

# DADAAB REFUGEE CAMPS, KENYA

## UNHCR BI-WEEKLY UPDATE

01 - 15 November 2014

### HIGHLIGHTS

#### Funding Gaps Force Food Cuts for Refugees in Kenya

UNHCR's partner, World Food Program (WFP), has announced to refugees in Dadaab and Kakuma refugee camps, a reduction of bimonthly food rations by 50% until the end of January 2015. About USD 38 million is urgently needed in the next six months if regular food rations for 490,000 people are to be met.

UNHCR and WFP have already reached out and appealed to the donor community and requested for additional funds. It has also been made clear to refugees that this announcement has no link whatsoever to the planned voluntary return of Somali refugees. A shipment of food assistance donated by the United States of America, sufficient for six weeks is expected to arrive at the end of January 2015. Meanwhile, UNHCR Head of Operations in Dadaab, Ahmed Warsame, has urged the refugee community to stay calm as efforts are being made to resolve the challenge.

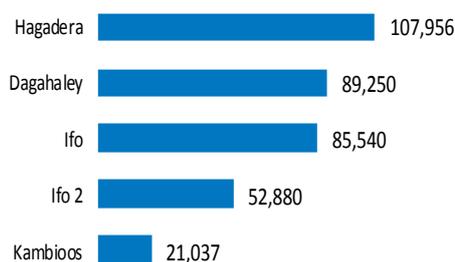
About 9,700 metric tons of food worth almost USD 10 million is distributed to refugees in Kenya every month. Among the food items distributed include; cereals, pulses, vegetable oil, nutrient-rich maize-soya blend and salt. A routine daily ration provides 2,100 kilocalories to every food recipient but with the reduced rations, each recipient will now only receive 1,050 kilocalories. Despite funding challenges, UNHCR has facilitated some significant milestones within the food sector in Kenya in the last one year. Expectant and lactating women are now issued with monthly food vouchers by WFP with which they access markets to purchase meat, vegetables, fresh fruits and other nutritional items that are not part of the regular food rations.



*A resident of Ifo 2 camp, one of the five camps in Dadaab preparing a meal Photo: UNHCR/W. Kigali*

Also, UNHCR and WFP have continually verified the refugee population in camps and introduced biometric food registers. This has promoted efficiency and ensured that only people in the biometric register receive food rations. Before the biometrics, it was easy for individuals holding ration cards for friends and relatives to receive multiple rations. Its use in the first eight months saw the amount of food needed in camps reduce by 11,073 metric tons. This would have cost USD 11.1 million to procure, transport, and distribute.

#### Population in camps by end of October 2014: **356,663**



**Refugees: 353,262**  
**Asylum seekers: 3,401**

## SECTION UPDATES

### Security

- The security situation in Dadaab camps remained unpredictable in the first two weeks of November. The average crime rate slightly increased within this period compared to the previous two weeks. One murder incident was reported in Hagadera camp where an 11 years old girl was shot dead by a gang of six armed men who also shot and injured her father after robbing them. Also in Ifo camp, a businessman was shot dead outside his Bosnia market shop within the same period.
- On 11<sup>th</sup> November, a fire broke out in Hagadera main market. 11 business premises & facilities were damaged but the fire was contained by Kenya Red Cross Society KRCS firefighting team before spreading wide. KRCS was recently equipped with firefighting equipment and have so far successfully responded to spontaneous fire incidents in camps.



### Protection

#### General Protection Environment

- During the reporting period, the County Government of Garissa finalized plans for the county's stakeholder's forum organized to take place in Nairobi on 19<sup>th</sup> November. The forum aimed to bring all stakeholders together including UNHCR donors and partners to discuss the impact of hosting refugees in Dadaab and how to address challenges that often arise as a result.
- For the first time in Garissa County, a full-fledged High Court has been established. Kenya's Chief Justice inaugurated the court on 3<sup>rd</sup> November. UNHCR expects that its presence will improve access to justice for refugees and asylum seekers. UNHCR will support the establishment of a court in Dadaab Sub-County which is even closer to refugees and their host communities. To this end, water reticulation pipes will be installed on the new court house to facilitate construction works.
- UNHCR and the Department of Refugee Affairs (DRA) have in the reporting period prepared an action plan for community-based policing in Dadaab refugee camps. This project is an integral component of UNHCR's Security Partnership Project (SPP) with the government of Kenya which aims to enhance security and promote good relations among refugees, host communities and law enforcement authorities.

#### Registration of Unregistered Refugees

- The Department of Refugee Affairs (DRA) fast-tracked the registration of 63 unregistered individuals who were recently relocated from Nairobi to Dadaab. During the same period, population fixing by use of wrist bands for 105 unregistered persons was carried out in Ifo 2 camp. The 105 individuals were profiled and are pending security screening.
- DRA continued with case by case registration. 23 individuals have been registered during the reporting period. By 14<sup>th</sup> November, a total of 11,864 individuals had been registered, a slightly higher number than the annual performance target of 10,400 persons.

**11,864**

Individuals registered in 2014  
(114% of the annual target)

#### Arrests, Detention, Freedom of Movement

- A total of 158 persons (4 female) are detained in Garissa Prison. 66 of them are on remand awaiting final determination of court matters.
- A total of 21 movement passes were prepared and issued to individuals who sought movement for among other reasons - family reunification, education, medical treatment as well as relocation to Kakuma refugee camp.

## Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)

- Planning for the **16 Days of Activism campaign** against SGBV was underway during the reporting period. The 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence is an international campaign that starts on 25 November, International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and ends on 10 December, Human Rights Day. This year's campaign shall seek to call for an end to child marriage as commonly practiced in some societies. During the campaign, there will be community radio discussions, sports tournaments, focus group discussions and film screenings aimed at promoting behavioral change and ending early child marriages.

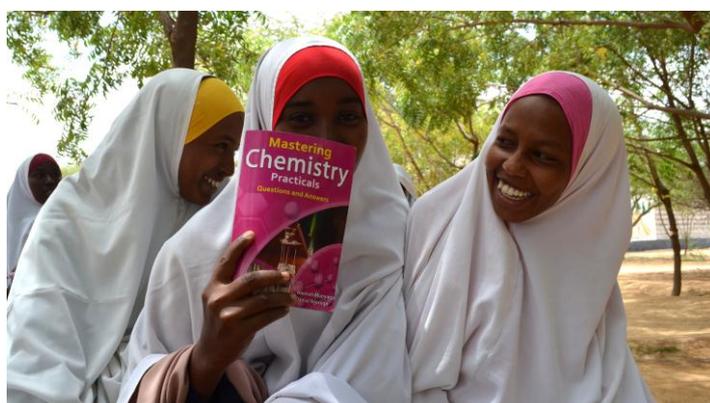
## Child Protection

- The Garissa District Civil Registrar visited Dadaab on 9<sup>th</sup> November. He is expected to stay on until 12<sup>th</sup> December to facilitate production and issuance of civil documentation for births and deaths in camps. By 14<sup>th</sup> November, 9,817 children (69% of the annual performance target which is 14,300 children) were registered in UNHCR's proGres database as holders of birth certificates.

# 9,817

Number of children issued with birth certificate and registered in UNHCR database in 2014 (69% of the annual target)

## Education



*Students of Tawakal Secondary School in Dagahaley camp during preparations for their 2014 KCSE. Photo. UNHCR/Dadaab*

- On 14<sup>th</sup> November, all primary schools were closed for December holidays. Secondary schools are expected to proceed for holidays on 28<sup>th</sup> November. For both primary and secondary schools, learning will resume in January 2015.
- This year, a total of 667 students sat for their Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) examinations that began in October and ended early November. A total of 3131 students in primary schools also sat for their Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) examinations early November. KCPE graduates will be expecting to proceed to secondary schools in 2015 while KCSE graduates will be hoping to get opportunities for higher learning in colleges, universities and vocational institutions.



## Health

- A National Polio vaccination campaign with supplementation of Vitamin-A was conducted in Dadaab refugee camps between 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> November targeting children below five years.



## Food Security and Nutrition

- The first cycle of the November food distribution kicked off well on 3<sup>rd</sup> November and ended on 11<sup>th</sup> November, although within the period, some food recipients held demonstrations over issuance of sorghum instead of wheat flour.
- Distribution of complementary food to children aged between 6 and 59 months began during the November first cycle of monthly food distribution. Each family with such children shall be issued with 2.1kg of complementary food every month.

## Water and Sanitation

- The 29 functional boreholes in Dadaab camps produced an average of 10,590,940 liters of clean water in the first fortnight of November. About 8,558,837 liters of water were consumed in camps.
- In Ifo camp, a borehole (Borehole B) which had developed a mechanical problem in September was repaired. The sunken steel casing and the faulty submersible pump were replaced.
- Drilling of a new borehole in Ifo camp to replace an old one (borehole 6) was successfully completed. Test pumping is expected in coming weeks. The new borehole is installed with steel casing instead of PVC casing.

## Shelter & Access to Energy

- During the reporting period, about 3,500 tree seedlings were distributed in Dagahaley camp both at household level and within agencies' field offices. Some more seedlings were distributed to host community members around Dagahaley.
- Peace Winds Japan (PWJ) distributed 141 shelter materials for construction of new shelters in Dagahaley camp within the first two weeks of November. The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) also constructed 68 shelters in the camp. PWJ and UNHCR plan to distribute plastic sheets that will help in flood mitigation during rainy seasons.



A resident of Dagahaley camp fetching timber for construction of shelters . Photo UNHCR/ Dadaab

## Durable Solutions

### Spontaneous Voluntary Return to Somalia

On 6<sup>th</sup> November, UNHCR attended an inter-agency working group coordination meeting on the voluntary return process in Nairobi as convened by the Government of Kenya. Working group members agreed that the operational plan on the return process should be presented to the competent national for endorsement. In addition, a committee of experts was established to look into the issue of refugees registering as Kenyan nationals and Kenyans registering as refugees for reasons of personal convenience.

### Resettlement

- 37 cases (consisting of 90 individuals), including women and girls at risk, underwent interviews to verify family composition. 20 cases (comprising of 69 individuals) were interviewed for Resettlement Registration Forms (RRF) processing. 16 cases (comprising of 86 individuals) were forwarded to UNHCR Branch Office Nairobi for submission to resettlement countries. A total of 928 individuals have been submitted to resettlement countries for consideration since 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014. This is approximately 89.6% of the 2014 annual target (1035 individuals).
- 132 individuals departed Dadaab for onward resettlement to the United States of America (125) and Canada (6). Since 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014, 1,204 individuals are confirmed to have departed Nairobi for onward resettlement in third countries. This is approximately 89.5% of the 2014 annual target of 1,345 individuals. A total of 13 movement passes were prepared and issued for cases departing for resettlement.
- The 7<sup>th</sup> movement to Kakuma refugee camp comprising 367 individuals from Dadaab camps took place on 1<sup>st</sup> November. The 367 individuals had earlier been identified by the United States of America for adjudication interviews with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

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

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