



A SUSTAINABLE
SETTLEMENT FOR ALL

2.0

UN**HABITAT**
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



A SUSTAINABLE SETTLEMENT FOR ALL
THEN VS NOW

HS/043/21E**Disclaimer**

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Foreword



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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Maimunah', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif

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

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.

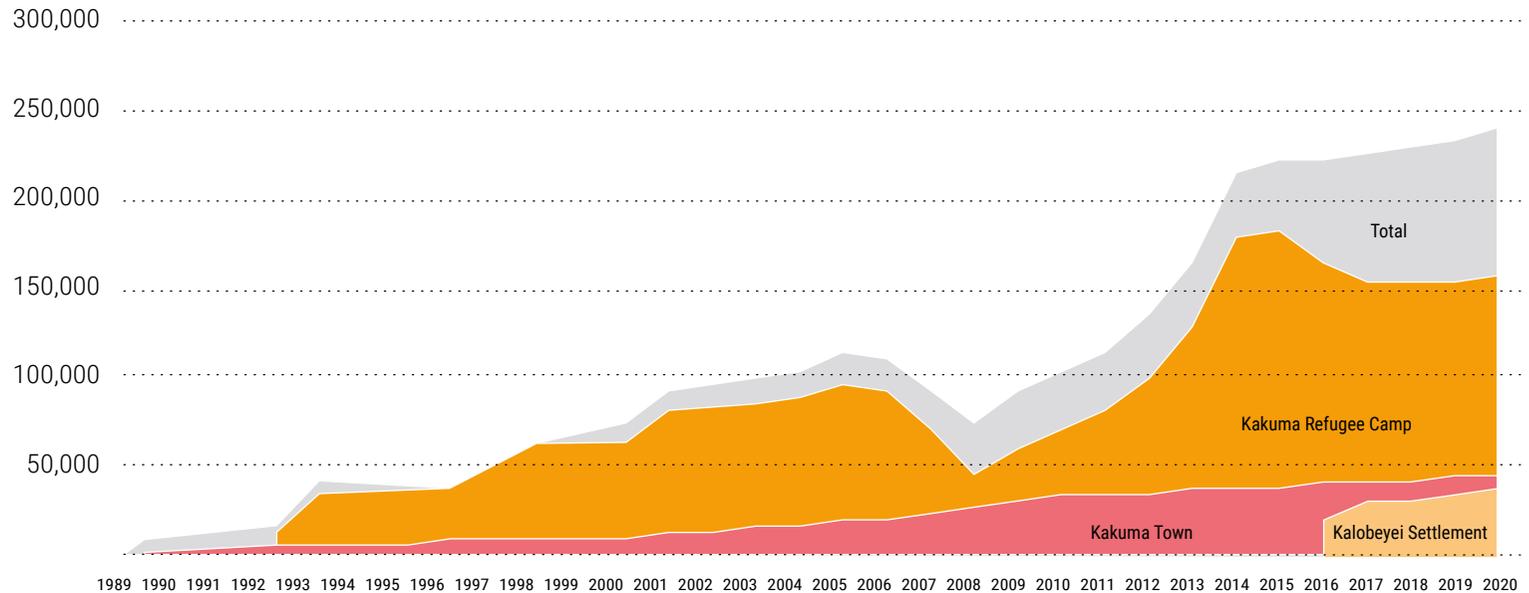
Since 2016, UN-Habitat has played a key role in supporting the Turkana County Government and UNHCR by providing urban and spatial planning expertise. This has assisted in the development of the Kalobeyei Settlement, a pilot settlement that explores a pioneering model of hosting both refugee and host 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.

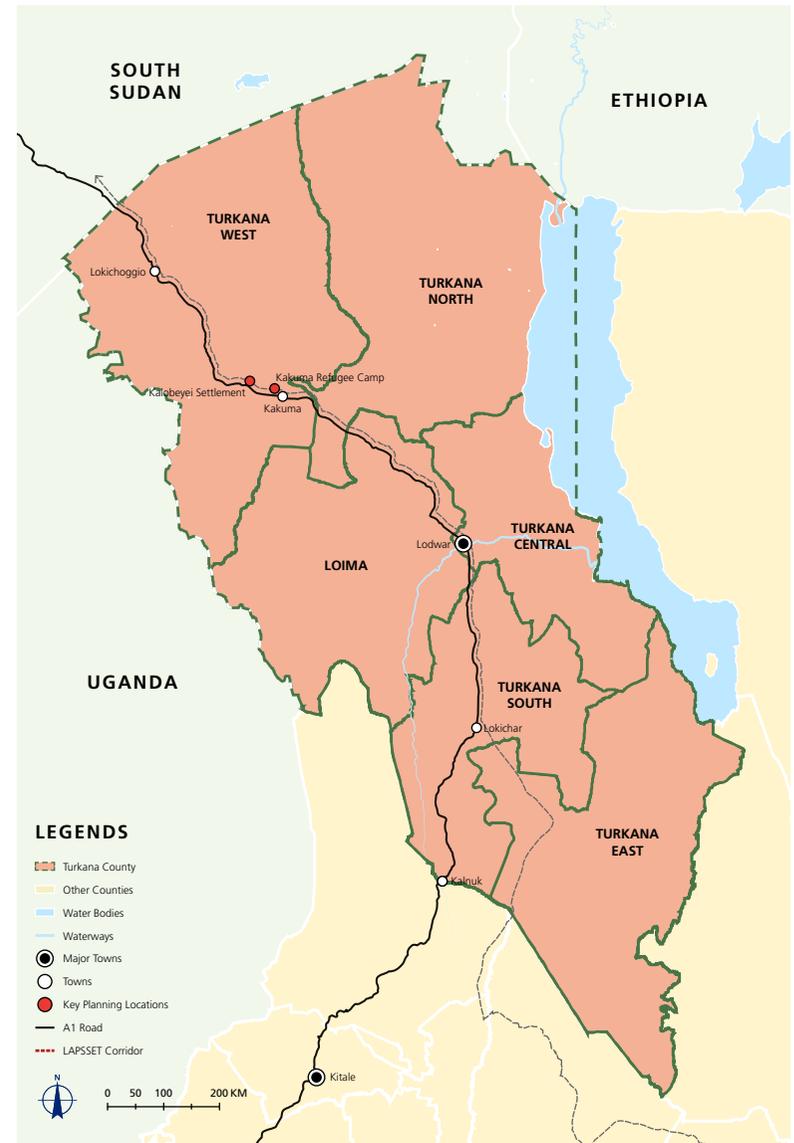
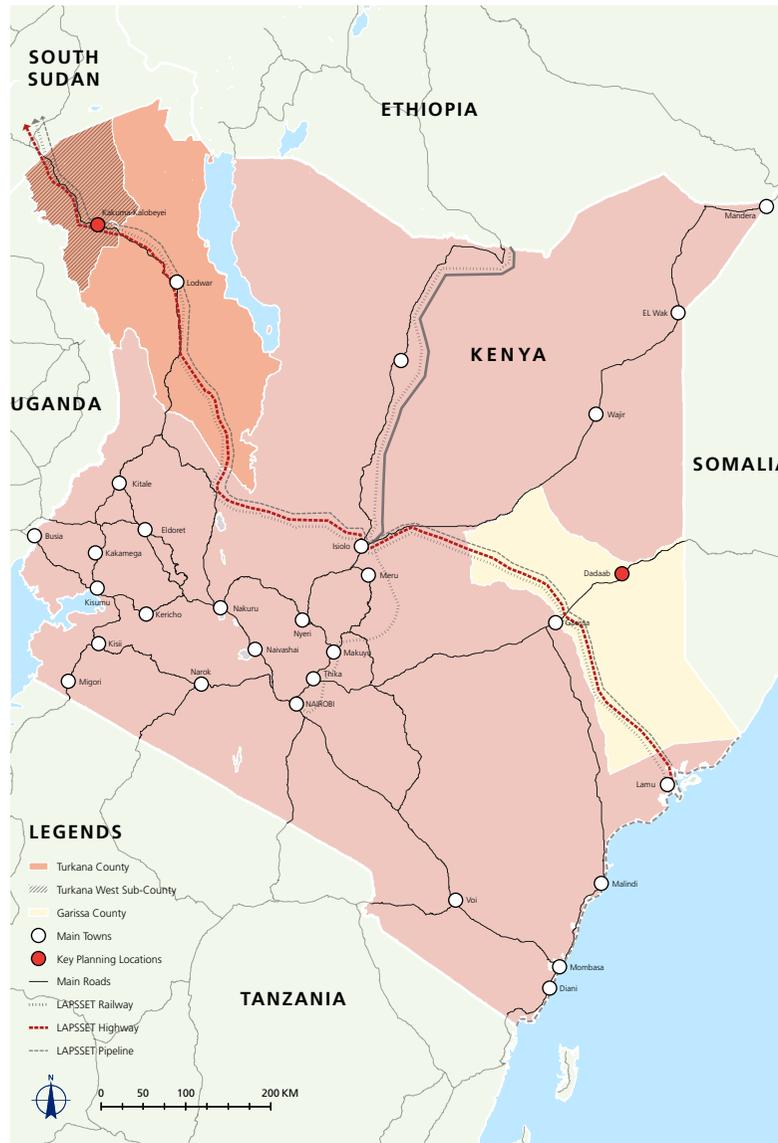
When the programme was first initiated, UN-Habitat organized a photography workshop with Turkana youth to capture the host and refugee experiences of ‘being settled’. This translated into the first Kalobeyei Photobook in 2016³. The photographs were captured by Turkana youth who developed their photography skills through a workshop. Since then, Kakuma-Kalobeyei has witnessed a rise in refugee populations from 184,966 to 219,901, a total of 119% increment.

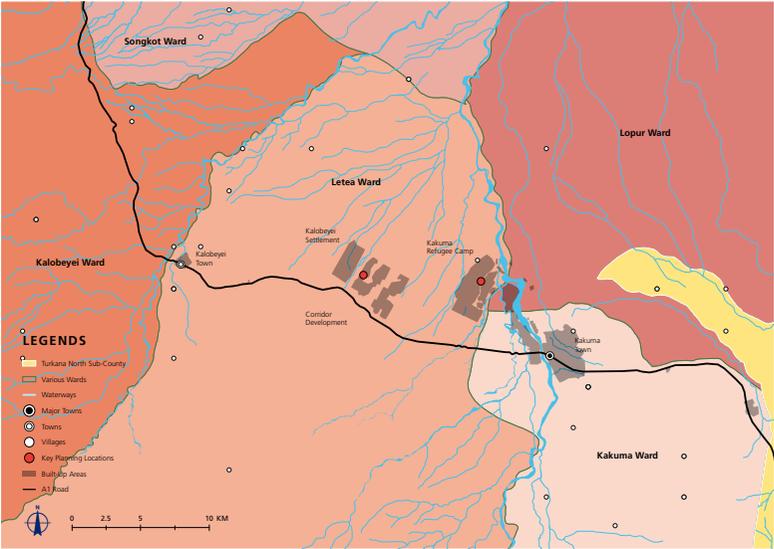
In 2016, the key issues of concern that the photographs illustrated and sought to raise included “Shelter,” “Transport,” “Economy,” “Public Space,” “Environment,” and “People.” Since then, progress has been achieved on several of these issues – with multiple sources in the past years establishing the benefits of socio-economic growth and improved livelihoods via the increased presence of refugees. For instance, refugee presence saw increasing opportunities for education in Kalobeyei as several organisations are currently developing schools in the area which admit students from both host and refugee communities. Since then, certain increasing trends have also emerged. This includes an observed increase in host community members choosing to adapt from a previously pastoralist lifestyle to one which is more settled, with increased livelihood opportunities and perceived benefits such as access to services, shelter, and resources in towns and settlements.

³ The photobook can be accessed here: <https://unhabitat.org/kalobeyei-photobook>



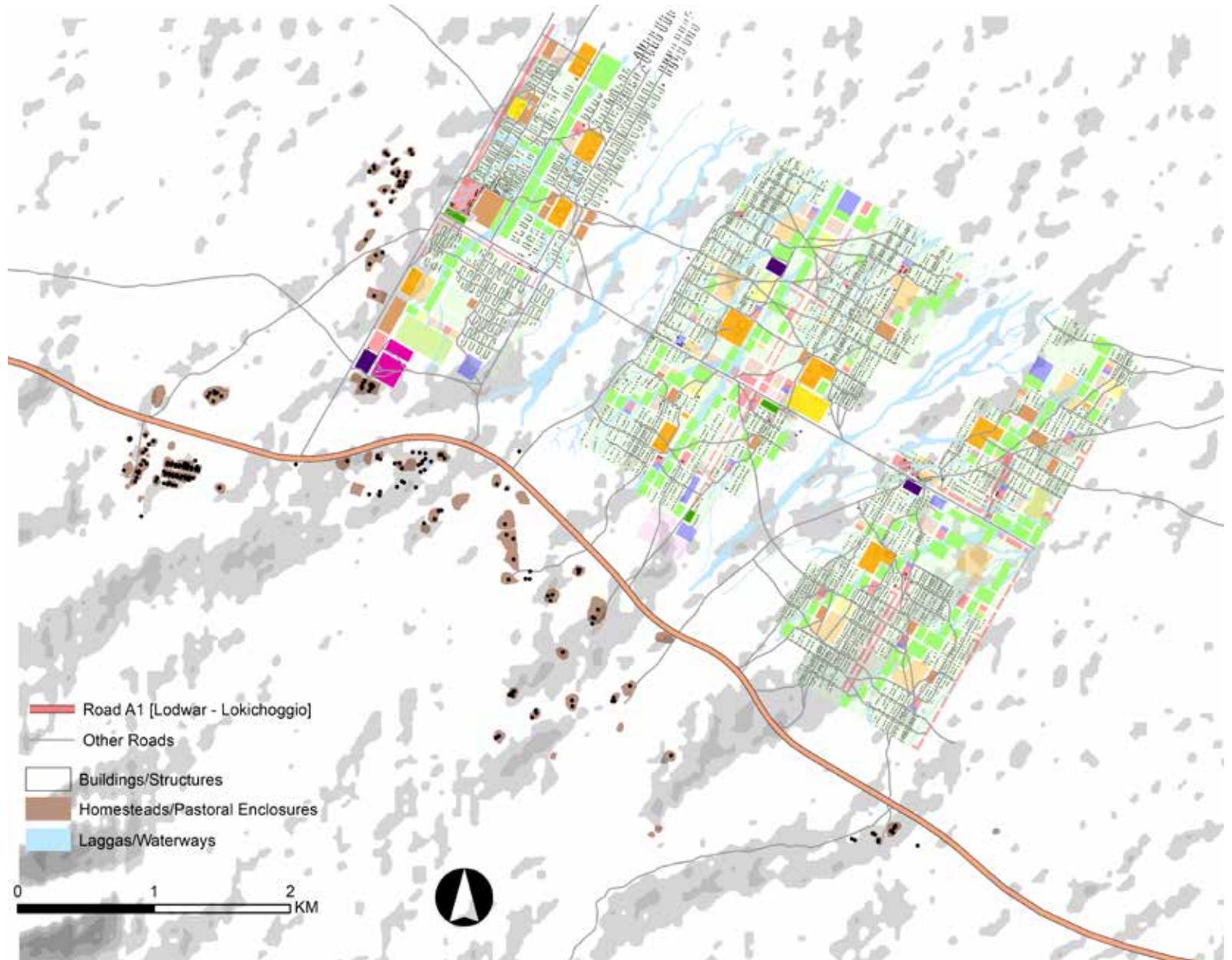
Figure 2: Turkana West and Kakuma-Kalobeyei region presented at four different scales - National, County, Sub-County, and across the neighbouring settlements/camps.





Source: UN-Habitat

Figure 3: Women and children from the host communities are increasingly settled alongside Kalobeyei Settlement over the past years.



Source: UN-Habitat



02.

Objectives

In 2016, UN-Habitat conducted the first photography workshop under the project “*Supporting Planning for Integrated Refugees and Host Communities*”, funded by the Government of Japan’s Japan Supplementary Budget. The workshop’s first objective was to provide youth from both host and refugee communities the opportunity to discover elements of being settled as a community through exploring themes of living spaces, livelihoods, sustainability, and self-reliance. The second objective was to develop the photography skills of the youth, which could support in finding employment opportunities within the media sector.

Several years after the Kalobeyei Settlement was first gazetted and subsequently implemented UN-Habitat wanted to take stock and capture the growth in the settlement and neighbouring areas. This was coupled by an eagerness to understand how the lives and sceneries of the refugees and hosts have changed over time. Most importantly, this evolution of the Kalobeyei settlement needed documentation through the lenses and from the perspective of Kalobeyei youth.

After the success and impact of the first workshop, UN-Habitat held a second photography workshop for the youth, inviting members from both the host and refugee communities. This time, the objectives of the workshop included: (1) revisiting the photography skills which youth had earlier picked up, and to impart new skills, and (2) training the youths to employing these photography skills with an element of storytelling to record and present urban development issues in Kakuma-Kalobeyei. The workshop focused on the themes:

1. Climate change and Environment
2. Infrastructural Development
3. Urban Economy
4. Information & Communication Technology, and Energy
5. Public Space
6. Housing and Shelter
7. Water and Sanitation

Host and refugee thoughts and perceptions with regards to the specific themes were also discussed and are presented under each thematic area.

Methodology

The workshop was led by UN-Habitat colleagues from the External Relations Strategic Knowledge & Innovation, Communication and Media team. It was also facilitated by UN-Habitat officers in the Kakuma Field Office. Over a course of four days in Kakuma-Kalobeyei, a Photographer, Audio-visual assistant, and Information assistant conducted a workshop with 18 youths from refugee and host communities. On the fifth day, the youth participants presented the outputs from their workshop to the refugee and host community members who were in attendance.

During the workshop, the participants were taught the basics on how photos and videos can be used to map urban development issues in the settlements in Kalobeyei. This involved practical and theoretical group discussions on the contemporary trends in film and cinematography. The team also explored a story telling element using photography and videography techniques to build a narrative, with the main aim of documenting how the development of Kalobeyei Settlement has influenced the urbanization of the neighbouring urban areas and changed the lives of the host and refugee community. The urban development themes were identified through discussions in the workshop. Participants were also provided cameras to use during the duration of the workshop which they could also take with them to the field.



Table 1. Workshop Programme Schedule.**Day 1**

1. Introduction to Film production – video basics and the history of film
2. Introduction to Business plan formulation – business basics, simple income generating activities
3. Introduction to Image and photography – Photography basics, history of photography
4. Sound recording techniques, introduction to film theories
5. Addressing work-family life balance, challenges, and opportunities
6. Establish camera and drone shots, shooting interviews and activities

Day 2

1. Field assignment on Photography and Cinematography
2. Video Production I, Broadcast news, Camera techniques
3. Video Production II

Day 3

1. Concept development for Video, colour correction (Post-production), Group discussions
2. Gender bias and stereotypes, challenges, and opportunities
3. Documentary shoot - recce, location scouting, concept development and briefing of actions and what the documentary will be about

Day 4

1. Empowerment of young women, addressing opportunities and challenges
2. Continuation of documentary shoot

Day 5

1. Selection of photographs, captioning
2. Finalizing photograph selections, captioning, and finalising the exhibition video
3. Photo presentations



"I have learnt a lot of new skills through this workshop, and I will aim to expand my work in both photography and filming to tell positive stories about our lives."



Ajiba Jaye,
A refugee



Participants taking photographs in the field.
© Betty Etiir



“This is the first time in my life that I have held and used a camera, and more importantly, used it to document the challenges faced by the people of Kalobeyei Town. I am grateful to UN-Habitat for giving us this chance to acquire skills that we can use to better our lives through telling our stories.”



Hyvine Muya

Participant from the local community



03.

A sustainable settlement for all

Turkana County is one of the poorest counties in Kenya. Historically, the county suffers from structural marginalisation, exhibiting some of the lowest development indicators in the region and country. The Turkana people are one of the smallest of Kenya's 44 tribes, and they inhabit the county in its remote location bordering South Sudan, Ethiopia, and Uganda. The slow economic development and growth of the county has resulted in more than 88% of people in Turkana living below the poverty level, compared with 45% nationally.

The increased burden of hosting refugees from neighbouring countries with limited resources and livelihoods opportunities has intensified tensions between refugee and host communities. Traditionally, refugee-aid neglects hosting communities and only caters to specific refugee groups. However, as the situation evolved and especially in the case of Kalobeyei Settlement where refugees and hosts live in mixed settlements, a different and more equitable approach of aid and support is required. The need for a sustainable, empowering, and effective management of existing resources is required to ensure that communities can live in harmony towards achieving greater self-reliance.

UN-Habitat has extensive experience in participatory planning for integrated and sustainable human settlements. Since 2016, UN-Habitat has been supporting programs and operations as part of the larger Kalobeyei Integrated Socio-Economic Development Programme (KISED), ensuring its alignment to the goals in the Kenya Vision 2030, national/county goals, and devolution processes. As the technical lead for the Spatial Planning and Infrastructure Development Thematic Working Group of KISED, UN-Habitat has also been supporting the planning and implementation of projects including development of the Advisory Development Plan for Kalobeyei Settlement. To date, the Advisory Development Plan serves as a coordination tool for implementing the KISED framework.

Some of these programmes are funded under the Government of Japan's Japan Supplementary Budget: *"Strengthening the Integration of Refugee and Host Communities through Integrated Spatial Planning"*, *"Community-Based Stabilisation Programme for Resettlement and Integration of Refugee Communities in Kalobeyei and Kakuma"* and *"Sustainable and innovative neighbourhood development to support the integration of refugees and host communities in Kalobeyei"*. Through these programmes, UN-Habitat has sought to address several issues and challenges within the settlement and in support of the socio-economic development of the wider region. Some of the goals are elaborated on the following pages:







Building self-reliance through equitable urban development

The years of 2015 to 2017 were marked by the establishment of major global policies relating to humanitarian, development, and peace stabilisation goals. This has improved humanitarian action by strengthening the relationships between each community of practice. Globally, communities have acknowledged that the current form of humanitarian aid is neither tailored to the long-term needs of refugees nor those of host communities and their local and national governments. This demonstrates the need to bridge the gap between the humanitarian and development sectors. Areas that tap into UN-Habitat's key strengths are bringing local expertise to urban settings, engaging with transformation processes, and facilitating discussions in collaboration with cities and municipalities, especially in contexts dealing with refugee hosting.

Kakuma-Kalobeyei settlements, like prospective urban areas, require effective management structures to guide land-use planning and resource management. These would also include strategies that support social cohesion and conflict prevention, while providing equitable access to services and livelihood opportunities. The Advisory Development Plan produced by UN-Habitat is one example of a coordination tool that aims to support the equitable development of the settlement from the beginning. Following that, a Spatial Planning Framework that supports stabilisation of livelihoods, restores damaged infrastructure and ecosystems and increases local awareness and participation – and ensure greater equitable development in the settlements.

In addition to this, the institutional capacity of Turkana County Government to address land management, settlement infrastructure and urbanisation related issues among the refugees and host communities could be addressed through institutional capacity building programmes.

By playing a partner-to-partner interface role, UN-Habitat can provide insight to the local government into the opportunities created by this form of urbanisation and develop further strategies to leverage the benefits that refugees and hosts can bring to hosting areas. When urban development is encouraged through the participation and inclusion of both host and refugee communities, a vision can be created to improve the resilience of settlements, but also ensure the sustainability of infrastructural investments, providing an alternate approach to ensure the needs of beneficiaries are equally met.

Through UNHCR and partners, UN-Habitat is supporting these efforts through the programme *“Enhancing self-reliance for refugees and host communities in Kenya”* funded by the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa. The main objectives include 1) Enhance the Government of Kenya's overall asylum management and support government-led Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) roll-out at both national and county levels, 2) Contribute to the implementation of KISEDIP for refugees and host communities in Turkana County, and 3) Improve economic self-reliance of refugees and host communities. UN-Habitat is supporting these efforts through establishing the existing conditions of the refugee hosting areas through spatial profiling, undertaking community-based planning, formulating regeneration programmes for Kakuma Settlements and institutional capacity building for county governments. In addition to analysing existing conditions, the spatial profiling being undertaken aims to identify challenges and opportunities, outline recommendations for improvement of current settlement conditions and inform a vision for a future human settlements system in the refugee hosting areas.





 A workshop was conducted with members of the Community Planning Groups and feedback were mapped out in a draft of the Kakuma-Kalobeyi Vision.



Multi-actor collaboration and improved local government capacity

Throughout UN-Habitat's work in the region, a critical cornerstone of the success has resulted from the close collaborations and good working relationship with the Turkana County Government and partners. The political goodwill and support from the County Government has facilitated effective planning and seamless implementation processes. Engagements with the local government and authorities has ensured that the Turkana County Integrated Development Plans and urban development initiatives integrates refugee issues within the KISEDIP and CRRF frameworks with county programming. This continues to be crucial as Turkana County's devolved government is also increasingly involved in the planning and management of refugee settlements with the Refugee Affairs Secretariat.

A multi-sector and multi-actor approach, such as through the KISEDIP, allow refugees and the host population to maximise their potential in an enabling environment. Some goals of KISEDIP's cross-cutting elements include the strengthening of institutional and technical capacities of Government and local partners, private sector engagement, and the introduction of innovative delivery models and protection mainstreaming, gender equality and woman empowerment as well as disability inclusion. Humanitarian and development partners have identified key flagship projects under each component to address key challenges identified. These projects are prerequisites that address a strategic issue, and/or generate a model solution and/or contribute to the national and international visibility of the impact achieved in Turkana West. With the implementation being co-led by the County Government, and UNHCR, in close collaboration with all partners, it complements other multilateral and bilateral assistance in Turkana West.



Turkana County Government Officials with members of the Spatial Planning and Infrastructure Thematic Working Group conducting a site visit to Kalobeyi Settlement in 2021.

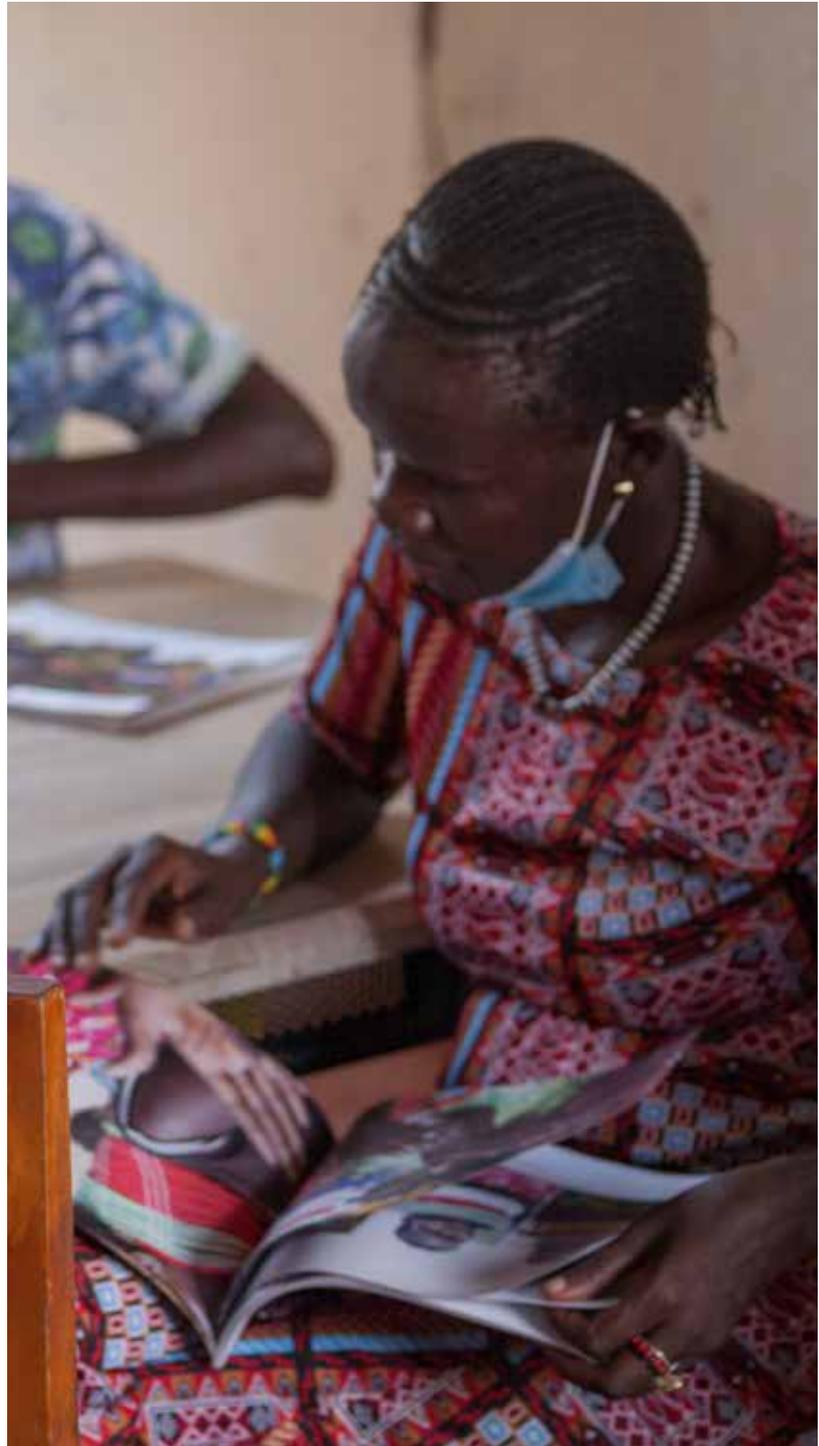




UN-Habitat appreciates the need to strengthen the institutional capacity of the Turkana County Government to effectively execute mandates on spatial planning, land and environmental management, infrastructure, and settlement development. One strategy could be to develop these capacities through training programmes for technical staff and county leaders. Due to the high turnovers in the local government, more mechanisms should be put in place to ensure that the information and knowledge learnt from a previous generation of leaders could be passed down to the next. Partners and local governments could also aim to co-host stakeholder workshops to address key thematic areas together that support the county's long-term visions. One of these visions include Kakuma-Kalobeyei being accorded municipal status, a move to integrate the host settlements, Kakuma Camp, Kalobeyei Settlement, and the Kalobeyei Corridor in a development plan once it is in effect.

UN-Habitat is also leading these processes through the programme ***"Sustainable Economic Development along Turkana West Development Corridor through Enhanced Connectivity"***, part of the Cities Alliance Cities and Migration Programme. This programme is funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, and under a global portfolio of nine cities. The project aims to strengthen the local economy by taking an approach that emphasises a thriving system of cities, built around the central idea that improving connectivity and networking within cities can significantly lower disparities in levels of regional development, increase productivity and prosperity, and support cities to manage migration. The approach aims to leverage the current opportunities presented by the refugee population, their skills and networks, relationships with the host communities, and the political will of the local authorities to catalyse sustainable economic development. It directly supports the utilisation of multi-actor and multi-sector approaches to provide development recommendations.







Climate change and Environment

Protracted Displacement and Climate change



“Over recent decades, the world has witnessed a rise in displacement caused by conflicts, crises, and the effect of climate change. Coupled with longer-lasting instability and an increase in the frequency and impact of natural disasters, increasing numbers of people end up in situations of long-lasting exile.”

While the global displacement and refugee situation continues to escalate, the climate change and worsening of environmental conditions loom as another existential threat. While these stresses can and have resulted from natural disasters, unpredictable weather and extreme temperatures, the impacts of human-induced climate change affect disadvantaged communities the most.

As the crisis intensifies over time, the severity of extreme weather events and natural disasters, such as hurricanes, cyclones, flooding or wildfires, can rise concurrently, exacerbated by land degradation.⁴ These adverse climate trends have dire consequences, including the loss of life, destruction of infrastructure and livelihoods, and putting greater pressure on scarce natural resource and land while threatening the economic resilience of impacted communities. Climate induced migration can exacerbate existing conflict or tensions due to abrupt population influxes and demand for limited resources.

In Turkana, the population of host and refugees are particularly vulnerable and located in camps or settlements within a fragile and hostile semi-arid climate. Even in predominantly dry settings, high intensity rainstorms occur around April and October, which have resulted in flash floods, exacerbated by flat topography and shallow waterways and low infiltration rates.⁵ In the recent decades, Turkana has also been impacted by desertification, induced by human activity and the changing climate, which is an experiencing an ongoing expansion - “where drought [...] occurred once every 5-10 years, providing adequate time for households and communities to recover their assets and livelihoods, drought now occurs every 1 to 3 years”⁶, stemming from unsustainable land and water management practices.⁷

In an IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) Special report, it was mentioned that “[...]and degradation and climate change act as threat multipliers for already precarious livelihoods [...], leaving them highly sensitive to extreme climatic events with consequences such as poverty and food insecurity [...], and in some cases, migration, conflict and loss of cultural heritage.”⁸



Kakuma-Kalobeyei has seen unprecedented rainfall over the recent years and subsequent drought patterns. There is increasing uncertainty over future rainfall patterns in the area.

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- 4 IPCC 2019: Land Degradation. In: Climate Change and Land: an IPCC special report
 - 5 UN-Habitat (2018). Kalobeyei Settlement Advisory Development Plan. <https://unhabitat.org/kalobeyei-settlement-advisory-development-plan-turkana-county-kenya-final-draft>
 - 6 UN-Habitat (2021). Kakuma and Kalobeyei Spatial Profile. <https://unhabitat.org/kakuma-and-kalobeyei-spatial-profile>
 - 7 Ibid.
 - 8 Olsson, L., H. Barbosa, S. Bhadwal, A. Cowie, K. Delusca, D. Flores-Renteria, K. Hermans, E. Jobbagy, W. Kurz, D. Li, D.J. Sonwa, L. Stringer, 2019: Land Degradation. In: Climate Change and Land: an IPCC special report on climate change, desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security, and greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems [P.R. Shukla, J. Skea, E. Calvo Buendia, V. Masson-Delmotte, H.-O. Pörtner, D. C. Roberts, P. Zhai, R. Slade, S. Connors, R. van Diemen, M. Ferrat, E. Haughey, S. Luz, S. Neogi, M. Pathak, J. Petzold, J. Portugal Pereira, P. Vyas, E. Huntley, K. Kissick, M. Belkacemi, J. Malley, (eds.)]. In press.

In Turkana, the long-term effects of unsustainable land use and management and desertification are exacerbated by frequent and unregulated livestock grazing, a key component of pastoral livelihoods in Turkana as well as a major hindrance to natural regeneration.⁹ The shifting trends of Turkana pastoralists seeking for alternative livelihoods to their traditional practices in a changing environment have seen their increased integration into settlements and towns – in a socio-economic survey conducted by UN-Habitat, with “87.2% of responses in the host community [...] interested in engaging in various forms of business”, which included interest to own a shop or a kiosk or buying and selling of livestock and livestock keeping.¹⁰

With increased pressures from the growth of both host and refugee communities in Kakuma-Kalobeyi, there is increasing need for sustainable solutions to address the impacts of the climate crisis. Introducing sustainable land management strategies, including rehabilitation of land once unsuitable for habitation and function could be practiced. Increased investment in water management strategies and floodwater farming techniques could provide more opportunities to solve the issue of water scarcity and flash flooding.

Rehabilitation of flood affected lands

Spatial planning plays a pivotal role to reverse the climate crisis by mitigating future risks and building resilient settlements. The spatial design of infrastructures, housing, public space, and other land uses present immediate and long-term consequences on an area’s habitability. Adaptation devices such as disaster risk reduction (DRR), and mitigation strategies such as sustainable land management (SLM) and resilient spatial design, are critical for the resilience of not only established urban areas, but also camps and informal settlements.

In 2020, approximately 38,500 refugees of different nationalities were settled within Kalobeyi Settlement. Each of the 8,012 shelters built by UNHCR and partners occupied an average of 4 – 5 people. However, there were a considerable proportion of plots in various compounds that had not been developed for various reasons which included (1) plots were located on seasonal streams (laggas) which hampers construction due to the combination of uneven topography and exposure to flooding risks, and (2) plots were located on flood prone areas which are typically low-lying areas of the settlement. In total, UN-Habitat found that there are 3,283 plots that can be rehabilitated and used for shelter construction as per the advisory development plan.



⁹ UN-Habitat (2021). Kakuma and Kalobeyi Spatial Profile. Link: <https://unhabitat.org/kakuma-and-kalobeyi-spatial-profile>

¹⁰ UN-Habitat (2016). Socio-Economic Survey and Mapping Baseline Report - Kalobeyi Integrated Socio-Economic Development Programme. Link: <https://unhabitat.org/kalobeyi-integrated-socio-economic-development-programme>



In response, UN-Habitat began developing a Land Rehabilitation Strategy for Flood Affected Areas. The project is being implemented in close collaboration with Peace Winds Japan and a Japanese private sector partner. Rainfall and flood contributing factors were studied and used to model flood risk patterns within the Kalobeyei Settlement. Case studies from around the world were then referenced to provide a design and implementation strategy for the rehabilitation of key infrastructure affected by flood risk and destruction. These identified areas became part of the pilot projects to be addressed.



Sustainable Land and Resource Management

Laggas play a key role in the spatial make-up of Kalobeyei Settlement, acting as natural boundaries to the camp to prevent urban sprawl.¹¹ Riverbeds which cross the site have the capacity to serve multiple functions, such as stable sources of water, productive corridors for public space, agriculture, managed livestock grazing and biodiversity. In addition, there remains the potential, if managed, to adopt various functions and programming seasonally when conditions shift from wet to dry and vice versa. In addition to acting as hubs for small-scale agriculture production, areas along laggas are also important to pastoralists who rely on moving their herds between seasons and to different pastures.

¹¹ Ibid.

This is carried out based on negotiated rights between groups to regulate the sharing of these resources¹²

After strengthening the Land Rehabilitation Strategy, in the following phases, UN-Habitat will also embark on developing a long-term Sustainable Land Management Strategy. The strategy will aim to mitigate future and potential flood risk impacts through ensuring resilience within the settlement, and to support the continued rehabilitation of flood affected land. In addition, it will also seek to explore opportunities in resolving water scarcity issues and flash-flooding.

Box 1: Reflections from refugees and hosts

Stage 3 of the overall programme in Kalobeyei Settlement under KISEDIP led to an acceleration of tree cutting across the region. This has resulted in adverse climate conditions such as drought, strong wind and dust storms. To combat this, the host and refugee community are encouraging tree planting along the corridors of the camps and settlements. The trees would provide the villages with much-needed shade to cool people down against the hot temperatures as well as doubling as windbreakers to prevent their houses from being blown away by strong wind.



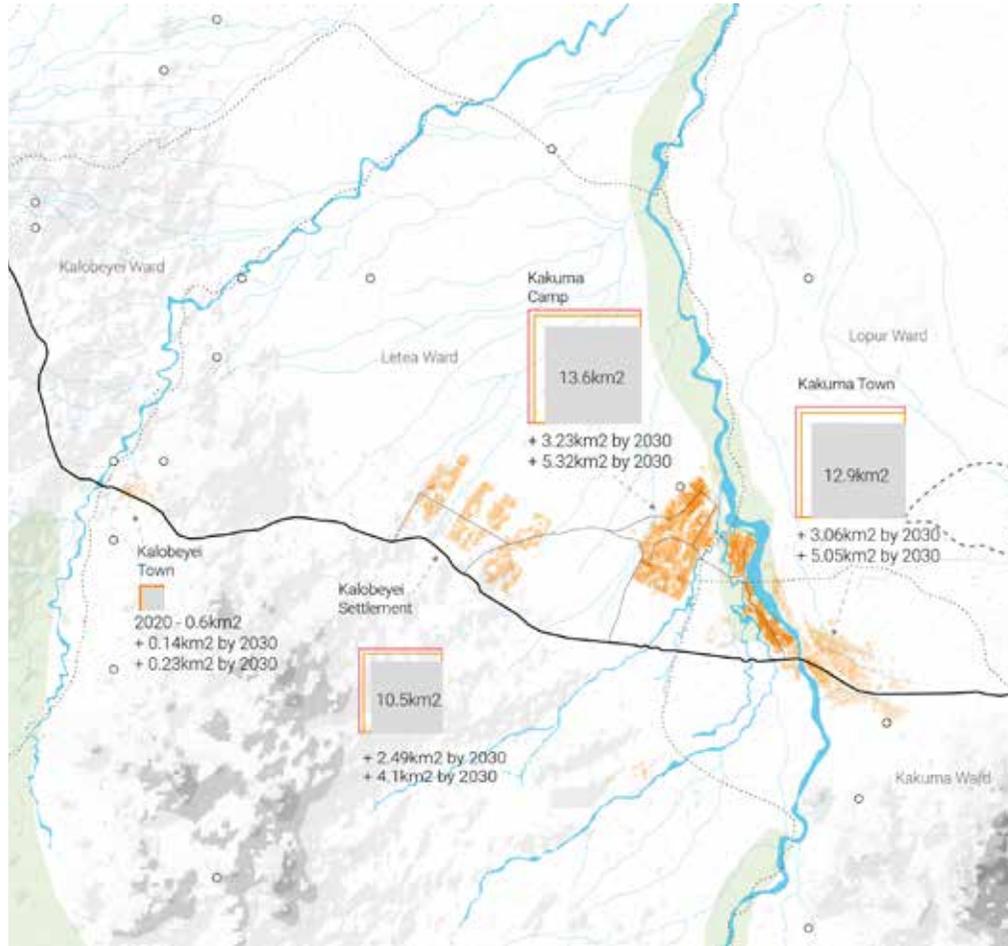
Children are often responsible for water collection for their families, and have found easier ways to transport the water over long distances.



“Through increased investment in water management strategies and floodwater farming techniques, laggas may provide opportunities to solve two of the region’s most critical issues: water scarcity and flash flooding.”

12 Kakuma & Kalobeyei Spatial Profile; State policies have historically undermined this system and thus weakened pastoral livelihoods by failing to recognize their right to resources, resulting in escalated conflict. Ensuring that the laggas fall under Kenya’s Community Land Bill will help secure the rights of pastoralists and mitigate potential conflicts.

Figure 4: Kakuma-Kalobeyi is expected to grow extensively by 2030, requiring on average 24% - 40% additional land.



Source: UN-Habitat Kakuma-Kalobeyi Spatial Profile (2021)

LEGEND

Sub-County Boundary	Waterway	Population Density	Low
Ward Boundary	Built-Up Area	High	Very low
Major Road	Bushland	Medium-high	
Minor Road	Village	Medium	

0 2.5 5 km







- △△ The A1 Road in Kakuma-Kalobeyi is being reconstructed - bridges over waterways are introduced which can support improved mobility within the region.

Infrastructural Development

Strategic position

Sustainable urbanisation in Kenya, and particularly in Turkana County has the potential to improve opportunities for economic growth and for living conditions of refugees and host communities. Turkana County is situated in a strategic position bordering three countries - Uganda, South Sudan, and Ethiopia. There are opportunities in linking trade between the three countries and even boost bilateral trade agreements between Kenya and its neighbours.

Historically, the level of infrastructure and urban development in Turkana West has been nascent. The location of the county within the economic corridors that links to neighbouring countries had not been capitalised upon. For instance, the road to South Sudan through Turkana leading from the highly productive agricultural hinterland of Kenya had for decades remained unpaved, which had limited cross-border trade.

As a result of a poor road conditions and rail network, Turkana County is removed from the rest of the countryside. The predominantly road-based transportation network in Turkana falls short of national averages. "The region's road network is about 5,496 km including all road classes, translating to approximately 0.08 km road per square km of land. In comparison, Kenya's road density is 0.27 km of road per square km, which is about 3.4 times higher than Turkana's."



Poor infrastructure contributes to limited access to main supply markets and basic services like health and education.¹³ The A1 Road between Kainuk and Lokichogio (488.5 km), constructed in the mid 1980's to bitumen standards, has since deteriorated to poor motorable conditions. It has the potential to contribute towards significant connectivity and integration of the community to wider regional opportunities. This is anticipated with the on-going reconstruction of the road.¹⁴



The A1 Road is also being repaved, removing damages such as potholes, which will contribute to easier travels across the settlements.

Kakuma Town has played the role as the economic centre of the district, growing from being a small trading centre for pastoralists to the major marketplace it is today along with being a base for UNHCR and other agencies working in the area. Kalobeyei Town, Kalobeyei Settlement, Kakuma Camp and Kakuma Town are all located along the A1 highway, which is a major road and transport corridor in Kenya and has been recently upgraded between Lodwar and Kalobeyei Town.

¹³ UN-Habitat (2021). Kakuma and Kalobeyei Spatial Profile. <https://unhabitat.org/kakuma-and-kalobeyei-spatial-profile>

¹⁴ Ibid.

While the A1 highway is in good condition and suitable for cars, other roads within the settlements are less formalised and suitable for only “boda-boda” or foot travel. Likewise, the poor infrastructural conditions limit accessibility of the opportunities and services between the settlements.

Development has picked up in the last decade which accelerated new opportunities for investment. This includes the town classification of Lodwar, Kakuma and Lokichoggio, and the Lamu Port-South Sudan-Ethiopia-Transport (LAPSSET) project. Good spatial planning and development will play a fundamental role in promoting sustainable development in the region, considering the rapidly increasing population, and facilitating coordinated development of housing, commercial, industrial and other economic activities.

Since the inception of the programme in Kalobeyei, UN-Habitat has worked in close collaboration with Turkana County Government and partners. Under KISED, UN-Habitat serves as the technical lead for the Spatial Planning and Infrastructure Thematic Working Group, supporting on urban planning and infrastructure project implementation in the settlements in Kakuma-Kalobeyei. Recognising growing opportunities for the area, UN-Habitat and partners see the potential for more local development efforts which will be needed to support Kakuma-Kalobeyei capitalise on these opportunities and use them as the basis for building a sustainable local economy that can flourish overtime.



“We have worked with UN-Habitat since 2016 as settlement development group in Kalobeyei town and so far there is a lot of development that has taken place in terms of housing, road infrastructure, energy and even wash. With the future to have Kalobeyei as part of the Kakuma-Kalobeyei municipality, there is need for the settlement development group to understand and support more planning work to ensure that we live in a more sustainable town”,



John Kimani Karue,
Assistant County Commissioner from Kalobeyei Town.





Kalobeyei Settlement also saw one of the earliest solar micro-grid development in the area.

Kalobeyei Settlement Infrastructure Development and Corridor Planning

Since 2016, UN-Habitat has received funding from the Government of Japan's Supplementary Budget to implement projects within Kalobeyei Settlement. This has included the prioritization of infrastructure development initiatives and projects utilising a myriad of technologies and resources – road rehabilitation and construction, shelter typology design, and streetlight development to name a few.

In 2019, UN-Habitat was funded through Cities Alliance under the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) for the programme ***“Sustainable Economic Development Along the Turkana West Development Corridor Through Enhanced Connectivity”***. The two-year project aims to improve connectivity and networks that enable businesses, local governments, and individuals to gain access to a wider choice of goods, finance, employment, and investment opportunities, to support a sustainable local economy in the region.

Under the programme, UN-Habitat, working with partners, such as the North Rift Economic Bloc (NOREB) has worked to organise development forums for cities along a major Kenyan transport corridor and worked towards expanding a network of cities for knowledge exchange and cooperation. The programme also supports the planning of an Economic Enterprise Zone (EEZ) to promote the local economy in Kakuma-Kalobeyei and to build soft infrastructure and strengthen local government capacity to support a city network and integrate migration into city development.



“With the support of aid and development programmes, there has been increased economic activity in Turkana County; there are about 2,500 businesses and a local market valued at USD 56 million per year. However, the current economic system of Kakuma-Kalobeyei is highly dependent on humanitarian aid, making it vulnerable and volatile. At the same time, this refugee-based economy presents opportunities for sustainable growth. The Turkana County Government saw large number of residents requesting for city status for Kakuma-Kalobeyei, which will provide increased fiscal transfers and a greater mandate for the local authorities.”¹⁵

¹⁵ Cities Alliance (2020). Kakuma Kalobeyei – Sustainable Economic Development Along the Turkana West Development Corridor Through Enhanced Connectivity. Link: https://www.citiesalliance.org/sites/default/files/2020-08/Project%20Profile_Kenya.pdf

In the third quarter of the first year, the Turkana County Government, in partnership with UN-Habitat, initiated planning for the land adjacent to the Kalobeyei Settlement, and the A1 Road connecting Kenya and South Sudan. The planning area covers community land owned by the Turkana community living in the area. A key objective of the plan is to promote the socioeconomic integration of refugees and the host community by leveraging on emerging opportunities, including the LAPSSET Corridor and the refugee settlements. This was proposed through the ability to stimulate economic growth through the formation of 'urban-like' conditions – and associated benefits of agglomeration.

Discussions have been ongoing on the possibility that Kakuma-Kalobeyei could be recognised as a municipality. "If passed, the Urban Areas and Cities Act-Amendment Bill of 2017 [requires] the minimum population size of a municipality to be 50,000 people according to the available latest and gazette census data".¹⁶ If this was realised, necessary interventions, especially on urban governance and management, need to be implemented. As the Kalobeyei Settlement stands at close to 40,000 occupancies, questions of how to support future densification within the settlement, or settlements of a similar nature will need to be addressed.

Box 2: Reflections from refugees and hosts

Since the inception of the settlement, significant strides in infrastructure have been made, including the construction of roads and shelters as specified previously. However, the communities in Kalobeyei point to the execution of a few pending projects. This includes the constructing of bridges along Murram road connecting Kalobeyei to Lokwamor. Secondly, the section of Murram road that leads to Lonyuduk needs to be repaired.

¹⁶ UNHCR (2018). Kalobeyei Integrated Socio-Economic Development Plan in Turkana West. Strategic Overview. Link: https://www.unhcr.org/ke/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2019/04/201904_KISED-STRATEGIC-OVERVIEW.pdf







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Host community members and refugees sell their goods in Kakuma-Kalobeyi's vibrant informal markets.

Urban Economy

Integration as Economic Opportunity

Kakuma-Kalobeyei possesses a unique economic vibrancy afforded by the multitude of different nationalities and tribes in the area, from both host and refugee communities. A study by IFC showed that Kakuma-Kalobeyei sees consumption potentially exceeding 56 million dollars per year¹⁷, and a study by UN-Habitat saw at least 2,327 businesses scattered across the settlements¹⁸. The large informal economy plays an important “role in supporting food security and social integration between refugees and the host community” and sees active participation by both men and women.¹⁹



“It is well reported that refugees hire Turkana locals as porters, shopkeepers, security guards, or casual labour (to help with housework); shop in town; and open businesses with residents. At the same time, Kakuma town residents buy goods in the camps, particularly the markets closest to the host community settlement as well as sell livestock and charcoal to refugees”²⁰

Kakuma-Kalobeyei provides a strong socio-economic foundation that can be developed further, allowing investments to lever on the rich diversity of cultures and businesses – while diversifying the local pastoralist economy, improving resilience for both host and refugees in the long-term²¹. In addition, substantive adult enrolment in education programmes across Kakuma-Kalobeyei also demonstrates an “ambitious [...and] growing skilled workforce” that investments can capitalise on.

On a regional scale, ongoing and future developments such as reconstruction of the A1 Road and the upcoming LAPSET corridor will provide Kakuma-Kalobeyei means to better integrate with the region. Improved connectivity with neighbouring countries or neighbouring NOREB counties, will see a variety of benefits to Kakuma-Kalobeyei such as improved trade, catalytic growth of local industries, and a stronger push for sustainable development in the area. Today, the existing A1 Road has already demonstrated its role as a “vital infrastructure for facilitating this integration” and sees the upcoming LAPSET’s role in complementing the A1 Road.²²

However, UN-Habitat recognised that significant investments will be needed to ensure that Kakuma-Kalobeyei can leverage these upcoming opportunities. This includes infrastructure such as “water and sanitation, transportation, and communication” and soft infrastructure such as “training and skills development for businesses, increased financial support, addressing land administration challenges and ameliorating other administrative constraints that businesses and local industries face”.²³

To achieve this, a collective effort from stakeholders will be necessary – including from host and refugee communities, local and national governments, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and the private sector. Since the settlement’s inception, the Turkana County Government has been working closely with multiple partners including UNHCR and UN-Habitat under KISEDIP to link humanitarian investments to Turkana West’s overall development, which will help to cement a path towards inclusive sustainable development in the area.

17 IFC (2018). Kakuma as a Market Place: A Consumer and Market Study of a Refugee Camp and Town in Northwest Kenya. Washington, D.C. Link: https://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/0f3e93fb-35dc-4a80-a955-6a7028d0f77f/20180427_Kakuma-as-a-Marketplace_v1.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CVID=mc8eL2

18 UN-Habitat (2021). Kakuma and Kalobeyei Spatial Profile. Link: <https://unhabitat.org/kakuma-and-kalobeyei-spatial-profile>

19 Ibid.

20 Ibid.

21 Ibid.

22 UN-Habitat (2021). Socio-Economic Development in Turkana West, Volume II: A Report on Businesses and the Local Economic Development.

23 Ibid.



"After refugees settled here in 2016, there are many benefits that we have experienced as the host community. These benefits are both economic and access to certain services that were not available before. However there remain challenges on climate change which is majorly caused by the increased population and use of the forest resources for getting firewood. This has increased environmental degradation."



Kimani John Karue,
Chief of Kalobeyi Town.

Self-reliance through an informed vision

In 2020, UN-Habitat, in close collaboration with Turkana County Government and funded through UNHCR by the European Union Trust Fund (EUTF) for Africa, embarked on the programme "*Enhancing self-reliance for refugees and host communities in Kenya*". The programme aims to improve the capacity of national and county governments to support the development of all relevant sectors in Garissa and Turkana Counties in refugee management to support greater self-reliance, in addition to the roll-out of Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) approaches.

In Kakuma, UN-Habitat has undertaken spatial profiling to establish the existing conditions of the refugee hosting areas and has organised community-based planning processes to formulate a regeneration strategy. Part of the support also includes institutional capacity building for county governments with regards to implementing these regeneration strategies which would support local economic development. The spatial profile for Kakuma-Kalobeyi was published earlier this year and identifies within it the challenges, opportunities, and recommendations for improving the current settlement conditions. It is now used to inform a vision for a sustainable settlement in hosting refugees.

Evidence-Based Planning

UN-Habitat's contribution to the global urban development agenda is derived from its knowledge and expertise, and its ability to provide "innovative and evidence-based urban solutions that are both normative and operational".²⁴ Within the programmes in Kakuma-Kalobeyi, tools and processes which promote and directly support evidence-based planning have been utilised. Baseline surveys have been used as data collection tools for spatial planning processes for several decades. It allows researchers to understand and gather quantitative and qualitative data that can be presented spatially.

Under the EUTF programme, UN-Habitat had conducted baseline surveys of households and feasibility studies of businesses and local industries to better understand household compositions and to establish the socio-economic conditions of Kakuma-Kalobeyi. The base-line surveys applied a four-dimensional analytical framework to understand prevailing conditions and their implications, namely, the spatial, economic, socio-political, and environmental dimensions.

One of the key recommendations from analysis of the survey results with regards to urban economic development includes developing soft infrastructure to support the local business community. The study revealed sector and capacity gaps amongst the players in business and local industries, which hinder the business sector and reflect the vulnerabilities within the general population. To address such challenges, UN-Habitat recommends that local partners build networks and businesses associations. Some self-organised groups exist, such as a women's group dealing with handicrafts, but these groups require support in business training, market expansion, access to financing and better workplace facilities, e.g., well-designed and built workshops.

²⁴ UN-Habitat (2020). UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2020-2023. Link: https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/documents/2019-09/strategic_plan_2020-2023.pdf



Currently, most boda boda owners are usually youths.
© Roseline Aules

Studies about migration highlight the opportunities created by the presence of refugees and their vital role in the county's development. However, policy restrictions and biased programming are cited as significant challenges to the optimum participation of refugees and host communities in local economic development. In the report, one of the recommendations by UN-Habitat mentions immediate and mid-term interventions to support education and development for the youth through increased investments in programs to foster higher transition across education levels and increase the number of young people with college level and vocational training. Further, the existing colleges and vocational training facilities need to offer programs that can address the skills gap and invest in research and development that can support local businesses and industries (Mentioned in next section on 'Industries').

Another investment includes investing in economic diversification for the local communities – The study noted that the prevailing poverty and limited income generating opportunities has resulted in a very weak economy where many businesses operate as 'survival ventures', where growth is limited by the weak purchasing power of the local population. In the National Spatial Plan (2015-2045), Zone 1 includes Kakuma-Kalobeyei as key spatial growth zone with specific policies for areas development. Policies therein mentioned increased livestock production and associated industries, as well as promotion of the Turkana Basin Oil fields and the Lake Turkana Wind Power Project to support economic growth.

UN-Habitat also published a Spatial Profile of Kakuma-Kalobeyei in 2021.²⁵ The profile was crafted with reference to the UNHCR-UN-Habitat Settlement Profiling Tool²⁶, which is aimed at supporting settlement planners, programme officers and development officers in UNHCR country operations with a baseline of information to support coordination and planning.

25 UN-Habitat (2021). Kakuma and Kalobeyei Spatial Profile.

Link: <https://unhabitat.org/kakuma-and-kalobeyei-spatial-profile>

26 UN-Habitat (2020). UNHCR-UN-Habitat Settlement Profiling Tool.

Link: <https://unhabitat.org/kakuma-and-kalobeyei-spatial-profile>

The Spatial Profile will enable officials, UN (United Nations) Agencies, Donors, NGOs, local authorities, and other stakeholders to prioritise investment opportunities and provide entry points for more sustainable development trajectories. The profiling process had facilitated informed decision making as part of long-term climate and socially responsive urban and regional infrastructure planning. It concludes with a selection of development scenarios and broad recommendations of potential ways forward.

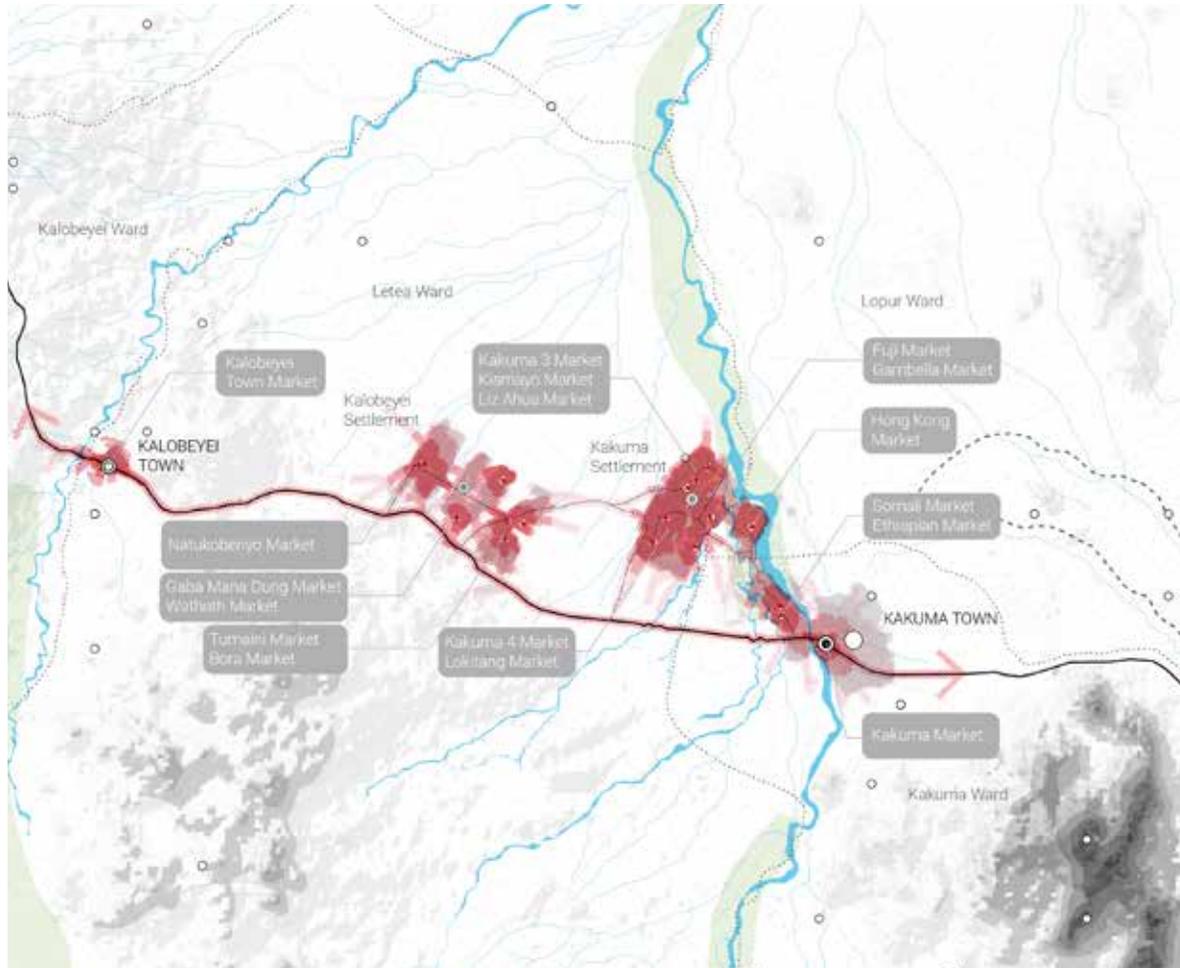
Box 3: Reflections from refugees and hosts

Though the nurturing of village markets continues to stimulate communal interactions which have boosted the economy, the urban economy could benefit from sufficient guidance. To illustrate, the major market in village one sprouted informally, with a lack of foresight of how this would affect transport in the area. Due to this, the market obstructs the roads that pedestrians and motorists frequently use. This could be remedied by planning to create alternative pathways for the motorists and pedestrians.

Spatial Planning to Guide Investments

One of the key measures that would support the management of Kenyan refugee settlements is a spatial planning framework. The framework would act as the main coordination tool and guide for local actors including local governments, humanitarian and development agencies to facilitate a coordinated approach in prioritisation for interventions and activities. Utilising a coordinating tool such as a spatial planning framework would also help settlement managers respond strategically to 'shocks,' such as sudden influxes or outflows; hence, spatial planning can be a useful resilience enhancement tool.

Figure 5: Kakuma-Kalobeyi area market accessibility analysis.



Source: UN-Habitat Kakuma-Kalobeyi Spatial Profile (2021)

Figure 6: Kakuma-Kalobeyi land use and planning areas.

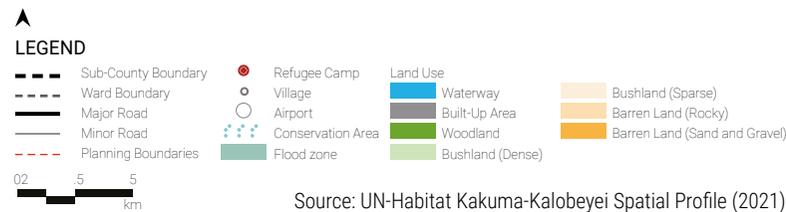
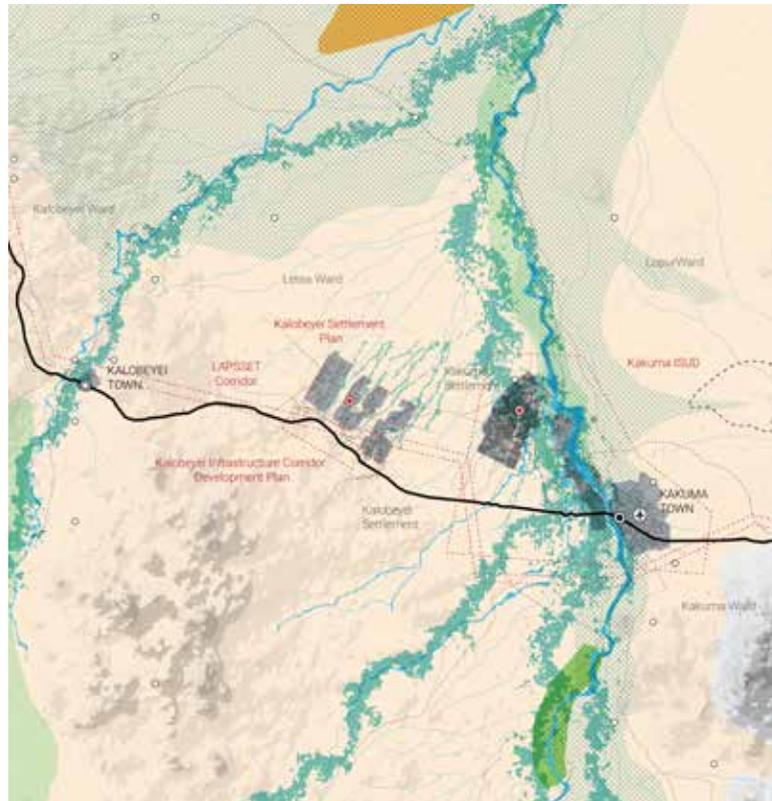
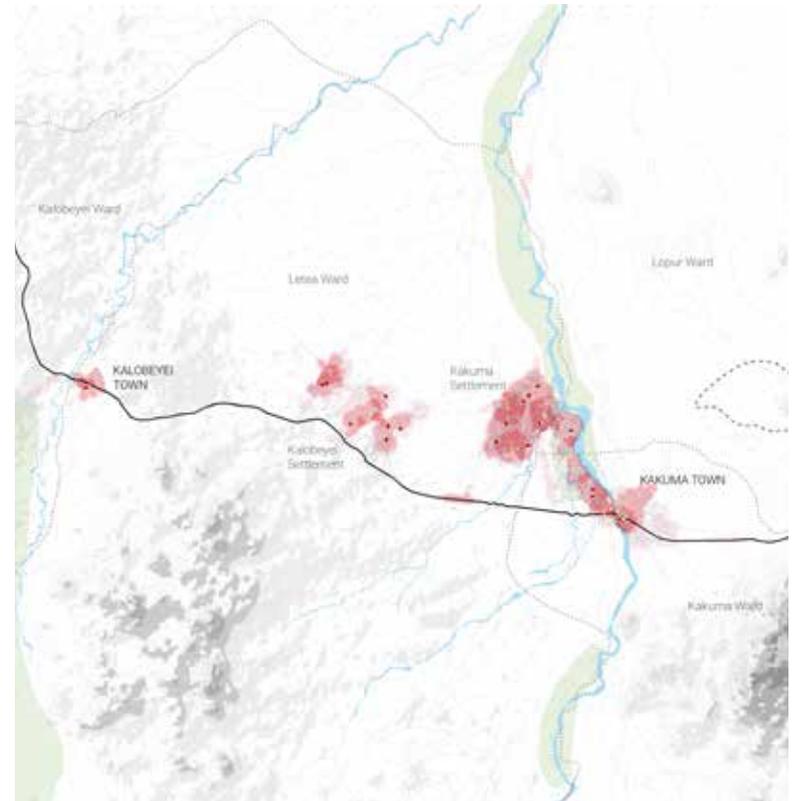


Figure 7: Kakuma-Kalobeyi area opportunity index.





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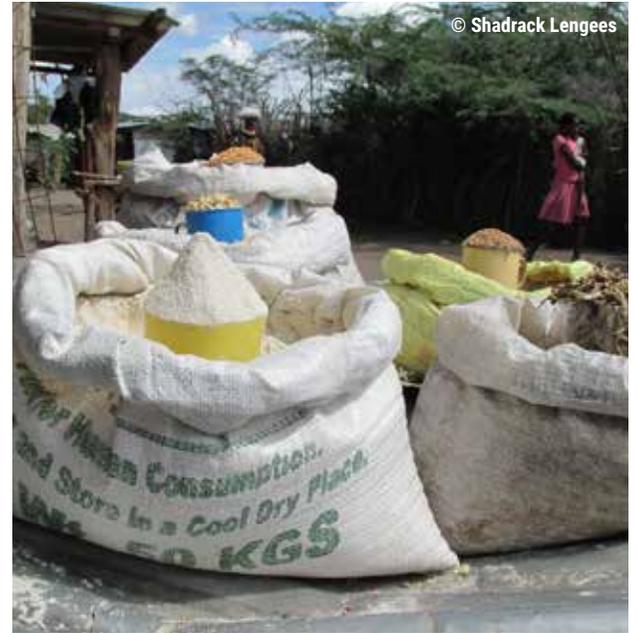
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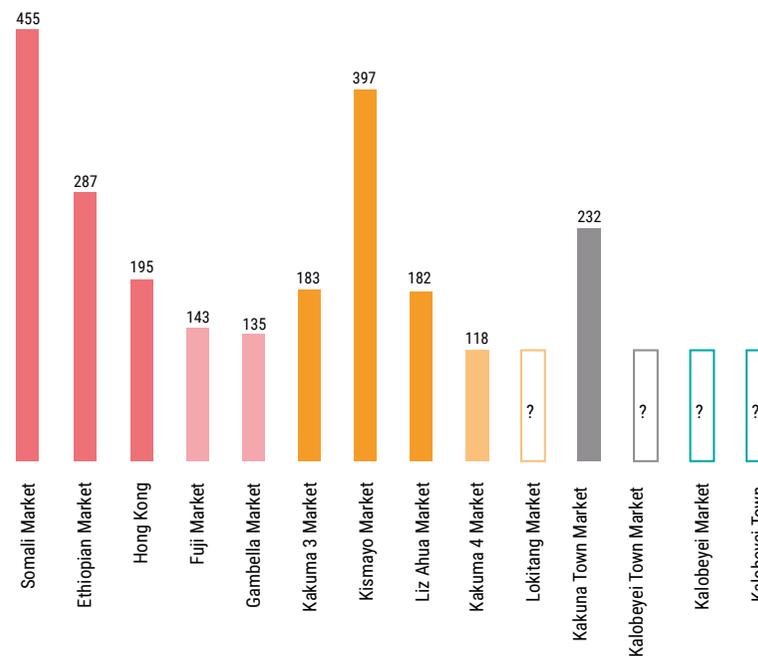




A spatial planning framework also has the potential to address multiple issues within a refugee hosting settlement in Kenya, and support interlinkages between settlements. The framework should analyse existing conditions, identify challenges and opportunities, outline recommendations for improvement, and inform a vision for the settlement. Through the framework, the actors (in Kakuma-Kalobeyei) can collaborate to address refugee-host community integration supported by sustainable solutions such as the stabilisation of livelihoods; rehabilitation and renewal of stressed ecosystems; management of infrastructure assets; local economic development and more.

Building upon the work on the Baseline Survey and Spatial Profile earlier mentioned, a Spatial Planning Assessment and Regeneration Strategy is currently being prepared to understand the connectivity potential and constraints of Kakuma-Kalobeyei, leading to recommendations on how to encourage sustainable, local economic development. It will build upon lessons learnt from all previous programme outputs which include socio-economic surveys, the Kalobeyei Settlement Advisory Development Plan, and other practices from partners. The Regeneration Strategy will have a particular focus on Kakuma 1 and will be achieved in close collaboration with the planning departments in Turkana County.²⁷

Figure 8: Number of Businesses in each Market Centre.



Number of Business in each market centre.
Compiled from Vermuru et al (2016) and UN-Habitat field research (2020).

Source: UN-Habitat Kakuma-Kalobeyei Spatial Profile (2021)

²⁷ UN-Habitat (2021). Kakuma and Kalobeyei Spatial Profile. Link: <https://unhabitat.org/kakuma-and-kalobeyei-spatial-profile>





ICT and Energy

In the formulation of the Kalobeyi Infrastructure Corridor Development Plan under the programme “Sustainable Development of Sustainable Economic Development Along the Turkana West development Corridor Through Enhanced Connectivity”, UN-Habitat conducted baseline surveys to better understand the local condition of Energy and Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) amongst other themes. The results showed that while various ICT and Energy services exist in Turkana, they fail to meet the local demands of businesses, local industries, and domestic use.

Many micro, small and medium enterprises operate in such a way that their demand for electricity is very minimal.²⁸ Kenya Power, Kenya’s main electricity utility has been the main electricity provider in Kakuma-Kalobeyi and has installed mini-grids that run on diesel-powered generators. However, the energy supply deficit remains, prompting independent and informal power producers to provide electricity through alternative means like solar power and fossil fuel generators. The energy supply is also costly, inefficient, and environmentally unfriendly and a fire hazard due to use of old infrastructure, and ad-hoc setup of low-hanging power lines.²⁹ There is a current push for solar mini grids, being implemented by support organisations such as GIZ in Kalobeyi Settlement.

The inadequacy of energy to meet business needs has slowed local economic development. For example, light industries, such as welding, metal work and carpentry, are not as diversified in Turkana West as in other Kenyan towns due to the unreliable electricity services. Similarly, businesses that require cooling and refrigeration are highly constrained by insufficient energy, particularly given the prevailing hot weather conditions in the region.

Information and Communications Technology (ICT) is another vital infrastructure needed in Turkana West both as the primary means of accessing information and communication, but also as a resource for conducting livelihoods and vocational activities. While Kakuma-Kalobeyi has better coverage compared to rural areas, these services are still inadequate. Businesses that rely significantly on internet connectivity, including e-commerce, are constrained by the absence of high-speed internet in the area. However, the Kenyan Government is developing a fibre optic internet cable along the A1 corridor and is expected to reach South Sudan. This will boost businesses, households and crucial facilities and service providers in the area, including education, health care and administrative services offered by the government etc.

28 Most of the needs of MSMEs are met by purchasing a low-cost portable solar unit. Within the survey conducted, of the surveyed businesses, 64.8% do not incur regular electricity costs. This can partly be attributed to the high costs associated with formal electricity services. Due to camp-imposed restrictions, most refugee-owned businesses close early and do not require electricity for lighting. This is not the case for host community-owned businesses that often remain open late into the night. Electricity needs are not limited to lighting. Various businesses would significantly improve if they had access to affordable energy for refrigeration, heating, powering appliances etc.

29 IFC (2018). Kakuma as a Market Place: A Consumer and Market Study of a Refugee Camp and Town in Northwest Kenya. Washington, D.C. Link: https://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/0f3e93fb-35dc-4a80-a955-6a7028d0f77f/20180427_Kakuma-as-a-Marketplace_v1.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CVID=mc8eL2K



As earlier mentioned in the section on “Urban Economy”, the untapped development potential and a lack of job opportunities in the region, coupled with the inadequacy of energy infrastructures remains a major challenge. Turkana which suffers from increasingly unpredictable and extreme climatic conditions has threatened traditional industries or livelihoods such as pastoralism and livestock management. The need for diversification of livelihoods will also mean that there is additional need for infrastructure to capitalise on Kakuma-Kalobeyei’s young workforce or risk youths leaving for cities with more employment and education opportunities such as Nairobi.



“Supporting the provision of energy, creation of new industries (such as ICT) and public facilities can support job creation opportunities that would benefit both host and refugee communities.”

The provision and investment in energy, transport, connectivity, and education infrastructure will also provide the much-needed energy infrastructure resources for business creation and equip the young population with skills and access to opportunities to be able to contribute to the local economy as a skilled workforce. This would transform the area into a conducive environment for local investors wishing to start businesses in the area. The potential creation of a Kakuma municipality will also allow for more resources for improved infrastructure to be targeted in this area and can help to stimulate self-reliance.



A second telecommunications tower is being constructed in Kalobeyei Settlement’s Village 2 (September 2021).

Need for opportunities and infrastructure

UN-Habitat is currently in the stages of finalising a report which captures the research and analysis conducted in 2020, and aims to generate new knowledge around businesses (mentioned in previous section), local industries, and the existing gaps and opportunities in Turkana West. The research also examines the supply chains and aspects of connectivity and integration of local businesses with regional economic flows and markets. Within the report, UN-Habitat has recognised the importance of new investments in energy and ICT industries that can better support the diversification of livelihoods and towards achieving energy efficiency which is crucial to stimulate increased economic productivity.

UN-Habitat recommends that the fibre optic cable the Kenyan Government is developing along the A1 corridor needs to be supported with (1) local fibre optic infrastructure in the settlement and neighbouring towns. Similar measures have previously been implemented through partnership with the private sector and is important for attracting private

sector investment in networked infrastructure development. Further support to (2) increase coverage of mobile phone network services would also be crucial for communication and financial transactions. Lastly, (3) ICT training facilities and programs specifically targeting the youth would be particularly supportive to diversification of livelihoods.

In terms of energy, the recommendations include ensuring the adequate provision vital for a flourishing economy, which can be done through (1) investing in mini-grids and extending access to all users - favouring solar and wind energy, given their availability as natural resources in the area; (2) Developing local distribution infrastructure for electricity such as road and water systems; (3) Supporting households and businesses to access portable solar energy systems, and (4) investing in renewable energies to phase out reliance on firewood and charcoal – tapping into the natural resources of wind and solar which can led through a service system designed to deliver affordable energy to the local population.



Expansion of power lines across the Kalobeyei Settlement will provide increased access to power and electricity to the communities.



Additional supporting systems to consider include supporting set ups of enterprises providing ICT and energy service skills and coordination, and the provision of educational facilities to help develop capacity and produce skilled workers for these industries – a university is currently being constructed in Kalobeyei.

Box 4: Reflections from refugees and hosts

Without electricity and energy, members of the community are commercially and domestically disadvantaged. While there is a sufficient distribution of energy in every neighbourhood in Village one, the supply of energy is not consistently reflected across the other villages. There is no electricity in either Villages two or three. The hosts and refugees stress the importance of equipping the two villages with power to support their daily obligations.



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© Akina Ojulu







The Arvet Community Hall and Women's Shelter will work in conjunction to provide the community a conducive space within the public space to conduct social activities, including meetings and workshops.

Public Space

In the last decade, there has been a growing attention to the role public spaces play as a key component of sustainable urban development. Under SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) 11, 'Build cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable', one of the proposed targets set out is "by 2030, [to] provide universal access to safe, inclusive, and accessible, green, and public spaces, particularly for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities". The New Urban Agenda (NUA) also urges national governments and local authorities to work with the international development community to promote, provide and protect safe, inclusive, accessible, and green public spaces.³⁰



"Good public spaces enhance community cohesion and promote health, happiness, and well-being for all citizens as well as fostering investment, economic development, and environmental sustainability. Well designed and managed public spaces and streets are a key asset for a city's liveability and economy."³¹

In 2012, UN-Habitat established the Global Public Space Programme (GPSP) to improve the quality of public spaces worldwide. The programme is currently active in 40 countries, including Kakuma-Kalobeyei.

In Kakuma-Kalobeyei, streets, public spaces and shared public facilities have played a critical role in supporting host and refugee communities in their day-to-day activities. Well-planned and designed public spaces provide a range of benefits and advantages to developing settlements and towns, such as through ensuring accessibility via walkable distances, availability and access to facilities that meet the needs of residents, and a location for social interaction and exchange.

Access to well-designed and suitable public spaces have become increasingly essential, and especially for hosts and refugee communities who live with greater vulnerabilities – including a lack of access to basic and essential services and livelihoods such as marketplaces, aid distribution centres, healthcare centres.

The Kalobeyei Settlement Advisory Development Plan which was formulated by UN-Habitat in 2017 emphasizes the role of a well-designed network of public spaces and streets that can be a key asset for the settlement's economy. If professionally and managed, such infrastructure can increase property values, multiply retail activity, as well as improve health and wellbeing. Public spaces are also important for neighbourhood safety and contributes to developing a sense of ownership of the residents in the settlement, improving the quality of stay for the refugees and increased opportunities for cooperation between host and refugee communities. The ability for public spaces to unite communities, serving as a platform for cultural expression is a powerful tool in the integration of refugee communities, whether returning or emigrating to a second or even third country.

Since then, UN-Habitat through the support of the Government of Japan and several other implementation partners such as Block by Block Foundation, Peace Winds Japan, AAR (Aid and Relief) Japan, and GIZ's Sports 4 Development Programme has conducted several participatory workshops with both host and refugee communities to develop designs for public spaces in both Kalobeyei Settlement's Village 1 and 2. In 2019, Village 1's public space was implemented and was opened to the public. Village 2's public space is the process of being constructed. In 2021, UN-Habitat received a donation from ARVET Developers and partners for the implementation of a Community Hall in the Public Space which can provide an opportunity for building social cohesion, promoting cultural exchange, act a platform for community activities and support the integration of host and refugee communities.

³⁰ UN-Habitat (2020). City-Wide Public Space Strategies: a Guidebook for City Leaders. Nairobi. Link: <https://unhabitat.org/city-wide-public-space-strategies-a-guidebook-for-city-leaders>

³¹ <https://unhabitat.org/public-spaces-for-all>

Public Spaces for Pandemic Recovery

Since 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has drastically changed our relationship with public spaces and public facilities. In response to the pandemic, global and local restrictions are impacting people's quality of life and disproportionately hurting the urban poor, many of whom have lost their livelihoods. This has been a concern in Kakuma-Kalobeyei since refugees and hosts are already living by way of scarcity. Public spaces are important platforms for socio-economic opportunities for both host and refugee communities that remain essential during this time.

UN-Habitat's Guidance on COVID-19 and Public Space³² reinforces the importance of public spaces during COVID-19 – encouraging “local and national governments to focus on key recommendations to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and to develop resilience to and preparedness for events of a similar nature.” The guidance also mentions how public spaces can provide essential services required for marginalized communities during a pandemic – providing clean restroom facilities, water points and/or appropriate cleaning products that can help unhoused or poor people to protect themselves. Public Spaces are also important for people's livelihoods - some of the most affected in the pandemic are poor families, many of whom depend on public space for earning a living. In a lockdown, it would be important to allow street vendors to continue to operate and provide space for that.

UN-Habitat recently published “The Role of Public Spaces in COVID-19 Response in Refugee Settlements”, which focuses on the context of Kakuma-Kalobeyei as the main case study. The report aims to provide recommendations towards the design, implementation, and use of public spaces as essential components of a holistic COVID-19 response. Well-designed public spaces can help limit the spread of the virus, improve physical and mental health, and to ensure equal access to services and public facilities.

³² UN-Habitat (2020). UN-Habitat Guidance on COVID-19 and Public Space. Link: https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2020/06/un-habitat_guidance_on_covid-19_and_public_space.pdf

Box 5: Reflections from refugees and hosts

The recommendations by the hosts and refugees in reference to the respective villages vary. Village one has two public spaces, however, the one near Equity bank is inaccessible to the community because it is non-functional and requires rehabilitation. In Village three, there is no playground for children to play. Both spaces need further development in hopes of encouraging recreation and inspiring social connections within the community.

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted several gaps in public spaces in Kakuma-Kalobeyei which need to be addressed in the short-, medium- and long-term. It will be essential to re-build confidence in users in public spaces that can also redefine the beneficial uses these spaces can play.

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Host community members resting by the public space in Kalobeyei Settlement Village 1





© Franklin Ikweel



© Muya Hyvine



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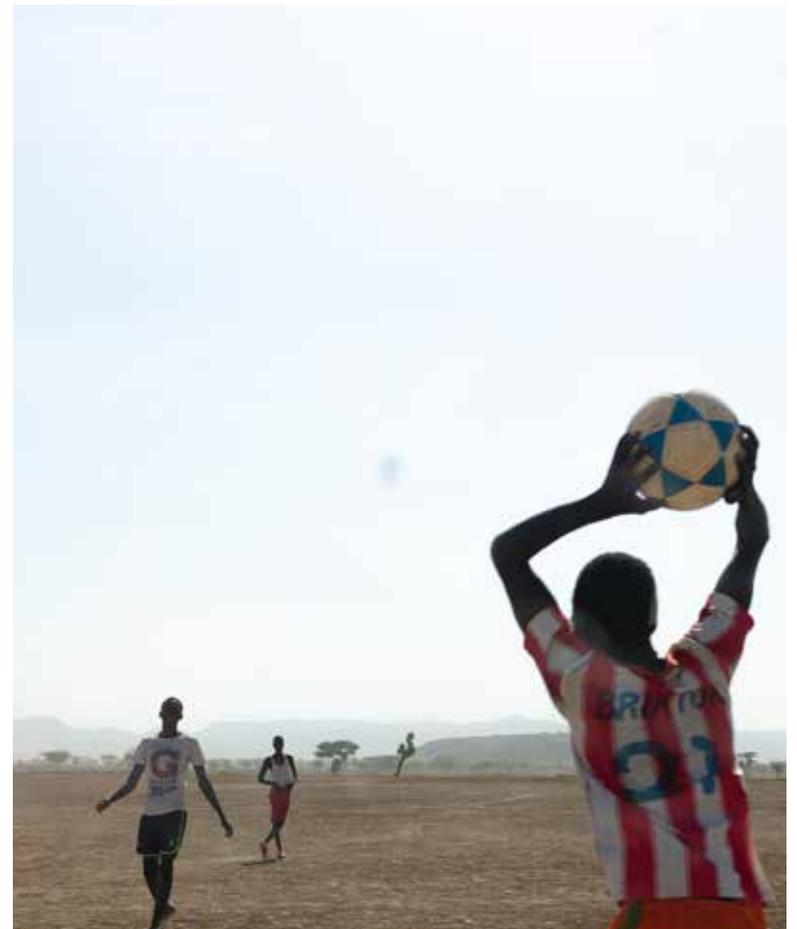
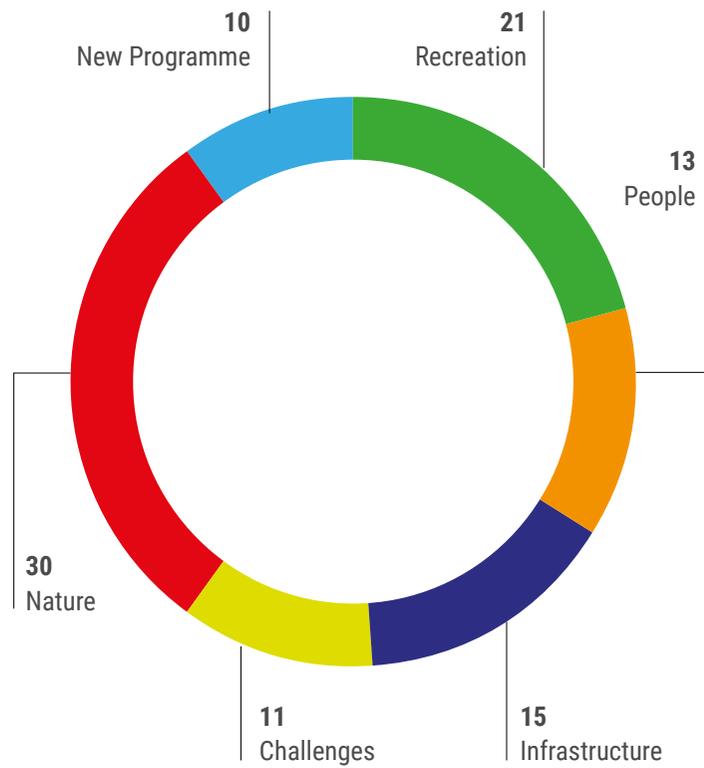
© Franklin Ikweel







Figure 8: Community feedback presented as keywords on the public space in Kalobeyi Settlement Village 2's pertaining to their needs and perceptions







Refugee and host craftsmen who were employed and trained in the pilot shelters programme - working on the roof structure of one of the shelter prototypes.



Housing and Shelter



“Everyone has a fundamental human right to housing, which ensures access to a safe, secure, habitable, and affordable home – this includes refugees and host communities in settlements and urban areas.”

UN-Habitat places affordability, sustainability and inclusiveness of the housing and shelter sector at the core of the urbanization process to ensure access to adequate housing for all.³³ In the context of a refugee settlement, such as Kalobeyei Settlement, adequate housing or shelter is a “vital survival mechanism in times of crisis or displacement”³⁴, and is precondition for access to employment, education, health, and social services for refugees (and hosting communities). It is also important for security and a sense of dignity.

The Kalobeyei Settlement was gazetted in 2015 to answer to the urgent situation in Kakuma Refugee Camp which was at that time hosting refugee populations beyond its initial expected occupancy capacity. The establishment of the new settlement required immediate and rapid implementation strategies to cater to the refugee influx from neighbouring countries. As such, short term emergency strategies had taken precedence over long-term development objectives. Traditional UNHCR T-Shelters (also known as “Transitional Shelters”³⁵), tents of tarpaulin measuring 3 metres by 6 metres, were erected as part of the emergency responses.

Overtime, with the long-rates of protraction of refugees in Kakuma-Kalobeyei, the temporary shelter solutions were unable to effectively respond to the long-term needs of refugees. Issues often arose from the lack of changeability of shelters and resources to be converted into durable long-term shelter for reasons such as incorporating trading areas, kitchens, and for other functions. Traditional settlement shelters had also begun using different building technologies, intermixing cultural influences, and shifting away from traditional pastoralist space organization (cattle being as the organizational feature for settlement patterns) towards greater durability, incorporating a combination of local materials.

Durable designs that integrate local cultures

In 2016, UN-Habitat was tasked with designing the Kalobeyei Settlement Advisory Development Plan, to accommodate 60,000 people – both refugees and host community members. The Plan was focused on an integrated approach which sought to bridge short-term and durable solutions to support long term development trajectories. At that time, this encouraged a change in thinking from a purely traditional humanitarian focus on sheltering refugees in temporary camps, towards long-term integrated planning. UN-Habitat, through transforming engagement methodologies and utilising spatial planning as a coordination tool, sought to strengthen the integration of refugees and host communities towards developing greater self-reliance, reduce risk of conflicts, and increase resilience of target communities.

33 <https://unhabitat.org/topic/housing>

34 <https://www.unhcr.org/shelter.html>

35 UNHCR (2016). Shelter Design Catalogue. Link: <https://cms.emergency.unhcr.org/documents/11982/57181/Shelter+Design+Catalogue+January+2016/a891fdb2-4ef9-42d9-bf0f-c12002b3652e>

One of the components within the plan was to develop a pilot neighbourhood in the settlement as a model which could be used for future development. The neighbourhood was planned in alignment with the UN-Habitat 5 Sustainable Neighbourhood Planning Principles.³⁶ In 2017, the shelter typology design component was developed in collaboration with Shigeru Ban, a world-renowned architect known for his disaster relief shelter designs, and the Voluntary Architects Network (VAN).³⁷ As part of the agreement, Shigeru Ban Architects provided in-kind contribution technical support of a senior architect advisor to (1) develop shelter designs based on participatory feedback, (2) train shelter construction teams, and (3) develop innovative building techniques and details for shelter following UN-Habitat and international principles.

The key criteria for the shelter design and construction included the following:

- Several design typologies built and tested for usability, with one final design for that will be built for all houses within a neighbourhood
- The final design will be at least 18m²
- Structures should be semi-permanent and designed to enable potential future changeability i.e., extensions or repairs
- A space for cooking should be designed in each house
- To apply adequate consideration of climatic conditions in Turkana, the shelters should be equipped with features that promote good ventilation, protection from floods and sun and have a good orientation, etc.

³⁶ <https://unhabitat.org/a-new-strategy-of-sustainable-neighbourhood-planning-five-principles>

³⁷ Shigeru Ban first became involved in humanitarian work after he discovered that there were over two million refugees from the 1994 Rwandan Civil War living in terrible conditions. He presented his paper-tube shelter designs to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), which hired him as a consultant. After the Great Hanshin (Kobe Earthquake) in 1995, he built the Paper Log House for former Vietnamese refugees who did not have the opportunity to live in temporary houses provided by the Japanese Government. He also built the Takatori Paper Church with student volunteers. This was the trigger to establish the NGO, Voluntary Architects' Network (VAN), and to begin further disaster relief projects around the world. In recognition of his dedication to the field, Ban received the Pritzker Architecture Prize in 2014, the most prestigious prize in modern architecture, which recognised his creativity and contribution to humanitarian aid.

- The design should use locally available construction materials and employ residents of both the refugee and host communities, to create livelihood opportunities in Turkana County.



“The key thing will be to design and construct shelters which require little or no technical supervision, and to use materials that are locally available and eco-friendly. It is important that the houses can be easily maintained by their inhabitants”.



Shigeru Ban
(2017).

By August 2019, 14 houses have been constructed after testing seven housing typologies in the Settlement. The collaboration has now seen the creation of unique Shelter Typology Designs which utilised a highly participative design and building process involving host and refugee community builders. The prototypes not only demonstrating culturally sustainable housing solutions, but also serving to build a community. The goal of the collaboration was to develop sustainable and appropriate shelter options for people in the settlement, and to give residents a sense of dignity and a home for long periods of displacement.

The design and construction process of the collaboration was captured in the journal, “Turkana Shelters” which describes the collaboration between UN-Habitat and VAN to build shelters for refugees and host communities. The first part of the book is a segment by Philippe Monteil. It describes successes and failures with building pilot houses, and the influence of the context in the process. The second part is the visual interpretation of that process through a detailed manual which explains how to build the final housing prototype. It is hoped that this publication will contribute to shelter development studies internationally.



One of the shelter prototypes developed under the project which explored a design segregation of external and internal functions within the shelter.

Since 2018, UNHCR has embarked on a cash assistance for shelter programme in Kalobeyei Settlement to ensure safe and dignified housing while reducing dependency on humanitarian assistance and addressing protection concerns.³⁸ The project is based on an innovative approach that gives ownership of the construction process to individual refugee households and empowers refugees to deal directly with private sector providers such as masons and suppliers of building materials, and pay for the goods and services, contributing to the local economy.

The project presents a change in thinking from the traditional refugee camp planning process and considers a long-term, incremental, development vision that underpins UN Habitat's mandate which aims to improve the resilience of settlements, and sustainability of infrastructural investments.

³⁸ The project provides value for money as refugees build the permanent shelters at 11-14 per cent lower costs than the implementing partners. The refugees also build a compound of shelters consisting of 12 to 14 shelters in an average of 22 days. This efficient and effective use of funds allows refugees to spend the remaining money on home improvements or other basic needs, benefitting the local economy and improving social coexistence. (UNHCR (2018). Cash for Shelter in Kenya, a Field Experience. Link: <https://www.unhcr.org/5c487dde4.pdf>)



Box 6: Reflections from refugees and hosts

Since 2016, there has been evident growth regarding housing. Yet, the communities express that these shelters could benefit from more durability and permanence. So far, only 30% of the community is living in permanent shelters while the rest is living in housing constructed from plastic sheeting and poles. While appreciative that there is ongoing housing construction to aid this, this has resulted in the displacement of neighbouring communities in the process if not well managed. Thus, settlement housing projects must incorporate both local and neighbouring communities.





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One of the latrines installed in Kalobeyi Settlement.



Water and Sanitation

Classified as an Arid and Semi-Arid Land (ASAL) area, Turkana County is naturally water scarce. The county's urban and rural settlements face inadequate water supply and regularly face drought from inadequate rainfall amounting to an average of 200mm per annum.³⁹ Residents in the County depend on boreholes, piped water and river water⁴⁰ despite the decades of humanitarian and development programming in the area. There is no public water utility, with water services provided by small scale operators such as community organizations or NGOs. Water remains one of the key challenges faced by the settlements in the region.

Many persons rely on informal water vendors or must collect water from various water points. In Kakuma Camp and Kalobeyei Settlement, water can be accessed for free at specific water points, and sometimes due to the distance to the nearest water point people incur transport costs to access it. Overall, many households and business experience a shortage of water.⁴¹ As numbers continue to increase among the refugee and the host community populations in Kakuma-Kalobeyei, continued inaction regarding water provision will fundamentally compromise development in Turkana County. Water resources are also a source of conflict in border areas, especially between the Turkana and Pokot communities.⁴²

Reports note that authorities are deliberating building a desalination plant on top of the Lotikipi aquifer, which would benefit Turkana. The high energy requirements of the plant could capitalize on the county's wind and solar renewable energy generation potential. However, Ethiopia has also embarked on a plan for dams, water-intensive irrigated plantations and canals, and infrastructure in the Omo River Basin. The basin currently provides 90% of water in Lake Turkana, and the developments are predicted to dramatically reduce water supply of the lake.⁴³



“Water challenges are intricately linked to sanitation challenges and have a direct impact on urban health and welfare of residents.”

Waste management is also a major challenge in Turkana West, especially regarding the disposal of faecal matter, given the prevalence of open defecation. The towns and the settlements lack an organized solid waste management system, including waste treatment facilities, and rely on dry sanitation, on-site faecal disposal methods, which have proved to be inadequate. Improved methods of faecal disposal, such as wet systems like septic or biodigester tanks and mini-treatment facilities, are limited to NGO and INGO facilities, as well as some public facilities.⁴⁴

Most businesses rely on unimproved faecal disposal methods, such as basic pit latrines, as improved sanitation systems are expensive and presumed to be the responsibility of local authorities. The absence of settlement-wide sanitation systems is a major barrier to investments that require efficient waste management, such as industries. The development of reliable water and sanitation infrastructure is urgently needed in Turkana West settlements and towns – including Kalobeyei Settlement.

39 UN-Habitat (2021). Kakuma and Kalobeyei Spatial Profile. Link: <https://unhabitat.org/kakuma-and-kalobeyei-spatial-profile>

40 SFD (2018). SFD Report: Kakuma Kenya. Link: https://www.susana.org/_resources/documents/default/3-3467-7-1541602676.pdf

41 UN-Habitat (2021). Socio-Economic Development in Turkana West. Volume II A Report on Businesses and the Local Economic Development

42 Shalom-SCCRR (2020). Climate Change, Lake Turkana and Inter-communal Conflicts In The Ilemi Triangle Region: A Critical Analysis

43 Sean Avery. African Studies Centre (2012). “What Future for Lake Turkana? The impact of hydropower and irrigation development on the world's largest desert lake

44 UN-Habitat (2021). Socio-Economic Development in Turkana West. Volume II A Report on Businesses and the Local Economic Development

Improved access of water and sanitation for domestic and local economic growth

At the beginning of the Kalobeyei Programme, UN-Habitat conducted a socio-economic survey which discovered that water scarcity in the host community and the refugee settlement is one of the key causes of resource conflict. Waste management is also a challenge that needs to be addressed urgently. To bridge these gaps within the settlement, over the years, UN-Habitat has been supported by the Government of Japan to implement several solutions:

- **2017** - UN-Habitat worked with Peace Winds Japan and host and refugee members to construct a high-capacity water pan with an external water point to be used for domestic, animal use and smallholder agriculture projects.
- **2018** – UN-Habitat worked with AAR Japan to implement a raised 5000 litre water tank in the Kalobeyei Settlement Community Centre to be used for domestic use and to cater to needs at the centre.
- **2018** – UN-Habitat conducted a rapid assessment on the status of solid waste management to identify the challenges and opportunities.
- **2019** – UN-Habitat worked with AAR Japan and Daiken Corporation to design and implement a passive rainwater harvesting solution via construction of an underground water tank in Kalobeyei Settlement’s Community Centre. The tank can hold up to 100,000 litres of water, which can serve an estimate of 2000 people when at full capacity.
- **2021** – UN-Habitat worked with Peace Winds Japan to build a new latrine in the Kalobeyei Settlement Community Centre as the existing latrines were broken.
- **2021** – This year, UN-Habitat in partnership with the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) will implement another underground water tank in Kalobeyei Settlement Village 3. The tank will be constructed in a Women’s Centre situated in the village and managed by DRC. This project aims to provide water to bridge the domestic and irrigation water demand at the centre which is used as a meeting point for the community to do vocational trainings for livelihood activities.

On top of gaps in domestic use, business operations and the growth of the local economy is also highly constrained by the absence of a reliable water supply and waste management systems. As the reliance on boreholes is not sustainable, strategic water supply infrastructure should be developed. Likewise, the management of waste (liquid and solid) requires interventions with a long-term perspective. As part of a socio-economic survey conducted by UN-Habitat in 2020, a recommendation was put forth for the design and implementation of a Water and Sanitation Sector Plan for Turkana West, which should be integrated with the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) and KISED.

They key elements of this plan should include (1) identifying and developing strategic water supply infrastructure for all major settlements, including Kakuma-Kalobeyei; (2) develop local water distribution systems; (3) a set of sustainable options for dry and water sanitation systems that can support the settlements and towns taking into account future forecasted population growth, and (4) solid waste management, with investments for organised waste management systems in the main settlements and towns. A solid waste management facility is also a prerequisite for developing industrial activities in the area.

Box 7: Reflections from refugees and hosts

The hosts and refugees highlight the uneven distribution of water across the villages. Despite the implementation of water tanks in each neighbourhood, the reliance on the water tanks is not sustainable because the northern part of village one has water while there is water shortage in the southern part of village one. Furthermore, the quantity of the water in the tanks is not enough to consistently serve everyone in each village. The people are requesting more water points in every compound across the villages.





One of the water pans constructed in Kalobeyi Settlement Village 2 which will be filled up during the rainy season in Kakuma-Kalobeyi.

Adequate water infrastructures are necessary to sustain access to fresh produce in Kalobeyi Settlement. The greenhouse facility here is shared by both host and refugee communities.





"As women, we have seen great changes in Kalobeyi settlement especially in terms of health care and other basic service like water which has reduced the time we take to access them. However, for village 3, we have no hospital and sometimes women face even greater challenges when in need of maternity services. We therefore expect more developments to be done in this sector',



The chairlady,
Kalobeyi Settlement Group



Waste management remains a key challenge in Kakuma-Kalobeyi. The burning of tyres is a common occurrence, and unregulated waste disposal (above) poses multiple health risks to the community.



04.

Conclusions

Like the first iteration of the Kalobeyei Photobook, the photos that were selected portray the youth's perspective of Kakuma-Kalobeyei and some of their thoughts on urban development. It also provided an opportunity for them to capture their surroundings and participate in storytelling of the people, activities, and functions that make up their day-to-day life in the settlement.

In this second iteration of the Kalobeyei Photobook, we can see the changes that have emerged since the Kalobeyei Settlement was first inhabited. Five years on, these include the new infrastructures and amenities that are in the settlement, and the new perspectives that members have towards the various thematic areas earlier discussed. These reflections would be essential to consider in the sustainable development of Kakuma-Kalobeyei.

The people are key to a sustainable settlement

David Kitenge, UN-Habitat Field Officer in Kakuma said, "the photography exercise is a crucial tool in shaping the youths' understanding and decision-making regarding issues of urban development in these thematic areas. We are delighted to see the youth come out of this training workshop feeling more empowered and confident having learned the skills and understanding the importance of reflecting on important elements within the settlement."

Proboxes are important means of transportation, not only for people but also for goods across the settlements as they can carry more than boda bodas usually do. © Joseph Kapua



Refugee settlements are different environments from regular towns and cities and may face increased risks and have reduced resilience. There is a strong need to build social cohesion, particularly between refugees and host communities living in a shared settlement. Urban planning and design can be a highly effective tool in cultivating unity and promoting shared prosperity in a settlement such as Kalobeyei. Urban planners working in humanitarian-development contexts can promote social cohesion by relying on strengthened social structures within the refugee community to catalyse participation in settlement initiatives. This can be done by through nurturing regular and mutually beneficial exchanges between refugees and hosts to ensure greater integration and ownership, and that interventions are adopted and maintained in the long-term.

Accessible infrastructure and services for all

When settlements are well-planned and managed, they can lift families out of poverty, stop gender-based discrimination, point to brighter futures for children and youth, and offer support to vulnerable members of community. If executed successfully, this wide-ranging value of urbanization will improve the social and economic outcomes for all types of marginalized and vulnerable groups, including refugee and host communities.



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