

DADAAB REFUGEE CAMPS, KENYA

UNHCR BI-WEEKLY UPDATE

16 - 30 November 2014

HIGHLIGHTS

Security – police officer killed in Dagahaley camp

- On 29th November, two young men armed with pistols shot and killed a Criminal Investigation Department (CID) police officer and injured his colleague in Dagahaley market. The injured police man was admitted to Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) hospital in the camp and later evacuated to Nairobi.

First Garissa County Stakeholder Forum

- UNHCR supported the Governor of Garissa County to convene a stakeholder forum in Nairobi on 19th November. The event was an opportunity for donors and other relevant stakeholders to discuss key issues pertaining Garissa County including environmental protection, infrastructure rehabilitation, economic development and support to host communities and refugees. Security and socio-economic challenges posed by the protracted refugee situation were also discussed. At the same time, the County Government reiterated Kenya’s obligation to fulfilling international refugee conventions and protocols as well as domestic laws, preserving asylum space and the rights of refugees.



Photos UNHCR/P. Ogola

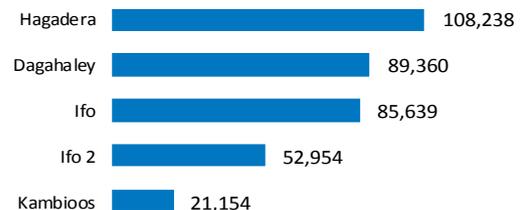
Governor of Garissa County, H.E. Hon. Nathif J. Adam, addressing stakeholders during forum in Nairobi

One of the key conclusions drawn from the forum was that while voluntary return of Somali refugees remains a key policy priority for UNHCR and the countries concerned, support for host communities and potential remaining refugee population need to be taken into consideration. UN agencies and NGOs operating in Garissa County in the areas of humanitarian emergencies, early recovery and rural development were strongly advised to integrate their programmatic activities into the County’s strategic plan. It is envisaged that more interactions between stakeholders and the County Government will follow in order to move the process forward.

UPDATES

Population as of 30 November 2014: **357,345**

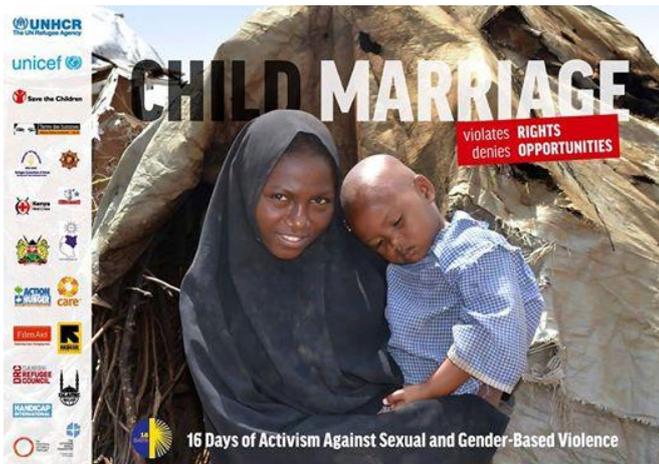
Refugees: 353,919
Asylum seekers: 3,426



Protection

Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)

Photo Munir Ahmed, KRCS



This year's theme and poster for the 16 Days of Activism campaign in Dadaab

- The 16 Days of Activism campaign was launched on 25th November in all five Dadaab camps. This year's theme is 'Protecting Rights and Preserving Childhoods: Working Together to Address Child Marriage'. The events were characterized by informative plays, dances and narratives which largely centered on the themes Girl Child Education, Child Marriage and Domestic Violence. Radio programs, sports tournaments, focus group discussions, talks between the community and security personnel and film screening were among the activities conducted during the period.

- The monthly Safe Haven Panel meeting was convened on 26th November and attended by UNHCR and partners including Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Save the Children and International Rescue Committee (IRC). It was decided that one more family will be admitted to the Safe Haven in Ifo camp because of a threat of child abduction. The panel also discussed exit strategies for residents. Two residents were approved for discharge and reintegration with the community. A Child Friendly Space has been rehabilitated, and the refurbishment of a playroom for children is underway. Currently, ten GBV survivors and their children - a total of 33 individuals - are accommodated at the facility.

Protection from Crime

- UNHCR in collaboration with the Garissa County Commissioner's office organized a Training-of-Trainers workshop on Community Policing for county security officials between 17th and 19th November. The workshop gave the team an opportunity to learn and share experiences on the community policing model established by the government of Kenya commonly known as 'Nyumba Kumi initiative'. The workshop participants also reviewed how the UNHCR Community Peace and Protection Team (CPPT) model had been integral in crime reduction over the years. The workshop was co-facilitated by Directorate of Kenya Police Service from Police Head Quarters who were drawn from the Community Policing Unit.

Registration

- On 20th November, 22 households comprising of 56 unregistered new arrivals were issued with feeding tokens. They had been relocated from Nairobi to Dadaab. Subsequently, all 22 households were included in the 2nd cycle 2014 Supplementary Food Manifest. The Department of Refugee Affairs (DRA) continued with case by case registration of persons. In total, 107 New Arrival refugees were registered by both DRA and UNHCR.

Health

- A gynecologist visited Dadaab between 26th November and 1st December. He screened almost 50 patients for gynecological and obstetric conditions across all five camps and conducted 16 surgeries.
- Non-communicable diseases (NCD) are one of the focus areas of the UNHCR Dadaab operation. On 19th November, a working group for this topic was established and the NCD-strategy was initiated. The four NCDs of most significance in Dadaab are diabetes, hypertension, cancer and asthma.

- 21 qualified staff across all camps had participated in EMOC (Emergency Obstetric Care) training earlier this year. The doctors, clinical officers and nurses working in maternity and antenatal clinics take care of mothers before and after delivery. On 22nd November, a follow up of the training was organized by the Ministry of Health with support of UNHCR's partners Islamic Relief Kenya (IRK).
- Health Post 5 in Ifo camp which previously consisted of a tent, has now a permanent building. The new facilities are expected to improve health service delivery.



Photos IRC/ Dadaab

Newly constructed Health Post 5 in Ifo Camp

Food Security and Nutrition

- Due to funding constraints of UNHCR's partner World Food Programme (WFP), refugees in Dadaab camps only received 50% of the usual food rations. A routine daily ration provides 2,100 kilocalories to every food recipient but with the reduced rations, they only received 1,050 kilocalories.
- The second cycle of Malezi Bora Campaign was conducted from the 24th to 30th November across all five camps. The theme remained 'Improving the Health of Mothers and Newborns'. The activities carried out included mass MUAC screening targeting children between six and 59 months, accelerated health education on maternal and young child feeding practices and deworming targeting children between two and 15 years in four camps. Ifo 2 camp had an additional component of family planning through 'child spacing'.
- A total of 69,095 children between six and 59 months were screened. 300 moderately malnourished and 60 severely malnourished who were found not to be in the nutrition programmes were referred for treatment.
- During the same period, a total of 136,359 of children between two and 15 years were dewormed.

Water and Sanitation

- World Toilet Day was observed on 19th November in Hagadera and Kambioos camps with awareness raising activities including drama, poems and songs. Primary schools, a Somali Bantu group and WASH committees contributed to the event hosted by UNHCR's partners Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC). At the end of October, the latrine coverage in the five Dadaab refugee camps stood at 55%. Kambioos showed the best coverage in household latrines with 75%. Due to limited funding, not all families can get a household latrine. During World Toilet Day, the community was encouraged to share latrines and the problem of latrine vandalism was highlighted. This has been on the rise in Kambioos section 6 and presents a major setback in bridging the gap.
- UNHCR's partners Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) embarked on construction of ten latrines for persons with special needs in Ifo 2 camp. These latrines are being constructed through savings realized by KRCS during the construction of household latrines in 2014 budget. Ten beneficiaries have been identified jointly by KRCS and HANDICAP International. A total 200 persons have been confirmed as persons with specific needs in Ifo 2 camp.



Photo UNHCR/L. Koki

One of the beneficiaries of the disability friendly latrines in Ifo 2

Access to Energy

- In the frameworks of the CIDA 'Light Years Ahead' project, a total of 340 solar street lights were installed during the reporting period (130 in Dagahaley camp, 160 in Hagadera camp, 40 in host community areas in Fafi district, 10 on Dadaab airstrip). All the hot spots identified by the community and leaders have been fitted with a solar lights. On 28th November, 70 solar street lights were received and ready for installation in Kambioos in early December. The community was strongly advised against vandalism and encouraged to take care of the lights which will be beneficial to them. With this new development, incidents of crime and SGBV are expected to decline in the camps.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- UNHCR participated in selection of shortlisted candidates for degree scholarships of Egerton, Nairobi, Mt. Kenya, Grater and Nazarene Universities. Ten youth from Ifo camp and six from Ifo 2 camp had applied.
- In the Livelihood Support Center managed by UNHCR's partner Lutheran World Federation (LWF), refugees currently produce soap and chalk. UNHCR and National Council of Churches in Kenya (NCCK) assessed the possibility of implementing similar livelihood activities in Ifo 2 camp. The team also identified the need to build up business development skills. Knowing how to run a successful business is expected to help the producers to expand their business outside of the camp setting and prepare them for a potential voluntary return to Somalia.
- A women group comprising of 30 members in Kambioos have opened a bakery business at the IRC Community centre. The group uses a charcoal oven donated by IRC to bake cakes which are sold to the community and agency staff in Kambioos. The bakery which opened in August 2014, has managed to save 3,000 Kenyan Shillings (ca. 32 USD).

Durable Solutions

Spontaneous Voluntary Return to Somalia

- Preparations for the assistance for Voluntary Return to Somalia are ongoing. The first movement of up to 100 persons is planned to take place on 8th December from Dagahaley camp. UNHCR and partners have prepared the necessary documents and put Core Relief Items in place. In total, four movements of voluntary return are planned to take place in December.

Resettlement

- 129 cases (279 individuals), including women and girls at risk, underwent interviews to verify family composition. 40 cases (221 individuals) were interviewed for Resettlement Registration Forms (RRF) processing and possible submission to resettlement countries. Weekly resettlement case status feedback and counselling was provided to 174 individuals in Ifo, Dagahaley and Hagadera camps.
- During the last two weeks of November, 133 individuals departed Dadaab for onward resettlement to the United States of America, Sweden and Canada.



Photo UNHCR/L. Koki

Two refugees in Kambioos camp who expressed interest in voluntarily returning to Somalia

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Web portal on Somali Displacement:
<http://data.unhcr.org/horn-of-africa/regional.php>

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