

# DADAAB REFUGEE CAMPS, KENYA

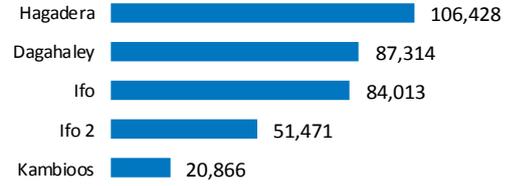
## UNHCR BI-WEEKLY UPDATE

1 - 15 July 2015

Population as of 1 July 2015: **350,092**

Refugees: **346,634**

Asylum seekers: **3,458**



Refugee shelters in Dagahaley camp, Yann Arthus-Bertrand

### Protection

#### Registration of unregistered individuals

- The Government of Kenya through its Department of Refugee Affairs (DRA) opened a two weeks window to register refugees and asylum seekers who newly arrived or have lived in the camps for some months without having been registered. The mass registration exercise was kicked off in Kambioos camp on 29<sup>th</sup> June and continued in all camps in the first half of July. Across all five Dadaab camps, DRA registered 3,719 refugees and asylum seekers in the two weeks period. UNHCR registered 2,184 individuals and continues registration in the second half of July.



#### Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)

- An increased number of refugees has been settled in Kambioos camp. They mostly came from the Great Lakes Region where many have experienced various forms of GBV. In order to meet the increased need of assistance in Kambioos camp and to bring services closer to the beneficiaries, UNHCR's partner International Rescue Committee (IRC) is currently constructing a support center for GBV survivors. The new institution is located at the Kambioos women center and will offer clinical and psychosocial services.
- New interventions introduced this year focus on the engagement of men in transformational change and becoming allies in the prevention of violence against women and girls. UNHCR coordinated the pilot project Engagement of Men in Accountable Practices (EMAP). 460 individuals from the refugee community, comprising 240 women and 220 men, have so far been involved in EMAP. IRC, Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and Kenya Red Cross (KRC) were involved in training staff and community workers.

#### Child Protection

- The Garissa Civil Registrar team issued 4,167 birth certificates. 1,451 of the babies were born at home instead of a hospital. The team concluded its second mission to Dadaab this year on 3<sup>rd</sup> July. In 2015, a total of 6,251 birth certificates have been processed in Dadaab camps.

## Education

Photo UNHCR/ Dadaab



Mohamed from Ifo camp is one of the WUSC scholarship holders 2015. He seeks to study International Relations in Canada.

- Students of the final class of Secondary School went through mock exams on 9<sup>th</sup> July as a preparation for Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) national exams.
- 20 youths from the Dadaab camps are selected per year for the World University Service of Canada Scholarship (WUSC). The beneficiaries will pursue various courses in different Canadian universities. The WUSC scholarship committee interviewed shortlisted candidates for the 20 slots available in 2016. Meanwhile, the scholarship holders of 2015 are preparing to depart Dadaab in August.

## Health

- A consultant cardiologist visited Dadaab from 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> July. Through the Reverse Referral System, medical consultants from Nairobi are taken to the camps instead of patients having to travel to other parts of Kenya. UNHCR organized the specialist's visit through its partner KRCS. 113 patients across all five camps and the host community benefited from the specialized services which included echocardiogram investigations.
- Many babies in Dadaab camps are delivered at families' shelters without direct access to medical facilities. Furthermore, family members often deny consent to lifesaving interventions such as caesarian. In reaction to these challenges, UNHCR's partner International Refugee Council (IRC) recruited 42 former traditional birth attendants as Safe Motherhood Promoters in Hagadera and Kambioos camps. They now promote hospitals deliveries and prompt consent issuance for lifesaving obstetric interventions. IRC reports increased hospital deliveries and hospital visits after the safe motherhood promoters were deployed in the camps.
- A blood donation drive was successfully conducted in Ifo 2 camp with 320 pints of blood collected from volunteers. The KRCS donation drive is expected to boost the blood stock and complement the supply from the National Blood Transfusion Centre.

## Food Security and Nutrition

- The temporary reduction of the WFP's food basket by 30% continues. The ration cut started on 15<sup>th</sup> June and is expected to continue at least through September unless new funds become available quickly.
- WFP's School feeding program remains in place and continues to support children's daily studies and school attendance.
- On 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, 3.3 tons of dates were distributed in Kambioos camp. The dates were donated by the Al-Khair foundation to the camp's population for the fasting month of Ramadan. WFP also supplied dates in all camps during one food distribution cycle.



Photos UNHCR/ Dadaab

School feeding in Hagadera camp

## Water and Sanitation

Photos UNHCR/ Dadaab



Members of the WASH Committee of Hagadera camp

- UNHCR's WASH partners KRCS, CARE and Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) continue engaging the camp leadership to ensure a smooth transition and handing over of camp cleaning to be managed by the community. From September onwards, camp cleaners will no longer be paid by the agencies. This has been necessitated by budget constraints and by the need to ensure the refugee community takes up and owns hygiene campaigns and mass cleanup activities in the camps.
- During the first half of July, 168 Hygiene promoters carried out hygiene promotion campaigns in all camps. The ratio is now one Hygiene promoter per 2,084 camp residents. A total of 257 sanitation kits, composed of wheelbarrows, rakes, shovels and nose masks, were distributed in Dagahaley and Ifo camps.

- NRC, UNHCR's WASH partner in Hagadera and Kambioos, conducted a sensitization campaign at water tap stand. The goal was to create awareness on safe water handling, fetching, transportation and storage at household level. Through focus group discussions and household visits, NRC also sensitized the community on good hygiene practices.

## Shelter and NFIs

- In 2015, UNHCR and partners are constructing 1,787 Temporary Shelter – commonly known as T-Shelters. This kind of shelter is in line with the Kenyan government's instructions to avoid permanent structures. As of 15<sup>th</sup> July, 350 shelters have been finalized in Kambioos camp and construction of 356 shelters in Ifo camp has been started. The T-Shelter program in camps focuses on persons of concern who are the most vulnerable and live in substandard dwelling.



Building up of shelter frame and completed shelter



Photos UNHCR/ Dadaab

## Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- 40 survivors of Gender Based Violence have been engaged in skills building activities in bakery, tailoring, small-scale farming and weaving in Kambioos camp. UNHCR's partners IRC seeks to build their self-reliance and to engage them in a form of therapy. This is considered critical for the recovery from trauma related to GBV.

- Save the Children (SCI), in collaboration with radio station Risala FM has introduced “Children Voices”, an initiative geared at providing a social platform for child participation in the Dadaab refugee camps through media. On 14<sup>th</sup> July, school children from South Sudanese and Gambela communities in Ifo camp participated in discussions with SCI and UNHCR. They shared their key challenges faced in the camps, and articulated their future goals and aspirations. Their views were recorded and aired the following week in English and Somali languages. The station’s broadcasts are received within and around the camps.



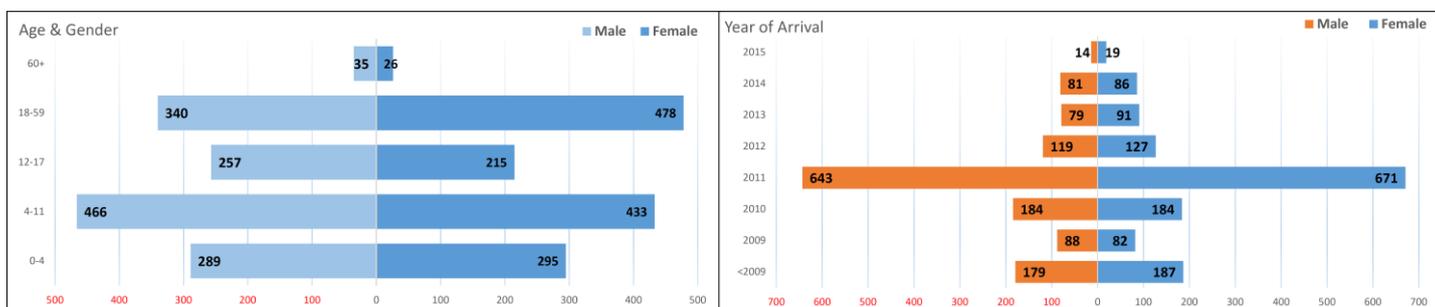
Photo V. Njoroge, UNHCR/ Dadaab

*Kul Majok Riel (center) who first accessed education as an adult used the radio show to encourage children to start learning at an early age*

## Durable Solutions

### Voluntary Return to Somalia

- Voluntary return convoys continue leaving Dadaab for Somalia. During the first half of July, a total of 252 returnees departed Dadaab and arrived safely in Somalia. 2,840 Somali refugees (593 household) returned home since 8<sup>th</sup> December 2014, when UNHCR started supporting voluntary return of Somali refugees in Kenya. The majority of them lived in Dadaab’s two newer camps, Kambioos (996) and Ifo 2 (744).



*Age, Gender and Year of Arrival to Dadaab of the individuals who have voluntarily returned to Somalia*

### Resettlement

During the reporting period, a total of 28 cases comprising of 117 individuals (including women and girls at risk) underwent resettlement case composition interviews. Six cases comprising of 24 individuals were interviewed for resettlement processing and possible onward submission to resettlement countries. Six new born babies were added on to cases for resettlement to the United States of America. 50 individuals departed Dadaab for onward resettlement to the United Kingdom and Australia.

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Web portal on Somali Displacement:

<http://data.unhcr.org/horn-of-africa/regional.php>

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