

Kenya



- The security situation in and around the refugee camps improved as a result of continued communication with host communities, refugees, district authorities and police forces and regular use of mobile courts. Government involvement increased at camp level.
- Over 400 refugees were repatriated to Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan, Rwanda, Uganda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). In order to support repatriation to South Sudan, a teacher-training college was established in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, and 300 trainees enrolled with the aim of returning to work in South Sudan after graduation.
- Over 4,600 refugees were resettled in 2005, a significant increase over 2004.
- Partnerships with different entities and government counterparts resulted in improved training for refugees, timely responses to floods and outbreaks of cholera and malaria in mid-2005, greater support for girls' education and increased numbers of refugee children benefiting from corrective surgery.
- Partnership with the ILO resulted in a set of longer-term projects to improve vocational training and education in Kakuma and Dadaab camps.

Main objectives

UNHCR's objectives in Kenya included ensuring protection and assistance of all asylum-seekers and refugees; actively promoting and facilitating the voluntary, safe and dignified repatriation of refugees while pursuing other durable solutions; and strengthening the partnerships linking UNHCR, other organizations and the Government of Kenya.

Impact

- Some 251,000 refugees enjoyed asylum in Kenya, though it was not always possible to ensure minimum standards of protection and assistance due to budgetary constraints.

Working environment

The context

Kenya hosted roughly 251,000 refugees in three locations: Dadaab camp, Kakuma camp and Nairobi. The beneficiary population comprised primarily Somalis, Sudanese and Ethiopians, as well as refugees from Burundi, DRC, Eritrea, Rwanda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda.

Unfortunately, the national Refugee Bill was not enacted in 2005. This meant that the country still lacked an appropriate legal framework for asylum-seekers and refugees, who continued to be treated in accordance with the Aliens Act. In 2005, the National Refugee Secretariat

was transferred from the Ministry of Home Affairs to the newly-created Ministry for Immigration and Registration of Persons; however, at the end of the year it remained a small unit with limited operational capacity. In sum, refugee protection and management continued to take place in the absence of a suitable legal or administrative environment, and UNHCR continued to carry out most refugee-related activities. The Minister of Immigration and Registration of Persons imposed a June 2005 deadline for registration of all immigrants and asylum-seekers, but failed to put in place any mechanism for such registration. This caused a sense of panic within refugee communities in Nairobi as thousands of people sought to register at UNHCR.

Constraints

The refugee camps are located in semi-arid areas with harsh climatic conditions and extremely scarce resources; the Turkana and Garissa Districts are also susceptible to natural calamities. Limited water and

grazing pastures in the northern parts of Kenya resulted in conflict over resources not only with the local community, but also within the refugee population. Torrential rains caused flooding in both Dadaab and Kakuma, which damaged infrastructure and led to outbreaks of cholera, malaria and dysentery. Lack of rain at the end of the year resulted in serious drought, affecting not only refugees but the whole subregion.

Due to budgetary constraints, minimum standards of protection and assistance in Kenya were not reached in 2005. Assistance fell short of minimal standards for nutrition, shelter and water.

The socio-economic situation of refugees was extremely fragile, with few durable solutions in sight for the majority of the population. Although the Government of Kenya does not enforce the encampment policy vigorously, refugees countrywide commonly experience arrest and harassment for lack of documentation, particularly in Nairobi. The encampment policy does not allow for

Persons of concern					
Type of population	Origin	Total in country	Of whom UNHCR assisted	Per cent female	Per cent under 18
Refugees	Somalia	150,500	150,500	49	47
	Sudan	76,600	76,600	40	50
	Ethiopia	14,900	14,900	32	22
	Uganda	2,800	2,800	41	43
	Rwanda	2,400	2,400	59	36
	DRC	2,300	2,300	42	23
	Burundi	1,200	1,200	51	29
	Eritrea	600	600	33	14
Asylum-seekers	Somalia	12,500	12,500	41	48
	Ethiopia	2,600	2,600	29	31
	Uganda	500	500	44	46
	DRC	400	400	32	40
	Rwanda	200	200	51	41

Budget, income and expenditure (USD) Annual and supplementary programme budgets					
	Final budget	Income from contributions ¹	Other funds available ²	Total funds available	Total expenditure
Annual programme	33,503,864	8,778,803	24,402,097	33,180,900	33,180,900
Supplementary programme ³	4,240,224	0	2,213,916	2,213,916	2,213,916
Total	37,744,088	8,778,803	26,616,013	35,394,816	35,394,816

¹ Includes income from contributions earmarked at the country level.

² Includes allocations by UNHCR from unearmarked or broadly earmarked contributions, opening balance and adjustments.

³ The supplementary programme figures apply to the Supplementary Appeal for Repatriation and Reintegration of Sudanese Refugees to South Sudan.

Note: The supplementary programme budget does not include a 7 per cent support cost that is recovered from contributions to meet indirect costs for UNHCR. The figures include budget and expenditure for the Regional Support Hub in Nairobi.

gainful employment or equal access to services such as education and health care, though small-scale economic activities in the camps are tolerated. Unable to access wider markets, most refugees attempting to offer goods and services find that the purchasing power of their fellow refugees is insufficient to generate a livelihood. Most refugees in the camps therefore rely on humanitarian assistance.

Delivery of relief items was one of the main challenges in Dadaab because of the poor condition of the Garissa-Dadaab road. Likewise, heavy rains and floods caused delays in food deliveries by WFP, resulting in food shortages.

A recurring challenge, which fuelled insecurity in the camps, was competition over resources, in particular in Kakuma between the host Turkana community and Sudanese refugees.

Funding

In 2005, global budgetary cuts affected the provision of basic items to refugees, particularly firewood and soap. In Dadaab, shelter construction was reduced to some 1,800 units, from an initial plan of 3,000 units; in Kakuma, only 370 of 1,600 planned shelter units were constructed.

UNHCR was only able to distribute complementary food to the refugees in Kakuma for a limited period, whilst in Dadaab none was distributed. Anaemia and malnutrition levels remained high.

Achievements and impact

Protection and solutions

An eight-month verification exercise was successfully completed in Dadaab. At the end of the exercise in November, the population of registered refugees was reduced from 141,000 to just under 128,000.

In 2005, 270 more refugees repatriated from Kenya than during 2004, when only 165 returned home. Ninety-one refugees repatriated to Somalia and 141 to Ethiopia, all from Dadaab. The repatriations from Dadaab to Somalia were the first in two years. The repatriation on 17 December from Kakuma of 131 Southern Sudanese was the first organized return of refugees to South Sudan since the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in January.

Resettlement requests for over 4,600 refugees were submitted to the United States, Australia and Canada.

In Dadaab, some 5,500 disabled refugees and survivors of violence were screened for possible resettlement in 2006.

Activities and assistance

Community services: All refugee committees had 50 per cent female representation. In Dadaab, the "Together for Girls" project provided uniforms, school bags and sanitary materials as incentives for refugee girls to attend school. Community development workers actively participated in conflict resolution among refugees and the identification of refugees with special needs. Over 23,700 such individuals were identified in 2005, 54 per cent of whom were in need of shelter. Some 400 orphans and unaccompanied minors were given non-food items and shelter materials.

For the refugees in urban centres, community outreach was strengthened through the Nairobi Initiative, which brought together agencies and community-based organizations to discuss protection and assistance for urban refugees. In September, these agencies were also involved in the participatory assessment, with the urban refugees, to find solutions to the protection risks they faced. This involved the establishment of five working groups to address women-at-risk issues, education, livelihoods, health and legal assistance and other matters of concern. As a result of this initiative, inter-agency cooperation in Nairobi was considerably strengthened. Community services counselled and referred over 1,900 refugees and asylum-seekers and carried out 187 home visits, in particular to assess the living conditions of unaccompanied minors. Thirty of them were transferred to camps for foster care and seven were placed in children's homes in Nairobi. Urban refugees also benefited from psychosocial counselling and other services, including the improved living conditions of unaccompanied minors and family tracing.

Crop production: The combined efforts of WFP and UNHCR resulted in the creation of some 20,000 kitchen gardens in Kakuma and multi-storey gardens in Dadaab.

Domestic needs and household support: Non-food items were distributed only to new arrivals and refugees at risk. In urban centres, 820 refugees were admitted to an accommodation centre, following referral by the medical unit and UNHCR's protection and community services unit. All women of child-bearing age admitted to the accommodation centre received monthly supplies of sanitary items. An informal school for children was inaugurated. The school provided recreational activities and thus contributed to a reduction in disciplinary problems. Donations of second-hand clothing were distributed to residents when available. Over 500 refugees (more than half of them female) received financial assistance to help

them secure accommodation and meet other basic needs.

Education: In Dadaab, of some 45,700 school-age children, 66 per cent were enrolled in 17 primary schools. Girls accounted for 37.5 per cent of those enrolled. Only 25 per cent of students progressed to secondary school, of which 16 per cent were girls. In Kakuma, 63 per cent of school-age children were enrolled in primary schools, and girls' enrolment in primary school increased. However, there was unfortunately a marked decline in the attendance of slightly older and teenage girls, as a result of cultural pressures, frequently involving early marriage and pregnancy. Free school places were also offered to some children from the host community. In Nairobi and other urban centres, 118 students (34 female) were admitted to Kenyan universities; they were required to pay fees that were 25 per cent higher than those for Kenyan nationals.

Food: An average of 2,005 kcal per person per day was provided in Dadaab, while refugees in Kakuma received an average of 2,047 kcal per person per day. In Dadaab, some 8,000 severely malnourished refugee children benefited from a targeted supplementary and therapeutic feeding programme.

Forestry: One hundred and fifty hectares of new greenbelts were established in the two camps. Nearly 3,000 energy-saving stoves were manufactured and distributed in Kakuma.

Health and nutrition: A special campaign of expanded primary immunization attained 90 per cent coverage of all children below the age of five. Comprehensive HIV/AIDS services were provided and antiretroviral treatment was introduced in the refugee programme for the first time in both camps. Voluntary consultation and testing centres operated smoothly, with over 800 patients tested. While most of the patients were treated in the health facilities in camps, more than 1,200 were referred to specialist hospitals in neighbouring districts and in Nairobi. Despite poor staffing levels, the health outreach teams managed to control two outbreaks of cholera and malaria.

In urban centres, over 8,500 consultations were provided by an implementing partner. Treatment was given for upper respiratory tract infections, diarrhoea, skin diseases and gynaecological conditions. For more complicated cases, patients were referred to hospitals. Collaboration with the Ministry of Health was strengthened, as findings from the participatory assessment



In Kakuma camp, refugees are trained in a wide range of professions, including as electricians. UNHCR / E. Nyabera

emphasized the need for outreach medical services for specific individuals at risk, such as single women and unaccompanied minors. Negotiations with the Ministry resulted in combined efforts to establish a clinic in the Eastleigh Estate in Nairobi, where many Somali and Ethiopian refugees live.

Income generation: In Kakuma, microfinance projects assisted 119 groups (46 per cent of them female groups) to start small-scale enterprises. Interest rates were reduced, thereby improving repayment of loans. In Dadaab over 1,500 women benefited from income-generation activities. Although some refugees did find employment in the formal sector in Nairobi, the majority of refugees worked in the informal sector.

Legal assistance: In June, the Office was overwhelmed by an influx of 10,000 asylum-seekers consisting mainly of young Ethiopian men. This followed a government directive that all foreigners had to register in Kenya in order not to incur penalties on account of illegal entry or stay. Over 2,900 asylum-seekers were registered to undergo refugee status determination. About half of them were pre-registered in Nairobi and issued with documentation to facilitate their travel to the camps to pursue eligibility procedures. In addition, profiling undertaken in Kakuma and Dadaab resulted in the identification of 299 unaccompanied minors and will assist in identifying other vulnerabilities in the future.

Livestock: Cattle crushes, dips and water points were constructed for the local community. Veterinary services were also provided for their livestock.

Operational support (to agencies): UNHCR covered some of its partners' administrative costs, which resulted in a more effective management of the refugee

programme. The Office also supported missions to the camps, in particular Kakuma, by donors, government representatives, researchers, organizations and other individuals. Monthly coordination meetings, workshops, needs assessment missions and training were facilitated.

Sanitation: Over 2,500 family latrines were constructed and more than 1,500 rehabilitated in the camps, while 170 new latrines were built in schools, clinics and social centres with a special emphasis on the provision of services to female refugees.

Shelter and infrastructure: Over 2,100 family shelters were constructed in Kakuma and Dadaab.

Transport and logistics: In the urban centres, over 1,100 refugees were given transport assistance. The majority were recognized Somali and Ethiopian refugees referred from Dadaab to Nairobi for medical treatment.

Water: An average of 15 litres per day per refugee was distributed. The water taps, generally located no further than 500 metres from living quarters, were managed by the refugees themselves. Some 40 per cent of the water distribution committee members were refugee women.

Organization and implementation

Management

UNHCR maintained a representation in Nairobi and two offices in Dadaab and Kakuma. These offices had a total of 184 staff (36 international and 131 national staff and 17 UNVs).

Working with others

During 2005, UNHCR monitored and coordinated the activities of 12 implementing partners in the three locations, and some two dozen operational partners (mostly in Nairobi). The Office also participated actively in the United Nations Kenya Coordination Committee and collaborated closely with the National Refugee Secretariat and provincial and district authorities.

Overall assessment

UNHCR made some progress towards the delivery of its core mandate of some protection and assistance through its programmes. Still, a chronic shortage of funds obstructed the Office's efforts to meet basic standards of protection and assistance. With the launching of the age, gender and diversity mainstreaming strategy and the participatory assessment, the programme began to take better care of people with serious protection challenges, such as minority groups, single parents, youth and those with disabilities. With notable improvements in overall security, Kakuma and Dadaab became more stable environments for the delivery of protection and services.

Offices

Nairobi
Dadaab
Kakuma

Partners

Government agencies

Ministry of Education
Ministry of Health
Ministry of Home Affairs, Children's Department
Ministry of Immigration and Registration of Persons and Refugee Affairs, and the National Refugee Secretariat within the Ministry

NGOs

African Refugee Training and Employment Services
CARE International in Kenya
Don Bosco
Film Aid International
Handicap International
International Rescue Committee
Lutheran World Federation
Windle Trust Kenya

Others

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit
National Council of Churches of Kenya
IOM
WFP

Financial Report (USD)¹

Expenditure breakdown	Current year's projects			Prior years' projects
	Annual programme budget	Supplementary programme budget	Total	Annual and supplementary programme budgets
Protection, monitoring and coordination	6,488,730	227,710	6,716,440	0
Community services	503,155	65,480	568,635	247,762
Crop production	78,556	0	78,556	(3,152)
Domestic needs and household support	1,214,168	140,497	1,354,665	239,084
Education	1,961,902	149,234	2,111,136	746,199
Food	185,024	5,648	190,672	18,848
Forestry	480,326	0	480,326	130,403
Health and nutrition	2,872,081	47,906	2,919,987	868,957
Income generation	36,334	0	36,334	12,444
Legal assistance	1,506,420	176,978	1,683,398	9,463
Livestock	5,974	0	5,974	(8,638)
Operational support (to agencies)	3,123,793	63,872	3,187,665	1,241,865
Sanitation	400,221	68	400,289	91,006
Shelter and infrastructure	996,235	144,285	1,140,520	139,088
Transport and logistics	1,122,735	623,681	1,746,416	147,463
Water	946,830	0	946,830	84,668
Instalments with implementing partners	3,675,938	312,691	3,988,629	(3,965,460)
Sub-total operational activities	25,598,422	1,958,050	27,556,472	0
Programme support	7,582,477	255,866	7,838,343	0
Total expenditure	33,180,899	2,213,916	35,394,815	0
Cancellation on prior years' expenditure				(305,131)
Instalments with implementing partners				
Payments made	13,250,902	446,019	13,696,921	
Reporting received	(9,574,964)	(133,329)	(9,708,293)	
Balance	3,675,938	312,690	3,988,628	
Prior years' report				
Instalments with implementing partners				
Outstanding 1 January				4,225,763
Reporting received				(3,965,460)
Refunded to UNHCR				(72,411)
Adjustments				(71,759)
Balance				116,133

¹ Includes expenditure of USD 4,336,991 for the Regional Support Hub in Kenya.