

## Sub Office Dadaab, Kenya

**October 2020**

The security situation in Dadaab and nearby Sub Counties remained calm throughout the month. Border points into Kenya were closed to mitigate the risks of transmitting COVID-19 from Somalia. However, there continues to be a trend of border crossing from Somalia to Kenya.

Through the porous borders along Liboi corridor. In the month of August, 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.

**220,529**

Dadaab population as at **31 October 2020**

**56%**

**Percentage** of Dadaab population are children

**VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION FROM DADAAB**

**81,018**

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

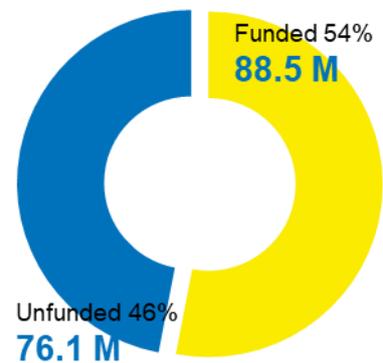
**68,781**

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

**FUNDING (AS OF 07 OCTOBER 2020)**

**USD \$164.6 million**

UNHCR requirement for the Kenya operation for 2020



**REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN AS OF 31 OCTOBER 2020**

<i>Somalia</i>	213,478
<i>Ethiopia</i>	6,243
<i>South Sudan</i>	620
<i>DRC</i>	64
<i>Uganda</i>	65
<i>Burundi</i>	35
<i>Sudan</i>	19
<i>Rwanda</i>	0
<i>Eritrea</i>	2
<i>Others</i>	3

## Public Health Response

- UNHCR and partners continued to provide risk communication and community engagement including sensitizing the community on continuation of essential services to upscale uptake of routine services and ensure continuum of care for those with chronic conditions, community-based surveillance and Stockpiling of essential drugs and other medical supplies.
- Stockpiling of essential drugs, PPEs and other medical supplies as UNHCR received additional COVID-19 PPEs and other non-pharmaceuticals on 24th August 2020 from IGAD and 130,000 reusable masks on 27th August 2020 for refugees, host community and subcounty Government officials.



## PROTECTION

- The protection environment remained favourable to refugees in Ifo, Hagadera and Dagahaley refugee camps respectively. However, the recent outbreak of COVID-19 virus resulted in the Government of Kenya closing the Somalia-Kenya border to dissuade cross border movements as cases reported in the refugee camps were traced back to Somalia.
- There was no new arrival profiling during this period. The population of unregistered persons remains estimated at 16,671 individuals. 8,647 female and 8,024 males. Majority of the 16,107 individuals are estimated to be from Somalia while 564 are of other nationalities.
- 73 SGBV cases were reported and attended to across the camps. Case profiles included; rape, sexual assault, physical assault, forced marriage, denial of resources, opportunities or services and psychological/emotional abuse. All survivors received psychosocial counselling and referrals were made to the police and to hospitals as appropriate. Follow up will be done with the police to ensure that proper investigations are conducted and witnesses record statements thereby aiding in survivors' access to justice.
- 1,002 new-born babies were remotely registered by UNHCR and their details updated in ProGres.

## Border Movement

- Border monitors continued to observe movement in and out of the country during the reporting period despite the government's closure of the Kenya-Somalia border; owing to the porous nature of the border points along the northern migration corridor.

## Access to Justice

- Operationalization of the Dadaab Magistrates' Court: The Dadaab Magistrates' Court was operationalized in June 2020 with the deployment of a magistrate. Lack of a prosecutor however remains a hinderance to full access to justice for persons of concern. The court held its inaugural proceedings during the reporting period where 4 child custody applications were heard and granted. Cases of criminal nature e.g. defilement, grievous harm, and illegal hunting of wildlife and stealing stock were mentioned pending posting of a prosecutor. New cases arising within the Dadaab jurisdiction will be filed in Garissa and allocated mention and hearing dates.
  - The Dadaab court users committee (CuC) held a coordination meeting on 28th October 2020. In attendance were representatives from the Judiciary, RAS, UNHCR, RCK, the sub-county administration, national police service, the area chief, and other court staff.
  - Election of the CuC steering committee was conducted and participants deliberated on strategies to make operations more effective in the wake of current challenges faced with

the delay of deployment of a prosecutor. Stakeholders agreed on the need for capacity building on refugee law for users as the court continues to increase its operation.

- UNHCR's access to justice partner RCK (Refugee Consortium of Kenya) participated in the national legal awareness week organized by the Law Society of Kenya from 12 to 16 October.
- Operations at the Dadaab Court and coordination amongst court users begin, with hearing of civil cases including child custody applications and mention of criminal cases pending deployment of a prosecutor.
- 2020; under the theme "Securing constitutionalism & the rule of law: A reflection on 10 years of the Kenyan constitution". The objective of the legal awareness week was to extend free legal literacy and civic education to members of the public. RCK in Garissa showcased services that they offer to asylum seekers and refugees, and their role in the advancement of constitutional rights.
- One man was arrested and charged with smuggling of human beings<sup>1</sup>. The court however noted that the facts as had been read to him did not disclose any offence and he was subsequently discharged.

### Child Protection

- 280 children were provided with individual counselling across the camps. Psychoeducation on prevention of COVID-19 and stress and anxiety management was also conducted for the children and their caregivers. Through the psychosocial support offered, their global assessment of functioning (GAF) score improved from 55% to 85%.
- 55 refugee children drawn from all the camps were supported with core relief items and emergency foodstuffs including; mattresses, mosquito nets, sleeping mats, milk, sugar, rice, cooking oil, and wheat and maize flour. Provision of material support and supplementary feeding is a means to ensure economic safety net for the identified children and their families during COVID-19; lack of which would expose them to protection risks such as SGBV, sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), recruitment into militia groups, trafficking and smuggling; and child labour.
- 90 girl-mothers from Ifo and Dagahaley camps received 20 sewing machines and 60 bundles of cotton material as start-up support for income generating activities (IGA). The girl-mothers had earlier formed business groups of 4-5 individuals and had been trained on tie & dye techniques and tailoring. The material will enable the girl-mothers to practise their trade thereby improving their socio-economic status and increasing their self-reliance and resilience.
- 51 male community and religious leaders from Ifo and Dagahaley camps were trained on child safeguarding policies, child protection, effects and prevention of harmful cultural practices, child/forced marriage and FGM/C. Capacity building of community structures is essential in mobilizing appropriate response to child protection incidents, enhancing inter-agency referrals, raising awareness on child rights, and ensuring communities take part in creating protective environments for children.

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

- 73 SGBV cases were reported and attended to across the camps. Case profiles included; rape, sexual assault, physical assault, forced marriage, denial of resources, opportunities or services and psychological/emotional abuse. All survivors received psychosocial counselling and referrals were made to the police and to hospitals as appropriate. Follow up will be done with the police to ensure that proper investigations are conducted and witnesses record statements thereby aiding in survivors' access to justice.

- An EMAP session was conducted for 30 men in Ifo camp on “being an ally in the community.” The objective of the session was to increase participants’ understanding on what it means to be an ally in the community; to reflect on helpful behaviours and to identify key actions for change. Participants identified promoting peace in the community and reporting SGBV cases to agency offices or through hotline numbers as key helpful behaviours that may see a reduction in violence against women and girls. Participants were encouraged to intensify awareness against violence in the community and to help in identification and referral of SGBV cases through the inter-agency referral pathway.
- SGBV health talks on violence in the home with emphasis on prevention and response were conducted at the health facilities in Dagahaley camp reaching 21 individuals. During the sessions, concerns over minority groups’ higher vulnerability to insecurity and SGBV was highlighted. In response; effective community protection strategies, the duty to report incidents and confidentiality principles were explained; and emergency hotline numbers shared.
- Health facilities serve as a key access point for identification of SGBV cases and for referral to response services hence capacity building and enhanced collaboration with health workers remains a priority under SGBV programming.

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

- The 2020 World Mental Health Day was celebrated on 9 October. A virtual panel meeting was held where practitioners, dignitaries and refugees engaged in mental health dialogue. Through remarks from a Ministry of Health representative, the Government of Kenya re-affirmed its commitment to mental health causes and stated that national and county mental health services were accessible to refugees and other persons of concern. The Ambassador of the kingdom of the Netherlands to Kenya stated in his remarks that MHPSS is a powerful tool that helps communities to foster cohesion and trust and it helps counter disintegration in fabrics of society and that his Government was committed to scaling up MHPSS programs in crisis situations. A pre-recorded feature on mental health in Dadaab was broadcasted in a YouTube live event on 14th October 2020.

### **Coordination**

- UNHCR Dadaab and International Labour Organization held a virtual Youth@Heart pre-forum consultation on 21 October 2020. The forum’s main objective was to discuss the effect of COVID-19 on youth employment and education in Kenya in recognition of the fact that engagement of youth is vital to building inclusive and sustainable societies. A global Youth @Heart forum will be held on 2nd November 2020 with a focus on employment and inclusion. The organizers of the forum believe that by hearing from young people and discussing their needs and ideas with partners and stakeholders; better prospects can be offered to the rising generation.
- Feedback sessions for the July 2020 participatory assessment on the impact of COVID-19 begun on 21 October. Three radio sessions were conducted covering health, mental health and psychosocial support, access to food, livelihoods, education and sexual and gender-based violence themes. UNHCR co-facilitated the sessions with sectoral partners i.e. WFP, IRC, DRC, LWF, and WIK while additional focus group discussions (FGDs) were held with refugees across the camps.
- The quarantine centres in Ifo and Dagahaley camps were closed to allow for preparation of the schools for resumption of learning. Admitted individuals will be transferred to the transit centre in Hagadera camp which will serve as the central quarantine facility going forward.

## Community Protection

- A quarterly inter-agency Prospects partners meeting on mentorship and skills development was held on 21 October 2020 where regional initiatives and opportunities were presented. Partners highlighted mismatch between skills development and opportunities, lack of access to flexible, and recognized learning opportunities, and high youth unemployment rates as the main challenges in learning and transitioning to the world of work.
- Preparing adolescent and young people (AYP) with a wide-range of market-relevant skills (foundational, transferable, entrepreneurial, digital, job-specific), through multiple learning pathways to reach their full potential was noted as urgent
- Partners were urged to contribute to “reimagining secondary age education,” and particularly to reach and respond to the most marginalized adolescent and young people with flexible, accredited, standardized and innovative measures for “safe learning to earning.”

## Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- There is a need to strengthen community structure support on communication with the community on changing the perception of the community on the use of the quarantine as well as developing user-friendly messages and installing screened messages in the quarantine facilities to encourage and help people embrace the benefit of being quarantined.

## Capacity Building

- 190 vulnerable women and girls from Ifo and Dagahaley camps were trained on menstrual hygiene management (MHM). Strategies to improve overall health and wellbeing, myths and misconceptions surrounding menstrual health and changes that girls undergo during adolescence were highlighted. Distribution of MHM kits was thereafter conducted.
- 60 PWDs and their caregivers from Ifo and Dagahaley camps were trained on SGBV prevention and response, the inter-agency referral pathway and PSEA. Toxic masculinity as a cause of violence against women and girls and prevalence of harmful cultural norms were highlighted during the discussions. Community activists will be supported to enhance awareness raising and surveillance in the community on harmful cultural practices and on protection of PWDs against SGBV. Emergency hotline numbers were shared, and participants were urged to report SGBV incidents as they occur.



## EDUCATION

- 80 hrs of radio lessons were conducted during the week with 5hrs at Radio Gargar and 60 hrs at Radio Risala to benefit 46,114 (18,712 girls) primary, AEP, ABE and secondary learners reported using the radio education program, including lessons provided by the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development, as well as supplementary content developed by teachers of refugees and other community members.
- A multi-agency Joint Tasks Force comprising of UNHCR, Education partners, RAS, MOE, MOH and Community leaders on school reopening assessment was conducted between 12-13th October 2020 and recommended that the Schools require prior preparation before reopening as the basic health safety protocols for reopening has not been met. These requirements include provision of face masks to all learners, teachers and school staff as

- well as handwashing stations, soap and general cleanliness of the schools.
- Fumigation of Schools: Fumigation of 35 Primary, Secondary, AEP and TVET centres were conducted in the 3 camps in preparation for schools re-opening. The activity was undertaken by the UNHCR WASH partner CARE.
  - Supply of PPEs and WASH material to schools: UNHCR and partners supplied all schools in Dadaab with 9,000 face masks, 290 20-litre jerricans, 150 buckets and 1.2 metric tons of bar soap in preparation for resumption of attendance for learners at all levels.
  - A joint GoK - Inter-Agency Coordination Meeting on Schools re-opening, Preparedness and Readiness was held on October 20, 2020. The meeting approved the phased re-opening of the refugee schools as from 21st October 2020 for grade 4, 8 and Form 4 as directed by the Government.
  - Following schools' re-opening on 21 October 2020, learner attendance rate was recorded at 83% for primary school grades 4 and 8 and 37% for secondary school form 4 in the first week. Mobilization is ongoing to ensure all the learners return to school.
  - 4,972 grades 4 and 8 learners in Dadaab sat their national assessment following re-opening of schools on 21 October 2020 and their results were uploaded into the KNEC portal.
  - Following the announcement by the Government of Kenya of phased reopening of Universities and tertiary colleges starting 5 October 2020, 256 (38Female) DAAFI and UNHCR Scholarship beneficiaries were facilitated, travel movement pass processed from RAS to allow them travel back safely to various Universities and Colleges in different of Kenya.
  - 1,023(90F) CLWDs were supported to access Learning through radio lessons, digital classes, WhatsApp group discussions and provision of adapted learning materials for learners with disabilities including braille machines, transcribed braille textbooks, hearing aids for learners with disabilities currently ongoing.
  - 470 primary and secondary school teachers were trained across the camps on COVID-19 awareness and prevention in collaboration with health partners. This initiative will ensure strict adherence to prevention and mitigation protocol and early detection of signs and symptoms of the virus among learners.
  - UNICEF handed over 16 Classrooms and 12 Latrines recently constructed in Ifo refugee camp to support infrastructure learning in 4 primary schools
  - Construction of 8 temporary classrooms in Wadajir Primary school in Dagahaley and 22 Kitchens with handwashing stations for primary schools ongoing in the 3 camps of Ifo, Hagadera and Dagahaley.



## LIVELIHOODS AND COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

- Consultative meetings were held with the youth, camp leaders and host community representatives in Ifo and Dagahaley camps on the roll out of the 2020-2023 ABLI-G5 project that will be implemented by DRC and NRC. The project package will include; diploma and higher diploma scholarships for 85 youth, TVET, digital skills and value chain trainings for 1200 youth, cash-based support for small scale traders, training for farmers and training for the youth on conflict resolution and provision of agricultural inputs
- 100 individuals trained on dry-land agriculture techniques were provided with agricultural inputs; including machetes (panga), hoes, and seeds for vegetable production to boost food and nutrition security at household level during COVID-19.



## RESETTLEMENT AND DURABLE SOLUTIONS

- 3 individual profiles were submitted to the regional bureau for review and onward submission to resettlement countries.
- 8 decisions including; 3 from Sweden, 2 from UK, 1 from Canada and 2 from New Zealand were received during the reporting period. The decisions from New Zealand were deferrals for additional information which the resettlement provided.
- Deferrals: 41 deferrals touching on family composition, add-on babies, add-on spouses, change of marital status, release of child custody, withdrawal of cases submitted to other countries, family reunification and death of family members were assessed and responded to. The cases were updated, and the information shared with relevant resettlement countries.
- 13 individuals had been scheduled to depart Dadaab for onward resettlement to Sweden, but had their movement cancelled after 3 individuals tested positive for COVID-19.
- 121 individuals were counselled on requests for resettlement consideration and the status of their resettlement cases, including; on USRAP6 processing, updates on Sweden, Australia, Canada, Finland and UK cases, and updates on protection processes including requirements for child custody determination, family reunification, withdrawal of NRB7 match cases and registration of new-born babies.
- RST Unit conducted the monthly radio show where general resettlement updates, anti-fraud related information, and the impact of COVID-19 on resettlement processes was discussed. Radio sensitization continues to play a crucial role in delivering updated resettlement information to persons of concern.
- There are renewed discussions on the Kenya CRRF and its Action Plan currently being developed by RAS and supported by UNHCR, partners and different government ministries. Kenya's CRRF document will help strengthen responses to the refugee situation in a comprehensive manner that puts in place governance and security arrangements involving a broad array of stakeholders to prepare for and facilitate durable solutions in a more effective manner.
- The COVID-19 situation impacted the finalization of the GISED strategy that was due to be completed and launched in March 2020. There is now a renewed momentum from the County Government of Garissa to finalize the strategy in the first quarter of 2021. GISED is a culmination of series of informal and formal discussions that the County leadership has held with the national government, humanitarian and development partners, including the private sector structured within 8 thematic components. Leveraging comparative advantage of the diverse range of actors to work across the components and across the humanitarian/development nexus towards collective outcomes is the hallmark of this process.



## HEALTH

- Steady decline in diarrhoea cases due to improved hygiene practices as a result of adequate water and increased community sensitization on COVID-19 and cholera.
- As opposed to previous years, there was only a brief cholera outbreak that was controlled within 7 days with a case fatality rate of 0% in June in Hagadera camp. A total of 7 cases were line listed.
- No cases of other notifiable diseases recorded during the reporting period

- Routine activities of Maternal Infant and Young Child Nutrition (MIYCN) are ongoing except the few activities that were suspended due to COVID-19. Impacted activities include Community dialogue and family bazaars, school club sessions, trainings, and coordination meetings of mother to mother support group/father to father support group.
- As part of the government's COVID-19 public health measures, the cessation of referral of elective cases is still in effect.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Shortage of blood and blood products still pose a big challenge as there were near miss maternal complications during the reporting period.



### FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- Nothing significant to report

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Nothing significant to report.



### WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

#### Access to water

- On average, the daily water production in October from 22 operational boreholes was 10,460m<sup>3</sup>, where about 7,238m<sup>3</sup> was supplied to the refugee population in Dadaab camps. This translated to an average daily per capita water allocation of 30.6 litres. About 3,431m<sup>3</sup> (32.2%) was apportioned to other users including agencies, markets, institutions, hospitals, leakages, livestock and other losses.

#### Sanitation Coverage

- There were 37,322 household latrines and 250 communal latrines during the reporting period, translating to a coverage of 80%. WASH Partner currently incorporating community structures in camp cleaning where 105 sanitation cleaners were actively engaged in managing solid waste in public areas across the refugee camps.

#### Hygiene Promotion

- During the reporting period, 126 Hygiene promoters were engaged in carrying out hygiene promotion campaigns in Dadaab refugee camps. WASH Partner currently incorporating community structures in hygiene promotion across camps. The hygiene promoter to persons of concern ratio now stand at 1:1,897, against the UNHCR standard as 1:1000 for protracted refugee situation like Dadaab.
- Awareness on COVID-19 pandemic conducted during the monthly food distribution exercise to household representatives while collecting food at the food distribution centres through the hygiene promoters while vector and pest control unit ensured handwashing and disinfection is done by all persons entering the distribution centres.

**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.

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