Dadaab, Kenya

January 2020

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

On 21st 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.

217,532
Total Dadaab population as at 31 January 2020

58%
Percentage of Dadaab population are children

VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION FROM DADAAB
81,018
Somali refugees have returned home since December 2014

67,872
Refugee children are enrolled in school in Dadaab camps

FUNDING (AS AT 31 JANUARY 2020)
USD 170 M
requested for the Kenya situation

Funds received 56%
Unfunded 44%

POPULATION OF CONCERN AS AT 31 JANUARY 2020

Country of Origin

Somalia: 208,792
Ethiopia: 7,523
South Sudan: 944
DR Congo: 70
Burundi: 73
Uganda: 70
Sudan: 46
Rwanda: 7
Eritrea: 4
Other: 3
TOTAL: 217,532
Voluntary Repatriation

- Following the signing of MOU in May between the Government of Ethiopia and UNHCR Representation in Ethiopia to facilitate repatriation of Ethiopian refugees back to their country, a delegation from the Ethiopian embassy in both Kenya and Addis Ababa visited the camps to assess and issue *laissez passer* to those who had declared interest and signed the voluntary return forms. The LP will facilitate the flight movements to Ethiopia.

![Refugees returning to Somalia under UNHCR’s voluntary repatriation Program.](https://www.unhcr.org)

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PROTECTION

- During the period, UNHCR protection unit attended to 189 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, 217 individuals were profiled. The population of undocumented stood at 15,969 individuals. Majority (15,418) are from Somalia while 551 are from other nationalities.

Child Protection

- Child protection sector continued to support programme activities such as the relocation to Kakuma and VolRep processes to Ethiopia and Somalia respectfully through the Best Interest Procedures (BIP).
Within the month a total of 12 cases were referred to CP partners for BID assessments in preparation for the voluntary return process to Ethiopia.

- Terres des Hommes supported the Dadaab Sub-county Children’s Officer (SCCO) to carry out assessment and intervention of high risk/complex cases that required his intervention, where he managed to deliberate on 2 early marriage cases, 1 custody and 1 physical assault case. Three of the children were placed under foster care, whereas the whereabouts of the perpetrators engaged in the early marriage cases are unknown. The custody dispute case was solved with the SCCO granting custody of the children to their mother and the father impressed upon to support with monthly child maintenance.

- The Dadaab Sub-County Children’s officer was supported by Terres des Hommes to admit two children (a girl and a boy aged 16 and 15 years respectively) at Garissa Rescue Center. The two were rescued from harmful care arrangements by their biological parents where they had under-gone psychological and traumatic experiences. Their stay at the Rescue Centre is meant to rehabilitate them and address their welfare issues before reunification with the parents.

- The partners also conducted care giver refresher trainings in all blocks across the Hagadera Refugee Camp. The trainings targeted parents, foster parents and community members and were conducted by the Social workers together with the Community Owned Resource Persons, and covered topics related to protecting children from family violence, sexual abuse and early marriages. Terres des Hommes also organized and conducted training for 70 Community Owned Resource Persons (CORPs) between 13th and 15th January 2020 on drugs and substance abuse. The training also covered topics related to children rights and definition of a child, child safeguarding policies, child participation and case management, positive parenting styles, psychological first aid as well as the structure and organization of TDH.

- A Psycho-Social First Aid (PFA) Training was conducted for 30 foster parents on business development skills between 16th and 17th January 2020. The training also covered topics on saving and lending, record keeping, group formation and dynamics as well as leadership styles.

- Support to Children: During the period 124 children were identified and verified for the UNICEF and BPRM funded CBI distribution.

**SGBV**

- DRC documented and provided psychosocial support and relevant referrals to 9(1M,8F) new GBV cases (1 case of rape, 1 sexual assault, 6 physical assaults, denial of resources/services, and 1 case of psychological/emotional abuse).

- 950 people from host and refugee communities (520F; 430M) were reached in 21 dialogue forums. The target groups of communities were engaged in discussions on identification of different forms of SGBV, causes and how to respond to SGBV. During these sessions the refugees were able to share a lot on the referral pathways for accessing SGBV services in the camp with their host community counterparts. They were also able to reflect on and gave recommendations on the existing power imbalance in communities, identify triggers of conflict and how to resolve conflicts.

- DRC conducted 5 Peer to Peer Networking Sessions for women (Host & Refugees) reaching 100 vulnerable women. The aim of the session was to learn about forms of SGBV, trends of SGBV in the community, the impact it has on their day to day life. Psycho-education was offered on referral mechanisms available in the camp. The sessions gave the participants a platform to share some of their personal experiences in relation to SGBV and how they have been coping, thereby enlightening one another. The sessions also provided an opportunity for the women to develop strong social bonds.
where they can freely share their challenges and come together to collectively lobby for economic empowerment opportunities in the camp.

- **Youth Led Awareness raising on SGBV, Gender Equality and Peaceful Co-existence through Sports:** 12 teams (8 men football host & refugee; 4 women volleyball) were supported and participated in 10 tournament matches. During the tournaments 274 people were reached directly (65F; 209M) with key messages in raising awareness on peace, conflict resolution & management and gender equality; The tournament enabled host and refugee communities to come together and used their acquired skills in sports in championing for peaceful co-existence and gender equality and mainstreaming in their communities.

- **UNHCR and DRC led other partners in coordinating SGBV committee meetings, case conferences, safe haven & protection area panel meetings where partners shared updates on 2019 achievements and challenges.**

- **The monthly safe haven panel meeting was held where 11 residents’ cases were discussed with a view of finding suitable exit strategies for the persons of concern.**

- **Two Case Conferences were held both for Dagahaley and Ifo camps to deliberate on client cases. Updates were given and action points were developed for each agency to follow up on the cases.**

**Access to Justice**

- **A total of 16 persons were presented before Dadaab Magistrate mobile court, where 2 cases were charged with unlawful presence and remanded in custody pending hearing and 14 cases on sexual offences were heard. Refugee Consortium of Kenya held brief for the cases as the prosecution prepares the witness statements on same.**

**Civil Documentation**

- **In light of the intermittent presence of the Civil Registrar’s mission to the camps which has hindered the processing and issuance of birth certificates to children born in the camps, UNHCR is planning the in situ update using the Birth Notifications to enable the children access key protection and other nutritional support. Backlog of unprocessed birth certificates stands at over 15,000 cases across the camps and same is attributed to limited personnel typists and nationwide shortage of booklets that hamper the speedy processing of certificates. UNHCR is in consultations with the CCR on mitigation measures to clear the backlog.**

**Persons with Specific Needs**

- **One social interaction and ADLs training session for caregivers of children with cerebral palsy was facilitated by LWF in Hagadera camp, reaching 31 (13M, 18F) caregivers. The caregivers in the session were empowered with knowledge and skills on managing and providing appropriate support care to their children with cerebral palsy. One psychosocial support session for 30(15M, 15F) clients with mental challenges was also conducted. In this session the clients shared challenges they faced, ideas on possible solutions and received feedback and education on healthy living aimed at enhancing their well-being.**

- **Two Elderly monthly coordination meetings were conducted in IFO and Hagadera targeting 60(30M/30F) elderly committees, their main concerns raised in the meeting are NFI support, limited latrines and shelter. One psychosocial session for older persons funded by UNHCR was conducted in Hagadera targeting 30(14M 16F). These sessions enabled the elderly to share challenges they faced in the camp, possible solutions and coping mechanisms which helped build their resilience.**
EDUCATION

- Schools opened for the first term on 6th of January, whereby the enrolment of learners and 100% transitioning from the primary to secondary level as per government directive is ongoing with the support of all stakeholders.

- The Dadaab Education Working Group Meeting held the first meeting of the year on 30th of January and the following were the key deliberations; Academic performance where it was noted that there is poor performance in all the schools mainly due to truancy which makes learners unable to cover syllabus content and only appearing for examinations. The working group members agreed to conduct community sensitization and meetings with BOMs in each school to resolve the problem.

- Education partners agreed that the standard operating procedures that they use to guide processes and structures including enrolments, transfers (teachers and learners), transitions, BOMs, meetings etc. will be updated in consultation with the SCDEs to ensure that current directives from MoE is captured and reinforced.

- It was agreed that teachers need regular refresher training on CBA for the new Kenyan curriculum as many of them are still not familiar with the same. More deliberations ongoing especially on the acquisition of relevant teaching and learning resources for the Kenyan Competency Based Curriculum (CBC) in refugee schools.

- Futbol Mas, an organization with activities in various countries, visited refugee and host schools in Dadaab on a one-day mission to familiarize with the operation ahead of a possible collaboration in promoting the development of resilience in children and adolescents through new social and pedagogic methodologies in different sports. In addition, another NGO, iamtheCODE, a movement of direct action for the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to improve economic outcomes for girls. The founder, Ms Mariëme Jamme, visited Dadaab on a three-day mission to familiarize with the operation for possible rollout of iamtheCODE activities targeting 30,000 beneficiaries.

- UNHCR education in Dadaab is launching a volunteer initiative engaging female humanitarian and public workers within the NE region into mentorship programme for learners (especially girls and young mothers) and youth. The initiative targets classroom studies mentoring, extracurricular activities and career counselling). The volunteer programme is being developed in consultation with the heads of agencies in Dadaab to ensure that female staff can be facilitated to meet with the learners regularly.

- Joint assessments by UNHCR WASH and technical units and separate one with UNHCR education, UNICEF and SCDE Dadaab were carried out in the camps to assess the status of the infrastructure. Two buildings in two different schools were condemned after the assessments because of extensive cracks as a result of wear and tear. UNICEF donated 6 tents (each the size of a standard classroom) to one of the schools that has a condemned building.

- Meeting with the Community Leaders was held at the UNHCR education office to discuss the way forward on effects of the reduced budgets in the education sector. The leaders made their suggestions, and this was shared with the education implementing partners for consideration.

- Meeting with WFP on the repairs and maintenance of school kitchens under the school meals programme (SMP) targeting primary schools was held to discuss the implementation of activities under the shared responsibilities agreement. It was concluded that the repairs will take place during the
school holidays so as not to interfere with the school activities and to minimize risks associated with construction sites.

- Finalization of Solarization Project of the 22 refugee and 2 host primary schools in Dadaab is underway through the support of Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe (DKH) and LWF. The solar power project is an important asset as it will support the implementation of technology driven projects in the schools. Additionally, each refugee school received 38 tablets preloaded with educational resources approved by the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD). End-user training ongoing.

**RESETTLEMENT**

- During this period, 33 cases of 117 individuals were submitted to resettlement countries. Since January, 117 individuals have been submitted to resettlement countries, namely Canada (1/1), Australia (26/89) and Germany (6/27).
- No departures took place in January pending clearance from the respective countries.
- Forty three (43) cases were counselled on the status of their resettlement cases, while 20 cases received decision letters on the status of their RST cases.
- Three (3) households comprising of 13 individuals underwent through phase 1 interviews.
- During the same period, 20 interviews for RRFs of 35 individuals were conducted and RRFs drafted.
- Resettlement Unit submitted a total of 17 individuals for resettlement considerations in January 2019, while in 2020 this figure was increased to 117 refugees submitted. The significant increase in terms of submissions in the first month is due to a large quota that was to be submitted in the last quarter of 2019. Part of those cases were already submitted under the 2020-quota. The increase in quota offered by the resettlement countries is also as a result of high quality of cases submitted as per resettlement criteria and priorities, as well as, matching the additional criteria set by resettlement countries.

**ENVIRONMENT AND ACCESS TO ENERGY**

- During this period, UNHCR and partners enhanced operational collaboration with the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) through joint elaboration of Guidance Notes for Site Specific Forestry and Tree-based Interventions in Displacement Settings in Kenya.
- Initiating discussion with the Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) on fast tracking operations of the Pivot Farm established in Ifo 2 camp in 2019.
- Reviewing both narrative and financial presentations on Agriculture, Environment & Livestock and solutions for Sustainable Energy of the Garissa Socio-Economic Development Plan (GISEDPT).

**WATER AND SANITATION**

- During the reporting period, UNHCR supplied on average of 25 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
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 / P.I/ Donor Relations

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