

# Sub Office Dadaab, Kenya

## September 2020

The security situation in Dadaab and nearby Sub Counties remained calm throughout the month. Border points into Kenya were closed to mitigate the risks of transmitting COVID-19 from Somalia. However, there continues to be a trend of border crossing from Somalia to Kenya.

Through the porous borders along Liboi corridor. In the month of August, New arrival profiling remained suspended due to COVID-19 prevention and mitigation measures.

Relocation of non-Somali refugees to Kakuma remained suspended due to Covid-19 prevention and mitigation measures.

# 220,519

Dadaab population as at **31 AUGUST 2020**

# 56%

Percentage of Dadaab population are children

### VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION FROM DADAAB

# 81,018

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

# 68,781

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

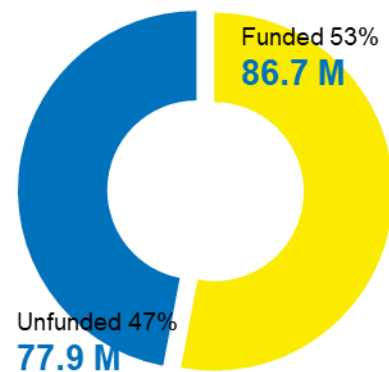
Below: UNHCR hands over a donation of 50 pcs of tablets from TECNO to education partners © UNHCR/Mohamed Maalim



### FUNDING (AS OF 07 OCTOBER 2020)

# USD 164.6 M

Requested for the Kenya Operation



### REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN AS OF 31 AUG 2020

Somalia	212,239
Ethiopia	7,422
South Sudan	615
DRC	72
Uganda	70
Burundi	64
Sudan	22
Rwanda	8
Eritrea	4
Others	3

## COVID-19 Preparedness and Response

- 37 (25 people of concern, 12 humanitarian staff) confirmed cases were reported during the month.
- 3 quarantine and 2 isolation facilities supported.
- 10 active people of concern cases as at 30 sept 2020.
- 15 recoveries recorded.
- Two fatalities have been reported during the month, raising the total fatalities to 4, in Dadaab.

## Public Health Response

- UNHCR and partners continued to provide risk communication and community engagement including sensitizing the community on continuation of essential services to upscale uptake of routine services and ensure continuum of care for those with chronic conditions, community-based surveillance and Stockpiling of essential drugs and other medical supplies.
- Stockpiling of essential drugs, PPEs and other medical supplies as UNHCR received additional COVID-19 PPEs and other non-pharmaceuticals on 24th august 2020 from IGAD and 130,000 reusable masks on 27th august 2020 for refugees, host community and subcounty Government officials.



## PROTECTION

- The protection environment remained favourable to refugees in Ifo, Hagadera and Dagahaley refugee camps respectively. However, the recent outbreak of COVID-19 virus resulted in the Government of Kenya closing the Somalia-Kenya border to dissuade cross border movements as cases reported in the refugee camps were traced back to Somalia.
- There was no new arrival profiling during this period. The population of unregistered persons remains estimated at 16,671 individuals. 8,647 female and 8,024 males. Majority of the 16,107 individuals are estimated to be from Somalia while 564 are of other nationalities.
- 82 clients were attended to, during the reporting period. Concerns presented included SGBV, lack of proper shelter and latrines, medical issues, requests for card reactivation, reports of new arrivals not accessing essential services in the camp, lack of livelihood support, follow up on court cases, conflicts at the block level, anxiety over relocation to Kakuma and stigma and discrimination from other community members. Legal assistance and psychosocial counselling were provided as appropriate.

## Border Movement

- Border monitors continued to observe movement in and out of the country during the reporting period despite the government's closure of the Kenya-Somalia border; owing to the porous nature of the border points along the northern migration corridor.

- During the reporting period, RCK (Refugee Consortium of Kenya) monitors observed and recorded 1,203 (989 Arrivals, 214 Spontaneous Returns) persons entering Kenya from the neighbouring countries of Somalia and Ethiopia or leaving Kenya to Somalia. There was an increase by 29% in migration in the reporting period as compared to 933 persons in the previous period. This could be attributed to the need for access to humanitarian services in the camps and removal of travel restrictions between the Mandera and Wajir corridor.

### Access to Justice

- A 2 days' legal empowerment forum was conducted on 9th and 10th September 2020 in Dagahaley camp reaching 12 individuals. Information dissemination on the Kenyan criminal trial process, peacebuilding and alternative dispute resolution was conducted.
- A training on access to justice, and human trafficking and smuggling was conducted for 23 community workers including legal aid and SGBV translators and community-based counsellors drawn from all the camps on 16th and 17th September 2020. Trauma management, suicide prevention and torture were also discussed. The aim of the training was to enhance the capacity of the community workers to identify and refer such cases through appropriate channels. Capacity building of community structures is an integral part of protection response during COVID-19 as service delivery continues to be conducted remotely with community-based approaches being preferred for first response.
- UNHCR's access to justice partner, RCK, facilitated a radio session on 17 September 2020 on suicide prevention. Different views on suicide, risk factors, strategies to avoid suicide ideation and creating a protective environment where people experiencing difficulties could receive psychosocial support was discussed. In the wake of increasing cases of suicide and suicide attempts in the camps; UNHCR and partners are intensifying advocacy against drugs and substance abuse and self-harm.
- A radio session was conducted on 29th September 2020 to sensitize the community on human trafficking and smuggling. Differentiating the two concepts, identification of victims of human trafficking and referral for assistance through appropriate channels was discussed.

### Child Protection

- 343 children were provided with individual counselling across the camps. Psychoeducation on prevention of COVID-19 and stress and anxiety management was also conducted for the children and their caregivers. Through the psychosocial support offered, their global assessment of functioning (GAF) score improved from 50% to 85%.
- 300 children from all the camps, including 23 with disability and 8 survivors of SGBV, and their families received cash vouchers worth KShs. 5,000 each; redeemable from pre-selected vendors in markets across the camps. Provision of CBI is a means to ensure economic safety net for the identified children and their families during COVID-19; lack of which would expose children to protection risks such as SGBV, sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), recruitment into militia groups, trafficking and smuggling; and child labour.
- A 1-day children's peer to peer network session was conducted for 25 adolescents. Topics covered included; children's rights and child protection, forms of child abuse; its

effects and response strategies and drugs and substance abuse. Conducting peer to peer sessions encourages the community to devise solutions to their own challenges and encourages exploring community-own protection capacities and self-reliance.

### **Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV)**

- 58 SGBV cases were reported and attended to across the camps. Case profiles included; physical assault, rape and psychological/emotional abuse. All survivors received psychosocial counselling and referrals were made to the police and to hospitals as appropriate. Follow up will be done with the police to ensure that proper investigations are conducted and witnesses record statements thereby aiding in survivors' access to justice.
- An EMAP session was conducted for 30 men in Ifo camp on "supporting survivors of violence." The objective of the session was to discuss victim blaming and how men can be allies to women and girls in advocating for a safe society. Participants were encouraged to help in identification and referral of SGBV cases. The interagency referral pathway and emergency hotline numbers were shared.
- SGBV health talks on violence in the home with emphasis on prevention and response were conducted at the Dagahaley camps' health facilities reaching 55 individuals. Female participants stated that Maslaha2 hampers the reporting of SGBV cases and prevents access to justice while majority of the participants admitted to not being sure of how to report and refer SGBV cases. In response; the duty to report incidents and confidentiality principles were explained; and emergency hotline numbers shared. Health facilities serve as a key access point for identification of SGBV cases and for referral to response services hence capacity building and enhanced collaboration with health workers remains a priority under SGBV programming.
- 40 youth were provided with psychoeducation on drugs and substance abuse. Effects of drug abuse on young people and particularly how it affects brain development, other consequences such as engaging in risky behaviour, unsafe sex, and dangerous driving, and resultant health risks such as heart disease, high blood pressure, and sleeping disorders was discussed.
- 105 youth including 4 with hearing impairment from Ifo and Dagahaley camps were trained on life skills, violence reduction, and economic empowerment. Participants highlighted unemployment, rising suicide rates, peer pressure, drug abuse, and the appeal of illegal migration as the key challenges that they currently face in the camps.
- A 4 days' training on the IASC guidelines on SGBV & MHPSS was conducted for 40 police and G4S staff from Ifo and Dagahaley camps. SGBV prevention and response, SEA, protection principles and reporting and referral mechanisms were discussed. Participants were refreshed on active listening, respectful communication and emotional intelligence as it is critical in their line of work; being first responders to SGBV incidents. Capacity building of Government officials and security personnel is integral in provision of essential and appropriate survivor-centered response services and in prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse.
- 600 vulnerable women and girls were trained on menstrual hygiene management (MHM). Strategies to improve overall health and wellbeing, myths and misconceptions surrounding menstrual health and changes that girls undergo during adolescence were highlighted. Distribution of MHM kits was thereafter conducted.
- 120 vulnerable households received their monthly emergency essential funds (for high risk SGBV cases) and multi-purpose cash grant disbursements provided in

collaboration with DRC. Provision of cash assistance is key in ensuring an economic safety net for vulnerable families during COVID-19 and has been proven effective in prevention of violence against women and girls.

### Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs)

- A series of peace and mediation seminars were conducted with refugee and host community participants from Dadaab, Kakuma and Nairobi from 21 to 30 September 2020 in commemoration of the International Day of Peace. Conflict and dialogue; and their dynamics, mental health and selfcare practices useful in the process of peacebuilding and mediation were discussed. UNHCR and partners supported participants with airtime for connectivity to the virtual sessions.
- Dadaab protection participated in national planning meetings for the upcoming World Mental Health Day. The World Mental Health Day which is observed annually on 10 October is observed by raising awareness on mental health issues while mobilizing resources in support of mental health initiatives in Dadaab. “Dealing with mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic and combating stigma associated with mental health and COVID-19” were the localized themes agreed upon by the UNHCR Kenya operation.
- A virtual panel meeting will be held on 9 October as the launch event, where experts will engage refugees in mental health dialogue. Stakeholders working in mental health will equally get an opportunity to talk about their work, and the need to prioritize mental healthcare for all. Family mediation sessions by TDH-led community own resource persons (CORPs) will be presented as a Dadaab best practice during the session and a pre-recorded feature on mental health in Dadaab will be part of presentations broadcasted in a YouTube live event on 14th October.
- UNHCR and RAS held a meeting with youth leaders in Dagahaley camp to discuss management and hand over of girls’ sports centre from a private individual to the community. It was agreed for RAS to issue a 14 days’ eviction notice to the private custodian, for the youth to draft a proposal on how they will manage the centre and for a proper handover ceremony to be conducted at the expiration of the eviction notice. The handover process will be finalized on 7th October 2020.
- An interagency training on psychological first aid (PFA) was conducted on 15 September 2020. Psychological First Aid is a first disaster response intervention with the goal to promote safety, stabilize survivors of disaster and connect individuals to help and resources. The emotional labour involved in successfully managing one’s feelings whilst attending to the needs and distress of others was highlighted. Using awareness, balance and connections (ABC) of self-care in crisis situations to maintain personal resilience and strength in the face of increasing stress particularly during COVID-19 was emphasized.

### Coordination

- Following the Government directive to vacate of all learning institutions currently in use as quarantine facilities in preparation for schools reopening, an assessment by an inter-agency multi-functional team was conducted in Ifo 2 and Hagadera camps on 27 September 2020, to identify a facility that will be used as the central quarantine centre. Upon consideration of the possibility to immediately use the facility, availability of security and logistical considerations; the MFT recommended having Hagadera transit centre as the new quarantine facility.

- The monthly food advisory committee meetings were held across the camps in preparation for the October food distribution cycle. WFP reported that beneficiaries would receive 2 months' ration allocation however the quantities of both in-kind and voucher assistance would be reduced by 40% owing to low stock and budgetary constraints. Commodities to be distributed will include; rice, wheat flour, vegetable oil, pulses and CSB++ for children aged 6-23 months.
- A consultative meeting was held in Hagadera camp with the youth, camp leaders and host community representatives on the roll out of the 2020-2023 ABLI (Area-Based Livelihood Initiative) project that will be implemented by DRC and NRC. The project package will include diploma and higher diploma scholarships for 85 youth, cash-based support for small scale traders, training for farmers and training for the youth on conflict resolution.
- The International Trade Centre (ITC) presented findings from their 2020 assessment on the ecosystem and mapping of entrepreneurship in Dadaab and in Garissa County. The finding identified challenges in access to institutional support and access to local and international markets, gaps including lack of sharia compliant financial services and barriers to female entrepreneurship. An action plan on the way forward was jointly developed by participating stakeholders.
- Following a successful response to a call for proposals for funding, UNHCR is collaborating with Windle International Kenya, who, through the call, secured 4 months' funding for implementation PSEA activities in Dadaab.

## Community Protection

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- There is a need to strengthen community structure support on communication with the community on changing the perception of the community on the use of the quarantine as well as developing user-friendly messages and installing screened messages in the quarantine facilities to encourage and help people embrace the benefit of being quarantined.



## EDUCATION

- UNHCR and partners conducted an assessment on school enrolment, teacher numbers, and availability of appropriate infrastructure and WASH facilities; to map out what the gaps are, to develop a framework in conjunction with BON and SOK and to establish comprehensive needs that will be used in fundraising; in preparation for schools reopening.
- A limited number of learners at all levels continued to safely access internet to download educational digital content using their personal devices at the 13 instant network schools (INS) across the camps and in Dadaab. Teachers continued to use the INS network to reach their students through WhatsApp, emails and other digital tools.

- Tertiary and local universities' scholarship students including those on attachment, some undertaking research and others enrolled in online classes were supported through payment of stipends and tuition fees for the May - August semester and facilitation of online classes through provision of data bundles for internet connectivity.
- 927 learners with disability were supported to access learning through radio lessons, digital classes, WhatsApp group discussions and provision of adapted learning materials including braille machines, transcribed braille textbooks, and hearing aids. Facilitation of inclusive education has ensured that learners with disability in the camps get equal chances at education thereby increasing their chances at self-reliance.
- 39,908 textbooks were distributed to 3,136 grade 8 learners from the 22 primary schools in the camp to support community-based home learning programs as schools remain closed.



## LIVELIHOODS AND COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

- 91 individuals were reached through virtual and face to face vocational training on tailoring, plumbing, and solar photovoltaic training in preparation for the upcoming NITA exams.
- 20 new beneficiaries were trained on dryland agriculture techniques while monitoring of implementation of good agricultural practices was undertaken in Dagahaley and Ifo for 54 previously trained individuals.
- Dadaab and Fafi host community youth were trained on making ISSB (Interlocking Stabilized Soil Blocks) and were provided with start-up kits i.e. ISSB making machines and other equipment. The project aimed to provide entrepreneurship and business development training for trainees to utilize acquired skills. The youth were further engaged in construction work at Dadaab and Dagahaley primary schools.
- UNHCR's livelihood partners shared updates on the new area based livelihoods intervention (ABLI) project to be implemented in Garissa County. The objective of the project which is set to compliment GISED, is to enhance livelihoods and self-reliance of refugees and host communities in Garissa County and will run from 2020 to 2023 through funding from the European Union Emergency Trust Fund (EUTF)..

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Nothing significant to report.



## RESETTLEMENT AND DURABLE SOLUTIONS

- The Refugee Affairs Secretariat (RAS) Dadaab gave the greenlight for exceptional movement outside the camps for refugees who are under resettlement consideration. Pre-departure COVID-19 testing and mandatory 14-days' quarantine upon return will be observed. Priority will be given to individuals with embassy and IOM (International Organization for Migration) medical screening appointments, and those departing to various resettlement countries
- 3 cases were submitted to the regional bureau for review and onward submission to resettlement countries.

- 112 individuals were counselled on the status of their resettlement cases including USRAP (United States Refugee Admission Programme) processing, updates on Sweden, Australia, Canada, Finland and UK cases, and updates on protection processes including requirements for child custody determination, family reunification, withdrawal of NRB match cases and registration of new-born babies.
- 9 deferrals touching with add-on babies, add-on spouses, release of child custody and death of family members were assessed and responded to. The cases were updated, and the information shared with relevant resettlement countries.
- UNHCR Resettlement Unit hosted a live radio show where general resettlement updates, anti-fraud related information, and the impact of COVID-19 on resettlement processes was discussed. Radio sensitization continues to play a crucial role in delivering updated resettlement information to persons of concern.
- Planning for relocation of Non-Somali individuals from Dadaab to Kakuma resumed during the month with inter-agency and UNHCR internal unit meetings being held to discuss travel protocol considering the COVID-19 situation. An assessment was conducted by UNHCR's multi-functional teams at the transit centres and field offices in Ifo and Dagahaley camps on their readiness for the relocation exercise. It was noted that renovations would have to be done in order to make the facilities fit for purpose.

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Nothing significant to report.



#### HEALTH

- 3 quarantine and 2 isolation facilities supported.
- A total of 25 COVID-19 cases recorded among the PoCs.
- 10 active people of concern cases as at 30 sept 2020.
- 15 recoveries recorded.
- 2 COVID-19 related fatalities.
- A total of 172 PoCs quarantined and tested, 56 of them new arrivals and 15 returnees.
- 37 COVID-19 confirmed cases among Humanitarian aid workers, out of which 25 are active cases, 12 recoveries and no fatalities.
- Steady decline in diarrhoea cases due to improved hygiene practices as a result of adequate water and increased community sensitization on COVID-19 and cholera.
- As opposed to previous years, there was only a brief cholera outbreak that was controlled within 7 days with a case fatality rate of 0% in June in Hagadera camp. A total of 7 cases were line listed.
- No cases of other notifiable diseases recorded during the reporting period
- Routine activities of Maternal Infant and Young Child Nutrition (MIYCN) are ongoing except the few activities that were suspended due to COVID-19. Impacted activities include Community dialogue and family bazaars, school club sessions, trainings, and coordination meetings of mother to mother support group/father to father support group.
- As part of the government's COVID-19 public health measures, the cessation of referral of elective cases is still in effect.

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps



- Shortage of blood and blood products still pose a big challenge as there were near miss maternal complications during the reporting period.



## FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- Nothing significant to report

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Nothing significant to report.



## WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

### Access to water

- On average, the daily water production in September from 22 operational boreholes was 10,460m<sup>3</sup>, where about 7,238m<sup>3</sup> was supplied to the refugee population in Dadaab camps. This translated to an average daily per capita water allocation of 30.6 litres. About 3,431m<sup>3</sup> (32.2%) was apportioned to other users including agencies, markets, institutions, hospitals, leakages, livestock and other losses.

### Sanitation Coverage

- There were 37,322 household latrines and 250 communal latrines during the reporting period, translating to a coverage of 80%. WASH Partner currently incorporating community structures in camp cleaning where 105 sanitation cleaners were actively engaged in managing solid waste in public areas across the refugee camps.

### Hygiene Promotion

- During the reporting period, 126 Hygiene promoters were engaged in carrying out hygiene promotion campaigns in Dadaab refugee camps. WASH Partner currently incorporating community structures in hygiene promotion across camps. The hygiene promoter to persons of concern ratio now stand at 1:1,897, against the UNHCR standard as 1:1000 for protracted refugee situation like Dadaab.
- Awareness on COVID-19 pandemic conducted during the monthly food distribution exercise to household representatives while collecting food at the food distribution centres through the hygiene promoters while vector and pest control unit ensured handwashing and disinfection is done by all persons entering the distribution centres.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Nothing significant to report.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gap

- Nothing significant to report.

### Shelter, physical planning and infrastructure

- The upgrading of one kilometre of Ifo main market access road to gravel standards is complete. The main access road which was an earth road with potholes making

movement difficult especially during the rainy seasons, has been upgraded to all weather road using high quality gravel.

- The improvement works in Dadaab airstrip is in progress. Installation of 25m chain link fence is complete, pending installation of a pedestrian gate. construction of two guard houses and expansion of the door for the security control building are complete, while the construction of a waiting shed is in progress.
- The construction of eight classrooms in Wadajir primary school in Dagahaley is in progress. The construction of one block of four classrooms is at roofing level while casting of the floor slab for the second block of four classrooms was done.
- The renovation of kitchen facilities and construction of handwashing facilities in seven primary schools in Dagahaley are in progress. Wall hacking for all the kitchen done, plaster works, doors and windows installations and floor finishes for four kitchens complete, painting works for two kitchens complete while painting for a third kitchen facility is in progress.
- The renovation of kitchen facilities and construction of handwashing facilities for seven primary schools in Hagadera are in progress. Wall hacking for all the kitchen done, plaster works, doors and windows installations, floor finishes and fixing of fascia board for three kitchens complete.
- Assessment on the condition of the transit centres in all the camps and field offices in preparation for relocation was done, bill of quantities developed and shared with the requesting unit for budgeting.
- Assessment on Dagahaley market after the fire incident was undertaken, report with recommendations and cost estimates shared with management for decision.

### **Working in partnership**

In **Dadaab, RAS and UNHCR** are working together with WFP, UNICEF, IOM, County Government of Garissa, Refugee Consortium of Kenya, Save the Children International, Terre Des Hommes, Danish Refugee Council, International Rescue Committee, Lutheran World Federation, Humanity and Inclusion, Center for Victims of Torture, Windle International, Norwegian Refugee Council, Kenya Red Cross Society, Médecins Sans Frontier, FilmAid International, CARE International, RRDO, and Peace Winds Japan.

### **External / PI/ Donor Relations**

#### **CONTACTS**

**Eunice Ohanusi,**  
**Associate External Relations Officer**  
UNHCR Sub Office Dadaab, Kenya  
[ohanusie@unhcr.org](mailto:ohanusie@unhcr.org)  
**Cell +254793454453**

**Mohamed Maalim,**  
Public Information Associate  
UNHCR Sub Office Dadaab, Kenya  
[maalimm@unhcr.org](mailto:maalimm@unhcr.org)  
Cell +254727531014