

Kenya

November 2024

Operational Update



Refugee women perform traditional dances on 26 November, during a 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence event in Dadaab Refugee Camp. UNHCR/Mohamed Maalim

Key Figures

819,686 registered refugees and asylum-seekers from over 20 countries.

297,258 residing in Kakuma Refugee Camp and Kalobeyei Integrated Settlement and **413,595** in Dadaab Refugee Camp.

108,833 living in urban areas.

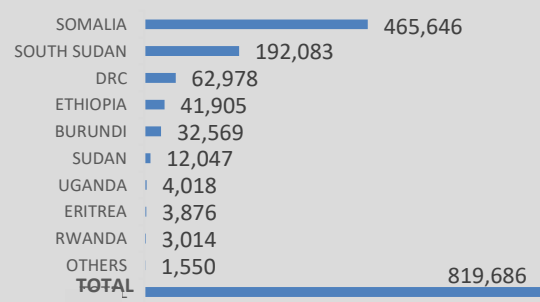
87 per cent of refugees living in camps.

18,091 calls answered on the UNHCR Helpline.

49 percent of financial requirements for UNHCR Kenya received.

The operation is under-funded and continues to seek additional, flexible funds from government donors, private companies and individuals.

Country of Origin



What's going on in Kenya

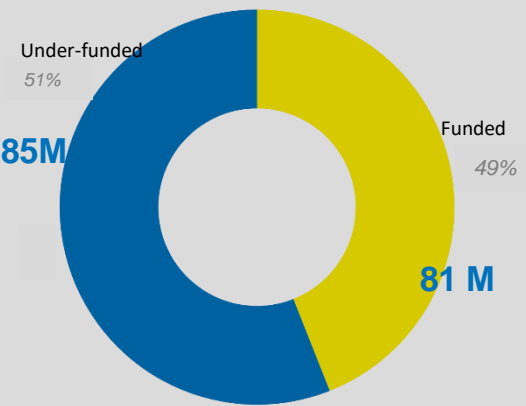


Goodwill Ambassador Karen Wazen visit

This month, the operation welcomed UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador Karen Wazen and supporter Tracy Harmoush in the Kakuma Municipality. The group met with refugee artisans in the MADE51 initiative, to understand how their products support women's livelihoods and self-reliance and exploring collaborations in the future.

Karen and Tracy visited I-Connect, a refugee youth-led project and social enterprise that links refugee artisans with markets across the region. They also met with a refugee family pioneering the adoption of clean energy cooking in Kalobeyei, to learn about sustainable solutions that are empowering refugees to fight climate change.

Funding



KAKUMA CAMP AND KALOBYEI INTEGRATED SETTLEMENT

UNHCR currently supports **297,258** refugees and asylum-seekers, residing in both Kakuma Camp and the Kalobeyi Integrated Settlement.

Protection

- The DRS registered 1,249 people this month, whilst 3,968 people await registration in reception centers.
- 645 refugees arrived this month, bringing the total number of new arrivals this year to 16,747.
- 171 refugees were voluntarily repatriated to Burundi, bringing the total to 1,175 people this year.
- 1,976 people received core relief items, including sanitary pads, kitchen sets, sleeping mats.
- 896 children accessed child-friendly-spaces and 590 adolescents accessed youth centers. Counselling sessions were provided to 86 children individually and 142 in group sessions.
- 8,639 youth participated in various sports activities at the Kalobeyi Sports Complex, whilst 1,146 athletes were provided safe spaces for regular training in volleyball, basketball and handball.
- An event to mark '16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence' took place on 25 November. The event brought together refugees, members of the host community and partners to raise awareness.

Flood response

- UNHCR, DRS and partners conducted a joint assessment after heavy rains led to flooding, impacting 142 families (1,594 people). 16 families were immediately supported with shelter and CRIs.
- On 30 November, UNHCR handed over 1,000 liters of liquid soap to the Lodwar County and Referral Hospital - to help promote good hygiene following the rain. UNHCR/Eric Bakuli



Education

- A total of 100,217 students are enrolled in 55 schools supported by UNHCR (40 per cent are girls).
- 14,031 students completed the Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) and Kenya Primary Education Assessment exams.
- 1,580 refugee secondary school scholars were supported under the Elimu scholarship program 2024 participated in a mentorship congress organized by the Ministry of Education through the Jomo Kenyatta Foundation (JKF).

Health

- 56,294 medical consultations, 1,091 mental health consultations and 451 skilled deliveries were managed.
- The Ministry of Health, in collaboration with UNHCR and partners, conducted a five-day polio campaign from 9-13 November, reaching 120,307 children aged 0-10 years in Turkana County.

Food Security and Nutrition

- 197 children were admitted in the Outpatient Therapeutical Program and 738 children were admitted to the Supplementary Feeding Program. 34 pregnant and breastfeeding women also received support.
- The stabilization centre admitted 64 severely malnourished children with medical complications.

Shelter

- On 21 November, UNHCR, DRS and Turkana County Government launch a pilot 5km road rehabilitation cash-for-work project, the beginning of a planned rehabilitation of the 231km road network in 2025.
- 77 transitional shelters were built for families affected by rain. 2,394 have been constructed in 2024 .
- 80 family tents were pitched in the Reception Centers to accommodate more new arrivals.

Access to energy and environmental conservation

- A total of 17.85 metric tons of firewood was received in November and distributed to schools, reception and health centers.
- 338 improved cookstoves were fabricated and distributed to new arrivals.
- 3,810 seedlings were distributed and planted at various homesteads and institutions.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

- 1,512kg of chlorine was used to treat water at the borehole source whilst 135 meters of water pipeline was rehabilitated and 22 generators and four solar panels were maintained.

Livelihoods

- 1,384 students were enrolled in education and vocational training, whilst 11 graduates secured internships.
- UNHCR dispersed \$74,905 in cash-based support.

DADAAB REFUGEE CAMP

UNHCR currently supports **413,595** refugees and asylum seekers across three refugee camps and the Ifo 2 settlement.

Protection

- The DRS, with technical support from UNHCR, registered 3,555 new arrivals this month, including 833 births.
- Border monitoring reported 2,932 asylum-seekers crossing into Kenya, with counselling provided to 22 people.
- On 14-15 November, a two-day training for the Court Users' Committee focused on refugee protection, GBV awareness and labor market access. 25 participants joined from various agencies.
- UNHCR responded to 131 queries via phone, email, and protection desks.
- UNHCR and partners organized a series of events for "16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence. Activities included community dialogues, bringing together refugees and members of the host communities.

Education

- A total of 76,085 students are enrolled across 23 primary and 6 secondary schools.
- The KCSE exams took place 22 October - 22 November, with 830 of the 857 registered candidates (97%) sitting for the exams.
- The first cohort of refugee teachers selected under the TeachWell project, supported by partner Porticus, will pursue Diploma programs in Primary Teacher Education (DPTE) and Early Childhood Teacher Education (DECTE). This initiative will enhance classroom instructional quality.
- 28 teachers attended a three-day child safeguarding training at Juba Primary School, Dagahaley camp.
- Education Assessment Resource Center-based services supported school placements for 10 children with disabilities and provided audiology and occupational therapy services to 115 children.

Health

- 41,590 medical consultations, 868 mental health consultations and 698 skilled deliveries supported this month.
- A total of 62 new measles cases were reported in November. Key challenges in controlling the outbreak include inadequate funding for mass immunization campaigns across all camps and a shortage of community health workers.
- Continuous medical education sessions on cholera, measles, and Mpox were conducted.

Food Security and Nutrition

- The food basket remains at 40%, providing only 570 Kcal per person daily, far below the recommended 2,100 Kcal. This exposes households to food and nutrition insecurity. Cash-based transfers (Bamba Chakula) were distributed at KES 450 per person per month.
- This month, 401,403 people received food through general food distribution.
- Malnutrition programs admitted 1,758 children: 1,131 in the therapeutic supplementary feeding program, 448 severely malnourished in the outpatient therapeutic program, and 179 in stabilization centers.
- Health and nutrition sessions reached 6,095 people in November, building capacity for early malnutrition detection, proper referral, and prevention.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

- Refugees received an average of 19.2 litres per person per day from 28 operational boreholes.
- The camps currently have 40,818 household latrines and 840 communal latrines, representing a coverage of 54%.

Livelihoods

- 99 students attended technical skills training in trades such as electrical wiring and tailoring, preparing them for NITA exams. Digital literacy programs enrolled 92 participants, some advancing to graphic design courses. Freelancers in the camps earned \$1,416.40 through remote work, showcasing the potential for income generation.
- Village Savings and Loan Associations accumulated KShs. 136,450 in savings and disbursed KShs. 25,000 in loans, reflecting growing financial independence.
- Insect farming using black soldier flies advanced waste recycling and livestock feed production, with 1,470 kg of organic waste processed. Dryland agriculture initiatives supported drought-resistant crops and poultry integration, enhancing food security for 13 households.

URBAN

There are currently **108,833** refugees and asylum seekers residing in urban areas, with authorization from the Government.

Protection

- During November, 952 individuals were registered, bringing the total number of registrations in urban areas to 9,311 in 2024.
- UNHCR responded to 18,091 calls via the official Helpline and facilitated 2,025 appointment requests.
- 87 refugees and asylum-seekers were supported to relocate from urban areas to Kakuma refugee camp and 4 supported to relocate to Dadaab.
- On 8 November, UNHCR, HIAS and Teenage Mother's Empowerment held a GBV outreach for 70 refugees living in Dandora.
- Social assessments were conducted, identifying 111 people with specific needs, and offered support.
- On 15 November, UNHCR donated food and non-food items to Mully's Children's Family, a charity based in Nairobi supporting children, including refugees.
- On 18 November, UNHCR implementing partner HIAS conducted a six-day mission to Nakuru, with support from DRS to identify vulnerable refugee children and seek solutions.
- On 26-28 November, UNHCR, IOM, INTERPOL and the National Police Service provided training on protection from Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment (SEAH) for 60 Police Officers and DRS staff.
- More than 50 youths attended peer-to-peer learning sessions in Kayole and Ongata Rongai on 19 and 21 November, discussing career pathways, entrepreneurship and mental health issues.

Education

- UNHCR supported 520 refugees to pursue higher education courses in 25 Kenyan universities and colleges under the DAFI Higher Education Scholarship Programme, providing a pathway to livelihoods and self-reliance.
- In 2024, due to delays in funding for the DAFI programme, UNHCR Kenya offered 100 scholarship slots for refugees from Dadaab, Kakuma and urban settings.

Livelihoods, Economic Inclusion and Social protection

- Between 11-15 November, UNHCR, WFP and other livelihoods partners convened to estimate the costs for livelihoods packages in anticipation of the Differentiated Assistance strategy in 2025.
- This month, UNHCR, ILO and DRC concluded community sensitization initiatives regarding the benefits of integrating refugees into the Kenya National Social Security Fund (NSSF). A total of 756 refugees participated in community meetings, with 91 registering for NSSF after the meeting.

Statelessness

- On 15 November in Kilifi, the Government of Kenya held an event to commemorate one year of granting of nationality to approximately 7,000 individuals of the Pemba community. The State Department for Immigration and Citizen services used the event to receive applications Maisha Number (Digital ID) from members of the Pemba community and distribute pending birth certificates, Kenyan identity cards and Kenyan passports.

Refugee Status Determination (RSD)

- During November, 561 individuals were scheduled for interviews, 669 assessments were completed, and 583 individual cases were reviewed. There are 42,251 asylum seekers in urban areas pending RSD process.

Durable Solutions

- Since January 2024, 4,049 refugees have departed for resettlement to the following countries: USA, Canada, Australia, Germany, Norway, Netherlands and the UK.
- Since January 2024, a total of 3,121 individuals were submitted (or re-submitted, including newborn babies) to different resettlement countries including Germany, Canada, the Netherlands and the USA.

Complementary pathways

- In November, 91 refugees departed on complementary pathways. 57 travelled to Canada, 32 to USA and two travelled to Italy on the UNICORE program.



On 27 November, the Nairobi City County Govt Gender Directorate, UNHCR, DRS, and partners launched 16 Days of Gender Activism events, calling for the protection of women and girls.

UNHCR is grateful for the continued support from:



And private donors from: Australia, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Republic of Korea, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States of America



UNHCR PARTNERS

Implementing partners:

Danish Refugee Council (DRC) | Salesians of Don Bosco – Kenya | FilmAid Kenya | Finn Church Aid | Haki Centre Organization | Hebrew ImmigrationAid Society (HIAS) | International Rescue Committee (IRC) | Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS) | Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) | Lotus Kenya Action for Development Organization (LOKADO) | Lutheran World Federation (LWF) | Peace Winds Japan (PWJ) | Refugee Consortium of Kenya (RCK) | Humanity and Inclusion (HI) | Fafi Integrated Development Association (FaIDA) | Relief Reconstruction and Development Organization (RRDO) | Windle International Kenya | Qatar Charity | National Council of Churches (NCKC) | Terre des Hommes

Operational partners:

Action Africa Help International (AAHI) | Africa Inland Church-Kenya (AIC-Ke) | World Vision International – Kenya (WVI) | Danish Church Aid | Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) | Team and Team Kenya | IsraAID | Kakuma Mission Hospital | Good Neighbours International | Association for Aid and Relief Japan | Waldorf Kakuma Project | Swiss Contact | Church World Service (CWS) | I am The Code | INZONE | African Higher Education in Emergencies Network (AHEEN) | Organization for Refuge, Asylum and Migration (ORAM) | BOMA | Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) | Plan International | KLABU Foundation | Malteser International | Johanniter International Kenya | Water Mission | Africa Enterprise Challenge Fund (AECF) | INKOMOKO | Girl Child Network | Centre for Victims of Torture (CVT) | Barefoot to Boots | The International Chess Federation (FIDE) | International Judo Federation (IJF) | K DE IGRATIUM INTERNATIONAL (KDII) | MPESA Foundation Academy | Schneider Electric | International Service Volunteers Association (AVSI) | Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) | Save the Children International | Star Media Development | Jesuit Worldwide Learning (JWL) | Food for the Hungry | Care International

Others (Development partners, UN Agencies)

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (German Agency for International Cooperation – GIZ) | SNV Netherlands Development Organisation | International Organization for Migration (IOM) | United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) | The World Bank | United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN Habitat) | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) | United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) | UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) | United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA) | United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) | United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) | United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) | Equity Bank | Kenya Commercial Bank (KCB) | University of Nairobi | Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI)

Government

Government of Kenya | Turkana County Government | Garissa County Government | Department of Refugee Services (DRS) | Kenya Medical Training College (KMTCC) | National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF).

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