Hagadera Camp Profile
DADAAB REFUGEE CAMPS, KENYA

CAMP SNAPSHOT

Population: 106,926
26,690 households

53,876 female, 53,050 male
(01/03/2015)

Size of camp area: 8.7 km²

Nationalities:

- Somalia: 103,858
- Ethiopia: 3,057
- DRC: 5
- Uganda: 3
- Cameroon: 2
- South Sudan: 1

BACKGROUND

Hagadera was established in 1992 and is the third oldest and largest camp in the Dadaab operation. The camp has one of the biggest markets in the region and a dynamic economy.

The population of Hagadera has decreased by over 45,000 in the last verification exercise. However, the camp remains highly congested. Most refugees and asylum seekers who arrived to Hagadera in the last few years are staying with relatives but some 20,000 have settled outside the designated camp area in the so-called ‘Hagadera Outskirts’. In order to decongest Hagadera, relocation exercises in 2011, 2012 and 2014 have moved around 2,000 families of about 10,000 individuals to Kambioos camp. It is planned to relocate further refugees to Kambioos.

ACTIVITIES

Protection

Protection interventions in Hagadera include registration, child protection, physical security, individual case management, SGBV intervention and finding durable solutions.

The Department of Refugee Affairs (DRA) resumed the registration of new arrivals in 2014 after a long period of suspension since October 2011. The regular registration of the birth and death continues while the civil registrar of persons from Garissa periodically visits the camp to issue Birth Certificate to the refugee children who are born in Kenya. The visit is on quarterly basis and the next visit is expected in March 2015.
Since the beginning of voluntary return movements in December 2014, an increased interest in return is observed. A joint desk of DRA, NRC and UNHCR was set up for information dissemination and registration of people willing to return.

The camp’s security situation has been relatively calm in recent months but remains unpredictable. Insecurity first started in Hagadera in September 2011 with the kidnapping of humanitarian staff and with improvised explosive devices (IEDs) installed underground killing and injuring police officers and badly damaging their vehicles that were escorting UN agencies and NGOs. Some were also found in the camp and on the road towards Alinjugur.

In April 2014, a UN vehicle was attacked and perpetrators attempted to kidnap a UNHCR staff member. Common criminality and banditry is increasing in and around the camp. Hagadera camp has three police posts with a total of 75 police officers who are responsible for the camp security.

📚 Education

Hagadera has seven primary schools and two secondary schools, one adult literacy centre, one vocational centre and one ICT training centre.

Each class room in Hagadera holds 100 to 120 students, while the standard is 40 students in a class room. The primary school enrolment rate is 37% (standard is 100%). The primary schools enrolment rate is 37% while the secondary schools enrolment rate is 14.8%

🩹 Health

Four clinics and one hospital are serving an average of 454 patients per day. The ratio is over 28,000 individuals per each health clinic and therefore below the standard of 10,000 individuals. The hospital has recently begun to provide specialised eye care services.

A high level of births at home can be observed in Hagadera, which leads to health complications and can further affect the easy access to birth registration papers. The under-5 mortality is reported at 0.5% while life birth expectancy is at 88%.

獄 Food Security and Nutrition

WFP through NRC distributes food rations twice a month. There is one food distribution point, where refugees collect food and non-food items through a biometric check system. These food rations ensure a daily intake of 2,100 kilocalories per person per day, which is the global standard

💧 Water and Sanitation

Hagadera camp has seven operational boreholes. The water supply is 23 litres per person per day, which is above the global standard of 20 liters. There are 201 water taps in the camp and 807 taps, which means that an average of 132 individuals share one tap. The accepted standard is 80 persons to share one tap. About 13 people share one latrine. Rubbish is offloaded in 28 sanitary skips in strategic areas.

🏠 Shelter, Site Planning and Environment

No new shelters have been allocated for Hagadera since 2010 and the camp is in desperate need of both, new shelters and the renovation of old shelters. Plans are to construct T-Shelters in 2015. T-shelters are temporary shelters with a timber structure covered by canvas.

Serious environmental degradation is caused by the overpopulation of the camp. Most of the green belts areas in Hagadera are currently devastated. Tree seedlings have been distributed to both refugees and the host communities. Due to a lack of funding and limited stocks, firewood distribution is now targeting only the most vulnerable refugees.

There have been rampant fire outbreaks in the camp since 2010. Some response mechanisms are in place for such incidents which is efficient for big fires so far.
Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

The camp is organised in sections and blocks with two elected leaders (one male, one female) representing each block and each section (28 section leaders, 260 block leaders). The camp population has also elected an overall chairman and chairlady. The last refugee free and fair election was conducted in August 2013.

In addition to these leaders, minorities (nationality or tribal groups), have also elected leaders. While the deteriorated security situation frustrates operations, it also presents an opportunity to more actively empower refugees to manage the day-to-day aspects of camp life. This includes the engagement of youth in providing peer-counselling, sanitation committees coordinating public health campaigns, promotion of community media and the involvement of refugee staff in delivering health and shelter services.

Livelihoods support includes tailoring, shoe making, soap making, weaving and sewing, tie and dye. The refugee community has a strong interest in projects on income generating activities to enable them to sustain themselves. There is growing need to increase support on livelihood projects.

Working in partnership – UNHCR’s partners in Hagadera:

- Centre for Victims of Torture (CTV): Psychosocial counseling
- Department of Refugee Affairs (DRA): Camp Management/Administration and Registration
- Danish Refugee Council (DRC): Livelihoods, Scholarships for Refugees and Host community
- Fafi Integrated Development Association (FAIDA): Environment/Energy in the Fafi Region
- Film Aid International (FAI): Information and Sensitization Campaigns, Community Communication
- International Rescue Committee (IRC): Health, HIV/AIDS, Nutrition, Gender Based Violence, Persons with Specific Needs
- International Organization for Migration (IOM): Resettlement
- Lutheran World Federation (LWF): Primary Education, Persons with Specific Needs/Disability Rehabilitation
- Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC): Food Distribution, Core Relief Items, WASH, Voluntary Return
- Refugee Consortium Kenya (RCK): Legal Assistance, Gender Based Violence
- Refugee Education Trust (RET): Livelihood/Education
- Save the Children (SCI): Child protection/Education
- Star Media Development Center (SMDC): Humanitarian Information
- Windle Trust Kenya (WTK): Secondary Education and Scholarships
- World Food Programme (WFP): Food Supply, Nutrition

For more information, please contact KENDAPI@unhcr.org