

## Urban Refugee Programme, Kenya

1 – 30 November 2020

**80,817**

Refugees and asylum seekers registered in urban areas as at 31 October 2020.

**2,258** New arrival refugees and asylum seekers registered in the urban areas since the beginning of 2020.

**16%**

Refugees and asylum seekers registered in Kenya 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

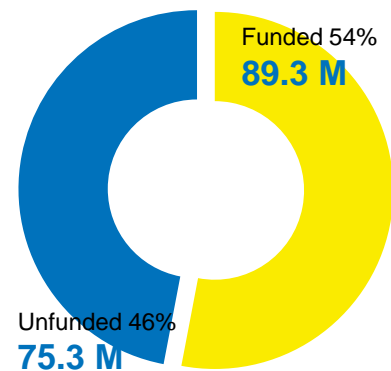
**129**

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

### FUNDING (AS OF 10 DECEMBER 2020)

**USD164.6 M**

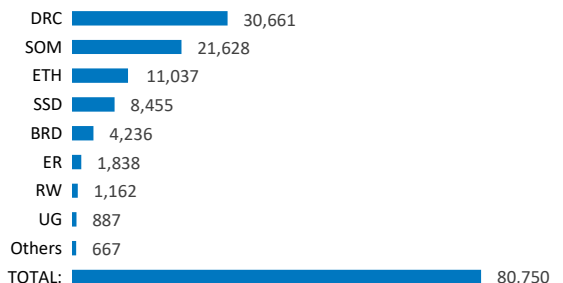
requested for the Somalia and South Sudan situations



Nosizi Reuben (second from left), assists her sisters with their studies, outside their home in Kinoo, Kenya.  
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### POPULATION OF CONCERN

#### Host Countries



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

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- A motion to establish civil registration offices in every sub county was passed in parliament. This means that the Government of Kenya is now required to establish civil registration offices in sub counties including where refugees and stateless persons reside.
- 16 days activism against gender violence kicked off with virtual round table discussion on 26 Nov 2020 towards efforts to address SGBV. The event was graced by the Resident Coordinator who emphasized on Partnership and continued collaboration with focus on community engagement to reduce SGBV.
- Following UNHCR's meeting with the Denmark Permanent Mission to follow up on the GRF pledges made, Kenya submitted a concept note to Denmark for potential areas to enhance RAS' RSD capacity which included the quality initiative, enhancing training capacity within RAS, development of training on RSD curriculum for the judiciary and police. Also, the possibility of a management consultancy for RAS.

**PROTECTION****Protection Cluster****Legal****Achievements and Impact**

- On 18th November the government launched the issuance of the Huduma Card. The press release on the launch referred to Refugees Huduma Card. UNHCR and partners continue to monitor the process and to advocate for the inclusion of asylum seekers and stateless persons.
- Two high profile Tanzanian asylum seekers were registered by RAS and interviewed for RSD. The two claimed they were persecuted alongside other opposition supporters following the Tanzania October elections.
- RAS organised the relocation of 3 PoCs from the border areas (2 from Isiolo and 1 from Moyale) to Nairobi. The PoCs will be escorted to Kakuma by RAS.
- The legal partner Kituo Cha Sheria (KCS) in collaboration with RAS Eldoret and Nakuru offices conducted a border monitoring exercise along the Nairobi- Busia border corridor from 23 – 28 November.
- A case management meeting for the protection cases in the transit center was held on 10 November attended by RAS, UNHCR and HIAS. On 18th November RAS, UNHCR and HIAS held a virtual meeting with the transit residents.
- On 11 November 36 PoCs were assisted to relocate from Nairobi to Kakuma refugee camp. Another 23 PoCs were assisted to relocate on 26 November.
- 12 campers were arrested on 18 November. 10 are self-relocated Kakuma cases and were charged with the offence of residing outside the camps without authorisation. All the arrested campers have previously been counselled and encouraged to relocate to Kakuma.
- On 18 November UNHCR participated in a meeting of UN Agencies on Implementation of UN Legal Identity Agenda.
- The Urban Refugee Protection Network and the Community Based Protection working held 2 meetings during the reporting period.

**Challenge**

- PoCs self-relocating from the camp demanding assistance in the urban, without exhausting available camp mechanisms remains a challenge.

## **Persons with Special Needs (PSN)**

### **Achievements and Impact**

- PSNs continue to be assessed for various services, 25 vulnerability assessments were done out of which 10 received individual counselling.
- The bi-weekly MHPSS coordination meeting between UNHCR and partners continued.
- Ministry of Health MHPSS department conducted a 4-day virtual training Psychological First Aid (PFA) to 60 staff members of the MHPSS working group from Nairobi, Dadaab and Kakuma. The objective of the training was to equip the staff members with initial response intervention to promote safety, stabilize their clients during this period of COVID-19 and connect individuals to resources.

### **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- Remote counselling mainly for persons with mental health becomes a very big challenge because of the mental status of the PoCs. Monitoring of mental status and ensuring that the PoCs take their medication is also a challenge due to restrictions of movement because of COVID-19.
- There is great need for financial assistance (FA) support but due to financial constrains most PSNs are not able to be supported. UNHCR and partners are psycho educating them to relocate to the camps where they will receive the required support. These include the following PWD, Women at Risk, single heads of households and persons living with albinism.

## **Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV)**

### **Achievements and Impact**

- 16 days activism against gender violence kicked off with virtual round table discussion on 26 Nov 2020 towards efforts to address SGBV. The event was graced by the Resident Coordinator who emphasized on Partnership and continued collaboration with focus on community engagement to reduce SGBV. The State Department of Gender Representation in the discussion welcomed collaboration in thematic areas to enhance service delivery to both Kenyans and Refugees. Other activities including Focus Group Discussions and community dialogues implemented by Partners continued during the month.
- CBI Panel two SGBV cases for financial assistance. The assistance will support survivors access to basic services during the recovery as long term interventions are sought.

## **Child protection**

### **Achievements and Impact**

- 4 out of the 5 new arrival children previously accommodated in a charitable Children's Institution in October relocated to the camp and 1 child self-reintegrated in the community.
- 4 children were placed in a charitable children's institution after their mother was arrested for causing disturbances outside the UNHCR offices and later rushed to the hospital as her delivery date was due. Their mother delivered and was reunified with her 4 children.
- 3 multifunctional case management panel held where 3 cases were discussed and 1 was approved to receive cash assistance, 1 recommended for placement in institutional care and 1 recommended to receive kinship care .
- Individual counselling of a parent whose children are accommodated at RefuSHE owing to abandonment was conducted

- One child in a community-based shelter monitored
- Monitoring of 2 children in a UNHCR safe shelter conducted
- Individual counselling of 2 UACs and 6 SC in UNHCR safe shelter provided by RAS
- Case conference of cases of children in the Transit Centre conducted jointly with RAS, UNHCR and HIAS
- One case management meeting with the child protection partner HIAS conducted. Key highlights included review of the BIA form and planning for the revision of CP standard operation procedures
- One CPWG meeting held with partners and key highlights included a report from child protection monitors on the situation of children in the community. One foster parents dialogue was suggested to understand how foster parents are coping with the covid-19
- 3 submissions of the proposed amendments to the rules and regulations operationalizing the Children Bill 2017 done
- 2 BIDs were documented and reviewed. They will be panelled in the month of December
- 7 BIAs and 5 Social assessments received in the first week of November reviewed.
- 32 BIAs and 22 Social assessments were received in the months of November and are currently under review. Review of 7 BIAs and 5 social assessments is complete.
- One case conference between UNHCR and Kakuma held
- Discussions on a joint inter-agency referral form held with the CP partner
- Capacity building of the CP Team on interviewing initiated based on the Learn and Connect Interviewing Learning Program modules

## **Community-Based protection**

### **Achievements and Impact**

- A two-day virtual capacity-building event was organised for 37 elected refugee leaders from Nairobi. The event was co-organised and facilitated by UNHCR, RAS, Alliance for African Assistance, Humanity & Inclusion, HIAS, NCCK, Kituo Cha Sheria, IRC and RCK. Topics covered included the roles and responsibilities of elected leaders; COVID-19 prevention and coping; MHPSS; Disability Awareness, Identification and Etiquette; Peace and Reconciliation; the Criminal Trial Process; Refugee Registration and Documentation; Refugee Rights and Responsibilities; and, Civil Registration.
- One CBP Working Group meeting was held.
- UNHCR disbursed airtime of 1000 Kenya shillings to 85 refugee leaders in Nairobi, Mombasa and Nakuru. This is to support the leaders' capacity to link their communities with UNHCR and partners and the regular updates and feedback.

### **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- Many PoCs have the challenge of no exposure or access to the use of smartphone, while others are unable to maintain the use, due to lack of money for internet bundles. This limits the number that can comfortably participate in virtual sessions such as training.

## Statelessness

### Achievements and Impact

- The National Taskforce on identifying and registering stateless persons, UNHCR and the Kenya Human Rights Commission jointly reviewed the forms required to apply for citizenship by stateless persons and their descendants. The forms were later uploaded on the foreign nationals management website. The forms will be used by stateless persons to apply for citizenship by registration.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Support to other stateless communities to place their applications for registration online as required by government.
- Support to the Pemba to amplify their voices so that the national government is aware of their presence, their plight and the need for their situation to be resolved. This is as a result of information that the Pemba caseload requires special advocacy due to the proximity of their origins, and in order to maintain working diplomatic conditions with the country of origin of their ancestors.

## Registration & Documentation

### Achievements and Impact

- Refugee Affairs Secretariat (RAS) registered 110 individuals (including 74 birth registrations), on an emergency basis, and with strict adherence to the COVID-19 safety regulations. As at 30 November 2020, the active urban population stood at 80,817 refugees and asylum seekers.
- 277 refugees were issued with 'Refugee ID Cards', out of which two hundred and fifty (250) were updated in proGres during the reporting period.
- 66 asylum seekers were issued with 'Asylum Seeker Pass' documents during the reporting period.
- 1 individual was issued with a Minors' Pass during the reporting period.
- A total of 7 individuals were issued with 'Birth Certificates' during the reporting period.
- NB: New birth registrations are only registered upon presenting original Birth Certificates at the registration desk. Some individuals already issued with Birth Certificates may yet to approach RAS for registration.
- 75 individuals of age 5 and above were enrolled into BIMS during the reporting period.
- During the period in review, Registry continued to scan files and upload them in EDMS to facilitate access by staff who are teleworking. 40 files of this nature were scanned and uploaded. Due to the anticipated move from Lynwood to the new site at General Mathenge, Registry unit received relatively two thousand files returned by staff. Queries coming from other offices were responded to accordingly.
- 29,312 individuals were contacted for verification of biodata and status of their documentation out of which 19,914 Individuals were successfully verified, 9,249 were unreachable and 194 rescheduled or unable to verify. From those that were verified 464 were scheduled for ID card application and renewal, 426 for ID card collection and 38 for baby add-on.

## Refugee Status Determination

### Achievements and Impact

- During the period, the Commissioner for Refugee Affairs endorsed 6 emergency cases as refugees. On 25 November, TAC held its seventh meeting this year in which 277 individuals were recommended for recognition.
- 15 interviews were conducted; 2 were no-show. 39 assessments were completed. 14 cases were reviewed of which 11 cases were ready to be submitted to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) while the rest require complementary interview (2) and re-draft (1).
- RAS and UNHCR continued planning phase 1 pilot implementation of the RSD backlog reduction strategy. A test run was conducted in Nairobi; the assessment form was updated, and a wider Eligibility team was introduced to the strategy and their feedback and recommendations were taken into consideration and incorporated.
- The pilot for remote interviewing at Shauri Moyo continued in November with the Working Group comprised of both RAS and UNHCR Eligibility staff reviewing the process so far and making necessary adjustments to draft standard operating procedures for remote interviewing.
- The Deputy Director Judicial Education & Curriculum Development of Kenyan Judicial Training Institute was supported to participate in the 2nd Course on the Global Compact for Refugees for Governmental Training Institutions and Academia of the International Institute of Humanitarian Law. The course started on 16 November and will complete on 10 December 2020.

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- 774 cases (1396 individuals) are pending interviews; 338 cases (493 individuals) are pending assessment and 875 cases (1,408 individuals) pending review. The number of asylum seekers in the urban area who have no access to RSD increased slightly to 23,457.



#### Livelihoods

##### Achievements and Impact

- Refugee artisans participated at the Biz Baz event at the Village Market on 27/28/29 November.
- Five apprenticeship students took their grade three tests in dressmaking and tailoring at NITA.
- The livelihoods unit is coordinating the urban market assessments with JRS and HIAS.
- The monthly livelihoods working group was held on the 19 of November. A representative from the chamber of commerce provided a presentation on the partnership with UNHCR.



#### EDUCATION

##### Achievements and Impact

- 400 primary school and 170 secondary school learners who are home virtually supported to continue learning through WhatsApp group by FXP.
- Initiation of procurement of items to support some schools in Nairobi and Nakuru comply with Ministry of Education/ Ministry of Health requirements for post COVID 19 school re-opening. Through FXP procurement of 824 desks, 70 large capacity tanks, 300 handwashing points are under procurement. 50 public primary schools are targeted to receive soap donated by Unilever. 10 schools in Nakuru are set to receive teacher's desks and chairs to support the

required distancing

in staffrooms. Another 12 public primary schools in Nairobi will benefit from in kind furniture donated by UNHCR's Regional Bureau.

- TUSA CBO and RefuShe conducted virtual mentorship and LifeSkills sessions to 100 secondary school girls.
- 526 DAFI scholars were supported with allowances for some to continue with online learning as others engage in community work. A collaborative agreement was signed by University of Nairobi, UNHCR and Windle International on 18th November further enhance tertiary education.



## **DURABLE SOLUTIONS**

### **Resettlement**

#### **Achievements and Impact**

- The Resettlement Unit attended resettlement as well as complementary pathways coordination meetings including the monthly USRAP Partner's Coordination meeting as well as various coordination and planning meetings with the Regional Bureau for East Africa, Horn and Great Lakes Region.
- In the month of November, the Resettlement Unit submitted 4 cases/9 individuals to Canada (2/6) and Norway (2/3). The Resettlement unit has submitted 119 cases/447 individuals for resettlement through November 2020.
- 30 individuals departed on resettlement in November – 11 to Canada and 19 to Sweden.

#### **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- The continued COVID-19 restrictions with staff working from home and refugees not able to come to the office has greatly hampered the Unit's ability to interview cases and process resettlement cases. Staff also continue to face many challenges such power and internet fluctuations. These challenges have greatly affected the team's productivity.