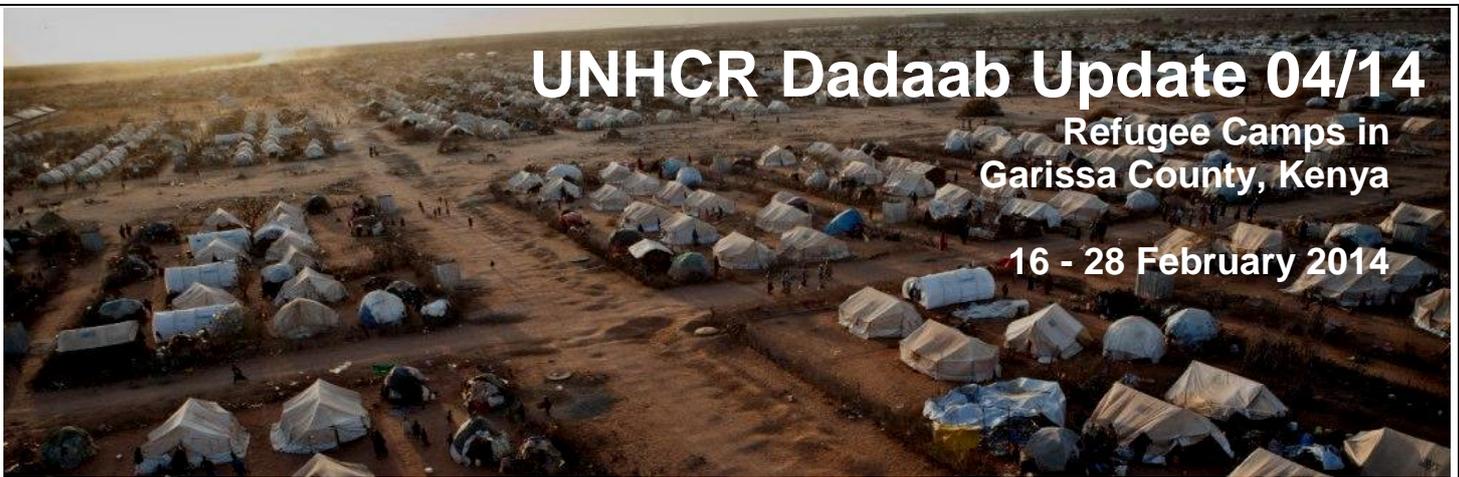


UNHCR Dadaab Update 04/14

Refugee Camps in
Garissa County, Kenya

16 - 28 February 2014



NEW DEVELOPMENTS

Kenyatta University Campus in Dadaab officially inaugurated

Kenyatta University, the only higher learning institution in the expansive Northern Kenya region, is set to benefit Dadaab refugees. The University's Dadaab Campus was officially inaugurated on 26th February by its Vice Chancellor, Professor Olive Mugenda. Since it was established in Dadaab in September 2012, the university has enrolled students from the local Kenyan community as well as refugees for diplomas in Public Relations, Nutrition and Health, Disaster Management and Business Management. It is now expected to expand its infrastructure and offer undergraduate and master's degree courses to students from the two communities living in Dadaab.

*Ceremony
at the
Dadaab
Campus of
Kenyatta
University*



UNHCR/Dadaab

STATISTICS

Population as of 28 February 2014:

Hagadera	Kambioos	Dagahaley	Ifo	Ifo 2	Total
107,666	19,628	91,947	87,703	54,189	361,133

This population of 361,133 individuals refers to all persons of concern who were present during the verification exercise which ended in July 2013 and were retained in the UNHCR database. It also includes all refugees added during the continuous registration process. If refugees do not show up for food distribution within a 90 days period (six consecutive cycles) they are deactivated from the UNHCR database. A reactivation is possible through an interview. UNHCR does not deactivate students from its database or persons with specific protection related needs.

330,278 refugees in the Dadaab camps received food rations from WFP during the reporting period. This difference between the population figure and the recipients of food rations is due to the fact that food ration cards are invalidated if they have not been used for three consecutive food distribution cycles – regardless of the refugee's status as a student or specific protection needs. Persons with an invalidated ration cards can, however, have their ration card reactivated at the food distribution centers or the UNHCR field offices.

PROTECTION

2014 Participatory Assessment

On 25th and 26th February, UNHCR and its partners engaged the refugee community in the 2014 Participatory Assessment. The findings of this annual exercise are crucial for UNHCR's strategic planning and programming. The assessment involved women, girls, men and boys from different nationalities and with different backgrounds and challenges in all five Dadaab camps. The focus group discussions concentrated on, but were not limited to, eight main themes, i.e. WASH, Education, Voluntary Return, Protection/Child Protection, Health and Nutrition, Food Basket as well as Community Communication and Livelihood. Community leaders played a central role in identifying and mobilizing the target groups. The active participation of the refugee community led to the identification of good practices and lessons learnt in all sectors of service delivery.



UNHCR/Dadaab

Focus group discussion in Ifo 2 camp with girls who are not attending school. The girls belong to different nationalities.

Problems that refugees in the Dadaab camps face, their capacities and the solutions they suggest are investigated and recorded in detail. During the end of the reporting period, UNHCR was working on the consolidation of the final report which will later be shared with all stakeholders.

Fire prevention and fighting

From 17th to 21st February, UNHCR hosted a Fire Safety Assessment mission of Operation Florian, a UK charity organisation. Operation Florian works worldwide and provides equipment and training that improve fire fighting and rescue capabilities. The technical team met with all relevant stakeholders in the Dadaab camps and analysed the existing equipments and system for fire preparedness and response. They also looked into the current fire awareness and the need for capacity building.

After two major fire incidents in Ifo market and the MSF medical warehouse in Dagahaley in late December 2013 and early January 2014, UNHCR has prioritised fire preventive measures. UNHCR and Kenya Red Cross Society jointly established a fire response and management cell in Dadaab.



UNHCR/Dadaab

Ifo market after the fire incident on 31 December 2013

Voluntary Return to Somalia

2,624 individuals had approached the Return Help Desks (RHD) for counselling in the period between their launch in December 2013 and end of February 2014. 29% of the visitors to the RHDs were from Kambioos, 26% from Ifo 2, 17% from Hagadera, 14% from Dagahaley and 14% from Ifo.

On 17th February, the comprehensive Return Intention Survey started. The exercise led by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and UNHCR is taking place in all five camps for a period of six weeks. The objective is to accurately understand the needs and concerns of Somali refugees and to prepare for any eventual voluntary return interests. The survey is designed as a quantitative research project, enabling the collation of reliable statistical data. Households are the primary units of observation.

Resettlement

Between 16th and 28th February, twelve cases comprising 32 individuals were interviewed for processing and onward submission to resettlement countries. 16 individuals departed the camps for onward resettlement to Sweden and Australia during the reporting period.

Since 1st January, documents for 320 individuals have been submitted to resettlement countries and a total of 85 individuals have departed for resettlement countries.



UNHCR/Dadaab

HEALTH & NUTRITION

On 18th and 19th February, Action Against Hunger (ACF) with support from UNHCR and UNICEF conducted a one day sensitisation workshop on the Kenyan Breast Milk Substitutes Act. This Act of Parliament aims to provide safe and adequate nutrition for infants through promotion of breastfeeding and proper use of breast milk substitutes, where necessary. In the workshop, 42 participants from health and nutrition agencies working in Dadaab learned and discussed about related regulations and control functions.

The Dadaab Technical Review 2014 was conducted from 27th February to 1st March. Participants from agencies based in Dadaab, as well as technical representatives of UNHCR's Regional Hub and Branch Office reviewed and planned activities concerning Nutrition, Health and WASH. The participants analysed the results achieved in 2013 and identified best practice examples for 2014, taking into account national and regional experiences.

For more information, please contact:

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Web portal on Somali Displacement:

<http://data.unhcr.org/horn-of-africa/regional.php>

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