

# Dadaab, Kenya

October 2019

The first camp in Dadaab was established in **1991**. There are **3** camps in Dadaab: **Hagadera**, **Dagahaley** and **Ifo**.

On **21st June 2019**, former **Kambioos** and **Ifo2** refugee camps were officially handed Over to both the **County** and **National governments**.

Since **December 2014**, Somali refugees who decide to voluntarily return to their home country, receive UNHCR support in Kenya and Somalia.

## 217,108

Total Dadaab population as at **31 September 2019**

## 57%

Percentage of Dadaab population are **children**

**VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION FROM DADAAB**

## 80,864

Somali refugees have returned home since **December 2014**

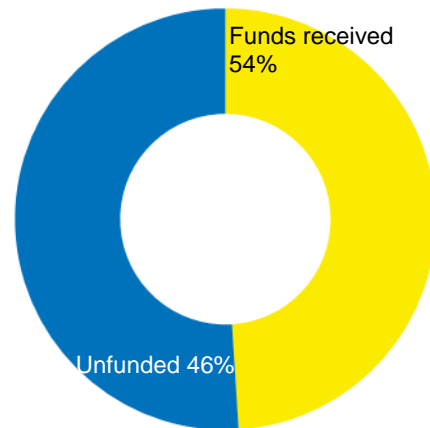
## 67,230

Refugee children are **enrolled in school** in Dadaab camps

FUNDING (AS AT 14 OCTOBER 2019)

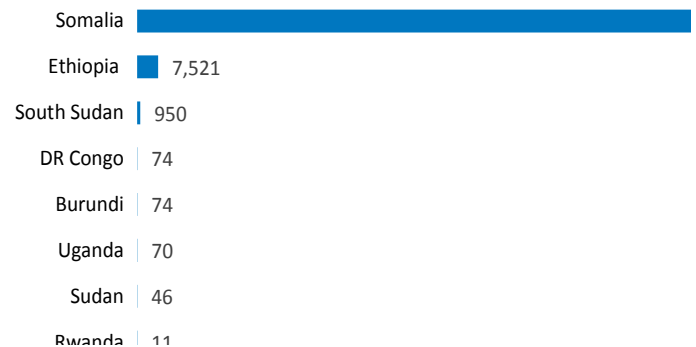
## USD 170 M

requested for the **Kenya** situation



POPULATION OF CONCERN AS AT 31 AUGUST 2019

## Country of Origin



## Voluntary Repatriation

- During the reporting period, UNHCR organized four repatriation flights to Mogadishu and Baidoa, each receiving two rotations where a total of 173 individuals comprising of 64 households were assisted to voluntarily return to Somalia (Baidoa- 89/Mogadishu- 84).
- So far in 2019, 1,828 returnees have been assisted to voluntarily return back to Somalia. Cumulatively, 80,864 returnees were facilitated from Dadaab refugee operation since the beginning of the process in 2014.
- A discussion on provision of Country of Origin Information (COI) was held through Video-Teleconference (VTC) on 20th October, between UNHCR Kenya/Somalia and NRC. The issues discussed included inter alia follow up on updating district profile and sharing of post-returnee monitoring report to be disseminated to refugees willing to repatriate to Somalia, to enable them make informed decision. The Stakeholders agreed to have regular discussions so as to strengthen the COI provision.
- The Govt of Ethiopia and UNHCR Ethiopia signed an MoU in May 2019 for facilitation of voluntary repatriation of Ethiopian refugees in the region. Following the signing of the MoU UNHCR Kenya is closely liaising with UNHCR Ethiopia and Embassy of Ethiopia for facilitation of repatriation to Ethiopia. During the profiling exercises the refugees were asked if they willing to repatriate and from the Ethiopians 4,441 individuals indicated their interest to repatriate to Ethiopia, out of the 7,252 Ethiopian refugees residing in Dadaab.

On 20 Sept 2019, registration of Ethiopians who want to voluntarily repatriate to Ethiopia started and so far 482 households of 1928 have approached the Return Helpdesks, counselled, signed Voluntary Repatriation Form (VRF), their photos taken and ready to return. Another 105 households of 508 individuals approached the Return Helpdesk but have not yet completed the process.

On 16 Oct the Ambassador of Ethiopia came to Dadaab and had meeting with representatives of the Ethiopian refugees and responded to their queries. Soon another delegation from the Ethiopian Embassy is expected to come to process issuing of travel documents. In the meantime, logistical arrangements as well as bidding for the flights are underway.



*Refugees returning to Somalia under UNHCR's voluntary repatriation Program.  
© UNHCR/Assadullah Nasrullah*

**PROTECTION**

- There is an increase of 1,703 individuals to the total population, mainly due to baby registration and continuous registration activities across the camps.
- During the period, UNHCR protection unit attended to 535 ICM cases which were assessed and provided with legal and other protection counselling and referred for specific interventions ranging from shelter/Core Relief Items, resettlement counselling, reactivation, health, inter-camp transfers, family reunification, physical safety and legal support for SGBV and child protection. All cases were assessed, interventions made and/or referred for appropriate assistance.
- During the same period, 302 individuals were profiled. The population of undocumented stood at 15,555 individuals; majority (15,046) are from Somalia while 509 are from other nationalities.

**CHILD PROTECTION**

- On 24th and 25th October, UNHCR Child Protection participated in a workshop organized by UNICEF on 'Towards Integrated Child Protection Response in Refugee Hosting areas. The protection stakeholders discussed the overview of key themes of five-year strategy and links with refugees, alternative Care, National procedures, strategies and current practices in refugee settings, case management, Introduction to National Case management guidance and overview of case management in refugee settings, social Service Workforce (SSW) strengthening in Kenya and the framework for cooperation between Department of Children Services (DCS), UNHCR, UNICEF and other stakeholders. Part of the recommendations from the meeting were that the department of Children Services to take lead in foster care placement through convening a technical working group to work out the procedures on formalization of the care arrangement and that refugee children should be included in national systems which will involve allocation of resources, coordination and harmonization of policies and procedures. The Department of Children Services to provide guidance, roles and responsibilities on how the Child Protection Volunteers concept can be applied in the refugee context and take lead in Child protection at all levels within the host and refugee communities. This will entail coordination with UNHCR, UNICEF and other stake holders in joint assessments, placements, monitoring and evaluation.
- The celebrations to mark International day of the Girl Child were held on Saturday 12th October 2019 in the respective camps under the stewardship of the Child Protection partners. A total of 500 (300 in Hagadera and 200 from Ifo and Dagahaley) children participated at camp levels through skits, poems and dances with key messages aligned to this year's theme: Girl Force: Unscripted and Unstoppable! Additionally, the partners supported children who attended a similar event held in Dadaab with the County government, UNHCR and other stakeholders.  
The Sub-county children's officer continued to provide support to the refugee children by attending the Child Protection Working Group and the BID panel meetings, respectively. He also extended his support to partners at camp level, where he supported in complex custody cases as well as conducting trainings on dispute resolution and child labor.

### **Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)**

- Thirty SGBV Cases were attended to, across the camps during the month. Case profiles included physical assault, intimate partner violence, rape, psychological/ emotional abuse, sexual assault, and defilement. All survivors received psychosocial counselling and referrals were made to the police and to hospitals as appropriate. RCK will continue to follow up with the police to ensure that proper investigations are conducted and witnesses record statements thereby aiding in survivors' access to justice.
- Two group therapy sessions were conducted within October, reaching 26 female SGBV survivors. The participants were oriented on group therapy and helped survivors strengthen their support system and be aware that their challenges are not unique. Sharing on effective response and reporting mechanisms as well as issues revolving around parenting, was also done. From the discussions, it was clear that some cases were not being reported at the police station due to interference from elders in the community who advise that such cases should be solved at the community level

### **Access to Justice**

- During the period, a public participation stakeholders' forum were held in Garissa and Dadaab to sensitize County Officials, civil societies, opinion leaders including elected, religious, youth, women, traditional leaders and gate keepers on the engagement of the Refugee Bill 2019. The purpose of this, was to seek their views on the proposed amendments before the same is presented in parliament. The Refugee Consortium of Kenya (RCK) and UNHCR shared their memoranda and guided the participants on the same.
- A total of 22 persons were presented before Garissa Magistrate Court, where 19 cases were charged with unlawful presence, 2 for residing outside designated area and 1 for making and uttering a false document without authority. Same were remanded awaiting trial.
- A total of 66 Persons of concern (2F/64M) are held in both Garissa Main Prison and Garissa Minimum Prison representing 43 convicts and 23 remandees awaiting trial.
- UNHCR facilitated the return to camp of 4 individuals to camp, for reintegration, after being released from detention.
- Thirty (37) persons were attended to during the legal aid clinics organized by RCK at the Garissa Main and Medium Prisons. They were provided with legal advice on their cases and also provided with counselling on how to cope with the conditions while incarcerated.

### **Persons with Specific Needs**

- Pre-departure vulnerability assessments was conducted during this period at Ifo transit centres, for flight movement to Mogadishu and Baidoa. Twenty (20) persons were identified, and the report prepared and shared with Somalia on the actions recommendation to link returnees with concerned partners for livelihood, social support and rehabilitation service.
- In Hagadera, 216 Persons with disability received services at the LWF Rehabilitation center and at block levels through outreach activities carried out by community staff, over the period. Physiotherapy, occupational therapy, psychosocial counselling, postural management and mobility aid training including repairs, production and distribution of assistive and mobility devices were among services that were provided.
- General case management across the camps was also done reaching 387 older persons. This included assessment, counseling, home visits and follow ups on referrals. Major concerns shared were the need for activation of inactive cards, shelter, renewal of alien cards, rehabilitation, medical and protection

reasons. Most of the elderly counselled expressed their doubt over the ongoing relocation of the minority nationals to Kakuma as they felt that they will lose family support, family lineage and the social networks that they have already established in Dadaab.

- Two psychosocial sessions for older persons and caregivers were held; one in Hagadera with 30 and one in Ifo with 45 were facilitated. The caregivers in these sessions acquired skills and knowledge which helped improve their support and care for older persons in the camps.
- LWF held a series of meetings with the refugee community, host community, religious leaders and UNHCR over closure and the handover timeframe of the LGBTI program. The community had expressed concern about the program as being in contravention of their cultural and religious practices, UNHCR has been working closely with LWF and beneficiaries, to address the matter without affecting the persons of concern.



### EDUCATION

- KCPE started on Tuesday 29th October 2019 and ended on Thursday 31st October 2019. In Dadaab, the examinations went on as planned without any major incidents.
- UNHCR education staff from Dadaab participated in the Design2Align hackathon for ideating & prototyping semi-automated education tools in San Francisco. The hackathon succeeded in using machine learning and AI (Artificial Intelligence) to semi-automate matching of education content from millions of resources in Kolibri, thereby helping learners and teachers to access material that is relevant to their curriculum. The hackathon was hosted by Google.org and Learning Equality.

### Livelihood

- The World Bank conducted a KDRDIP (Kenya Development Response to Displacement Impacts Project) Pre-Village Entry Launch in Garissa town on 7 and 8 October 2019. The launch was attended by UNHCR, Garissa County government, the Cabinet Secretary for Devolution, other key stakeholders and facilitating partners FAIDA and RRDO. The project is being implemented to reduce the impacts of the long-standing presences of refugees through community driven sustainable project approach. Its objectives are to improve access to basic social services, expand economic opportunities and enhance environmental management for communities hosting refugees in these areas.
- Cash Grant disbursement to 23 Youth Groups was done to support youth business start-ups. The youth groups, which are formed from the 2019 YEP graduates, received 50% of their start-up cash grant. The remaining 50% will be disbursed in November.

### Dadaab Solutions

- A Garissa Integrated Socio-Economic Development Plan (GISED) Consultative Workshop was held where the draft GISED plan was presented to stakeholders in Nairobi on 1 October 2019 as they await the validation of the same within the year.
- On Tuesday 1st October, the County of Garissa and UNHCR Kenya organised a high-level stakeholder consultative meeting on the draft Garissa Integrated Socio-Economic Development Plan (GISED) in Nairobi. The GISED is the first of its kind plan for the County of Garissa and it is part of the “unpacking of Dadaab” strategy that aims to promote the socio-economic inclusion of refugees and host communities. The event brought together representatives from the National and County Governments, Members of Parliament, donors, development, humanitarian and private sector partners, heads of UN agencies and NGOs. The feedback provided during the half-day meeting will further refine the draft GISED.

**HEALTH AND NUTRITION**

- All health services have been carried out without any interruptions. The hospitals as well as the health posts in the refugee camps are fully operational.
- There have been two waves of cholera in 2019. The first case was reported on 11th March 2019 and was successfully controlled by Joint efforts from Health and WASH partners. The second wave surfaced on 28th March 2019. So far, a total 816 persons have been line-listed (Hagadera 702, Ifo 98 and Dagahaley 16).

**COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE**

- On 2nd October, a school debate was conducted at Hagadera secondary school reaching a total of 50 (33B, 17G) students. The objective of the debate was to sensitize the students on gender and clarify myths and misconceptions on gender related issues. The motion of the debate was 'Female leaders are better than male leaders'. Boys were encouraged to be on the forefront in advocating for girl's rights and protecting them both in schools and at the community level. On the 9th October, a school debate was conducted between two schools; Upendo and Udungu primary school. The debate took place in Udungu primary school, reaching a total of 50 (27B, 23G) students from both schools. The motion of the day was "Educating a boy child is better than educating a girl child". The learners based their arguments on the impact of education on leadership, decision-making, income for family and reduction in illiteracy levels. The debate was aimed at empowering the students with leadership skills; sensitize them about gender issues while clarifying myths and misconceptions about the latter and finally sharpening their soft and social skills to enable them to voice out their rights.
- Five (5) Start Awareness Support and Action (SASA!) sessions were conducted in Dagahaley an Ifo camps reaching 100 participants (57F/43M). During the sessions, discussion on different types of power (Power Over, to, with and within) focusing on power whereby the Community Activists (CAs) can work together to advocate for rights of women and girls in their community and to address the consequences of power misuses and how it affects mostly women and girls in the community. The CAs reported that the community members were interested in their sessions and are willing to learn and attend more sessions within the block levels and encourage the CAs to target more men.
- The monthly '*tango talks*' meeting were held across the camps with the police taking the lead. In attendance were representatives from RAS, UNHCR, Kenya Police, CPPTs and RCK. The Tango talks is a monthly security stakeholders' meeting held in each camp to discuss emerging security issues and challenges and to deliberate on ways to address them and points of collaboration for mitigation of incidents.
- Persons living with disability PWDs (42f, 2m) from Dadaab including the host community, participated in a Disability Conference and Desert Wheelchair Race in Isiolo between 10 and 13 Oct 2019. This event was organized by the Northern Nomadic Disabled Person Organization, which aimed at opening avenues for future collaboration, networking and partnership with the Government of Kenya (both County and central) that has been spurred by the adoption of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework concept.
- The World Mental Health Day was celebrated on 10 October 2019 in a colourful event in Dadaab, MSF Hospital in Dagahaley camp, and in Kenya Red Cross Society Hospital in Ifo camp. This year's focus

was on Suicide Prevention. Speeches from persons of concern, traditional songs and dances from the community graced the occasion.

- UNHCR participated in WFP's *Gender and Protection* assessment which was conducted from 15-18 October 2019 at WFP food distribution centres. The objective of the assessments was to review the progressive effect of mixed modality (in-kind and cash) on gender, protection and accountability to affected populations in the camps and formulate appropriate recommendations to maximize protection and gender outcomes and mitigate against potential protection risks. Youths, Most At Risk Populations, Elderly, LGBTI and FSWs participated on the assessment.
- WFP Dadaab, constituted Local Trader Selection committee (LTSC) comprising of UNHCR, RAS and Public health officers, Police, CARE, World Vision, and FilmAid. The LTSC for cash-based transfer has been established to review, examine and recommend the award of contract to traders selected for the Bamba Chakula interventions in Dadaab camps and town markets.

### COORDINATION

- The mobile court visited the camps from 7th to 9th October and attended to 7 SGBV cases whose profiles included defilement (5), attempted defilement and indecent act with a minor(2). RCK will follow up on progress of the cases and provide legal aid, counselling and psychosocial support as necessary.
- One Medico-Legal Training was conducted on 24th and 25th October, reaching 28 (11W, 17M) targeted medical officers, clinical officers, psycho-social staff and the National Police Service. The purpose of the training was to understand legal concepts in SGBV including definitions and legal framework, court trial process, review referral systems for providing Post Rape Care in health facilities, filling in of the P3 form and to understand the link between medical and legal procedures in managing survivors of sexual violence.



### RESETTLEMENT

- RST Quotas: The 2019 quota for refugees to be submitted for resettlement from Dadaab has been increased to 975 individuals.
- Submissions: During the period 23 cases of 68 individuals were submitted to resettlement countries. Since January 942 individuals have been submitted to resettlement countries, namely UK, Sweden, Canada, Australia, and USA, among others.
- Departures: Since January a total of 525 individuals have departed for resettlement to Canada, Australia, Sweden, UK and 6 to other countries.
- Counselling: 51 cases were counselled on the status of their resettlement cases. While some refugee leaders attended counselling/information sharing meeting in regards with relocation to Kakuma for non-Somali refugees and other minority groups.
- Case Identification/Phase 1 Interviews: 61 households comprising of 268 individuals underwent through phase 1 interviews.
- Interviews for RRFs: In the reporting period, 33 interviews for RRFs of 110 individuals were conducted and RRFs drafted.
- Analysis of Data from 2018 with 2019: During first nine months of 2018, Resettlement Unit submitted a total number of 697 individuals for resettlement considerations, while in 2019, 894 were submitted (28% increase); Similarly, from January to September 2018, 147 refugees departed to resettlement countries, in comparison with 525 who did it in first nine months of 2019 (257% increase); The significant increase in terms of submissions is due to a different distribution of submissions during the course of the year, specifically having received a larger quota to be submitted during first semester.

- The increase in quota and departures offered by resettlement countries is also the result of high quality cases submitted as per resettlement criteria and priorities, as well as, matching the additional criteria set by resettlement countries. This is reflected by a high acceptance rate (above 90%) of cases submitted.



#### WATER AND SANITATION

- During the reporting period, UNHCR supplied on average of 28 liters of water per day per capita from 22 boreholes to the entire refugee population in the three Dadaab camps. Nineteen (19) of these boreholes operate on Solar PV- Diesel hybrid system. The water supply schemes convey water to 38 tanks with a total storage capacity of 4,550 m3, distributed through a pipeline network of 235 km and relayed to 668 tap stands with about 2,784 taps, scattered around the three camps.
- During the reporting period, 120 Hygiene promoters were engaged in carrying out hygiene promotion campaigns in all camps; (Dagahaley 40, (Ifo 40) and Hagadera 40). The WASH Partner currently incorporating community structures in hygiene promotion across camps. The HP: PoCs ratio now stand at 1:1,939, against the UNHCR standard of 1:1000 PoCs for protracted refugee situation like Dadaab.



*Refugees collect water from one the water distribution points in Ifo camp of Dadaab.  
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## Working in partnership

- The Dadaab refugee operations are coordinated by UNHCR Sub-Office Dadaab, which also serves the three camps in Dadaab Sub-County. UNHCR Field Office Alinjugur is part of the larger Dadaab operation and covers Hagadera camp in Fafi Sub-County. Both UNHCR offices cooperate closely with NGOs and other international organizations including WFP, UNICEF and IOM. The main government counterparts are the Deputy County Commissioner (DCC) Office and Refugee Affairs Secretariat (RAS). As part of solutions strategy for Dadaab, UNHCR is also working with the county government of Garissa and its line ministries.

## External / Donor Relations

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