

Urban Refugee Programme, Kenya

1 – 30 June 2020

81,015

Refugees and asylum seekers registered in urban areas as at 30 June 2020

2,039

New arrival refugees and asylum seekers registered in the urban areas since the beginning of 2020.

39%

Of refugees and asylum seekers registered in 2020 are in the urban areas.

KEY INDICATORS

59.3% (48,066)

Of refugees and asylum seekers in the urban areas are between the age of 18-59 years

37%

Of asylum seekers and refugees registered in urban area are from Democratic Republic of Congo

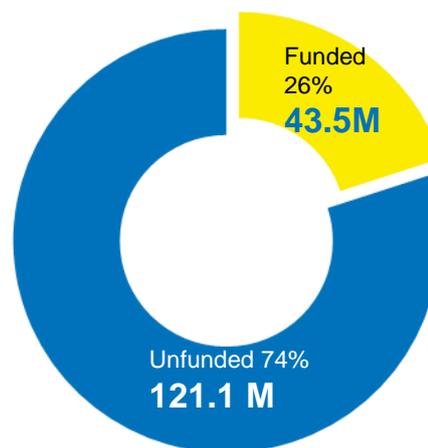
129

Number of children in urban areas being provided with financial assistance with funding from PRM.

FUNDING (AS OF 08 MAY)

USD164.6 M

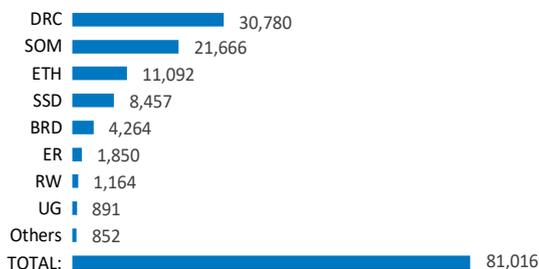
requested for the Somalia and South Sudan situations



Nosizi Dube a stateless Shona, was admitted to the University of Nairobi to study Economics. UNHCR and partner advocating for her to get documentation to avoid missing the opportunity ©UNHCR/C. Opile

POPULATION OF CONCERN

Country of origin



DRC – Democratic Republic of Congo
SOM – Somalia
ETH – Ethiopia
SSD – South Sudan
BRD – Burundi
ER – Eritrea
RW – Rwanda
UG – Uganda

HIGHLIGHTS

- Protection Unit received 120 calls from vulnerable refugees requesting for assistance due to effects of COVID such as loss of livelihood and income. 50% of the cases were referred to HIAS for assessment. 23 cases were referred for emergency assistance. The assistance and counselling done to the PoCs has assisted to alleviate suffering and has cushioned them from the effects of COVID 19.
- Reports of insecurity have reduced significantly during the Pandemic period. The Community Monitoring Assessment established that refugees have experienced improved safety due to curfew imposed by government.
- UNHCR participated in the monthly UNDAF SRA 2 Meetings where UNHCR interventions during COVID 19 situation was submitted. There is need for more collaboration between UN Agencies and government during this time of pandemic to foster refugee inclusion in national service delivery.
- On 24 June UNHCR trained 33 military officers on the UNHCR mandate, refugee protection and durable solutions. Participants were taken through refugee matters and the principle of non-refoulement, which are essential humanitarian skills prior to their deployment to Somalia



PROTECTION

Protection Cluster

Legal

Achievements and Impact

- On 18 June, UNHCR attended a meeting with 5 members of the Justice and Legal Affairs Committee to lobby support for the Refugees Bill 2019.
- UNHCR and its partner Kituo Cha Sheria continue to monitor the protection situation of persons of concern (PoCs) residing in the urban areas. During the reporting period, various police stations and prisons within Nairobi, Mombasa and Moyale were visited. Interventions were made for 20 PoCs who had been arrested for the offenses of unlawful presence and not wearing masks in public. UNHCR continues to sensitize PoCs to adhere to government public health directives to prevent the spread of Covid 19.
- As part of WRD celebrations UNHCR provided a briefing on refugee protection and management on 20 June to the Medical Students Association, through their human rights association SCORP.
- On 25 June UNHCR participated in a call with the African Union Special Rapporteur on Refugees, Asylum Seekers, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons to highlight the impact of COVID-19 on refugees and asylum-seekers. Issues discussed included access to asylum, inclusion in national safety net programmes, non-penalisation for expired documents and clear messaging on COVID-19 to combat xenophobia or stigmatisation.
- The Urban Refugee Protection Network and the Community Based Protection working group held 4 weekly joint meetings.

- UNHCR and HIAS conducted a leadership training for the safe house and transit centre committees. The committees were elected by the residents of the facilities to facilitate community self-management.

SGBV

Achievements and Impact

- 32 GBV cases were approved during the 2 psycho-social panels held during the month. 6 cases were rejected and 6 were deferred. 13 cases (10 F, 3 M) were recorded in the GBVIMS with 12 cases of sexual violence and 1 intimate partner violence. 3 GBV working group meetings were held and the GBV working group presented a virtual fashion show event with GBV messages courtesy of REFUSHE during the WRD 2020 celebrations.
- The State Department for Gender (SDFG) reported 323 cases in the 3rd week of June, and 330 in 4th week respectively with the monthly total of 1087 cases in the emergency GBV hotline. Psychological torture, physical assault, rape and defilement are the most reported forms of GBV.
- Partners continued to support their incentive workers with airtime to strengthen coordination and Refushe supported 5 women groups with money for rent and food for the months of July, they also supported E-learning for 234 girls through buying them smart phones. Hased Africa has recruited 25 girls to be trained on making re-usable pads and have already secured a facility in Eastleigh. The project also includes participation of the host community in Eastleigh.

Child protection

Achievements and Impact

- 36 BIAs and 25 social assessments which were conducted virtually were received from HIAS. 7 children benefited from counselling and 20 girls received sanitary pads during the reporting period.
- 3 virtual psychosocial panels took place where 115 cases of vulnerable children were discussed and approved for financial assistance. It will be good to note there were 30 cases of newly identified children. The financial support was from both UNHCR and BPRM budget.
- CP Participated on virtual Day of African Child planning and celebrations meetings.
- UNHCR coordinated and hosted a virtual DAC celebration which was marked on 16th June 2020. The theme was Child Friendly Justice System in Africa. The children involved were from children homes, transit centre, refUSHE, safe house, Kakuma and Dadaab. Mr Maurice Tsuma, the Deputy County Director gave opening remarks and emphasised on the need to protection children within the justice system in accordance with the children's rights. Sub County Children Officers from Turkana and Dadaab attended the meeting.
- 6 vulnerable children who were abandoned by their mother were rescued and committed at DECIP children's home.
- Through the HIAS outreach workers, identification of vulnerable children is ongoing. Children can access medical services in the health facilities and through the NCKK health workers. JRS and Refuge Point are also supporting with medical services.
- Dissemination of preventive measure for COVID-19 is ongoing

Persons with Specific Needs (PSN)

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR and partners continue close monitoring of PSNs through the community structures and identification through the refugee leaders, community volunteer workers and community health workers in the various locations where refugees reside.
- PLWDs continue to be assessed for various services, 68 received counselling and 18 received financial and food assistance. 15 older persons with chronic illnesses were supported with financial assistance. Due to limited access to specialized services the older persons were provided with one-month medical supplies, since most of the medical facilities that they used to attend for such services which include Kenyatta National hospital and Mbagathi hospital are now used as government isolation centres for COVID-19. In addition, PSNs continue to receive virtual counselling and psycho-social support from UNHCR and partners.
- UNHCR has been coordinating weekly virtual co-ordination meeting with the Mental Health and Psychosocial working group to discuss issues of mental health and psychosocial support for PoCs and staff during COVID-19 pandemic. Partners agreed that PoCs in need of counselling, will be referred to identified partners according to the needs of the PoCs and technical specialization of the partner. Currently there are 12 mentally ill PoCs who continue to receive specialized services from various partners, this include psychosocial support, medical, financial and food assistance. 9 out of the 12 live alone without any family or community support therefore the NCKK Community health workers keep close monitor of these PoCs and ensure PoCs take their medication.
- During the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a great need for PoCs approaching the partners for psychosocial support through the UNHCR helpline, Community Volunteer workers and personal telephone calls to various UNHCR and partner staff, as a result 3 partners (RCK, Kituo and CVT) have recruited additional counselling psychologist to ensure they meet the needs of vulnerable PoCs. The partners are also getting hotlines to ensure that more PoCs can access them through the helplines.
- UNHCR participated in the bi-weekly psychosocial panel with HIAS to identify the most vulnerable PoCs. The panel discussions were based on assessments done by the HIAS social workers in all locations in the urban centres where refugees reside. Through the panel discussion the most vulnerable POCs were supported with FA for 3 months. Due to financial constraining the panel was only able to support LGBTIQ and SGBV which poses a challenge to PSNs who are the most vulnerable and are at a high risk of getting infected with the various.
- The World Mental day will be marked on 10/10/2020. Considering the ongoing pandemic, members noted that this year's event would be quite unique. Members brainstormed on planning and organizing for the event. Best practices to be borrowed from other working groups and events that have already taken place. A suggestion was tabled to the WG members to consider more than one scenario for marking the event a success.
- All the partners continue to conduct virtual case management and counselling sessions as well as regular debriefing session for staff to help them cope with the stresses brought about by teleworking during this COVID-19 period. They also hold case conferencing for their clients to establish ways on how best to support them. There are challenge of privacy and safe spaces limit for the PoCs during virtual counselling sessions because most of them share the limited space they have making the counselling not very effective because the clients claim there are some personal/confidential information they cannot discuss in the presence of their family members or friends.

- In Eastleigh 600 vulnerable refugee individuals who include, older persons, PLWD, WAR, SHH, people with chronic diseases including HIV received one month one off food support from the national government through a Kenyan CBO by name UMMA to provides assistance to both Kenyans and refugees.

Registration

- Due to movement restrictions occasioned by the current Covid-19 pandemic, Refugee Affairs Secretariat (RAS) did not conduct any registration activities during the reporting period. The active Urban population stood at 80,760 refugees and asylum seekers as at 30th June 2020.
- Despite Covid-19 limitation, 13 queries on registration of cases in Kenya by our counterparts' offices outside Kenya were responded to accordingly. 2 cases from Kakuma were also responded to. 32 proof of registration documents were processed.
- About 15 cases requested by RSD but missing in EDMS were processed and uploaded for access by caseworkers.

Refugee Status Determination

Achievements and Impact

- Precautionary measures undertaken by the office since 16 March in light of the COVID-19 pandemic are still in place; staff are working from home and eligibility interviews are on hold. Remote interviewing will be explored by UNHCR and RAS during the month of June.
- During the period, no interviews were conducted; 35 assessments were completed.
- RAS and UNHCR Eligibility staff reviewed 27 cases, of which 18 cases are ready to be submitted to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) while the rest require complementary interview (06) and re-draft (03).
- The requirements for a standardized monthly RSD report and several dashboards assisting the RSD supervisor to manage the team and process have been agreed with RAS.
- The Commissioner for Refugee Affairs approved that cases who arrived after February 2017 and had already had an interview would be completed. This applies to a total of 641 individuals.
- The processing and secretarial support to the Technical Advisory Committee has been handed over to RAS. UNHCR will continue to provide technical guidance.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- 569 cases (1,056 individuals) are pending interviews; 410 cases (605 individuals) are pending assessment and 1,217 cases (1,936 individuals) pending review. With the approval of the CRA and no new applications during the month, the number of asylum seekers in the urban area who have no access to RSD decreased to 23,882.



Livelihood

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR implementing partner, Danish Refugee Council, engaged 30 tailors in the production of 5000 face masks which were delivered to UNHCR. The tailors earned an average income of KES 5,012 as cash for work during the production. The masks will be distributed to various community based organizations, children's homes as well as community outreach workers.

- UNHCR implementing partner, Danish Refugee Council guided 55 business development skills trainees on developing business plans. This was done physically and remotely adopting to technology (WhatsApp calls and phone calls) due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The business plan development process was designed from exploring business ideas in the clothing, shoes, food, hairdressing, beauty and textile value chain.
- UNHCR coordinated the urban livelihood working group meeting which held 2 sessions within the month. Different partners within the working group are currently conducting impact assessments and surveys as they continue to monitor and mentor beneficiaries remotely.
- UNHCR livelihood unit held a meeting with Generation Kenya where key partnership areas were identified. Among these areas is the inclusion of refugees in an on-going large scale scoping on skills gaps and employment opportunities and supporting UNHCR's goals on financial inclusion through partnerships.
- UNHCR in collaboration with the Toyota Kenya Foundation Academy issued automotive mechanic gowns to trainees who undertook an automotive up-skilling course and are currently on attachment in various motor vehicle workshops.
- UNHCR livelihoods unit participated in IKEA foundations' rural refugee livelihoods community readiness study whose objective is to inform the design and implementation of future livelihoods programming in rural refugee contexts. The study will build on existing livelihoods programming taking into consideration the current best practices and gaps.



EDUCATION

Achievements and Impact

- Weekly virtual meetings with FXP continued every Wednesday. Remote monitoring and sharing of educational podcasts continued. FXP partnered with Team PANKAJ to extend support to vulnerable households with basic foods.
- Weekly virtual education working group meetings happened every Thursday. Partners continue to remotely monitor the students. JRS conducted a virtual mentorship talk for 21 high school students. The same will be tired by other partners.
- An online survey among DAFI scholars was carried to determine how many were accessing the online learning offered by universities. Out of 513 scholars, 383 (74%) responded of whom 296 (77%) confirmed be participating in online learning.

Challenges

- Families continue to have challenges accessing food due to reduced livelihood opportunities. It was also reported that students were getting demotivated with the extended long stay at home making some of them irritable and defiant to their parents/guardians.
- Some of the DAFI scholars mentioned lack of internet bundles, poor network connectivity, lap of gadgets (laptops/tablets) and lack of electricity connectivity as some of the challenges faced during attempts to plug into online learning.

Statelessness

- Nosizi Dube a stateless Shona girl first sat her Primary level examinations in 2014. Although she passed, she could not join secondary school due to lack of school fees. She repeated and in 2015 completed and was admitted to Senior Chief Koinange Girls in Kiambu County. In 2019, Nosizi successfully sat for her form four examination and has been admitted at the

University of Nairobi to study Economics. UNHCR is working with partners advocate for her and other stateless learners who have also been admitted to institutions of higher learning to be issued with an ID card in order to join university.



DURABLE SOLUTIONS

Resettlement

Achievements and Impact

- The RST Unit developed supplementary SOPs to facilitate remote update of cases where there's an RRF already for submission or re-submission and has also made progress in identifying cases from the US pipeline that can be updated remotely and submitted to other countries.
- In June, a total of 7 cases/46 individuals were submitted to different RST countries as follows: 2/12 to Netherlands; 3/24 to Canada; 1/4 to Norway and 1/6 to the UK.

Challenges

- The biggest challenge remains the inability to conduct face to face RST interviews with refugees due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Many of the RST country offices are also closed and not much case processing is on-going. Other RST countries that had planned case selection missions have had to suspend them.

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.

Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the **Kenya** operation amount to **US\$ 43.6 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.

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Links

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UNHCR regional portal

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

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