

Background

As of August 2019, a total of 212,936¹, mostly Somali refugees resided in Dadaab refugee complex (Dagahaley, Hagadera and Ifo camps). Since May 2017, REACH has worked in collaboration with the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and in support of humanitarian operational partners in Dadaab to provide information and guidance on developing tools and methodologies for data collection and data analysis in Dadaab refugee complex.

With continued conflict, instability and drought causing new displacement in Somalia, in addition to reduced humanitarian funding in Dadaab, there is a need to strengthen information on humanitarian needs and access to assistance and services in the camps.

This information will support the planning of immediate refugee responses and inform the development of long term response strategies including government-led Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) annual plans and county level development plans.

This situation overview presents findings of a multi-sector needs assessment conducted in September 2019 across the three camps² of Dadaab refugee complex. It provides an analysis of refugee humanitarian needs, access to shelter, protection, food security, health, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and livelihoods.

Methodology

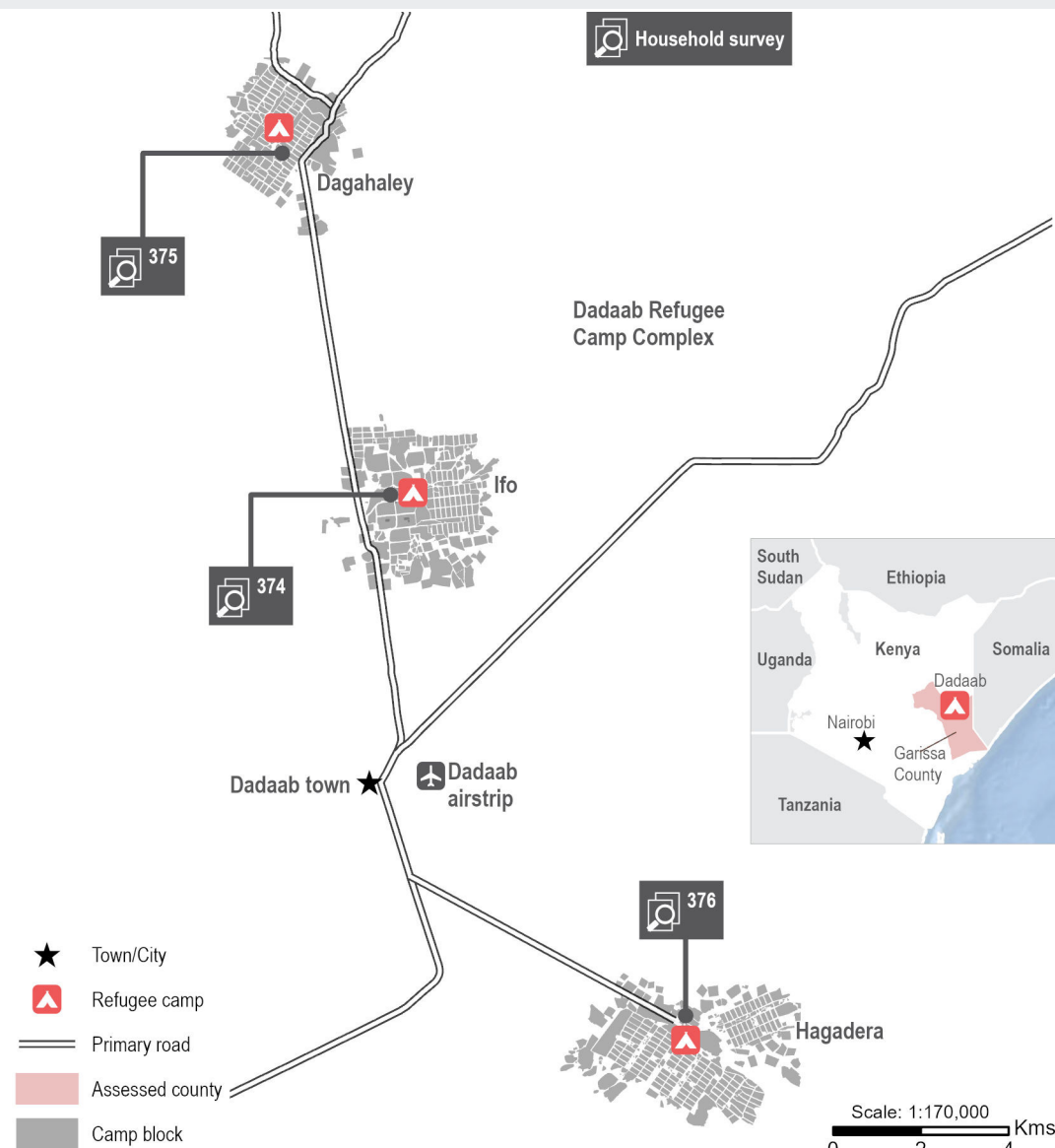
This assessment was conducted through Household (HH) level interviews from 11 to 25 September 2019 in Dadaab refugee complex. A total of 376 HHs in Hagadera, 375 in Dagahaley and 374 in Ifo were interviewed.

The sample was selected through probability random sampling at camp level to fulfil 95% confidence level and 5% margin of error and was calculated based on the HH population of each camp. This level is guaranteed for all questions that apply to the entire surveyed population of each camp. Findings relating to a subset of the surveyed population may have a wider margin of error and a lower confidence level.

Data was collected during the day using mobile phones on the ODK collect platform and later on, the data was checked, cleaned and analyzed using Ms-excel.

To ensure randomness of the data, random GPS points were generated using ArcMap in the residential areas, which are clearly divided into blocks. Enumerators then accessed the random GPS points from their android phones using MAPinr, and they interviewed households that fell on particular points. In case there was no one to interview in the selected household, or the respondent was unwilling to participate, enumerators would target the next nearest household in a radius of 5 meters. If there was still no household to interview, then they would interview the household that falls on the next point.

Locations of data collection



1. UNHCR Statistics package, August 2019
 2. September needs assessment factsheets; Dagahaley <https://bit.ly/2JY1A3s>, Hagadera <https://bit.ly/34JksLv> and Ifo <https://bit.ly/36AWd3P>
 3. For more information on food security indicators (FCS, CSI, HDDS) please see: <https://bit.ly/2nmlWGV>
 4. School-aged children are children between 4 years and 17 years



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Key findings

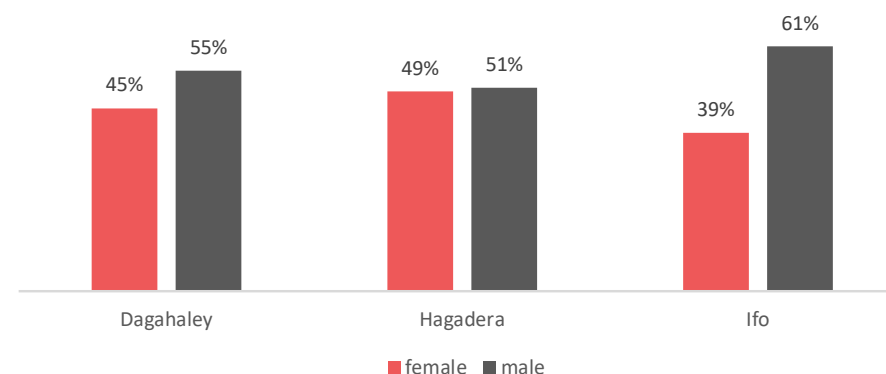
- Across the three camps, the proportions of male-headed HHs were higher than the proportions of female-headed HHs. In Ifo 61%, Dagahaley 55% and Hagadera 51% of HHs were headed by men.
- Forty-five per cent (45%) of HHs in Ifo, 36% in Dagahaley and 31% in Hagadera **have lived in Dadaab for over 21 years**.
- In Hagadera and Ifo, 55% of HHs reported that all their HH members had at least one Identity document (ID) while **in Dagahaley, only 20% of the HHs reported that all their HH members had an ID**. The other 45% HHs in Hagadera and Ifo and 80% HHs in Dagahaley, had at least one member of the HH with no ID. These HH members who did not have an ID experienced challenges in obtaining movement pass, accessing communication simcards, banking services and services offered by the government.
- Above 94% of HHs in all the three camps reported that they had a member who possessed a refugee alien ID card. The refugee alien ID cards allow HH members to get an active ration card to receive food assistance.
- Almost all HH members in the three camps perceived the security in the camps to be very good or good in the six months prior to data collection.
- Food security remains one of the critical humanitarian needs reported by refugees. In addition, in Dagahaley and Hagadera, **45% of HHs reported a poor Food Consumption Score (FCS)³ while in Ifo, 34% of HHs reported a poor FCS³. In Ifo, more HHs (58%) had a good FCS³.**
- In addition to food, water and shelter were also reported by the HHs as their top priority need across the three camps. **The top reported humanitarian assistance received in the three months prior to data collection was food voucher.**
- Seventy-seven per cent (77%) of HHs in Hagadera and 63% in Ifo reported that they collect water every day while in Dagahaley only 31% of HHs collect water on a daily basis. This is explained by the fact that these HHs do not have enough water storage containers.
- Most HHs across the three camps reported access to and use of a latrine. However, **a concerning 22% of the HHs in Hagadera and 12% in Dagahaley reported that at least one member of their HH do not have access to and use a latrine**, which exposes these HHs to a high risk of diseases such as cholera.
- In Hagadera and Dagahaley, 22% of school-aged⁴ boys were not attending school while 27% of school-aged⁴ boys in Ifo were not attending school at the time of data collection. On the other hand, in Ifo, 26% of school-aged⁴ girls, 27% in Hagadera and 33% in Dagahaley were not attending school at the time of data collection. Most of the HHs interviewed reported that the children not attending school were too young to do so.
- The average HH size is six in Dagahaley and Ifo but seven in Hagadera** and on average, each HH has two shelters.

Demographics

The table below shows the household demographics of each camp disaggregated by age and gender. Across the three camps, **men and women aged between 18 and 40 years constitute the highest proportion of the population**. While persons aged 60 years and above constitute the lowest proportion of the population.

	Ifo	Hagadera	Dagahaley		Dagahaley	Hagadera	Ifo
	1%	1%	1%	60 years and above	1%	0%	1%
	7%	6%	5%	41-59 years	3%	4%	6%
♂	16%	12%	17%	18-40 years	18%	13%	17%
	5%	6%	5%	14-17 years	5%	5%	5%
	8%	11%	6%	7-13 years	6%	10%	8%
	6%	8%	10%	4-6 years	7%	6%	5%
	6%	8%	5%	7 months-3years	4%	6%	5%
	2%	3%	5%	0-6 months	2%	1%	2%

Gender of the head of household:



Across the three camps, a higher proportion of HHs reported that the head of the HHs are men.

In Hagadera, 48% of HHs, 47% in Dagahaley and 36% in Ifo have lived in Dadaab for 8 to 14 years. While 45% of HHs in Ifo, 36% in Dagahaley and 31% in Hagadera **have lived in Dadaab for more than 21 years**.

Ninety-nine per cent (99%) of HHs in Hagadera, 94% in Dagahaley and 88% in Ifo reported that their country of origin is Somalia while only 7% of HHs in Ifo, 6% in Dagahaley and 1% in Hagadera reported that their country of origin is Ethiopia.

1. UNHCR Statistics package, August 2019

2. September needs assessment factsheets; Dagahaley <https://bit.ly/2JY1A3s>, Hagadera <https://bit.ly/34JksLv> and Ifo <https://bit.ly/36AWd3P>

3. For more information on food security indicators (FCS, CSI, HDDS) please see: <https://bit.ly/2nmlWGV>

4. School-aged children are children between 4 years and 17 years



Protection

Registration and documentation

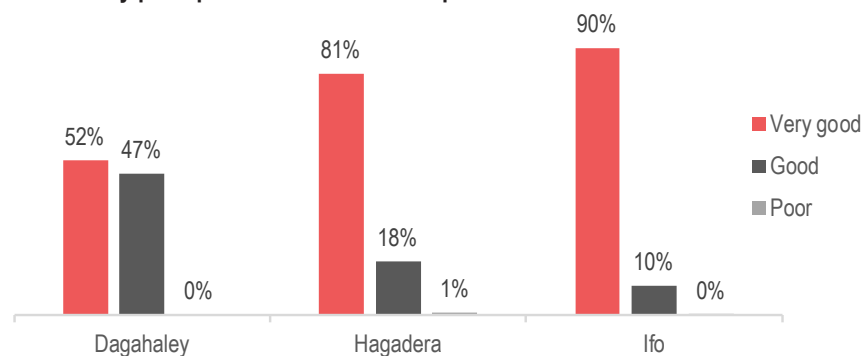
Ninety-eight per cent (98%) of HHs in Ifo, 96% in Dagahaley and 85% in Hagadera reported that all their HH members were registered as refugees or asylum seekers in Dadaab refugee complex. While 15% in Hagadera, 4% in Dagahaley and 2% in Ifo reported that at least one member of their HH was not registered as a refugee or asylum seeker. Among HH members not registered as refugees or asylum seekers, the **top reported reasons for not registering were the unavailability of registration** and absence of these HH members at the time of biometric verification. These HHs that had members who had not registered as refugees or asylum seekers are not able to access humanitarian assistance which is available to the registered members including free education and food assistance.

In Ifo and Hagadera, 55% of HHs reported that all their HH members possessed an ID while in Dagahaley only 20% of HHs reported that all their HH members possessed an ID. The IDs possessed included alien ID issued by the Government of Kenya, Kenyan birth certificates, proofs of marriage and proofs of registration. On the other hand, 40% of HHs in Dagahaley, 32% in Ifo and 21% in Hagadera reported that the alien ID card of at least one member of their HH was expired. **In consequence, above 40% of these HHs reported that their sim cards had been deactivated by the service providers.** Moreover, the HHs that reported that they had at least one HH member who did not have an alien ID card or their alien ID card was expired, are not able to acquire a movement pass and move freely within the camps.

Security

Above 75% of HHs said that they turned to the police to get help when they experienced any insecurity incidents⁵ in the six months prior to data collection. All HHs in Dagahaley and Hagadera reported that their relationship with the host community was either good or very good in the six months prior to data collection while in Ifo, 3% of HHs reported that they had a poor relationship with the host community and another 4% reported that they do not relate with the host community. Above 99% of HHs across the three camps reported that the security was either good or very good in the six months prior to data collection.

HH security perception in the six months prior to data collection:



Persons with specific needs

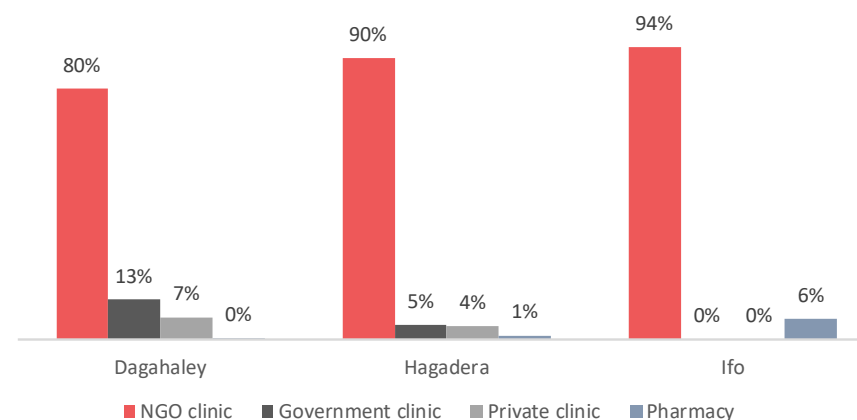
Ninety-five per cent (95%) of HHs in Dagahaley, 94% in Hagadera and 85% in Ifo reported having at least one HH member with a specific need. In the three camps, pregnant or lactating women were the top reported persons with specific needs, followed by men and women with disability. In addition to these, 4% of HHs in Hagadera reported to have at least one woman in their HH who was chronically ill.

Health

Above 50% of HHs in the three camps reported that they take less than 30 minutes to walk to their nearest health facility.

Ninety-four per cent (94%) of HHs in Dagahaley, 73% in Hagadera and 67% in Ifo reported that they had at least one member of their HH who experienced a health issue in the one month prior to data collection. In Dagahaley and Hagadera, all the HH members who experienced a health issue visited a health facility in response to these health issues but in Ifo, 7% of HHs reported that they were not able to visit a health facility mainly because there is no medicine in the health facilities.

% of HHs that visited the following health facilities when they experienced a health issue in the 30 days prior to data collection:



Most of the HHs across the three camps, 94% in Ifo, 90% in Hagadera and 80% in Dagahaley visited a NGO run clinic when they experienced a health issue in the 30 days prior to data collection. All HHs in Dagahaley and Hagadera who visited a NGO run clinic when they experienced a health issue, reported that they did not pay for health services but 2% of HHs in Ifo who visited a NGO run clinic or hospital when they experienced a health issue reported that they paid for the health services.

5. Insecurity incidents include theft, sexual and gender based violence, domestic violence, etc.

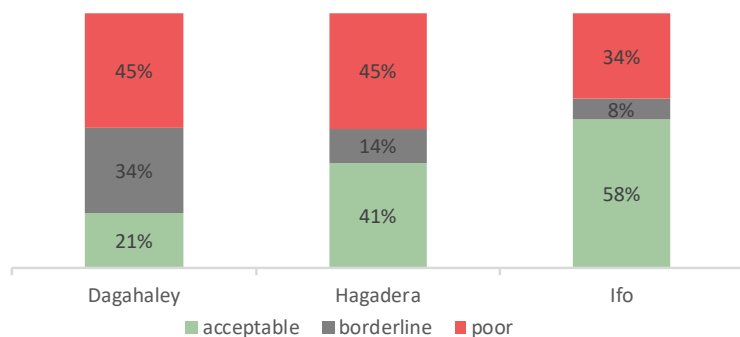
Food security

Access to food and food security situation vary across the three camps. While Dagahaley reported full access to food in the seven days prior to data collection, it was also the camp with the highest proportion of population under poor and borderline FCS. Meanwhile, Ifo and Hagadera where 35% and 21% of the HHs respectively reported not having access to sufficient food in the seven days prior to data collection, had a higher proportion of HHs with acceptable FCS (58% and 41% respectively).

% of HHs that perceived having access to sufficient food in the seven days prior to data collection:



% of HHs with the following FCS:³



A high proportion of HHs, 84% in Hagadera, 68% in Ifo and 59% in Dagahaley reported that the amount of food assistance had reduced in the six months prior to data collection. Consequently, 35% of HHs in Ifo and 21% HHs in Hagadera reported that they did not have access to sufficient food in the seven days prior to data collection. The average reduced coping strategy index score³ is 12⁶ for Ifo and 9⁶ for Hagadera in the seven days prior to data collection for these HHs who did not have access to sufficient food in the seven days prior to data collection. The top reported food coping strategies used by these HHs were to rely on less preferred and less expensive food, reduce number of meals eaten per day and borrow food from family, friends or neighbours. HHs reported that food voucher assistance was their main source of food at the time of data collection.

6. WFP thresholds are as follows: Good (rCSI of 0 – 4), Average (rCSI of 5 – 20), Poor (rCSI of > 21)

7. Households could select multiple answers

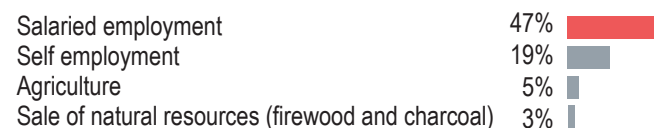
Livelihoods

In Hagadera, 99% of HHs reported that food was their main expense at the time of data collection whereas in Ifo and Dagahaley 95% and 65% respectively reported this.

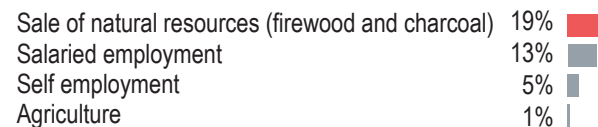
Ninety-one per cent (91%) of HHs in Hagadera, 87% in Dagahaley and 61% in Ifo reported that they were indebted to traders, family or friends. Among these, 96% of HHs in Hagadera, 98% in Ifo and 67% in Dagahaley reported that they had borrowed money to buy food.

HHs reported sources of livelihoods in the 30 days prior to data collection:⁷

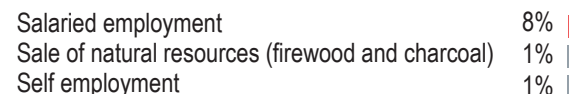
Hagadera



Dagahaley



Ifo



A higher proportion of HHs in Hagadera reported that their main source of livelihood was salaried employment. For HHs reporting salaried employment as their main source of livelihood, the top reported types of employment were, working in a business of another person, humanitarian agency staff, day laborer or domestic worker. Nineteen per cent (19%) of HHs in Hagadera reported that their main source of livelihood is self-employment in the 30 days prior to data collection. The top reported source of capital for starting a business for the HHs who reported that their main source of livelihoods was self-employment, was savings or borrowed money. The top reported businesses run by these households were food retail shop, food wholesale shop and non-food retail shop.

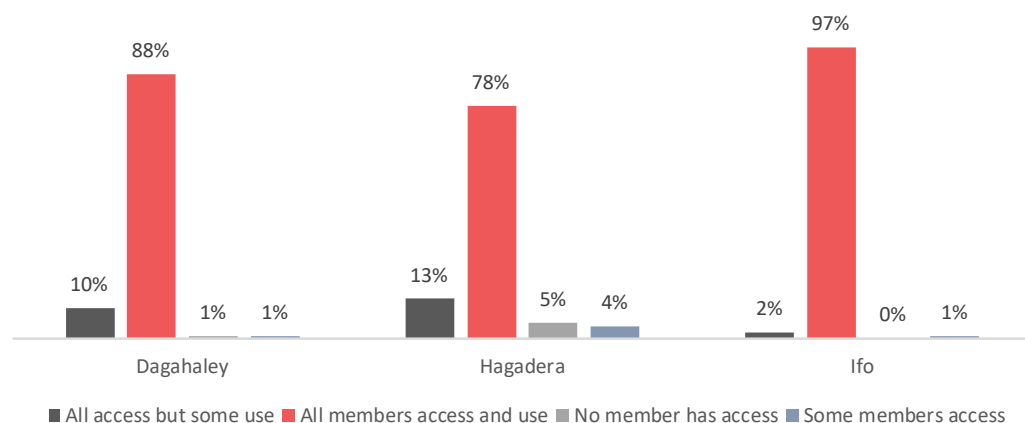
In order to get formal employment in Kenya, a person is required to apply for jobs, possess skills that match the job they apply for and be able to speak English. In addition to these, as a refugee, one is required to have an alien ID card, proof of registration, a movement pass and a work permit. Some refugees in Dadaab reported not knowing what they require in order to attain a formal employment and therefore they are not able to acquire any type of formal employment.

Water, Sanitation & Hygiene

Most households in Dadaab collect their water everyday. In particular, 77% of HHs in Hagadera, 63% in Ifo and 31% in Dagahaley, reported collecting water on a daily basis. In Dagahaley and Ifo, a high proportion of HHs (above 90%) reported walking a distance of less than 30 minutes to collect water. On the other hand, **26% of HHs in Hagadera reported taking more than 30 minutes but less than one hour to walk to their main water collection point.**

In terms of sanitation, most households in Dadaab reported having access to and using a functional latrine. However, **in Hagadera almost 25% of HHs reported having some HH members not accessing or using a functional latrine.**

% of HHs whose members had access to and used a latrine:



In Hagadera and Ifo, over 50% of HHs reported observing the five critical handwashing times but in Dagahaley, only 7% of HHs reported observing the five critical handwashing times and 4% of the HHs reported that they did not observe any of the five critical handwashing times. **The other 50% of HHs in Hagadera and Ifo and 93% of HHs in Dagahaley who do not observe the five critical handwashing times are at a high risk of disease transmission.**

% of HHs whose members received hygiene promotion messages in the following timelines:

	Hagadera	Dagahaley	Ifo
In the last 30 days	53%	44%	44%
1 month and less than 3 months ago	14%	16%	6%
3 months and less than 6 months ago	3%	3%	2%
6 months and under a year ago	2%	1%	2%
1 year or more than a year ago	3%	1%	5%
Never received	25%	31%	40%

Shelter

On average, each HH has two shelters across the three camps.

Twenty-two per cent (22%) of HHs in Dagahaley, 55% in Ifo and 85% in Hagadera reported that they did not have proof of allocation relative to the plots where they have put up their shelter. Therefore, these HHs have put up their shelter on land which was either rented to them or given freely by other refugees who were allocated that land. This lack of proof of allocation for the plots they put up their shelter often leads to conflict among the refugees.

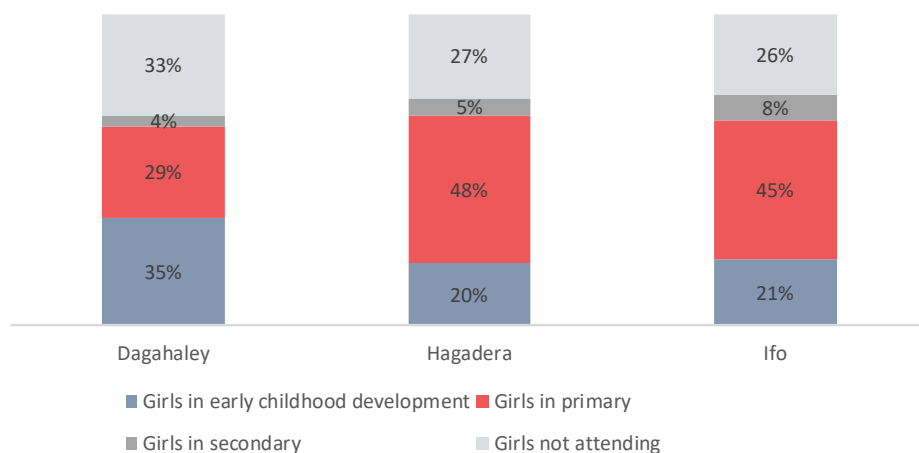
The top reported type of shelter across the three camps is a house made of cordia shrub wall (with or without mud.) **This type of shelter is highly vulnerable to natural disasters such as flooding, and is not properly isolated to protect its inhabitants from the cold, exposing them to higher risks of diseases.**



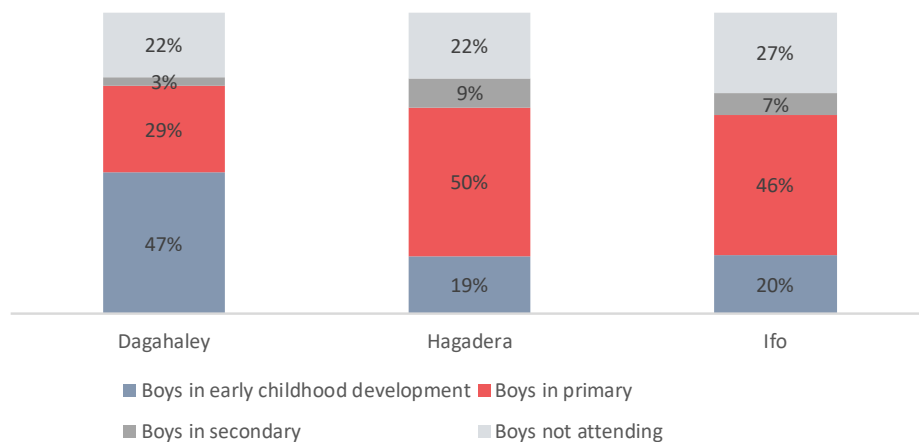
A house made of cordia shrub wall without mud. Photo credit: REACH

Education

Proportion of school-aged⁴ girls attending school per education level:



Proportion of school-aged⁴ boys attending school per education level:



The proportion of girls not attending school is higher than the proportion of boys not attending school in Dagahaley and Hagadera but in Ifo, 27% of boys were not attending school at the time of data collection while 26% of girls were not attending school. The top reported reasons for children not attending school are that children are considered too young to attend school and schools are perceived as too far. For HHs in Ifo and Hagadera who perceived children as too young to attend school, the top reported reason was a preference for children to attend madrasa classes first.

A higher proportion of children are attending primary school in comparison with attendance to secondary school which shows that a significant number of children are not transitioning to secondary school after completing primary school. Twenty-four per cent (24%) of HHs in Dagahaley and 14% of HHs in Ifo and Hagadera reported that they had at least one member of their HH who did not transition to tertiary education after completing secondary school in the last five years. The top reported barriers for these HH members not to transition to tertiary education were the inability to pay for school fees and stationary or a preference for work.

Humanitarian assistance

The top reported HH needs across the three camps were food, water and shelter.

Ninety-nine per cent (99%) of HHs in Dagahaley, 86% in Ifo and 80% in Hagadera reported that they had received humanitarian assistance in the three months prior to data collection. Among these, 45% in Ifo, 42% in Dagahaley and 25% in Hagadera reported that they were not satisfied with the assistance received because it was not enough. Nine per cent (9%) of HHs in Dagahaley also reported that the assistance they received caused tension within their HHs.

In the three months prior to data collection, the top reported assistance received by HHs across the three camps was food voucher and 35% of HHs in Hagadera reported receiving cash to buy food from humanitarian actors.

Conclusion

Food remains one of the critical humanitarian needs of refugees residing in Dadaab refugee complex with above half of the HHs in Dadaab having either a poor or borderline FCS³. The amount of food received as humanitarian assistance has reduced in the last six months prior data collection as reported by most of the HHs. Documentation and access to information on how to obtain it, remains a challenge for refugees in Dadaab. Despite having refugee registration proof, there is still a high proportion of HHs in Dagahaley having some of their HH members who do not possess any ID and almost half of the HHs in Hagadera and Ifo also have some of their HH members who do not possess IDs. Given the different challenges encountered by these HH members, including not being able to move freely within the camps, it would be important for these HHs to have access to clearer and regular channels of communication through which they can get access to information on how to process these various types of documentation (birth certificates, refugee alien ID card, etc), and where and what to do when the documentation has expired. In terms of sanitation, most households in Dadaab reported having access to and using a functional latrine. However, in Hagadera almost a quarter of the HHs reported having some HH members not accessing or using a functional latrine which exposes them to a high risk of diseases. About a quarter of school-aged⁴ children across the three camps were not attending school at the time of data collection.