

Kenya in short



Main Objectives

- Promote the voluntary repatriation of Somali refugees to north-west Somalia.
- Provide protection, including physical security, and assistance for refugees in Dadaab and Kakuma camps.
- Facilitate resettlement to third countries for those refugees who are eligible, particularly the most vulnerable, including women at risk.
- Protect and assist refugees in urban areas and needy asylum-seekers awaiting a decision on their status.

WORKING ENVIRONMENT

Recent Developments

During the course of 2000, some 13,000 refugees arrived in Kenya as a result of persistent strife in neighbouring countries. Increasing insecurity in Sudan's East Equatoria drove some 10,000 Sudanese refugees to Lokichokio in north-western Kenya. Meanwhile, some 1,065 Somali, 101 Ugandan and seven Ethiopian refugees repatriated voluntarily to their countries of origin. By year's end there were some 203,500 refugees in Kenya: 135,600 from Somalia, 54,600 from Sudan and the remainder from Ethiopia, Uganda, and other countries, such as Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda.

Although the Government of Kenya has yet to enact national refugee legislation, Somalis and Sudanese are granted *prima facie* refugee status. For all other nationalities, asylum claims are examined individually. Once status is determined, the refugees are transferred to the camps. The refugees are living mainly in two areas: Dadaab in Garissa district (north-eastern Kenya), about 100 kilometres from the Somali border; and Kakuma, in Turkana district (north-western Kenya), some 130 kilometres from the border with Sudan. For security reasons, including the need to separate rival groups, both camps host refugees of different nationalities. The refugee groups receive the same assistance, but different protection strategies are applied. Some 8,400 refugees reside in urban

PLANNING FIGURES

Population	Jan. 2001	Dec. 2001
Somali Refugees ¹	135,600	117,600
Sudanese Refugees ²	54,600	64,600
Ethiopian Refugees	4,000	4,000
Ugandan Refugees	5,800	5,800
Other Refugees	3,500	2,100
Total	203,500	194,100

¹ UNHCR expects that some 8,000 Somali refugees will repatriate in 2001, while up to 10,000 will be resettled in third countries.

² It is anticipated that an estimated 15,000 Sudanese will arrive in 2001, while some 5,000 will be resettled in third countries.

TOTAL REQUIREMENTS • USD 29,674,910



areas in various parts of Kenya and are granted refugee status by the Government.

During 2000, the overall security situation in Kenya deteriorated. Inter-clan and inter-tribal fighting increased in the Rift Valley, north-eastern and eastern provinces. Security in and around the camps also deteriorated, particularly in the Kakuma area along the road between Kakuma and Lokichokio, and Kakuma and Kitale. Tensions mounted between the Turkana and the Sudanese along the Sudan-Kenya border as well as between the Kenya-Somali sub-clans in the Dadaab area.

Constraints

The semi-arid environment around the camps – populated by pastoral nomads with whom refugees have to share the meagre natural resources available – offers limited opportunities for achieving self-sufficiency. Refugees have livestock, for which they need water and grazing land. The local communities are opposed to the presence of refugees' livestock. The harvesting of firewood is another source of conflict, as firewood has been depleted up to a radius of five kilometres around the camps. Refugees have limited access to markets to trade their goods and virtually no access to paid employment. For these reasons, they remain heavily dependent on international assistance.

The area around Dadaab is plagued by inter-clan clashes, cattle rustling and robberies. In Kakuma, hostility within and

among the various refugee groups remains the primary source of insecurity. A chronic problem is the incidence of rape and gender-based violence against refugee women while they collect firewood. Armed attacks along the Sudanese and Somali borders heighten insecurity in and around the refugee camps.

In 2000, financial constraints resulted in a number of needs going unmet, including: replacement of non-food items, especially plastic sheeting; support for the Kenyan police in Dadaab and Kakuma to ensure security in the camps; expansion of the Kakuma camp to accommodate new arrivals; and educational, vocational and income-generating activities.

STRATEGY

Protection and Solutions

Kenya has acceded to the 1951 Convention and its 1967 Protocol and the 1969 OAU Convention. In 2001, UNHCR will continue to pursue the enactment of national refugee legislation. In the absence of a refugee status determination procedure, the Office will continue to process asylum claims through its own eligibility centre established in 1999. UNHCR will be actively involved in advocacy and promotion of refugee law and capacity-building of the relevant institutions. At the camp level, UNHCR will conduct workshops for refugees and implementing partner staff on refugees' rights, in particular women's and children's rights.

UNHCR will promote the voluntary repatriation of Somali refugees to north-west Somalia, as well as resettlement. It is expected that in 2001 about 8,000 Somalis will repatriate, while 10,000 Somalis of Bantu origin will be resettled in third countries. In view of the ongoing conflict in Sudan, large-scale voluntary repatriation of Sudanese refugees is not envisaged for the time being. UNHCR will continue to seek durable solutions for this group, including resettlement. It is anticipated that some 15,000 Sudanese refugees will arrive in 2001, while 5,000 will be resettled in third countries. UNHCR will continue to encourage the authorities to regularise the status of pre-1991 Ethiopian refugees wishing to remain in Kenya. Furthermore, UNHCR will identify resettlement opportunities for refugees who are in immediate danger, such as women at risk.

UNHCR will continue to support the Government of Kenya in providing security in and around the refugee camps. More police officers, including policewomen, will be deployed to safeguard the physical safety and security not only of the refugees, but also of UNHCR and implementing partner staff. UNHCR will provide the Kenyan police with improved communications equipment, vehicles and bullet-proof vests. The Office will continue to provide support for the magistrates in Garissa district and a mobile court will be established in Kakuma. A Kenyan female lawyer will work in both the Dadaab and Kakuma camps to ensure that victims of sexual and gender-based violence have immediate access to legal advice and support and that investigations are carried out promptly.

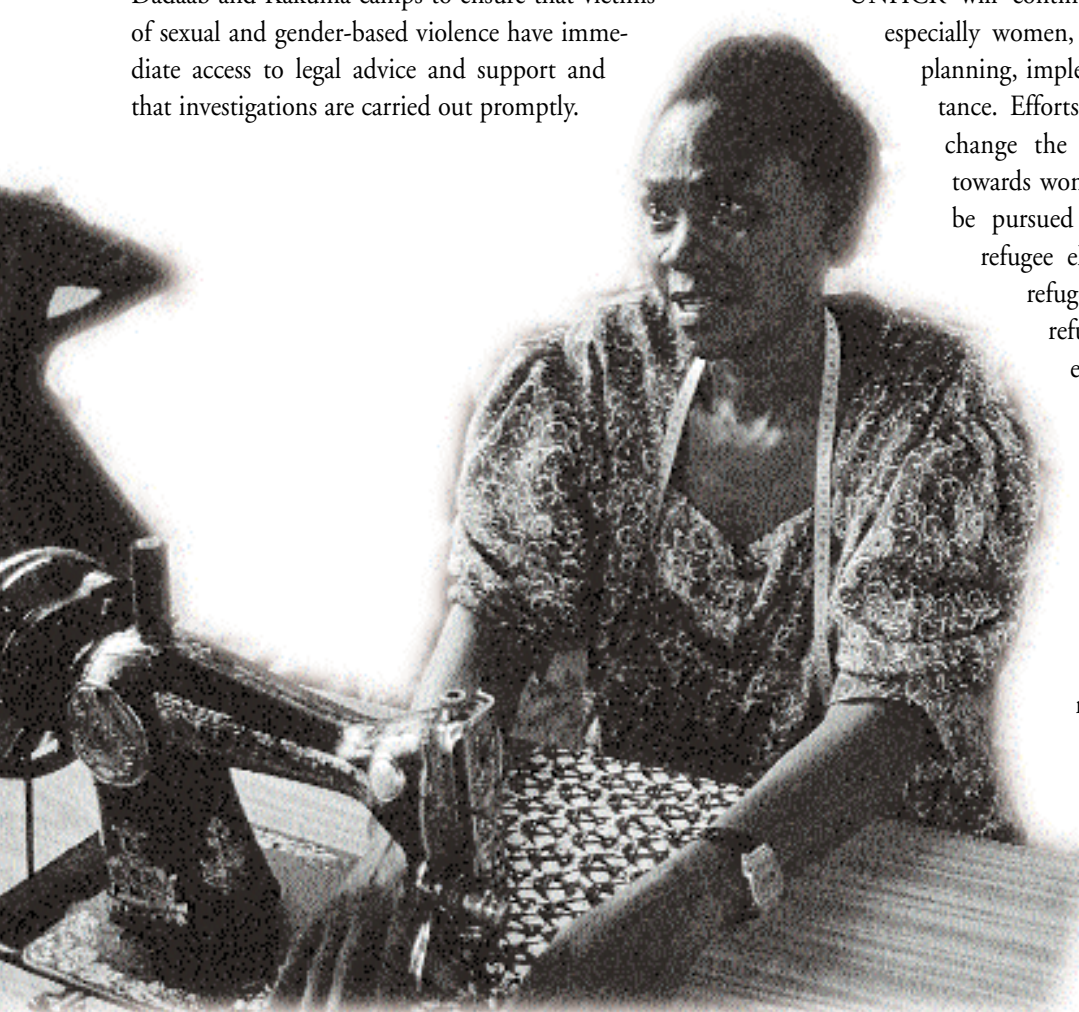
Assistance

In view of the limited opportunities for local integration, UNHCR will continue to ensure that food and basic household items are regularly provided to the refugees and that an acceptable level of nutrition is maintained in the camps. Greater efforts will be made to identify opportunities for self-sufficiency. Limited small-scale or backyard vegetable gardening will be encouraged. UNHCR will also continue to maintain the existing water supply systems to provide safe drinking water (15 to 20 litres per person per day). The Office will encourage community participation to maintain latrines and ensure that sanitation is satisfactory. Refugees will continue to receive adequate preventive and curative health services, as well as reproductive health services.

Refugees will also continue to have access to education and particular efforts will be made to increase the enrolment rate of girls. To prevent idleness amongst adolescents, secondary education and vocational training will be expanded. Further efforts will be made to incorporate peace education and environmental awareness into the standard curriculum. Skills development and income-generating activities will continue to offer refugees a measure of self-reliance.

UNHCR will continue to actively encourage refugees, especially women, to participate in decision-making, planning, implementation and monitoring of assistance. Efforts will also continue to be made to change the male refugees' negative attitudes towards women. Gender-sensitive strategies will be pursued with vigour, such as persuading refugee elders to support the candidacy of refugee women who aspire to run for refugee leadership positions. Further efforts will be made to combat sexual and gender-based violence in and around the refugee camps. Refugee households will be supplied with adequate quantities of firewood and cooking fuel so that refugee women do not have to resort to collecting firewood away from the camps. This will also mitigate environmental damage. UNHCR will continue to provide support to the Kenyan police to improve security.

Access roads to the camps will be maintained and rehabilitated where necessary to ensure smooth delivery of assistance.



To mitigate environmental degradation, refugees will be encouraged to use sun-dried mud bricks for construction of shelter. Tree seedlings will be provided to both refugees and local communities for rehabilitation of the environment.

UNHCR will continue to provide material assistance to urban refugees, the majority of whom are in Nairobi, as well as to needy asylum-seekers awaiting status determination. This will include subsistence allowances and medical and legal services. The Office will provide access to education at all levels. UNHCR will strive to phase out assistance and help the refugees attain self-sufficiency through counselling services and employment advice.

Desired Impact

Pending durable solutions, UNHCR will ensure safe asylum for the refugees in Kenya by safeguarding their legal protection and physical security, and providing an adequate level of assistance. UNHCR's advocacy and promotion activities will secure a better and wider understanding of UNHCR's protection mandate and encourage the Kenyan authorities to adhere to international protection principles. UNHCR's assistance to the authorities will improve the safety and security of refugees in Kenya, in particular of women. UNHCR's programmes will give refugees the skills necessary to rebuild their lives and contribute to the reconstruction of their home communities.

ORGANISATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

Management

The country operation will continue to be managed from Nairobi, with the support of two offices in Dadaab and Kakuma. The operation will be administered by a total of 134 staff (35 international – including three Junior Professional Officers and seven United Nations Volunteers – and 99 national).

OFFICES

Nairobi
Dadaab
Kakuma

Co-ordination

In 2001, UNHCR will continue to work closely with other UN agencies, in particular with WFP (food supply), UNICEF (water supply) and UNESCO (environmental education). UNHCR will work with eight international and three national NGO partners, one international organisation and one government agency. The Office will also continue to be involved

in the UNDAF process, which seeks to harmonise the various programmes of UN agencies involved in development activities. Furthermore, UNHCR will continue to liaise closely with other offices in the region on protection and assistance programmes for Somali, Sudanese and other refugees.

PARTNERS

Government Agencies
National Refugee Secretariat
NGOs
<i>Action Nord-Sud</i>
African Refugee Training and Employment Services
African Rehabilitation and Educational Programme
CARE International Kenya
<i>Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit</i>
GOAL Kenya
International Rescue Committee
Lutheran World Federation
<i>Médecins sans Frontières</i> (Belgium)
National Council of Churches of Kenya
World Vision Kenya
Other
International Organisation for Migration

BUDGET (USD)

Activities and Services	Annual Programme
Protection, Monitoring and Co-ordination ¹	3,535,103
Community Services	758,557
Crop Production	68,493
Domestic Needs/Household Support	2,647,997
Education	1,674,346
Food	447,300
Forestry	204,384
Health/Nutrition	2,612,149
Income Generation	218,854
Legal Assistance	437,567
Livestock	75,808
Operational Support (to Agencies)	3,123,315
Sanitation	203,270
Shelter/Other Infrastructure	1,269,370
Transport/Logistics	2,811,410
Water (non-agricultural)	761,580
Total Operations	20,849,503
Programme Support ²	8,825,407
Total	29,674,910

¹ Includes USD 370,844 for the costs of the Regional Service Centre.

² Includes USD 4,948,580 for the costs of the Regional Service Centre.