



THE Refugee

MAGAZINE

ISSUE #13 | SPECIAL EDITION

FREELANCE IN THE CAMP

Entrepreneur learns how to make money as an “Influencer” in Kakuma

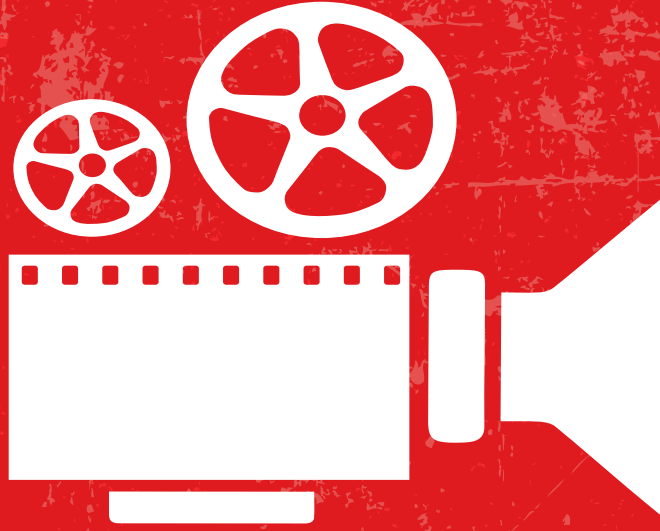
THE ICE CREAM MAN: TWO SCOOPS OF INNOVATION

THE RESILIENCE – KAKUMA

NYAMUOCH MAI NGUOTH

Dadaab’s Up-and-coming Artist

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Letter From the Editor

After a year of interlude, karibuni to the 2nd version of the Special Edition of The Refugee Magazine.

In this edition, we expanded our energy and creativity telling narratives that we believe celebrates the themes of Diversity, Inclusion and Strength within and among the communities in Kakuma Refugee Camp, Kalobeyei Integrated Settlement and Dadaab Refugee Camp.

It gives me a sense of pride and ownership that, the Magazine actually captures the aim of telling the refugee stories the way they should be told, by journalists from the community itself. My fellow writers live within the confines of the camps. They understand the languages spoken, as well as those things that remain unsaid. My heart rate quickens, and my pulse beats louder in my chest when we can speak as a community and for our communities the stories we are publishing in this special edition of the Refugee magazine.

I will like to take this opportunity to thank all the contributors and photographers for the Special Edition of the Refugee Magazine for their commendable work and effort to make this publication a success. My fellow writers and contributors are the reason this edition of the magazine gives me so much pride.

Enjoy your read.

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The Refugee Magazine





GETTING PRODUCE TO MARKET IN DADAAB

Communities farming together enhances food security in Dadaab and the surrounding area.

By Assadullah Nasrullah

Abdi Mohamed Aden proudly shows off some of the fresh and green okra he harvested from his farm. The farmer has been nicknamed Pilipili because he is popular for supplying camp markets with pepper. Pilipili started farming out of his own initiative, using his previous experience as a farmer in Somalia.

Despite restrictions on their movement outside the camps, refugee farmers are happy to earn an income from the activity and support their families. For Pilipili, farming has reduced his dependency on humanitarian assistance from UNHCR and other agencies.

"Since we have fewer opportunities and cannot move outside the refugee camps, these farms provide a source of income for us. 'We divided ourselves into groups and take turns supplying the three camps. At the end of every working day, we come together and split the little profit we make. I earn about \$430 after every three months,' Pilipili says.

Harvests by small-scale farmers in Dadaab show that there is a huge potential for food production. On average, the farmers produce 125 kilograms of tomatoes from 0.2 hectare of land, 90 kilograms of okra from 0.14 hectares and 212 kilograms of beans from 0.16 hectares. Nearly 77% is sold on the local markets while the rest is consumed at home. Each farmer earns an average of \$433 per season from selling their produce. The farmers are trained on best farming practices and urged to plant trees to protect the environment.

"We consume some of the harvest and sell the rest to buy clothes and farming inputs. With relevant support, I can grow different crops and earn even more. At the moment, I make between \$5 and \$10 a day,"

Kuusa Shafat, a female refugee farmer says.

Communities living around Dadaab refugee camps depend largely on livestock keeping while refugees in the camps depend on UNHCR and other humanitarian agencies assistance. However, refugees and host community are changing their way of lives and engaging in farming to produce different varieties of vegetables, grains and fruits.

The host community have been very hospitable and willingly share land for agriculture with refugees. In the past few years, dozens of small-scale farmers from both the refugee and host communities have been able to produce significant amounts of food in Dadaab using flood recession on the land located near a seasonal water pool in Hagadera refugee camp and to sell their harvest in the camp markets.

The initiative has enhanced food security for refugees and host community and strengthened collaboration and peaceful coexistence between the two communities.

"As a local farmer, I did not have a source of livelihood, but working together with the refugees has given me an income. We are now able to support our families," Said Suleiman says.

UNHCR supports the farmers with water for irrigation from a nearby borehole, drip irrigation kits and technical training with the aim of improving their livelihoods and well-being. With an irrigation system in place, the farmers are able to utilize the land all year round instead of depending on rain for their activities.

During her recent visit to Dadaab, UNHCR Kenya Representative, Fathiaa Abdalla said, "Refugees and host communities farming together will enhance food security in Dadaab and its environs."

Abdalla lauded the strategic partnerships that have made it possible for refugees to access water for irrigation, enhancing livelihoods and promoting self-reliance.

Currently the main irrigation water source in Dadaab are the boreholes supported by solar system and other high-tech interventions. Plans are underway to adopt spate irrigation alongside surface water harvesting and drip irrigation to ensure efficiency in water resource management and sustainability.

"We can increase the yield if we get training and farming tools. In turn, these farms will provide employment opportunities for both refugees and host communities. In the past, we had to use donkey carts to transport water but UNHCR assisted us with irrigation water from the borehole," Suleiman explains.

The farmers not only consume what they produce but have rented spaces in the local market where they sell their fresh produce for sale. Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) in a partnership with UNHCR has established fruit tree greenbelts to rehabilitate the environment. The establishment of fruit tree greenbelts has demonstrated that Dadaab has a huge potential in agriculture that is yet to be fully explored.

So far, more than a thousand guavas, avocados, lemons, mangoes, pawpaw and banana trees have been planted. The orchard is already producing some of the sweetest bananas, papayas and watermelons in a project initiated in March 2018. In the new 25 hectare orchard, 10,000 fruit trees have been planted.

The Dadaab refugee complex has a population of 210,724 refugees and asylum seekers, and consists of three camps, Hagadera, Ifo, and Dagahaley. 96 per cent of the refugees are from Somalia.

IT'S NOT WHERE YOU LEARN IT'S WHAT YOU LEARN

Masinde Muliro University provides opportunities for young people to work and study at the same time.

By Erick Kashara

Every child's dream when in school is to go to university after secondary education. University education is the next level in the learning process, it is a critical component of human development worldwide. It provides not only the high-level skills necessary for every labor market but also the training essential for all professions. Trained individuals develop the capacity analytical skills that drive local economies, supports civil society, teach children, lead effective governments and make important decisions that affect entire societies. In Kakuma, higher education has also been of great value and people have been travelling to other parts of the world to seek higher education both in Kenya and in other countries while others achieve it through E- Learning. The first university in Kakuma was Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (MMUST) Kakuma Campus which was launched in 2015. The establishment of the university has not only opened up opportunities for refugees and host communities to access higher learning, but also for the humanitarian workers who would wish to further their careers.

Most of the refugees dream is to travel and study or stay abroad. Some of them have turned down some of the opportunities offered to them to learn in the locally available universities. As one of them who did not want to be mentioned in this magazine said that abroad ,technology is advanced, good life style and

advanced education as compared to local Universities. This has affected more refugees who have completed their secondary education but do not want to join the local universities, a chance that is not guaranteed to all youths, as some even grow old without achieving this goal.

Ojullu Ogoni, 21 year old, an Ethiopian girl from Anyuak Gambela community resides in Kalobeyei Settlement scheme with her Aunt. She was brought up without parents and is among the students who study at Masinde Muliro University, Kakuma Campus. Ogoni found her way to Kenya amidst the clashes between tribes in 2003 in her home country. She did her form four in 2017 at Senior Chief Koinange girls High School in Kiambu, where she scored C- (minus). After form four, she worked as a primary school teacher for 9 months at Gambela primary school in Kakuma 2. She never loved it though she was forced by her Aunt and later resigned. Currently she is working with the Humanity and Inclusion (formerly known as Handicap International) in Kalobeyei.

Ojullu dream has been to travel and study abroad, but after 2 years of waiting, she decided to join Masinde Muliro University, Kakuma Campus. This was after getting partial scholarship. In the university, she is studying a Diploma course in Information Technology. She is planning to advance to the Degree level after completing course.

Ojullu is thankful for the accessibility of the University in Kakuma as this allows her to work and at the same time attend her classes. She works from 8am to 1pm then attend her classes from 2.30pm to 5.30pm. This has enabled her to save and pay part of her school fees from her wages. She encourages UNHCR and the Kenyan government to allow more University campuses in Kakuma to offer more courses to the Refugees and people living in Kakuma. This will allow them to work at the same time attend classes. More courses will allow a variety of choices as one of her preferred course was to study tourism and Management but she settled to Information technology because her dream courses are not offered at the campus.

According to Ojullu, "The place and university doesn't matter but the knowledge and skills that we obtain from the university are what matters, because learning is the same in all the Universities." In her job, she earns Ksh. 6, 000 in which she pays Ksh. 3,000 monthly for her fare from Kalobeyei to Campus and saves the rest to pay part of her school fees.

Ojullu advises the youth to accept the situation as it is and not to lose hope on what they want to achieve. "If they are given a chance to study at the local university, let them accept as they continue to wait for the fulfillment of their dreams." She said.



THE AKALA



By Okello'o Joseph

The Akala shoe is ubiquitous among many African nomadic tribes and are mostly found in the Eastern part of Africa and some places within the continent. These shoes are famously known as "Mutuhali" among the South Sudanese and Sudanese. The name "Mutuhali" is a name derived from Arabic word 'Mut o haliu' which means 'die and leave it'.

It can be modified to make open shoes that suit any

environmental conditions especially the rough and hot terrains of Africa. These shoes are made from the used vehicles tires and are mostly put on by the people who live in the interiors while some are modified to suit the modern dressing styles as swag. After getting already used vehicle tyre, the manufacturers then cut and remove the inner parts of the tyre that contains some metals rings and strings in order to have a smooth surface for the foot. This is done using some of the sharpest knives that when not

used carefully, will cut one's fingers easily but the owners know how to use them easily.

After removing the inner parts, the remaining part without any metal is ready for use. The shoe maker will then use the measure from the client's foot for making the perfect match and number for a specific client. They do so by asking the client to place their feet on the ready to use vehicle tyres and only measure one foot and use it as a duplicate for the next foot's shoe. After cutting, the

A SANDALS



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laces are then made from the soft part of the tyre or damaged tyre tube. This trading is a livelihood to most of the local Turkana traders in Kakuma who made the shoes to most of the people in host communities and the refugees as well.

People come from the different sections of the camp to the shoe makers in Kakuma town who are known for this risky job of using sharp knives in cutting of the hard tires. It is practiced almost across the entire Turkana County and some parts of

South Sudan as well. These shoes fit the generally rocky and rough parts of the Northern Kenya which is mostly hot throughout the year. However much the tyres are black and are prone to observation of heat, the Akala shoes are made open hence giving free aeration thus keeping them at the right temperature that won't make the feet feel uncomfortable. Herders cover a lot of miles grazing their cattle in scorch sun but move on and on freely as they put on the Akala shoes.

The Maasai of Kenya and Tanzania cover lots of distance during migration with their cattle while putting on the Akala shoe that don't wear out easily. They serve people a great deal of saving money that could have been used in purchasing shoes as one could only buy them once a year. The other advantage is that they can easily be fixed using the smaller nails and do not necessarily require a hammer as a stone can also be a good choice. This makes the shoe-type easy to fix anywhere whenever there is damage.

DADAAB'S UP-AND-COMING ARTIST

By Stephen Opana

"My love for art started in Class 1 when I first interacted with colouring books at school."

Twenty-one year-old Nyamouch Mai Nguoth is a budding artist from Ifo camp, which is part of the larger Dadaab Refugee Complex. Nyamuoch has vowed to change, through her splendid art, the negative narrative of Daadab perpetuated by reports in the mainstream media.

The young woman has defied many odds to venture into a field dominated by men. She's currently in Form 4 at Ifo Secondary School, one of the nine refugee secondary schools in the refugee complex. She still remembers the long and wearisome journey through South Sudan's dusty and dilapidated roads that took a several days before finally landing her in Kenya's Kakuma Camp.

It was 2009 and the semi-autonomous region of South Sudan was preparing for a referendum in 2011 that was to determine its independence from Sudan. Her mother, having seen events as they unfolded in their neighbourhood, told her five children that they had to leave their motherland in order to seek peace elsewhere. Kenya was later to become their second home.

"Violence forced us to move to Kenya. There were vigilantes that were killing people," she says.

Soon after landing in Kakuma

where her family was registered by the UNHCR, they moved to Eldoret and later to Nairobi. In 2014, they arrived in Dadaab from Nairobi by a bus under UNHCR. Little did she know that Dadaab would be her home for years to come. It's here that she first fell in love with art which has remained her passion.

"My love for art started in Class 1 when I first interacted with colouring books at school. In Class 3, I did my first painting which was displayed on the school's notice board for weeks," she says.

She says teachers and fellow pupils didn't believe that it was the work of her hands. But since then, she has never looked back. Her tools of trade include pens, pencils, ink, oil paint, charcoal, watercolour and coloured crayons. She gets requests to make art from teachers and other agency workers in the camp. She sells her work for between Sh500 to Sh5,000.

"My first client was Vee Atieno, a lady who worked with the Danish Refugee Council. She bought two of my paintings at Sh500 each. Since then I've sold several paintings and drawings to my teachers, agency workers and even those from outside the camp like in Nairobi," Nyamouch says.

She gifted Nobel laureate

Malala Yousafzai and the Qatari Ambassador with their portraits when they visited the camp in 2017 and 2019 respectively. These, she says, were her best moments as she got a chance to interact with high profile guests

She has to balance schoolwork, art and house chores which at times prove to be an uphill task. She sacrifices the little time she gets to work on her paintings. Her family has been her pillar in this journey. Despite the financial challenges at home, her mother always provides her with the money to purchase her tools of trade.

UNHCR, other agencies and even incubation centres like PAWA24 (Nairobi) should promote and nurture these talents by providing upcoming artists like Nyamuoch with necessary materials for their work. Besides, a modern art center should be established in the camp that will not only train the young upcoming artists but also act as a market to showcase their work.

Nyamuoch encourages young and upcoming artists to exploit their talents. "If you love art, go for it. If you have the talent, why not turn it into a business? Why let it go to waste?" she says. Her aspiration is to be a designer. She looks forward to designing buildings, clothes or even cars.



Nyamuoch shows her painting to Qatar's Ambassador to Kenya, Jabr Bin Ali Al Dosari in Dadaab ©FilmAid/Assadullah

A NEW BAG OF TRICKS



Ndikumana making bags in Kakuma

Ndikumana's ingenuity enables him to move beyond dependency and create opportunities on his own.

By Okello'o Joseph

Life in Kakuma refugee camp is not that easy especially for the youths. Finishing secondary school education alone isn't enough to secure job for you, unless for the lucky and aggressive ones. This situation has therefore seen most of the youths rendered jobless and the only hope left in them is securing a scholarship out there or be an expert in the area of their interest. Does life end after one becomes a refugee? Such a question is quite challenging to answer. A good number of the refugees have been able to cope up with their status, more so for the ones that were born in the camp and are now adults. "After all it is just a status," Isterlin Abdi said during an open interview with Amnesty International officials who visited

Kakuma Refugee Camp in Oct. 2018.

Meet Ndikumana, a 24 years old man and a father of 4 and resident of Kakuma. He is one of the new arrivals who made it to Kakuma Refugee Camp in April 2019. Despite being new to the camp, he is working hard to make both ends meet by making shopping bags for women. He is a great problem-solver in the society. Ndikumana is now converting his basic childhood knowledge of stitching into an income generating business. He is making bags out of polythene ropes which are easily accessible in the market. Every morning, he wakes up and visits Kakuma 4 market where he buys the material from different shops. Thereafter, he heads back to his home ready to start working on his artwork where he designs different models of

shopping bags. "I can make at least Sh. 300 per day," Ndikumana explains how much he makes a day. From the business, he is able to buy food and clothing for his family and save some money for the business growth.

Ndikumana is one of the people who are constantly solving problems in the society without knowing. He also uses tarpaulin, which is plastic material product that can pollute the oil and turn them into useful materials.

Abdul patient is a known international filmmaker residing in Kakuma who had travelled to different parts of the world working on film projects. He was involved in filming the Davos with World Economic Forum (WEF) media team in Geneva, Switzerland. He had also been to



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Hong Kong, China and worked with different people across the globe. After building a studio with his affiliation Exile Key Films, Abdul had managed to offer job opportunities to some of the FilmAid Alumni and mentored couple of upcoming filmmakers.

He is one of the problem solvers by offering jobs to other alumni and a recording studio within reach for the artist to record their tracks at a fair price. This saves the artist transport cost out of Kakuma for recording purposes. Many artists have managed to record successfully at his studio with Herritier Elelwa who is one finest producer in the camp.

Innocent is a soap maker

residing in Burundi Market, Kakuma 3. He buys the chemicals for making soap from Nairobi and grows aloe vera for the soap manufacture at his compound. His CBO GLAP Soap Making organization has offered job opportunities to people from different communities. This has helped curb some unemployment gaps among the youth.

Dhieu Lual famously known as Mc Lemme is a founder member of Dream Studio Kenya. Dream Studio is a photo studio located in Hong Kong, Kakuma 1 that has managed to recruit some of FilmAid alumni and offered vacancies to other youths passionate in photography. Liama Hamadi is the founder of Faulu

Production, a CBO situated in Hong Kong, Kakuma. Faulu offers both educational and film training. There is a pre- school and adult learning at Faulu center. After the school, primary school learners attend their tuition at the Faulu center that is facilitated by teachers hired by the CBO. The CBO currently has a volunteer from Taiwan and one from Argentina helping to run the programs.

Due to resilience, many youths are already solving some problems and projecting hopes of the fellow refugees within the camp. This gives the rest of the population a positive mindset and keeping their hopes alive. Let us make Kakuma a better place to live than we found it.

FREELANCE IN THE CAMP



©FilmAidRuhimbasa

By Okello'o Joseph

Social media is not just changing how we communicate, but is creating new avenues for learning and earning an income.

We have evolved into a society where social media influence has been on the rise and is now part of our lives. However, most of us don't know that it is a platform used by other people to make money; instead, we spend countless number of minutes here posting on Facebook, Instagram and skyping or chatting via WhatsApp and messenger.

Social media doesn't just bring people from different parts of the world together, it is providing youths across the camp with an opportunity to turn their communications skills into business opportunities.

Freelancers such as Farhan Abdi, Glory Lukundo Wa Luundo, Ndikumana Jean Marie and Yasir Mahadi chose to make the internet their 'office' and make money with their skills. I know right now some of us are already asking ourselves, "Who is a freelancer and what do they do?" Freelancing is a remote way of working. Rather than going to an office for a specific job, freelancers are self-employed and find work online, and on social media.

Yassir Mahadi Kuku resides in Kakuma 3. He was among the Sudanese community torn apart by the political instability that led to the displacement of many families. Yassir

is a social media influencer who does affiliate marketing by selling courses and lessons on Facebook and his own website.

“ Ndikumana sells contents and ads online at experts.growthbond.com. He also earns a living by doing scratch game designing on Facebook. **”**

While in high school, Yassir's dream of getting good grades in his final examination were all in vain. After his final examination and idly staying at home, his naïve mind drove him to research on how to work online. "Friends on Facebook introduced me to affiliate marketing which I worked on with haste," Yassir said. He took the lessons online and finally launched his business after completing KYOCERA classes, where he majored in web hosting and affiliate marketing under Danish Church Council (DRC).

After completing the course, he opened his own website, Affiliate.wordpress.com and this is where Yassir's products are currently available online. Most of his students come from outside Africa with a handful from Kakuma.

Ndikumana Jean Marie is a Burundian born refugee residing in Kakuma. He is a freelancer with the Growth Bond academy and Upwork platforms respectively. He also works as a Scratch game designer with his CBO, URISE located right behind Field Post 1 just before Fashoda Primary School gate.

Just a few months after joining grade 6, Ndikumana lost both parents due to political unrest at their home in Bujumbura, the capital of Burundi. He was left with his elder sister and four brothers (2 of which are step-brothers). As the eldest of all the boys, he has to assume his father's role as a farmer. His father used to grow; rice, beans, maize and cassava among other crops.

Upon completion of O-Level, Ndikumana acquired a job as a lab technician and also worked as a Dura Coats color mixing specialist. This aids him to provide for the family. The same year, his uncle offered to cater for his fees for university. He turned down the offer and chose to stick to his side hustles and savings to raise his fee for joining university. After a successful stockpile, Ndikumana joined Martin Luther King University but dropped out at the peak of the second year due to a force fire that broke out in the capital of Burundi. He has to flee the country along with other people.



Forthwith, Ndikumana sells contents and ads online at experts.growthbond.com. He also earns a living by doing scratch game designing on Facebook. His first project on selling at retail targeted Kampala, Uganda's capital became a successful one among earning him a position among the highly paid freelancers after Farhan Abdi and Glory Lukundo Wa Luundo on Growthbond freelancing platform. His CBO, URISE secured a partnership with the XAVIER Project. Ndikumana is currently enrolled in FilmAid Media training program, which will help him equip his social media skills. The extra knowledge on videography would help Ndikumana document his work and

archive for future generations.

Three quarters of the current generation loves social media for different purposes. We spend countless time online chatting, streaming and doing research but only a few know how to use the internet space for income. With multiple opportunities in the camp, many youths can secure themselves jobs online which will help reduce unemployment. A rough estimate of 300 applications get sorted out for a job vacancy of 10 or less people depicting the high rate of unemployment.

ABDIFATAH
MOHAMED
ABDI (SAGARO)

©FilmAid/Jamale

THE ICE CREAM MAN: TWO SCOOPS OF INNOVATION

By Amin Ahmed

Sagaro started a small business to support his family. Now he runs an ice cream empire in Dadaab.

Refugees in Dadaab rely on food rations provided by the aid agencies working in the camps. However, the number of refugees with alternative sources of income has been on the rise in recent years. Many have started their own businesses to earn extra money to supplement the aid. The camp that lies in the remote northwestern part of Kenya is a sprawling mass of little iron sheet houses. It was established 27 years ago when the civil war broke out in Somalia.

Abdifatah Mohamed Abdi also known as Sagaro, 19, was born and brought up in Hagadera refugee camp. Like other children in the camp, he started schooling at an early age in Central Primary School where he finished his primary education.

"Growing in a refugee camp is full of challenges. When I first joined school I had no books, pens or uniform because my parents could not provide the little things I needed. We only depended on the

food rations provided by World Food Program but I still struggled to learn," he says.

After primary school, Sagaro did not get the chance to pursue his high school education. He was 14 when he left school. "I did not get the grade required in secondary school and the spaces were limited. I therefore decided to leave school and find work," Sagaro says.

Sagaro started an ice-cream business to support his family since he is the eldest of six siblings.

"During my first days in this business, I use to hawk the ice cream around the market and in the cinemas. The market was not so good in the first year but I continued to work hard. My business began expanding month after month. But the business received a boost when the Kenya Power Company installed electricity in Hagadera refugee camp. It gave us enough power with less charges," Sagaro says.

Sagaro bought an ice cream

condenser which gave him the opportunity to produce and supply ice cream to all corners of the camp.

He has now employed over fifteen youths who work in shifts 24 hours a day. Some work during the night to prepare the ice cream and others supply the product to customers during the day. The business serves over 500 people a day.

Hassan Farah relies on Sagaro's business for his daily living. He has been in the camp for over 20 years. He, like Sagaro, could not get a chance in secondary school. "You need at least a secondary school certificate for you to get a chance of employment from the agencies, so I couldn't get work there. But now, I work as a supplier in Sagaro's ice plant," he says.

Hawa Madar sells ice cream in the streets of Hagadera main market and outside school gates during breaks. The business feeds her children. She sources her ice cream from Sagaro's ice plant.

FOOTBALL: A FORCE FOR CHANGE

Kakuma Premier League is not just a platform for the Kakuma players to showcase their athletic prowess, it is an opportunity to show football fans in Kenya and around the world that diversity combined with teamwork makes communities stronger and more resilient.

By Dau Alaak Kuir

Strolling different zonal 'dusty' playgrounds around Kakuma Refugee camp and Kalobeyei settlement Scheme; are youths craving and striving to be part of the game. Soccer as a profession cum leisure, is mostly played by the youth (predominantly by boys) within the refugee and host localities. It engages the youth and this prevents them from engaging in malpractices and establishing peaceful coexistence-as 'most' teams have multinational players.

Kakuma Premier League-the 'KPL' as locally known, is funded by donors through UN-Refugee Agency and managed by LWF-KENYA through its Youth Development Office. The day-to-day management of events be it: disciplinary action, accreditation and deduction of points, fixtures and so forth are the collective responsibilities of the Secretariat under the flagship of the Youth Development Office. Kakuma Premier League, a platform for the Kakuma players to showcase their footballing prowess, since its

inception in the year 2016 is a local league played by 16 teams per season-preceded by award ceremony. The top three teams walk away with a cash prize of upto Kshs 100,000 and merchandise that comprise of boots and balls. The last three teams join the elimination bandwagon. It has been a one-man show for the previous three seasons with Naath Fc on a dynasty winning back-to-back. Ostensibly, it opens avenues for youth to up their game since it is their dream to play competitive football. Newly promoted team's passes through an inclusive qualifications.

With the formation of Kakuma United; a unified team with its squad drawn across KPL teams. Which has been playing National Division 2 League Western Zone B for the past two seasons. This has been a path for Kakuma players to expertise their skills to a wider audience within the country. Two home groomed players from Kakuma United are testimony to the aforementioned audience-having scouted by Nzoia FC from

the higher echelon league (Kenya Premier League). They imminently remained for agreements which, if successful, will let Kakuma into the limelight where football as a game would be seen at an optimistic spectrum. It remains unclear from the Kakuma United management, if they give a green light or not? The said players are: Felix Oganda, Gaita Macha formerly from Okafi Fc and Virunga Fc respectively. This will be an eye-opener for managements, players, fan base and whole football fraternity alike-that we can achieve many things with: determination, discipline, passion, persistence and hard work.

With conducive football facilities and adequate support from institutions concerned, Kakuma football can and will produce relevant players competent for Kenya, their countries of origin and beyond without reasonable doubts. These players would relinquish the ultimate chance for the betterment of all.



POET DROPS KNOWLEDGE

"I was once invited to perform at the World Refugee Day celebrations. The performance touched many people and prompted a government representative to ask me to perform a second time."

By Bapwoch Omot Oman

My name is Bapwoch Omot Oman. I am 25 years old and hail from the Gambella region in Western Ethiopia.

On December 13 2003, the Ethiopian government forces attacked my community, the Anuak. They killed many men, raped and harassed women. This is the reason I am in Kenya today. From the day our asylum application was approved, I have lived in Daadab, one of the largest refugee camps in the world.

Despite the harsh life in the camp and dark memories of my motherland, I joined school. It was while there that I realized that I could document the happenings around me through poetry.

At first I didn't want to get on to the stage, but I wrote poems and gave them to others to perform. My former teacher Opiew Oju helped me overcome stage fright when he recruited me into his drama team. Thereafter, I began to perform poetry onstage with. I captured peoples' attention and received admiration for my writing.

While in high school, I entered a poetry writing competition about eradicating FGM and won. I felt encouraged because my poetry tackled an unwanted practice in the society.

For my poetry, I was once invited to perform at the World Refugee Day celebrations. The performance touched many people and prompted a government representative to ask me to perform

a second time as I was filmed. This was a very big achievement for me.

I was also helped by Shadrack, Former FilmAid's audio producer, to record three of my poems. This was also a very big motivator for me and I'm still appreciative for that!

The road hasn't been easy. There are a lot of challenges but when you want to make it in life, you need not to succumb to obstacles but rather keep knocking on every door. Some may open for you! That has always been my motivation.

Recently I auditioned for and succeeded to be a member of the camp's FilmAid's Performance educational theatre (PET) group where I'm now the team leader of the IFO thespians.



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12TH ANNUAL FILMAID FILM FESTIVAL - KAKUMA



Graduation Day for the 2019 FilmAid Media Students in Kakuma Refugee Camp ©FilmAid/ Joy Kwendo



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1

Aroji Otieno, FilmAid's Creative and Content Director "breaking a leg" before a theater performance.



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2

FilmAid's Country Director expresses her pride in the accomplishments of the FilmAid Kenya Class of 2019.



3

Charity Natiir, a graduate of the media class of 2019 accepts her certificate from FilmAid's Acting Field Manager, Isaac Ouma

12TH ANNUAL FILMAID FILM FESTIVAL - DADAAB



Graduation Day for Dadaab Media Students during their graduation in Dagahaley, Dadaab.
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1

Country Director, Stella Suge presenting a certificate to one of the graduating students



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2

A Participatory Educational Theater (PET) group performs in Ifo during #FAFF2019.



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3

Magatte Guisse, UNHCR Dadaab Sub-branch Head of Operations presenting a certificate to a FilmAid media student.



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