

# Sub Office Dadaab, Kenya

## April 2020

The security situation within the area of Operation 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 due to 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 **30 April 2020** [General - Kenya - Dadaab Operation eb22557f.unhcr365.onmicrosoft.com@emea.teams.ms](#)

# 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

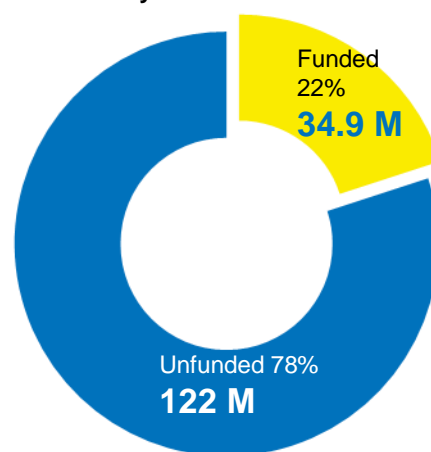
UNHCR distribution of soaps to refugees for practicing safe handwashing to prevent the outbreak of COVID-19 in Dadaab refugee camps. © UNHCR/Dennis Munene



### FUNDING (AS OF 30 APRIL 2020)

# USD 156.9 M

requested for the **Kenya** situation



### REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN AS OF 30 APRIL 2020

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



*Temperature detection thermometer to prevent and contain the spread of COVID-19 in Dadaab refugee camps. © UNHCR/Dennis Munene, 9 April 2020.*

## OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

- The protection environment across Ifo, Hagadera and Dagahaley refugee camps was satisfactory in the month of April. Entry points to Kenya were accessible to refugees and asylum seekers with no reported cases of refoulement or conditional entry. Security reports indicated that areas within the Operation remained calm with no security incidents directly impacting refugees, UNHCR and partners. There was limited sighting of extremists in Counties close to Garissa County where Dadaab is located. Cross border movement from Somalia into Kenya was mainly as a result of by fear of Covid-19.

## PROTECTION

### Achievements and Impact

#### COVID-19 Preparedness and Response

- Garissa County is covering Dadaab, Fafi and neighbouring Sub Counties, the County has so far responded to 30 suspected cases since the outbreak of COVID-19 in Kenya. All the suspected cases tested negative. The County steering committee continue to assess the progress of response

activities and to assess the level of implementing Government directives. So far five quarantine centres have been established of which UNHCR supported to set up three centres with 155 beds capacity in Dadaab refugee camps.

- During the reporting period, COVID-19 response Standard Operating Measures (SOPs) were drafted to streamline the procedure of handling new arrivals in Dadaab and facilitating their medical screening including quarantining new arrivals and isolating confirmed cases to ensure that refugees and asylum seekers are provided with required protection.
- A Multi-Functional Team (MFT) comprising of the Ministry of Health (MoH), UNHCR, Doctors without Borders aka MSF, Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and International Rescue Committee (IRC) conducted inspections of health facilities in Dadaab refugee camps, the three quarantine facilities and the livelihood centres used for the production of masks and soaps for refugees and host communities from 15 to 17 April.
- UNHCR donated medical equipment including respirators, face masks and hand gloves to partners managing the help facilities to support and equip the facilities to meet COVID-19 related health challenges.

### **Border Movement**

- During the reporting period, 1,631 movements were observed in and out of the country through the Liboi, Abdisugow, Damajale, Degelema, Diif, Amuma, Dajabula and Kulan border points. of which 1,366 were arrivals and 265 were spontaneous returns, cumulatively, 9,908 cross border movements have been recorded since January 2020.
- It was reported that 56 individuals spontaneously returned to Kenya out of fear of COVID-19 transmission in Somalia. However, UNHCR and partners are working together to ensure that Individuals crossing the border to the refugee camps are being quarantined to prevent the spread of COVID-19 afterwards the new arrivals are advised to report to Refugee Affairs Secretariat (RAS) for asylum seeking procedure.
- As a mitigation measure, Corona Virus screening is conducted by the Government of Kenya for anyone crossing in and out of Kenya at the borders and in Doble, Dolow, Luuq and Kismayo to ensure that people exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms are not allowed to travel.

### **Child Protection**

- Cash Based Intervention (CBI) for food and non-food items was provided for 86 vulnerable children including unaccompanied and separated children in the three refugee camps. The CBI is a means to ensure the economic safety for the children against the effect of COVID-19 marked by hike in the prices of basic commodities, lack of which expose children to protection risks such as SGBV, sexual exploitation and abuse, recruitment into militia activities, trafficking and child labour.
- Community volunteers training was conducted for 23 refugees on psychological First Aid (PFA) to improve their counselling and psychological support skills. Capacity building of community structures is an integral part of COVID-19 response as service delivery is conducted remotely with the support of community volunteers. The community workers are also supporting to spread the awareness of Corona Virus through block to block sensitization.

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

- There has been an increase in reported cases of domestic violence as compared to the month of March. This can be attributed to COVID-19 prevention and mitigation measures, that include the “stay at home directive” which exposes women and children to greater risk of harm. 77 per cent of domestic violence cases reported in April 2020 were perpetrated by intimate partners while 23 per cent were by other family members.

- A total of 39 SGBV cases were reported and attended to across the refugee camps. Cases profiles included rape, sexual assault, physical assault, forced marriage, psychological/emotional abuse and denial of resources. All survivors received psychosocial counselling and referred to the police and hospital as required. UNHCR and partners are following up to ensure that proper investigation are conducted, and statements are recorded thereby aiding in survivors' access to justice.
- Community-based SGBV steering committees in Ifo, Dagahaley refugee camps conducted 64 awareness forums reaching 448 refugees in the camps. The committees identified intimate partner violence as a form of SGBV and discussed its causes, prevention and the importance of reporting such cases to authorities. Members of the community were tasked to report all forms of SGBV through agency hotline or through community structures.
- SGBV prevention and response was conducted at the health centres across the three refugee camps reaching 282 individuals. Awareness was raised on SGBV effects. Support services available included psychosocial support through hotline numbers, collaboration with medical practitioners for immediate support to cases during COVID-19.
- A virtual training was conducted for 29 frontline SGBV community caseworkers between 15 and 16 April on likely COVID-19 related effects on women and girls. The community workers were asked to monitor trends in intimate partner and other forms of violence. Use of the referral pathway and agency hotlines to refer cases for assistance was emphasized.

#### **Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs)**

- World Bank and the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) to conduct a joint COVID-19 socio-economic impact assessment with UNHCR. The assessment will be conducted via telephone survey with 250 refugee households in Dadaab, and the response will feed into the report covering the entire country.
- A 36-member community-based protection committee was established across the refugee camps comprising of youth, religious leaders and representatives from smaller nationalities. The community will be tasked, inter alia to conduct regular monitoring on emerging issues in relations to health, SGBV, child protection, shelter, basic needs and other sectors as well as establishing networks with community structures, section block leaders and the police to facilitate referrals and providing daily protection to updates to UNHCR. The committee members will be supported with airtime to facilities regular communication.
- Weekly Inter-Agency Coordination Meeting was held throughout the month of April to discuss the preparedness and response of Dadaab on COVID-19. Focus of discussions included preparations of the schools designated for quarantine centres across the refugee camps and the production of 300 masks and 60 cartons of soaps for refugees and members of the host community. In attendance were UN agencies, Implementing and Operation partners working in Dadaab. A total of 30 bathrooms have been constructed in the three quarantine centres, 100 tailors were identified and brought on board to support with the mask production. Discussions are ongoing with WFP to provide food for individuals placed at the quarantine centres.
- Following the Dadaab Inter Agency COVID-19 response SOPs that was put in place, One arrived person of concern from Somalia was placed at the quarantine centre in Hagadera camp on 23 April 2020 for 14 days. UNHCR public health and partners health workers are monitoring the health of individuals quarantined across the camps. All persons arriving in the camps will be quarantined in the isolation centres as per the SOPs.
- A total of 32 radio talk shows were conducted on radio owned FM radio stations in Dadaab and the refugee camps to sensitize the elderly and Persons Living with Disability (PWDs) on available hotlines and WhatsApp groups that have been created to respond to the needs and queries of the PSNs and also disseminate information on maintaining physical distancing in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

- The Government of Kenya messages on banned movements in and out of refugees camps, placing handwashing facilities and soap in public areas and carrying minimal passengers in public transport services and restriction of the number of persons attending burials and the compulsory wearing of masks in public places were disseminated by UNHCR and partners through SMS during the reporting period. A total of 23, 800 households comprising of refugees and host community were reached in Somalia, Oromo, Dinka, Swahili, Nuer, French and English languages. The sharing of this messages will ensure the adherence to the laws of Kenya, thereby preventing arrest and detention of refugees.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- While radio sensitization is the most viable channel of communications, persons with hearing impairment are not benefiting from this crucial information dissemination on COVID -19 awareness.
- Increase in price of basic commodities: The price of basic commodities is reported to have gone high due to the restrictions on movement and the rains. With no price controls and no consumer protection policies in the camps, increase in price of basic commodities could lead to a surge in crime and women and girls resorting to negative coping mechanisms such as survival sex.



### EDUCATION

#### Achievements and Impacts

- Education contents was shared The Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD) to Dadaab education partner for the broadcast of radio learning opportunities to refugees and host community children whose education was interrupted as a result of COVID-19 prevention measures via the refugee FM radios.
- Refugee teachers are making significant efforts to conduct learning activities for children in Dadaab and the three refugee camps. More than 100,000 school going children and youth have been reached via education on the radio.
- Member of scouts' movements in refugees and host community developed handwashing stations made from household recycle materials. The handwashing stations require users to wash their hands by stepping on a makeshift pedal, eliminating the need to touch any parts of the station by hand thereby minimizing the spread of COVID-19.
- Non Somalis Kenya Certification of Primary Education (KCPE) and Kenya Certification of Secondary Examination (KCSE) candidates whose relocation to Kakuma refugee camp and also registered to for the national examination, the Ministry of Education (MoE) and Kenya National Examination Council (KNEC) informed about their restrictions to write the exams in Kakuma and opportunities to allow the candidates take their examination in Dadaab should the situation persist. A supplementary list of candidates who did not meet the registration deadlines will be shared by Windle International Kenya (WIK) with the examination bodies to consider late registration for pupils and students to sit for the exams and utilize scholarship opportunities.



### RESETTLEMENT AND DURABLE SOLUTIONS

#### Achievements and Impacts

- During the reporting period, 48 cases in Dadaab comprising of 107 individuals were submitted to the United Kingdom for resettlement consideration in compliance with the new procedures and



requirements. Cumulatively, 352 cases have been submitted to resettlement countries since the beginning of the year.

- Thirty-Seven refugees enlisted in the resettlement programme were counselled by UNHCR on the status of their case and on the withdrawal process of Sweden.
- In the light of communicating with refugees on the resettlement programme while maintaining physical distancing as one of the measures of preventing the spread of COVID-19, a WhatsApp communication for refugees was created for the purpose of sharing information and requesting refugees to share their documents.



### Achievements and Impact

- RAS and UNHCR, in partnership with the Ministry of Health and health partners developed COVID-19 preparedness and response plan.
- Massive COVID-19 sensitization campaigns continued across the three refugee camps and Dadaab.
- There were two suspected cases of COVID-19 during the reporting period, both tested negative.
- Hagadera quarantine centre was operationalized with 24 persons of concern intercepted upon arrival from Somalia.
- Watery diarrhea was noted as the highest morbidity in April 2020 with a total of 2,975 patients across the three refugee camps. Other morbidity were bloody diarrhea 33 patients and one measles case. A total of 10 patients were referred for specialist care from Ifo and Hagadera camps.
- A total of 1,223 outpatient clients were attended to in the health facilities across the camps, there was an increase compared to 368 reported in the health facilities in March 2020, an average of 44 new admissions was reported with an average of 70 consultations per clinician. Percentage of deliveries in health facilities were as follows; 93 per cent in Hagadera, 94 per cent in Ifo refugee camp and 90 per cent immunization coverage was recorded in April 2020.
- Antenatal care attendance was recorded at 95 per cent across the camps, prevalence of use of contraceptives at 14 per cent and 111 PoCs were on Anti-retroviral drugs (ARVs). Six SGBV survivors were supported with emergency medical care within 72 hours at the health facilities.



### FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

#### Achievements and Impact

- During the reporting period, 1,604 persons of concern were admitted in the Supplementary Feeding Programme (SFP), there was an increase compared to 632 admissions reported in March 2020. 342 new admissions were recorded in Community Therapeutic Care (CTC) and 24 new moderately malnourished pregnant and lactating mothers were enrolled in feeding programs across the camps.

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- There has been shortage of plumpy nuts therapeutic feeding across the three refugee camps in Dadaab.



## WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

### Achievements and Impact

#### ■ Access to clean and portable water

On average, the daily water production in April across the three refugee camps was 10,975m<sup>3</sup>, with about 7,686m<sup>3</sup> supplied to the refugee population. This translated to an average daily per capita water allocation of 33.0litres. About 3,289m<sup>3</sup> representing 30 per cent was apportioned to other users including Agencies, markets, institutions, hospitals, leakages and other losses.

#### ■ Hygiene Promotion

During the reporting period, 105 hygiene promoters were engaged in carrying out hygiene campaigns in the refugee camps. WASH partners are currently incorporating community structures in hygiene promotion across the camps. The hygiene promotion to PoCs ratio stand at 1:2,222, against the UNHCR standard as 1:1000 PoCs for protracted refugee situation like Dadaab.

#### ■ COVID-19 sanitation interventions

UNHCR constructed 20 bathrooms in two schools designated for quarantine centres in Dadaab. Handwashing stations and tanks were also installed at the centres.



## ENVIRONMENT AND ACCESS TO ENERGY

### Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR through the implementation of FaDA supplied 1,500kg firewood cooking energy to the COVID-19 Quarantine centre in Hagadera refugee camp. Three metric tons of firewood was distributed to families in the Safe haven and primary schools in Hagadera camp.
- During the reporting period 400 firewood for energy saving stove was fabricated and distributed to vulnerable families in refugees and host communities
- UNHCR and partners provided assorted seeds to refugee and host community farmers who are preparing their farms in readiness for the long rains which started in April 2020.



## LIVELIHOODS AND COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

### Achievements and Impact

- In the effort to support health workers on the frontline, UNHCR and partners are mapping refugee skilled workers to link them with employment opportunities arising from a nationwide shortage of health workers to support with the response to COVID-19.

### 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

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