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Photography Students: Ajiba Jaye and Abakeo Nyiwgo, Akang Akalo, Akera Omot, Akina Ojulu, Betty Etiir, Daudi Tresor, Ekan Ekwan, Franklin Ikweel, Johavanis Nimukiza, Joseph Kapua, Joshua Dominic, Leonidas Ciza, Muya Hyvine, Ngipeyok Daniel, Paul Lobuin, Roseline Aules, Saban Said, Shadrack Lengees

Project Coordinators: Yuka Terada, Ang Jia Cong

Workshop coordinators: David Kitenge, Wilfred Lokai Lokuno, Julius Mwelu, Grace Thama-Ini, Benedict Otieno

Project Partners: Turkana County Government, Refugee Affairs Secretariat, UNHCR

Acknowledgements: Victor Mgendi, Susannah Price, Grace Thama-Ini

Contributors: Bernard Heng, Risper Talai, Lucy Donnelly

Editor: Naila Aroni

Design and Layout: Andrew Ondoo, Bernard Heng

Foreword



Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif

United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, (UN-Habitat)

Day by day, extraordinary development and demographic changes are sweeping through Africa. Cities on the continent and in Kenya will face significant challenges and transformation over the remainder of this century, with new development, economic growth, technology, and innovation emerging as key themes. The world is also experiencing shifting relationships between a multitude of elements - climate change, natural and man-made disasters, conflict, and displacement. Local governments and their partners needed to rise to the occasion and find solutions to address these challenges. At the centre of it, good urban planning, and well-planned urbanization unlock the potentials of cities and regions and contribute to the development of prosperity and opportunities for the community.

The development of a new settlement in Turkana County since 2016 was no small feat. A lot has changed since Kalobeyei's inception. At the time, pressures from the oversaturated Kakuma Refugee Camp required a new, urgent solution to respond to the refugee crisis. Kalobeyei Settlement was created anew with support by local and national authorities. Many of the questions asked at that time have been answered, only for more to emerge. Such as, what has been achieved and what more needs to be done? How can the community be better integrated? What infrastructures should be further developed? What are some of the lessons learnt from before that can be reintegrated as the programme moves forward? The settlement, like any other city, faces these questions and the same issues (planning or non-planning related) still apply.

UN-Habitat's inclusive planning approaches rest on the cruciality of youth participation and empowerment. Many of the youth from both the refugee and host communities were born and raised amongst the camp and settlements. This nurtured a passion and interest to serve their community. Youth continue to be the drivers of development and working with them and receiving their insights adds value and meaning to the urban planning process. It allows practitioners to take into account considerations that promote the potential of the younger generation and ensure a good quality of life for those who live in the community.

This second photobook builds upon the foundations of our first photobook published in 2016. The photobook was compiled during the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, which continues to aggravate vulnerabilities and strain resources for marginalised communities. The gaps in equality enlarged by the pandemic have stressed the importance of shifting from a mindset of emergency to recovery in today's transition to a post-pandemic world. Appropriately, this document traces the progress of urbanization experienced from the perspective of a Turkana or Refugee youth. Just like the first time, the young learnt to utilize their skills in ICT and photography and learned to contribute to the discussions using their skills and critical thinking. Each theme addressed in this document provides a pathway to analyse the gains since Kalobeyei's inception as well as creating signposts for improving Kalobeyei. I hope that you will enjoy this sequel.

01.

Background

Refugees and Hosts in Kakuma-Kalobeyei

For more than forty years, UN-Habitat has been working as a centre of excellence and innovation in human settlements across the world. Mandated by the United Nations General Assembly, the agency has presented its unique expertise ranging from urban policies and legislations, urban planning and design and the implementation of projects throughout history. These projects address a range of target issues towards supporting governments in attaining the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The world has witnessed a series of increasing global challenges over the last decades. These include surging conflicts, natural and human-made disasters, and effects of climate change. The result is increasing numbers of displaced populations, many of which form part of a global refugee crisis. In Sub-Saharan Africa, the number of refugees grew from 985,145 people in 1970, to 24.2 million people in 2020¹. Most of these refugees had originated from and sought asylum in countries in the horn of Africa region, which continue to experience sustained armed conflict.

¹ Figure at a Glance, UNHCR <https://www.unhcr.org/ke/figures-at-a-glance>

One such country within the Horn of Africa's high conflict zone is Kenya. Kenya borders two of the top ten major sources of refugees globally. The nation has enjoyed a stable political and economic environment over the last decades and has continued to receive many refugees. By October 31st, 2021, Kenya hosted 539,084 refugees, making it one of the largest refugee-hosting nations globally². Refugees in Kenya reside in four major settlements: Dadaab refugee complex, which has three camps - Dagahaley, Hagadera, and Ifo; Kakuma camp; Kalobeyei Settlement, and urban refugees live in the country's capital city, Nairobi.

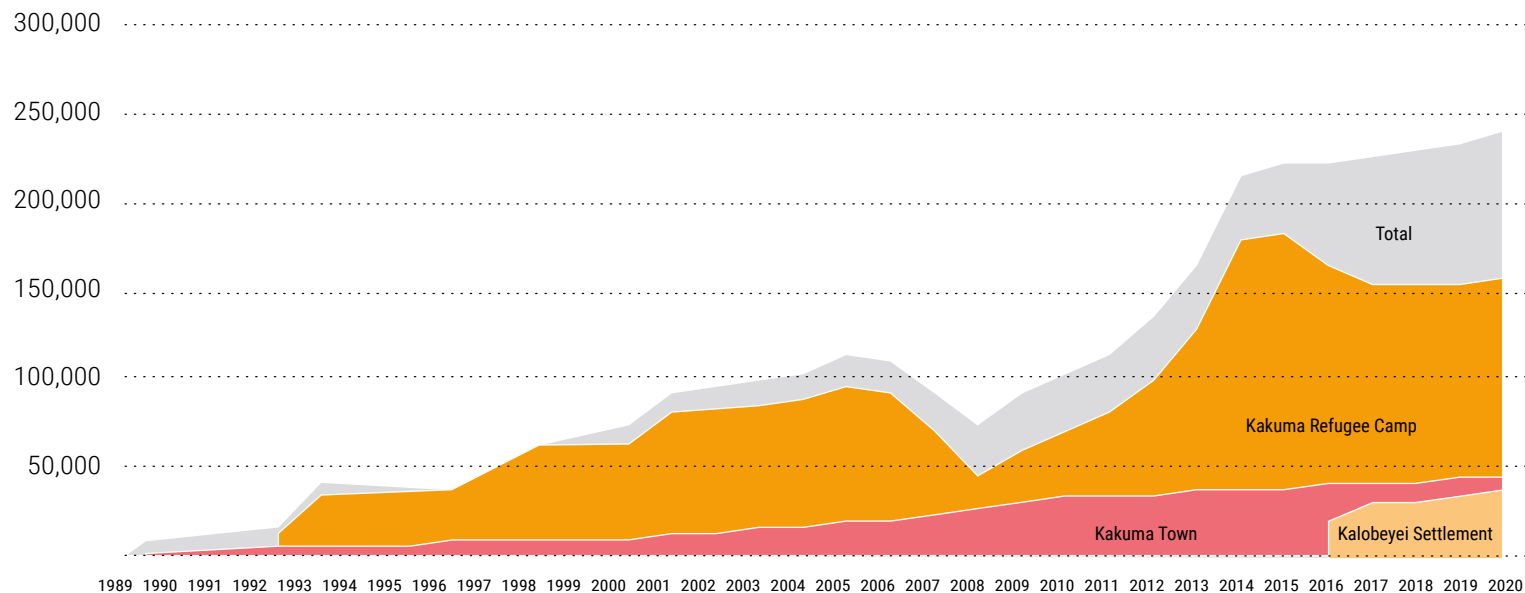
Since 2016, UN-Habitat has played a key role in supporting the Turkana County Government and UNHCR by providing urban and spatial planning expertise. This has assisted in the development of the Kalobeyei Settlement, a pilot settlement that explores a pioneering model of hosting both refugee and host community members. Throughout the years and with the support of several donors, UN-Habitat has implemented several programmes and projects to support the sustainable development of the settlement. This has played a role in bridging the discussions and collaborative efforts between local actors, communities, authorities and humanitarian and development actors. By using the Advisory Development Plan as a key coordination tool for the settlement and ensuring the active participation and inclusion of all groups of people throughout the process, UN-Habitat and its implementation partners have ensured that strategies will have sustainable, long-term impacts. Such strategies can be leveraged to benefit both refugees and hosts and build upon their contributions to the county's development.

The Kalobeyei programme is widely recognised as a blueprint for future programmes under the humanitarian-development practices workstream. The main goal of the workstream is to bridge the gap between humanitarian and development activities, and to support the paradigm shift towards the integration of refugee and host communities in combined programming, and development of sustainable and long-term solutions.

² Operational Portal, Refugee Situation, UNHCR <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/country/ken>



Figure 1: Growth of Host and Refugee populations from 1989 to 2020. Source: UN-Habitat Kakuma-Kalobeyei Spatial Profile (2021)



Population growth of Kakuma-Kalobeyei

This forms part of multi-actor and comprehensive responses to address the commitments within the Global Compact on Refugees, Global Compact for Migration, Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals, and to “Leave No One Behind”, ensuring the most vulnerable populations are promoted and protected.

When the programme was first initiated, UN-Habitat organized a

In 2016, the key issues of concern that the photographs illustrated and sought to raise included “Shelter,” “Transport,” “Economy,” “Public Space,” “Environment,” and “People.” Since then, progress has been achieved on several of these issues – with multiple sources in the past years establishing the benefits of socio-economic growth and improved livelihoods via the increased presence of refugees. For instance, refugee

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