



USA for
UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



Adopt-A-Future

Educating a Generation of Refugee Children

Report Prepared for UNA-USA
May 2020

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INTRODUCTION

Refugee children and youth – whether they are girls or boys, young children or adolescents – regard going to school as a basic need, not a luxury. However, the obstacles to full participation in formal education are considerable for refugee children. They are often the most marginalized and hardest to reach and help. There are over 70.8 million displaced people around the globe with over half of the number being children. Refugee children face immense challenges to get a proper education, including extreme poverty, social exclusion, trauma and language barriers.

“School is where refugees are given a second chance, we are failing refugees by not giving them the opportunity to build the skills and knowledge they need to invest in their futures.” Filippo Grandi, UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

Refugee enrollment in primary school is up from 61 to 63 percent in 2019, while secondary level enrollment has risen from 23 to 24 per cent. That compares with a global figure for all children of 91 per cent. The gains as small as they are in percentage terms, still represent life-changing opportunities for tens of thousands of refugee children, adolescents and youth.

Despite conflict and upheaval, UNA-USA have made an investment through the Adopt-A-Future campaign, one of the best investments there is: the education of young refugees. This is a golden opportunity. On behalf of the thousands of refugee children who have benefited, USA for UNHCR would like to express its most heartfelt gratitude to all UNA-USA chapters.

The following report is your story of coming together to make a difference by providing refugee children access to education - their basic human right.



Left:
Margaret
Monday
Dominic, 15

Margaret is a student at Bhar-El-Naam Girls Primary School in northwestern Kenya's Kakuma Refugee Camp.

Stay tuned to read more of Margaret's story later in the report.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Adopt-A-Future Campaign Gives Refugee Children the Education They Deserve

The Adopt-A-Future campaign through UNA-USA and in partnership with USA for UNHCR, offered communities across the country the opportunity to support refugee children and the efforts of UNHCR to provide them with quality education. The campaign launched in late 2016 and recently commenced in the winter of 2020.

Over the course of the campaign, UNA-USA chapters have raised a combined \$319,672. Recognizing that refugee education is in peril, this amount is the combined efforts of 12 individual chapters, 27 coalitions and 42 non-participating chapters. Evidence of the commitment of UNA-USA to ensure thousands of young refugees have access to education, and hope for a brighter future.

The Adopt-A-Future campaign efforts support education in two refugee camps in Kenya: Dadaab and Kakuma. While the program came to an end in Dadaab in December 2018, support for targeted education activities in the Kakuma Refugee camp continued.

The funds raised are matched through the Educate a Child Fund of Her Highness Sheikha Moza Bint Nasser of Qatar and other philanthropic partners, doubling the impact of the initiative.

EDUCATE A CHILD

Education is the surest road to recovering a sense of purpose and dignity after the trauma of displacement. Ensuring access to quality education programming is difficult in displacement situations. Most often, the unavailability and inadequate qualification of teachers, the lack of safe learning sites and the shortage of teaching and learning resources contribute to the problem.

The current Educate a Child multi-year program, of which the Adopt-A-Future campaign is a part, has taken measures to widen access to quality primary education in 14 countries in Africa, Asia and the Middle East. Recognizing that these initiatives have had a significant impact on the lives of thousands of refugee and internally displaced children, and that needs on the ground need to continue, a two-year consultative and collaborative process with UNHCR and UN agencies, INGOs, education networks, multilateral organizations and governments set out to collectively develop the next stage for refugee education.

EXPAND ACCESS

One of the main objectives of the Educate a Child program is to expand access to education for out of school children. Enrollment numbers demonstrate the very positive impact this programming is having on the lives of refugee children.

In total, from the launch of Educate a Child in October 2015 until the end of 2019, 949,028 children have received an education. This far surpasses the initial target of 448,097.

In 2019, education activities supported under the Educate a Child program contributed to the enrollment of a total of 11,374 out-of-school children in primary school, thus significantly exceeding the annual target of 4,000 enrollments.

IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

Improvements to the quality of teaching and learning continue to take place under the Educate a Child program with tangible results. The contribution in 2019 focused primarily on supporting the remuneration of 630 teachers and education staff, which was key not only for increasing enrollment, but also for improving the quality of teaching and learning. Under the Educate a Child program all 24 primary schools were provided with teaching and learning materials.

In order to further improve access to quality education for refugee children, 957 teachers were trained on a newly introduced competency-based curriculum which included Initial Teacher Training Pack and an increased use of technology to support learning. The initiative targeted support to 2,450 students (1,425 male and 1,025 female) over-age learners and 1,854 (1,114 male and 740 female) children with disabilities.

ENSURE SAFE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

Refugee children continued to excel not only in academics, but also in extra-curricular activities. In the 2019 Kenya Schools Music and Drama Festival, one of the refugee primary schools supported under the Educate a Child program emerged as the best primary school of the competition, winning over 10 trophies, including the presidential award.

PROMOTE AWARENESS AND ADVOCACY

At Headquarters level, UNHCR continues to carry out global awareness raising on refugee children's education. Throughout 2019, the Education section led a series of capacity-building activities aiming at improving primary education programming, especially for over-age learners, girls and children with disabilities.

IMPROVE DATA MANAGEMENT

Data collection was also undertaken in Kakuma and four other locations in the area of girls' education. A consolidated guidance note that will include recommendations for improving girls' education programming will be finalized in 2020.

STRENGTHEN CAPACITY AND PARTNERSHIPS

A workshop on Accelerated Education was held in Kenya in May, bringing together key stakeholders, including the Ministry of Education, with the objective to reach a consensus in order to develop a harmonized

approach to Accelerated Education in Kenya. The result of the meeting was an agreement to nominate a national steering committee and technical working group, led by the Ministry of Education to take forward this work in 2020. The work will be led by UNHCR in its role as chair of the Accelerated Education Working Group in collaboration with NRC and UNICEF.

EMPHASIZE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Community participation in education activities is encouraged in all program locations.

This is especially important for success since without community engagement, educational activities have little chance of making an impact on children's access to quality education.

The Government of Kenya's move to allow refugee children to

participate alongside their Kenyan peers as mentioned above for the Kenya Schools Music and Drama Festival, is a promising indication of their commitment to promote the social integration of refugees in their host communities.

PROMOTE INNOVATION

Innovation is a key area of focus in the Educate a Child program. Innovative activities that promote access to quality education can provide real breakthroughs on previously intractable problems.

Throughout 2019, webinars on inclusive education were organized for UNHCR and partner staff from a wide range of countries. A recommendations brief on ways to enhance access to education for refugee children with disabilities is currently being finalized.



Above : A newly constructed classroom block at Kadugli Primary School in Kakuma refugee camp

OBJECTIVES AND ACTION FOR EDUCATION

2016 - 2019

1

Expand access to education

Construction and rehabilitation of classrooms, provision of school furniture and other resources
Payment of school, exam and transport fees and cash grants to enable children to enroll and remain in school
Provision of assistive devices for children with disabilities
Enrollment of children in accelerated education programs

2

Improve the quality of teaching and learning

Teachers recruited and deployed
Provision of textbooks, library books and other teaching material for schools
Topic-specific teacher training carried out, including providing scholarships for teachers to enroll in certified training programs

3

Ensure safe learning environments

School uniforms provided to protect children on their way to and from school
Provision of psychosocial assistance for children in need
Extra-curricular activities provided to engage children in social activities

4

Promote awareness and advocacy on the important of education for refugee children

Sensitization campaigns conducted
Recruitment drives held

5

Improve data collection, management and analysis to promote learning and better programming

Teachers trained on data management
Improvement of data management systems
Out of school assessments conducted

6

Strengthen capacity and partnerships with ministries of education and other education actors to enable more refugee children to access school

Regular coordination meetings with key education stakeholders
Partnerships with national, state and local education authorities strengthened

7

Emphasize community participation in education

Parent/teacher associations supported with grants and training
Student committees developed, trained and supported

8

Promote innovation in education programming and interventions

Improve teaching and learning as well as data management through the provision of computers and internet access
Newspapers in education distributed to children to enhance their learning

EDUCATE A CHILD - RESULTS

GOAL: 935,000 Life of Educate A Child Project - target student enrollment in 14 Countries

ACTUAL: 949,028 Exceeded target goal

Dadaab Refugee Camp Kenya

GOAL: 47,959 Life of Project enrollment target in Dadaab

ACTUAL: 62,610 Kenya Dadaab student enrollment

The first camp in Dadaab was established in 1991, when refugees fleeing the civil war in Somalia started to cross the border into Kenya. A second large influx occurred in 2011, when some 130,000 refugees arrived, fleeing drought and famine in southern Somalia. Kambioos refugee camp was closed on 31st March 2017 and Ifo2 refugee camp was closed on May 31, 2018. Since December 2014, Somali refugees who decide to voluntarily return to their home country, receive UNHCR support in Kenya and Somalia

Currently, the population is over 212,936 as of August 2019. **58% of the population are children.**

Activity Description	Targets Met			
Life of Project Activities	Life of Project Targets	Actual 2017	Actual Jan - June 2018	Actual Sept 2019
Objective 1: Expand access to education				
Classrooms rehabilitated	137 classrooms	85 classrooms	Activity completed	75 classrooms
Provide assistive devices for learners living with disabilities	80 students annually	80 students	80 students	80 students
Objective 2: Improve the quality of teaching and learning				
Provide assorted teaching-learning materials for learners in schools	35,950 individuals annually	36,314 individuals	36,146 individuals	21,874 individuals
Recruit 4 education officers for 12 months	4 officers annually	4 officers	4 officers	4 officers
Conduct school inspections to maintain quality and standards	9 inspections	2 inspections	2 inspections	2 inspections
Train school administrators on school management project	105 administrators annually	105 administrators	0	50 administrators
Recruit and retain national teachers for 12 months	90 teachers	90 teachers	47 teachers	92 teachers
Conduct inter-camp sports and games	3 events	1 event 200 participants	2 event	4 events
Train refugee teachers on professional teaching qualification	122 teachers	122 teachers	61 teachers	61 teachers
Train teachers on special needs education	50 teachers	No activities planned	0	15 teachers
Procure textbooks for 10 primary schools to attain a textbook pupil ratio of 3:1	25,958 textbooks	25,958 textbooks	Activity completed	21,874 textbooks
Train refugee teachers on curriculum delivery	315 teachers	61 teachers	100 teachers	404 teachers
Objective 4: Promote awareness and advocacy on the importance of education for refugee children				
Conduct school enrollment campaigns	9 campaigns	3 campaigns	6 campaigns	3 campaigns
Facilitate 8 girls' conferences on education for girls	8 conferences	3 conferences 150 girls	1 conference	1 conference
Objective 5: Improve data collection, management and analysis to promote learning and better programming				
Conduct early grade reading and math assessments	2 assessments	1 assessment	0	6,650 students
Objective 7: Emphasize community participation in education				
Train PTA and SMCs on school governance	151 individuals	151 individuals	100 individuals	100 individuals
Objective 8: Promote innovation in education programming and interventions				
ICT integration in education supported for 10 Educate a Child schools	100 tablets purchased and 10 schools equipped	10 schools	Activity completed	Activity completed

LASTING IMPACT: BUILDING AND RENOVATING SCHOOLS



Left: A newly constructed classroom using funds from the Educate a Child program.

One of two classrooms constructed at Mogadishu primary school in Kakuma refugee camp. The new classrooms have alleviated the challenge of congestion, however the school enrollment keeps on increasing.

Bottom Left: A newly constructed 2 block of 4 doors latrine s at Mogadishu primary school.

Before construction of the latrines many students shared a latrine and queued for a long time to access the latrines. The situation has improved since construction of the latrines.

Bottom Right: A newly constructed classroom block at Kadugli Primary School in Kakuma refugee camp

Building schools in the refugee camps in Kenya aimed at enrolling and retaining out of school children at the primary school level.



EDUCATE A CHILD - RESULTS

GOAL: 935,000 Life of Educate A Child Project - target student enrollment in 14 Countries

ACTUAL: 949,028 Exceeded target goal

Kakuma Refugee Camp Kenya

GOAL: 38,021 Life of Project enrollment
target in Kakuma

ACTUAL: 39,338 student enrollment

Established in 1992 and located in Turkana, the north-western part of Kenya, Kakuma camp and nearby Kalobeyei settlement currently host 192,301 (102,072 male and 90,229 female) refugees and asylum seekers.

While the majority of refugees are from South Sudan (58 per cent) and Somalia (18 per cent), 16 other nationalities from the region and beyond are hosted in Kakuma.

Activity Description	Targets Met			
Life of Project Activities	Life of Project Targets	Actual 2017	Actual Jan - June 2018	Actual 2019
Objective 1: Expand access to education				
Construct new classrooms to increase learning space in the camp	41 classrooms	7 classrooms	No activities planned	
Construct blocks (each of 4 doors) of environmental and child-friendly and age-appropriate permanent toilets.	20 latrine blocks	4 latrine blocks 16 latrines	No activities planned	Activity completed
Construct a school kitchen	1 school kitchen	1 school kitchen	Activity completed	
Purchase school bags for school enrollees	5,723 school bags			Activity completed
Procure new desks with metallic frames	3,495 desks	250 desks	No activities planned	62 teacher desks
Expand access to Special Needs Education (SNE) through provision of scholarships, learning materials and assistive devices	1,000 children annually	1,000 children	1,282 children	Activity completed
Objective 2: Improve the quality of teaching and learning				
Provide salaries for national teachers to mentor refugee staff	92 teachers annually	92 teachers	92 teachers	85 teachers
Provide incentives for refugee primary school staff including hiring to support a double shift system	615 teachers annually	615 teachers	615 teachers	537 teachers
Assorted learning materials for learners	4,740 individuals	2,401 individuals	No activities planned	Activity completed
Purchase exercise books every year to provide 5 books for each learner	219,242 books	219,242 books	219,242 books	Activity completed
Support extra-curricular activities to enhance learner participation in schools and create child-friendly spaces	4 events benefiting 22 schools annually	4 events 22 schools	No activities planned	
Training of teachers in lower classes in safe learning environment and child-friendly activities	404 teachers	305 teachers	No activities planned	404 teachers
Objective 3: Ensure safe learning environments for children				
Construct a school fence and gate	Construct 1 school fence and gate	1 school fence and gate	Activity completed	
Objective 4: Promote awareness and advocacy on the importance of education for refugee children				
Conduct community awareness, mobilization and dialogue to create greater understanding and focus on education as a right	3 campaigns annually	3 campaigns	1 campaign	3 campaigns
Objective 7: Emphasize community participation in education				
Provide grants to School Management Committees (SMCs) to implement school development projects to improve the capacity of the community to manage the schools as well as increase livelihoods options for refugees	22 grants			Activity completed

LASTING IMPACT: BOOKS, MATERIALS AND SAFE PLACES TO LEARN



Above: School children at Mogadishu Primary school in Kakuma refugee camp queue to receive exercise books provided through Educate a Child.

Given the continuous influx of refugees arriving at Kakuma refugee camp the need for materials for education continues to grow. 4,740 learning materials were distributed in 2019.



Right: A reinforced school fence at Cush Primary school

The school fence was done by School Management Committee (SMC) in Cush Primary School through cash grants from Educate A Child.

The school Management Committees are part of the community structures that support in the daily running and supervision of the schools. These cash grants enhanced community participation in school management.

MEET MARGARET - ONE PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENT WHO BENEFITS FROM **YOUR** SUPPORT

Margaret Monday Dominic, 15, is a student at Bhar-El-Naam Girls Primary School in northwestern Kenya's Kakuma Refugee Camp. Her family was forced to flee their home in South Sudan when she was young.



Margaret and her fellow students at Bhar-El-Naam Girls Primary School are supported by the Educate a Child program. In addition to improving the quality of the facilities at the Kakuma refugee camp and ensuring safer learning environments, Margaret and the other students are able to participate in extra-curricular activities.

Watch a 360 VR video about Margaret here!



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Today, when Margaret is not studying, she plays goalkeeper on an all-girls football (soccer) team, and has helped take her squad to great heights. She was recently selected to participate on the all-regional Rift Valley football team, which went to the playoffs in a national football tournament.



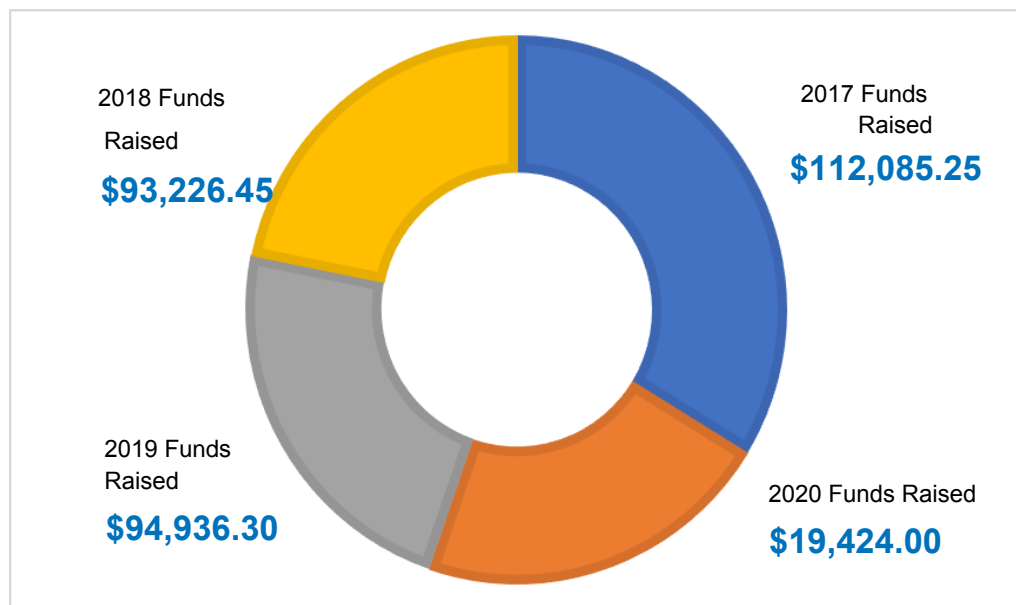
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ADOPT-A-FUTURE - RESULTS

TOTAL FUNDING (AS OF March 31 2020)

\$319,672

Funds Raised by
UNA-USA Chapters



HIGHLIGHTS

TOP FIVE CHAPTERS of 2019

Chapter	Funds Raised
Pasadena Greater	\$31,000
Chicago Orange	\$15,370.03
County	\$10,899.66
Broward County	\$3,000
East Bay	\$1,934.61

PARTICIPATING CHAPTERS

\$243,742

Individual Chapters

Chapter	Funds Raised
Boulder County	\$14,115.50
Broward County	\$4,129
Mid-Hudson Valley	\$5,629
National Capital Area	\$7,655.43
New York City	\$2,661.44
Orange County	\$21,014.66
Portland	\$1,450

Below: School children at Mogadishu Primary school in Kakuma refugee camp queue to receive exercise books provided through Educate a Child.

Some of the activities implemented: Payment of teachers' salaries/incentives, provision of teaching/learning supplies, and support for for over-age learners, and participation of children in extra-curricular activities.



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COALITIONS

Chapters	Funds Raised	Chapters	Funds Raised
Chicago Coalition Total:	\$36,306	Northern California Division Total:	\$44,674.06
Greater Chicago	\$33,976	Northern California Division	\$23,848.89
Iowa Division	\$2,330	Davis	\$5,968
East Bay	\$12,084.17	Colorado Coalition Total:	\$8,047.50
Midpeninsula	\$775	Northern Colorado	\$1,895.50
Monterey Bay	\$1,173	Denver	\$6,152
Sacramento	\$50	San Francisco	\$135
Greater Lansing Coalition Total:	\$40,246.51	Silicon Valley	\$640
Greater Detroit	\$1,320	Greater Lansing	\$38,926.51
Southern NY Coalition Total:	\$20,022.82	Southern NY State Division	\$8,263.42
Southern California Coalition	\$36,160	Westchester	\$9,634.40
Southern California Division	\$160	Brooklyn	\$55
Pasadena	\$36,000	Northern New Jersey	\$1,350
		Queens	\$720

NON-PARTICIPATING CHAPTERS \$32,978.01

Chapter	Funds Raised	Chapter	Funds Raised
Albuquerque	\$100	Miami	\$10
Atlanta	\$330	Minnesota	\$25
Austin	\$95	Nebraska	\$60
Birmingham	\$225	New York Capital Area	\$275
Blue Ridge VA	\$7,195	Northeast PA	\$100
Bluegrass	\$25	Oklahoma City	\$125
Connecticut	\$100	Pennsylvania State University	\$800
Dallas	\$390	Phoenix	\$1,758
Dane County	\$655	Rose Villa	\$2,025
Frankfort	\$310	Saint Louis	\$275
Gainesville	\$3,505.62	Salem Oregon	\$10
Greater Boston	\$120	San Fernando	\$880
Greater Philadelphia	\$113	Santa Barbara	\$5
Houston	\$150	Seattle	\$150
Inland Empire	\$20	Southern Illinois	\$1,235.39
Jacksonville	\$25	Southern Oregon	\$105
Johnson County	\$3,500	Spokane	\$250
Kansas City	\$100	Utah	\$2,531
Kentucky Division	\$25	Wake County	\$500
Louisville	\$460	Western NC	\$125
Maine	\$2,075	Whittier	\$2,215

LASTING IMPACT: LEAVING NO CHILDREN BEHIND



© UNHCR/Anthony Karumba

Above: A class organized for refugee students with special needs in Mogadishu Primary School in Kakuma.

Through the Educate a Child program over 1,000 students with special needs are able to receive an education.



© UNHCR/Anthony Karumba

Left: Training refugees to teach in Kakuma's overcrowded classrooms.

Ethiopian refugee Chaltu Megesha Gedo, 24, a new teacher, Chaltu was trained on the innovative Teachers for Teachers scheme, and now teaches at Mogadishu School

CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNED

In 2019, the remuneration of a total of 630 teachers and education staff was supported under the Educate a Child program, representing close to 90 per cent of the annual target. This slight under-achievement was due to an increase in the amount of monthly salaries, which impacted the total number of individuals that could be supported within the initially allocated budget.

Despite all the efforts made to meet the educational needs of refugee children, 18,000 primary

school-aged children (36.5 per cent) remain out of school. The continuing influx of refugees, combined with poor and overcrowded school infrastructure, inadequate numbers of teachers, shortage of materials, as well as the prevalence of cultural norms affecting the education of girls and children with disabilities, continue to be major challenges.

Mitigation strategies in place include additional school and classroom construction, and activities such as teacher trainings aiming at improving the quality of teaching and learning.

Substantial investment is still needed in order to be able to address both education supply and demand barriers.

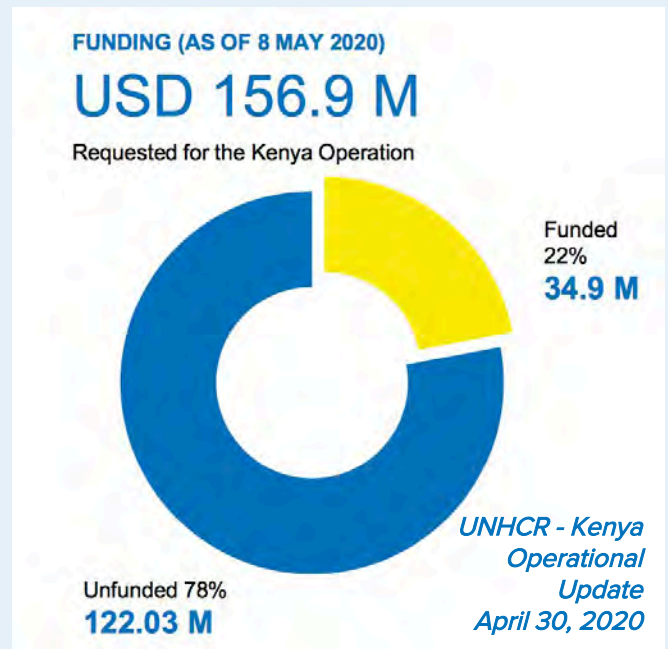
Addressing cultural practices that are detrimental to girls' education requires continued community engagement and dialogue. While these will continue to be major areas of focus in the coming years, more attention will be paid to girls' mentorship, life skills training and peer-to-peer support, in order not only to enhance the retention of female learners, but also to build their self-confidence.

THE WORK IS NOT DONE...WHAT'S NEXT?

REFUGEE EDUCATION 2030: A STRATEGY FOR REFUGEE INCLUSION

In 2019, UNHCR launched Refugee Education 2030: A Strategy for Refugee Inclusion. The strategy aims to translate the arrangements set out in the Global Compact on Refugees into action, applying the principles of solidarity and responsibility-sharing, and drawing on cooperation between humanitarian and development partners, so that refugee children, as well as the host communities welcoming them, experience increased access to quality learning opportunities.

Over the next decade the aim is to have refugee children achieve parity with their non-refugee peers with access to primary education. Let's continue to make a difference in the next generation!



USA for UNHCR welcomes continued involvement from
UNA-USA through the

Humanitarian Relief Affinity Group
launching summer 2020



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May 2020