

Annual Results Report

2024

Kenya

Acknowledgements

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Note:

The baseline values presented in this document reflect previous year's progress when available. If such data is not available, strategy baseline values are used instead.

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- 4.1 - Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

Section 1: Context and Overview

1.1 Changes to the Operational Context

Kenya remains one of the region's most stable countries, despite mid-2024 youth-led protests against the finance bill, which disrupted social, political, and economic life. UNHCR continued to base its Protection and Solutions Strategy on the assumption that refugees will continue to be protected by the Government of Kenya (GoK), live in safety and dignity together with host communities, access basic services sustainably, and progressively attain durable solutions.

The protection space improved with the gazettment of the Refugee (General) Regulations 2024, operationalizing the Refugees Act, 2021. Advocacy efforts ensured more inclusive policies, maintaining Kenya's open-door policy. In 2024, Kenya hosted 830,000 refugees and asylum seekers, a 16 per cent increase from 2023, making it the fourth-largest refugee-hosting country in the region. Approximately 9,800 stateless individuals benefited from a groundbreaking socioeconomic study on citizenship. Refugees' access to registration, Refugee Status Determination (RSD), and rights improved, though gaps persist due to mixed migration flows, involving asylum seekers and economic migrants. UNHCR continued advocating for freedom of movement, work, and financial access to enhance self-reliance.

Social cohesion remained stable through peacebuilding and community engagement. Intercommunity clashes in Kakuma in July 2024 were addressed. However, resource shortages left the most vulnerable in precarious conditions, with food rations cut to 40 per cent. Floods worsened the situation, displacing refugees and forcing resource reprioritization in Dadaab and Kakuma. Despite these challenges, progress was made in socioeconomic inclusion through consultations on the Shirika Plan and the implementation of Garissa Integrated Socio-Economic Development Plan (GISED) and Kalobeyei Integrated Socio-Economic Development Plan (KISED). These initiatives improved refugee and host community access to national health, education, and social protection services. Efforts toward efficiency continued with the Differentiated Assistance Model, set for implementation in 2025.

1.2. Progress Against the Desired Impact

1. Impact Area: Attaining Favorable Protection Environments

All refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless persons can enter Kenya and enjoy protection in line with national legislation and regional and international standards

Population Type	Indicator	
	Baseline	Actual (2024)
1.1 Proportion of people seeking international protection who are able to access asylum procedures		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	74.10%	80.00%
1.2 Proportion of people who are able to move freely within the country of habitual residence		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0.00%	14.00%

In 2024, access to territory for refugees and asylum-seekers improved, with the government registering 126,000 individuals seeking international protection. This accounts for 80 per cent of those in need of asylum, up from 74 per cent in 2023. The enactment of the 2024 General Refugee Regulations, operationalizing the Refugees Act 2021, has enhanced the implementation of key provisions, particularly those ensuring access to territory, reception, registration, and asylum procedures.

Despite progress, some new arrivals in the context of mixed movements faced detention due to their illegal presence. Similarly, asylum seekers of some nationalities such as Ethiopians, Eritreans and Afghans and with a particular profile (LGBTIQ+) reported facing challenges to access asylum procedures, though lesser than the previous year.

UNHCR and legal partners provided legal aid to uphold asylum access per international standards. Strong collaboration with authorities, police, and judiciary, alongside border monitoring, reinforced territorial access. Advocacy with the GoK promoted non-penalization for illegal entry and non-refoulement. Capacity-building efforts, including judicial training, improved legal interpretations affecting refugees. Official refoulement cases dropped from nine in 2023 to four in 2024. Continuous advocacy with the GoK will be pursued and strengthened to address persisting gaps.

Refugee freedom of movement is governed by the Refugees Act 2021, which restricts movement outside designated areas. Movement passes have continued to be the main requirement to enable freedom of movement outside the camps. Similarly, the exemption process has allowed a few refugees to reside outside of camps or settlements. It is estimated that 14 per cent of refugees have been able to move freely. This includes refugees with urban addresses and those with movement passes issued to them or as a result of the exemption. However, procedures for the issuance of movement passes has remained opaque and the exemption panel, ineffective due to inconsistencies in meetings, reduced staffing and unclear criteria for the exemptions has led to a backlog of exemption requests, exposing refugees found outside designated areas without authorisation to arrest, detention and prosecution. To improve the situation, the digitization of the exemption process has been initiated in 2024 and will be completed in 2025.

2. Impact Area: Realizing Rights in Safe Environments

Forcibly displaced and stateless persons are able to safely realize their basic rights, obligations and satisfy their needs

Population Type	Indicator	
	Baseline	Actual (2024)
2.2 Proportion of people residing in physically safe and secure settlements with access to basic facilities		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	83.49%	86.42%
2.3 Proportion of people with access to health services		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%

The Refugee Act 2021 allows refugees and asylum seekers to access basic rights while providing an enabling environment for realization of self-reliance. Kenya's legal framework ensures their security through constitutional provisions and law enforcement agencies. In urban areas, refugees can access police stations, local administrators, and community policing.

The Kenya Longitudinal Socioeconomic Study of Refugees and Host Communities revealed that high proportions of the forcibly displaced persons experience moderate to severe multidimensional poverty, particularly in education, employment, energy, housing, water and sanitation, and nutrition. Poverty is significantly higher in camps than in urban areas among the population, with the lowest camp poverty rate of 73.2 per cent in Dadaab exceeding the highest urban refugee rate of 25.9 per cent. Overall poverty estimates among refugees are 81.5 per cent in Kakuma, 82.7 per cent in Kalobeyei, and 74.6 per cent in Dadaab, compared to host rates of 86 per cent in Kakuma and Kalobeyei and 73.2 per cent in Dadaab. Though lower in urban areas, with Nairobi refugees at 10.7 per cent and other urban refugees at 25.9 per cent, compared to host poverty rates of 3.8 per cent in Nairobi and 7.3 per cent in other urban areas refugee poverty rates remain high and concerning. Gender disparities remain evident, as female-headed refugee households in urban areas face higher poverty rates (16.1 per cent) than male-headed ones (9.7 per cent). Urban refugees had more access to employment and market access opportunities compared to camp populations explaining the differences in poverty dynamics.

Refugees in Dadaab, Kakuma, and Kalobeyei accessed UNHCR-supported healthcare, while urban refugees used national facilities. Vulnerable households in urban areas and Kalobeyei were enrolled in the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF). UNHCR emphasized health education, immunization, antenatal care, and malnutrition screening, with outreach for remote populations. Efforts continue to control infectious diseases and improve child health.

3. Impact Area: Empowering Communities and Achieving Gender Equality

Forcibly displaced and stateless persons and communities are empowered through access to education, livelihoods, social protection and community development

Population Type	Indicator	
	Baseline	Actual (2024)
3.1 Proportion of people who have the right to decent work		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	87.96%	73.00%
3.2a Proportion of children and young people enrolled in primary education		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	86.65%	76.02%
3.2b Proportion of children and young people enrolled in secondary education		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	59.19%	51.81%
3.3 Proportion of people feeling safe walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	27.00%	37.71%

The proportion of learners enrolled in primary schools declined compared to the baseline target due to the system reform to junior secondary schools lowering the age of transition from 14 to 12, as well as an increase in the school-going population (ages 4 –17) in 2024. Secondary school attendance improved in 2024, supported by the automatic transition policy and 8,000 scholarships provided by the Ministry of Education with support from the World Bank for refugee children. Additionally, refugee camp schools were registered as part of efforts to integrate refugee learners into the national education system.

UNHCR interventions continued to focus on gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response and child protection related activities. Prevention remained a priority, including sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA). A gradual shift towards advocating for and supporting for refugee access to national services have been made, with particular attention to persons with specific needs including unaccompanied minors, elderly persons, persons living with disability, and members of the LGBTIQ+ community, bearing in mind their differentiated protection needs, age, gender and diversity considerations and community-based approaches. Refugee-led organizations and community-based organizations were supported and meaningfully engaged in the provision of protection and response. Community-based programmes and solutions were also prioritized.

4. Impact Area: Securing Solutions

More refugees and other persons of concern benefit from a wider range of durable solutions

Population Type	Indicator	
	Baseline	Actual (2024)
4.1 Number of refugees who voluntarily return in safety and dignity to their country of origin		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	247	1,499
4.2a Number of people who departed on resettlement		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	2,879	4,458
4.2b Number of people who departed through complementary pathways		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	955	0
4.3a Number of stateless people for whom nationality is granted or confirmed		
Stateless Persons	6,979	0
4.3b Number of refugees for whom residency status is granted or confirmed		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	126	51

In 2024, UNHCR facilitated the voluntary repatriation of 1,501 individuals to Burundi, who were mainly from Kakuma Refugee Camp, marking an increase from 247 in 2023. Repatriation from Dadaab was unfeasible due to unfavorable conditions in Somalia and Ethiopia. Limited funding in 2023 also reduced repatriation targets despite a strong willingness to return, particularly among Burundian refugees.

4,458 refugees were resettled in ten countries, while 1,477 individuals accessed family reunification and complementary pathways, mainly through private sponsorship. A small but increasing number of refugees secured education and employment opportunities abroad. Collaboration with international partners and host governments remains crucial to enhancing resettlement, improving repatriation, and ensuring long-term solutions for displaced populations.

Fifty-one individuals obtained alternative legal status in Kenya, mostly through marriage to Kenyan citizens, while others transitioned to work permits and student passes. UNHCR has no control over this process, as applicants engage directly with the Department of Immigration or DRS, leading to potential gaps in registration data.

Implementation of Section 28(8) of the Refugees Act, allowing refugees from the East African Community (EAC) to opt out of refugee status, remains limited. UNHCR continues to advocate for its enforcement. No stateless individuals received citizenship in Kenya in 2024, leaving about 9,800 stateless people in legal limbo, without protection or access to public services. While the government has shown goodwill in

addressing statelessness, the absence of a legal framework hinders registration efforts, and the civic demonstrations delayed critical legal reforms. Advocacy continues for a continuous registration process, with activities such as legislative roundtables and joint UNHCR-Government verification of specific populations.

1.3 Challenges to Achieving Impacts

The 2024 operational year posed some challenges in achieving the set targets across various interventions. On voluntary repatriation, delays in government flight clearances, high costs, and frequent flight cancellations forced refugees to remain in camps longer than expected. These influenced others considering return, further complicating the process.

The limited resettlement quota relative to the needs hindered efforts to address protection risks. A high rejection rate of urgent cases by resettlement countries required extensive reviews and resubmissions, increasing the workload and necessitating continuous counseling to manage refugee expectations.

Challenges in complementary pathways persisted due to government travel restrictions, slow processing of Conventional Travel Documents, exit permits, and limited pathway opportunities. These barriers further restricted alternative solutions beyond traditional resettlement.

To address these issues, key measures include strengthening government coordination to streamline flight clearances, exit permits, and resettlement procedures. Staffing capacity will be enhanced to expedite case processing, while advocacy for additional resettlement quotas will help bridge gaps. Expanding complementary pathways, such as education and labor mobility programs, and engaging more stakeholders will provide sustainable solutions. Improved data management will enhance documentation accuracy, facilitating efficient refugee movements. By implementing these strategies, Kenya's refugee resettlement and voluntary repatriation efforts will be strengthened, improving outcomes for displaced populations.

1.4 Collaboration and Partnerships

UNHCR expanded partnerships and collaboration with development actors in line with its multi-year strategy and sustainable response approach. Strengthening development engagement, UNHCR worked with national and county governments, International Financial Institutions (IFIs), and UN agencies to advance its strategic goals and Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) objectives. Through area-based development plans—KISED and GISED—UNHCR partnered with Garissa and Turkana County governments to include refugees in county development plans. The Shirika Plan consultations and Global Refugee Forum (GRF) pledge progressed under a whole-of-society approach. UNHCR contributed to United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSCDF) reports, collaborating with the Resident Coordinator's office to advocate for refugee inclusion in UN programs.

Engagement with development actors was reinforced through joint missions, data generation, advocacy for protection policies, and joint programming. New partnerships included academia, establishing a Refugee Resource Centre at the University of Nairobi, and strengthening ties with the World Bank's \$320 million WHR portfolio. Joint research under the Kenya Analytical Program on Forced Displacement (KAP-FD) involved the World Bank, UC Berkeley's CEGA, and Stanford's Immigration Policy Lab. UNHCR and

partners launched a Kenya Longitudinal Socioeconomic Study (K-LSRH) report. A new partnership with Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) ensures refugee inclusion in Kenya Integrated Household Budget Survey (KIHBS).

UNHCR co-chaired the 'Working Group for Financial Inclusion of Refugees' to enhance financial and digital access. Refugee inclusion in UN joint programs was strengthened, with the Shirika Plan in co-creation, set for launch by Kenya's government in early 2025. Private sector engagement progressed through collaboration with the World Economic Forum (WEF) under its Humanitarian Resilience Investment Initiative (HRII), mobilizing private investments in refugee-hosting counties.

Section 2: Results

2.1. Outcomes and Achievements

1. Outcome Area: Access to Territory, Reg. and Documentation

Access to civil registration services and issuance of legally recognized civil status documentation is strengthened.

Access to the territory of Kenya is guaranteed, national reception procedures are effective and refugees and asylum-seekers are issued with legally recognized identity documents by national refugee management authorities.

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
1.1 Proportion of refugees and asylum seekers registered on an individual basis			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
1.2 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	32.85%	100.00%	28.73%
1.3 Proportion of people with legally recognized identity documents or credentials			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	91.39%	100.00%	100.00%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
01.1.1 Number of people registered on an individual basis	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	126,349
01.2.1 Number of people supported to obtain civil status, identity or legal status documentation	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	51,246
Stateless Persons	2,313

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

During the reporting period, with UNHCR's technical support, DRS registered total of 126,000 individuals among whom 86,129 were in Dadaab, 30,114 in Kakuma-Kalobeyei and 10,056 in the urban areas of Nairobi, Mombasa and Nakuru, representing 16 per cent increase compared to 2023. Most registered individuals were from Somalia (86,039), South Sudan (21,819), the Democratic Republic of Congo (5,726), Ethiopia (4,745) and Burundi (4,402).

In 2024, the Civil Registration Service (CRS) continued to undertake missions to Dadaab, and Kakuma supported by UNHCR to process applications and issue birth certificates to refugees and asylum seekers under 5 years. A total of 25,068 birth certificates were issued, including 7,712 in Kakuma, 15,797 in

Dadaab and 1,559 in urban areas.

During the reporting period, with UNHCR's support, DRS issued 51,246 identification cards to refugees, including 29,540 in Kakuma, 15,797 in Dadaab and 5,909 in Nairobi.

2. Outcome Area: Status Determination

The efficiency, fairness and adaptability of national refugee status determination procedures is strengthened

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
2.1 Average processing time (in days) from registration to first instance asylum decision			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	2,737.50	1,200.00	2,757.00
2.2 Proportion of people undergoing asylum procedures who have access to legal representation			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
2.3 Proportion of people undergoing asylum procedures who have access to an effective appeal mechanism after first instance rejection of their claim			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
02.1.1 UNHCR has provided capacity development support to strengthen the national status determination system(s), in accordance with international standards	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Yes

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2024, UNHCR continued to support the Department of Refugee Services (DRS) by providing technical support and capacity development to enhance the quality and efficiency of the asylum processes. UNHCR trained 85 government RSD staff in various RSD technical skills including interviewing, drafting assessments, conducting exclusion interviews and assessments, reviewing RSD decisions and drafting rejection recommendations.

Through UNHCR's support, DRS finalized a total of 16,030 RSD decisions, a significant increase from 2023. The improvements are attributed to UNHCR's continuous advocacy and technical support which led to reduced no-show rate for RSD interviews, the resumption of RSD processing in Dadaab and the introduction of RSD services in the DRS Mombasa office. While the average processing time for RSD cases increased, this can be attributed to the efforts to finalize protracted cases that has been pending in the asylum backlog.

UNHCR continued to engage the Government to address the growing backlog by considering simplified RSD procedures for specific caseloads with high presumption of eligibility.

3. Outcome Area: Protection Policy and Law

The national protection framework is amended to enable enjoyment of fundamental rights and access to protection services by the affected populations, in line with international standards and obligations.

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
3.1 Extent national legal framework is in line with the 1951 Convention and/or its 1967 Protocol			
None	Progressing toward alignment	Broadly aligned	Broadly aligned
3.2 Extent national legal framework is in line with the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness			
None	Not yet aligned	Progressing towards alignment	Not yet aligned

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
03.1.1 UNHCR has engaged in legislative and judicial processes to strengthen laws and policies for the protection of refugees, IDPs, returnees and stateless people and/or the reduction and prevention of statelessness	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Yes
Stateless Persons	Yes

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

The national framework for refugees in Kenya was strengthened with the enactment of the 2024 General Refugee Regulations in February, guiding the implementation of the Refugees Act, 2021, an additional step toward aligning the national framework with international standards set by the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol. UNHCR played a crucial role in advocating for the enactment of the General Refugee Regulations, providing technical expertise, and engaging policymakers to ensure alignment with the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol. Following the enactment, the Refugee Consortium of Kenya (RCK), supported by UNHCR led public awareness and sensitization efforts, while government agencies worked on operationalizing key provisions. These collective efforts have significantly enhanced refugee protection. UNHCR directly and through its partners, supported the government at both national and county levels in developing inclusive legislation and policies. Advocacy with the Ministry of Social Protection and Labor and the education sector led to the development of a refugee-inclusive social protection policy and the passage of a bill, as well as an 'Education and Training Strategy for Refugees and Host Communities in Kenya (2023-2027)'. Efforts have been initiated to ensure the inclusion of refugees and asylum seekers in the Birth and Death Act and to amend certain provisions of the Immigration and Citizenship Act to address remaining situations of statelessness. Despite ongoing advocacy with relevant government agencies, no substantial progress was achieved by the end of 2024 on reforms of the regulatory framework for work permits and access to financial services.

Law enforcement officers, including police, immigration, and probation officers, as well as staff from various ministries, departments, agencies, and other stakeholders, were trained on refugee protection. These activities increased awareness of refugee rights and duties, leading to enhanced access to rights and

greater inclusion of refugees in national services. UNHCR supported the judiciary's participation in the annual International Association of Refugee and Migration Judges-UNHCR conference to enhance their capacity, given their significant role in interpreting laws and policies affecting refugee protection in Kenya.

Although Kenya has not acceded to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, national legislation includes provisions for equal conferment of nationality by both men and women and safeguards against arbitrary loss or deprivation of nationality that would render a citizen stateless. Support will continue to be provided to the Government of Kenya to implement its commitment made at the GRF 2023 to accede to the two statelessness conventions by 2027.

4. Outcome Area: Gender-based Violence

Safer environments are in place for women, girls and others most-at-risk and access to GBV prevention and response is strengthened including through national services

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
4.1 Proportion of people who know where to access available GBV services			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	38.66%	100.00%	81.10%
4.2 Proportion of people who do not accept violence against women			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	66.77%	90.00%	72.99%
4.3 Proportion of survivors who are satisfied with GBV case management services			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	59.95%	100.00%	83.31%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
04.1.1 Number of people who benefitted from specialized GBV programmes	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	19,685

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR continued its key role in GBV coordination in camps and urban areas, enhancing sustainable responses through government collaboration and partnerships in 2024. Coordination frameworks ensured national and county government participation in monthly meetings and refugee-led coordination systems, increasing refugee access to national response structures in health, psychosocial support, and legal aid. A key milestone was the launch of the Dadaab Sub County Gender Technical Working Group in collaboration with the National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC), fostering government cooperation on gender equality.

Forcibly displaced persons in camps and Nairobi had full access to GBV case management services, including medical care, legal aid, psychosocial support, and livelihoods assistance. However, services remained limited in other urban areas. UNHCR's community outreach increased awareness, with 81 per cent of refugees in Kakuma, Dadaab, and urban areas knowing where to access GBV services—up from 39 per cent in 2023. This progress was driven by UNHCR's helpline, information-sharing events like International Women's Day and the 16 Days of Activism, and targeted community communication materials.

To strengthen case management, UNHCR trained implementing partners such as Peace Winds Japan, HIAS, and the Danish Refugee Council, extending training to 120 individuals from refugee and women-led organizations. Additionally, 2,021 government officials received training to advocate for refugee inclusion. Survivor satisfaction with GBV case management rose to 90 per cent, a significant increase from 59 per cent in 2023.

Collaboration with women-led refugee and community groups enhanced inclusive GBV programming, integrating attitude and power-shifting models like "Girl Shine" to sustain community-driven responses. The rollout of GBVIMS, through training and mentorship, aims to improve data management and analysis, with continued engagement planned for 2025.

Key calendar events—International Day of Zero Tolerance Against FGM, International Women's Day, and the 16 Days of Activism—sensitized over 30,000 refugees, asylum seekers, and host community members on GBV issues. The percentage rejecting violence against women rose to 77 per cent from 66 per cent in 2023.

These events strengthened partnerships with DRS, county governments, implementing partners, and grassroots organizations, advancing collective efforts to combat GBV while integrating refugees into government systems. In 2024, advocacy efforts led to the deployment of four female police officers at gender desks in Dadaab, further enhancing survivor support.

5. Outcome Area: Child Protection

Children of concern have access to strengthened child protection mechanisms, including national child protection systems and services

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
5.1 Proportion of children at heightened risk who are supported by a Best Interests Procedure			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	29.32%	65.00%	48.59%
5.2 Proportion of children who participate in community-based child protection programmes			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	19.70%	30.00%	16.08%
5.3 Proportion of unaccompanied and separated children who are in an alternative care arrangement			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	67.57%	80.00%	77.04%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
05.1.1 Number of children and caregivers who received child protection services	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	54,733

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

The child protection services in Kenya have achieved significant progress in safeguarding vulnerable children and families. The child protection services mainly focused on providing best interest procedures

(BIP) and case management, including alternative care arrangement for unaccompanied and separated children, addressing psychological and physical well-being as well as special needs, and supporting caregivers and families through training, counselling, and various forms of assistance, across Dadaab, Kakuma, Nairobi and other urban areas. Robust child protection measures were also in place to ensure their access to education, healthcare, legal assistance, cash and emergency social support and other essential services to safeguard the well-being and development of these children in displacement contexts.

In Dadaab, over 240,000 children were registered, including 116,531 girls and 123,721 boys. Among them, 3,464 children are considered vulnerable, including those with disabilities, medical conditions, and unaccompanied or separated children (UASC). Key services included individualized case management with 217 Best Interest Determination (BID) and 167 Best Interest Assessment (BIA) cases, and therapy for 631 children (347 girls, 284 boys) to address emotional and psychological well-being. Home-based assessments were carried out for 335 children. 26 unaccompanied minors (12 girls, 14 boys) were identified, registered in case management, and referred for care arrangement. and survivors of gender-based violence received specialized counseling and support. Additionally, 270 caregivers participated in positive parenting training, which focused on providing specific insights into caring for children with disabilities and equipping them with skills to foster safe and supportive environments for children. A total of 63 Child Protection Help Desks placed in the blocks (55 for refugees and 8 for host communities) provided child protection messaging, while also serving as a referral and feedback mechanism, reaching 2,127 individuals, including 747 caregivers (380 women and 367 men) and 1,380 children (823 girls and 557 boys). Among them, 73 individuals had disabilities, including 7 women, 2 men, 27 girls, and 16 boys.

In Kakuma, 53,840 children and caregivers accessed a variety of child protection services. These included 19,572 children engaging with child-friendly spaces, family tracing and reunification for 1,913 UASCs. 4,281 newly registered UASCs were identified at the reception center and provided with appropriate protection services. Clothes, shoes, scholastic materials, and risk mitigation and prevention services were provided for 13,333 children and caregivers. Furthermore, 3,050 UASCs were placed under suitable alternative care and supported with follow-up services and specialized case management helped 2,581 children who were survivors of abuse, neglect, or exploitation. This comprehensive approach was supported by strong coordination with local and international partners, ensuring complementarity of efforts. In Nairobi and the surrounding urban areas, 478 children were directly reached with 289 participating in BIPs. 9 UASCs were supported with alternative care, 32 children received counselling and 58 engaged in children's dialogues and 26 families were assisted with cash support. In Nakuru and Mombasa, 76 children were reached and assessed through monitoring visits. Continuous capacity building was provided to government and other partners, including training of 20 sub-county children officers in Nakuru and Mombasa.

The Kenya operation continues to strengthen efforts to enhance the inclusion of refugee children in the national child protection system through public and policy advocacy, strengthened partnerships with government partners, and coordination mechanisms. The Child Protection Regulations (2024) to which UNHCR contributed, recognize the rights of children. Joint advocacy initiatives were conducted with key partners including events for the Day of the African Child to raise awareness on and engage refugee children. UNHCR continued to support key coordination mechanism among key child protection partners and stakeholders, including Child Protection Working Group meetings where trends, gaps, challenges, and referral mechanisms were discussed to ensure effective interventions and resource mobilization. Additionally, the operation maintained strong collaboration with the Department of Refugee Services, the Directorate of Children Services (DCS), UNICEF, and other members of the Child Protection Working Group ensuring government accountability, complementarity of efforts, clear role differentiation, and the avoidance of duplication.

6. Outcome Area: Safety and Access to Justice

Incidents of arbitrary arrest and detention on account of irregular entry, stay or legal status are reduced and access to legal remedies is enhanced.

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
06.1.1 Number of people who received legal assistance	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3,652

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR worked closely with partners, particularly DRS and RCK to ensure that the detention of refugees and asylum-seekers was minimized and that they had access to effective legal remedies. Capacity building and awareness raising on the Refugees Act 2021 and on refugee protection matters in general continued, with a range of interlocutors and law enforcers across the country, including police, border officials, Court users Committees and magistrates. This resulted in quick information sharing between government counterparts and UNHCR, leading to the smooth resolution of most detention cases. 1,865 monitoring visits of detention facilities and 8 missions along the migration/flight corridor were conducted which assisted in the early identification of refugees and asylum-seekers detained on charges of illegal entry, stay or legal status. 581 migration related cases were recorded in 2024. Working closely with DRS, the detainees were provided with legal assistance to enable early release.

UNHCR participation in United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) Joint Programme on Migration and Mobility with other UN agencies and government, provides a multiagency approach to Asylum and Migration, enhancing systems development at national levels. The new route-based approach introduced to Kenya in 2024 will enhance regional collaboration on cross cutting issues related to migration and asylum.

A total of 3,652 refugees and asylum-seekers were provided with legal counselling and legal aid to navigate individual and unique legal issues affecting them.

7. Outcome Area: Community Engagement and Women's Empowerment

Forcibly displaced and stateless persons and their host communities increase their meaningful engagement and participation in policy decisions and programme activities affecting their lives.

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
7.1 Extent participation of displaced and stateless people across programme phases is supported.			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Extensive	Extensive	Extensive
Stateless Persons	Extensive	Extensive	Extensive
7.2 Proportion of people who have access to safe feedback and response mechanisms			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
7.3 Proportion of women participating in leadership/management structures			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	48.97%	50.00%	48.75%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
07.1.1 Number of people consulted through Participatory Assessments	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3,957
07.2.1 Number of people who used UNHCR- supported feedback & response mechanisms to voice their needs/ concerns/feedback	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	410,114
07.3.1 Number of people who received protection services	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	720,678

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2024, 136,000 refugees participated in various community engagement forums organised by UNHCR in collaboration with DRS and partners to share information, offer guidance on access to services to enhance their meaningful participation in program activities. Efforts were made to ensure all groups of forcibly displaced persons i.e. women, men, youth, children, persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities were included in decision-making processes through taking part in participatory assessment conducted during the year where 3,957 refugees were mobilized to participate. In all the programs, individuals of all age, gender and diversity were engaged in capacity strengthening, counselling, mentorship. 48,650 youth participated in various youth activities and staff were also capacitated to enhance their understanding of diversity and inclusion to ensure support to all refugees in all programs.

Access to safe feedback and response mechanisms was availed 100 per cent to all individuals in the community. 528,160 528,000 refugees accessed various channels of communication i.e. helpline, SMS systems, emails, protection mailboxes, WhatsApp, Julisha platform story matters Facebook and Radio. The two-way communication enables the refugees to receive information, share feedback/comments and engage with UNHCR, DRS and partners in various matters affecting them. 49 Community feedback sessions were also organised in the Nairobi urban locations to engage with the urban refugees. 3 Interagency Communication with Community Working group Coordination meetings were held with partners to strengthen and enhance the overall AAP in Dadaab

45 per cent of women participated in leadership activities and formed part of the management structures in the community. Among the elected leaders in the refugee community, there is a requirement to have a woman among the positions available. Women were also encouraged to participate meaningfully in all activities within the community. During community mobilisation for activities, emphasises on women representation to ensure their participation in community engagement activities. There are eight refugee women led Community Based Organisations established in the urban areas which forms women management structures and indicate women engagement and participation in community activities and support.

8. Outcome Area: Well-Being and Basic Needs

The well-being of the refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless persons is improved and the gap in basic needs is bridged, including through enhanced use of cash-based interventions.

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
8.1 Proportion of people that receive cash transfers and/or non-food items			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	94.60%	100.00%	19.61%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator		Actual (2024)
Population Type		
08.1.1 Number of people who received cash assistance		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers		82,434
08.2.1 Number of people who received non-food items		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers		79,103
08.3.1 Number of people supported with improved cooking options		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers		60,500

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

The Kenya operation provided in-kind and cash assistance to cover the forcibly displaced and stateless peoples' basic needs. The in-kind support, which included kitchen items, sleeping items and sanitary products, and benefited 79,000 new arrivals in Kakuma and Dadaab.

Cash assistance was provided for hygiene (sanitary pads), cooking energy (including LPG, charcoal and firewood), shelter, education (scholarships), voluntary repatriation, and basic needs including to people with protection and specific needs, benefiting a total of 82,000 individuals. 59 households were supported with cash for shelter to construct transition their temporary shelters to permanent houses, which helped improve security, protection and dignity to the refugees. Cash for hygiene support enabled 74,000 women within the reproductive age purchase their sanitary materials with dignity and freedom of choice. In Kakuma, 976 caregivers were trained on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) to support persons with mental illnesses in their families, of whom 289 benefitted from cash assistance. Access to education and school attendance was also enhanced through cash support to facilitate acquisition of school requirements/scholastic materials, transport to and from school, and school uniforms. 592 individuals were supported with cash for Education, protection and basic needs through Lutheran World Federation (LWF), Terre Des Hommes (TDH) and Humanity and Inclusion (HI). Financial inclusion continued to be fostered through improved access to bank accounts. This delivery mechanism was used across the cash programmes except voluntary repatriation recipients who received cash over the counter. In 2024, UNHCR Kenya continued to partner with two Financial Service Providers who facilitate easy access to the cash assistance provided to refugees, asylum seekers and the host community. In total, UNHCR has facilitated the opening of about 55,000,000 bank accounts.

UNHCR Kenya expanded the use of CashAssist as the primary payment platform to Nairobi, alongside the Kakuma Sub-Office. This integration enhanced the timeliness, accuracy, accountability, and traceability of payments, as UNHCR and the bank systems were integrated. To keep up with the market dynamics in the refugee-hosting areas, UNHCR and WFP jointly conducted market monitoring on a quarterly basis for basic food and non-food items in Kakuma and Dadaab. The data on the prices of the different basic items were collected, which was used by the Cash Working Group (CWG) Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) workstream to constitute the MEB for Refugees.

To coordinate cash programmes undertaken by the different organizations, and to facilitate and increase

the use of cash as an effective assistance modality in Kakuma and Kalobeyei, a cash working group was formed in Kakuma, co-chaired by UNHCR, WFP and DRS. Ten organizations including DRS, UNHCR, WFP, IOM, LWF, NRC, Plan International, FCA, Red Cross, TDH, and SAPCONE are active members.

9. Outcome Area: Sustainable Housing and Settlements

Forcibly displaced, stateless and their host communities in Kenya, have improved physical and economic means to prepare, withstand recover and be protected from the impacts of climate change.

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
9.1 Proportion of people living in habitable and affordable housing			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	98.72%	100.00%	95.20%
9.2 Proportion of people that have energy to ensure lighting			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	23.59%	42.00%	34.35%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
09.1.1 Number of people who received shelter and housing assistance	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	39,972

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2024, the operation in constructed 2,672 transitional shelters, 112 permanent shelters, repaired 82 shelters which benefited 10,000 refugees and asylum seekers in both Kakuma and Kalobeyei settlement. Through partnership with the Organization for Refuge, Asylum & Migration (ORAM), 25 transitional shelters were constructed and allocated to 39 households of 75 individuals. UNHCR and its partners supported the relocation of 28,000 newly registered refugees consisting of 3,166 households from Dagahaley to Ifo 2 camp in Dadaab. Despite limited funding, UNHCR provided gum poles and tarpaulins as basic shelter assistance to vulnerable families. Out of the transitional shelters constructed in Kakuma and Kalobeyei settlement, 1,625 new shelters were allocated to 1,129 new arrival households while 1,047 units were issued to protection referral cases which consisted of 707 households. Furthermore, in Dadaab, targeted support was provided with the distribution of 700 emergency shelters to vulnerable households and 6 transitional shelters to families of Persons with Specific Needs in Ifo 2, improving their living conditions. Some individuals did not receive shelters due to funding constraints such as the new arrivals at the reception centers and pending protection cases. 112 permanent shelters in Kalobeyei settlement were constructed through cash-based intervention (CBI) model where the beneficiaries participated in the negotiation of commodities' prices and bargaining with artisans. This implementation modality allows them to own the process. The construction of permanent shelters offered durable and adequate housing solution leading to minimized cases of GBV and other security issues.

Despite the limited funding, UNHCR and partners made concerted efforts to promote access to sustainable energy for lighting. Based on the Kenya Analytical Programme on Forced Displaced (KAPFD) survey 34.35 per cent of refugees and asylum seekers have access to energy for lighting and running small and micro enterprises. This is a remarkable improvement from 23.59 per cent reported in 2023. While access to

energy in the camps remains low, UNHCR has partnered with private institutions such as Renewvia, SNV Netherlands and the Girl Child Network to accelerate refugee access to higher tier grid electricity from solar mini grids and access to smaller scale solar home systems.

10. Outcome Area: Healthy Lives

Health and nutrition status of the refugees and stateless persons is maintained or improved.

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
10.1 Proportion of children aged 9 months to five years who have received measles vaccination			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	95.06%	100.00%	106.39%
10.2. Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	95.05%	100.00%	90.19%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
10.1.1 Number of individual consultations in UNHCR supported health care services	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	1,273,044
10.2.1 Number of consultations in UNHCR supported mental health and psychosocial support services	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	35,770

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2024, significant progress was made in the Kakuma and Dadaab refugee operations, improving health services for refugees and asylum seekers in Kenya. Inclusion in national and county health systems allowed urban refugees and those in Kakuma/Kalobeyi to access national health insurance on par with nationals. Refugee health facilities were recognized as public health facilities with increased support from the government and UN agencies. The adoption of Kenya Health Information System (KHIS) and Logistic Management Information System (LMIS) facilitated access to nutrition commodities through the national supply system, supported by UNICEF, along with tuberculosis, HIV, and vaccine supplies from the government. Improved coordination between WFP, DRS, UNHCR, and partners led to the development of a differentiated assistance (DA) framework to tailor aid based on individual needs. Advocacy efforts ensured refugee inclusion in the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) in Kenya.

In Dadaab, healthcare services operated across seven dispensaries and four comprehensive facilities, supported by 369 community health volunteers. A total of 549,880 consultations were conducted, with each clinician handling 106 per day, exceeding the SPHERE standard of 50. Mental health services reached 24,666 clients. The crude mortality rate (CMR) was 0.2/1000/month, and the under-5 mortality rate (U5MR) was 0.5/1000/month, both within SPHERE standards. Measles vaccination coverage reached 94 per cent of children aged 9 months to five years, while 89 per cent of births were attended by skilled personnel. The

nutrition program admitted 23,671 malnourished children, meeting SPHERE standards. The HIV/AIDS program enrolled 156 individuals, and 338 Tuberculosis cases were treated with a 97 per cent cure rate. The referral system enabled specialist visits to Dadaab, with complex cases sent to Garissa or Nairobi.

In Kakuma, refugees accessed primary healthcare at eight UNHCR-supported public health facilities. The national community health strategy was rolled out, registering 50 community health units and training health promoters. A total of 723,164 consultations were conducted, with each clinician seeing 133 patients daily. The under-five mortality rate was 1.1/1000/month, within SPHERE standards. Antenatal coverage was 72%, while 92% of births were attended by skilled personnel. Mental health services served 11,035 clients. HIV/AIDS treatment continued, supporting 976 clients, and 666 Tuberculosis cases were treated with a 65% cure rate. The nutrition program admitted 11,708 malnourished children, maintaining SPHERE standards.

A tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between UNHCR, Kenya Medical Training College (KMTTC), and the Turkana County Government, enabled the operation to address gaps in human resources for health, training nurses, and enhancing non-communicable disease management. The referral system allowed specialists to visit Kakuma, with complex cases referred to Lodwar, Moi Referral, or Nairobi. In urban, refugees accessed healthcare in public facilities under the same conditions as nationals, with vulnerable individuals supported for national health insurance enrollment.

11. Outcome Area: Education

Access of refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless persons to quality formal and non-formal education and training at all levels is enhanced.

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
11.1 Proportion of young people enrolled in tertiary and higher education			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	5.86%	6.00%	2.22%
11.2 Proportion of children and young people enrolled in the national education system			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	8.93%	14.00%	11.35%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
11.1.1 Number of people who benefitted from education programming	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	175,282

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Progress Towards the Outcomes as Defined in Our Statements

The proportion of children and young people enrolled in the national education system also improved, rising from 10 per cent to 11.4 per cent. These achievements were made possible through the provision of learning materials, school kits, hygiene and sanitary kits, teachers, and school infrastructure to schools in Kakuma and Dadaab refugee camps and host community schools. Additionally, the Ministry of Education (MoE) with funding from World Bank in collaboration with UNHCR, provided scholarships to 8,000 secondary school learners, enabling them to study in public schools under the Government of Kenya Secondary School Elimu Scholarships, facilitated through the Kenya Primary Education Equity in Learning

(KPEEL) Program.

UNHCR's Contribution Towards Positive Changes

UNHCR supported MoE, to carry out provisional registration of primary and secondary schools under a special category as "refugee schools refugee schools enabling their inclusion in Ministry of Education programmes." Additionally, UNHCR supported the development of a draft MoE Education and Training Strategy for Refugee and Host Communities.

Further, UNHCR facilitated the enrollment of refugee learners in the Kenya Education Management Information System (KEMIS), ensuring better tracking and integration of refugee students within the national system. Approximately 80 per cent of learners were also enrolled in the National Education Management Information System (NEMIS), with the MoE supporting schools in the enrollment process. Additionally, UNHCR supported school governance improvements, with the MoE formalizing and capacitating Refugee Schools' Boards of Management (BoM). UNHCR also contributed to digital learning initiatives through the Instant Network School (INS) Vodafone partnership project, which was implemented in 19 schools. In tertiary education, scholarship programs provided access to undergraduate and postgraduate education for 3,051 refugee learners. However, while the proportion of young people enrolled in tertiary and higher education among refugees and asylum seekers decreased to 2.2 per cent 3.76. per cent t due to limited scholarship opportunities in 2024.

Contributions of Other Stakeholders

The Government of Kenya, through the Ministry of Education, in facilitating refugee learners to enroll in public schools, access scholarships and registered refugee schools. It also led development of the draft Education and Training Strategy for Refugee and Host Communities.

Development partners, NGOs, and private sector actors also contributed significantly. The INS Vodafone partnership project was a major initiative supporting digital learning in refugee schools. Other stakeholders assisted in the provision of essential learning materials, infrastructure development, teacher recruitment, and capacity-building efforts for school governance structures.

12. Outcome Area: Clean Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless persons have equitable access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene facilities

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
12.1 Proportion of people using at least basic drinking water services			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
12.2 Proportion of people with access to a safe household toilet			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	73.01%	100.00%	61.19%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
12.1.1 Number of people supported with access to water and/or sanitation services	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	712,265

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2024, the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) sector realized notable achievements under the outcomes defined for both Kakuma and Dadaab. In Dadaab, a total of 416,000 refugees and 1,510 host community members accessed WASH services. Water was pumped from 28 boreholes and 42 elevated steel tanks that distributed water via a 276-kilo meter pipeline network to 924 tap stands. Boreholes are solarized, realizing a 34.8 per cent saving in diesel. The daily water supply averaged 17.4 liters per person, slightly below the UNHCR standard of 20 liters. A total of 1,954 household latrines were constructed, bringing the total number of latrines to 43,338 for 77,169 households, achieving a coverage of 56.2 per cent. Additionally, 48 latrine stances were constructed and 60 rehabilitated in schools. Hygiene promotion efforts reached 67,635 households. Further, 15,045 households and 24,980 latrines were disinfected.

In Kakuma, 298,053 refugees and asylum seekers were supplied with portable clean and safe water. To support newly settled forcibly displaced persons, 3,720 meters of water pipeline were extended, and 1,193 meters were rehabilitated. Kakuma and Kalobeyei are supported by water from 23 boreholes which pump water to 45 elevated steel tanks. Total of 19 boreholes are solarized giving a 40 per cent saving in diesel. The average water per capita was 15.41 liters per day. Sanitation and hygiene efforts included the construction of 550 communal latrines and the provision of materials for 417 household latrine construction. Promotion of Menstrual Health and Hygiene sessions reached 5,438 individuals.

UNHCR played a crucial role in coordinating and implementing WASH services, including the construction and rehabilitation of water and sanitation infrastructure, distribution of hygiene materials, and promotion of hygiene practices. The solarization of boreholes by UNHCR reduced diesel consumption and promoted sustainable water supply. Business, markets and private schools were connected water for their businesses, and they paid to designated boreholes committee who provided diesel to pump the water. The Hagadera Community Management Cooperative Society is recognized by the government as a community-based organization which participated in water and solid waste management.

13. Outcome Area: Self Reliance, Economic Inclusion and Livelihoods

Refugees, asylum seekers and host communities become self-reliant through strengthened livelihood support and economic inclusion.

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
13.1. Proportion of people with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	37.80%	50.00%	60.39%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
13.1.1 Number of people who benefitted from livelihoods and economic inclusion interventions	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	12,056

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2024, the operation collaborated with the Kenyan government, development partners, UN agencies, and I/NGOs to support programming that promotes self-reliance and economic inclusion of forcibly displaced populations and host communities in Kakuma, Dadaab, and urban areas. UNHCR worked with partners to enhance market-led skills and entrepreneurship development, expand financial access, improve business environments, and strengthen local value chains. Collaboration also focused on area-based approaches (GISED P and KISED P II) aligned with national and local development plans. The government rolled out the refugee-inclusive Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) policy and supported some refugees in obtaining work permits.

The Kenya Operation collaborated with government agencies and stakeholders to strengthen the legal and policy environment for refugee self-reliance through inclusion in development programs and the implementation of the GRF pledge on the Shrika Plan, Differentiated Assistance model, and related initiatives. The Financial Inclusion Working Group, co-led by the operation and DRS, has advanced advocacy for reviewing central bank and communications authority regulations to improve refugee access to banking and SIM card registration.

The operation fostered strategic partnerships to expand development investments and worked with partners to develop tailored savings, credit, digital finance, and financial literacy products for refugees and host communities. Financial access has improved through the IFC-Equity Bank de-risking facility and SIDA-KCB's Credit Guarantee Fund. The Kenya longitudinal socioeconomic study estimates that 60.39 per cent of FDPs now hold accounts with banks or mobile money providers.

UNHCR supported technical and entrepreneurial training for 2,443 individuals (2,102 refugees, 341 hosts) in Kakuma and Dadaab through Don Bosco Kakuma and DRC. In Dadaab, 91 graduates (70 men, 21 women) received start-up kits for business ventures, while 20 refugee-owned businesses affected by floods received recovery grants. UNHCR also continued partnering with Don Bosco and the Kenyan government's Ajira Digital Program where a total of 776 (653 refugees; 123 hosts) were upskilled out of which 110 transited into digital work and contributed to their household incomes. There remains a huge potential for exploitation of the digital space to enhance refugee livelihoods not only through digital work but also through e-commerce, e-sports, AI, and other emerging digital opportunities. Through the support from Inkomoko, Equity Bank and Kenya Commercial Bank, a total of 5,338 refugees received business development services including entrepreneurship skills training, financial literacy, business mentorship, savings and credit services. These services enabled many refugee families to expand their income generating activities and significantly improve household incomes.

14. Outcome Area: Voluntary Return and Sustainable Reintegration

Refugees who wish to return to their countries of origin do so voluntary, in safety and with dignity.

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
14.1.1 Number of people who received counselling and/or information on voluntary repatriation	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	1,501

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2024, voluntary repatriation in the operation progressed significantly with 1,428 refugees returning to Burundi, surpassing the annual target set by the operation. UNHCR ensured informed decision-making, safe transport, and reintegration support, working with DRS, DRC, and the Burundi Operation in coordination with Burundian authorities. Strengthened verification and pre-departure assistance improved efficiency. Development partners provided reintegration support, while engagement with government counterparts ensured compliance with protection standards. This success highlights the vital role of partnerships in securing durable solutions.

15. Outcome Area: Resettlement and Complementary Pathways

More refugees benefit from third country solutions through resettlement and complementary pathways.

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
15.1 Number of refugees submitted by UNHCR for resettlement			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	4,259	4,000	3,761

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
15.1.1 Country issues machine-readable travel documents	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Yes

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2024, UNHCR was allocated resettlement quotas for the submission of 2,890 refugees in Kenya to Australia, Canada, Germany, the Netherlands, and the United States, while managing a post-submission caseload exceeding 27,000 refugees with active UNHCR cases being processed by resettlement countries. Resettlement case identification was done following established standard operation procedure (SOPs) across Kakuma, Dadaab, and urban areas, ensuring adherence to integrity standards. In total, 3,761 individuals were submitted for resettlement including the addition of newborn children and other dependent family members to cases submitted in previous years, as well as submissions under unallocated resettlement quotas.

UNHCR remains committed to maintaining the fairness, efficiency and integrity of the resettlement process through robust measures, including biometric identity verification, comprehensive interview protocols, regular communication with refugee communities, and the utilization of relevant proGres data. Monitoring mechanisms are in place to uphold compliance at every stage.

16. Outcome Area: Integration and other Local Solutions

Forcibly displaced and stateless persons benefit from enhanced local solutions, including through acquisition of residency status and work permits.

Stateless persons are able to obtain citizenship and relevant documents in a timely manner

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
16.1 Proportion of people with secure tenure rights to housing and/or land			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
16.2 Proportion of people covered by national social protection systems			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	28.58%	40.00%	9.29%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
16.1.1. Government Social protection system is inclusive of forcibly displaced and stateless people	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Partially
Stateless Persons	Not at all
16.2.1 Number of people supported by UNHCR to acquire nationality, permanent residency status or to access naturalization procedures	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	51
Stateless Persons	2,307

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Kenya's Social Protection System has advanced significantly, focusing on aligning legal frameworks, the social registry, and various programs to enhance inclusivity. The government has made progress in integrating refugees into the Enhanced Single Registry (ESR), registering over 11,000 households in six counties. Additionally, the NSSF included refugees in its Haba Haba Programme, while a refugee-inclusive strategy for social protection in the informal and rural economy was launched, with Mombasa County as a pilot. These efforts contributed to policy alignment, data integration, and incremental refugee access to social protection. Extensive policy dialogues at national and county levels led to the Cabinet's approval of the Refugee-Friendly Social Protection Policy of 2024, paving the way for the National Social Protection Law, now at the draft stage and explicitly including refugees.

UNHCR continued supporting 190 elderly refugees with cash assistance aligned with the Government's Older person's Cash transfers targeting individuals who are 70 years and beyond. Furthermore, in collaboration with the National Social Protection Secretariat and the International Labour Organization (ILO), the government launched a refugee-inclusive strategy for extending social protection to the informal and rural economy, with Mombasa County among the pilot locations. This initiative aims to include refugees living in informal settlements within social protection schemes.

In the health sector, UNHCR has strengthened its collaboration with the Social Health Authority (SHA), formerly NHIF, to deliver social health insurance products for refugees, furthering the integration of 68,558 persons into national health systems. At the county level, UNHCR has worked closely with ILO and UNICEF under PROSPECTS funding to support the development of complementary policies that enhance social protection for refugees and host communities in Garissa, and Turkana. Additionally, 8,000 learners from

poor households benefited from the government's fee waiver-bursary programme supporting access to secondary education.

Coordination for Delivery on social Protection Outcomes.

While actively participating in policy dialogues, UNHCR strengthened collaboration with the Kenyan government, through the National Social Protection Secretariat, and key stakeholders to enhance refugee inclusion in national social protection systems. Through multi-sectoral partnerships across different domains including SHA (formerly NHIF) on social health insurance, county governments hosting refugees, UN agencies (ILO, UNICEF and WFP) and development partners including development agencies including the World Bank, Netherlands, EU, FCDO and PRM supporting systems strengthening for refugee inclusion.

2.2. Age, Gender and Diversity

Throughout 2024, the operation made efforts to achieve gender equality among refugees through meaningfully engaging them across all phases of the programme cycle including encouraging and promoting equal participation of women in decision making. Women constitute 50 per cent of the refugee leadership. There exist GBV and Women structures that specifically address GBV and women empowerment matters. During the reporting period, participatory assessments in Urban, Dadaab and Kakuma were conducted in line with the AGD principle. Lack of physical safety, communal conflict, lack of access to livelihood opportunities and access to documentation were noted in the participatory assessment. Women continue to face disparities in, income, education, traditional gender roles, stereotypes and religious barriers which limit their opportunities to engage in community development. A comprehensive strategy i.e. policy changes, education, livelihood and cultural shifts to promote gender equality needs to be enhanced.

Section 3: Resources

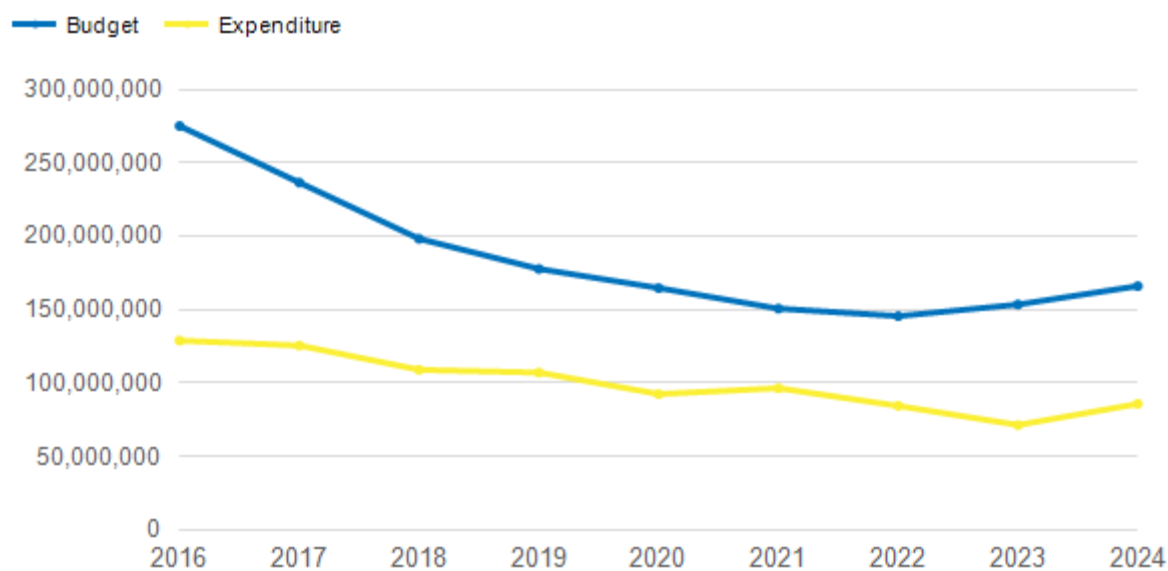
3.1 Financial Data

(Financial figures in USD)

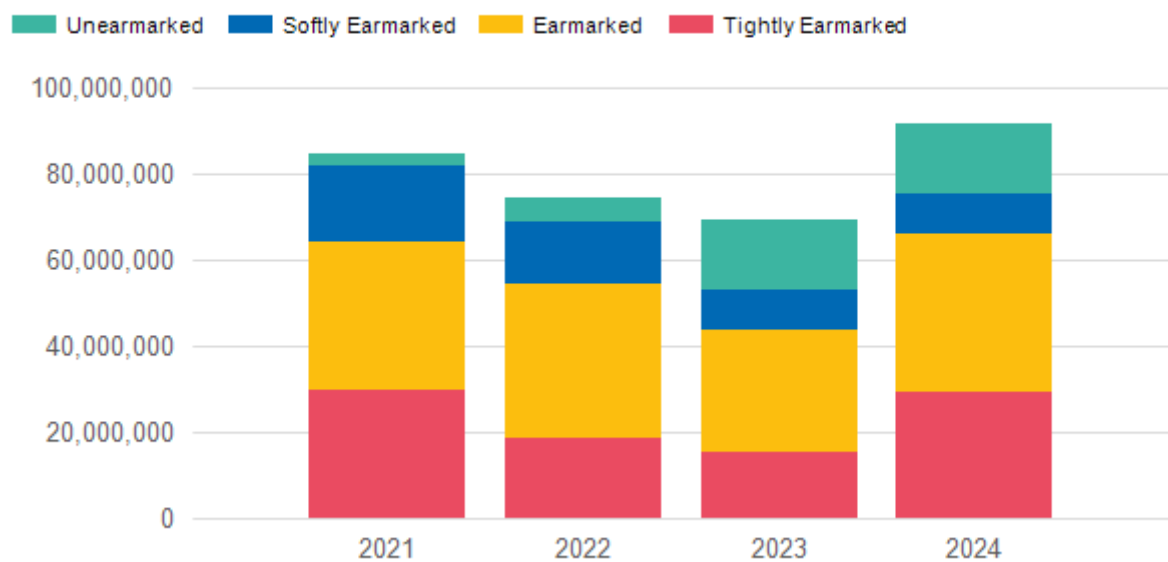
Impact Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
IA1: Protect	23,404,148	18,258,361	78.01%	18,258,361	100.00%
IA2: Assist	88,277,134	47,038,341	53.28%	47,036,890	100.00%
IA3: Empower	27,724,678	13,873,232	50.04%	13,606,864	98.08%
IA4: Solve	26,569,109	6,841,825	25.75%	6,841,825	100.00%
All Impact Areas		5,848,740			
Total	165,975,070	91,860,499	55.35%	85,743,940	93.34%

Outcome Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
OA1: Access/Doc	10,980,469	10,001,018	91.08%	10,001,018	100.00%
OA2: Status	4,441,347	3,578,342	80.57%	3,578,342	100.00%
OA3: Policy/Law	4,052,682	1,967,149	48.54%	1,967,149	100.00%
OA4: GBV	3,987,903	3,258,189	81.70%	3,258,189	100.00%
OA5: Children	2,735,731	1,815,492	66.36%	1,815,492	100.00%
OA6: Justice	2,188,428	1,554,046	71.01%	1,554,046	100.00%
OA7: Community	1,458,606	3,295,550	225.94%	3,295,550	100.00%
OA8: Well-being	20,603,389	8,874,338	43.07%	8,874,338	100.00%
OA9: Housing	13,476,947	3,738,674	27.74%	3,737,223	99.96%
OA10: Health	29,370,064	12,794,707	43.56%	12,794,706	100.00%
OA11: Education	19,618,082	7,457,262	38.01%	7,190,894	96.43%
OA12: WASH	12,870,548	4,650,188	36.13%	4,650,188	100.00%
OA13: Livelihood	6,647,990	3,120,420	46.94%	3,120,420	100.00%
OA14: Return	16,120,894	2,303,415	14.29%	2,303,415	100.00%
OA15: Resettle	4,808,370	2,772,642	57.66%	2,772,642	100.00%
OA16: Integrate	5,639,846	1,765,768	31.31%	1,765,768	100.00%
EA17: Systems	4,063,648	11,099,577	273.14%	11,099,577	100.00%
EA19: People	1,741,222	1,157,807	66.49%	1,157,807	100.00%
EA20: External	1,168,904	807,177	69.05%	807,177	100.00%
All Outcome Areas		5,848,740			
Total	165,975,070	91,860,499	55.35%	85,743,940	93.34%

Budget and Expenditure Trend



Contributions Trend by Type



3.2. Resources Overview

The Kenya operation was one of the pilot countries for implementing the MYFPT (Multi Year Fundraising and programming Target) model. The objective of the model is to support a more sustainable and solutions-oriented programme in line with the Global Compact of Refugees and the Kenyan national framework for refugee inclusion anchored in the new Refugees Act, 2021. During the reporting period, UNHCR appealed for \$165.9 million to support its operations. Through strong resource mobilization efforts, Kenya successfully managed to fundraise 52 per cent of the needs-based budget and over 90 per cent of the MYFPT target.

The Representation in Kenya mobilized resources in 2024 by seeking funding opportunities with new

donors and maintain and growing existing partnerships. The overall refugee and asylum seekers population increased to 823,932 at the end of 2024. The resource allocation committee and MFT's in field locations made budgetary recommendations and reprioritizations to meet the emerging needs.

Section 4: Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

4.1 Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

The Kenya operation began 2024 under the Multi-Year Funding and Programming Target (MYFPT) budgeting scheme, requiring active fundraising. The operation successfully mobilized funding for over 97 per cent of its needs, enabling support for both existing refugees and 126,319 new arrivals. Improved joint planning with WFP, DRS, UNHCR, and partners led to extensive community engagement in developing a framework for Differentiated Assistance (DA). This will ensure aid is based on specific needs rather than blanket assistance, improving resource management and targeting while promoting sustainable solutions for displaced and stateless people.

Significant progress was made in advancing the Shirika Plan in Kenya. Following its adoption in 2025, legal reforms will be essential to establish a framework that enhances refugees' socio-economic opportunities, allowing them predictable mobility like nationals and ordinary foreigners.

Global financial shifts have forced actors in the refugee operation to prioritize lifesaving interventions, reducing overall assistance. This is expected to worsen in 2025, impacting food rations and education, with potential consequences such as increased trafficking and sexual exploitation of vulnerable groups.

Climate change has become a major operational challenge, particularly affecting farming, which must be reassessed as a primary livelihood activity. Its broader impact on the operation requires evaluation for future programming.



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