

# Camp snapshot

Population: 19,628 (9,689 female, 9,939 male), 4,044 households (28/02/2014) Nationalities: Somalis 99.6%, Ethiopians 0.4% Current size of camp area: 5 km<sup>2</sup> (5 sections consisting of 7 blocks each)

# Background

Kambioos is the newest of the five refugee camps in north eastern Kenya, opened in August 2011 to reduce population pressure in Hagadera camp. It was planned for a population of 100,000, but never reached that figure, partly because of funding issues, and partly because the Kenyan government did not officially recognise it as a refugee camp. The official recognition was finally given on 11 January 2013, and Kambioos is now foreseen as one of the camps where refugees residing in urban areas in Kenya will be relocated to, in accordance with the government Directive issued in December 2012 calling for the relocation of refugees and asylum-seekers from urban areas to refugee camps. Some refugees living in Kambioos are interested in returning to Somalia in the next months.

A relocation of people to Kambioos from the overcrowded outskirts of Hagadera has been on-going and will resume soon after the completion of the demarcation exercise at section 5 with necessary facilities in place.

# Protection

Protection intervention in Kambioos includes child protection, individual case management, SGBV intervention, issuance of various protection documents (travel documents, food ration cards etc.) and detention monitoring. The Government of Kenya is currently issuing Alien Cards in the camp.

Kambioos' new police post was commissioned on 8 January 2014. The facility has 40 accommodation and 14 police officers were deployed.

Support is provided for persons with specific needs through social protection and empowerment activities. Community support groups for persons living with disabilities, survivors of SGBV and elderly persons have been constituted to provide psycho-social support to this vulnerable group who are mostly segregated by the wider society. Youth are engaged in livelihood and sports activities to prevent them from engaging in vices.

On 1 June 2013, WFP opened a temporary food distribution point in Kambioos. This has positive protection implications, since beneficiaries (mostly women) until then had to travel to Hagadera twice a month to collect their food rations. Since the introduction of the Biometric system in verifying the collectors in July 2013, less than 3% of the population do not collect their food.

#### Education

Kambioos has two primary schools with 6,600 pupils (3,663 boys, 2,931 girls). The construction of a third primary school between section 5 and 6 is near completion. There is no secondary school in the camp. However, this will be a requirement in the next two years. The primary school enrolment rate is 74% (62% boys). A major challenge is the recruitment of qualified teachers as well as the shortage of teaching and learning materials, school uniforms and stationary. Some classrooms are still temporary and need to be replaced urgently as they may collapse and injure the learners.

#### **Refugee self-management**

Refugee leader elections were conducted and new leaders appointed in Kambioos in August 2013. The camp residents had the opportunity to formally vote for new leaders of their choice. Kambioos has a total of 82 leaders (a chairlady, a chairlady, ten section leaders and 70 block leaders both male and female).

#### Health and nutrition

Kambioos has one primary health post, which is below the standard of one health facility per 10,000 residents. There is no hospital in the camp. Clinical cases are referred to the IRC hospital in Hagadera. The health post is usually overcrowded, with minimum consultation times, negatively affecting the quality of services.

100% of pregnant women attending antenatal care services are voluntarily tested for HIV.

65% of all deliveries in the camp are attended by skilled personnel in health facilities. Round-the-clock comprehensive emergency obstetrics care services are available.

There are both supplementary and therapeutic feeding programmes in addition to the general food distribution. Children with severe malnutrition are admitted in the stabilisation centre in IRC Hagadera hospital.

# Shelter and site planning

The majority of Kambioos residents remain in tents that have a lifespan of six to seven months. Tent replacement is underway. In 2013, only 411 transitional shelters were constructed. T-shelters are temporary shelters with a timber structure covered by canvas.

Currently, UNHCR and LWF are in the process of demarcating more land with its site planners to accommodate more refugees from other camps which are currently overcrowded.

#### Water and sanitation

There are two operational boreholes with the capacity of 60m<sup>3</sup> of water per hour in Kambioos but currently only one is in use. In late 2012, a water pipe system to the camp was constructed, greatly improving the quantity and quality of water services. Women and children are no longer forced to walk long distances for water. The average water coverage is 21 litres per person per day (the global standard is 20).

Every household in Kambioos has one latrine making the latrine coverage 100%. Waste management by the use of donkey carts is being taken care of by the refugee community. There is a total of 30 donkey carts in the camp working in the five sections.

#### Livelihoods

Kambioos has various livelihood projects which include tailoring, small kiosks, soap making, tie and dye. There is an urgent need to have a market established in Kambioos to enable refugees engage in various livelihood projects to avoid dependence on UNHCR and partners.

# Environment

UNHCR's vision for Kambioos was to open a model of an eco-friendly refugee camp. In line with this, an environmental impact assessment of the proposed site was done in September 2009. Current activities include the establishment of green belts, rearing of tree seedlings, promotion of education and awareness as well as negotiating for land on which to establish garbage dumping sites. Urgent awareness sensitisation is also a priority as illegal tree cutting is leading to the arrest of the refugees.



Kambioos from the air

Photo: Yann Arthus-Bertrand

# Partners active in Kambioos

- Action Contre Faim (ACF): Infant- and young-child nutrition
- Catholic Relief Services (CRS): Sanitation and hygiene promotion
- Fafi Integrated Development Association (FAIDA): Environment, household energy, host community projects
- Film Aid International (FAI): Information campaigns, community communication
- International Rescue Committee (IRC): Health and nutrition, HIV/AIDS
- Lutheran World Federation (LWF): Camp management, primary education, shelter, persons with specific needs, livelihood
- Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC): Water, logistics, warehousing
- Refugee Consortium Kenya (RCK): Legal assistance, protection monitoring
- Terre des Hommes (TdH): Child protection
- WFP: Food
- Womankind: SGBV
- World Vision: Child protection, livelihood, host community projects



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