

Urban Refugee Programme, Kenya

1 – 31 March 2021



Legal

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR and HIAS held a virtual meeting on 4 March with the transit residents. The Persons of concern (PoCs) expressed frustration towards the COVID-19 prevention measures that continue to be enforced at the transit which they say have placed further limitations on them socially. HIAS provided individual psychosocial counselling to the PoCs throughout the month.
- A total of 14 PoCs (4 registered refugees and 10 new arrivals) were assisted to relocate from Nairobi to Kakuma refugee camp. 4 of the new arrivals were Ethiopians transferred from Moyale to Nairobi by RAS.
- On 18 March, RAS and UNHCR supported partner HIAS to conduct a Refugee Protection training for 38 officers from the Ministry of Labour (Social Protection), National Police Service, National Council for Persons with Disability, and the Judiciary. The training was organised by HIAS with a view to introduce participants to principles of refugee protection and general principles for supporting refugees and inclusion of persons with disabilities.

SGBV

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR coordinated 2 meetings on helpline collaboration modalities with HIAS whereby HIAS will second two staff to the UNHCR helpline to support with counselling and case management of GBV cases. This will greatly improve on case management at a time when there could be a spike of GBV cases with the second lock-down.
- In March 2021, five cases of GBV were reported and affected individuals have received the necessary psycho-social support.
- UNHCR organised one coordination meeting with GBV working group partners during the period and two others for the international women's day preparations together with the Nairobi metropolitan services (NMS) and the state department for gender (SDfG).

- On 18th March joint capacity building of 20 Community outreach workers was conducted with the aim of strengthening community structures in responding to GBV cases amidst extended COVID -19 situation. The training focused on reducing the risk of GBV during COVID-19.
- The GBV working group conducted four focus group discussions (FGDs) from 3 to 8 March in Nairobi that targeted refugee women leaders. The FGDs focussed on Reporting of GBV incidences and the legal implications, demystifying cultural misconceptions of women in leadership and the GBV trends during COVID-19.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Due to restrictions on public gatherings and extended curfew the GBV in-person support interventions have been put on hold.

Child protection

Achievements and Impact

- Currently the statistics of registered children in urban setting is 29,836 of which 14,579 are girls and 15,257 are boys. Of the total number 5,255 are unaccompanied and separated children of which 3,570 are unaccompanied minors. Unaccompanied minors are children who live with caregivers and separated children live with their relatives.
- 12 best interest assessments and 22 social assessments were received from HIAS and currently under review, follow up action and ProGres update. The assessments are normally conducted to identify the protection concerns to refer the children for timely assistance including counselling on camp relocation, children who have been exited from financial assistance and those whose caregivers can no longer assist them.
- Virtual best interest determination process of a child (BID) panel took place where 7 cases 4 from HIAS, UNHCR' child protection partner and 3 from refuge points project partner were discussed and approved for resettlement processing.
- Monitoring of vulnerable children to verify current living condition is an ongoing process. Children are monitored during conducting assessments and virtually. 34 vulnerable children were monitored during the reporting period.

Statelessness

Achievements and Impact

- During the reporting period, the Parliamentary Committee on Administration and Security visited the Pemba in Kwale and Kilifi. The events were public participations where the Pemba of Kenya were invited to forums in the presence of the Committee, County authorities, local administrators as well as locals. The purpose of the forums was to gather historical information, ascertain permanent and long-term residence of the Pemba in Kenya, after which the committee reports back to Parliament and to the Executive. The Committee held the forums in Kilifi and Kwale after which they issued an order to the County authorities to ensure that the Pemba of Kenya are not required to show proof of identity when

they are on Kenyan waters conducting their livelihood activity, which is finishing. Further the Committee requested the Pemba be supported to put together a community register to be submitted at national level and this is being put together by members of the community supported by the partner Haki Centre. The impact of the activity is that it will give the concerned authorities confidence to deal with the case of the Pemba of Kenya.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Submission of the community register should be accompanied by capacity building on statelessness and the Pemba to concerned government officers.
- In addition, the report should be supported by HCR and the Kenya Human Rights Commission to ensure coherence and strong positive recommendations are put through in the report that will be shared with the Executive arm of Government.

Registration & Documentation

Achievements and Impact

- Refugee Affairs Secretariat (RAS) registered 277 individuals (including 14 birth registrations), on an emergency basis, and with strict adherence to the COVID-19 safety guidelines, bringing the the active urban population stood at 81,791 individuals (54,347 refugees and 27,354 asylum seekers) as at 31 March 2021.
- A total of two hundred and ninety-four (294) of age 5 and above were enrolled into BIMS during the reporting period; these include those registered earlier but were not enrolled at the time.
- A total of two (2) refugees were issued with 'Refugee ID Cards' and updated in proGres during the reporting period.
- A total of one hundred and twenty-four (124) asylum seekers were issued with 'Asylum Seeker Pass' documents during the reporting period.
- Three (3) Birth Certificates were issued during the reporting period



LIVELIHOOD

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR has commissioned a market assessment and value chain analysis in Nairobi and its neighboring counties. It is also coordinating 3 labour market assessments conducted by its operational partners in Nairobi and Mombasa. This assessments and analysis will inform the urban livelihood strategy for refugees and host communities, identify value chain sectors and sub-sectors for refugees' economic inclusion and inform advocacy initiatives to the legal and policy framework governing refugees' right to work.