

Camp snapshot

Population: 12,848 with additional 551 yet not registered

Nationalities: Somalis 99%, Ethiopians 1%.

Size of camp area: 1.5 km²
 Number of family plots: 3,231

Average plot size per household: 10m x 12m

Police posted in Kambioos: 0

Contextual background

- Youngest of the five refugee camps in Dadaab, established in 2011 to reduce population pressure in the overcrowded Hagadera camp.
- Relocation of refugees from Hagadera to Kambioos started on 19 August 2011 but came to a halt on 15 October after the kidnapping of two humanitarian workers and one driver.
- From mid-October 2011 to mid-January 2012, the presence of UNHCR and partner staff remained limited and inconsistent.
- Despite the continuing adverse security situation, work continues in Kambioos to strengthen consistency and quality of services, provide access to assistance and identify vulnerable individuals.

Security

- No police have yet been posted in Kambioos due to remaining unresolved issues pertaining to its official status as a refugee site. However there are random patrols both at night and during the day.
- The camp location is problematic, with access only through Hagadera camp, which means that access to Kambioos is affected by security threats in Hagadera.

Access to food

- Food distribution takes place in Hagadera as there is no distribution centre in Kambioos.
- Some 300 new unregistered arrivals remain without access to a consistent source of food. Food from the regular food distribution is shared between registered refugees and the new arrivals.

WASH

- There is one operational borehole in Kambioos. Water is also being trucked to the camp.
- Average water coverage is 15 litres per person per day.
- The Water pipes being built by OXFAM is now completed, this is expected to greatly improve the standard
 of living refugee. Women and children will no longer be forced to walk long distances for water and
 tensions will subside as competition for water decreases.
- There are 565 latrines, giving an average of 20 persons per latrines.
- Latrine replacement and solid waste management remain major challenges.

Shelter

- Kambioos is divided into three sections all of which are showing signs of overcrowding due to recent new arrivals.
- There are many collapsed or vacant tents. Inter-locking stabilized soil block (ISSB) shelters are being planned. Construction will likely include 160 shelters as a pilot.

Health

- There is one health post but no hospital. Serious cases are referred to the Hagadera hospital.
- Malnutrition is on a downward trend.
- Access to clean water, a consistent food source, and an increased number of latrines, hygiene promotion
 efforts and improved health-seeking behaviour all contributed to the reduction of acute watery diarrhoea
 cases.

Education

- Number of school-age children: 5,965
- Number of students enrolled: 3,988 (2,419 boys and 1,569 girls)
- Number of primary schools: 2
- The WFP school feeding programme has not yet started as there are no established storage facilities. The Department of Refugee Affairs (DRA) distributes milk to lower primary students once per week.
- The temporary structures in the Kambioos primary schools have no windows or doors and leave blackboards and desks exposed to strong winds, sand and rain.
- Lack of a child protection partner has negative implications for school environment.

Protection & SGBV

- The deterioration of the security situation has increased the risk for women and girls to become victims of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) while services to protect and respond to their needs are limited.
- Adolescent girls are especially vulnerable. Since September, 23% of reported SGBV cases involved girls under 18 years and 40% of these were sexual assaults.
- SGBV cases are reported to the police in Hagadera. However, police are unwilling to respond, investigate, or follow up at the camp level. Legal aid services are limited.
- Clinical care is not provided in the camp and referrals are made to IRC in Hagadera.

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.
- Activities include the establishment of green-belts/woodlots; rearing of tree seedlings for compound
 planting; promotion of education and awareness as well as negotiating for land on which to establish
 garbage dumping sites.
- Future plans include setting up of solar street lights; provision of solar lanterns; establishment of a sanitary landfill for comprehensive garbage management and setting up kitchen gardens around water tap-stands.

Refugee leadership

- Kambioos currently has 34 appointed block leaders in place. Each block is represented by two leaders, male and female. A chairman and chairlady of the camp were appointed by LWF as a temporary measure to facilitate communication in the camp.
- As the block leaders were not elected by the community there was concern about the legitimacy of the community leadership. Refugee leader elections are anticipated this year.

Youth, women & social groups

- The recently established youth groups, women's groups and disabilities groups are part of a concerted effort to strengthen community structures.
- There are now six women's groups focusing on developing different job opportunities. LWF is working to match livelihoods funding to applications and proposals submitted by the women's groups.

Refugee and host community relations

- Host community members have at various times interfered with camp-based issues.
- Despite this the host community was helpful and supportive especially during the prevailing security situation. According to the camp leadership in mid-January, a new understanding has come about and interaction and bonding between the two communities has improved.
- Unfortunately, an increase in construction projects in Kambioos over the past three months has resulted in negative reactions from the host community who have blocked water access to the camp and vandalised property in order to draw attention to recruitment and job interests.

For further information please contact:

Mans Nyberg

Senior External Relations Officer UNHCR Dadaab Operations, Kenya Email: nyberg@unhcr.org Mobile: +254 (0) 704 807 205 **Alex Donato**

Associate Reporting Officer UNHCR Dadaab Operations, Kenya

Email: <u>donato@unhcr.org</u> Mobile: +254 (0) 706 046 732