

KENYA



Operational highlights

- Some 62,000 new Somali asylum-seekers arrived in Kenya in 2008, bringing the number of Somali refugees in the country to nearly 260,000. At the request of the Government of Kenya, 2,500 newly arrived refugees were relocated to Kakuma camp.
- UNHCR facilitated the voluntary repatriation of 8,500 individuals to Southern Sudan.
- Internal stability in Kenya and joint efforts of humanitarian actors favoured the return back home of more than 340,000 Kenyan internally displaced persons (IDPs).

Working environment

The political climate in Kenya grew more stable in the course of 2008 thanks to concerted efforts to strengthen the reconciliation process. This resulted in the return home of almost 85 per cent of the IDP population. However, economic growth in Kenya dropped from 7 per cent in 2007 to 2.5 per cent in 2008, while inflation rose from 10 to 31 per cent, mainly due to the global escalation in fuel and food prices.

The tourism industry was severely affected by security reasons.

Regulations and guidelines to implement the 2006 Refugee Act, which came into force in May 2007, are pending authorization by the Ministry for Immigration and Registration.

The closure of the border between Kenya and Somalia prevented many Somali asylum-seekers from benefiting from international protection. Asylum-seekers who managed to cross into Kenya were accommodated in the existing refugee camps, straining the camps' absorption capacity and resulting in competition over resources.

Achievements and impact

Main objectives

UNHCR's main goals in Kenya were to protect, assist and pursue comprehensive durable solutions for refugees and other persons of concern, including Kenyan IDPs. This included providing an emergency response to newly arrived Somali refugees, maintaining acceptable standards of treatment for existing refugees and others of concern. The Office also worked to promote and facilitate the voluntary repatriation of Sudanese refugees, as well as resettling people with special protection needs.

UNHCR also aimed to strengthen partnerships with the Government of Kenya through capacity-building projects involving UN agencies and the NGO community; address the specific protection needs of women, children and others at risk; improve health and nutrition and raise awareness on HIV and AIDS as well as sexual and gender-based violence. At the same time, the Office planned to ensure that the Government implemented refugee legislation and provided refugees with access to employment and public services.

Protection and solutions

The main protection challenges in Kenya included a lack of security for humanitarian workers and camp-based refugees, the closure of the Liboi border between Kenya and Somalia, expulsion or forced repatriation of asylum-seekers charged with unlawful presence in Kenya, and tension between refugees and host communities. UNHCR trained the civil and military authorities in international protection standards and encouraged them to respect the principle of *non-refoulement*.

UNHCR registered all newly arrived refugees in the three Dadaab camps. The use of biometrics was introduced to validate the number of refugees in Kakuma camp. In order to ensure efficiency in refugee status determination (RSD), the standard procedures were revised, leading to improved data management and case processing.

The Office's durable solutions strategies for refugee groups in Kenya were influenced by political, social and economic developments in their respective countries of origin. Full implementation of the national refugee legislation through a timely enactment of the 2006 Refugees Act is expected to create a framework for local integration.

○ *Activities and assistance*

Community services: UNHCR promoted the equal representation and participation of women in the management of camp affairs and in decision making. Some 200 leaders (84 women) benefited from training sessions on equal representation, leadership skills, good governance, human rights, gender issues, prevention of sexual and gender-based violence, community participation, peacebuilding and conflict resolution.

Besides building the capacity of refugee leaders, training was also aimed at involving refugees in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of various programmes in the camp, as well as mainstreaming UNHCR's community and rights-based approach in operations. All refugee girls and women were provided with sanitary materials.

Crop production: UNHCR supported some 9,500 individuals (3,800 households) with seeds and other inputs to address malnutrition in the refugee population. Accordingly, some 1,500 people were trained in basic vegetable farming. A few households were able to sell surplus vegetables.

Domestic needs and household support: Camp-based refugees were provided with essential material needs, including energy-saving stoves. Non-food items were given to newly arrived refugees. More than 8,300 mosquito nets were distributed to some 26,600 families to reduce malaria.

Education: The classroom-to-student ratio was 1:70 in the primary schools and 1:40 in secondary schools. The high primary school ratio was primarily due to an increase in enrolment as a result of the Somali influx. The teacher-to-student ratio was 1:69 and 1:41 for primary and secondary schools, respectively. Schools were provided with textbooks and equipment. With the mass repatriation of Sudanese refugees from Kakuma, UNHCR has closed nine primary schools and one secondary school in the camp. There were some improvements in certain education indicators as a result of the reduction in the refugee population in Kakuma.

Food: UNHCR purchased and distributed 1,034 metric tons of food, providing food rations of 2,323 kilocalories per refugee per day. Targeted supplementary feeding of some vulnerable groups was also carried out. There was a reduction in Global Acute Malnutrition from 18 per cent to 10 per cent due the sustained efforts of the last three years.

Forestry: UNHCR and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature organized a regional workshop that mapped out priority areas for environmental management in refugee camps. In addition to the 116 hectares already rehabilitated since 1999, some 38 hectares of greenbelts were established for micro-catchments and natural regeneration. Some 109,000 tree seedlings were produced and distributed to the refugees and host community.

Health and nutrition: Ante-natal care coverage increased to 79 per cent from 71 per cent in 2007. Post-natal care coverage grew from 53 per cent in 2007 to 85 per cent in 2008, while 92 per cent of births in 2008 took place in health centres, compared to 69 per cent in 2007. The leading causes

Persons of concern					
Type of population	Origin	Total	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Per cent female	Per cent under 18
Refugees	Somalia	259,100	259,100	49	49
	Sudan	28,500	28,500	41	45
	Ethiopia	22,600	22,600	38	32
	DRC	2,900	2,900	46	44
	Uganda	2,800	2,800	39	31
	Rwanda	2,500	2,500	51	40
	Burundi	1,300	1,300	49	32
	Eritrea	800	800	42	19
	Various	10	10	29	29
Asylum-seekers	Ethiopia	6,600	6,600	43	41
	Somalia	700	700	48	42
	DRC	500	500	44	44
	Sudan	440	440	35	41
	Uganda	170	170	38	40
	Burundi	130	130	40	34
	Eritrea	110	110	50	23
	Rwanda	110	110	40	43
	Various	20	20	29	10
Returns (refugees)	From Uganda	700	-	-	-
IDPs		404,000	154,000	-	-
Returns (IDPs)		346,000	346,000	-	-
Stateless	Nubians	100,000	-	-	-
Total		1,179,990	829,290		

of mortality were lower respiratory tract infections, malaria, acute malnutrition and hypertension. The crude mortality rate was 0.2/1000, the under-five mortality rate 0.6/1000 per month, the infant mortality 19/100,000, the neonatal mortality rate 1.8/1000 and the maternal mortality rate 239/100,000. The access to treatment helped to prolong life, mitigate suffering and give hope to people living with HIV and AIDS and their families.

Income generation: The Office assisted, through micro-finance projects, some 350 refugee and host community women to start small-scale businesses. In Dadaab, some 5,000 families were trained to run kitchen gardens. Some 200 refugee and host community members received certificates upon completion of vocational skills training.

Legal assistance: UNHCR registered asylum-seekers and refugees, facilitated effective RSD, resettled protection cases and reviewed standard operating procedures to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence, in collaboration with the Government of Kenya and other partners. Due to training and awareness campaigns, there was an increase in Government involvement in activities aimed at addressing the protection concerns faced by women and children in the camp. As cluster lead for IDPs, UNHCR also coordinated activities of all partners. Camp coordination and management structures were set up by the Kenyan Red Cross Society with UNHCR's support for some 350,000 IDPs living in more than 300 camps.

Operational support (to agencies): All implementing partners were provided with funds and technical assistance to achieve their operational responsibilities.

Sanitation: Some 2,700 latrines were constructed and 65 rehabilitated. The latrine per user ratio is currently 1:20. This has partially improved sanitary conditions for refugees, although the gaps are still considerable.

Shelter and other infrastructure: Some 850 shelters were constructed in Ifo camp, 750 in Dagahaley and 200 in Hagadera. In addition, new arrivals received shelter materials. There is still need to improve more than 34,000 shelters in Dadaab. As shelter cluster lead, UNHCR developed the shelter cluster strategy and agreed with the Government of Kenya and other partners on the basic non-food items package and the transitional shelter kit for relocating IDPs.

Transport and logistics: All trucks were kept in good repair for programme delivery throughout the year. In addition, new vehicles were procured for implementing partners to enhance timely service delivery.

Water: The average distance between tap stands and dwelling places is 300 metres. The per capita water supply for the refugees dropped from 17.8 litres per person per day in January 2008 to 15.8 litres per person per day in December 2008 largely due to the increase in population. The number of taps increased from 843 in 2006 to 875 in 2008. Additional boreholes are to be drilled to increase the potable water supply and to provide some for animal husbandry.



A young Somali refugee waits with her ration card to receive food at the Hagadera refugee camp in Dadaab, Kenya

○ **Constraints**

Implementation of the Refugee Act was proceeding slowly. Dadaab and Kakuma camps remained under heightened UN security phases, requiring armed escorts for all staff movements. Human resources were stretched by activities to build the capacity of the Department of Refugee Affairs and other governmental institutions.

The closure of the Kenya-Somalia border and the Liboi transit centre has prevented the effective screening of new arrivals. This exposes refugees in the camps to insecurity. The willingness of Sudanese refugees to repatriate has diminished considerably and it is envisaged that only 3,000 will repatriate in 2009, far below the planned figure of 20,000. Local integration of refugees remains unattainable in light of Government opposition. The urban population is increasing due to new refugee arrivals and lack of absorption capacity in camps.

| **Financial information** |

During 2008, the Kenya operation expanded to cater to an estimated 150,000 IDPs and an additional 60,000 refugees and asylum-seekers. As such, the operation found itself in dire need of funds to offer humanitarian assistance to people of concern. The level of funding enabled UNHCR to meet minimum assistance standards but proved to be challenging due to initial budgetary allocation. UNHCR endeavoured to cover the costs associated with the Somali emergency and was able to preposition some non-food items. Few operational gaps were highlighted and are meant to be gradually addressed during 2009. UNHCR has to scale down its interventions for IDPs because of the diminishing funding

| **Organization and implementation** |

UNHCR operations in Kenya in 2008 were administered by the Representation Office in Nairobi and two sub-offices in Dadaab and Kakuma for refugee programme. A field presence was established in Eldoret to respond to the IDPs requirements. The UNHCR team in Kenya consisted of 254

staff, including 40 international staff, 9 junior professional officers, 181 national staff and 24 UNVs.

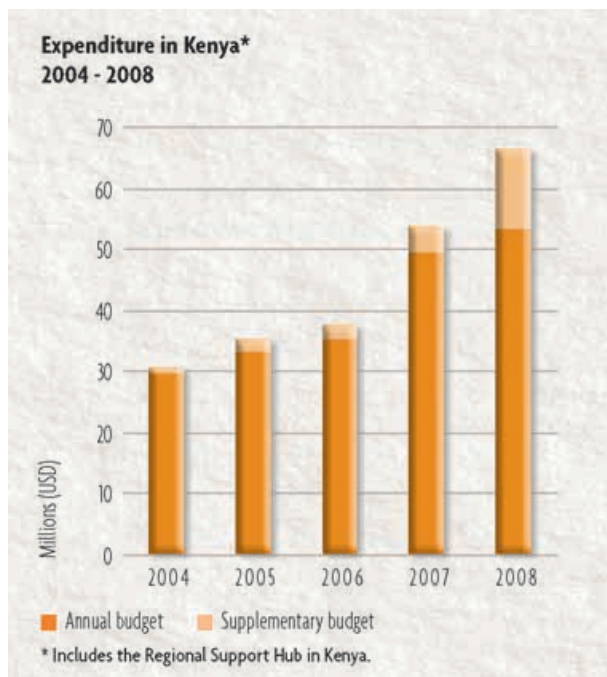
| **Working with others** |

UNHCR established close working relations with its government counterpart, the Refugee Affairs Department at the Ministry of Immigration and Registration of Persons. The Office also forged partnerships with ministries responsible for the environment, health and security.

| **Overall assessment** |

UNHCR's programme in Kenya expanded rapidly, mainly due to the increase in the number of Somali asylum-seekers and refugees in Dadaab; a cholera outbreak affecting both Kakuma and Dadaab camps; the establishment of the Department of Refugee Affairs within the Government of Kenya; and the mass voluntary repatriation of Sudanese refugees from Kakuma. In Kakuma, the deterioration of security required an increase in the presence of security personnel within the camp.

Relations with the host community in Dadaab in 2008 were tense, partly because UNHCR and partners were unable to meet host-community expectations and demands. UNHCR is planning host-community projects to improve the situation. Camp decongestion remains a major challenge for UNHCR, given the number of new arrivals in 2008. Efforts were made in 2008 to relocate refugees from Dadaab to Kakuma but the exercise proved expensive and its impact was limited. The only viable solution appears to be the development of two new camps.



Partners	
Implementing partners	
Government:	Department of Refugee Affairs
NGOs:	CARE Canada, Handicap International, International Rescue Committee, Kenya Red Cross Society, Lutheran World Federation, National Council of Churches of Kenya, Norwegian Refugee Council, Salesians of Don Bosco in Kenya, Save the Children Fund (UK)
Others:	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit
Operational partners	
Government:	Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Home Affairs (Children's Department), Ministry of Immigration and Registration of Persons
NGOs:	Film Aid International, Jesuit Refugee Services, Médecins Sans Frontières
Others:	IOM, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNOPS, UNV, WFP, WHO

Budget, income and expenditure in Kenya (USD)

	Final budget	Income from contributions	Other funds available	Total funds available ¹	Total expenditure
Annual budget	56,176,076	24,106,584	28,754,653	52,861,236	52,884,985
IDP operations in Kenya SB	17,992,716	8,731,808	75,384	8,807,193	7,318,173
Somalia Situation SB	3,770,500	2,482,023	(7,387)	2,474,636	2,395,491
Return and Reintegration of Sudanese Refugees and IDPs SB	3,406,333	65,219	2,146,419	2,211,638	2,205,636
Water and sanitation SB	1,522,387	389,447	792,233	1,181,681	1,181,681
Anaemia control and prevention SB	731,378	0	130,693	130,693	130,693
Supplementary budget subtotal	27,423,314	11,668,498	3,137,342	14,805,840	13,231,673
Total	83,599,390	35,775,082	31,891,994	67,667,076	66,116,658

Note: Supplementary programmes do not include seven per cent support costs that are recovered from contributions to meet indirect costs for UNHCR. Income from contributions includes contributions earmarked at the country level. Other funds available include transfers from unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions, opening balance and adjustments.

¹ Total funds available include currency adjustments.

Financial report for UNHCR's operations in Kenya (USD)

Expenditure breakdown	Current year's projects			Prior years' project
	Annual programme budget	Supplementary programme budget	Total	Annual and supplementary budgets
Protection, monitoring and coordination	11,585,286	1,749,796	13,335,082	0
Community services	1,087,524	3,751	1,091,275	599,465
Crop production	6,258	0	6,258	6,356
Domestic needs and household support	3,640,076	1,762,829	5,402,905	290,464
Education	1,737,338	57,095	1,794,433	913,345
Food	2,183,339	292,342	2,475,681	251,928
Forestry	217,541	35,333	252,874	68,354
Health and nutrition	3,513,027	355,566	3,868,593	1,820,344
Income generation	204	0	204	0
Legal assistance	1,559,375	647,960	2,207,335	475,876
Operational support (to agencies)	7,238,911	512,105	7,751,016	3,230,726
Sanitation	567,991	107,116	675,107	258,570
Shelter and infrastructure	765,125	1,747,148	2,512,273	98,359
Transport and logistics	1,818,830	1,367,358	3,186,188	1,130,009
Water	1,442,369	166,788	1,609,157	146,553
Instalments to implementing partners	6,304,840	4,070,577	10,375,417	(9,290,349)
Subtotal operational activities	43,668,034	12,875,764	56,543,798	0
Programme support	9,216,951	355,909	9,572,860	0
Total expenditure	52,884,985	13,231,673	66,116,658	0
Cancellation on prior years' expenditure				(1,104,121)
Instalments with implementing partners				
Payments made	17,166,006	5,717,688	22,883,694	
Reporting received	(10,861,166)	(1,647,111)	(12,508,277)	
Balance	6,304,840	4,070,577	10,375,417	
Outstanding 1st January				10,293,506
Reporting received				(9,290,349)
Refunded to UNHCR				(561,042)
Currency adjustment				204,053
Outstanding 31st December				646,168