

Humanitarian Overview, Hazard Index, and Displacement Statistics

854,876

Refugees, asylum seekers & returnees

100,000

Internally Displaced Persons

626,557

Refugees

228,319

Asylum seekers

Refugee source countries:

Burundi South Sudan Uganda
Sudan Somalia DRC Ethiopia

53.3M

Host country population

1.9M

Individuals food insecure and in need of humanitarian assistance



Climate and Hazard Outlook:

Flash floods common in several regions, including Nairobi, leading to significant internal displacement, disproportionately affecting slum areas and informal settlements.

Protection concerns:

Increase in GBV and femicide cases affecting host and displaced populations, though the true extent remains unknown due to underreporting and limited survivor access to support. Data gaps and stigma continue to hinder effective response and protection efforts.

Projected minimum number of LGBTQIA+ people affected¹

42,744

LGBTQIA+ refugees & asylum seekers

5,000

LGBTQIA+ IDPs (approx.)

95,000+

LGBTQIA+ individuals food insecure and in need of humanitarian aid

2.7M

LGBTQIA+ people in the host population

2025 Cholera Outbreak

244

Cases reported

11

Deaths reported

4.5%

Case fatality rate as of May 2025

¹In the absence of demographic data in the countries where we work, The International PRIDE Centre conservatively estimates that 5% of disaster-affected populations are SOGIESC minorities

LGBTQIA+ Legal & Policy Environment

The Penal Code of Kenya criminalises consensual same-sex conduct. Up to 14 years imprisonment.

(Pending) **Family Protection Bill 2023** criminalises same-sex relationships and LGBTQIA+ advocacy.

Mitigation and Protection Measures

Constitution of Kenya 2010 Bill of Rights guarantees equality, non-discrimination and essential rights and dignity of all persons.

Children Act 2022 recognises intersex children, prohibits non-consensual medical interventions and discrimination in access to services.

Refugees Act 2021 prohibits refoulement and protects from persecution based on membership to a particular group.

Courts

In 2024, the High Court barred anti-LGBT groups from inciting violence against LGBTQIA+; two gay men were awarded \$31,000 for forced medical exams and rights. Court upheld right to privacy for LGBTQIA+

- In 2023, the Supreme Court affirmed LGBTQIA+ groups' right to register, stating denial was unconstitutional.
- In 2018, court rules forced anal exams to be unconstitutional and violation of dignity

LGBTQIA+ Civil Society & NGO Operating Environment

- Recent escalated attacks on civil society broadly, signaling a shift in its tolerance for dissent and advocacy.
- Activists being charged under anti-terrorism laws.
- Aid cuts have left LGBTQIA+ CSOs struggling to sustain legal aid, health care, safe spaces.
- LGBTQIA+ have turned to crowdfunding through mobile money services. This has increased domestic engagement and community ownership of issues.

LGBTQIA+ Rights Violations and Protection Risks

- 2019 report found 53% of LGBTQIA+ persons in Kenya have experience violence.
- Regular harassment, violence and denial of services for LGBTQIA+ refugees in camp settings, including by NGO and UN staff in addition to security and government officials.
- Refugee status determination for LGBTQIA+ refugees intentionally delayed.
- Refugee Commissioner has stated that he does not recognise persecution for sexuality or gender as grounds for asylum. Delaying resettlement of LGBTQIA+ refugees and strengthening homophobic and transphobic treatment in refugee camps.
- Frequent incidents of “corrective” rape documented in Kakuma camp.

Urgent SOGIESC Needs

- Protection plans for trans refugees in Kakuma camp who fear the “Shirika” refugee integration plan will remove existing protections.
- Advocacy to accept and fastrack RSD claims for LGBTQIA+ refugees, including access to resettlement.
- Legal assistance for LGBTQIA+ persons detained or arrested as part of civil society crackdowns.
- Safe medical care for victims of violence and sexual violence.
- Economic pressure to prevent the Family Protection Bill advancing.
- Extension of protections for LGBTQIA+ refugees in urban centres who have not claimed asylum.

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