

Camp snapshot

Population: 107,666 (54,439 female, 53,227 male), 28,107 households (28/02/2014)

Nationalities: Somalis 97.3%, Ethiopians and others 2.7%

Size of camp area: 8.7 km²

Background

Hagadera was established in 1992 and is the third oldest camp in the North-Eastern Province of Kenya. It is the largest camp under the Dadaab operation and managed by UNHCR Field Office Alinjugur.

The population has decreased by over 45,000 in the last verification exercise. Most of the new arrivals are staying with relatives but some 20,000 have settled outside the designated camp area in the so called Hagadera outskirts.

The relocation exercise of 2011 and 2012 has moved around 2,000 families of about 10,000 individuals to Kambioos in order to decongest Hagadera camp. It is planned to relocate further refugees to Kambioos.

Hagadera has one of the biggest markets in the region and a dynamic economy.

Protection

Protection interventions in Hagadera include child protection, individual case management, SGBV intervention, issuance of various protection documents and detention monitoring.

Hagadera has a Registration Centre but the Department of Refugee Affairs (DRA) has suspended the registration for the new arrivals since mid-October 2011 until further notice. DRA has been issuing Refugee Identity Cards (Alien Cards) to adult refugees as well as movement passes to refugees who travel out of the Dadaab camps to other areas in Kenya for mainly medical reasons.

The Return Help Desk office in Hagadera is experiencing a low turn-out of refugees interested to return to Somalia.

Although the camp security situation is relatively calm in recent months, the situation has deteriorated since 2011. Improvised explosive devices (IEDs) have been installed underground killing and injuring police officers and badly damaging their vehicles that were escorting UN and NGOs. Some were also found inside the camp and on the road towards Alinjugur. Common criminality and banditry have also increased. The first kidnapping of Dadaab humanitarian staff occurred in Hagadera in September 2011.

Hagadera camp has three police posts with a total of 75 police officers who are responsible for the camp security.

There have been rampant fire outbreaks in the camp since 2010. Some response mechanisms are in place for such incidents but they have not been efficient for big fires so far.

Education

Hagadera has six operational primary schools. One additional school under construction is expected to open in early 2014. The camp also has two secondary schools, one adult literacy center, one vocational center and one ICT training center.

Each class room in Hagadera holds 100-120 students, while the standard is 40 students in a class room. The primary school enrollment rate is 37% (standard is 100%). The secondary school enrollment rate is 14.8%.

Refugee self-management

The camp is organised in sections and blocks with two elected leaders (one male, one female) representing each block and each section (26 section leaders, 260 block leaders). The camp population has also elected an overall chairman and chairlady. The latest refugee free and fair election was conducted in August 2013.

In addition to these leaders, minorities (nationality or tribal groups), have also elected leaders. While the deteriorated security situation frustrates operations, it also presents an opportunity to more actively empower refugees to manage the day-to-day aspects of camp life. This includes the engagement of youth in providing peer-counseling, sanitation committees coordinating public health campaigns, promotion of community media and the involvement of refugee staff in delivering health and shelter services.



Hagadera from the air

Photo: Yann Arthus-Bertrand

Shelter and site planning

No new shelters have been allocated for Hagadera since 2010 and the camp is in desperate need of both, new shelters and the renovation of old shelters. Currently, plans are underway to implement some T-type shelters.

Health and nutrition

Four clinics and one hospital are serving an average of 454 patients per day. The ratio is over 28,000 individuals per each health clinic and therefore below the standard of 10,000 individuals. The hospital has recently begun to provide specialised eye care services.

A high level of births at home can be observed in Hagadera, which leads to health complications and can further affect the easy access to birth registration papers. The under 5 mortality is reported at 0.5% while life birth expectancy is at 88%.

WFP through NRC distributes food rations twice a month. There is one food distribution point, where refugees collect food and non-food items through a biometric check system. These food rations ensure a daily intake of 2,100 kilocalories per person per day, which is the global standard

Water and sanitation

Hagadera camp has six operational boreholes. The water supply is 20 liters per person per day, which is the global standard. There are only 100 taps in the camp, which means that 1,100 individuals have to share one tap. The accepted standard is 80 persons to share one tap. About 13 people share one latrine. Sanitary skips are about 16 laid in strategic areas in the camp to off load rubbish.

Environment

Serious environmental degradation is caused by the overpopulation of the camp. Most of the green belts areas in Hagadera are currently devastated. Tree seedlings have been distributed to both refugees and the host communities. Due to a lack of funding and limited stocks, firewood distribution is now targeting only the most vulnerable refugees.

Livelihoods

Livelihoods support includes tailoring, shoe making, soap making weaving and sewing, tie and dye. The refugee community has a strong interest in projects on income generating activities to enable them to sustain themselves. There is growing need to increase support on livelihood projects.

Partners active in Hagadera

- Centre for Torture Victims (CTV): Psychosocial counseling
- **Department of Refugee Affairs (DRA):** Camp management/administration, protection, and registration
- Fafi Integrated Development Association (FAIDA): Environment/Energy in the Fafi region
- Film Aid International (FAI): Information and sensitization campaigns, community communication
- International Rescue Committee (IRC): Health, HIV/AIDS, nutrition, gender based violence, persons with specific needs
- **IOM:** Resettlement.
- **Kenya Police:** Security/Escorts
- Lutheran World Federation (LWF): Reception & transit centres, camp management, road maintenance, primary education, persons with specific needs
- National Council of Churches in Kenya (NCCK): Peace education
- Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC): Food distribution, Core relief items and WASH
- Refugee Consortium Kenya (RCK): Legal assistance, gender based violence
- **RET:** Livelihood/Education
- Save the Children UK (SCUK): child protection/Education
- Windle Tust Kenya (WTK): Secondary education and scholarships
- World Food Programme (WFP): Food Supply, nutrition



