

Urban Refugee Programme, Kenya

1 – 31 August 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

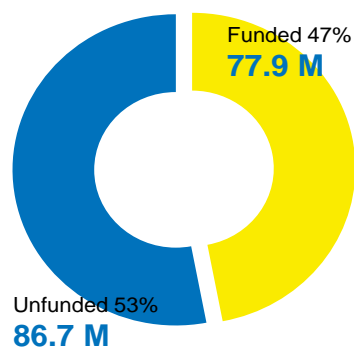
129

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

FUNDING (AS OF 04 AUGUST 2020)

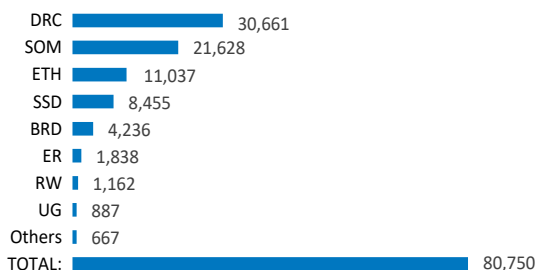
USD164.6 M

requested for the Somalia and South Sudan situations



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



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

HIGHLIGHTS

- On 12 August, UNHCR assisted 26 POCs to relocate from Nairobi to Kakuma. The PoCs could no longer support themselves in Nairobi due to the socio-economic impact of COVID-19. They all underwent COVID-19 testing and were put in quarantine upon arrival in Kakuma, as per the Ministry of Health guidelines.
- UNHCR undertook daily monitoring of the situation of PoCs camping outside UNHCR and the adjacent premises. 75% of the 50 cases are camping due to loss of livelihood and jobs following the COVID Pandemic. They have declined relocation to the camps and therefore continue to camp outside. On 12 August 42 PoCs were forcefully relocated to Kakuma by RAS and the police, where they can access assistance. Majority of them returned to Nairobi within a few days.



PROTECTION

Protection Cluster

Legal

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR continued to receive referrals for cases requesting for protection interventions from the helpline and partners. 50 cases were virtually counselled on protection issues including insecurity and negative effects of COVID 19.
- The legal partner Kituo Cha Sheria (KCS) in collaboration with Refugee Affairs Secretariat, (RAS) Mombasa conducted a border monitoring exercise along Mombasa-Taita Taveta route on 11 to 14 August
- UNHCR engaged RAS to facilitate access to the asylum process for two families detained in Marsabit County. The two families are secondary movers registered as refugees in Ethiopia and their re-admission to Ethiopia is unlikely.
- Remote individual counselling continued for the protection cases accommodated in the Transit Center. In addition, a virtual meeting was held on 27 August with all the transit residents. The PoCs requested education material for the children, recreational activities for the residents and provision of NFIs including clothes and personal effects.
- The monthly Safe House Counselling session was undertaken during the month. 43 individuals comprising women, men and children were attended to. Slow processing of Resettlement Cases, limited movements due to COVID 19 and slow response measures has led to anxiety and stress among the residents. Counselling is ongoing with counsellors.
- The Urban Refugee Protection Network and the Community Based Protection working held 2 meetings during the reporting period.
- The slow CBI transition process has negatively impacted on PoCs particularly those scheduled to receive financial assistance in August. The PoCs did not receive the assistance and are struggling to make ends meet including facing threat of eviction due to non- payment of rent.

SGBV

Achievements and Impact

- 4 cases of GBV were reported during the month. 2 of the cases are defilement and RCK is following up on legal redress for the survivors. The month recorded the lowest number of GBV cases since the onset of COVID-19 in Kenya. 14 GBV survivors were assisted with sanitary pads and 2 adults – 1 male and 1 female received adult diapers. The GBV team attended the child protection working group meeting to exchange on solutions to child abuse cases that have been reported lately.
- UNWOMEN working with CREAM is extending support to 5 safehouses (4 in Nairobi and 1 in Mombasa) to temporarily accommodate GBV survivors. UNHCR has so far referred 1 case which was successfully admitted in one of the safe shelters in Nairobi.
- 2 coordination meetings were conducted with the GBV interagency working group and 4 with the National Gender Sector Working Group. The national working group contributed to the National Response Plan on Gender-Based Violence and Harmful Practices in the Context of Covid-19. The report will be submitted for approval to the State Department for Gender.

Persons with Specific Needs (PSN)

Achievements and Impact

- PSNs continue to be assessed for various services, 20 vulnerability assessments were done out of which 9 individuals received counselling while 11 received one off financial assistance and psycho educated to relocated to the camp.
- During the reporting month 2 bi-weekly MHPSS working group virtual coordination meetings were held between UNHCR and partners. Draft SoPs for interagency Referral were developed and shared with all the working group members. The final draft will be discussed during the next MHPSS working group meeting and finalized and shared widely during the month on September.
- The MHPSS working group is in the process of organizing virtual activities to mark the World Mental Health Day which will be held on 9 October 2020. The theme for this year is “Dealing with mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic, combating Stigma associated with mental health and COVID-19” The planned activities will provide an opportunity for all stakeholders working on mental health issues to talk about their work, and what more needs to be done to make mental health care a reality for people worldwide.
- Remote counselling mainly 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 financial support but due to financial constraints most PSNs are not able to be supported. UNHCR and partners are psycho educating them to relocate to the camps where they will receive the required support. These include the following PSNs:- PLWD, Women at Risk (WAR), Single Headed Households (SHH) and persons living with albinism.
- More technical and specialized support for PLWDs and persons living with albinism need to be explored both in Nairobi and at camp level, to ensure that these persons with specific needs are provided with the required services and assistance according to their needs.

Child Protection

Achievements and Impact

- 32 BIAs conducted in July were reviewed. 11 were for unaccompanied children, 18 were for separated children and 3 for children at risk who are living with their parents. A review of the 32 assessments showed that many caregivers are seeking financial assistance to cushion them from the negative economic impact of COVID-19
- Main areas of improvement were discussed with CP managers at HIAS and a subsequently, a virtual refresher training on BIAs was conducted
- 33 BIAS and 6 Social Assessments were done in August and will be reviewed in September
- Virtual individual counselling was done for 3 unaccompanied children (UAC) and 7 separated children (SC) in UNHCR safe shelters
- 81 child protection cases presented to multifunctional case management panel and approved to receive cash assistance in the months of August and September
- Support to CBI conducted: cleaning up cash assistance list, responding to requests for information. In addition, HIAS via BPRM is providing cash assistance to 60 children as per the psychosocial panels
- 5 children were accommodated at an NGO run safe shelter together with their mother due to child abuse and GBV
- UNHCR (Urban, Kakuma and Dadaab) participated in the development of a country level Information Sharing Protocol together with UNICEF.
- Monitoring children in childcare institution (CCIs) continued. Currently, 27 refugee children are accommodated in 5 homes

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Being out of school exposes children to risks, such as engaging in illegal activities and early childhood pregnancies.
- Identifying appropriate alternative care for unaccompanied minors with mental health needs and teenagers continues to be challenging.
- Community awareness on child marriage is needed as it was noted that community members condone its practice and are reluctant to report to the authorities
- Expanded support for unaccompanied children (UACs) in supervised independent living is required as the cash assistance they are eligible to is insufficient to cater for their needs

Registration

Achievements and Impact

- Due to movement restrictions occasioned by the current COVID-19 pandemic, Refugee Affairs Secretariat (RAS) registered 56 individuals, on an emergency basis, and undertook regular proGres data clean-up during the reporting period. Despite Covid-19 limitations, 19 queries on registration of cases in Kenya by our counterparts' offices outside Kenya were responded to accordingly. 5 double registration cases were addressed. 36 proof of registration documents were processed.
- Three (3) Refugee Identity Cards were issued by Refugee Affairs Secretariat (RAS) on emergency basis. The 3 POCs were brought from court.
- Registry continued to support RSD and RST in ensuring that those cases missing in EDMS have been scanned and uploaded.
- Data for 32 individuals who relocated to Kakuma was transferred according to laid down procedures.

Refugee Status Determination

Achievements and Impact

- RAS resumed interviews during the period albeit on a limited scale due to social distancing measures. 37 interviews were conducted, that is 33 initial interviews and 4 complementary interviews.
- 29 assessments were completed. 45 cases were reviewed of which 15 cases are ready to be submitted to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) while the rest require complementary interview (27) and re-draft (03).
- RAS and UNHCR continued to work on developing a new methodology for the RSD backlog reduction strategy. The RSD team at a technical jointly agreed on the remaining elements of the methodology, i.e. the deferral criteria and profiles with exclusion concerns. The guidance note, actual implementation procedures and form are still being finalized. The team expects to finalise the planning level of the strategy by the end of September and embark on implementation.
- The Interviewing for Protection Learning Programme 2020 (Regional) was carried out between 9 March and 31 August 2020 in distinct phases; a self-study phase (online courses, tutor-led assignments, and webinars) followed by a workshop phase. The final phase is the project phase which is scheduled to take place in September 2020. This training provided the component on Learning Needs Analysis (LNA) and facilitation skills to equip UNHCR protection staff with the knowledge and skills required to design and deliver trainings on interviewing in the context of national asylum systems.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- 531 cases (988 individuals) are pending interviews; 371 cases (561 individuals) are pending assessment and 919 cases (1,456 individuals) pending review. The number of asylum seekers in the urban area who have no access to RSD remained largely stable at 23,861.
- Since the beginning of the year the decisions for 920 individuals have been reviewed. To make the target for 2020 of 16,500 individuals reviewed and 15,580 individuals (nearly 3,900 per month) will still need to be reviewed during the remainder of the year. It is expected that the new methodology for the RSD backlog reduction strategy will facilitate that these targets are met.



Livelihood

Achievements and Impact

- The Oracle Workforce Development programme was launched through a call of expression for Persons of Concern to apply to the training program. This is a digital skills development initiative between UNHCR and Oracle aiming to upskill or reskill youthful persons of concern in Oracle certified Java Fundamentals and Programming. The trainees (13 PoCs) will then be linked to the labour market for possible remote or onsite work.
- A meeting was held between UNHCR and L'Oréal to discuss on the possibility of implementing a virtual training on beauty and make-up for persons of concern in the beauty industry. Options are being reviewed on how to explore this skills training opportunity which will enhance their business and skills development in a COVID-19 situation perspective.
- A meeting was held between UNHCR and Hand in Hand Eastern Africa, an NGO which is part of the Association of Microfinance Institutions (AMFI) on the inclusion of persons of concern to their livelihood programming. An opportunity to include persons of concern in their ongoing

'Kenya Micro-Enterprise Success Programme (KMES) was identified. The programme which is funded by VISA targets micro-entrepreneurs in Nairobi (Kasarani, Kawangware, Kiambu and Kitengela) and empowers them through skills training, access to micro-credit, mentoring and coaching.

- UNHCR coordinated a meeting of the Poverty Alleviation Coalition (PAC) Kenya partners to discuss on the progress of the proposal development on the implementation of the Graduation Approach. The draft proposal is in its final review and will be submitted to HQ for further review and endorsement. The PAC in Kenya aims to empower refugee and host community households in the camps and urban facing extreme poverty through a multidimensional approach that addresses social protection, livelihood promotion, financial inclusion and social cohesion/empowerment.



EDUCATION

Achievements and Impact

- 513 DAFI scholars were supported (127 F 386 M) were supported with upkeep allowances to allow them to continue accessing online education as offered by the institutions of higher learning where they are enrolled.
- 142 primary and secondary school learners were supported with airtime to access online learning through WhatsApp. They were supported with over 200 supplementary podcasts created and distributed by Francis Xavier Project.
- 420 households were reached with packages (green card, info graphic and audiovisual) dubbed My Home My playground facilitated by Futbol Mas.
- 147 class 8 and form 4 students were supported with printed revision materials by TUSA CBO.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

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

Statelessness

- August 10, 2020 was the African Civil Registration and Vital Statistics day. The theme was "Civil Registration and Vital Statistics, an essential service for monitoring and mitigating the impact of emergencies". In Kenya, activities were conducted for a week. They included engagement on social media, radio sessions in Dadaab and Kakuma as well in Mombasa. The sessions shared information on the importance of births and deaths registration as well as procedures for registration. Refugees and stateless persons actively engaged during the sessions where they received answers to their questions on the topic. The Civil Registration Services shared information nationwide through print media. Importantly, the Service informed the public that civil registration is an essential service hence registration activities are on-going with changed modalities during COVID-19 restrictions.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The tenure of the Taskforce on the identification and registration of stateless persons expired on August 21, 2020 and is awaiting renewal. This is preventing progress on initially planned activities.

**DURABLE SOLUTIONS****Resettlement****Achievements and Impact**

- UNHCR attended resettlement coordination meetings including the monthly USRAP Partner's Coordination meeting; a planning meeting with Norway on Norway's mission to Kenya as well as various coordination and planning meetings with the Regional Bureau for East Africa, Horn and Great Lakes Region.
- In August 2020, the Resettlement unit submitted 57 individuals to Canada, Netherlands, Norway and the Regional Bureau. The Resettlement unit has submitted 360 individuals for resettlement through August 2020. The Resettlement Unit is on track to meet its targets for this year.
- 7 individuals departed on resettlement in August – 2 to the USA and 5 to Finland

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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