

DADAAB REFUGEE CAMPS, KENYA

UNHCR BI-WEEKLY UPDATE

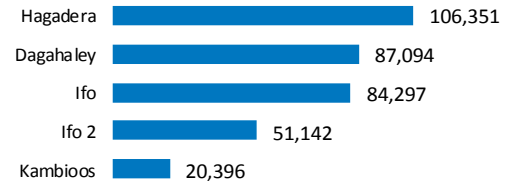
16 - 31 August 2015

UPDATES

Population as of 31 August 2015: **349,280**

Refugees: **345,974**

Asylum seekers: **3,306**



Protection

Voluntary Return to Somalia

- A cross-border meeting on Voluntary Repatriation to Somalia was held on 26th August. During the meeting, it was observed that the way stations in Dobley and Mogadishu had been expanded and can now accommodate 250 and 300 individuals respectively.
- During the second half of August, 296 returnees were assisted with return support package and arrived safely in their respective destinations. In total, 3,634 Somali refugees returned home since 8th December 2014, when UNHCR started supporting voluntary return of Somali refugees in Kenya.



Photo UNHCR/Dadaab

Returnees boarding the plane departing to Mogadishu

Ration Card Exchange

- The Ration Card Exchange exercise that started on 15th August was concluded on 21st August. During the exercise, a total of 76,586 ration cards were changed out of 78,599 households with valid ration cards and 83,061 active households. 97% of the valid ration cards were exchanged. A food ration card can be used for up to 34 food distributions and therefore needs to be exchanged after 17 months.



Photo UNHCR/Dadaab

Ration card exchange in Dagahaley Camp

Training camp journalists

- On 28th August, Radio Gargaar organized a two days training for 25 camps based refugee journalists in Dadaab on humanitarian response reporting. The journalists were trained on humanitarian reporting, role of media in humanitarian operations, identifying audience and their information needs as well as on ethics and code of conduct for humanitarian journalism. UNHCR contributed to the training with a session on refugee rights and UNHCR's protection mandate.

Three local FM radios are broadcasting in the area of Dadaab refugee camps. Working with various media channels, the newly trained refugee journalists will be playing a critical role in sharing information inside the camps and communicating refugees' voices to the wider audience outside Dadaab.

Protection

Individual Case Management and Protection Counselling

- During the second half of August, 229 individuals in the five Dadaab camps benefited from protection counselling. The services provided included Resettlement and Refugee Status Determination (RSD) inquiries, family reunification, requests for relocation to Kakuma, physical safety and legal support for SGBV and child protection and camp transfers.

Child Protection

- The Child Protection Working Group (CPWG) met on 26th August. Participants discussed and reviewed the findings and recommendations of an assessment on the traditional dispute resolution system Maslaha in 2014. Among the key recommendations suggested for follow-up were capacity building and strengthening linkages between the Judiciary, Police, Department of Refugee Affairs (DRA) and Maslaha elders, as well as documentation of disputes presented before the elders.
- Following the launch of the Garissa County Area Advisory Council (AAC) on 26th June, UNHCR in collaboration with Save the Children International (SCI) and Refugee Consortium of Kenya (RCK) provided support in the training of AACs from Garissa, Fafi and Lagdera.

The two days session held on 24th and 25th August in Garissa took participants through the role and rationale of the Children's Department and the AACs, international, regional and national legal instruments on child protection, principles of child protection and other emerging issues affecting children (trafficking, harmful cultural practices and disabilities), understanding foster care, guardianship and adoption, and child participation.

The goal of the training was to equip the AAC members with the knowledge and skills to ensure the protection of children from the host and refugee communities, as well as to strengthen networks between the national and county governments, and with agencies supporting these children.

- On 26th August, the Dadaab Inter-Agency Best Interest Determination (BID) Panel convened a meeting to deliberate on 21 cases involving care arrangements, consideration for durable solutions and interventions for children facing serious protection risks. Three cases were deferred for further assessment and 18 recommendations approved, seven of which were approved for resettlement consideration. So far in 2015, a total of 107 decisions have been taken by the BID Panel.

Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)

- IRC is implementing an eight weeks session for women on (EMAP) Engagement of Men in Accountable Practices in Hagadera and Kambioos camps from August until September. The aim of these sessions is to educate women on how to inform their spouses of the challenges they are facing in marital life. This is a tool to change the attitude of men towards women, which in turn is expected to help reduce intimate partner violence. The eight weeks session for men will begin towards mid-September 2015.



UNHCR trained camp journalists on refugees' rights and UNHCR's protection mandate

Photo UNHCR/Dadaab

Education

- A team from the Ministry of Education Science and Technology (MoEST) Nairobi visited Dadaab for a fact finding mission from 24th to 28th August. The team were tasked to come up with guideline for registration of non-citizens to public institutions by the Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Education. They visited three secondary, three primary and Kenyatta University Dadaab campus.

- From 27th to 29th August, all Dadaab education stakeholders met in Nairobi for the review of the Education Strategy which will expire end of 2015. A consultant was proposed to guide the finalization of the strategy and the revised document to be ready by October 2015.
- Kenya Equity in Education Project (KEEP) held a Gender Responsive Pedagogy Skills and Leadership training for teachers and head teachers from project schools. The head teachers received a three day training and selected classroom teachers underwent five day training in Dadaab town. KEEP's main objectives are to improve enrolment, retention and progression of marginalized girls in both primary and secondary schools in Northern Kenya. KEEP is implemented by the World University Services of Canada (WUSC) and Windle Trust Kenya (WTK), and funded by UK Aid.
- The Girls Annual Conference was successfully held in Garissa from 24th to 25th August. The event was organized by WTK and WUSC. Under the partnership programme KEEP scholarships have been offered to 156 girls drawn from the host communities of Dadaab, Fafi, Wajir south and from the refugee community. This is a program tailored to educate the girl child in the secondary education cycle with the aim of increasing performance, successful transition and increased retention.
- Borderless Higher Education for Refugees (BHER) classes for 367 refugee ended 31st August. The online session will be ongoing until the professors are back for tutorials in December.
- During the reporting period, 140 students from the student council have been trained by the Sub-County Education Office on schools governance and children's parliament. In addition, 25 administrators have been trained on education management at the Kenya Management Institute from 24th to 30th August while seven teachers were trained on Early Child Development (ECD).
- All schools in the camps reopened on 31st August 2015 for the third term of the year and the learning session is ongoing. The school feeding programme for Warsame primary school in Kambioos and Bidii primary school in Hagadera has still not started due to budget constraints. Community representatives raised concerns in several forums about possible negative effects on school attendance.



A student from Hormud primary school in Ifo camp

Photo UNHCR/Dadaab



Health

- A Cholera outbreak was officially declared by the County Ministry of Health. A total of 14 cases have been line listed with one confirmed positive on culture test. During the reporting period, meetings between Ministry of Health public health officers and members of Market Committees were organized in order to establish measures to reduce food contamination. The follow up of the compliance of the measures will be done after three weeks.
- On 17th August UNHCR, in collaboration with its health and nutrition partners and with support from World Food Programme (WFP) commenced training the teams that will conduct the annual nutrition survey.
- In order to step up the competency of health care providers in Focused Antenatal Care (FANC), IRC organized a training from 17th to 21st August for 22 participants including nurses, clinical officers and Antenatal Care (ANC) assistants working in ANC clinics at the health posts.
- A total of 192 children with different pathologies across the camps and host community were seen by a paediatrician consultant who visited Dadaab from 17th to 21st August within the framework of the reverse referral strategy.
- The national Polio campaign targeting children under five took place from 29th August to 2nd September across all five camps.

Food Security and Nutrition

- The 2nd cycle of food distribution in the five Dadaab camps commenced on 15th August and ended on 22nd August. The rations given during the second cycle, consisted of 100gm wheat flour, 150gm Sorghum, 60gm pulses, 35gm vegetable oil, 40gm CSB, 5gm salt and CSB plus 300 per person per day. The ration also includes 60gm green gram per person for 30 days. The food distribution for the month of August was completed smoothly with no major incident reported.

Water and Sanitation

- During the second half of August, the water supply in all five camps was reported to be normal. The daily water production in August from 29 operation boreholes was 10,254,657 liters, with about 8,287,764 liters supplied to a refugee population of 349,280 in the five Dadaab camps. This translated to an average daily per capita water allocation of 23.5 liters.

Shelter

- During the reporting period, UNHCR and shelter partners jointly verified 145 shelters materials out of the 363 shelters to be constructed in Hagadera camp. The materials will provide shelter to most needy refugees in the camp.
- To bring services and materials nearer to the refugees in Ifo2, Dagahaley and Ifo, a centralized storage has been created. The 19 Rub Hall storages are completed, and now an adjacent office block and WCs are under construction.
- Ifo and Dagahaley camps have a large population of over 165,000 refugees. Like in other communities, camp based police need to hold suspects before taking them to court. The cell in Ifo camp is usually crowded with suspects and therefore needs improvement. UNHCR partners with the Government of Kenya to ensure better treatment for the refugees, UNHCR opted to provide more windows for ventilation, construct an armory, and remove a generator shed further from the cells due to noise and diesel fumes.



UNHCR construction work response to the critical needs in the camps

- In efforts to promote peaceful coexistence between host community and refugees in and around Hagadera camp, UNHCR and its partner NGO Fafi Integrated Development Organization (FaIDA) are constructing accommodation for doctors and nurses of the maternity ward of the settlement Borehole Five. The maternity Ward serves both refugees and the host community.

Durable Solutions

Resettlement

- During the reporting period, a total of 21 cases comprising of 101 individuals underwent resettlement case composition interviews. 13 cases comprising of 40 individuals were interviewed for resettlement processing and possible onward submission to resettlement countries.

During the second half of the month, 19 cases comprising of 61 individuals were submitted to UNHCR Branch Office Nairobi for onward resettlement. Additionally 59 new-born babies were added on to cases already submitted for resettlement. A total of 46 individuals departed Dadaab for onward resettlement to United Kingdom, United States of America, Australia, Canada and Sweden.

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

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