



Welcome the stranger.
Protect the refugee.

FACT SHEET

KENYA

HIAS provides services for particularly vulnerable urban refugees in Nairobi, Kenya. Many of them are survivors of torture and/or sexual and gender-based violence. Because Kenya has a policy requiring refugees to live in refugee camps, those who choose to live elsewhere are expected to be self-supporting.



REFUGEES IN KENYA

Kenya hosts approximately 600,000 refugees from Somalia, Ethiopia, Eritrea, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, and Burundi. An estimated 100,000 are urban refugees.



HIAS IN KENYA

HIAS has been providing services to refugees in Kenya for more than 12 years. We currently have more than 90 staff members at five sites in Nairobi.

LEGAL PROTECTION

HIAS operates programs for refugee and host communities to ensure that their rights are respected by all. Urban refugees are increasingly at risk of harassment and extortion, so at HIAS we focus our efforts on vulnerable refugees living in Nairobi. HIAS also provides protection services for children faced with abuse, neglect, or exploitation, which includes foster care placement or rescue for those at heightened risk.

For refugees at greatest risk, HIAS facilitates resettlement to a third country such as Australia or Canada.

PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

HIAS provides therapy in individual and group settings to help refugees overcome trauma and cope with life in exile. We also provide social assistance that may include emergency safe housing, food assistance, and medical referrals, all of which are facilitated through home visits from social workers. We particularly target groups that are often overlooked in humanitarian programs including minorities as well as men who are survivors of rape and violence.

LIVELIHOODS

Self-sufficiency is crucial to helping people overcome trauma and regain their dignity. HIAS is expanding our programs to provide vocational training and employment assistance and to help refugees identify opportunities to build small businesses. When refugees are able to establish stable livelihoods, they have the opportunity to heal, stabilize, and rebuild their lives.

COLLEAGUES AND PARTNERS

- **UN:** *United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture*
- **U.S. Government:** *State Department's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration*
- **Kenyan Government:** *Country Children's Department, Department of Refugee Affairs*
- **International NGOs:** *Danish Refugee Council, Jesuit Refugee Service, Red Cross, RefugePoint*
- **African and Kenyan NGOs:** *Heshima Kenya, Kituo Cha Sheria, Nairobi Women's Hospital, Refugee Consortium of Kenya*

