

# Sub Office Dadaab, Kenya

## March 2020

The security situation in Dadaab remained calm throughout the month. Border points into Kenya remained accessible to asylum seekers with no reported cases of refolement or conditional entry.

New arrival profiling remained suspended in light of Covid-19 prevention and mitigation measures.

Relocation of non-Somali refugees to Kakuma remained suspended due to Covid-19 prevention and mitigation measures.

**217,511**

Dadaab population as at **31 March 2020**

**56.5%**

Percentage of Dadaab population are **children**

### VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION FROM DADAAB

**81,018**

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

**68,781**

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

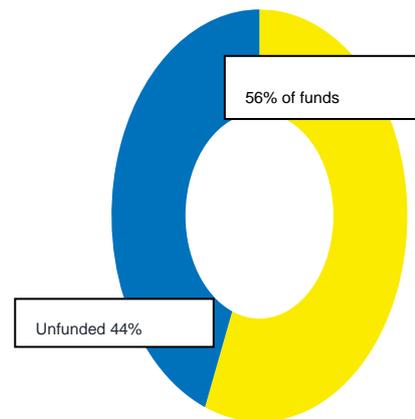
PoCs practicing handwashing at the Ifo camp food distribution point, 30 March 2020.



### FUNDING (AS OF 31 MARCH 2020)

**USD 170 M**

requested for the **Kenya** situation



### REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN AS AT 31 MARCH 2020

<i>Somalia</i>	209,305
<i>Ethiopia</i>	7,354
<i>South Sudan</i>	612
<i>DRC</i>	71
<i>Uganda</i>	70
<i>Burundi</i>	63
<i>Sudan</i>	22
<i>Rwanda</i>	7
<i>Eritrea</i>	4
<i>Others</i>	3



Community worker disseminating information on proper handwashing techniques in Hagadera Camp. © UNHCR/Osman Ahmed, 22 March 2020.

## OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

The protection environment across Ifo, Hagadera and Dagahaley camps and hosting sub counties of Dadaab and Fafi remained favorable during the month of March. Entry points into Kenya remained accessible to asylum seekers with no reported cases of refolement or conditional entry. Security reports indicated that areas within the operation remained calm during the reporting period with no security incidents directly impacting the operation. There was limited sighting of extremists reported in areas close to the border marking one of the most stable periods in many months. Cross border movement into Kenya was necessitated by fear of Covid-19, persecution, militia activities, and ethnic conflict in neighbouring countries.



## PROTECTION

### Achievements and Impact

The Dadaab Inter-Agency Protection Working Group held a meeting on 4 March 2020. In attendance were representatives from UNHCR, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), International Rescue Committee (IRC), Save the Children International (SCI), Terre Des Hommes (TDH), Norwegian Refugee Council

(NRC), Humanity and Inclusion (HI), Centre for Victims of Torture (CVT) and Refugee Consortium of Kenya (RCK).

Unpacking Dadaab through finding durable solutions for the refugee population was key in discussion. The importance of having refugees at the centre of the process and the need for humanitarian and development agencies, financial partners and the county government to work as one through pooling resources and expertise required for finding solutions and for implementation of the Garissa Integrated Socio-Economic Development Plan (GISED P) was emphasized.

Recommendations from the deliberations included, follow up on the possibility of refugee students acquiring resident permits as durable solution, development of an information leaflet on family reunification as a complementary pathway and continuous engagement with the refugee community on the importance of engaging in court-led mediation; in anticipation of the operationalization of the Dadaab Court.

### **Access to Territory and Asylum**

- **2,165** movements were observed in and out of Kenya through the Liboi, Abdisugow, Damajale, Degelema, Diif, Amuma, Kulan, Dajabula, and El-Wak border points. 7,920 cross border movements have been observed since January 2020.
- Individuals crossing into Kenya reported persecution due to political opinions, inter-clan conflicts in Sakow, political and Inter-communal conflict among the Oromo Ethiopians, increase in taxes imposed by militia and fear of the result of noncompliance with tax requirements, and fear of Covid-19 as their reasons for migration/ flight.
- 59 individuals who claimed to be fleeing political persecution were referred to Refugee Affairs Secretariat (RAS) for formal asylum-seeking procedures.

### **Access to Justice**

- Legal Aid clinics were conducted across the camps. Complaints handled included, SGBV related issues, lack of proper shelter and latrines, requests for card reactivation, follow up on court cases, conflicts at the block level, anxiety over relocation of non-Somali individuals to Kakuma and stigma and discrimination from other community members. Legal, psychosocial and pre-trial counselling was offered to PoCs who attended the clinics.

### **Child Protection**

- The monthly adolescent psychosocial support forums were conducted on 3 March 2020 in Ifo and Dagahaley camps reaching 116 children. The aim of the forums is to provide a platform where children can share challenges that they face in the community and to empower them with positive coping mechanisms for day to day difficulties.
- The Dadaab Sub County Children Officer (SCCO) in collaboration with UNHCR and SCI, facilitated a two-day open forum for 40 children in Ifo camp on child labour, drug and substance abuse and the importance of education. Similar forums will be organized in the other camps.
- In order to empower community structures with skills on how to handle children during emergencies, 60 community volunteers including foster parents, Child Welfare Committees, Girl mothers and Child

Education Welfare Committees were trained by SCI on children's rights and child protection. 14 teachers were trained on psychosocial first aid, psychosocial support, child protection, positive disciplining and referral mechanisms in Dadaab.

- The Dadaab Child Protection Working Group (CPWG) held a virtual coordination meeting on 20 March 2020. Remote service delivery through community structures including case management, Best Interest Procedures (BIP), social and supplementary assistance, foster care and psychosocial support was discussed. Priority areas were set as, information sharing and messaging, and identifying and supporting vulnerable children, UASC, child headed Households, and children with specific needs and their families with food and core relief items.
- UNHCR partner; TDH, conducted a two-day induction training for the newly recruited Community Own Resources Persons (CORPs). Training topics included, case management, psychosocial support, advocacy, empowerment and referral pathways. The community workers were also trained on child protection and safeguarding, child abuse, life skills, personal development and goal setting.

### **Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV)**

- 5 SGBV cases were reported and attended to across the camps. Case profiles were physical assault, psychological/emotional abuse, and defilement. Survivors received psychosocial counselling and referrals were made to the police and to the hospitals. Follow up is ongoing with the police to ensure that proper investigations are conducted and that witnesses record statements thereby aiding in the survivors' access to justice.
- Engaging Men in Accountable Practices (EMAP) sessions were conducted in Ifo and Dagahaley camps reaching 60 and 30 women respectively. The aim was to introduce EMAP to the women, to discuss goals and expectations for the group and to emphasize the importance of having inter-gender discussions on violence and the role of women in challenging societal norms thereby eliminating violence against women and girls.
- Two awareness raising SASA! activities were conducted by 35 Community Activists through quick chats and storytelling at the block level in Ifo camp. Awareness raising techniques, referral pathway and reporting mechanisms through Community Activists were discussed. SASA! is a ground-breaking community mobilization approach developed by Raising Voices for preventing violence against women.
- In an effort to prevent SGBV in schools and among children, five peer to peer club sessions were conducted at AbdiAziz, Horyal, Friends, Halane and Horsed primary schools in Ifo camp. Consequences of dropping out of school, prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, drug abuse, early and forced marriage and negative peer influence were discussed during the sessions. The students shared positive coping mechanisms to day to day challenges and were encouraged to report SGBV incidents to authorities as soon as they occur.

### **Persons with Specific Needs**

- 500 Persons with Disability (PWDs) were attended to at the Hagadera Rehabilitation Centre and through home-based rehabilitation support. Services provided included physiotherapy and occupational therapy; including for children with cerebral palsy, repair of mobility devices, booking for assistive and mobility devices and referrals to other agencies for support.

- 31 caregivers of adolescents with mental health and psychosocial challenges were trained on psychosocial support and livelihoods at the Ifo and Dagahaley rehabilitation centres. The objective of the training was to equip the trainees with knowledge and skills that they can use to enhance their income and to encourage self-reliance; 51 community staff were given a refresher training on community-based rehabilitation at the same centres.
- During the reporting period, 467 elderly persons were attended to across the camps. Services provided include case identification and documentation, psychosocial counselling, and referrals to other agencies for support.
- 30 members of the Ifo camp elderly committee attended a three-day training facilitated by DRC on enhancing the capacities of elderly members of society to act as agents of protection and of prevention and response to SGBV.
- LGBTI, peer leaders meeting was held in Ifo camp on 11 March 2020. The peer leaders requested for updates on their resettlement cases, registration and data transfer. The group reported that they were having challenges in accessing health services in Dagahaley camp and were experiencing shortage of consumables such as condoms and KY Jelly. It was noted that there is a need for supply of 20,000 condoms to support the key population and that the health facilities in Ifo and Hagadera camps only have stock that will last until June 2020; 28 tents were distributed to the PoCs following earlier-conducted home assessments.

### **Community Mobilization and Participation**

- Through Multi-Functional Teams and based on the Age, Gender and Diversity (AGD), Community Based, and Human Rights approaches, the 2020 Participatory Assessment exercise was conducted on 11 and 12 March across the camps. 90 focus group discussions were conducted, garnering feedback from approximately 900 PoCs on a range of themes including access to quality education, GISED, re-integration, drug and substance abuse and double registration.
- The International Women's Day was celebrated across the camps on 10 March 2020 under the theme "*Committed towards Realizing Women's Rights*". Members of the community and community structures, elderly men and women, school going children, and minority groups marked the day with song, dance, speeches and skits. The resonating message was the need for the community to stop violation of women's rights and to collectively advocate for the enjoyment of key rights such as the right to education for girls.

### **Coordination**

- Community-based Protection activated the Dadaab-Level Inter-Agency Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) Working Group to encourage collaboration and pooling of resources in providing psychosocial services to persons of concern during Covid-19 emergency. Working Group members shared agency hotlines, available resources and helpful strategies that will be utilized across sectors.



### **EDUCATION**

#### **Achievements and Impacts**

- Schools across the camps remained closed in line with the Government of Kenya's Covid-19 prevention and mitigation measures. Alternative ways of engaging with learners, teachers and other education

stakeholders have been put in place including through radio programs, WhatsApp group trees, online tools and mobile communication.

- Vulnerable girls, children with specific needs and learners from underprivileged backgrounds continued to be supported through Cash Based Intervention (CBI). 960 learners benefitted from CBI during the month of March representing 64 per cent of the overall target.
- Primary and secondary school teachers in Dadaab conducted radio lessons every weekday over Radio *Gargaar*. Plans are underway to include lessons from the Accelerated Education Program (AEP) on the schedule. Feedback from the community indicated a wide reach through this teaching modality.
- The Dadaab Education Working Group engaged in regular monitoring of learners with a focus on early identification of protection concerns such as female genital mutilation (FGM), child marriage and child labour. Keeping learners engaged will not only mitigate these concerns but will also reduce the risk of spread of Covid-19 as information on prevention and mitigation will continually be shared in the course of educational radio presentation and digital/online media interaction.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Learners in Dadaab had limited access to Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD) radio broadcasts because of limited coverage of radio stations such as Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC) and affiliate radio stations in the area. Discussion with KICD on access to recorded content for re-circulation through storage devices like SD cards is on-going.



### RESETTLEMENT AND DURABLE SOLUTIONS

#### Achievements and Impacts

- The Resettlement unit submitted cases for 214 individuals since the beginning of the year. There has been an increase in the 2020 allocated quota as compared to 2019. This is attributed to the high quality of cases submitted in line with resettlement criteria, priorities and resettlement country requirements; resulting in an acceptance rate of 90% of the total cases submitted to various countries.
- Resettlement counselling was conducted for 21 individuals on the status of their cases; case identification interviews were conducted for 8 individuals; 17 RRF interviews were conducted for 58 individuals and prepared for submission to the Netherlands and to the UK; 1 case departed to the UK and 7 cases were submitted to the Netherlands.



### HEALTH

#### Achievements and Impact

- Rigorous public health campaigns on Covid-19 prevention and mitigation were conducted in the Dadaab camps and in the host community settlements. A readiness and response training was conducted for all health workers in the operation from 23 to 31 March 2020. Health workers were also trained on specific Covid-19 support measures for the April food distribution exercise.

- Maternal mortality rate in the camps continued to improve with no maternal death recorded in the month of March.
- A case of measles was reported in Dagahaley camp. Ifo and Hagadera camps, and Dadaab and Garissa towns were subsequently put on heightened alert, and surveillance for measles has been upscaled.
- Morbidity rate; particularly on cases of diarrhoea, was noted as reduced during the reporting period pointing to a direct causal relationship with existing Covid-19 prevention and mitigation measures such as increase in water quantities supplied to PoCs and promotion of practice of proper handwashing techniques.
- 368 outpatient clients were attended to in the health facilities across the camps. The health facilities recorded an average of 27 new admissions daily with an average number of 72 consultations per clinician. Percentage of deliveries in health facilities were as follows; 100% in Hagadera, 88% in Dagahaley and 94% in Ifo.
- Antenatal care attendance was recorded at 75% across the camps, prevalence of use of contraceptives at 14% and 111 PoCs were on antiretroviral drugs (ARVs). 2 SGBV survivors were supported with emergency medical care in the health facilities.



## FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

### Achievements and Impact

- There was an increase by 632 admissions in the Supplementary Feeding Programme (SFP), as compared to February 2020. 398 new admissions were recorded in Community Therapeutic Care (CTC) and 45 new moderately malnourished pregnant and lactating mothers were enrolled in feeding programs across the camps.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Shortage of therapeutic feeding commodities i.e. plumpy nut, F75 and F100 was recorded during the reporting period.



## WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

### Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR in collaboration with CARE provided water, sanitation, and hygiene services to the 233,284<sup>1</sup> individuals in the Dadaab camps. Water is conveyed to 42 storage tanks with a capacity of 4,950 m<sup>3</sup>, and distributed through a 236 km pipeline network to 774 tap stands with 2,822 taps, across the camps.

<sup>1</sup> 217,511 PoCs and 15,773 unregistered

- Daily water production from the 22 operational boreholes was 9,863 m<sup>3</sup>, where 6,506 m<sup>3</sup> was supplied in the three camps; representing a daily per capita allocation of 27.9 litres of water per PoC. 3,357m<sup>3</sup> (34%) was apportioned to other users including agencies, markets, hospitals, and included leakage from damaged tanks.
- 15 boreholes developed mechanical faults that were addressed immediately with pumping time being increased to reduce queuing at water points as a Covid-19 prevention and mitigation measure.
- 37,322 household and 250 communal latrines were operational during the reporting period; representing 80.4% of the standard. 105 sanitation cleaners were actively engaged in managing solid waste in public areas in the camps.
- A clean-up campaign was conducted in collaboration with market committees in the Dagahaley market and its environs as a sanitation measure for prevention and mitigation of a spread of Covid-19. The activity will be replicated in the other camps.

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- 47 water samples collected from households across the camps were tested for bacteriological contamination. Results from 20 samples showed faecal coliforms. Hygiene promotion was conducted in the affected households.



### CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

#### Achievements and Impact

- The security situation across the camps remained calm. Reports from government security personnel indicate that the refugee population has been observing curfew since it was enforced. Mosques, churches and madrassas remain closed.
- In a bid to ensure consistent information sharing on emerging trends and continuity of services during Covid-19 emergency, UNHCR has engaged a committee of 36 protection monitors drawn from community structures in the camps whose terms of reference will be *inter alia*, conducting door-to door home visits, gathering information on emerging issues such as health, SGBV, child protection, shelter, and basic needs; identifying most at risk refugees in need of urgent assistance and support, establishing networks with community structures and the police for referrals; and conducting community- level information sharing on prevention of Covid-19.



### ENVIRONMENT AND ACCESS TO ENERGY

#### Achievements and Impact

- Firewood distribution was conducted to public institutions and to the hospitals across the camps in partnership with Relief, Reconstruction and Development Organization (RRDO). All institutions were provided with enough firewood to meet their cooking needs.

- In an effort to enhance afforestation and tree nursery establishment; and in line with the policy on re-orienting environment management activities to focus on income generation and self-sufficiency among PoCs and the host community, environment partners distributed fruit tree seedlings across the camps. The prevailing favourable weather and technical backstopping will ensure survival of the seedlings distributed.
- UNHCR partner; RRDO, fabricated 950 firewood saving stoves at the stove production site in Dadaab. The devices are expected to meet the gap in provision of firewood to vulnerable refugee households.

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- There is a need to support 15,000 vulnerable individuals with firewood.



## LIVELIHOODS AND COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

#### Achievements and Impact

- In an effort to continue providing livelihood support to PoCs, partners have developed online platforms for continuity of skills learning during Covid-19 emergency.
- UNHCR in partnership with NRC and the International Trade Centre (ITC) continue to offer remote mentorship training for online freelancers in the camps through Skype and Zoom.
- UNHCR in partnership with DRC conducted cash voucher disbursement worth 8,200 USD to eight groups comprising 94 women from refugee and host communities for business startup. The beneficiaries will set up retail shops and goat selling businesses.
- UNHCR in partnership with DRC conducted VSLA mentorship for six groups comprising 75 women. The groups were mentored on saving and lending procedures and use of passbooks.

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Lack of adequate funding for Livelihood activities.
- Lack of adequate internet access for PoCs undertaking online skills training.
- Continued enforcement of the encampment policy limiting refugees' access to markets.

#### Working in partnership

In Dadaab, RAS and UNHCR are working together with WFP, UNICEF, IOM, County Government of Garissa, Refugee Consortium of Kenya, Save the Children International, Terre Des Hommes, Danish Refugee Council, International Rescue Committee, Lutheran World Federation, Humanity and Inclusion, Center for Victims of Torture, Windle International, Norwegian Refugee Council, Kenya Red Cross Society, Médecins Sans Frontier, FilmAid International, CARE International, RRDO, and Peace Winds Japan.

## External / P.I/ Donor Relations

### CONTACTS

**Eunice Ohanusi,**  
**Associate External Relations Officer**  
UNHCR Sub-Office Dadaab, Kenya  
[ohanusie@unhcr.org](mailto:ohanusie@unhcr.org)  
Cell +254793454453

**Mohamed Maalim,** External Relations/P. I, UNHCR Dadaab, Kenya  
[maalimm@unhcr.org](mailto:maalimm@unhcr.org)  
Cell +254727531014

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

### LINKS

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