DADAAB REFUGEE CAMPS, KENYA

UNHCR BI-WEEKLY UPDATE

01 - 15 February 2016

UPDATES

Population as of 1st February 2016: 348,085
Refugees: 345,089
Asylum seekers: 2,996

HIGHLIGHTS

Voluntary Repatriation

- During the reporting period, 1,211 returnees were assisted to return to Somalia. 1,055 returned by road and 156 by flight. In total as of 15th February, 9,214 Somali refugees returned home since 8th December 2014, when UNHCR started supporting voluntary return of Somali refugees in Kenya.
- 411 individuals have visited the Integrated Return Help Desks and have shown the intention to voluntarily return to Somalia.
- On 11th February, UNHCR Dadaab hosted a cross border meeting in Nairobi. Participation from various International and National Non-Governmental Organizations working in partnership with UNHCR in Kenya and Somalia within the framework of enhanced Voluntary Repatriation of Somalia refugees from Kenya.

SGBV Statistics for 2015:

- Preliminary statistics of 2015 shows that about 1,142 individuals comprising 95% female and 5% men were survivors of SGBV. 100% of the survivors received psychosocial counselling.

A total of 1,142 SGBV cases were reported as at December 2015 as compared to 1472 reported at the end of December 2014 representing a decrease by 22.41 % with majority cases affecting women and girls. The data shows that 394 survivors comprising 34.5% accessed medical assistance by December 2015.

GBVIMS Statistics for Dadaab

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Number of SGBV Survivors in 2015</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outside Camps</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kambios</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hagadera</td>
<td>365</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dagahaley</td>
<td>177</td>
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<td>Ifo 2</td>
<td>265</td>
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<td>126</td>
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Somali refugee girl returned to Somalia from Dadaab camps.
UPDATES

Protection

Registration

- During the reporting period, 32 new arrival / unregistered refugees were registered jointly by the Department of Refugee Affairs (DRA) and UNHCR.
- Three male Eritrean nationals were received in Dadaab by Department of Refugee Affairs (DRA) and referred for second level registration by UNHCR. During UNHCR protection interview, it was realised that the new arrivals had been deported from Israel to Rwanda, where they made their way to Kenya through Uganda. They arrived in Kenya in January 2016.
- UNHCR is advocating for the Government of Kenya through the Department of Refugee Affairs (DRA) to commence the registration of about 1,267 unregistered families comprising 1,981 individuals who have already been profiled.
- Discussions are underway for refugee population verification in Dadaab refugee camps. A planning meeting was held at the UNHCR Regional Support Hub in February 2016. It is envisioned that the verification exercise will be undertaken jointly by the Government of Kenya through the Department of Refugee Affairs (DRA).

Child Protection

- The Civil Registrar visiting Dadaab Camps from Garissa from 8th February. It’s envisioned that about 3,500 birth certificates will be processed for refugee children. During his presence in Dadaab, the Letter of Understand between UNHCR and the Government Officials will be finalised.
- On 9th February, UNHCR held a meeting with TDH in the framework of Voluntary repatriation of Somalis refugees, to discuss ways of facilitating Best Interests Determination (BID) cases for children. In the meantime vulnerability assessment was ongoing in Hagadera Camp for Refugees benefiting from Voluntary repatriation.
- The Dadaab inter-agency Best Interests Determination (BID) held its monthly session 2nd February, where 15 cases in need of care arrangements, consideration for durable solutions and interventions for children facing diverse protection risks were discussed.

Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)

- During the first half of February, six advocacy sessions were held in the five camps with Key protection partners, community members and Government Officials working in the Department of Refugee Affairs (DRA) to enhance timely reporting and coordinated assistance to survivors of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV). Protection imperatives were mainstreamed in other service providers especially the non-protection delivery partners comprised of WASH, Camp Management, Health, Livelihoods, Shelter and Education.
- UNHCR held a session with 26 religious leaders (Imams) where concerns were raised over the persistent practice of forced marriages in the camps. Importance was placed on the fact that refugees were obligated to respect the Kenyan law. It was explained that the Kenyan Law expect girls to married only when they attain the age of 18 years. It was explained further that 18 years is the age at which a girl can give consent. On traditional harmful practices, UNHCR expressed its concerns on the persistent harmful cultural practices most notably FGM among girls. The religious leaders assured UNHCR of their close cooperation in attempts in eradicating harmful practices including the Maslaha (alternative dispute resolution among the Somalis presided over exclusively by men).
- 39 survivors of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) were provided with assistance through collaborative partnership with protection partners with UNHCR. Four case conferences and safe haven panel were held in the framework of individual clinical care, physical safety, psychosocial counselling and access to justice was achieved for survivors. The reported incidences involved rape, sexual assault, denial of resources.
Access to Legal Assistance/Justice

On 3rd February, UNHCR organised a consultative meeting with Judicial Officer responsible for presiding over the Kadhi’s Mobile court. The meeting focused on finalisation of Letter of Understanding (LOU) with the Kadhis’ Court. The Judiciary official also promised to deliver a myriad of trainings to humanitarian staff on selected themes including Sharia Law. It is expected that staff drawn from UNHCR, RCK and other key partner will attend the training. In addition, on 11th February, UNHCR in collaborating with Refugee Consortium of Kenya (RCK) held collaborative meeting with the resident High Court Judge at Garissa to discuss access to justice for refugees and other persons of concern.

Individual Case Management

During the reporting month, 48 individuals from Hagadera and Kambioos camps benefited from protection counselling. These individual cases were included Resettlement, RSD inquiries, family reunification, requests for relocation to Kakuma, physical safety and legal support for SGBV and child protection and camp transfers. The cases were assessed, interventions made and/or referred for appropriate assistance.

Education

A meeting was convened in Dadaab to deliberate on the form one admission selection. Boys attained 210 marks will be admitted to secondary schools. Girls who attained 190 marks will be admitted to secondary schools. The second selection criteria included 200 for boys and 180 for girls. UNHCR Head of Alinjugur Field Office, Education team and Dadaab senior management continued to engage the MP for Fafi to allow refugee learners to be admitted at Alinjugur Secondary school.

Two Schools in one: Following an unprecedented performance of refugee learners during the 2015 in various schools in Dadaab camps, the focus has been on how to address the looming shortage of secondary schools, especially in Hagadera camp, where it is expected to achieve 100% transition to secondary school, after all the refugee learners attained the required threshold to be admitted to secondary school. This notwithstanding, UNHCR in collaboration with Windle Trust Kenya (WTK) have initiated a “two schools in one” to address the looming secondary schools shortage. It is envisioned that double enrolment approach will be adopted, where learners will share physical infrastructure, teaching and learning materials. UNHCR and WTK are in the process of discussion to manage financial resource to implement this initiative and to accommodate staffing cost for ten Kenyan and ten refugee teachers to commence the process.

During the Inter- Agency Education Coordination meeting, it was highlighted that two schools had been left out of the school feeding programme. UNHCR in collaboration with World Food Programme (WFP) is working with Lutheran World Federation (LWF) to provide school based feeding to the two schools. It’s envisioned that about 2,543 students will be retained in school through the initiative.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

Livelihoods Inter - Agency Co-ordination meeting took place on 3rd February. The meeting was attended by the Sub County revenue Officer for the first time. The revenue officer advised the participants of the meeting on various licence procedures, including the process of business licence issuance to refugee traders in the camp. The participants comprised of eight stakeholders including UNHCR representatives and other partners. A road map for the finalisation of the draft monitoring and evaluation framework for the current Dadaab livelihoods strategy was agreed upon.

70% of 722 contracted voucher project traders received business licences. Refugee traders desirous to regularise their businesses are able to obtain business licences within the camp without necessarily travelling outside the
camps. UNHCR in partnership with the County Government, the Sub County Revenue Officer and the livelihoods partners are working on enhanced access after setting up of help desks in the camps to facilitate issuance of business licences.

- During the Joint monitoring for 2015 livelihood objectives it was realised that UNHCR has supported DRC to undertake community based savings and loans scheme (VSLA) which had benefited about 321 groups (over 4,000 individuals). The project has also completed a market assessment, skills training for 534 refugees and the enhanced engagement with County Government and private sector were noted as key milestones.

- Cross border linkages: Livelihoods discussions were anchored in the cross border coordination meeting held on the 11th February and attended by among others five livelihoods implementing agencies in Dadaab and Somalia. Robust co-ordination efforts amongst cross border livelihood interventions was agreed. Proposals for development of a skills database and enhanced linkage of skilled labour in Dadaab, with the employment opportunities in Somalia took centre stage.

Health

- During the reporting period, consultants from National Blood Transfusion Centre visited Dadaab for the assessment of blood storage capacity and needs. They also conducted a training on use of blood and blood products for laboratory staffs, clinicians and nurses.

- Garissa County referral hospital palliative care team supported by Kenya Hospices and Palliative Care Association conducted a three days training of health care providers to sensitize and educate on palliative care education. 10 staffs across the camp benefitted from the training.

Food Security and Nutrition

- The general food distribution for the month was commenced on 1st February. It was completed successfully across all five camps by 11th February with no major incident reported.

Water and Sanitation

- During the reporting period, the water infrastructure across the five camps remained as water storage capacity of 6050 m3 in 46 tanks, distributed through a pipeline network of 314 km and 900 tap stands and 4,230 taps. 29 boreholes continued to operate and supplied to a refugee population of 348,085 in the five Dadaab camps. Average daily per capita maintained at 25.3 litres.

- Water safety continued to be ensured through chlorination at the boreholes and regular monitor of Free Residual Chlorine (FRC). FRC at tap stands maintained between – 0.8 mg/l – 1 mg/l, and at household 0.5mg/l – 0.8 mg/l. The Chlorine levels in water increased because of cholera outbreak.

- During the reporting period, 217 hygiene promoters were actively engaged in carrying out hygiene promotion campaigns in all camps. All hygiene promoters were fully engaged in cholera response across the camps to carry out soap distribution, community sensitization on good hygiene practices, visiting affected households and responding to WASH needs by addressing negative practices.

Durable Solutions

- During the first half of February, 37 cases comprising of 176 individuals underwent resettlement case composition interviews. 64 cases comprising 198 individuals were interviewed for possible onward submission to resettlement countries. Four individuals departed Dadaab for onward resettlement to Australia.