

Urban Refugee Programme, Kenya

1 – 31 July 2020

80,750

Refugees and asylum seekers registered in urban areas as at 31 July 2020

2,040

New arrival refugees and asylum seekers registered in the urban areas since the beginning of 2020.

16%

Of refugees and asylum seekers registered in Kenya are in the urban areas.

KEY INDICATORS

59.3% (48,066)

Of refugees and asylum seekers in the urban areas are between the age of 18-59 years

37%

Of asylum seekers and refugees registered in urban area are from Democratic Republic of Congo

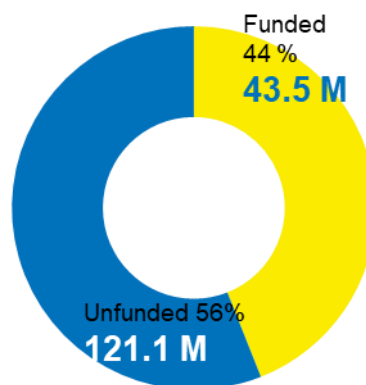
129

Number of children in urban areas being provided with financial assistance with funding from PRM.

FUNDING (AS OF 04 AUGUST 2020)

USD164.6 M

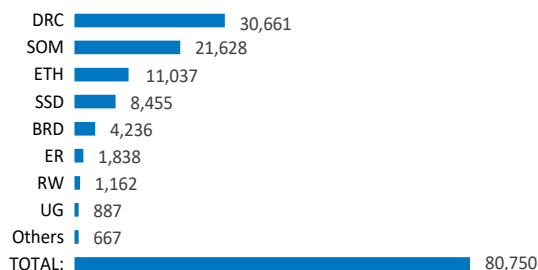
requested for the Somalia and South Sudan situations



Nosizi Dube a stateless Shona, was admitted to the University of Nairobi to study Economics. UNHCR and partner advocating for her to get documentation to avoid missing the opportunity ©UNHCR/C. Ooile

POPULATION OF CONCERN

Country of origin



DRC – Democratic Republic of Congo
SOM – Somalia
ETH – Ethiopia
SSD – South Sudan
BRD – Burundi
ER – Eritrea
RW – Rwanda
UG – Uganda

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Helpline received increased requests from PoCs for assistance to relocate to Kakuma refugee camp. The PoCs reported inability to meet basic needs due to loss of livelihood as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions.
- On 18 July, UNHCR assisted 19 PoCs to relocate from Nairobi to Kakuma. On 30 July another 24 PoCs were assisted to relocate to Kakuma. The PoCs all underwent COVID-19 testing and were put in quarantine upon arrival in Kakuma, as per the Ministry of Health guidelines.
- The month saw an increase in PoCs camping outside the UNHCR office.



PROTECTION

Protection Cluster

Legal

Achievements and Impact

- Kituo provided legal counselling to 202 and 33 PoCs in Nairobi and Mombasa respectively. The Kituo Pangani office in Nairobi reopened during the reporting period following the closure in mid-March. Kituo also made a total of 83 detention monitoring visits to police station and prisons in Nairobi, Meru, Moyale, Isiolo, Busia, Malindi and Mombasa.
- On 10 July UNHCR conducted remote individual counselling for cases in the safe house. 14 cases comprising of 43 individuals are accommodated in the safe house.
- On 30 July UNHCR and HIAS held a virtual meeting with the PoCs accommodated in the transit centre. Currently there are 12 protection cases comprising of 34 persons in the transit centre.
- The Urban Refugee Protection Network and the Community Based Protection working held 2 meetings during the reporting period.

Law and Policy Development

Achievements and Impact

- The Refugees Bill 2019 went through the Second Reading stage (2 and 30 July). Members of Parliament who spoke were mostly positive although they also raised issues on refugee and host community conflict and cultural incompatibility. The Bill will now proceed to the Committee of the Whole House where amendments thereon can be made.
- UNHCR and members of the task force (TF) continued to lobby for support of the Bill in Parliament and proposed amendments. On 28 July, a meeting was also held with 6 urban host community Members of Parliament who assured of their support for the Bill.

SGBV

Achievements and Impact

- Two coordination meetings were held with the GBV working group members. Refushe conducted a training for 3 Charitable Children Institutions in Kasarani and Dagoretti on GBV and mental Health awareness.

- SGBV data for Kakuma, Dadaab and Urban was shared with the State Department for Gender for inclusion in the proposed national GBV dashboard.
- Refuge point provided personal protective gear to their incentive workers and through a staff fundraising initiative raised KES100,000 to support 30 vulnerable families.
- HIAS received 10 GBV cases with 6 cases of rape, 1 intimate partner violence and 3 physical violence cases. RCK is doing legal follow up on 8 of these cases.
- UNHCR participated in 4 National Gender Sector Working Group meetings with the State Department for Gender. The Ministry shared a list of privately operated safe shelters in 14 counties including Nairobi, Nakuru and Mombasa. The admission guidelines are to be shared

Child protection

Achievements and Impact

- Identification and assistance of vulnerable children is ongoing; 31 best interest assessments and 23 social assessments were conducted online. 213 vulnerable children are on financial assistance.
- BIAs and Social assessments continue to be done remotely. 2020 annual targets have been revised; BIDs are down to 50 and an increase by 50 of BIAs and Social Assessments by 50 respectively. This is in line with the guidance that discourages conducting BIDS remotely.
- Remote individual counselling conducted for 5 children in the Transit Centre and 1 at the Safe house
- UNHCR participated in two Child protection and Social Protection meetings with a view of identifying opportunities and lobbying for inclusion refugee children in national social protection interventions
- Identification of caretakers for 14 children in supervised independent living together with the child protection partner and consolidation of financial assistance list for use in Cash Based Interventions
- UNHCR Child Protection is working closely with Children Officers to counsel parents who threaten to abandon their children due to financial constraints brought about by COVID-19 situation. The parents have been cautioned on the legal repercussions for abandoning their children.
- Government homes are on the forefront of
- assisting refugee children; there are 27 children in 5 homes and UNHCR continues to support the homes through HIAS with donation in kind mostly foodstuff and in some homes milk and pampers for the babies.
- Child Protection is in the process of mapping up agencies that assist refugee children; two have been identified so far. Leo Toto who assist children with HIV and AIDs and CREAM who assist girls on GBV related issues in Eastleigh.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Identification of partners and institutions that would be best suited to address serious mental health issues of children.
- Children who have recently aged out of financial assistance and cannot sustain themselves yet decline to relocate to the camps.
- An increase in the numbers of caregivers who have expressed unwillingness to care for the children due to diminishing assistance.
- Children who are at the borderline are becoming unruly and exiting their care arrangement amidst the difficulties of identification of alternative caregiver during this pandemic.

Persons with Specific Needs (PSN)

Achievements and Impact

- PSNs continue to be assessed for various services, 21 vulnerability assessments were done out of which 6 received financial assistance. 15 older persons with chronic illnesses were supported with financial assistance. PSNs continue to receive virtual counselling and psycho-social support from UNHCR and partners.
- During the reporting month the bi-weekly MHPSS coordination meeting between UNHCR and partners continue to meet virtually. During the meetings, it was realised that there were no coordinated ways of referring PoCs to the various partners for specialized services and therefore, it was agreed that there is a need to develop Sops for inter-agency referral. The main purpose of the SoPs is to guide MHPSS referrals of asylum seekers and refugees to services offered by UNHCR and partners in order to ensure effective and efficient services to PoCs by both UNHCR and partners. The SoPs will be completed by end of August 2020.
- UNHCR through the community structures were able to identify 300 vulnerable PSNs who will be issued with masks by UNHCR to ensure that they are safe since they are at a high risk of contracting COVID-19.

Achievements and Impact

- Remote counselling especially for persons with mental health becomes a very big challenge because of the mental status of the PoCs. Monitoring of the mental status and ensuring that the PoCs take their medication is also a challenge due to restrictions of movement because of COVID-19.
- There is great need for FA support but due to financial constraints most PSNs are not able to be supported. UNHCR and partners are psycho educating them to relocated to the camps this mainly includes PLWD, WAS, SHH and persons living with albinism.

Youth

Achievements and Impact

- During the month, 3 online sessions facilitated by professionals, were held with the youth, reaching 60 young PoCs. The sessions included a mental health and well-being talk, one on the power of character in leadership and on social innovation and technological entrepreneurship. The sessions are geared towards resilience building as well as enhancing capacity for livelihood.

Registration

Achievements and Impact

- Due to movement restrictions occasioned by the current Covid-19 pandemic, Refugee Affairs Secretariat (RAS) registered one individual on an emergency basis and undertook regular proGres data clean-up during the reporting period. The active Urban population stood at 80,750 refugees and asylum seekers as at 31 July 2020.
- 21 queries within Nairobi were responded to, 7 verification cases were confirmed, and 4 double registration cases are being processed.
- 53 both new and old files requested by RSD with some documents or the entire case missing in EDMS were processed and uploaded in the system for access by Eligibility team.

Refugee Status Determination

Achievements and Impact

- In line with the COVID prevention measures no interviews have taken place during the period. RSD staff are working from home with RAS staff at the office on a rotational basis.
- A cleanup of proGres was conducted; updates were made in proGres for 309 cases for which interviews had been conducted earlier and 69 cases that were previously no-shows.
- 14 assessments were completed; 88 cases were reviewed of which 51 cases are ready to be submitted to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) while the rest require complementary interview (35) and re-draft (02).
- RAS and UNHCR are developing a new methodology to further enhance the RSD backlog reduction strategy. An agreement was reached at a technical level on the framework of the methodology, the cases to which it can be applied and the requirements for the analysis format to be used. Next steps include completion of the format by the Data Management Unit, agreement on the deferral criteria, finalization of guidance materials and agreement of the procedures to actualize the methodology.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- 513 cases (974 individuals) are pending interviews; 371 cases (551 individuals) are pending assessment and 1,023 cases (1,612 individuals) pending review. The number of asylum seekers in the urban area who have no access to RSD remained largely stable at 23,861.



Livelihood

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR coordinated the urban livelihood working group meeting during the month. Cognizant of the fact that refugee livelihoods have been disrupted by the COVID 19 pandemic, Partners continue to issue cash assistance to vulnerable households as well as submit proposals to donors for livelihood recovery.
- UNHCR held a meeting with the Kenya Post Bank to explore ways in which refugees can benefit from financial inclusion. The Kenya Post Bank expressed their interest to offer their services specific to opening of individual and group accounts as well as financial literacy training to refugee entrepreneurs who open an account with the bank.
- 2 automotive mechanics from Nairobi began their module 2 technical training at the Toyota Kenya Foundation Academy (TKFA). Upon completion of the training, the trainees will also be taken through life skills training. UNHCR further held discussions with TKFT and UNDP to explore ways in which students from Kakuma, who did not attend the technical training due to movement restrictions, could also benefit from the training in November.
- UNHCR coordinated the Poverty Alleviation Coalition (PAC) meeting where partners provided inputs on how they will implement the graduation model using 4 approaches of social protection, livelihood promotion, financial inclusion and social cohesion. A draft concept note that is currently under review was also developed by partners within the PAC.
- UNHCR held a meeting with Oracle to plan on the roll out of the Oracle Workforce Development Program which targets 13 trainees from Kakuma and Nairobi to benefit from a certified Java training. The trainees will be up skilled in computer programming which will accelerate their linkage to the labour market.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The social assistance offered to refugees is still not enough owing to inadequate funding and refugee entrepreneurs may find themselves further consuming their business capital and selling their business assets in order to cater for their household needs.



EDUCATION

Achievements and Impact

- Weekly virtual meetings with FXP continued every Wednesday. Remote monitoring and sharing of educational podcasts continued. Mid-year review discussions ongoing.
- Weekly virtual education working group meetings happened every Thursday. Partners continue to remotely monitor the students.
- Mid-year revision discussions for DAFI programme initiated and a proposed review shared with Headquarters on 31 July.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Families especially in Kitengela continue to have challenges accessing food due to reduced livelihood opportunities.

Statelessness

- During the month of July, the Pemba petition for registration as Kenyan citizens was called to order before the Legal and Justice Affairs Committee of the Kilifi County Assembly. The petition highlights the history of the Pemba in Kenya and asks for their registration as citizens. The Committee spent two days listening from the Pemba and the local community and will write a report to the National Assembly recommending their registration. Some 7123 Pemba live in Kenya today according to a community led data collection exercise.



DURABLE SOLUTIONS

Resettlement

Achievements and Impact

- In July 2020, the Resettlement Unit submitted 13 cases/50 individuals to the Netherlands, Norway, Canada and the United Kingdom. The Resettlement Unit has submitted 342 individuals for resettlement through July 2020.
- Only one refugee departed for resettlement in July 2020, to the USA.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Inability to conduct resettlement interviews due to the COVID-19 pandemic remains the main challenge.

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\$ 43.6 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.

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Links

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UNHCR regional portal

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