

# Dadaab, Kenya

November 2019

The first camp in Dadaab was established in **1991**. There are **3** camps in Dadaab: **Hagadera**, **Dagahaley** and **Ifo**.

On **21<sup>st</sup> June 2019**, former **Kambioos** and **Ifo2** refugee camps were officially handed over to both the **County and National governments**.

Since **December 2014**, Somali refugees who decide to voluntarily return to their home country, receive UNHCR support in Kenya and Somalia.

## 217,139

Total Dadaab population as at **30 November 2019**

## 58%

**Percentage** of Dadaab population are **children**

**VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION FROM DADAAB**

## 80,864

Somali refugees have returned home since **December 2014**

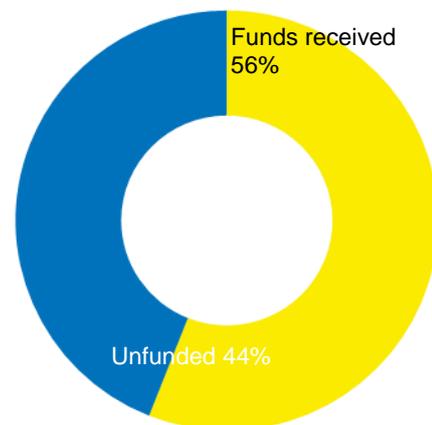
## 67,230

Refugee children are **enrolled in school** in Dadaab camps

**FUNDING (AS AT 26 NOVEMBER 2019)**

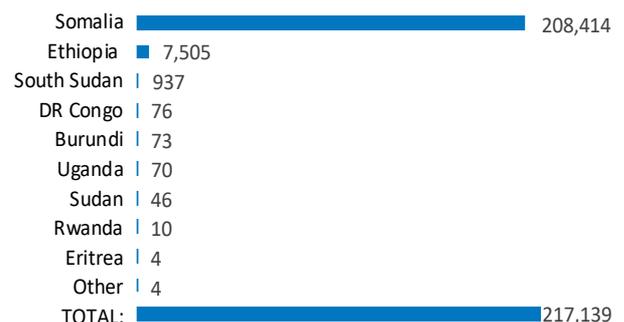
## USD 170 M

requested for the **Kenya** situation



**POPULATION OF CONCERN AS AT 30 NOV. 2019**

## Country of Origin



## Voluntary Repatriation

- Cross border coordination meeting was held on 28<sup>th</sup> November hosted by UNHCR Somalia in Nairobi. The forum was attended by key stakeholders including both Governments of Kenya and Somalia as well as partners having direct operational role in the VolRep process. The key issues deliberated on included inter alia discussion on durable solutions prospects for Somali returnees and sustainability of return process, access to basic social services by returnees, strengthening provision of area specific information as well as post-returnee monitoring process. Equally, drafting of a new VolRep strategy document was discussed considering major changes in the operational context in both countries. It was agreed that first draft will be ready by end of December 2019.
- Due to floods that have caused displacement inside Somalia, no repatriation flights were organized to help Somali refugees who are willing to return.
- Mobilization of Ethiopian refugees for repatriation is being undertaken and it expected that the Ethiopian embassy will visit Dadaab operation in mid-January 2020 to facilitate issuance of travel documents after which the first VolRep departure flights to Ethiopia from Dadaab operation is planned for 3<sup>rd</sup> week of January.
- So far in 2019, 1,828 Somali returnees have been assisted. Cumulatively, 80,864 returnees were facilitated from Dadaab refugee operation since the beginning of the process in 2014



*Refugees returning to Somalia under UNHCR's voluntary repatriation Program.  
© UNHCR/Assadullah Nasrullah*

**PROTECTION**

- During the period, UNHCR protection unit attended to 196 individual cases which were assessed and provided with legal and other protection counselling and referred for specific interventions ranging from shelter/Core Relief Items, resettlement counselling, reactivation, health, inter-camp transfers, family reunification, physical safety and legal support for SGBV and child protection. All cases were assessed, interventions made and/or referred for appropriate assistance.
- During the same period, no individuals were profiled. The population of undocumented stood at 15,752 individuals. Majority (15,213) are from Somalia while 539 are from other nationalities.
- Following the official launch of the double registration vetting exercise, vetting committees were established in Dadaab, Garissa and Fafi in mid-November where they are processing Kenyans registered as refugees and as of 30 November, 3,011 individuals were vetted. Out of these, 2,889 recommended/ satisfied the requirements as Kenyans, 23 did not meet the criteria hence rejected and remaining deferred. Vetting for refugees who obtained Kenyan IDs has not started but, it is planned to be set up in Ifo refugee camp by the first week of December.
- UNHCR has issued 3,628 Kenyans registered as refugees who had lost their Proof of Registration (PoR). The PoR is one of the required documents for vetting. Additionally, 985 refugees who registered as Kenyans approached the double registration helpdesks and were enlisted awaiting vetting in the camps.

**Child Protection**

- Celebrations to mark World Children's Day was marked on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2019 and in Dadaab where, Child Protection partners lined up activities in which awareness was created and raised for children, across the 3 camps. As build up activities, in partnership with Film Aid International, 65 adolescent girls were reached through educational video shows on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019. Other activities conducted included debate competitions among children as well as sports tournaments between host community and refugee children. This year's theme was '*end child marriage, demand for change*'.
- Terres des Hommes conducted a 3 days' life skills training between 25<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019, targeting 100 out of school adolescents. The training was on self-awareness personal goals setting, assertive communication, decision making, problem solving, how to cope with stress, prevention of substance abuse, effective communication and child rights.
- Ninety (90) adolescent girls aged between 12 and 18 years were mobilized to attend a 4 day's Film-based workshop from 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019, in Dadaab refugee camps. The objective was to address protection issues related to Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV), harmful cultural/traditional practices such as Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and early marriages.
- A total of 100 trained girl mothers benefited from start-up kits distributed on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019 to enable them start up small businesses. The kits will serve as a source of income and enable them to become self-reliant and support themselves and their children.
- Sixty (60) children living with disability (30 girls, 30 boys) in Hagadera benefitted from a one-day symposium which was held on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019, in Dadaab refugee camps. The symposium covered topics related to stigma and discrimination, protection concerns faced in the camp both by parents and children with disability and the coping mechanisms.

### Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)

- UNHCR and partners launched the ‘16 days of activism against gender violence’ across the camps, where in Dagahaley the youth participated in the launch, by exhibiting their jewelry and hand made products.
- SGBV partners continued with case management across the camps during the reporting month. Case profiles included physical assault, intimate partner violence, rape, psychological/emotional abuse, sexual assault, and defilement. All survivors received psychosocial counselling and referrals were made to the police and to hospitals as appropriate. Refugee Consortium of Kenya (RCK) will continue to follow up with the police to ensure that proper investigations are conducted and witnesses record statements thereby aiding in survivors’ access to justice.
- On 11<sup>th</sup> November, 30 children (29 girls & 1 boy) from Hagadera benefitted from dignity kits targeting SGBV child survivors, girl mothers, vulnerable and children aged between 9 – 7 years in Hagadera camp. The dignity kits are designed in partnership with members of the community to ensure the most appropriate items are included, and distribution is carried out in a manner that minimizes the risk of GBV against women and girls. The kits will be used for promoting safety for the girls by providing age, gender, and culturally appropriate items.
- The mobile court visited the camps between 11 and 15 November and attended to 8 SGBV cases. RCK will follow up on progress of the cases and provide legal aid, counselling and psychosocial support as necessary.

### Access to Justice

- A total of 19 persons were presented before Garissa Magistrate Court, where 10 were charged with unlawful presence and returned to Ethiopia, 6 for residing outside a designated area and returned to the camps and 3 were remanded awaiting trial.
- A total of 56 persons of concern (all male) are held in both Garissa Main Prison and Garissa Minimum Prison representing 33 convicts and 23 remandees awaiting trial.
- UNHCR facilitated the return of 11 individuals back to the camp for reintegration, after being released from detention.
- Forty-nine (49) persons were attended to, during the legal aid clinics organized by RCK at the Garissa Main and Medium Prisons. They were provided with legal advice on their cases and provided with counselling on how to cope with the conditions while incarcerated.

### Persons with Specific Needs

- Two hundred and four (204) persons living with disability in Hagadera were supported with physiotherapy, occupational therapy, psychosocial counselling, postural management and mobility aid training including repairs, production and distribution of assistive and mobility devices at the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) Rehabilitation center and at block level through outreach activities carried out by community staff over the period.
- Due to heavy rains, shelter, latrines, mosquito nets, blankets and mattresses for the bedridden clients were among the concerns raised during the monthly disability co-ordination meeting which was conducted in Hagadera, Dagahaley and Ifo camps. Assessment of needs for latrines, shelter, and plastic sheets was done and the list shared with UNHCR and RAS for further support and assistance.
- Humanity and Inclusion (H.I) conducted a refresher training in Ifo camp targeting 48 Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) committee members. The training sought to remind them of their roles and enhance their disability advocacy skills. Additionally, 30 female caregivers of persons with disabilities

received group counseling that was jointly facilitated by HI and Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) at Ifo main hospital. The session sought to enhance the caregivers coping skills to life challenges.

- Two psychosocial sessions for older persons and caregivers were held in Hagadera and Ifo where 75 benefitted. The caregivers in these sessions acquired skills and knowledge which helped improve their support and care for older persons in the camps.
- General case management cross the camps was also done reaching 403 elderly persons. This included assessment, counseling, home visits and follow ups including referrals. Major concerns shared were the need for activation of inactive cards, shelter, renewal of alien cards, rehabilitation, medical and protection reasons. Most of the elderly counselled expressed their doubt over the ongoing relocation of the minority nationals to Kakuma as they felt that they lose family support, family lineage and the social networks that they have already established in Dadaab.



### EDUCATION

- Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) results for just concluded examinations were released by Ministry of Education and Dadaab students performed well, despite the prevailing circumstances. A refugee student from Upendo Primary school in Hagadera scored 371 out of 500 in the KCPE examinations emerging top among refugee candidates in the camps.
- A total of 1,485 (1,031 male & 454 female) in Dadaab refugee camps sat this year's secondary school national examinations. The exams which started on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November, ended on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November.
- The detailed planning for 2020 is on-going and education partners have conducted joint preliminary review of the planned activities.

### Dadaab Solutions

- Between 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019, Garissa County organized a three-days' workshop co-hosted by UNHCR and WFP having representatives from the National and County Government, UN sister agencies, NGO partners, donors, refugees and host representatives. More than 70 participants attended the workshop at UNHCR Dadaab, to finalize the budget work plans and risk registers for the thematic components.



### HEALTH AND NUTRITION

- Heavy rainfall totalling 327mm was experienced during the reporting period. This has largely contributed to flash floods affecting shelter, access to food, water and health services. This has also adversely affected sanitation in the camps.
- The second wave of cholera which started on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2019 is still active in Hagadera. So far, a total of 834 patients have been line-listed (Hagadera 720, Ifo 98 and Dagahaley 16) as at 30<sup>th</sup> Nov 2019. The last case reported in Dadaab refugee camps was on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019.
- Between 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> November, Malezi Bora campaign was conducted in order to scale up evidence-based High Impact Nutrition Interventions (HINI) that will significantly reduce maternal, infant and child mortality and encourage Vitamin A supplementation and deworming to all children less than five years of age cleft lip/palate surgical camp was conducted between 25 and 29 November 2019 where 20 patients benefitted i.e. 18 refugees and 2 from the Host community.

- Integrated TB training of 104 community health workers from all camps conducted with support from IGAD.



#### COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

- The *Youth Initiative Fund Project* (YIF) was launched in Dagahaley Camp. YIF is a youths led project aimed at addressing protection challenges including sexual and gender-based violence, peaceful coexistence, child protection, and psychosocial well-being by supporting and building the existing young people's capabilities. One trainer from Nairobi was deployed and the 25 youths in Dagahaley benefited from training on jewellery making for one month. Moreover, YIF participated in the 16<sup>th</sup> Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2019, where they exhibited their jewellery hand made products.
- UNHCR Protection team continues to promote peacebuilding efforts to promote social integration and economic development using sports. Youth in the camps launched a *Peace Competition* where the winning teams will be provided with 2 footballs, 2 volleyballs and 2 basketball trophies.
- Handicap International (HI) head office in collaboration with UNHCR organized a mission to Dadaab to promote Unified Sport together with Special Olympics Kenya which works with athletes with intellectual impairment, using sports as a model for inclusion.
- The launch of 16 Days of Activism against Gender violence celebrations were held across the three camps of Dadaab complex. The celebrations were graced with drama, music and dance from various groups including the host communities together with speeches from County officials, UNHCR and Partners. All participants reiterated the importance of women empowerment, girl child education and working together towards fighting/eliminating violence against women.



#### CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

- UNHCR in collaboration with UNICEF and FilmAid, conducted a one-day workshop for Generation Unlimited Youth Challenge in Dadaab on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2019 where 20 youth representatives from across the three camps, Fafi and Dadaab host communities attended. The purpose of the workshop was to raise awareness on the project, spread the message about the opportunity and to enable the youth to submit outstanding applications. The project will benefit youth aged 14 to 24 years.



#### ENVIRONMENT AND ACCESS TO ENERGY

- On 7<sup>th</sup> November 2019, the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources from the Garissa County Assembly undertook a fact-finding mission to the Dadaab refugee operation. The purpose of this visit was to establish the impact of refugee settlement on natural resources in Dadaab, Kambioos, Ifo, Ifo2, Alinjukur and Hagadera. The Committee analysed impact of refugee settlement on the environment, extent of environmental degradation in settled areas as exemplified by soil erosion, waste disposal, overgrazing, and haphazard settlement.
- The members also sought to ascertain host community awareness on dangers posed by humans on the environment as a result of human settlements and level of mitigation through training and information session on the impact of refugee settlement and way forward on the management of natural resources in refugee hosting areas.

- On 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019, the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), fielded a mission to Dadaab whose objective was to consult with key stakeholders on the planned project on undertaking an Assessment of feasible Forest and Tree based interventions for resilience in the refugee impacted areas of Garissa. This is an intervention that is supported by the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO). While in Dadaab, the team conducted a half day workshop with key informants/stakeholders in the environment and agriculture sectors (supporting both refugee and hosting community) to explore potential forest and tree-based interventions. The team also undertook site visits to Ifo 2 and Kambioos closed camp sites to assess current and potential interventions.



#### RESETTLEMENT

- The 2019 quota for refugees to be submitted for resettlement from Dadaab has been increased to 975 individuals.
- During the period, 7 cases of 23 individuals were submitted to resettlement countries. Since January 1,006 individuals have been submitted to resettlement countries namely UK, Sweden, Canada, Australia, USA among others.
- Since January, a total of 815 individuals have departed for resettlement to Canada, Australia, Sweden, UK and other countries.
- During the month, 61 cases were counselled on the status of their resettlement cases.
- Thirty-six (36) households comprising of 145 individuals underwent through phase 1 interviews.
- In the reporting period, 21 interviews for RRFs of 72 individuals were conducted and their resettlement referral forms drafted.
- Labor Migration to Canada (EMPP) Mission conducted interview sessions in Dadaab on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019 where four candidates were interviewed for labor mobility program. All four candidates were accepted for EMPP project.
- RSC Africa conducted mission in Dadaab from 8<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> November where a total of 125 applicants in the resettlement pipeline to USA, have been interviewed.



#### WATER AND SANITATION

- During the reporting period, UNHCR supplied on average of 26 liters of water per day per capita from 22 boreholes to the entire refugee population in the three Dadaab camps. Nineteen (19) of these boreholes operate on Solar PV- Diesel hybrid system. The water supply schemes convey water to 38 tanks with a total storage capacity of 4,550 m<sup>3</sup>, distributed through a pipeline network of 235 km and relayed to 668 tap stands with about 2,784 taps, scattered around the three camps.
- During the reporting period, 120 Hygiene promoters were engaged in carrying out hygiene promotion campaigns in all camps; (Dagahaley 40, (Ifo 40) and Hagadera 40). The WASH Partner continues to incorporate community structures in hygiene promotion across camps.
- During the same period, 339 household latrines were disinfected using 2% chlorine solution and sprayed with icon by the vector and pest control team across the camp.
- Four sessions of live radio talks were conducted in this reporting period to the refugee audience with hygiene and sanitation and cholera prevention messages shared.
- Following the heavy rains and subsequent flooding, a total of 800 toilets collapsed in Dadaab refugee camps.



*Refugees collect water from one of the water distribution points in Ifo camp of Dadaab.  
© UNHCR/Assadullah Nasrullah*

## Working in partnership

The Dadaab refugee operations are coordinated by UNHCR Sub-Office Dadaab, which also serves the three camps in Dadaab Sub-County. UNHCR Field Office Alinjugur is part of the larger Dadaab operation and covers Hagadera camp in Fafi Sub-County. Both UNHCR offices cooperate closely with NGOs and other international organizations including WFP, UNICEF and IOM. The main government counterparts are the Deputy County Commissioner (DCC) Office and Refugee Affairs Secretariat (RAS). As part of solutions strategy for Dadaab, UNHCR is also working with the county government of Garissa and its line ministries.

## External / Donor Relations

### CONTACTS

**Assadullah Nasrullah**, Associate External Relations Officer, UNHCR Dadaab, Kenya  
nasrulla@unhcr.org, Cell +254 705840030

**Mohamed Maalim**, External Relations, UNHCR Dadaab, Kenya  
maalimm@unhcr.org Cell +254727531014

**External Relations Office**, UNHCR Sub-Office Dadaab, Kenya,

### LINKS

[Regional portal](#) - [UNHCR operation page](#) - [Twitter](#) - [Facebook](#) - [Recent PI story](#)