

Environment, Urbanization and Settlement Planning Model

ARC, in partnership with UNHCR, successfully developed and implemented a program for improving the housing and living conditions of 422 returnees by creating permanent shelters within the new settlements in the outskirts of Kismayo proper.

The first phase of the project constructed 202 permanent one-unit houses in Kismayo and 162 in Afmadow. The second phase of the project aimed to consolidate, scale up and improve the settlement.



Environmentally friendly planned refugee returnee settlement in Kismayo

The scale up and improvement of housing was achieved by constructing 100 two-unit housing with verandas and toilets as well improved access to basic services (e.g. roads, clean water, electricity, school, market, health clinic, and police post.). The provision of infrastructure and other basic services to the settlement sites was well planned and is expected to result in urban growth. This will include serviced urban plots for the host community and improved access to services already in short supply for both the urban poor and residents in general. The increased value of land around the areas, along with the amenities, were advantageous to the landlords and to growth of the city as a whole.

The MCH and school will be fully equipped to serve the community and, in coordination with relevant ministries, have them operational. Furthermore, ARC in collaboration with G.I.Z. is working on water infrastructure around the ARC/UNHCR shelter sites to ensure that households will have access to safe drinking water in close proximity to their new homes. Currently through UNHCR support, ARC is providing fresh drinking water to the households.

Furthermore, ARC also engaged solar Gen, a solar company which has equipped the settlement with lighting. By establishing a solar power station and mini grid, ARC through UNHCR provided electricity to 100 houses as well as to the public facilities in the area, water systems and street lighting infrastructure. Having access to affordable electricity is a prerequisite for poverty reduction, security and improved quality of life.