

# KENYA

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## INITIAL OBJECTIVES

- Ensure safe and dignified asylum for all asylum-seekers and refugees.
- Facilitate and promote repatriation if conditions are conducive.
- Preserve minimum living standards and ensure that refugees have access to essential services.

## MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS, PROGRESS ACHIEVED, AND CONSTRAINTS

### Somali Refugees

The volatile security situation in Somalia discouraged the massive repatriation of Somali refugees despite the interest of many in returning. Thus, the care and maintenance programme continued. The deployment of more police officers in and around the camps and the acquisition of new vehicles and equipment contributed to reducing the number of crime incidents in the region.

In April 2002, perpetual inter-factional fighting between rival military groups caused over 10,000 people to flee the Somali town of Bula Hawa (Southwest Somalia) to Mandera (Northwest Kenya). The local authorities were opposed to the idea of hosting the refugees in Mandera for an extended period of time, and insisted that the refugees be relocated to Dadaab camps. By the end of June 2002, UNHCR relocated 1,700 refugees to Dadaab, while some 6,000 opted to return to Bula Hawa.

220 Somali refugees were assisted to repatriate to Northwest Somalia ("Somaliland") in February 2002. An additional 3,090 were registered to repatriate to Northeast Somalia ("Puntland"). Their subsequent repatriation will depend on the political stability in the region and the availability of funding.

In Dadaab refugee camp, as part of the resettlement process to the USA, 11,856 Somali Bantus were registered and verified. By 30 June 2002, 561 of the above refugees were transferred to the Kakuma camp.

As part of a systematic refugee status determination exercise in Dadaab, the cases of 4,589 asylum-seekers were processed out of a backlog of 5,678.

Due to the shortage of funding, non-food items were only distributed to the most vulnerable refugees. Some 145 children and 1,245 vulnerable women (mainly survivors of rape and gender-based violence, elderly women, widows, divorcees and those with disabilities) received some basic non-food items. 7,000 women and girls of childbearing age benefited from the supply of reusable sanitary pads and underwear.

The water supply in the refugee camps was maintained at the UNHCR minimum standard of 15-20 litres of potable water, per person per day. The sanitation conditions in all three camps were maintained at acceptable levels.

The sub-office in Dadaab continued to implement various income-generating activities funded through loans from revolving funds. In order to enhance refugee skills in business management, 398 refugees in Dadaab were trained in bookkeeping, marketing and small business management. 636 refugees also received vocational training in various skills.

In order to reduce pressure on the environment, as well as tensions between refugees and the local population, UNHCR distributed firewood and energy-saving stoves. 15 hectares of land were fenced off as

greenbelts and tree seedlings were distributed to refugees and the local community.

In May, heavy rains destroyed 1,230 shelters in Dadaab, rendering 360 refugees homeless. The rains temporarily cut-off parts of the Garissa-Dadaab road and affected the delivery of humanitarian supplies to the refugees. Due to funding shortfalls, UNHCR has not been able to intervene to repair the Dadaab-Garissa road.

The lack of adequate education facilities and teachers continued to affect children attending schools in all three Dadaab camps.

However, the enrolment in primary schools was 28,895 (40 per cent female) students. As a result of the new intakes, the classroom/student ratio or desk/pupil ratio remained at an all-time high of 1:108 and 1:9 respectively. Secondary schools had an enrolment of 711. Nine new classrooms were built, six additional teachers were also hired and 615 textbooks were purchased. 1, 474 adult learners were also enrolled in classes.

Peace Education activities in Dadaab were hampered due to problems with the main implementing partner, however they should be underway in the second part of 2002.

**Progress as measured against indicators**

<b>Impact/Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Actual Progress</b>
Registration of individuals for voluntary repatriation for Somali refugees to NW and NE Somalia.	220 repatriated to Berbera and Hargeisa. Repatriation of 3,090 registered and cleared refugees to NE Somalia "Puntland" could not take place due lack of funding and instability in the places of return.
Crude mortality rate of less than 1 per 10,000 population per day for the total population and children under five.	Crude mortality rate for all population and under fives remained at acceptable levels of average of 0.5 and 1.5 per 1000 population per month.
Availability of 15-20 litres of potable water per/person/day for all refugees.	In Dadaab, the average water provided to refugees was 18 litres per/person per day.
Reduced occurrence of sexual violence against women while collecting fire wood.	Six rape cases were reported during the first five months. Survivors of sexual and gender-based violence were counselled individually or in groups. Police were deployed to the newly completed police barracks in all three camps and patrols intensified during the day and at night.

**Sudanese Refugees**

Continued fighting between the Sudanese government forces and the SPLA/SPLM troops, as well as the Ugandan military campaign in Southern Sudan, created insecurity. Under the prevailing war conditions in Southern Sudan, there is no prospect for a large-scale repatriation movement of refugees. On the contrary, continued fighting triggered some influxes of refugees from Southern Sudan to the Kakuma refugee camp. The frequency of police patrols was increased, reducing the number of incidents by 50 per cent as compared to the same period in 2001.

A revalidation exercise in April 2002 resulted in a 22 per cent reduction of the Kakuma refugee camp population from 86,870 to

63,200. In the first half of the year, 19 Sudanese refugees were assisted to repatriate, and 3,820 new arrivals were registered. 240 Sudanese refugees were processed for resettlement in the USA. The Government of Australia showed interest in accepting 500 refugees from Kakuma. Another 700 refugees were interviewed and submissions were made for resettlement. The resettlement of the "Lost Boys and Girls" of Sudan gained encouraging momentum.

The implementation of community-based rehabilitation programmes continued to offer support to disabled refugees to help them lead meaningful lives, and to mainstream marginalised groups such as disabled girls. Special initiatives with consideration for

female-headed single parent families such as the Women-at-Risk and the Action for the Rights of the Child (ARC) programmes, provided similar support for these groups. The supply of firewood as the main source of household energy met 30 per cent of total refugee needs. This service enhanced the protection of refugee women by minimising the risk of assaults and rape in the bush when they ventured out in search of firewood. Unfortunately, environmental degradation of the area and local pressure groups have forced up prices for the supply of firewood to exorbitant levels. Due to financial constraints, UNHCR's ability to supply adequate firewood during the remainder of 2002 may be hampered, and this could compromise the physical security of the refugees.

Health indicators remained stable during the reporting period. The crude mortality rate for all population and children under five

remained at the normal average of 0.5 and 1.5 per 1000 population per month. Refugee shelter committees were formed to enhance the rehabilitation/reconstruction of some 1,200 shelters in the camp, and 768 new units were built. At the same time, 17.5 kms of access roads were repaired in Kakuma and Dadaab to facilitate transportation of food/non-food commodities and other humanitarian services. It was noted that inter-ethnic tensions within host communities remained one of the major problems, especially in the Kakuma refugee camp area.

Due to the shortage of dry food rations, only 1,472 kcal could be provided, and this necessitated the use of wet feeding for a total of 17,790 school children.

In view of the lack of land for agriculture, the refugees in Kakuma camp will remain almost exclusively dependent on humanitarian aid until repatriation is feasible.

#### Progress as measured against indicators

Impact/Performance Indicators	Actual Progress
Food is provided to refugees and particularly to children.	Overall, complimentary food was provided. 17,790 children were served with wet feeding in the schools.
Minimise the incidences of violence (SGBV) against women.	Refugee women are physical safe and secure, as they are no longer exposed to sexual violence while collecting firewood in the bush.
Ensure the availability of safe water for refugees.	The drilling of one standby borehole completed. 16.79 litres/person/day supplied and a consultant for the hydro-geological survey hired.
Oversee the construction of shelters, households and schools.	1,200 shelters constructed and 400 old shelters repaired in Kakuma Camp. 768 new shelters built, 500 plastic tented houses constructed, and another 166 shelters repaired. 50 classrooms were also repaired.
Ensure refugee children have access to education	20,505 children (14,072 male, 6,433 female) are attending primary schools. 2,257 children (1,888 male and 369 female) are attending secondary schools. 568 children (453 male and 115 female) are receiving vocational training, and a total of 32 male refugees are receiving tertiary education.

#### Other Nationalities: Ethiopians, Ugandan, Rwandese, Burundian, Congolese, Tanzanians, and Eritreans.

Although countries in the region continued to display some signs of stability, Kenya is still hosting a sizeable number of refugees from Ethiopia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, the

Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), and Eritrea. From January to June 2002, UNHCR managed to repatriate five Ugandans, nine Burundians, 20 Ethiopians, one Liberian, 84 Sudanese, and 12 Rwandese refugees back to their countries of origin.

The cessation clause for all Eritrean refugees will be effective on 31 December 2002. In Dadaab, the sub-office is preparing a plan of action to implement the clause. The plan foresees a review of Eritreans residing in the camps. In view of the implementation of the cessation clause, other durable solutions that were being sought for these refugees have been suspended. Similarly, the cessation clause will also be invoked for Ethiopians who arrived in Kenya prior to May 1991.

8,318 applications for refugee status were pending as of June 2002. The majority of the applicants were Ethiopian (5,815). By the end of March 2002, 597 applicants had been granted asylum.

There was a notable increase in the number of threats against refugees in Nairobi. The most brutal incident involved the killing of two Rwandese children. Following this incident, security measures at refugee accommodation

centres in Nairobi were intensified, and more security improvements will be implemented. Refugees, mainly from Ethiopia, DRC and Uganda were identified as being under serious security threats. Over 20 cases of refugees facing serious security threats were submitted for resettlement.

Refugees residing in Nairobi camps faced the recurrent problem of irregular detentions while travelling between the camps. The Kenyan police reportedly regularly raided lodgings in Nairobi in search of illegal aliens. As a result of these raids, approximately 800 refugees were arrested. With the upcoming general elections, the number of raids is expected to increase considerably. A monitoring and response capacity section has been developed, whereby police stations and other detention centres are visited on a regular basis. UNHCR interventions secured the release of a considerable number of refugees.

#### Progress as measured against indicators

Impact/Performance Indicators	Actual Progress
Facilitation of voluntary repatriation by individuals to countries of origin.	5 Ugandans, 9 Burundians, 20 Ethiopians, 1 Liberian, 84 Sudanese, and, 12 Rwandese repatriated to their homelands.
Vulnerable cases receive psychosocial intervention, counselling, home visits and general assistance.	140 cases received specialised counselling.
Providing logistical support to regional medical evacuations.	2 heart cases were evacuated to Dar es Salaam and successfully treated.

#### REVISED OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITY ACTIVITIES FOR JULY - DECEMBER 2002

- To facilitate the repatriation of 3,090 refugees to "Puntland," Somalia.
- To explore the possibility of facilitating the repatriation of Sudanese to areas where security is conducive in Southern Sudan.
- Establish mechanisms enabling UNHCR to cope with refugee emergencies in Mandera

and along the Kenya-Somalia/Ethiopia borders.

- Seek increased funding from private donors to rehabilitate the Dadaab-Garissa road.
- Work towards eradicating the exploitation of women and children for sexual favours.
- Strengthen community service activities in Dadaab.

#### Financial Data (USD)

Annual Programme Budget			
Initial Budget	Revised Budget	Total Funds Available	Obligation Level
22,535,638	27,063,770	13,152,204	13,055,650

The above figures include the activities related to the Kenya Technical Support Group (for details, please refer to the Regional Overview).