

U.S. Department of State
Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM)

PRM's Protracted Refugee Situations Strategy :

Research Findings and Preliminary Evaluation Results

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Humanitarian Assistance:

Focus on Beneficiaries



What is a “protracted” refugee situation?

What factors cause protracted
refugee situations?

Why did PRM select focus
populations?

Focus Populations for PRM:

1. Afghans in Pakistan



Six Focus Populations for PRM:

2. Bhutanese in Nepal



Six Focus Populations for PRM:

3. Burmese in Thailand



Six Focus Populations for PRM:

4. Refugees from Croatia and Bosnia in Serbia



Six Focus Populations for PRM:

5. Liberians in West Africa



Six Focus Populations for PRM:

6. Somalis in Kenya



10.3 million people live in protracted refugee situations in 30 countries,

comprising two-thirds of the global refugee population. A protracted refugee situation exists when 25,000 or more refugees originating from the same country have sought refuge in another country for at least five consecutive years.

Refugees in Protracted Situations



★ USG focus population

All population figures are from UNHCR, as of the end of 2009.



U.S. Government Focus: Protracted Refugee Situations

Liberians in West Africa¹

Liberia's civil war produced several waves of refugees who, at one point, numbered over 700,000. The United States has resettled over 30,000 Liberian refugees. The invocation of the cessation clause² for refugees may motivate the remaining refugees to take advantage of local integration or assisted repatriation.

Somalis in Kenya

Somali refugees have fled to Kenya in significant waves since the early 1990s. Refugee camps do not meet or maintain many of the minimum standards for humanitarian assistance. The United States is working with UNHCR to resettle refugees and to strengthen protection and assistance programs for those who remain in the camps.

Croatians and Bosnians in Serbia

Displaced between 1991 and 2001, refugees from Croatia and Bosnia still remain in Serbia 15 years after the signing of the Dayton Accords. Inadequate housing, unemployment, and lack of documentation, as well as unresolved claims to tenancy, property, and pensions, challenge refugees' ability to either integrate locally or repatriate.

Afghans in Pakistan

The majority of Afghan refugees have resided in Pakistan for over three decades. The U.S. Government works with UNHCR and the Government of Pakistan to strengthen assistance efforts for both Afghan refugees and the Pakistani communities that host them. Over five million Afghan refugees have repatriated from Pakistan and Iran since 2002.

Bhutanese in Nepal

Ethnic Nepalese refugees from Bhutan have been living in camps in southeastern Nepal since the early 1990s. Since 2007, more than 30,000 of these refugees have been resettled to the United States, and over 5,000 more to Australia, Canada, Denmark, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway and the United Kingdom.

Burmese in Thailand

More than half of Burmese refugees have lived in Thailand for over 25 years in nine official camps on the Thai-Burma border. Since 2005, third-country resettlement has provided durable solutions for more than 60,000 Burmese refugees, with 48,000 of these refugees resettled to the United States.

1. Liberian refugees in West Africa live primarily in Côte d'Ivoire, Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Ghana.

2. When significant positive changes in refugees' countries of origin make it possible for them to return home, states that are parties to the 1951 Convention and 1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees and the

1969 Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa may invoke the "cessation clause" to declare an end to the refugee status originally granted refugee seekers.

What is the solution to these
protracted situations?

How can the U.S. Government
help?

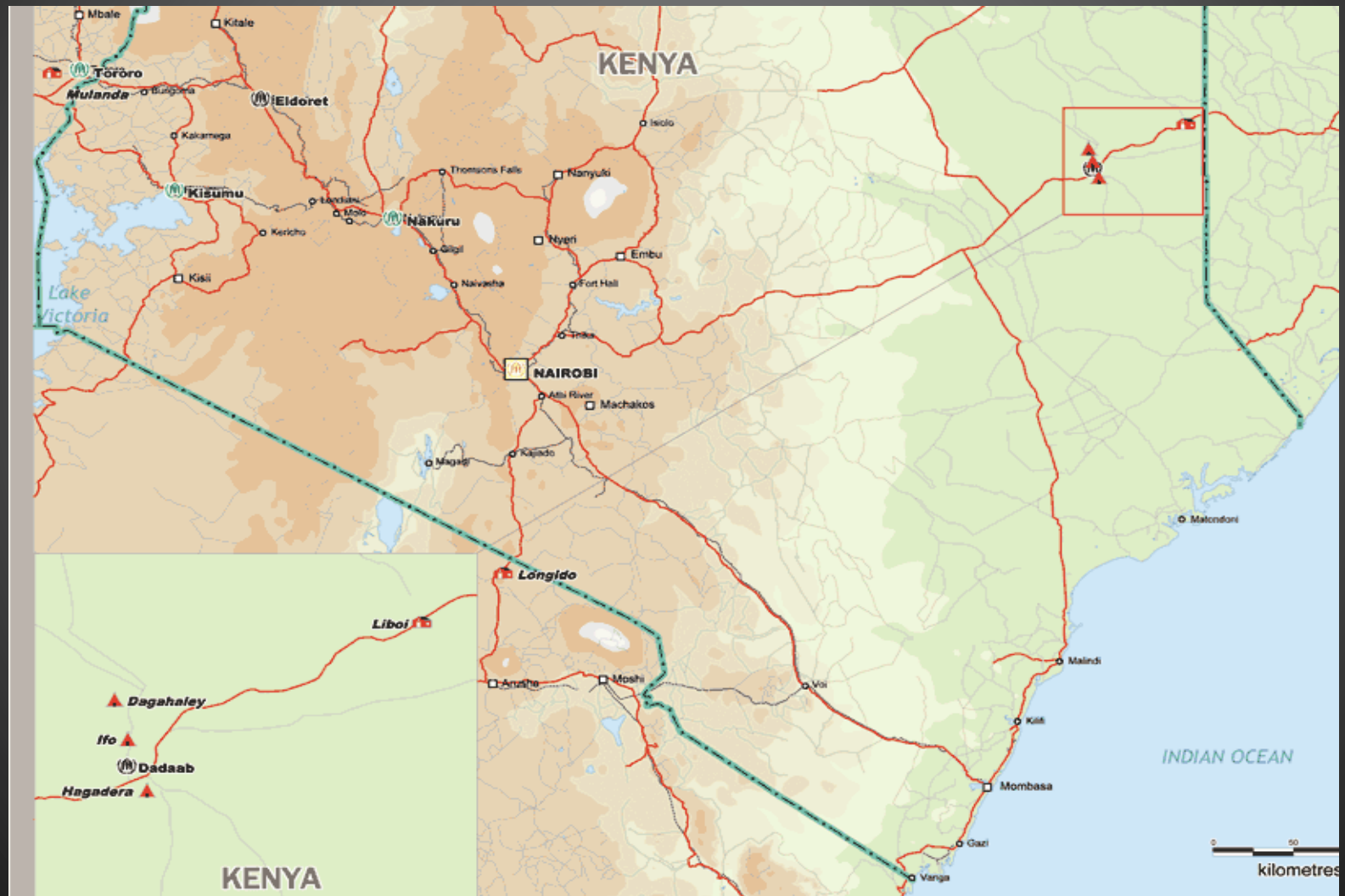
Evaluation questions:

- What types of interventions work and what doesn't work in supporting refugees' economic welfare, protection, and self-reliance in protracted situation?
- How can we strengthen humanitarian assistance programs for these populations?

Two populations:

- Somali refugees in the Dadaab camps in Kenya
- Colombian refugees in settlements/cities in Ecuador

Dadaab refugee camps



Ecuador

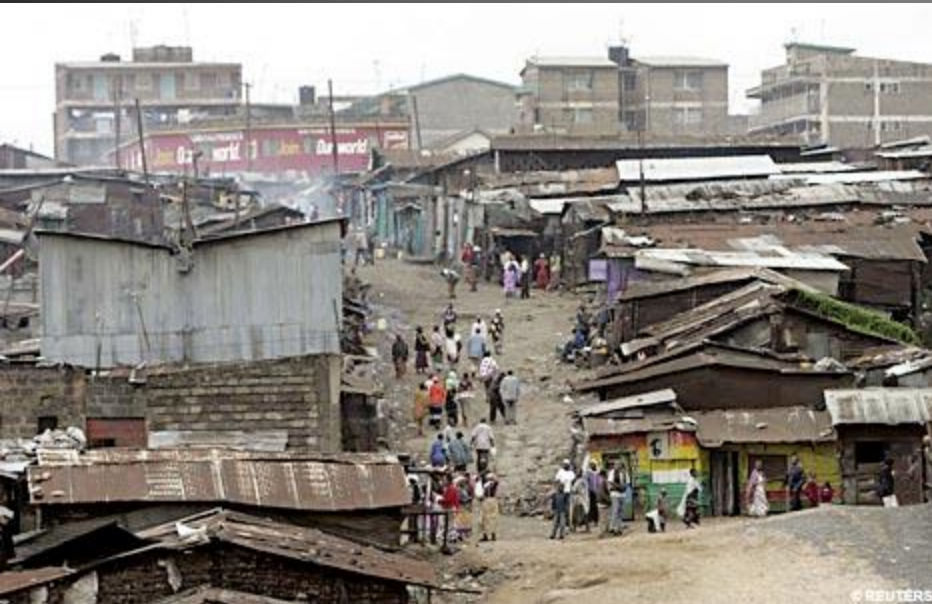


Methodology

- Document review
- Semi-structures questionnaires
- Focus group discussions
- Key informant interviews
- Secondary research

Preliminary Findings

Urban Research Findings



Applying

Research and Evaluation

Findings & Recommendations

Strengthening Programs that Promote
Self-Sufficiency and Protection

Strengthening Relief to Development
Linkages