



REFUGEE CONSORTIUM of KENYA

Advocacy and Policy Development Centre

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Refugee Protection Situation Report (No.8/2017)

Period: 1st August – 31st August

Date: 25th September, 2017

Kenya’s general election was held on 8th August 2017. RCK monitored the refugee protection situation in Dadaab, Garissa, Kakuma and Nairobi, and prepared a situational report “Election Special Report”. The report indicated that the election period was calm, other than an arrest situation in Dadaab, where 15 boys were arrested and later released after producing their identification documents. During this period, there were no cases of police harassment or arrest which were recorded.

Reports of arraignment/arrests/harassment

| Place of Incident | Incident | Characteristics of PoCs | Status of Situation |
|-------------------|--|---|---|
| Nairobi | Arrest; Unlawful presence | 11 Male: 9 Ethiopians, 1 Somali, 1 Eritrean | PoCs were released upon RCK intervention |
| | Arraignment; Unlawful presence | 1 Male: Somali | Charges withdrawn and the IC to be taken to Kakuma. |
| | Arraignment; Protection Order | 1 Female: Ethiopian | The case was mentioned at Kibera Law courts. RCK is monitoring the case |
| Garissa | Arraignment; Defilement | 1 Male: Somali | The case will be heard on 26/9/2017 |
| | Arraignment; Failing to protect a child from harmful practices | 1 Male: Somali | The case has been adjourned to 30/10/2017 |



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Kakuma;

There were no major incidences affecting PoCs.

Nairobi;

There were no major incidences affecting PoCs.

Dadaab;

Persons crossing into Kenya recorded in August were 2,073 against 2,190 recorded in July, which represents a 5.4% decrease. The monitors attributed the decrease to the uncertain security situation in Kenya following the general elections held on 8th August 2017.

The number of persons crossing into Somalia recorded in August was 58, compared to 84 in July which represents 31% decrease. This could be attributed to increased police presence and patrols along the migration route in the lead up to and after Kenya's general elections.

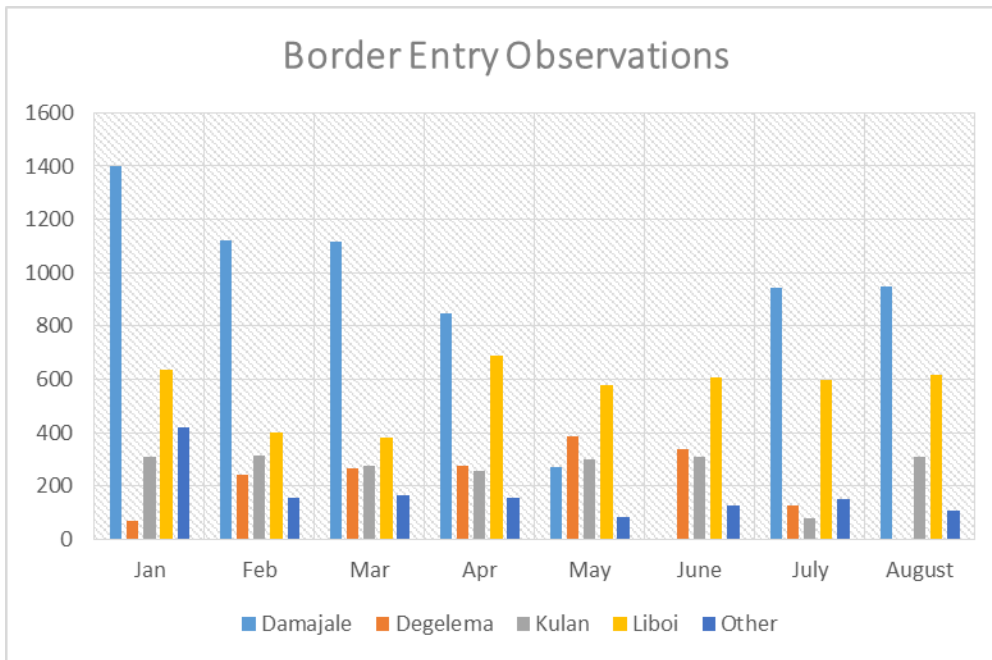
The graph 1 below shows the cross border movements for new arrivals and returnees by PoCs during the month August 2017 at Liboi, Abdisugow, Damajale, Degelema and Diif.



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Graph 1: Graph depicting the number of Somali nationals crossing into Kenya since January 2017 from different border entry points.

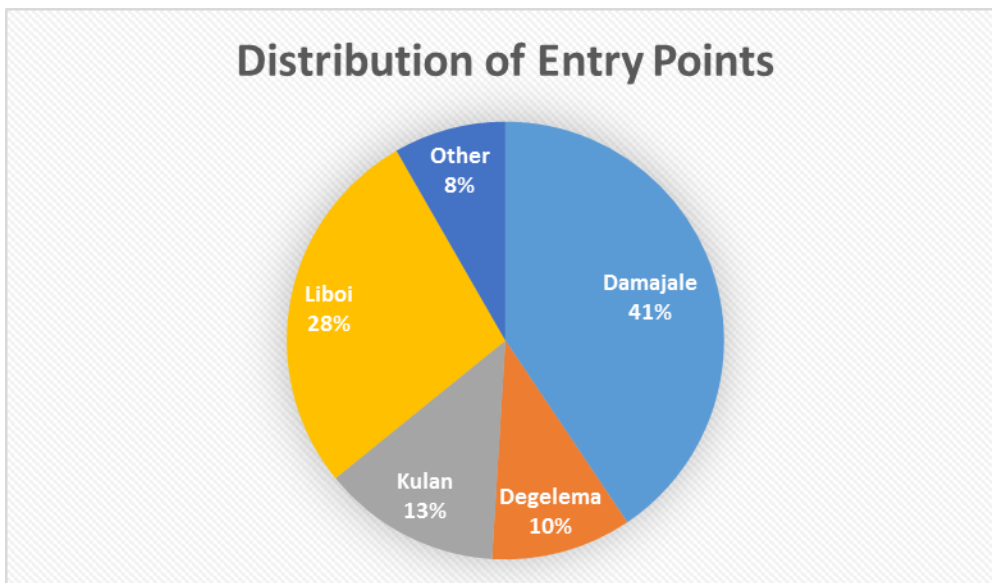


Chart 1: Distribution of border entry observation per entry point



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Conclusion

After the election period, RCK recorded a drop in the number of refugees/asylum seekers received at the Nairobi legal aid clinic. The low turn up of clients could be attributed to refugees limiting their movement for fear of being arrested.

As outlined in the border observations, there was also a decrease in the number of border movement mostly attributed to security uncertainty following the August elections in Kenya and increase of law enforcement officers' patrol at the Kenyan border.

With the court having nullified the presidential elections, RCK will continue to monitor the refugee protection situation as the country gears up for a re-election of the presidential position.

For more information kindly contact Ms. Eunice Ndonga-Githinji, Refugee Consortium of Kenya Executive Director on refcon@rckkenya.org