

Kenya

Working environment

The context

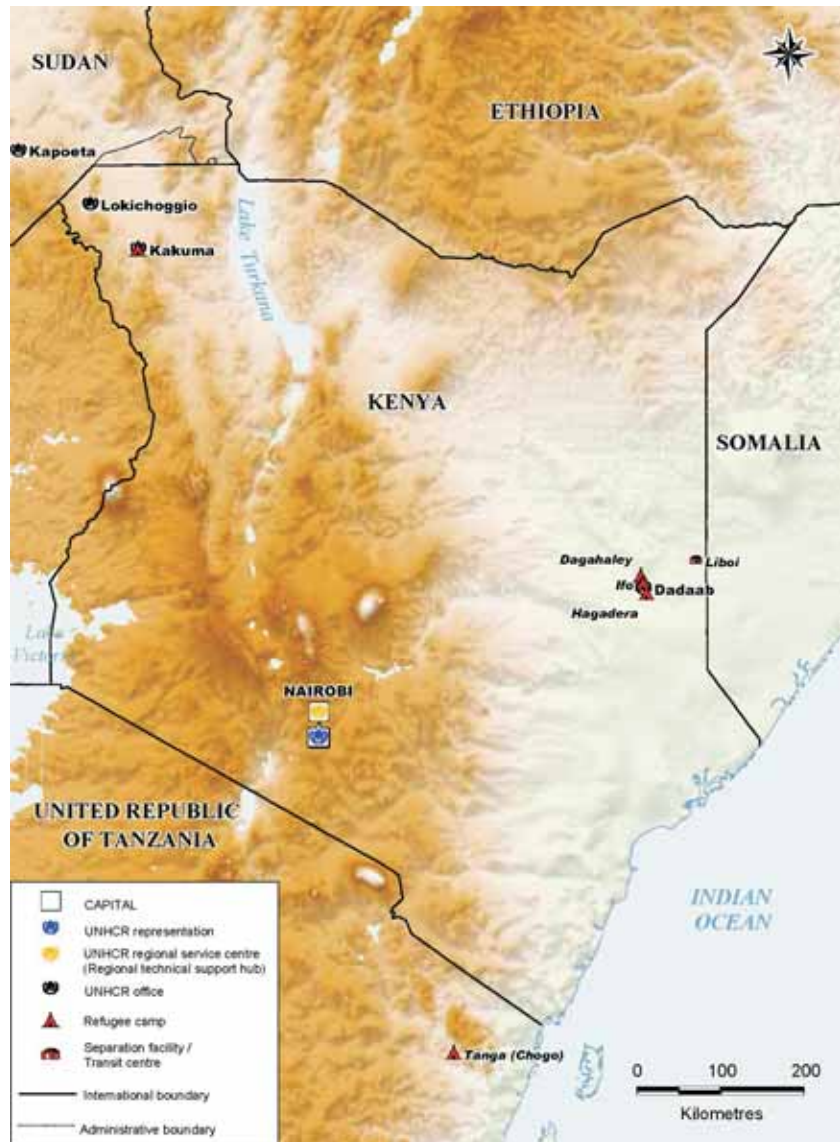
Important developments in Kenya in 2007 included the adoption of a Refugee Act, a large influx of Somali refugees fleeing renewed fighting in south and central Somalia, and the subsequent closure of the Kenya-Somalia border by the Kenyan authorities on security grounds. What impact general elections in late 2007 will have on the political climate in the country is uncertain.

With the enactment of the Refugee Act, the Government of Kenya will assume a more active role in refugee management, mainly in registration and status determination. Meanwhile, UNHCR will shift its focus from directly protecting and assisting refugees to a more advisory function. By 2010, UNHCR should be able to concentrate on strengthening government institutions and creating networks with non-governmental organizations and civil-society actors to see that all asylum-seekers and refugees have legal assistance. Although the Government of Kenya will eventually assume full management of the refugee camps in Dadaab and Kakuma, UNHCR will continue to assist NGOs working in the camps.

Despite the closure of the Kenya-Somalia border in January 2007, some 4,000 Somali refugees managed to cross into Dadaab between January and August 2007. This flow is likely to continue in 2008. Due to overcrowded conditions in the Dadaab camps, the Government has decided that all new Somali refugees arriving in Dadaab will be housed in camps in Kakuma. UNHCR and its partners will have to redouble their efforts to ensure the transfers are smooth.

The needs

In 2008 and 2009, UNHCR's Kenya programme will need additional resources to address chronic gaps in emergency and shelter assistance to accommodate new arrivals—mostly from Somalia; combat malnutrition; and address sexual and gender-based violence. Funds



are also required to train government officials in protection and refugee status determination.

Requirements of new Somali asylum seekers in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya and Yemen, and new Somali IDPs in Somalia, are covered through the Somalia Situation Supplementary Programme. Total requirements for Kenya in 2008 are USD 3.5 million and total budget for Somalia Situation Supplementary Appeal from July 2007 to December 2008 is USD 47.8.

Total requirements

2008: USD 44,996,797

2009: USD 49,153,958

(Annual programme and the supplementary programme for the Somalia situation only. The financial requirements for the supplementary programme for the repatriation to Southern Sudan are being finalized.)



UNHCR/A. Webster

Sewing classes at the LFW/UNHCR Training Center.

Main objectives

In Kenya, UNHCR will pursue durable solutions for refugees through:

- A three-pronged approach to large-scale voluntary repatriation, including organized repatriation, facilitated self-assisted returns and spontaneous returns.
- Limited and targeted returns to Somalia and the Great Lakes region.
- Resettlement of individuals and groups with specific protection needs.

In addition, the office will:

- Support self-reliance to strengthen livelihoods for women and youth, build skills, and prepare refugees for repatriation and reintegration.
- Consolidate infrastructure and services in the Kakuma camps following the voluntary repatriation of Sudanese refugees, while bearing in mind the additional needs produced by the transfer of Somali refugees from the overcrowded Dadaab camps to Kakuma.
- Help the national authorities build their capacity to manage asylum-seekers and refugees.

- Strengthen partnerships with the Government, implementing partners, donors and other UN agencies.

Key Targets for 2008 and 2009

- UNHCR assistance allows the Government of Kenya to implement the Refugee Act effectively. The process will start in 2008 and be completed by the end of 2009.
- New arrivals are screened and registered within two weeks of arrival.
- In 2008, the refugee status determination processing period will be reduced from six to three months.
- Refugees have access to justice through mobile courts.
- Camp-based refugees receive 2,100 kcal of food per day in 2008 and 2009.
- In 2008, the global acute malnutrition rate among Somali refugees in Dadaab is reduced from 22 per cent to 12 per cent; among Sudanese refugees in Kakuma the rate is reduced from 15.9 per cent to 8 per cent. 2009 sees further improvement in nutrition of refugees.
- All young refugees and high-risk groups receive information on the prevention and treatment of HIV and AIDS.
- In 2008, girls' school enrolment and attendance rates are increased from 30 per cent to 50 per cent, rising to 70 per cent in 2009.
- In 2008, all refugees registering for voluntary repatriation receive enough information to make informed decisions on return. Residual refugee populations in Kakuma receive enough information prior to repatriation to Southern Sudan in 2009.

Planning figures

Type of population	Origin	Jan 2008		Dec 2008		Dec 2009	
		Total in country	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Total in country	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Total in country	Of whom assisted by UNHCR
Refugees	Somalia	197,570	197,570	204,570	204,570	201,570	201,570
	Sudan	50,130	50,130	30,130	30,130	9,430	9,430
	Ethiopia	16,040	16,040	16,040	16,040	15,920	15,920
	Various	9,660	9,660	9,810	9,810	9,950	9,950
Asylum-seekers	Ethiopia	2,000	2,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	Somalia	2,000	2,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	Various	400	400	500	500	500	500
Stateless Persons		100,000	100,000	80,000	80,000	60,000	60,000
Total		377,800	377,800	343,410	343,410	299,370	299,370

Strategy and activities

Somali Refugees

There was a significant increase in the Somali refugee population in Dadaab in 2006 and the beginning of 2007, after some 40,000 people fled clashes between troops of the Transitional Federal Government and the Islamic Courts Union. As of August 2007, three camps in Dadaab were host to a total of some 177,000 refugees, mainly from south and central Somalia. Given the situation in Somalia — and the extremely limited options for voluntary repatriation or local integration of Somalis in Kenya — the search for durable solutions in 2008 and 2009 will focus on resettlement.

Sudanese Refugees

It is estimated that up to 20,000 Sudanese refugees will repatriate voluntarily in 2008, and that another 20,000 will do so in 2009. The camp population in Kakuma is the main target of the voluntary repatriation programme, but Sudanese refugees in camps in Nairobi and Dadaab will also be helped to repatriate. It is assumed that most of these latter refugees will also be willing to repatriate in 2008 and 2009. The international community, in its efforts to restore stability and rehabilitate basic infrastructure in Southern Sudan, is expected to support the refugees' return.

Urban Refugees

UNHCR Kenya will protect refugees and asylum-seekers of other nationalities in the country, mainly from Ethiopia, the Great Lakes and Uganda. Protection networks with NGOs will improve legal assistance for this group. Community groups will be helped to raise awareness of sexual and gender-based violence, increase school enrolment and enhance child protection. As the Government takes on a bigger refugee protection role, UNHCR will work closely with the national authorities to make it easier for refugees to gain work permits and use public services for health care and education.

Statelessness

The Nubian descendants of Sudanese forcibly conscripted into the British colonial King's African Rifles Army in the early 1900s are a minority group in Kenya and are especially vulnerable as many of them do not enjoy an effective citizenship. They may number as many as 100,000 people and live scattered over a number of primarily urban areas, especially the Kibera area of Nairobi. Further to the Executive Committee Conclusion on identification, prevention and reduction of statelessness and protection of stateless persons, UNHCR will take steps to sensitize the Kenyan Government to the difficult situation of some segments of the Nubian population and seek to contribute to the improvement of their legal status.

Constraints

The volatile security situation in the Somali capital, Mogadishu, and sporadic violence in most of south and central Somalia makes it unlikely that many Somalis will be able to repatriate. The transitional government, which was reinstalled in Mogadishu after the ousting of the Islamic Courts' militias in early 2007, lacks the authority to restore social and economic stability. The prevailing unrest, combined with the almost total destruction of basic infrastructure, will prevent large-scale returns of Somalis in 2008. In 2009, it is expected that no more than 5,000 Somalis will return home.

With illiteracy and certain traditional practices exposing the refugee population to health risks, campaigns to prevent contagious diseases and HIV and AIDS are necessary.

Organization and implementation

Management structure

	2008	2009
Number of offices	4	4
Total staff	240	240
International	31	31
National	195	195
JPOs	4	4
UNVs	10	10

Coordination

UNHCR will work with the Government of Kenya to protect and assist refugees and asylum-seekers. It will offer training and technical advice to the Department of Refugee Affairs, the police, the judiciary and local immigration officials involved in refugee affairs.

In 2007, following the expansion of UNHCR's programme in Dadaab, office structures and implementation strategy were reviewed in a bid to improve emergency responses. New NGOs that were brought into the programme as a result will continue their services in 2008.

UNHCR forms part of the UN Country Team in Kenya and participates in joint planning and fund-raising activities. The Office's longstanding partnerships with WFP, UNICEF and UNFPA have been strengthened by the joint responses to the Dadaab emergencies in 2006 and 2007. UNHCR continues to maintain ties with UNOPS to fill key human resource gaps.

Partners

Implementing partners

Government agencies: Department of Refugee Affairs.

NGOs: CARE Canada, Film Aid International, Handicap International, International Rescue Committee, Kenya Red Cross Society, Lutheran World Federation, National Council of Churches of Kenya, Norwegian Refugee Council, Save the Children Fund.

Others: *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit*, IOM, UNOPS.

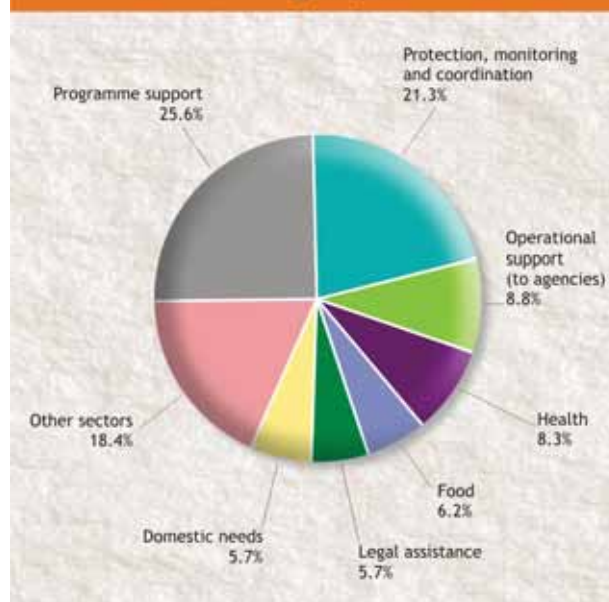
Operational partners

Government agencies: Ministry of Immigration and Registration of Persons, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Home Affairs.

NGOs: Action Against Hunger, Jesuit Refugee Services, *Médecins Sans Frontières*, Salesians of Don Bosco in Kenya.

Others: UNFPA, UNICEF, UNV, WFP, WHO.

2008-2009 Total budget by sector



Budget (USD)

Activities and services	2007			2008			2009
	Annual Programme Budget	Supp. Programme Budget	Total	Annual Programme Budget	Supp. Programme Budget	Total	Annual Programme Budget
Protection, monitoring and coordination	8,143,030	319,651	8,462,681	9,266,835	111,500	9,378,335	10,711,717
Community services	775,739	37,818	813,557	1,415,691	143,000	1,558,691	1,390,235
Crop production	0	0	0	6,864	20,000	26,864	5,070
Domestic needs	1,064,050	227,928	1,291,978	2,518,429	432,000	2,950,429	2,382,491
Education	2,038,276	0	2,038,276	2,173,400	266,000	2,439,400	2,045,761
Food	884,856	166,301	1,051,157	2,798,465	284,000	3,082,465	2,771,080
Forestry	127,755	0	127,755	274,713	0	274,713	273,660
Health	3,130,592	92,705	3,223,297	3,264,754	597,000	3,861,754	3,977,787
Income generation	16,106	0	16,106	27,170	0	27,170	35,720
Legal assistance	1,276,391	360,000	1,636,391	2,683,250	148,000	2,831,250	2,523,509
Operational support (to agencies)	3,934,881	602,400	4,537,281	4,084,403	347,000	4,431,403	3,886,537
Sanitation	336,250	173,031	509,281	707,672	169,000	876,672	678,374
Shelter and other infrastructure	294,799	676,423	971,222	1,105,818	350,000	1,455,818	1,043,424
Transport and logistics	1,000,638	2,935,000	3,935,638	1,158,032	343,000	1,501,032	979,134
Water	762,783	50,640	813,423	1,235,077	306,000	1,541,077	1,143,819
Total operations	23,786,146	5,641,897	29,428,043	32,720,574	3,516,500	36,237,074	33,848,317
Programme support ¹	8,552,620	318,657	8,871,277	8,759,723	0	8,759,723	15,305,642
Total	32,338,766	5,960,554	38,299,320	41,480,297	3,516,500	44,996,797	49,153,958

¹ Includes the Regional Support Hub in Nairobi.

Note: The Supplementary Programme Budget excludes a 7 per cent support cost that is recovered from contributions to meet indirect costs for UNHCR.