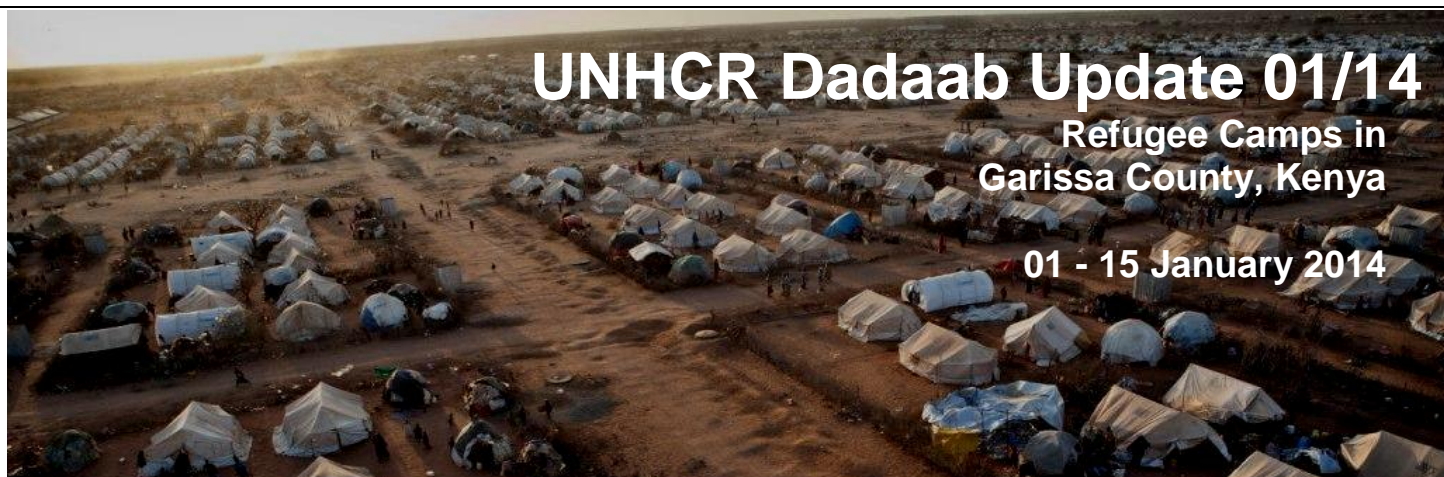


UNHCR Dadaab Update 01/14

Refugee Camps in
Garissa County, Kenya

01 - 15 January 2014



NEW DEVELOPMENTS

New police buildings in Dadaab and Kambioos

On 8 January 2014, UNHCR officially handed over the newly constructed police reporting offices and accommodation blocks for the Administration Police in Dadaab and the Kenya Police in Kambioos. On 9 January 2014, police officers moved into the Kambioos compound and thereby established a permanent presence in the camp.

This constitutes a milestone for Kambioos. With a capacity to accommodate up to 40 police officers, the police station is expected to strengthen the security in the camp and bring services closer to the refugee communities who have in the past been obliged to travel to Hagadera for assistance. The permanent police presence in the camp is also expected to open up opportunities for additional activities, such as the construction of a market. UNHCR is advocating for the opening of a gender desk at the station which can e.g. be approached by survivors of sexual and gender based violence. The new buildings are part of the Security Partnership Programme between UNHCR and the Government of Kenya.



Photo: Assadullah Nasrullah/ UNHCR

Improvised explosive device

On 8 January 2014, an improvised explosive device (IED) was detonated on the road between Dadaab and Dagahaley near the UNHCR Ifo Field Office. The attack seems to have targeted a police vehicle which escorted humanitarian workers to the camps. Two secondary explosions followed in the same area about 30 minutes after the initial explosion. No fatalities or serious injuries were reported. Two suspects were arrested in connection to the incident. An Interagency Security Coordination Meeting was held shortly after the incident in which agencies were briefed by senior police officers. All except critical humanitarian activities in the field were suspended for two days as a security assessment was conducted. Normal activities resumed in all camps on 13 January 2014.

This was the second IED in the Dadaab area within a space of ten days. On 30 December 2013, an IED had detonated in Dagahaley and also missed the targeted police vehicle.

On 13 January 2014, refugee leaders from all five camps, leaders of the Community Peace and Protection Teams, humanitarian agencies and senior police commanders met in Dadaab to discuss the security situation. The refugee leaders expressed their desire to contribute to safety and security in the camps and asked the police to maintain confidentiality of reports made to them. They also expressed reservations concerning the conduct of some police officers during investigations. The police representatives assured that the police would keep confidentiality of reports and that the complaints on investigation methods would be followed up.

Fire in Dagahaley

A MSF medical warehouse in the MSF Dagahaley residential compound went on fire on 4 January 2014. The warehouse was destroyed and all drugs, medical equipment and therapeutic food stock, estimated to cover four to six months, burnt to ashes. Police, humanitarian actors and the refugee community mobilised and the fire was contained after about four hours. The cause of the fire is suspected to be an electrical fault. No casualties have been reported.

PROTECTION



Photo: UNHCR Alinjgur

Refugees in Kambioos Block 10-D preparing to return to Somalia

Voluntary Return to Somalia

Counselling at the Return Help Desks across the five camps continued during the reporting period. Throughout the five Dadaab camps, a total of 474 heads of households representing 2,000 individuals approached the desks between the opening of the Help Desks on 9 December 2013 and 15 January 2014. Most of them made inquiries on the return support package which is still to be finalised.

In Kambioos, cases of spontaneous return have been reported after the issuance of the return package was delayed. Approximately 30 families were reported to have returned to Sakow and Jamame Districts situated in Lower Juba during the reporting period.

Resettlement

Between 1 and 15 January 2014, six cases comprising of 17 individuals were interviewed for processing and onward submission to resettlement countries. A total of 40 cases / 71 individuals were submitted to the UNHCR Branch Office Nairobi for onward submission to resettlement countries.

Ten individuals departed the Dadaab camps for onward resettlement to the United States. Nine medical referrals were received from health partner International Rescue Committee (IRC) for resettlement consideration.

HEALTH AND NUTRITION

As of January 2014, WFP has resumed the normal food basket of 2,100 kcal per person per day after the food rations had to be shortened in November and December 2013. A new food basket monitoring tool using NutVal was piloted in Dagahaley successfully. It will be implemented in all Dadaab camps to ensure that the food distribution is monitored and refugees receive their entitlement.

The average Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rate of all five camps is 9.9 % (Nutrition Survey Report 2013). This is an improvement from 15.4% in 2012. However, the nutrition situation remains serious (>10%) in all camps except Hagadera which shows a slightly better rate (GAM <10% but above 5%).

In the frameworks of the Infant Feeding Programme, a training session on monitoring was conducted for 23 counsellors from Hagadera camp.

EDUCATION

Schools opened on 6 January 2014 after the month-long holidays. In primary schools students lined up to get exercise books and school bags for this school year.



Photo: Duke Mwanacha/ UNHCR

The Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) results for 2013 were released and showed some room for improvement in this sector as the Dadaab schools scored on average 171.1 out of 500 marks.

A total of 2,983 candidates in all Dadaab camps except Kambioos had sat for the 2013 KCPE examinations. The top three KCPE exam performers were boys with 386, 368 and 367 marks out of the possible 500 marks. The top two girls scored 348 marks; followed by one girl with 337 marks. The academic performance of girls was generally low.

Parent-Teacher-Associations identified congestion and shortage of teachers as contributing factors to the poor performance. Follow up actions to improve education standards in Dadaab are currently being prioritised.

HOST COMMUNITY

On 8 January 2014, UNHCR officially inaugurated four building that were constructed by Regional Rural Development Organization (RRDO) to support the host community. The four projects included the Dadaab Town Hall and a dormitory for the Dadaab Secondary School as well as a primary school and a dispensary in Maleyey. Maleyey is located 31km from Dadaab and has 1,100 inhabitants.

In its support to host community UNHCR targets critical sectors such as energy, education, livelihoods, environment, sanitation and socio-infrastructure in Dadaab and Fafi. UNHCR Country Representative Raouf Mazou stated that communities which receive refugees are extremely important as they provide protection and asylum. He added that appreciation will never be enough as compared to what has been done for the Somali refugees.



Photo: RRDO

New Community Hall in Dadaab Township

PROJECT AGREEMENTS FOR 2014

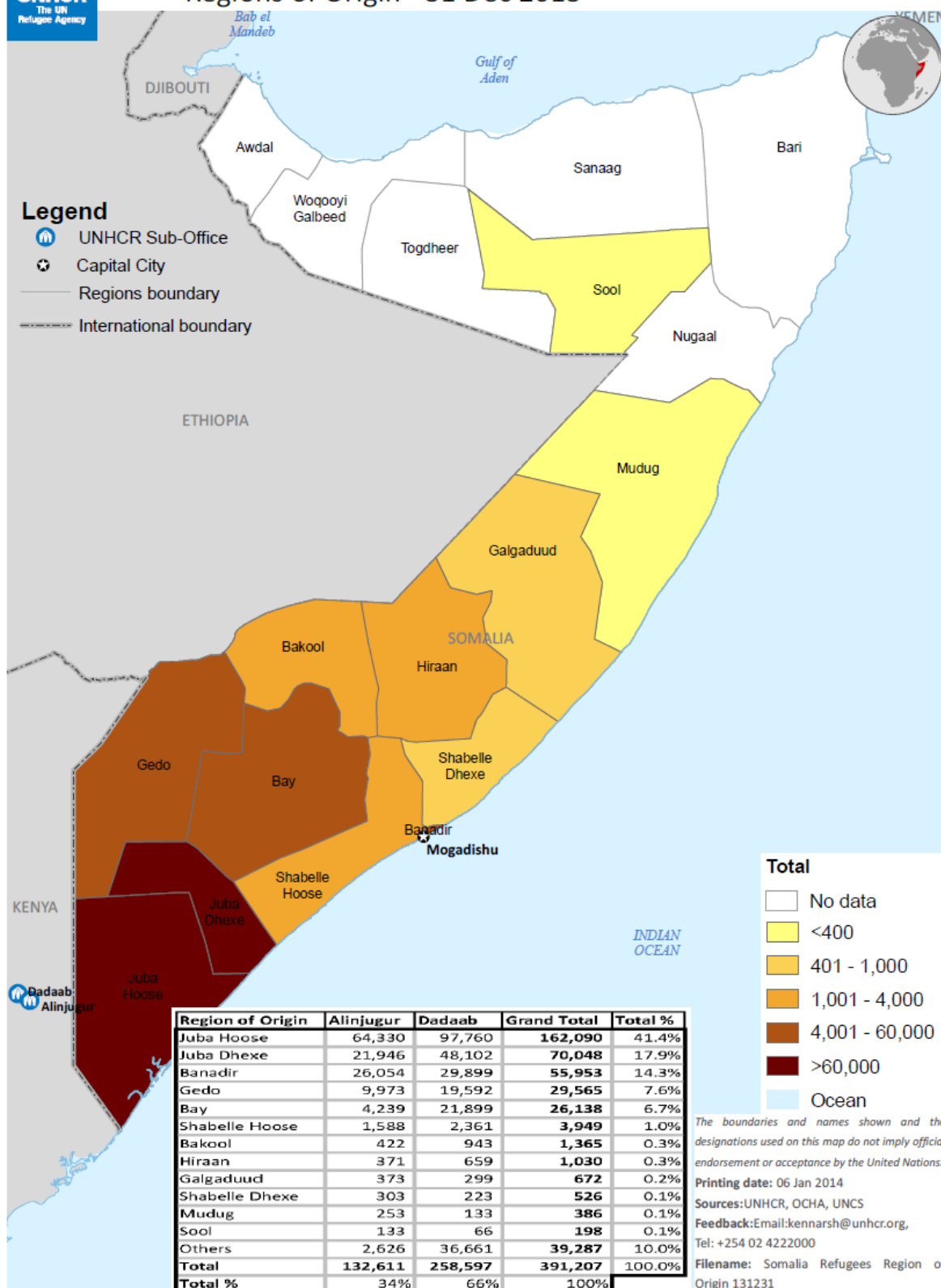
Discussions with partners have been completed and the first set of 2014 project agreements have been initiated and signed. A total of 15 project agreements are to be signed in 2014.



Somalia: Refugees and asylum-seekers in Alinjgur and Dadaab, Kenya.

Regions of Origin 31 Dec 2013

UNHCR RSH-Nairobi



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
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Webportal on Somali Displacement:
<http://data.unhcr.org/horn-of-africa/regional.php>

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