff, students and schools in exams, sports, spelling and symposium competitions were awarded. The annual prize giving day christened 'Education Day' by LWF has consistently been held for the last seven years. During this event, students, staff and all education stakeholders who show exemplary work in meeting LWFs and UNHCR objectives in education were awarded. This fosters healthy competition in the schools that LWF operates and in the long run, improved performance of teachers, Board of Management (BOM) and students.
- As a result of continuous advocacy on the expansion of education opportunities for refugee children, Mpesa Foundation indicated their willingness to allocate an initial ten slots fully funded sponsorship to UNHCR Kenya refugee operations, with a possibility to increase the slots in 2018 applications. The Mpesa Foundation Academy is a state of the art school based in Thika that supports smart and talented children who come from economically disadvantaged families. The school is a coeducational facility offering 8-4-4 secondary education coupled with leadership and talent development. Its rigorous admission process involves visits by the admissions team at their own cost to the children's homes. Dadaab camps has been allocated five slots (the other five to Kakuma camp) with 20 application forms being availed to identify applicants from the current class 8 candidates. Successful beneficiaries will be enrolled in the school in 2018 for their secondary education.
- On 12th July 2017, UNHCR Education Unit and UNICEF jointly had a consultative session with Dadaab camps private school proprietors and administrators. A total of 13 private schools (3 primary schools in Ifo, 5 primary schools in

Hagadera, 2 primary schools in Dagahaley and 3 secondary schools in Hagadera) were represented. During the meeting, the administrators were trained on EMIS data collection tools and data collection and dissemination methodologies. Recommendations from the meeting include: private schools sharing with UNHCR and UNICEF data on refugee children enrolled in their schools and representation of private schools administrators in camp based education working groups. On their part, the proprietors and administrators requested UNHCR's and UNICEF's support in WASH, teaching and learning materials, sanitary kits for girls and scholarships for successful candidates from their schools.

- International Rescue committee (IRC) in partnership with UNHCR, North Coast Medical Training College and University of Geneva are in advanced discussions on the roll out of certificate courses in Community Health Education and Basic Medical training for 100 students. Through a bilateral funding secured by IRC, they target 30 students for Basic Medical training to be administered on-line in conjunction with University of Geneva and another 70 students for Community Health Education training to be administered on-site in conjunction with North Coast Medical Training College. IRC is in the final stages of setting up an e-learning hub in Hagadera camp modelled around InZone's hub architecture equipped with internet connectivity and computers.



Photo: UNHCR/A. Nasrullah

Refugee students at their classroom at Hormud Primary School in Ifo camp of Dadaab.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- Artists for Refugees (A4R) Project:** Auditions in Dadaab camps for selection of beneficiaries for A4R project commenced on 7th July and was completed on 10th July. 60 music artists (50 male and 10 female) were selected from all the four camps to undergo an extensive music training which started on 11th July -18th July 2017 at Danish Refugee Council (DRA) compound. The training was facilitated by the Octopizzo foundation team. The A4R project is a talent identification, nurturing and development project to enhance youth's self-reliance and provide livelihood opportunities.

Water and Sanitation

- During the reporting period, on average, UNHCR supplied 29.5 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 5,550 m³, distributed through a pipeline network of 297.5 km and relayed to 845 tap stands with about 3,926 taps, scattered around the four camps.

Camp Consolidation

A draft strategy for consolidation of Ifo 2 camp has been elaborated. UNHCR and Refugee Affairs Secretariat (RAS) held a meeting at Ifo camp to discuss the availability of empty plots where the refugees can be settled. The team later visited the blocks to verify the plots.

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Web portal on Somali Displacement:

<http://data.unhcr.org/horn-of-africa/regional.php>

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