

KENYA

INITIAL 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.

MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS, ACHIEVEMENTS AND CONSTRAINTS

Somali Refugees

The security situation in the South of Somalia remained precarious and little conducive to mass repatriation movements. Insecurity prevailed in most areas of southern and central Somalia despite the establishment, in August 2000, of a Transitional National Government (TNG) in Mogadishu. The Peace and Reconciliation agreement brokered by key leaders in the East and Horn of Africa region did not yield the expected results, thereby leaving the situation in Somalia uncertain and volatile. This was illustrated by the outbreak of clan fighting in the Bulla Hawa region in March, which led to the flight of over 17,000 Somalis into the Mandera district of Kenya. Peace has now been re-established between the warring clans, and the majority of the affected population has gone back to its place of origin.

Somali refugees, who represent more than 66 percent of the refugee population in Kenya, have been in exile since 1991. In line with its main objective to repatriate some 8,000 Somali refugees to north-west (NW) and north-east (NE) Somalia, UNHCR had registered a total of 6,820 individuals for

voluntary repatriation to Somalia by the end of June. A first group of 3,145 persons has been cleared by the local authorities in the north-east and 300 by the authorities in the north-west of Somalia. The repatriation of these people, which for logistical reasons, has to be carried out by air, will commence subject to the availability of funds.

UNHCR has continued to process the resettlement of 10,000 Somalis of Bantu origin. The processing procedures are carried out in the two camp locations of Dadaab and Kakuma, as well as in Nairobi.

In March, funds were allocated to address security problems in the refugee camps. Eleven vehicles were purchased and communication equipment ordered to reinforce the operational capacity of the Kenyan police based in the camps.

Problems experienced by WFP in the food pipeline have caused refugee food rations to drop. In addition, important items in the food basket such as wheat-flour have been missing since the last food distribution in May. As a result, the refugees have been receiving 1,399 kilocalories instead of 2,100 kilocalories per person per day. Reports from the implementing partner responsible for health services have already confirmed a rise in the malnutrition rate amongst refugee children in the camps. UNHCR and WFP at the country level have already alerted donors to the gravity of this situation and the potential for escalation of health-related and security problems. A rapid response to this challenge will ensure that preventive and curative services are kept at the agreed standards.

In general, however, health indicators in the Kenya programme remained stable between January and June. The crude mortality rate for the population and the under-fives remained at acceptable average levels of 0.5

and 1.5 per 1000 persons per month, respectively.

Despite inter-agency campaigns to reduce the incidence of rape, 47 cases of sexual and gender-based violence (43 rapes, 1 attempted rape and 3 sodomy cases) were reported in Dadaab during the first half of the year. This represents an increase when compared to the 42 cases reported in the same period last year.

UNHCR has been supplying firewood in order to help mitigate sexual and gender-based violence, however, in Dadaab firewood distribution started slowly due to time-consuming negotiations with firewood gatherers and carriers. As a result, only three distributions were carried out in the first half of the year. In Kakuma, the operation started well with a total of 312,920 bundles of firewood distributed in the first five months of the year. A total of 19 rape cases were reported between January and June, all incidents allegedly taking place while the women were out in the bush collecting firewood. Only 35 per cent of household fuel needs are met through distribution of firewood. Hence, in addition to the fabrication and distribution of energy-saving stoves, alternative and cheaper sources of household energy are being explored, such as the use of coffee-husk briquettes.

The Kenya programme has been supporting particularly vulnerable refugee women such as survivors of sexual violence and other abuse, single female heads of households and those who are affected by the harmful

traditional practice of female genital mutilation. A total of 2.1 million Kenya Shillings (USD 26,580) has been used to give revolving loans to beneficiaries from Dadaab and Kakuma camps. The programme has been expanded to include vulnerable men and adolescents in need of economic support and a total of 1,090 vulnerable individuals have been assisted to start income-generating activities. Two self-help groups consisting of 176 individuals were also given support for their businesses.

The lack of classrooms for primary schools has remained a problem. A total of 51,043 refugee students have been attending schools in Kakuma and Dadaab with classroom ratios (1:120) far exceeding those recommended. It is estimated that almost 27,000 refugee children do not attend schools because of the lack of classrooms. Some 240 additional classrooms and 7 schools would be required to adequately accommodate all school-age children.

During the month of March there was an influx of Somali refugees to the border town of Mandera in the north-east of Kenya from Bulla Hawa in the south of Somalia. The influx caused a great strain on health, water, sanitation and shelter infrastructure in Mandera town. Out of the estimated 17,000 Somali refugees who sought refuge in Mandera, 10,000 persons spontaneously repatriated to Bulla Hawa, once peace was restored. UNHCR will assist those who are most vulnerable of the remaining with transportation to repatriate.

Progress as measured against selected indicators

INDICATORS	PROGRESS
Improved safety and physical security of refugees, UNHCR and implementing partners' staff	Refugees and staff of UNHCR and implementing partners were able to move about and conduct their business with reduced threats of attack
Reduced incidence of sexual violence against women while collecting firewood in the bush	Firewood distribution for the general population in Dadaab carried out three times only. As a result women had to go searching for firewood in the bush and were still exposed to acts of sexual violence
Adequate preventive and curative medical facilities provided to refugees, including acceptable levels of nutrition for the under-fives, lactating mothers and pregnant women	Refugees are generally healthy because minimum services have been provided, however reduction in the food rations as a result of the food pipeline difficulties is creating some reversals in the current situation
Refugees are assisted and enabled to build their self-reliance.	30 new groups comprising 1,090 individuals assisted to start income-generating activities; 2 self-help groups comprised of 176 individuals assisted with their businesses
Adequate communication equipment, vehicles and bullet-proof vests provided to give police officers the means to respond to security threats and incidents	11 security vehicles procured for Dadaab and Kakuma and procurement order placed for the remaining equipment
Somali refugees registered for voluntary repatriation to NW and NE regions of Somalia	6,820 refugees registered for voluntary repatriation of which 3,145 individuals have been cleared by the local administrations in NW and NE Somalia.
Crude mortality rate (CMR) of less than 1 per 10,000 population per month for the total population and children under five years-of-age achieved	CMR among the general population stood at 0.31/10,000 up to May 2001; CMR for the under-fives increased to 1.07/10,000 in May due to malnutrition associated with reduced food intake, malaria, respiratory tract infections and diarrhoea

Sudanese Refugees

Southern Sudan continued to experience war and political instability. This has not only been hampering any prospects for the repatriation of Sudanese refugees who constitute 26 percent of the refugee population in Kenya, but has also been creating further refugee flows. A total of 6,367 new arrivals have come to Kakuma since the beginning of the year. In April, the inter-ethnic/inter-factional tension spilled over into Kakuma refugee camp and escalated into a fight between the Dinka Bar El Ghazal and Dinka Bor, creating serious insecurity. The confrontation between the two clans left seven refugees dead and more than 100 injured.

Resettlement of the so-called Sudanese "Lost Boys" which was initiated last year, continued to gain momentum, with a total of 872 resettled this year. In the wake of the discovery of irregularities related to resettlement in Kenya, the Office is striving to develop and implement clearer and more

transparent procedures for identification and selection of individual cases that qualify for resettlement. In Dadaab, resettlement reduced the number of registered Sudanese from 1,167 in 2000 to 976 at the end of April. However, following the referral of new Sudanese arrivals from Nairobi to Dadaab the total figure went up again to 1,030 as of 31 May.

UNHCR has introduced a programme for particularly vulnerable children to ensure that all children, including those disabled and with other special needs, have access to education. In addition, ten classrooms have been constructed in Kakuma camp. To promote girls' education, a new class has been established in Kakuma for girls who dropped out of school.

Water shortage has been a persistent problem in Kakuma due to a poor distribution network. Water from a newly drilled borehole was found to be unfit for human consumption and will thus be used

for mud-brick production. The water supply problem in the Lokichokio transit centre has been resolved through the sinking of an operational borehole.

The lack of durable solutions, such as voluntary repatriation or local integration, has created a protracted refugee situation in Kenya, and the absence of national refugee legislation further compounds the problem.

Progress as measured against selected indicators

INDICATORS	PROGRESS
Improved participation of refugees, especially women in community activities and their self-management	Significant improvement witnessed during distribution of food rations; during mediation when insecurity erupted in the Sudanese ranks; and also in fielding of multi-sectoral security guards
Alternative energy-saving methods tested	Social acceptability survey of coffee-husk briquettes carried out in both camps to ensure that refugees will use these once the supply commences
Sufficient quantities of cooking fuel distributed to refugees to reduce exposure of women to sexual violence; Environmental degradation by over harvesting wood mitigated	312,920 bundles of firewood distributed to refugees for five months; Alternative energy-saving methods tested
Classroom facilities expanded by constructing 10 new classrooms.	Construction of 12 classrooms completed
Increased enrolment of girls in schools	Girls' enrolment in primary schools increased to 44 per cent, while the number in secondary school remained the same; The general drop-out rate was reduced by 10 per cent with the introduction of the girls drop-out project in Kakuma camp
A child welfare programme to replace group care was established for better integration of unaccompanied minors (UAMs)	Training on Children Rights Convention (CRC) and establishment of Children's Committees; Kakuma established 2 children's committees of 10-15 persons each, while Dadaab had 3 committees with 7-10 persons per committee; 421 UAMs placed under foster-care; 1756 follow-up visits made to the foster families

Ethiopian Refugees

Recent political events in Ethiopia have driven a number of soldiers and university students to seek asylum in Kenya. So far, more than 200 Ethiopians have arrived this year. UNHCR has relocated 110 of these to Dadaab, while others are camping outside UNHCR's Office in Nairobi refusing to be relocated to Kakuma. The newly-arrived Ethiopian refugee students are requesting assistance to continue their studies in Nairobi.

Tanzanian Refugees

In January, Kenya witnessed an influx of some 2,300 Tanzanian refugees from Pemba

Island after a demonstration that turned violent, claiming a number of lives. The refugees were granted protection and emergency relief assistance. Over 1,000 asylum seekers spontaneously repatriated before the relocation and repatriation officially commenced. Following an agreement between the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania (GOT) and the Civic United Front (the opposition group on Pemba Island), 668 Tanzanians were assisted to repatriate voluntarily. Another 506 of them were relocated to Dadaab camp and have, for the most part, refused to return home. They will be kept informed about the security conditions prevailing in Pemba.

Progress as measured against selected indicators

INDICATORS	PROGRESS
Asylum seekers repatriated	Sensitisation of the Tanzanian asylum seekers to the declaration of a blanket amnesty for all by the Tanzanian government, and the peace agreement reached between GOT and CUF; 668 refugees repatriated to Pemba and Zanzibar by sea; 506 relocated to Dadaab camp Repatriation of those re-located to Dadaab camp is foreseen

Other Refugees

Refugees of other nationalities such as Eritreans, Ugandans, Congolese, Burundians, and Rwandans who reside in the two main camp areas have been benefiting from protection and material assistance similar to that provided for the Somalis and the Sudanese.

Urban Refugees

UNHCR has been assisting a number of refugees in the urban areas, who benefited mostly from counselling, primary and secondary education and limited financial assistance.

Between January and June, 1,203 refugees were counselled, 20 were given financial assistance and 22 home visits were conducted to monitor vulnerable individuals. Some 26 unaccompanied minors were sent from the urban areas to foster homes in the camps.

REVISED OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES FOR JULY-DECEMBER

- Address the needs of newly-arrived Ethiopians in Moyale by establishing a temporary infrastructure.
- Revise implementation arrangements to increase the participation of refugees in the implementation of projects, in order to reinforce their self-esteem and management skills.
- Establish a fairer and more transparent system for refugee status determination and resettlement.
- Continue to promote the enactment of the national refugee act and pursue the completion of the issuance of refugee identity cards.
- Improve co-operation between UNHCR and other UN agencies; in order to solicit their support for education in the camps and to encourage their involvement in refugee matters.
- Encourage other non-UNHCR funded NGOs to increase their support for the refugee programme.

FINANCIAL DATA (USD)

	Initial Budget	Revised Budget	Total Funds Available ¹	Total Funds Obligated
APB and TF	29,674,910	27,033,475	12,009,559	12,847,524

¹Includes income from unrestricted contributions, income from contributions restricted to the regional, sub-regional and/or country level, opening balance and adjustments.