

DADAAB REFUGEE CAMPS, KENYA

UNHCR BI-WEEKLY UPDATE

01 - 15 February 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

US Assistant Secretary of State visit to Dadaab

On Wednesday 11 February, Assistant Secretary of State and Head of US State Department: Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), Ann Richard visited Dadaab. During her visit, Ms. Richard met refugee representatives and held meetings with UNHCR and other humanitarian agencies working in Dadaab.

Ms. Richard was in Kenya to attend the High-Level Event on the Humanitarian Crisis in South Sudan and its Impact in the Region, where concerned countries discussed better ways of assisting displaced communities.



Photo UNHCR/Dadaab

Assistant Secretary of State and head US State Department: Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), Ann Richard with refugee leaders during her one day visit to Dadaab on Wednesday.

Turn Ifo 2 Camp Green

On 7th February, the Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) opened a new green belt in Ifo 2 camp by planting of 10,000 trees. The tree planting exercise was part of an initiative dubbed "Turn Ifo 2 Green" that KRCS started in 2014 to conserve the environment.

Planting of the new green belt was similar to the previous three whereby, staff members, incentive workers, refugee community and volunteers came out for planting the trees. UNHCR Dadaab Head of Operations, Ahmed Baba Fall and some officers were also present during the exercise and managed to plant trees with the staff and community.



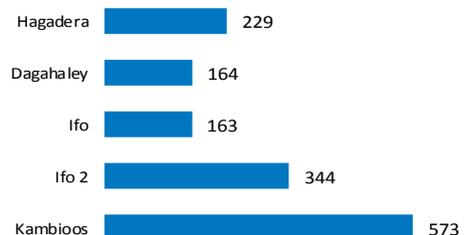
Photo UNHCR/Dadaab

UNHCR Head Operations, Ahmed Baba fall, planting a tree at the new green belt in Ifo 2.

Voluntary Return to Somalia

As of 15th February, UNHCR, Government of Kenya (GoK) and partners had supported 1,473 refugees to return home from Kenya to Somalia under the current voluntary return pilot project. During the reporting period, there were two convoys to Somalia; 7th and 10th February with 41 households comprising of 199 individuals. The first group of refugees travelled to Somalia from Dadaab refugee camps on 8th December 2014, when the pilot project was launched. Returnees use pre-arranged bus transport and 13 convoys have departed since then.

Returnees per camp as of 15 February 2015: 1,473



Individual Case Management and Protection Counselling

- 283 Individuals from the camps benefited from protection counselling provided by UNHCR. Services provided included Resettlement and RSD inquiries, family reunification, requests for relocation to Kakuma, physical safety and legal support for SGBV and child protection and camp transfers. The cases were assessed, interventions made and/or referred for appropriate assistance.

Arrest, Detention and Freedom of Movement

- A total of ten male persons of concern were arrested at Garissa, Tana Bridge, Modika, Madogo, Mwingi and Dadaab. Seven were charged with unlawful presence while three with residing outside designated area and arraigned in court. All were discharged.
- During the reporting period, there were a total of 130 prisoners in the detention centers, however the figure keeps on changing depending on discharges and arrest on each particular day.
- During the reporting period a total of 18 persons of concern (10 male and 8 female) were repatriated to Dadaab. They have been discharged after they were charged with unlawful presence and residing outside designated area. They were received by DRA and UNHCR in Dadaab and taken to their respective camps.

Registration and Documentation (RSD)

- Between 9th and 11th February, a mission from UNHCR Branch Office Nairobi was in Dadaab to provide training and support to the registry unit on the issuance of the new notification certificates with the Government of Kenya, Court of Arms and the Commissioner for Refugee Affairs' signature. The purpose of the training was to harmonize the issuance of refugee notification certificates within the Kenya Operation.
- During the reporting period, first RSD instance interviews were conducted for 19 cases, 21 cases were rescheduled, 11 No show cases, four derivative status interviews were conducted and six appeal review cases were referred for appeal interviews, 13 RSD assessment was submitted for review.

Registration and Documentation

- During the reporting period, 94 new born babies were registered in Dadaab camps. In Dagahaley on 2nd February, self-referral biodata change interviews were conducted. Seven cases out of the ten cases scheduled were interviewed while the rest were rescheduled. A total of 199 individuals (41 households) were inactivated from the database after they were confirmed to have voluntarily returned to Somalia.
- 107 unregistered new arrival refugees were registered by DRA and subsequently registered in UNHCR in database. 45 persons of concern were relocated from Nairobi to Dadaab for registration. They were issued with feeding tokens and registered on 9th February.

Food Distribution

- The 1st cycle of food distribution commenced on 2nd February in the Dadaab camps. The food distribution activities completed in Kambioos on 4th February, Ifo 2 on 6th February, Ifo and Dagahaley on 7th February and Hagadera on 9th February.

Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)

- UNHCR and its SGBV partners held the monthly case conference in Ifo camp on 9th February. Seven cases were deliberated upon and appropriate intervention recommended. The group also introduced password for the cases to streamline case management and preserve confidentiality.



Food distribution in Ifo refugee camp.

Photo UNHCR/Dadaab

- A case conference meeting was held on the 4th February in Dagahaley camp. Out of the 15 cases discussed, three were new. It was agreed that joint case management should be organized for the prolonged security cases. Previous cases were discussed and partners gave updates on the action taken.
- The Safe Haven Panel meeting was held on 11th February. Danish Refugee Council (DRC) reported that 11 cases of 25 persons were accommodated at the center and requested the agencies to adhere to the SOPs especially when admitting and discharging clients. It was resolved that agencies need to follow up on cases and to make use of the Safe Haven matron to pass information to the clients. It was agreed to hold monthly visits to the Safe Haven and the next visit is planned for 26th February.
- UNHCR held meeting with Ifo Police as a follow up to ensure their attendance at the SGBV case conference, to revive the Tango Talks and desist from writing numerous letters for refugees on security claims that trigger expectation for resettlement. The police welcomed the idea and requested for a schedule of the same for proper planning and to work with DRA to help in mobilizing the persons of concern for the Tango Talks.

Child Protection

- The County Child Protection Task Force meeting was held on the 11th February, at Garissa with the judiciary to discuss strengthened justice for children and review all pending children cases in the courts and strengthening coordination. It was noted that there is need to increase the interagency activities in order to raise awareness and sensitize the public on child rights and reporting.
- The Child Protection Working Group held its first meeting of 2015 on 9th February. Partners reviewed the key child protection issues and challenges arising in 2014, and set out the working groups' objectives for 2015. A follow-up meeting to cost the activities proposed in the 2015-2016 Strategy and develop a work plan was held on 16th February.



Photo UNHCR/Dadaab

Refugee children from Ogaden community in Ifo camp.

Water and Sanitation

- The water infrastructure across the five camps remained as water storage capacity of 6050 m³ in 46 tanks, distributed through a pipeline network of 314 km and 900 tap stands and 4,320 taps. 29 boreholes continued to operate. Water from these boreholes is supplied to a refugee population of 353,702 in the five Dadaab camps.
- In Ifo 2 camp, borehole 1 and borehole 4 Solar PV and Diesel hybrid system was completed and its working well. This system transmits real time data of many parameters such as the volume of water discharged from the borehole, the energy generated and the solar irradiation.
- KRCS installed solar panels on two boreholes in Ifo 2 camp with funding from the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department (ECHO).



Photo UNHCR/Dadaab

A newly completed solar-diesel hybrid system in Ifo camp.

- The solar PV borehole operates for 5.5 hours per day yielding 156m³ of water. For a day like 13th its yield was 199.5m³ which on 4th the energy from the Solar could start the system. On average through calculation, a fuel saving of up to 40% can be achieved excluding other overheads like wages.
- Construction of a Solar PV and Diesel hybrid system is underway in Hagadera camp borehole 1, while the same is planned for Dagahaley camp boreholes 8 and 9.
- UNHCR together with the WASH Partner visited Hagadera camp on 3rd February to monitor water distribution in the blocks after the leaders outcry on reduced water. The team found out that some tap stands in Section 1 had low pressure, based on the interaction with beneficiaries, they raised concern that the water situation had improved only on that day and this prompted UNHCR to plan for an independent monitoring at a later date. WASH Partners confirmed that areas of low Pressure in section F and K are boosted through direct pumping.
- KRCS hosted and chaired the monthly WASH sector coordination meeting in Ifo2 camp on 12th February. The meeting was preceded with a visit to the camp. The team visited one completed latrine for people with disabilities in Ifo2 east, working PV solar at borehole C and borehole 3, had one on one discussion with Davis & Shirliff, the company engaged by KRCS to install solar. WASH partners agreed to embrace material re-use in latrine construction, focus more on rehabilitation of WASH facilities and involve the beneficiaries in the camp in planning and monitoring of all projects and be open and accountable on what will be implemented in 2015.

Shelter and Site Planning

- Demarcation of 640 plots with two space for an open air market and an animal market in Kambioos has been completed. One large market stall is now under construction. The roofed hall has 40 stalls and is planned to benefit the very vulnerable refugees who cannot be able to put up stalls for themselves.

UNHCR intends to install a water supply system with taps and fire hydrants to be located at strategic locations as well as near the toilets. The market is planned to have wide roads to avoid fires that are common in congested markets in the older camps.



Photo UNHCR/Dadaab

Construction work on one of UNHCR projects in Ifo refugee camp.

Durable Solutions

Resettlement

- During the first half of February, a total of 105 cases comprising of 400 individuals underwent resettlement case composition interviews. 24 cases comprising of 76 individuals were interviewed for processing and possible onward submission to resettlement countries.
- 14 cases comprising of 40 individuals were submitted to Branch Office Nairobi for onward resettlement. An additional 16 new born babies were added on to cases already submitted to the USA.
- A total of 24 individuals departed Dadaab for onward resettlement to USA, Australia, Norway and Canada.

Contacts:

UNHCR Dadaab External Relations Unit, kendapi@unhcr.org, Cell +254 704381822

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

[facebook.com/unhcrkenya](https://www.facebook.com/unhcrkenya)
twitter.com/UNHCR_Kenya

twitter.com/SiljaOstermann
twitter.com/Duke_Mwanicha