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IOM NAIROBI SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES RELOCATION OF 13,123 SOMALI REFUGEES FROM DADAAB REFUGEE CAMP TO KAKUMA REFUGEE CAMP



View of Ifo camp, one of the refugee camps in Dadaab.
 (Photo Credit: Biet Camille, IOM)

in a record time with all refugees arriving safely and in dignity in Kakuma, where they will begin to have better shelter and access to basic services and benefit from enhanced care and protection", said Mr. Ashraf El Nour, IOM Regional Representative

The relocation exercise that began in August is part of a plan to decongest the overcrowded Dadaab camps, which currently hosts more than three times the population it was designed to accommodate.

IOM Nairobi has successfully completed the relocation of 13,123 Somali refugees from the overcrowded refugee camps in Dadaab to Kakuma. After 55 days of pre-departure medical screening, 24 days of pre-embarkation medical checkups and 67 days of group medical escort, the refugees were safely relocated against the 12,700 refugees who were initially targeted for the movement.

The humanitarian crisis in Somalia has driven thousands of Somalis out of their homes, many of whom have fled to the neighbouring countries. According to figures provided by UNHCR, over 43,000 Somali refugees, have since January this year, sought refuge in the Dadaab camps.

Each convoy took three days by road with two stop-overs along the way and covered 1,200 kilometres from Dadaab in the North West of Kenya to Kakuma in the North East. Twenty two overland convoys were organised for refugees who could manage the movement by road while 227 identified vulnerable refugees were airlifted with medical escort to Kakuma.

Despite this operation, the number of Somalis in Dadaab camps has remained virtually unchanged, as thousands fleeing conflict and drought continue to arrive every month.



Children were among the refugees who were relocated from the overcrowded Dadaab Refugee Camp.

"The refugee relocation was an exemplary collaborative exercise between IOM and UNHCR, financed by USD 2.6 million generous funding from UN CERF. The result was a resounding success that was achieved

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UNDP AND IOM UGANDA SET TO LAUNCH A LABOUR MARKET ANALYSIS FOR NORTHERN

IOM Uganda is set to launch a Labour Market Analysis that was done among the Acholi Sub-region in Uganda. The analysis, which is facilitated with the support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and USAID, presents one of very few field focused research that is aimed at determining viable business and employment sectors at the district level that can offer the best employment for ex-combatants who are being reintegrated into the community.

The findings of this analysis will enable IOM and its civil society partners to effectively shape incentives that will enhance the viability and impact of socio-economic reintegration support. This analysis will inform IOM and other actors in Northern Uganda on what jobs, means of production, employment sectors, and supply/demand factors to take into account when mobilizing reintegration programming at the community level so as not to set up ex-combatants and vulnerable youth for disappointment.



Understanding reintegration processes and its impact is a critical part of this programme's implementation. The programme therefore seeks to have the community take meaningful decision-making roles that will directly and positively influence their recovery. This will also promote

ownership of the programme.

IOM and UNDP renewed their long-standing partnership in Uganda early this year, through a new *Community-Based Reintegration Programme in Northern Uganda* (CBRP).

This partnership aims at empowering communities, civil society groups, local and national government agencies in providing skills and jobs to youth who may otherwise be inclined to violence, conflict, and criminality that is in part caused by a lack of other appealing socio-economic opportunities.

IOM JOINS COMMUNITIES IN THE RIFT VALLEY TO MARK THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE



Together for Peace: communities in the North Rift appear keen on sustaining peace in the region.

IOM Eldoret Field Office joined communities in the Rift Valley to mark the International Day of Peace in an event that saw ethnic barriers broken a notch further between communities that were hostile towards one another in the run up to and after the 2007 general elections. Residents exchanged flowers, meals and walked together for peace while calling on their area members of parliament to lead the peace initiatives by examples.

On the backdrop of the post election crisis, IOM spent this day with communities in the Rift Valley regions that were adversely affected during the crisis as an emphasis to community peace initiatives that are currently ongoing. Activities on this day was geared to work towards enhancing community interaction towards peace building, peace dialogue, celebrating culture diversity, and creating awareness on peace building.

The International Day of Peace marks an occasion where every individual has the choice to contribute positively in Non-Violence while embracing the diversity in culture, sharing positive landmarks through food, song, dance and caring for the environment, in a small effort to help all take one step closer to a more peaceful culture of healing and further understanding.



Communities shared cultural meals as a sign of unity and acceptance for one another

MANAGING MIGRATION: BOSASSO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IS INAUGURATED

IOM, through a component of its CBMM project, *Support To Individuals, State And Non State Actors To Manage Migration And Refugee Flow Across The Somalia/Yemen Gap*, assisted the Puntland Government officially inaugurate a new terminal of Bossaso International Airport, in Puntland State of Somalia. The new terminal is now the biggest terminal in Somalia, and was constructed by local authorities and equipped with IOM assistance.

The opening ceremony, inaugurated by the Puntland President and IOM Representative, took place in the departure lounge of the new terminal, witnessed the participation of more than 300 people including government officials, representatives of civil society, traditional and religious leaders as well as representatives of media.

“This is great day in history of Bossaso and we are grateful to IOM who helped us make this achievement. The Puntland Government has been discussing with IOM on the high level of cooperation between the two as well as possible collaboration in the future and I am sure that we will cooperate with IOM in implementation of the similar activities in Garowe and Galkayo Airports,” said the Puntland President H.E. Abdirahman Mohamud Farole during his speech at the ceremony.

IOM’s representative during the event, Mr. Ahmad Shirnov, briefed participants of the ceremony IOM’s input provided for finalization of the new terminal and also mentioned the new passengers processing system that will be introduced soon. IOM specifically assisted with installation of the new Immigrations control booths, providing of necessary IT and documents verification equipment, installation of the centralized communication system, installation of the IOM developed PIRS data base for collection and analysis of the migration data, and provision of new uniforms for immigration officers.



IOM staff is cleared at the Bossaso International Airport before

In order to enable Immigration officers to use the new airport equipment, IOM also organized a number of specific training programs for Immigration officers as well as their exposure visit to neighboring countries for familiarization with immigration procedures as well as passengers processing mechanisms practiced at their Border Check Points.

IOM NAIROBI AND UNHCR PARTNERS WITH BBC WORLD SERVICE TRUST

IOM, in partnership with members of the Mixed Migration Task Force (MMTF), launched a radio campaign on the 19th of September, aiming at preventing mixed migratory movement through Somalia that targets both migrants and host communities. The radio campaign, which will be implemented by the BBC World Service Trust as part of the broader Somali Lifeline Programme, is scheduled to run until January 2010.

The campaign in Somali will target both migrants as well as host communities in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and Yemen.

Every year, tens of thousands of migrants and refugees make the hazardous journey from their place of origin (primarily the Ogaden, Ethiopia and South Central Somalia), through the North East region of Somalia, Puntland, and onwards across the Gulf of Aden in makeshift boats, operated by unscrupulous smugglers.

This BBC World Service Trust campaign is a multi-component project that is funded by IOM and MMTF partners, which includes UNICEF and UNFPA. The BBC Word Service Trust is the only organization which produces Behavioural Change Communication programmes which can be broadcast regionally.

UNDOCUMENTED MIGRANTS AND HIV RE-SEARCH IN EASTLEIGH, NAIROBI

IOM, in partnership with the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) and with funding from UNAIDS, has collaborated on a study of *HIV Vulnerabilities of Undocumented Migrants in Humanitarian Emergencies*.

The research has assessed HIV vulnerabilities and service needs among migrants in select humanitarian emergencies, focusing specifically on the situation of undocumented and irregular migrants. Fieldwork has been carried out amongst Burmese in Thailand, Sudanese in Egypt, Zimbabweans in South Africa, and amongst Somalis in Nairobi.



IOM conducted a HIV research study in Eastleigh, Nairobi. (Photo by IOM Nairobi)

Service providers including NGOs, INGOs and other international organizations working with undocumented migrants were also interviewed.

Stigma around HIV is a barrier for undocumented migrants to seek HIV prevention, treatment care and support services. Specifically, HIV counselling and Testing (HCT) are not being utilized by this population. Although youth undocumented migrants are more willing to seek health services and to talk about HIV/AIDS, their health and HIV service options are limited.

Data collection in Eastleigh, managed by IOM Nairobi, has recently been completed. Although data analysis and write-up is ongoing, preliminary analysis shows that undocumented migrants reported many challenges during the migration period, and continual challenges in Nairobi including fear of arrest or deportation. The findings of this research, to be disseminated before December, 2009, will contribute to the limited existing knowledge about undocumented migrants in humanitarian emergencies.

The focus for the study is on undocumented migrants, but where appropriate documented and regular migrants were interviewed in order to compare the situations and explore their possible vulnerabilities. Service providers including NGOs, INGOs and other international organi-

LIVBLIHOOD ACTIVITIES FOR RIFT VALLEY AND NORTH WESTERN KENYA



IOM livelihood team presents a beehive to the livelihood a section of the beneficiaries in Mafuta farm, Eldoret West.

IOM, through its livelihood component of the Japanese funded *Shelter and Livelihoods for Peace and Reconciliation* project, is constructing a market in Mafuta Farm, Eldoret, Rift Valley Province. The market is estimated to consist of 22 shops, and covers approximately 2 acres of land. The land, donated by the Wareng Planning Committee, will compose of a market, energy centre, space for animal land, as well as space for petty trade.

The beneficiary community invited the area member of parliament Hon. William Ruto, who is also the Minister for Agriculture to visit the development projects in the area.

The Minister was given a briefing of IOM livelihood activities in North Rift, North Eastern, and North Western parts of Kenya. The Minister appreciated IOM efforts in Peace-Building and Re-establishment of livelihoods in the region where he promised support to IOM in its efforts.

In North Western Kenya, IOM commenced its livelihood activities, with technical support from FAO and the Ministry of Water, through a water rehabilitation activity. A water pan was identified by the Ministry in Moreguin, near Kakuma, and will engage over 100 pastoralists communities under the cash for asset programme. IOM hopes to complete the activity before the start of the El Nino rains.

The programme hopes to also introduce drought resistance/short term crops near the water pan for the pastoralist community in an area of about 15 acres as an alternative income generating activity. This pan will hold for about 80,000 cubic meters of rainwater and can be used for a period of 4 months.