

Urban Refugee Programme, Kenya

1-30 April 2019

74,750

Refugees and asylum seekers registered in urban areas as at 30 April 2019

5,306

New arrival refugees and asylum seekers registered since January 2019.

2,165

Individuals in urban areas assisted to return to their home countries since 2014.

KEY INDICATORS

130,560

Refugees and asylum seekers files that have been digitized.

34%

Of newly registered refugees are from Democratic Republic of Congo

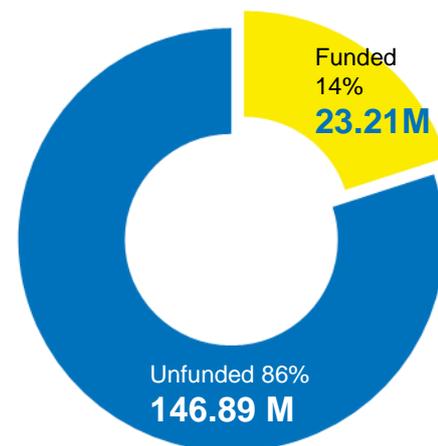
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Number of refugees assisted to voluntarily return to their countries of origin.

FUNDING (AS OF 30 APRIL 2019)

USD 170.1M

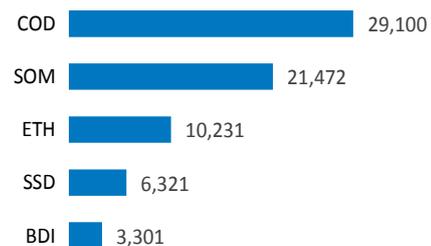
requested for the [Country] situation



Yvette (L) and Cynthia (R) chat at the M-Pesa Academy resource centre that is equipped with books and computers to facilitate their studies. The two urban refugee students met on admission in January 2018 and have become good friends since then.

POPULATION OF CONCERN

Host Countries



Highlights

- UNHCR convened a Ministerial Conference to eradicate statelessness on 16-18 April 2019. The International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) Government focal points agreed to extend the ICGLR Action Plan to eradicate statelessness to 2024 and expand it to include a new strategic objective on guaranteeing access to proof of legal identity, including birth registration and nationality documentation. In addition, the conference saw a significant number of strong indicative commitments to address statelessness in the remaining five years of the #IBelong Campaign delivered by ICGLR Member State Ministers and their delegates. Specifically, Kenya pledged that by 2020, they will recognise and register Shona community, who qualify under the law as Kenyan citizens; and by 2020, enact a new Births and Deaths Registration Act that provides safeguards to prevent statelessness.
- International Labour Organisation (ILO) launched a market assessment in Dadaab and Garissa, focusing on fruits and vegetables on value chain systems. ILO is also mapping prospects of business incubation hubs in collaboration with United States International University –Africa.



PROTECTION

Registration:

Achievements and Impact

- Refugee Affairs Secretariat (RAS) conducted new registration for **1,336** individuals. 43% arrived before 2019, 55% (732) arrived in 2019 while 2% (32) are new-borns. The registrations were conducted in Nakuru (133), Mombasa (331) and Nairobi (872). Majority of the new arrivals originated from Somalia (409), Democratic Republic of the Congo - DRC (285), South-Sudan (273), Burundi (129), Ethiopia (107), Eritrea (55) and 43 from other nationalities; bringing the total urban population to **75,750** refugees and asylum seekers.
- The e-filing project to digitize asylum seekers' and refugees' files with Boldata Systems Ltd Company that commenced in the month of February 2018 is progressing well. By the end of April 2019, about one hundred and thirty thousand five hundred and sixty files (130,560) had been digitized after following all the due processes. Fifty four thousand six hundred and twenty five (54,625) from the scanned files were separated ready to be uploaded in the Electronic Document Management System (EDMS). These digitized files are in three locations within Nairobi i.e. UNHCR, Kate Warehouse and RAS offices in Shauri Moyo.

Legal Assistance

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR participated in a Court Users Committee Training where magistrates, children's officers, immigration, probation and director of public prosecution were trained on the refugee law; the mandate of UNHCR as well as the role of government in refugee management. 23 participants were sensitized on refugee matters and the application of the Refugees Act on cases involving persons of concern.
- UNHCR and its partner Kituo Cha Sheria continue to monitor the protection situation of persons of concern residing in the urban areas. During the reporting period, interventions were made for 73 persons of concern who had been

arrested and charged in various courts for different offences. 22 police stations were visited as part of the monthly detention monitoring activities.

- On 8-12 April UNHCR conducted a border monitoring mission along Nairobi-Kajiado-Namanga-Oloitoktok flight corridor in collaboration with Kituo Cha Sheria
- On 30 April UNHCR accompanied RAS to the Namanga border post to follow up on 3 cases/10 individuals registered as asylum seekers in Kenya, who were intercepted at the Tanzanian border by the authorities. The PoCs were escorted back to Kakuma Refugee Camp

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Given the frequent rotation of government officers, there is need for continuous sensitization.

Child protection

Achievements and Impact

- A total of 15 Best Interest Assessments (BIAs) were conducted; 2 Best Interest Determination (BID) panels were convened where 26 cases were discussed and approved for resettlement consideration and family reunification.
- 2 children dialogues were held in Kayole and Eastleigh.
- 2 children were placed in alternative care at the Safe House while 3 children living with disability received financial assistance. 18 home visits and social assessments were conducted. 5 minors were placed under child headed household and issued with assistance.
- UNHCR and RAS undertook a mission to *Cindi's Hope Home* in Naivasha and conducted 50 BIAs for unaccompanied and separated children after the District Children's Officer raised a concern on the need for proper documentation, during an inspection mission. Majority of the children were from South Sudan with a few from Somalia. The home has offered 10 slots in 2019 for vulnerable girls.
- In the exemption panel in April, RAS requested for BIA reports of 300 vulnerable children mainly UAMs pending exemption.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Refugee children engaging in child labour to meet their basic needs.
- Children do not have NHIF cards so they cannot access medical services.
- Inadequate resources for children in group living arrangements.

Refugee status determination

Achievements and Impact

- 723 individuals were recognized, two were rejected.
- 897 cases were reviewed during the month; 764 were presented to TAC and 133 were returned for complementary interview.
- 2,699 individuals had their RSD case inactivated for abandonment after they could not be reached after three attempts to contact them.
- RAS Eligibility staff together with UNHCR completed 286 interviews, 80% were first instance interviews and 20 were no-shows.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The RSD pipeline for cases accepted for processing in Nairobi stands at: 1,379 pending interview, 748 pending assessment and 3,665 individuals pending review.

Community mobilization

Achievements and Impact

- One community outreach session for communities living in Umoja, in the Eastern part of Nairobi. The 780 persons in attendance raised concerns on documentation, registration and exemption to reside in urban areas. Assistant County Commissioner representing the national government encouraged the PoC to live harmoniously with their hosts and urged them to pay their house rents.
- UNHCR hosted the Refugee Coalition of East Africa (LGBTI) for a training on 'becoming more effective in strategic goals, initiatives, organization, and activities'.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- There is a significant gap between the expectation of PoC towards durable and other protection solutions (especially, resettlement) vis-à-vis limited opportunities and resources. There is need for continuous and clear communication and regular updates.



EDUCATION

Achievements and Impact

- 30 (15m 15f) ECDE, 469 (225m 244f) Primary and 203 (99f 104m) secondary school students were assisted by UNHCR through Francis Xavier Project to resume school for the second term that began on 28 April 2019.
- Two (2) DAFI scholars won the coveted international students representatives at the University of Nairobi. During the students elections held in the month of April, Peter Barach Aguer and Abdinassir Aden lobbied fellow students to consider changing the student leadership constitution to accommodate refugees.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Parents continue to approach UNHCR and Francis Xavier Project for education support. However, inadequate funding has hampered access to education with focus on the few that are already been supported from previous years.



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

Achievements and Impact

- An assessment was conducted for the PoC exited from the witness protection programme to support them with employment-seeking and start-up businesses.
- A session was held with Techfugees to discuss the possibility of identifying talented web developers among refugees.
- Separately, a meeting was held with USA for UNHCR volunteers to facilitate learning on the urban programme and opportunities for engagement.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- There is a significant interest from community based organizations to empower refugees living in urban areas, however, there is limited funding to support the CBOs to grow and expand.



DURABLE SOLUTIONS

Resettlement

Achievements and Impact

- 52 cases of 79 Individuals were submitted from Nairobi for resettlement in April 2019. The total submissions for Nairobi this year is 216 cases of 389 individuals.
- 87 cases of 317 individuals departed on resettlement and other on complementary pathways from Nairobi during the month.
- The Resettlement Unit completed 150 UK submissions and is currently focused on 200 cases for Sweden and alongside other countries with open quotas that include Canada and the US.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- 45 cases had their RRFs completed, but could not be finalized and submitted due to pending biodata changes that must be effected by RAS. This is a significant challenge, if not rectified, this may result in the office not meeting its time bound targets.
- 37 cases, mainly LGBTI refugees were processed, but could not be submitted because they do not have RSD decisions. The *deprioritized* list has highlighted that many refugees have outdated/unreachable telephone numbers.

Voluntary Repatriation

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR facilitated the return of 8 individuals to Kismayo Somalia, and 4 individuals to Lubumbashi in the DRC. UNHCR continues to sensitise PoCs with relevant country of origin information to enable them make informed choices with regards to voluntary repatriation.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- There is need for continuous sensitization on voluntary repatriation as a durable solution. Some refugees and asylum seekers are not aware that the scope for repatriation has been expanded other countries in the region such as DRC, Rwanda and Burundi.

Working in partnership

UNHCR continues to work closely with the Government of Kenya through the office of the Refugee Affairs Secretariat (RAS), and partners to ensure support to refugees and asylum seekers.

Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the **Kenya** operation amount to **US\$ 23.21 million**

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to the Kenya operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

External / Donors Relations

Special thanks to the major donors of softly earmarked funds in 2019

Germany 16.2 million | United States of America 10 million | Sweden 3.1 million

Thanks to other donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2019

Sweden 90.4 million | Norway 44.5 million | Netherlands 37.5 million | United Kingdom 31.7 million | Germany 26.7 million | Denmark 24.4 million | Private donors Spain 19.5 million | Switzerland 15.1 million

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Links

UNHCR Kenya website: www.unhcr.org/ke
UNHCR Global website: www.unhcr.org

UNHCR regional portal

Somalia: <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/horn>

South Sudan: <http://data.unhcr.org/SouthSudan/regional.php>

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