

Urban Refugee Programme, Kenya

1-30 September 2019

75,467

Refugees and asylum seekers registered in urban areas as at 31 August 2019

9,812

New arrival refugees and asylum seekers registered since January 2019.

2,209

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

KEY INDICATORS

4,789

Calls received from refugees and asylum seekers through the helpline

30%

Of newly registered refugees are from Democratic Republic of Congo

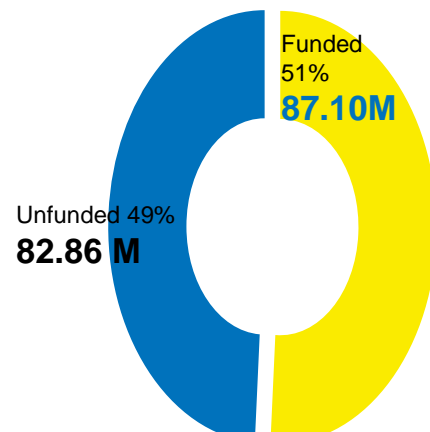
56

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

FUNDING (AS OF 02 OCTOBER 2019)

USD 170M

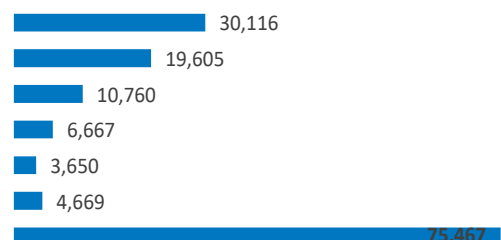
requested for the Somali and South Sudan situation



UNHCR Representative, Ms Fathiaa Abdalla receives cheque of 1M Kenya shillings in support of LuQuLuQu campaign to support displaced refugees in Africa at this year's #StepforSafety walk in Nairobi. Photo Credits UNHCR/Caroline Opile.

POPULATION OF CONCERN

Host Countries



HIGHLIGHTS

- Two refugee athletes, Paulo Omuton and Rose Nathike participated in the IAAF World Championships in DOHA. Rose one of the athletes performed well with a best personal record time of 2:13.39 in the 800M race.

The Refugees Bill 2019

- A Government Bill was introduced into Parliament on 10 September by the Majority Leader in Parliament. The first reading took place on the same day and it was assigned to the Parliamentary Committee on Departmental Committee on Administration of National Security (DCANS).
- The Task Force on the legislative process also held a meeting with select MPs from DCANS and the Justice and Legal Affairs Committee and a workshop with DCANS and parliamentary staff. These meetings have been critical allowing UNHCR and other Task Force members to highlight critical issues of the Bill and offering proposed amendments.
- UNHCR and the TF have also held meetings with various stakeholders, including, Heads of NGOs, Urban Refugee Protection Network Partners, civil society, UN sister agencies and the donor community.

Step for Safety Walk in Nairobi

- Over two thousand people congregated together for LuQuLuQu's second annual Step for Safety walk held in Nairobi on 8 September 2019.
- The walk is an awareness building and fundraising initiative to support families forced to flee their homes because of conflict, violence or persecution across Africa. It first launched in Nairobi in 2018 and had since been held across the continent in Somalia, South Africa, Senegal, Burkina Faso, and Ghana.
Open this link for detailed story. <https://www.unhcr.org/ke/16036-luquluquus-step-for-safety-returns-to-nairobi.html>



PROTECTION

Registration/Verification

- Refugee Affairs Secretariat (RAS) conducted new registration of 941 individuals, of which 24% (224) arrived before 2019, 69% (651) arrived in 2019 and 7% (66) were new born. Registration was conducted in Nakuru (46), Mombasa (101) and Nairobi (794). Majority of the new arrivals originated from Burundi (104), Democratic Republic of the Congo (279), Eritrea (31), Ethiopia (129), Rwanda (23), Somalia (275), South-Sudan (57), Sudan (1), Uganda (30) and other nationalities (13); bringing the total urban population to 75,467 refugees and asylum seekers.
- UNHCR and the Government of Kenya, through the Refugee Affairs Secretariat plan to undertake a verification exercise as follows: 14 October in Nakuru, 23 October in Nairobi and 28 October in Mombasa security permitting.
- 488 IDs were issued in September while 122 IDs were received from HQ in June 2019

Registry Activities

- The office received queries from different locations to authenticate documents alongside other queries on POCs. Australian High Commission in Nairobi had one case (1), while eight (8) other requests were received from UNHCR office in Kuala Lumpur Malaysia for asylum seekers who are present there.

- 193 spontaneous departure cases were recorded as follows: Uganda (189), Rwanda (2) and Zambia (2). Out of this total, 189 are adjudicated cases in Uganda requiring to be closed in proGres.
- Registry has continued to support RAS Shauri Moyo with filing needs. The Barcode File Tracking System (BFTS) that was down has been restored and 7000 files that have been pending have been barcoded.
- The files scanned for digitization to date from all the three locations i.e. UNHCR, Kate and Shauri Moyo are 142,787. Out of these, 92,442 have been separated for upload in the EDMS. It is estimated that BOLDATA Systems Limited Company will conclude the exercise on 31 December 2019.

Legal

Achievements and Impact

- 600 cases were attended to at RAS Shauri Moyo. Majority of the incidences reported included insecurity, SGBV, special needs intervention and documentation. UNHCR also held a meeting with RAS to discuss the large numbers of PoCs received at the facility and exemption procedures.
- 17 conventional travel documents (CTDs) were issued during the reporting period.
- On 11 September, UNHCR and Kituo cha Sheria jointly held a Legal Aid clinic in Jamhuri. Refugees and asylum seekers were concerned about lack of feedback on the exemption process, police harassment, documentation to enrol in tertiary institutions and access to mobile money services.
- On 11-13 September UNHCR and Kituo conducted refugee protection training for 23 government officers from the judiciary, immigration, police and children's Departments in Kajiado.
- On 20 September UNHCR conducted refugee protection training in Mombasa for 33 officers from LGBTIQ organizations based in the coastal region. The training was necessitated by the need to collaborate with national LGBTIQ organizations and link PoCs with various partners in several locations.
- Vulnerability Assessments was done for urban based LGBTIQ refugees by HIAS. The assessments are to inform the specific needs and interventions required for individual PoCs as continuous financial assistance will not be provided after December 2019.
- UNHCR and its partner Kituo Cha Sheria monitored the protection situation of PoCs residing in the urban areas. 55 police stations were visited within Nairobi and Mombasa. Interventions were made for 73 PoCs arrested in various police stations and charged in court for different offences.
- UNHCR conducted border and detention monitoring with Kituo along the Mombasa -Lungalunga flight corridor. The OCS at Lungalunga police station reported an increase in PoCs from Kakuma attempting to cross the border into Tanzania.

Helpline

- The Helpline received a total of 4,879 calls in the month of September. This represents a reduction of 10.8% from the previous month. A total of 3,451 calls were answered in the first instance.
- The biggest call driver was Resettlement (24.95) and Protection (23.97%). Kinyamulenge was the most used language, followed by Swahili and Somali respectively. In addition, 4 calibration meetings were held as part of UNHCR mechanism for quality control.

Child Protection

Achievements and Impact

- 60 assessments (24 BIAS, 16 BIDs, 20 social assessments) were conducted by HIAS, implementing partner for child protection. Of the 16 BIDs, 15 were approved for resettlement and one was deferred during the panel.
- Danish Refugee Council conducted training of mentors/entrepreneurs and the mentees under the Youth Mentorship project funded by Dutch Government.
- A joint UNHCR and HIAS mission to Mombasa assessed and monitored 32 cases. It was noted that the assistance provided met the needs of vulnerable children that include transportation for physiotherapy sessions and purchase of assistive devices for persons with disability.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Majority of minors who have been exempted from residing in camps are still pending change of address to Nairobi. As a result, there are delays in RSD process, lack of access to services and documentation and identification of BIDs for resettlement. RAS will be resuming the exemption panel in October after a two months break.

Refugee Status Determination

Achievements and Impact

- RAS and UNHCR conducted 141 interviews; 95 were initial interviews and 46 were complementary interviews. 19 cases were no-show for the scheduled interviews. 331 cases were reviewed.
- On 17 September, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) held a meeting and recommended 770 individuals for recognition and 9 individuals for rejection.
- The Commissioner for Refugee Affairs endorsed 1068 cases for recognition and 10 cases for rejection.
- 27 RAS and UNHCR staff attended Interview Learning Programme workshop held in Nairobi on 2 – 6 September. The objective of the training was to sensitize staff to conduct interviews in a respectful manner, obtain detailed and complete information for fair and comprehensive assessments.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

4,344 cases are pending interviews; 585 cases are pending assessment and 2,198 cases pending review.

Community Mobilisation

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR referred 36 persons with special needs (PSN) to HIAS for counselling, 21 were counselled
- UNHCR visited three Faith Based Institutions that support persons living with disability in Nairobi that include Nyumba ya Wazee (Home for the Elderly) Missionary of Charity Sisters and Home of Peace. The staff also visited New Life Home that supports children with autism and cerebral palsy. The Institution has already accommodated three elderly refugees and they are willing to admit more in their institutions, on condition that they conduct their own independent assessment.



EDUCATION

Achievements and Impact

- Schools opened for the third and final term of 2019 in the second week of September.
- During the month under review, education focal point in Nairobi attended an INS (Instant Network Schools) workshop at the Regional Service Centre to explore possible national strategy on Edtech which would include urban areas.
- Another regional workshop on education was held in Nairobi to explore possible expansion of tertiary education scholarships among youths affected by conflict and displacement. The forum was convened by WUSC and Mastercard.
- Urban Education working group held a meeting with a focus on mentorship of high school students and planning for the annual students camp due in December 2019.



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

Achievements and Impact

- 15 CBOs have been assessed to identify possible gaps. Preliminary gaps identified include; insufficient awareness on registration requirement/process; organizational structure and functions, finance and financial education, HR (Code of Conduct, contracts) and Project management.
- 20 (16F:4M) persons of concern were supported to access markets through various linkages to enhance product sales. The total sales realized in the month of September were **KES 217,172.72**.
- 25 youth (14F, 11M) aged between 17-25 years were attached to different mentors/entrepreneurs within Nairobi County under the Youth Apprenticeship Program. They are currently undergoing skills training in different sectors such as beauty care, hairdressing, mobile phone repair, retail trade, baking, welding and fabrication.
- 18 PoCs were trained on beauty care, thanks to support from Linton's Beauty College. They received specialized training in Nail and Skin Care. They also received nails and skin care packs and a business grant of KES 5,000 from DRC to purchase additional items.
- A technical meeting with UNDP, Toyota Kenya Foundation Trust (TKFT) and UNHCR was held on 25 September to appraise on the Toyota apprenticeship project. It was agreed that TKFT would conduct evaluations for refugee applicants from Kakuma in October, while the training schedule will be agreed on at a later date.
- Sensitization and demonetization campaign on the phasing out of the old 1000 generation note currency was facilitated with support from the Central Bank of Kenya in Nairobi and Kakuma. The sensitization targeted community leaders, PoCs and in Kakuma with support from bank managers in Kakuma. Messages on the security features of the new currency were also disseminated to PoCs to empower them not to fall prey to fake money.

SGBV

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR participated in the planning meetings for the upcoming national SGBV conference organized by the State Department of Gender Affairs. The conference targeting SGBV duty bearers from the 47 counties with each county represented by 3 officials, will be held on 16-17 October
- UNHCR organized the Monthly SGBV coordination which was attended by among others, the Nairobi county SGBV coordination office representative. The meeting focused on trend analysis of the GBV statistics to guide in targeted interventions and improving coordination to reduce duplicity.

- UNHCR attended the monthly National Gender and Equality Commission technical working group meeting which resumed after a five-month break. The commission is planning to visit Kakuma in October to familiarize themselves with UNHCR operations and SGBV issues affecting PoCs.



DURABLE SOLUTIONS

Resettlement

Achievements and Impact

- The Nairobi office has so far submitted 890 refugees for resettlement with the target for 2019 pegged at 1,200 persons. 74% of that target has been achieved. Of the persons submitted for resettlement, 231 LGBTI refugees and their dependents.
- US CIS Refugee Affairs Division conducted interviews in Nairobi and in Kakuma in August and September. This is the first circuit ride in an extended period. In total 50 cases/84 refugees were interviewed in Nairobi. These cases were selected from the prioritized cases. LV2).

Voluntary Repatriation

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR is in the process of facilitating 21 individuals from Kakuma and 1577 individuals from Dadaab for voluntary repatriation to Ethiopia. The persons of concern have approached respective return help desks in the camps to express their willingness to return by signing voluntary repatriation forms, and the Nairobi office is liaising with the Ethiopian Embassy to process the repatriation.
- An additional 13 Burundi nationals are being processed for return to their country of origin after signing Voluntary Repatriation Forms expressing their willingness to return.

STATELESSNESS

UNHCR held 3 meetings with the Government officials to support the preparations of the upcoming High-Level Segment on statelessness taking place on October 7, 2019. Two of the meetings were at technical level to prepare proposed pledges and one of the meetings was held to sensitize the designated Government delegate on the pledges.

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\$ 87.10 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 54.3 million | Canada 4.6 million | Private donors Australia 9.1 million | Sweden 3.1 million

Thanks to other donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2019

Sweden 99.8 million | Norway 44.5 million | Netherlands 37.5 million | Private donors Spain 54.5 million | United Kingdom 31.7 million | Germany 26.7 million | Denmark 24.4 million | Private donors Japan 16.1 | Private donors Republic of Korea 24.1 million | Switzerland 15.1 million | France 14 million | Private donors Italy 12.7 million | Private donors Sweden 10.4 million | Ireland 10.2 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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