

KAKUMA NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2024



THE
LUTHERAN
WORLD
FEDERATION

World Service

member of **actalliance**



Facebook: LWF Kenya
Somalia Program



Twitter: @LWF_Ke



Instagram: LWF Kenya
Somalia Program

Kakuma Newsletter highlights program achievements, stories from communities of concern and staff updates. The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) Kenya Somalia Program



THE
LUTHERAN
WORLD
FEDERATION

KAKUMA AREA PROGRAM



AREAS OF FOCUS

Quality services



Sustainable livelihoods



Protection and Social Cohesion



Dear Reader



We bring you news from LWF Kakuma Area Program, one of the LWF Kenya-Somalia Program Areas, to share highlights of the interventions undertaken in collaboration with implementing partners, financial partners and other projects' stakeholders to bring about hope for a better future to the most disadvantaged populations that we serve.

Through rights-based approach (RBA) in programming, The Lutheran World Federation is motivated by the hope and resilience of the people it serves and seeing them improve their quality of life, individually and collectively, through meeting their basic needs and achieving their full potential in an environment that supports justice, peace, dignity, diversity and respect for everyone, refugees and host communities alike, and enables the people to claim their universal human rights.

To ensure these rights are enjoyed, LWF Kakuma Area Program focuses on three thematic areas;

1. Quality Services (Early Childhood, Primary and JS Education, and the Reception Centre Management),
2. Protection and Social Cohesion (Youth Protection and Development, Peace and Social Cohesion) and
3. Sustainable Livelihoods (Vocational training and Agriculture).

Carolayne Wainaina
Area Manager, LWF Kakuma

..for hope and a future

LWF Kakuma Area Program provides reception services for refugees and asylum seekers at the Kakuma and Kalobeyei Reception Centers, the second point of contact after clearance with the Department of Refugee Services (DRS). The services include pre-registration, wet feeding, awareness creation, psychosocial support and referral of vulnerable cases, facilitation of DRS registration, Non-Food Items (NFI) and Core Relief Items (CRI) distribution during relocation to the community.

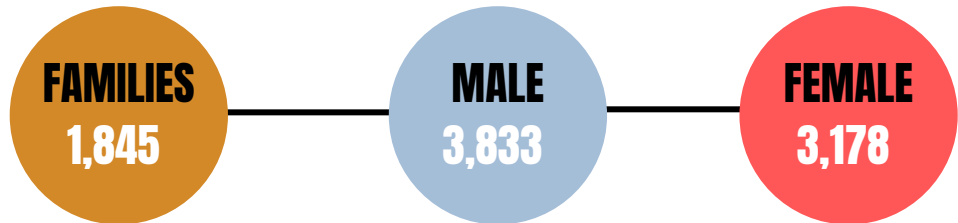
The facilities have served over **20 nationalities** since its inception in **1998** where **80%** of the camp population has passed through.



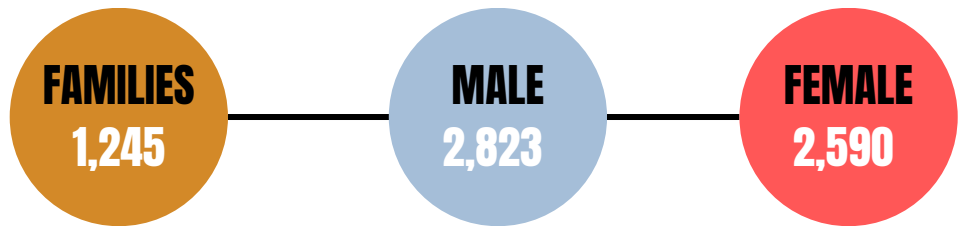
Aerial view of the Kakuma Reception Center

In the first half of 2024 LWF has:

Received and accommodated 7,011 individuals between January and June



Served and relocated 5,413 individuals to the community between January and June



Population analysis per nationality.

- South Sudan: **3762** – 40%
- Burundi: **2588** – 27%
- DRC Congo: **2046** – 22%
- Sudan: **406** – 4%
- The **rest of the nationalities contributed to 701** individuals, translating to 7%

..for hope and a future



NEW ARRIVALS RECEPTION PROCESS FLOW

A documentation of items and services refugees and asylum seekers should expect to receive at Reception Centers.

YOU START HERE!



Department of Refugee Services (DRS)

Reception and screening of Asylum Seekers and Refugees



G4S

Security screening at the Reception Center Entrance



Lutheran World Federation (LWF)

Data Segregation and Pre-Registration



Lutheran World Federation (LWF)

Accommodation, Arrival Package CRIs, Feeding, Awareness creation, Referral



Reception Services by Partners

Social assessment, Vulnerability identification, PSNs/PLWD/Protection, WASH, GBV, CP, Feeding, Nutrition



Department of Refugee Services (DRS)

Formal Registration: Issue Manifest, Ration Card, Bamba Chakula



Lutheran World Federation (LWF)

CRM exit polls/Satisfaction Survey



UNHCR, LWF, PWJ, WFP e.t.c

Relocation to the community: Relocation awareness, Relocation Package CRI, Food, Shelter, firewood, etc.

PROCESS COMPLETE!



Angeline Jolie Girls Primary School learners perform a choral verse during Kenya Music Festivals competitions in Kakuma

Kakuma Junior Schools: Thriving and Achieving!

Quality Education for All

Following the presidential working party's recommendations, 21 Junior Secondary schools are domiciled in the 21 LWF-managed primary schools at the Kakuma Refugee Camp supporting 8,974(5,132M, 3842F) learners to access quality, safe, and inclusive JS education, including 415(230M, 185F) learners with various disabilities.

Dedicated Educators and Resources

We are committed to providing our students with the best possible learning experience. To achieve this, we have engaged a team of 22(13M, 9F) highly qualified national teachers with diverse subject specializations and 65(59M, 6F) dedicated Refugee teachers to support curriculum implementation. Additionally, all the Junior Schools are equipped with essential teaching and learning materials approved by the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Design, thanks to the generous support of our financial partners BPRM, UNHCR, ALWS, among others.

Fostering a Love for Science

Through PRM funding LWF is constructing 4 state-of-the-art, first ever in the refugee camp, science laboratories in Hongkong, Jabel Mara, Kakuma 2, and Kakuma 3 zones. The labs will be adequately equipped to facilitate hands-on learning where learners can explore, experiment, and innovate, fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation for science.

Protecting Learners: A Robust Child Safeguarding Framework



The safeguarding unit works proactively to identify and address potential risks to children's well-being. The interventions include individual and group counseling, family sessions, and Art & Play therapy. A Perception survey conducted in July 2023 reported 97.2% and 96% of 251 learners interviewed recording improved sense of safety and wellbeing, respectively. Over the period, there has been notable positive change in behavior and socio-emotional well-being among learners, teachers, and parents.

Mental well-being extends beyond the school environment. School counselors also provide Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) services to program staff with an interest on the Reception Centre staff.



..for hope and a future



Empowering Voices: The Impact of Child-Led Advocacy Structures

In a world where young voices are often unheard, LWF has taken the initiative to establish Child-Led advocacy structures. The Child Rights Clubs (CRCs) selected from 2 age groups: 8-12- and 13–17-year-olds with each group having 40 members per school, each with the passion to champion the rights of its peers. Complementing the CRC clubs is the Social Advocacy Teams (SATs) each with 20 dedicated members per school, that have been a transformative force in creating a sense of empowerment among children while driving greater social change in schools and communities.

The groups have successfully advocated for;

- Anti-bullying campaigns
- Promote inclusivity and respect for all
- Menstrual health management
- Back-to-school drives
- Education for all
- Child Labour and
- Drug abuse

One notable example, the child-led advocacy structures managed to lobby for proper menstrual health management, resulting in the provision of emergency menstrual kits in schools thus significantly improving hygiene and attendance rates among girls. Similarly, social advocacy teams have successfully conducted back-to-school drives encouraging more children to attend regularly or enroll in schools for out-of-school children.

Meanwhile, the older group has been pivotal in addressing more complex issues such as child labor and access to education for all.

In driving for change and aptly addressing the attitudinal barriers faced in the attainment of safeguarding in schools, children participated in the development of child-led advocacy messages that informed the murals done in the different schools as a way of advocating against child abuse. They also developed messages to be disseminated through e-platforms to further aid in addressing the attitudinal barriers faced in child safeguarding.

Another achievement of the CRC and SAT clubs has been their involvement in environmental conservation projects. Through tree-planting drives and the establishment of small kitchen gardens in some of the schools, these young advocates are not just learning about sustainability and responsibility but are actively contributing to a greener future.

The young advocates have great potential and can be trained as paralegals to aid in the identification of cases and referrals in real-time for real-time response.

In essence, these clubs and teams are not just about advocacy; they are about building a foundation for lifelong engagement and leadership, ensuring that our children are prepared to take on the challenges of tomorrow with confidence and resilience.



..for hope and a future

The department's goal is empowering the youth through focused and youth-led initiatives aimed at creating resilience, linking them to available opportunities that support their psychosocial development, and harnessing talent for improved livelihoods that creates self-reliance and independence. In the first half of 2024, we have been able to;

Offer mentorship life skills and peer-to-peer program: The LWF youth protection team conducts structured mentorship, life skills, and peer-to-peer sessions at youth centers in Kakuma Camp and Kalobeyei Settlement targeting adolescents and youth between 15-25 years. In the first half of 2024, 125 adolescents participated in the program that enhanced their resilience and supported their psychosocial development.



Creative and performing arts are like vitamins for learners! They boost essential skills that go beyond academics. Planning of the 10th season of **Kakuma Got Talent** is underway, in collaboration with Integration/GIZ.

The enrollment and selection of youth groups in different performing and creative arts talent disciplines has brought in 500 youth in music, drama/ theatre/ modern dance, cultural dance, poetry, and modeling with this year's theme being **"Monetizing talents"**.



Youth-led advocacy sessions: Quarter one, saw 90 members and 10 youth cabinet members of the Youth Parliament advocacy group initiative in both the Kakuma and Kalobeyei settlements engaged through 2 sessions. With support from UNHCR and the Refuge Point resettlement Program, they were sensitized to an alternative resettlement process for youth in the camp. The advocacy group is highly involved in cascading similar information through community awareness forums. The team also deliberates on issues touching on youth development for sharing with implementing organizations and duty bearers to improve the delivery of services to young people in the camp and host community.

Sports for protection is an initiative that ensures talented youth in Kakuma Camp, Kalobeyei Settlement and the host community get an opportunity to showcase their prowess. LWF youth office has been supporting and facilitating basketball, handball, football, volleyball, futsal, and taekwondo. Best players are scouted by local, national and international teams; this give them a source of income and they are able to support their families.



Kakuma Premier League and Divas Leagues

The dusty fields of Kakuma and Kalobeyei came alive for the 8th season of the Kakuma Premier League (KPL) and Divas League (KDL). Over 780 young men and women, refugees and members of the host community alike, laced up their boots for a season of competition, camaraderie, and chasing dreams.



A Kakuma Premier League Match in Lodwar: Kakuma United vs Hillside Football Club

The KPL and KDL offered a platform for these aspiring athletes; 16 teams for the men and 10 for the women, to showcase their talent and hone their skills. This 10-month-long tournament wasn't just about winning; it was about using their free time productively, learning teamwork, and nurturing potential stars for the future. The ultimate goal? To be scouted by top-tier leagues and turn their passion into a profession.

LWF supported two first-tier teams, Kakuma United FC and Kakuma Kalobeyei Stars (KK Stars), providing them with opportunities beyond the local leagues. United, with 30 talented boys, battled it out in the Western Kenya Division II, while KK Stars, a team of 30 girls, competed in the National Division I. These teams offered a taste of professional football, where young players from both refugee and host communities could play alongside each other, striving to be noticed by national clubs and maybe, one day, even playing internationally.

With 19 matches already played (17 for United and 7 for KK Stars), the season is well underway. Each game was a testament to the power of sport to bridge divides, foster hope, and create a platform for young people in Kakuma and Kalobeyei to dream big and chase their passion for football.



The Kalobeyei Sports Complex managed by LWF tackles a critical challenge – the lack of proper sports facilities in the area. It offers a comprehensive platform, catering to a wide spectrum of needs. Young people can access expert sports mentorship, hone their life skills through sportsmanship, refine motor skills, and even develop their personalities. Additionally, the complex provides avenues for those with aspirations of high-performance sports careers.

..for hope and a future



Pictures of activities during the Sports for Protection Day at Kalobeyei Sports Complex

SPORTS FOR PROTECTION DAY GROWS WITH 3 NEW CATEGORIES

LWF-Kakuma held a successful Sports for Protection event on 19 April 2024, at the Kalobeyei Sports Complex, an event which attracted youth under the age of 17, from both the host and refugee communities, who showcased their skills in seven different sports disciplines.

Traditional favorites like basketball, handball, and football were joined by exciting new introductions such as wheelchair racing, futsal, and taekwondo. Enthusiastic young fans filled the stadium, creating a lively atmosphere and cheering on the participants.

The achieved its goal; to provide a safe space for young people from the host community, Kakuma camp, and Kalobeyei settlement where they can interact and participate in activities that promote their protection and nurture their talents.

"Sports for Protection" is an initiative designed to empower young people and safeguard them from violence, exploitation, and abuse.

The program fosters a sense of community and well-being among participants.

The success of the event was made possible through support by the Australian Lutheran World Service and UNHCR and a partnership with HI.

Winners in respective disciplines in the bi-annual event received both medals and cash prizes for their participation. The LWF logistics team ensured all participants were ferried home after the event.



..for hope and a future



Social Cohesion Technical Lead Joseph Wekesa addresses a class of host community peace advocates

Thousands of refugees fleeing conflict and other adversities find a new home in Kakuma and Kalobeyei, Kenya. However, cultural differences, competition for resources, and past trauma can lead to tensions. The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) Kakuma Area Program recognises this and through the Peace and Social Cohesion Sector is working hard to bridge these divides and promote peaceful coexistence.

HIGHLIGHTS

- 180 host community peace committee members were reenergized through refresher training.
- 100 youth peace club members were trained on conflict mitigation and management.
- 300 community members were reached with peace messages during awareness meetings.

The sector has established and trained host community peace committees around Kakuma camps and Kalobeyei settlement, currently 12 active peace committees comprising of 60 members per committee exist and work closely with Refugee Peace Committees under **Danish Refugee Council** in the camps and settlement.

The Peace Committees constituted in collaboration with the local administrators; Area chiefs and Asst. County Commissioner, are engaged in mitigation measures and conflict management among host and refugee communities through alternative dispute resolution mechanisms. Criminal cases are referred to the Kenyan Government law enforcement apparatus.



Host community members discuss conflict resolution in groups during a session held by the LWF Social Cohesion team at Nakoyo Primary School



Youth Peace Clubs: A structure established under UNHCR funding. In the reporting period, the sector established 7 youth peace clubs with a total of 100; 79 men and 21 women, members in Kakuma and Kalobeyei comprising of security team, trained trainers (ToTs), community leaders, religious leaders, and members of sports council.

Peace interventions led to a calm first quarter in 2024 with reduced conflicts in Kakuma and Kalobeyei. Communities embraced cultural differences and intermarriages, improving social ties and security in Turkana West.

“a conflict between family members on land was resolved by peace club members in Hong Kong area in Kakuma 1, a testimony of the good work being done of the peace clubs”

..for hope and a future

LWF receives support from a number of donors who from time to time want to see the progress of the projects they are supporting. On such occasions, Kakuma office facilitates their movements and organizes engagement sessions with beneficiaries.



Barefoot to Boots chairperson Ian Smith accompanied by his daughter and brother visited Angelina Jolie Girls Primary School and listened to their plight; after, he attended both Kakuma Premier League and Divas League matches.



World Food Programme (WFP) one of LWF's partners at the Reception Center for a visit with one of their donors



LWF facilitated Mo Farah's visit in Kakuma, the Olympic Champion is IOM's Goodwill Ambassador.



The department is responsible for the design, coordination and implementation of monitoring, evaluation, research and learning frameworks for various program interventions, from the planning phase, and throughout all the Project Cycle Management phases to ensure:

- Defined project objectives are relevant, measurable, and achievable
- Quality Results Based Management (RBM) of projects
- Accurate data and reports are provided to donors and essential stakeholders
- Increased understanding of Target Population needs by Project Teams
- Effective integration with LWF's data driven global processes

LWF has a good ICT infrastructure and a committed management that promotes digitization of its operations and processes for efficiency and effective programming. The department has leveraged on Information and Communication Technology and the available tools to enhance participatory programming by the project teams: FABO as a Learning site, SharePoint for document repository, Teams for internal communication and collaboration, and recently ActivityInfo for Project Management and Data Collection.

ActivityInfo: New Project management and Data Collection System for World Service

In order to keep up with the latest advancement in technology and make the best of digitalization to obtain significant impact in humanitarian space, a review of the LWF WS project management system Newdea was done and found to be unsuitable for the current digital environment. ActivityInfo is designed to provide a simple and intuitive data management tools that caters for LWF diverse reporting needs, standardizes reporting across projects, and supports strategy development and planning. With streamlined procedures and automation, it reduces duplication, redundancies, and human error, making project management easier and more efficient.

The official onboarding of ActivityInfo to the Kenya Somalia Country Program and consequently Kakuma Area Program was conducted in May 2024 spearheaded by LW World Service Systems Officer Greter Kukeli based in Pargue, in close collaboration with the Senior Program Officer PMER and the Data Management Systems Unit. However, piloting with the Education Program Kenya was initiated in 2023 and the Education unit is at 98% adoption for learner and teacher enrolment and attendance, school monitoring, impairment and vulnerability assessment and regular data collection needs at pre-primary, primary and Junior Secondary levels.





1. Goerge Apondo, Project Manager, plants tree at Kakuma RC during World Environment Day.
2. Sharon Samburuma, Child Safeguarding Assisstant, during play and art therapy session.
3. Eliyes Girls Primary School learners pose for a photo during Regional Music Festival in Lodwar.
4. Area Manager Carolyne Wainaina welcomes guests at LWF exhibition station during World Refugee Day.
5. Mary Lopalor, Child Safeguarding Assitant, paints a learners face during celebrations of the Day of the African Child in Kalobeyei.
6. LWF joined Kakuma agencies together with refugees in a solidarity walk marking World Refugee Day
7. Social Cohesion team peace engagement session between refugee and host community members culminates with the roasting of a goat.
8. LWF officers speak in a radio advocacy session on Atanayeche FM 9 to highlight KADANA, an RLO that LWF Supports.

..for hope and a future



Education Officer Fredrick Nyagone breaks ground for the construction of a science lab at Lokitaung' Primary School.

The laboratories is among one of four funded by PRM are to be used by both refugee and host community learners especially for the newly introduced curriculum CBC; which involve a lot of practical classes.

..for hope and a future

Empowering Kakuma's Youth through Vocational Training: LWF equips young people in Kakuma, both in the town and camps, with valuable skills for future opportunities. Through partnerships with training institutions, 174 youth (55 male, 119 female) are currently enrolled in programs for hairdressing, dressmaking, and basic computer skills.

Working with partners LWF has supported vulnerable households facing food insecurity, unstable income and inaccessible assets in Kakuma.

This has been done through equipping refugees with skills that enable them to generate an income and invest it for sustainable living. Ref Threads is an example of refugees who embraced tailoring and now their unique bags are worn beyond Kakuma.



Kamaliza Saidati, a refugee from Burundi and a member of Ref Threads works on a new order at Jitegemee Business Centre in Kakuma

LWF is also enriching Turkana West Host Communities through sustainable farming methods and provision of safe and clean water for consumption and for farming.



Craze Atelej at Nakoyo Farming Site harvests a mature watermelon for a guest.

How a Refugee-Led Savings Group is Redefining Self-Reliance in Kakuma

Human nature obliges people from all walks to seek self-improvement despite backgrounds; hope for a better future is the driving force for men and women, especially parents who wish to smoothen the path for their offsprings.

A testament to this is the Village Loans and Savings Associations (VSLA) in Kakuma. A group comprised of refugees of different nationalities, who came together to pool resources, little as it may be, to be able to take loans and start small businesses or pay for their children's school fees. Their story begun in 2017. Sikuzani-Tusambe Esther, the chairperson of the 24-member group shared as LWF team joined them in one of their meetings in Kakuma 2 refugee camp. "There has always been need for unity for financial gain among men and women in the camp"

Aware of this need, Lutheran World Federation (LWF) provided training and support. The group adopted a formal structure, with shares, interests, and regular savings. "The lady from LWF," Esther recalls with gratitude, "helped us understand how to save together... when we received Bamba-Chakula (money for food from UNHCR) we used to spare Sh500 for savings"

Each member owns a share which is priced at Sh200 per unit and savings are collected fortnightly. Just like any other microfinance institution, Esther explained that loans are repaid with a favorable interest and higher share amount guarantees better returns at the end of the year, when dividends are awarded.



Sikuzani-Tusambe Esther during one of their VSLA meetings

..for hope and a future

**RADIO AID (period: Jan - Dec 2024)**

ARISE Project (Advancing Refugee Inclusive School Education in the East and Horn of Africa (South Sudan, Somalia, Kenya).

**PORTICUS (May 2024 - April 2028)**

Strengthening Early Years Education Institutions for integration in Refugee Hosting Counties of Turkana and Garissa(SEIHI).



Funded by
European Union
Humanitarian Aid

**ECHO Project (period: Jan 2024 - 2025)**

Enhancing Access to Quality, Safe, and Inclusive Primary and Secondary Education for Displaced Children and Youth in Kakuma and Dadaab.

**JUNE: MEN'S HEALTH MONTH**

STRENGTH IS SPEAKING YOUR TRUTH. CHECK IN. TALK IT OUT. YOU GOT THIS. #MENSMENTALHEALTH

**PREVENTION FIRST: STOP SEA WITH PSEA.**

LWF believes in creating a safer environment for everyone involved with the organization that's why prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse training is mandatory for all staff.

In the first half of 2024 LWF Accountability Department ensured a total of 841 staff members across different departments received training on this critical matter.

ONLINE RESOURCES

Annual Report 2023: <https://lutheranworld.org/resources/publication-lwf-world-service-annual-report-2023>

LWF Kenya-Somalia Impact Stories: <https://kenyasomalia.lutheranworld.org/updates>

..for hope and a future

WE SAY 'THANK YOU!' TO OUR DONORS



Funded by
European Union
Humanitarian Aid



Brot
für die Welt





COVER PHOTO [FRONT]: Eliye's Girls Primary learners on their way to perform at the Kakuma Sub County Music Festival, 2024

COVER PHOTO [BACK]: Saisa Salemani smiles after receiving new assistive device from LWF IE Assessor Lauren Lawi Anyango

LWF Kenya Somalia Representative: **Girma Gudina**
LWF Kakuma Area Manager: **Carolyne Wainaina**
Newsletter produced by: **Marvin Lukulu**

Contributions: Moses Mateyi, Joseph Wekesa, John Ekamais, Sharon Samburuma, Fredrick Nyagone and Eleanor Maiyo



THE
LUTHERAN
WORLD
FEDERATION

World Service
actalliance

..for hope and a future