

DADAAB REFUGEE CAMPS, KENYA

UNHCR BI-WEEKLY UPDATE

16 - 31 May 2015

HIGHLIGHTS (as of 5th June)

Opening of additional districts for voluntary return of Somali Refugees

A Tripartite Commission Meeting on repatriation of Somali refugees took place in Mogadishu on 2nd June. Government representatives of Kenya and Somalia and UNHCR decided to extend the provision of return and reintegration assistance to Somali refugees to six additional districts in Somalia. The newly announced districts are Mogadishu, Afgoye, Balad, Belet Weyne, Jowhar, and Wanle Weyne. This is in addition to the existing areas of return Kismayo, Baidoa and Luuq.

Refugees voluntarily returning to other parts of Somalia will also be provided with return assistance in Kenya and upon arrival in Somalia. This means that voluntary return support is available to all the 332,749 registered Somali nationals in Dadaab camps. However, UNHCR and partners in Somalia do not have access to provide long-term reintegration assistance to returnees in areas not listed.

Kismayo	100,250
Mogadishu	48,217
Baidoa	12,744
Luuq	3,086
Afgoye	877
Belet Weyne	811
Jowhar	389
Balad	55
Wanle Weyne	40
Somali population in Dadaab from 9 return districts	166,469
	<small>1 May 2015</small>

All return movements from Dadaab camps to Somalia remain strictly voluntary. UNHCR seeks to ensure the safety and dignity of all refugees who choose to leave the camps for Somalia. Return convoys were suspended due to bad road conditions during the rainy season and are expected to resume in the second week of June. Since December 2014, 2,048 refugees from Somalia have been supported by UNHCR to spontaneously and voluntarily return to Somalia.

Security

An Al-Shabaab attack on a police convoy in Yumbis on 25th May indirectly affected the Dadaab refugee operation. Yumbis is at a distance of 45km from Dadaab town and 15km from Kambioos camp. As the major part of the Dadaab police contingent was deployed to Yumbis after the clashes, the refugee operation in Dadaab lacked police escorts. UNHCR therefore had to suspend its operations in the camps on 26th and 27th May. Activities resumed in Ifo, Ifo 2 and Dagahaley refugee camps on 28th May and in Hagadera and Kambioos refugee camps on 29th May.

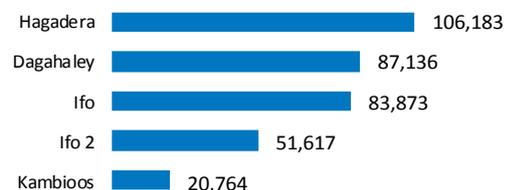
The general security environment led to anxiety among NGO personnel, especially those residing inside the refugee camps. Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) evacuated 42 employees from Dagahaley refugee camp to Nairobi. Other NGOs relocated part of their staff from the camps to Dadaab town. Small nationalities in the camps also increasingly expressed fears and demands to be relocated to other areas.

UPDATES

Population as of 31 May 2015: **349,573**

Refugees: **346,216**

Asylum seekers: **3,357**





Individual Case Management and Protection Counselling

- The security environment around Dadaab Refugee Camps has caused refugees from minority nationalities to request relocation from the Dadaab camps to other areas in Kenya. UNHCR and the Department of Refugee Affairs (DRA) held talks with refugees from the Great Lakes region - Congolese, Burundian and Rwandese - who had expressed protection concerns about their insecurity and discrimination in the camps. While discussions continue with minority representatives and refugee leaders, 38 individuals relocated themselves from Kambioos camp to an area in front of the main agencies' compound in Dadaab town on 29 May. At the time of reporting, the group remained in this location. The two designated areas in Kenya for residence of refugees are Dadaab and Kakuma refugee camps. The latter has already exceeded its capacities but UNHCR Kakuma accepted to receive refugees and asylum seekers who have relatives in Kakuma.

Sexual and Gender based Violence (SGBV)

- International Rescue Committee (IRC), built the capacity of 30 community leaders and GBV focal persons from Hagadera refugee camp and 30 religious and community leaders from Kambioos camp. The training focused on different types of GBV in the community, mechanism to address them appropriately and roles of the leaders in this process. Tests before and after the training indicated a significant increase in knowledge of the participants. Further capacity building is scheduled to ensure that all community leaders play a role in GBV prevention.

Education

Photo UNHCR/ Dadaab



Student in Hilal Primary School, Kambioos Camp

- Secondary schools in Dadaab are affected by a significant shortage of teachers. When the school term started on 18th May, only 54 of a total of 104 Kenyan secondary school teachers returned to the camps. 12 of these teachers then left due to the latest security incidents. As a temporary measure, the refugee community mobilized youth volunteers who are currently teaching in Dagahaley secondary schools.
- In primary schools, concerns on teacher shortage have also been raised. The Parent Teachers Associations of Dagahaley camp alerted that a reduction of 100 teachers since the beginning of the year had forced many schools to merge classes. This has reportedly resulted in overcrowding and compromised the quality of education. The reduction of teachers in primary schools was a result of budget cuts.
- The US American Embassy in Kenya supported the three camp based Community Learning Centres with 30 cartons of books covering topics such as Entrepreneurship, Life Skills, English Language Learning and also novels. The books were handed over to

UNHCR's implementing partners CARE, Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and Islamic Relief Kenya (IRK) who manage the community libraries in Dagahaley, Ifo and Hagadera camps.

Health

- Due to the security environment, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) evacuated 42 staff members to Nairobi. MSF provides health services in Dagahaley camp using its own funds. Two of MSF's four health posts in Dagahaley camp were closed and staff moved to the remaining health posts and hospital. Antenatal care in the MSF hospital has been suspended. UNHCR is working with MSF to assess and cover those gaps.
- In order to improve the health of mothers and new born babies, UNHCR's health partner in Hagadera and Kambioos camps, IRC, recruited 42 safe motherhood promoters. The safe motherhood promoters are respected traditional birth attendants in the community and are familiar with the cultural practices in the camps. They will seek to ensure that pregnant women give birth in the hospital under a skilled mid-wife. In the instances of home deliveries, they will promote for mothers and infants to be taken to the hospital within 24 hours for check-up. This is expected to decrease maternal mortality and maternal illnesses resulting from pregnancy and childbirth complications.
- From 25th to 29th May 2015, a surgeon conducted general surgeries ranging from inguinal hernias to appendicitis in the UNHCR-IRC Hospital in Hagadera camp. Through the 'reverse referral system' medical consultants from Nairobi are taken to the camps instead of patients having to travel to other parts of Kenya. 48 patients were attended through this professional but cost-effective method. Patients had been pre-screened in preparations of the exercise.



Photo IRC Hagadera

Surgeon and IRC medical staff conducting an operation at Hagadera Hospital.

Food Security and Nutrition

- UNHCR and Save the Children US conducted a one-day training for 17 technical staff, from Child Protection, Livelihood, Health and Nutrition agencies during the roll out of the Dadaab pilot on emergency Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF-e) framework. This framework focuses on mainstreaming IYCF-e across the different sectors in refugee camp settings. Actions and indicators for the different sectors were developed and coordination mechanism for follow up of these actions was proposed.

Water and Sanitation

Photo UNHCR/ Dadaab



Elevated steel tank under construction in Alinjgur

- 11 of 30 boreholes in Dadaab camps now use solar power. This has reduced fuel costs per borehole by 40%. One borehole operates exclusively on solar power and ten have a Solar Photovoltaic-Diesel hybrid system. 13 more boreholes will be equipped to use solar power in 2015. UNHCR and partners currently supply about 8.5 million liters of water per day to the refugee population.
- UNHCR's WASH partners continued enhanced hygiene promotion activities, as Cholera cases had been reported in other parts of Kenya and Somalia in recent months. 143 Hygiene promoters were carrying out intensive hygiene campaigns in all five camps.
- UNHCR is constructing a new elevated water tank in its field office in Alinjgur. The new structure is 80% complete and will provide water for Alinjgur Secondary School, Administrative Police and the town's Health Centre.

Shelter and Site Planning

- In 2015, UNHCR plans to construct 1,722 Temporary Shelter – commonly known as T-Shelters. This kind of shelter is in line with the Kenyan government’s instructions to avoid permanent structures. UNHCR’s shelter partner Peace Winds Japan (PWJ) has so far completed, 231 T-Shelters in Ifo camp and 100 in Kambioos camp. Construction material for the remaining shelters is currently being procured. 1,700 tents and 4,000 tarpaulins were also distributed to households across the camps. Additionally, 250 repair kits will be distributed according to the needs of each camp.

Overall, 40,000 new shelters are needed across all five Dadaab camps. However, due to funding constraints only the most vulnerable households receive a new shelter.



Photo UNHCR/ Dadaab

T-Shelters in Kambioos camp

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- 170 women and 30 men (10 groups) from all five Dadaab camps are being trained on business and financial management skills by Danish Refugee Council (DRC). They had previously been selected through a competitive process. In the frameworks of their training, they are further improving their business plans. According to the needs the groups identify, they will be issued a start-up kit to enhance their businesses. They will also be given the opportunity to meet experts from the private sectors in order to nurture their enterprises.

Photo UNHCR/ Dadaab



Kowsar studied Journalism in one of the vocational training centers and is currently doing an internship in a community based radio station

- 55 men and five women were selected for advanced ICT training through a competitive process. ICT Training Kits were procured and delivered to the training centers in which they will study.
- 885 youth (542 male, 343 female) are undergoing vocational skills training in the four vocational training centers managed by UNHCR’s partner Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC). 257 of these young men and women started internships in businesses in the camps. This helped them to put the knowledge learned in school into practice.

Durable Solutions

Resettlement

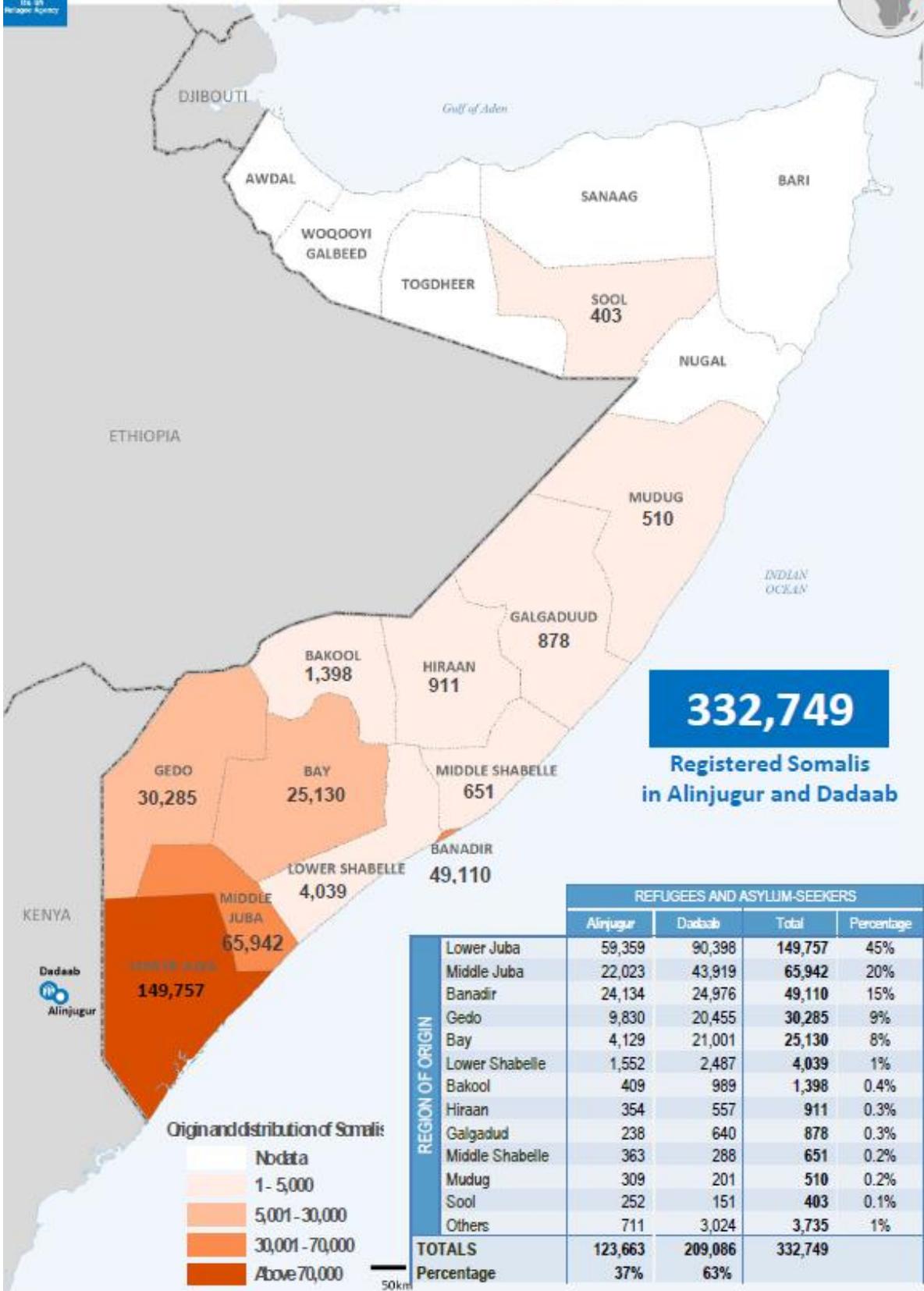
- During the reporting period, a total of 24 cases comprising of 67 individuals (including women and girls at risk) underwent resettlement case composition interviews. Ten cases comprising of 50 individuals were interviewed for resettlement processing and possible onward submission to resettlement countries. 39 new born babies and 9 spouses were added on to cases already in the US resettlement pipeline.

37 individuals departed Dadaab for onward resettlement to the United States, Sweden and Canada.

Weekly resettlement case status feedback and counselling were provided to 170 individuals in Hagadera, Dagahaley, Ifo and Kambioos camps.



SOMALIA: Areas of origin of registered Somali refugees and asylum-seekers in Dadaab and Alinjugur refugee camps in Kenya | 31 May 2015



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on the maps do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Sources: Boundaries - UNICEF, UNDP Somalia; Statistics - UNHCR Dadaab

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