KENYA

REFUGEE PROGRAM

Kenya hosts approximately 450,000 registered refugees, mainly from Somalia and South Sudan, in the Dadaab and Kakuma refugee camps and Kalobeyei Integrated Settlement. Since the outbreak of conflict in South Sudan in mid-December 2013, more than 100,000 South Sudanese refugees have entered the country. Joint United Nations, donor and Government of Kenya assessment missions report that refugees depend on international assistance for survival.

USAID’s Food for Peace (FFP) program supports refugees living in the Dadaab and Kakuma camps, and in the Kalobeyei settlement and host communities, through direct food distributions, education on maternal and child health, and livelihoods training. FFP also supports World Food Program’s (WFP) refugee operations by providing cash transfers and support for local procurement of specialized nutrition products.
OUR WORK

USAID FFP improves food and nutrition security for the most vulnerable populations in Kenya by providing life-saving humanitarian assistance. Working together, FFP and its partner, the WFP, provide humanitarian assistance in the form of vouchers and in-kind food assistance to refugees. FFP’s support to WFP provides refugees and vulnerable members of host communities with direct food distributions, voucher programs, maternal and child health support and nutrition activities, including supplementary and therapeutic feeding. FFP provides funding and in-kind Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Foods (RUTF) to the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) to treat severely malnourished children under five in the arid and semi-arid areas of Kenya and among refugee populations.

ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2018, FFP provided $38 million in cash-based and in-kind food assistance to WFP to assist refugees in the Kakuma and Dadaab refugee camps and Kalobeyei Integrated Settlement. Our assistance has been critical in sustaining the nutritional health of children under five and pregnant and lactating women. In Kalobeyei Integrated Settlement, where all the assistance provided is through vouchers, the refugees are reporting higher diet diversity, and there is less conversion of food aid.

FFP supports the ‘Bamba Chakula’ program – a voucher program whereby refugees can exchange the vouchers to buy food items of their choice from traders – which has helped to diversify the food basket and provide dignity to the refugees. Bamba Chakula has also increased the volume of trade and improved relations of the host communities with the refugees as well.

Workers at a WFP warehouse near Mombasa port account for sacks of fortified flour help to prevent nutrition and load onto trucks which for transportation to refugee camps. In 2017, the USAID Food for Peace office provided 56,000 metric tons of food to Kenyans in crises and those living in refugee camps.

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