

## Urban Refugee Programme, Kenya

1 - 31 October 2019

**76,115**

Refugees and asylum seekers registered in urban areas as at 31 October 2019

**10,490**

New arrival refugees and asylum seekers registered since January 2019.

**2,212**

Individuals in urban areas assisted to return to their home countries since 2014.

### KEY INDICATORS

**3,938**

Calls received from refugees and asylum seekers through the helpline

**30%**

Of newly registered refugees are from Democratic Republic of Congo

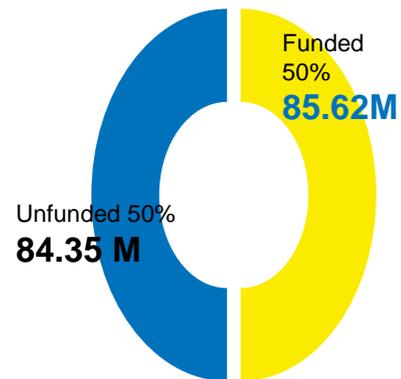
**59**

Number of refugees assisted to voluntarily return to their countries of origin.

### FUNDING (AS OF 06 NOVEMBER 2019)

**USD 170M**

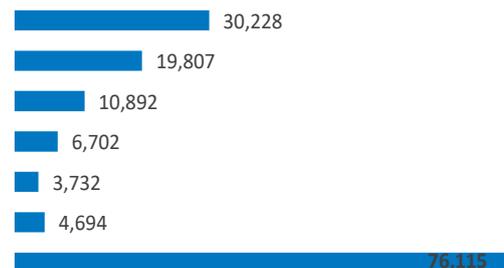
requested for the Somali and South Sudan situation



Angelina Nadai, a refugee athlete and marathoner runs at a cross country event held in Eldoret on 19 October 2019. She posted the best time among the 18 athletes completing the 6km junior women race in 23 minutes. Photo Credits UNHCR/Caroline Opile.

### POPULATION OF CONCERN

## Host Countries



## HIGHLIGHTS

On 23 October, UNHCR attended a meeting of the National Committee on Vetting of Double Registered Persons. The Government Committee has been established to identify, vet and resolve cases of persons registered both as Kenyans and Refugees. The vetting exercise will be launched by the Cabinet Assistant Secretary (CAS) Interior on 7 November and sensitization/awareness raising is expected to commence in Garissa in the week thereafter, coupled with the actual exercise and should be completed within 20 working days (11 November to 11 December 2019).

## Statelessness

Kenya was represented at the High-Level Segment on Statelessness that took place in Geneva as part of the 2019 Ex-Com. 2019 marks the mid-point of the IBelong campaign and as such, UNHCR invited States to highlight their achievements over the past five years and at the same time make pledges of the work they will undertake in the remaining time until 2024.

Kenya gave the following pledges:

- Pledge No. 1: Re-establish a national taskforce on statelessness by 2019
- Pledge No. 2: Validate a national action plan to eradicate statelessness by 2019
- Pledge No. 3 (GAP Action 1): By 2020, recognize and register Kenyan citizens members of the Shona community who qualify for citizenship under the law
- Pledge No. 4 (GAP Action 2): By 2020, enact a new Birth and Deaths Registration Act that provides safeguards to prevent statelessness
- Pledge No. 5 (GAP Action 9): By 2021, accede to the 1954 and 1961 statelessness conventions
- Pledge No. 6 (GAP Action 1): By 2023, complete legal reforms to address and remedy statelessness in Kenya permanently
- Pledge No. 7 (GAP Action 6): Continue to provide protection to stateless persons and those at risk of statelessness to ensure that they enjoy their basic human rights (continuous)

Kenya has already established a task force on statelessness through a Gazette notice issued on August 23, 2019



## PROTECTION

### Protection Cluster

#### Legal

#### Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR facilitated a session on refugee law and UNHCR's mandate for 17 government officers in Nakuru, drawn up from various departments of the judiciary, immigration, the police and children's departments. The one-day workshop was organized by the Refugee Appeals Board and participants were trained on the management of asylum and refugee issues, as well as on the appeals process for rejected asylum applications.
- UNHCR and its partner Kituo Cha Sheria continue to monitor the protection situation of persons of concern residing in the urban areas. During the reporting period, interventions were made for 121

persons arrested in various police stations and charged in court for different offences. Additionally, 81 police stations within Nairobi, Isiolo, Meru and Busia were visited as part of the monthly detention monitoring activities.

- The Helpline received a total of 3,938 calls in the month of October, this represents a reduction of 19.3% from the previous month. A total of 2,905 calls were answered in the first instance. The biggest call driver was Resettlement (at 26.3%) followed by Protection (at 19.98%), while the most used language was Swahili, followed by Kinyamulenge and then Somali.
- 800 cases were attended to by the Joint Protection Team (RAS and UNHCR) during the month majority being self-relocations from Kakuma and PoCs seeking exemption. Other cases included SGBV, child protection, documentation and persons with specific needs requesting for psycho-social support and resettlement.
- A total of 277 Persons of Concern (PoCs) were accommodated at the Transit Centre comprising of 215 protection cases and 62 new arrivals. 208 PoCs were assisted to relocate to Kakuma and one individual to Dadaab.
- A workshop was conducted for partner and government officials on inclusion and diversity and working with persons with different protection needs. The workshop reached 15 partner staff and 15 government officials working directly with refugees including the Refugee Appeals Board. The workshop addressed protection needs and responses, interview techniques and referral mechanisms for persons with protection needs including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex individuals.

#### **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps.**

Large crowds of PoCs continue to be received in Shauri Moyo on Tuesdays and Thursdays against a backdrop of limited space and personnel to attend to them. There is need for enhanced feedback mechanisms such as the helpline (telephone), swift replies to written queries sent to the helpline and community outreaches with targeted information provided to PoCs on the different issues.

#### **SGBV**

#### **Achievements and Impact**

- UNHCR attended the first ever national conference on SGBV in Nairobi, convened by the Department of Gender, Ministry of Public Services, Youth and Gender. It brought together UN organizations, the EU, Embassies, Civil society, local NGO's and the 47 counties represented by County Commissioners. The 2-day conference was anchored on SDGs, Big Four Agenda, UNDAF, and national priorities on Gender programming for 2018-2019.
- The Branch Office supported the National Gender and Equality Commission ("NGEC") Mission to Kakuma. The mission provided a platform for UNHCR to enhance partnership and advocacy with NGEC in the interest of refugees living in Kenya. The objective of the visit was to enhance collaboration between Government of Kenya and UNHCR in achieving Refugee Inclusion and CRRF.
- UNHCR coordinated the monthly SGBV meeting. The meeting was attended by 14 SGBV partners, the county government and the state department of gender. The team reviewed SGBV trends since the beginning of the year. The 16 days of Gender Activism will focus on four locations i.e. Eastleigh, Mihango, Huruma and Kangemi to address sexual and domestic violence which are prevalent in these areas.

## Child protection

### Achievements and Impact

- 28 BIAs were conducted, 10 BIAs were to facilitate exemption of minors from relocating to the camp. One BID panel was convened where 8 cases were discussed and approved for resettlement. A total of 6 social assessments were conducted and approved for assistance. 19 children were issued with financial assistance, out of whom 8 were child-headed households.
- Istanbul's youth football club sponsored through youth initiative fund 2019 participated in the sub county league tournament and beat their competitor's two to one.
- UNHCR Child Protection attended a two days' workshop on "Towards and Integrated CP Response in Refugee Hosting Areas". Director of Department of Children's Services (DCS) wants to sign an agreement between his office, UNHCR and UNICEF at the representative level to formalize how to take the partnership forward.
- The DCS will take leadership in foster care placement: Sub County Children Officers to convene a technical working group to propose a procedure on the formalization of foster care placements for DCS HQ to review and approve. Refugee children will be included by DCS in allocation of resources, policies and programs.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps.

- As a Government requirement, all refugee children need to undergo a BIA for them to be considered for an exemption. This prevents them from receiving essential services in the urban areas until they are exempted and issued with urban documents.
- The exemption panel has not sat for a period of almost three months. There is an urgent need to revisit the current SOPs and dialogue with the Commissioner for Refugees to adjust the SOPs and activate the Exemption Panel.

## Registration

### Achievements and Impact

- Refugee Affairs Secretariat (RAS) conducted new registration for 678 (314 Female, 364 Male) individuals, of which 24% (162) arrived before 2019, 68% (458) arrived in 2019 and 9% (58) new-born registrations. The registration was conducted in Nakuru (25), Mombasa (78) and Nairobi (578). Majority of the new arrivals originated from Burundi (77), Democratic Republic of the Congo - DRC (192), Eritrea (29), Ethiopia (109), Rwanda (9), Somalia (189), South-Sudan (33) and other nationalities (18); bringing the total urban population to 76,115 refugees and asylum seekers.
- 662 ID cards were issued at Shauri Moyo, some of whom were old cases whose records had to be retrieved from UNHCR warehouse.
- The files scanned for digitization to date from all the three locations i.e. UNHCR, Kate and Shauri Moyo are 143,937. Out of these, 96,592 have been separated of which 68,544 have been handed over and uploaded to the EDMS. It is estimated that BOLDATA Systems Limited Company will conclude the exercise on 31st December 2019.
- A total 42 of spontaneous departure cases were recorded as follows: Uganda (38), Rwanda (3) and Namibia (1).

## Refugee Status Determination

### Achievements and Impact

- RAS and UNHCR staff conducted 106 interviews; 66 were initial interviews and 40 were complementary interviews. 26 asylum seekers invited for interview were no-show. 374 cases were also reviewed.
- On 14 October, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) recommended 570 individuals for recognition and 6 individuals were recommended for rejection.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- 1388 cases (1932 individuals) are pending interviews; 358 cases (539 individuals) are pending assessment and 1487 cases (2251 individuals) pending review. A further 22,216 individuals are in the urban area but have no access to RSD.



## EDUCATION

### Achievements and Impact

- The urban education stakeholders meeting took place on 17th October in Nairobi. The main aim of the forum attended by 62 participants from Nairobi and Nakuru was to celebrate refugee education champions in sub-counties and schools.
- UNHCR participated in the Education and Livelihoods Regional workshop held in Entebbe, Uganda on 21st -23rd October. The theme of the workshop was exploring education, livelihoods, economic inclusion, partnerships and DAFI programming.
- KCPE national examinations started on 28th October and ended on 31st October. 63 candidates supported by UNHCR sat for Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) examinations in various schools within Nairobi, Nakuru and Mombasa.



## COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

### Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR's partner DRC in collaboration with Post Bank Kenya has facilitated account opening for 9 PoCs in support of a JRS cash program.
- During the regular monitoring activities by DRC, it was noted that one apex Community Saving and Loan Association (CSLA), had successfully registered a Community Based Organization while another apex CSLA mobilized and trained 3 CSLA groups with a total membership of 64 individuals.
- 25 POCs (including 2 persons of diverse sex, sexual orientation and gender identities - SOGIE) were supported through various market linkages to enhance product sales. KES 342,989.58 worth of products were sold in October 2019.
- The livelihood database profiling exercise commenced in October. So far, 254 data profiles have been captured. The ongoing exercise hopes to record livelihood data as far back as 2017.

- The MADE51 HQ consultant conducted a visit to Bawa Hope in Kenya to appraise on the progress made. Phase III of the project (production) has begun with 23 participants enrolled in the project.
- Two bilateral meetings with the SMEP Bank and Juhudi Kilimo, Micro-finance Institutions were held on 9 and 29 October. UNHCR is advocating for financial inclusion for urban and camp based refugees.



## **DURABLE SOLUTIONS**

### **Voluntary Repatriation**

#### **Achievements and Impact**

- UNHCR conducted a joint mission with the Ethiopian Embassy to Dadaab Refugee camp and met Ethiopian refugees who have expressed interest in voluntary repatriation. The Ethiopian Ambassador to Kenya supports the return process that targets 4000 individuals for voluntary from Dadaab.
- UNHCR facilitated the voluntary return for a family of 3 individuals to Kandahar, Afghanistan. The PoCs arrived safely.

### **Resettlement**

#### **Achievements and Impact**

- In October 2019, 33 cases/136 individuals were submitted to Australia, USA and the UK, with the total submissions standing at 480 cases/1065 individuals. UNHCR is on track to meet its target of 1,200 submissions for this year.
- 64 cases/268 individuals from Nairobi and other urban areas departed for resettlement.

### **Risk Management**

#### **Achievements and Impact**

- The interagency Anti-fraud Steering Committee and Integrity Group (with partners and donors) held meetings in October.
- The Fraud Assessment Panel met on 4th and 24th of October to deliberate and make decisions on 7 fraud cases.
- The Fraud Risk Assessment for SO Kakuma protection processes was completed. Protection staff in SO Kakuma were provided training on the Bio-data change/Inconsistency resolution process during a mission by the Integrity Officer.
- Approximately 100 RAS staff in Nairobi were provided training on Fraud & Corruption Prevention and Detection.

### **Working in partnership**

UNHCR continues to work closely with the Government of Kenya through the office of the Refugee Affairs Secretariat (RAS), and partners to ensure support to refugees and asylum seekers.

- UNHCR held a monthly coordination meeting on 29th October with its education partner, Francis Xavier Project. The objective of the meeting was to project 2020 activities and analyze feedback from stakeholder's forum.

### Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the **Kenya** operation amount to **US\$ 85.62 million**

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to the Kenya operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

### External / Donors Relations

#### Special thanks to the major donors of softly earmarked funds in 2019

United States of America 27.1 million | Germany 16.2 million | Private donors Australia 10.2 million | Canada 4.6 million | Germany 3.5 million | Sweden 3.1 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 2.1 million

#### Thanks to other donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2019

Sweden 99.8 million | Private donors Spain 67.8 million | United Kingdom 44.6 million | Norway 44.5 million | Netherlands 37.5 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 31 million | Germany 26.7 million | Denmark 24.4 million | Private donors Japan 18.4 | | Switzerland 15.1 million | Private donors Italy 14.2 million | France 14 million | Private donors USA 11.7 million | Private donors Sweden 11.4 million | Ireland 10.2 million

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### Links

UNHCR Kenya website: [www.unhcr.org/ke](http://www.unhcr.org/ke) UNHCR Global website: [www.unhcr.org](http://www.unhcr.org)

UNHCR regional portal

Somalia: <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/horn>

South Sudan: <http://data.unhcr.org/SouthSudan/regional.php>

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