

The Kenya Cash Consortium response to the unregistered refugees in Dadaab and Kakuma refugee camps: Baseline

April 2023

KEY MESSAGES

- The average income of households (HHs) was found to be KES 2,033 and KES 4,510 in Dabaab Camp and Kakuma Camp, respectively. When compared to their HH expenditure of KES 7,098 and KES 6,222 in Dabaab Camp and Kakuma Camp, respectively, **the HHs are likely to remain vulnerable and likely to fall in deeper debt despite the intended Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA).**
- The proportion of HHs that were found to engage in emergency level coping strategies (45% in Dabaab Camp and 54% in Kakuma Camp) indicates that **these HHs are engaging in unsustainable strategies to cope with lack of food and other basic needs and are likely to see a deterioration in food consumption in the near future.**
- A minority of HHs, 2% and 8% in Dadaab and Kakuma respectively, reported **not being aware of a dedicated NGO hotline** to contact the local non-governmental organization (NGO) that offers humanitarian assistance.

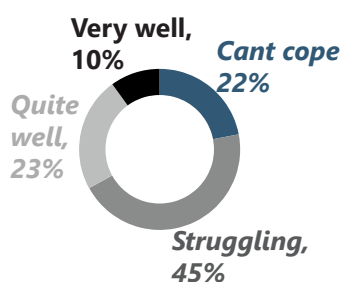
83%

of HHs reported that lack of documentation was the main barrier to accessing services like food, health, education, WASH and protection services in the community.

46%

of HHs were found to have a poor food consumption score (FCS) - 53% and 37% in Dabaab Camp and Kakuma Camp, respectively, in the seven days prior to the baseline data collection. This implies that most HHs were likely to experience severe or moderate food insecurity in the seven days prior to data collection.

% of respondents that reported on their economic wellbeing:



Very few HHs (10%) reported doing very well when reporting on their economic wellbeing. From the findings, about half of the HHs reported that they were struggling quite a bit economically, at the time of data collection. The HHs are likely to resort to severe measures to cope, especially with access to food.

CONTEXT & RATIONALE

Kenya is host to two of the world's largest refugee camps - Dadaab and Kakuma.¹ The Dadaab camp is located in Garissa County, in the northeastern part of Kenya. As of 31st March 2023, the refugee population in the three camps of Dadaab (Hagadera, Ifo and Dagahaley) was 240,984.² Kakuma refugee camp, established in 1992, lies in the Northwestern region of Turkana County. Kakuma camp comprises four composite parts (Kakuma I-IV) and the Kalobeyei Integrated Settlement. The camp had a population of 254,962 registered refugees and asylum-seekers at the end of 31st March 2023.² According to the May 2023 National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) drought updates, the counties are in the recovery drought phase³ and food production has not been realized. The food security situation is yet to improve and up to 4.4 million people⁴ are in need of humanitarian assistance.

ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

To alleviate the challenges faced by the unregistered refugees in Dadaab, and persons-of-no-concern⁵ in Kakuma, the Kenya Cash Consortium (KCC) will provide targeted assistance for the undocumented refugees. The aim is to address the food and other basic needs through the provision of MPCAs. This baseline aims to determine income and expenditure patterns, food consumption, dietary diversity, and coping strategies.

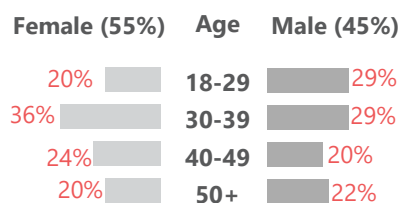
METHODOLOGY*

A simple random sampling approach was used for a representative sample of the beneficiary HHs, with a 95% confidence level and a 7% margin of error. The sample size was 336 HHs (131 HHs and 205 HHs in Dadaab and Kakuma respectively).

**for more information, refer to page 5*

DEMOGRAPHICS

% of HHs by Head of Household (HoHH) age and gender



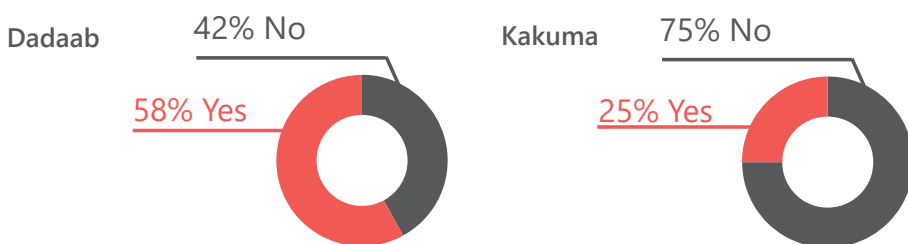
Average age of the respondents: **39**

Average household size: **7**

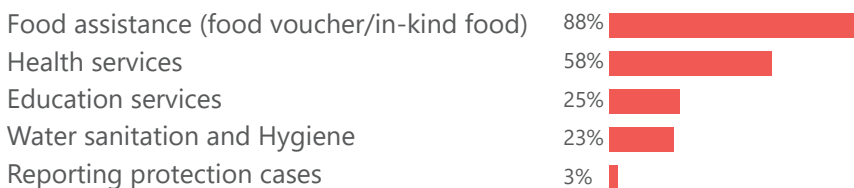
The interviews were conducted with more female respondents than male. A higher proportion of HHs were reportedly headed by females (55%), with 45% of HHs reportedly headed by men.

BARRIERS IN ACCESSING SERVICES

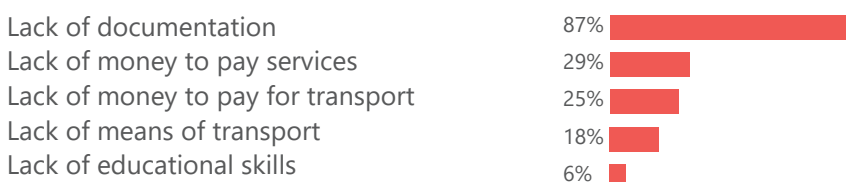
% of HHs reporting having faced barriers accessing services in the 30 days prior to the endline data collection:



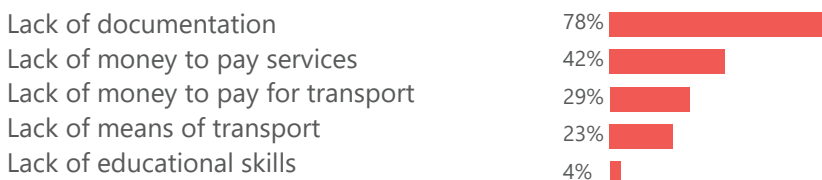
Among the HHs that reported facing a barrier accessing services (n=131)¹, % of HHs that reported the service for which barriers were mostly faced:²



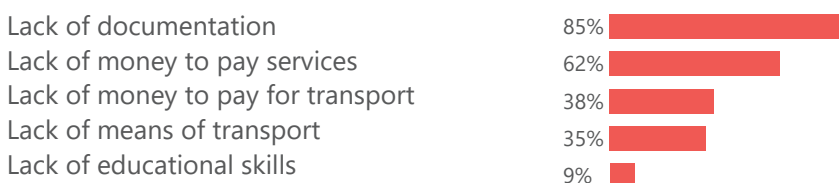
Of those HHs that reported facing barriers accessing food assistance (n=114)¹, % of HHs that reported the reasons for facing the barriers:²



Of those HHs that reported facing barriers accessing health services (n=75)¹, % of HHs that reported the reasons for facing the barriers:²



Of those HHs that reported facing barriers accessing education services (n=34)¹, % of HHs that reported the reasons for facing the barriers:²



SOCIAL WELLBEING

HHs were questioned on their social wellbeing and their relations in the camp.

% of HHs that reported their social wellbeing in the camp:

	Dadaab	Kakuma
Poor relations	0%	3%
Struggling to relate	3%	18%
Doing quite well	57%	42%
Doing very well	39%	37%

ECONOMIC WELLBEING

HHs were questioned on their economic wellbeing in the camp.

% of HHs that reported their economic wellbeing in the camp:

	Dadaab	Kakuma
Cant meet needs	31%	9%
Struggling a bit	34%	61%
Doing quite well	27%	18%
Doing very well	8%	12%

CRISIS EFFECT

HHs were questioned on how a crisis or shock would affect them.

% of HHs (n=357)¹ that reported how a crisis or shock would affect them:

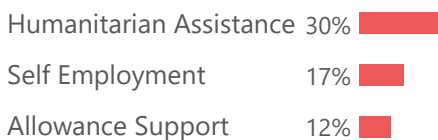
	Dadaab	Kakuma
Would be completely unable to meet basic needs for surviving	56%	56%
Would meet some basic needs	29%	20%
Mostly fine, regardless of these events	9%	13%
Completely fine, regardless of these events	6%	8%
Dont Know	0%	3%

HOUSEHOLD INCOME

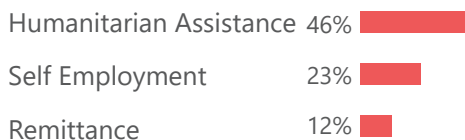
Average HH income

Camp	HH Income (KES)
Dadaab	KES 2,033
Kakuma	KES 4,510

Top 3 reported sources of income in Dadaab Camp:¹



Top 3 reported sources of income in Kakuma Camp:¹

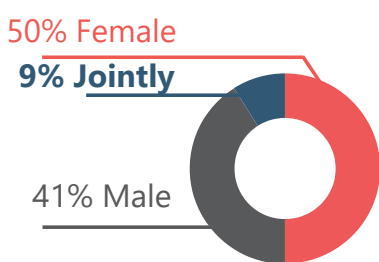


With the reliance on humanitarian assistance, HHs are likely to remain vulnerable when the MPCA end.

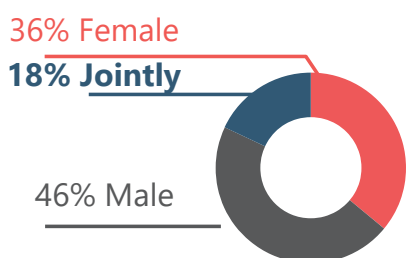
HOUSEHOLDS ON SPENDING

The primary decision-maker on how to spend HH money:

% of HHs in Dadaab Camp by reported primary decision-maker on how to spend the HH's income in the last 30 days, prior to the endline data collection:



% of HHs in Kakuma Camp by reported primary decision-maker on how to spend the HH's income in the last 30 days, prior to data collection:



HOUSEHOLD SAVINGS

Average HH Savings

Camp	HH Savings (KES)
Dadaab	KES 67
Kakuma	KES 144

HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE

Camp	HH Expenditure (KES)
Dadaab	KES 7,098
Kakuma	KES 6,222

Most commonly reported expenditure categories and average amount spent (in KES) per category per household in the 30 days prior to the endline data collection:

HH Expenses (KES)	Dadaab	Kakuma
Medical	1,032	642
Education	673	398
WASH	342	392
IGA ²	87	115
Other	32	127

HOUSEHOLDS FACING CONFLICTS ON SPENDING

Only 19 HHs reported having faced a conflicts or problems in the HH, in the last 30 days prior to data collection, over how to spend the HH's income.

Of the 19HHs, 11 HHs were from Dadaab Camp and 8 HHs from Kakuma Camp.

In Dadaab camp, few of them faced physical violence, most faced verbal violence and others reported being denied access to basic needs within the HH.¹

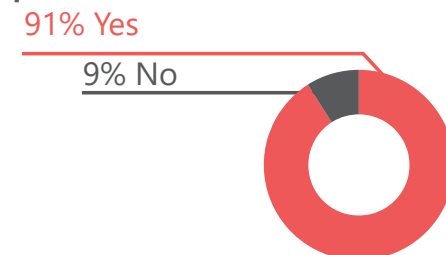
In Kakuma camp, few of them faced physical violence, but most of the HHs reported facing verbal violence in the HH.¹

HOUSEHOLD DEBTS

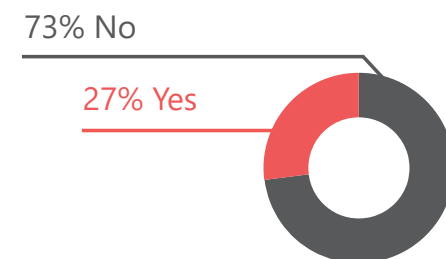
Average HH Debts

Camp	HH Debts (KES)
Dadaab	KES 16,214
Kakuma	KES 6,766

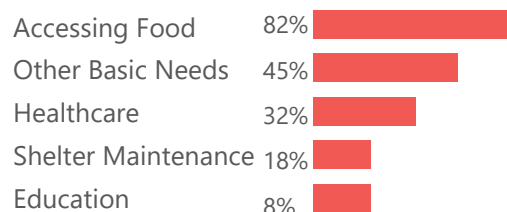
% of HHs that reported having debt at Dadaab Camp, in the 30 days prior to the endline data collection:



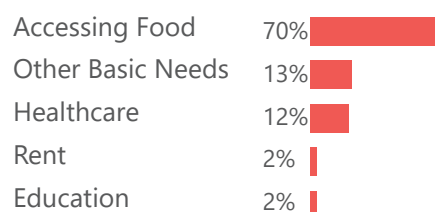
% of HHs that reported having debt at Kakuma Camp, in the 30 days prior to the endline data collection:



Top 3 reported reasons for taking debt in Dadaab Camp:¹



Top 3 reported reasons for taking debt in Kakuma Camp:¹



KEY INDICATORS ON FOOD SECURITY

FOOD CONSUMPTION SCORE (FCS)¹

% of households by FCS category: **Dadaab**



Poor (0-28)	53%
Borderline (29-42)	28%
Acceptable (>42)	19%

Kakuma

37%
29%
34%

LIVELIHOOD COPING STRATEGY INDEX (LCSI)²

% of households by LCSI category: **Dadaab**



Emergency	45%
Crisis	8%
Stress	17%
Neutral	30%

Kakuma

54%
10%
24%
12%

A high proportion of HHs (53% Dadaab, 37% in Kakuma) were found to have a poor FCS. This would likely be worse if HHs were not engaging in negative coping strategies. Close to half of the HHs (45% Dadaab, 54% in Kakuma) were found to engage in emergency level coping strategies which is unsustainable and are likely to see a deterioration in food consumption in the near future.

REDUCED COPING STRATEGY INDEX (RCSI)³

The average rCSI for HHs was found to be 14.88 and 17.43 in Dadaab and Kakuma respectively. This indicates the use of negative coping mechanisms to cope with lack of adequate food. The types of negative consumption-based coping strategies that were reported in the 7 days prior to data collection were:

Average number of days each strategy was employed	Dadaab	Kakuma
Rely on less preferred and less expensive foods	2	3
Reduce/Limit portion sizes at mealtimes	2	3
Borrow food, or rely on help from a friend or relative	2	2
Reduction in consumed by adults for young children	2	2
Reduce the number of meals eaten in a day	2	2

ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATIONS

The accountability to affected populations is measured through the use of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). These KPIs have been put in place by the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO). The aim is to ensure that humanitarian actors consider the safety, dignity and rights of individuals, groups and affected populations when carrying out humanitarian responses.

Respondents were asked if they felt safe throughout the selection process, if they were treated with respect by the NGO staff during the intervention, and if they felt there were any HHs that were unfairly selected to receive cash assistance.

AWARENESS OF OPTIONS TO CONTACT THE AGENCY FOR QUESTIONS OR ANY PROBLEMS:

Awareness of options to contact the agency for questions or any problems in Dadaab Camp.⁴

Not aware of any option	67%
NGO staff	30%
A dedicated NGO desk	6%
A dedicated NGO hotline	2%

Awareness of options to contact the agency for questions or any problems in Kakuma Camp.⁴

A dedicated NGO desk	54%
NGO staff	32%
Not aware of any option	25%
A dedicated NGO hotline	8%

Proportion of HHs reporting on key performance indicators (KPI):

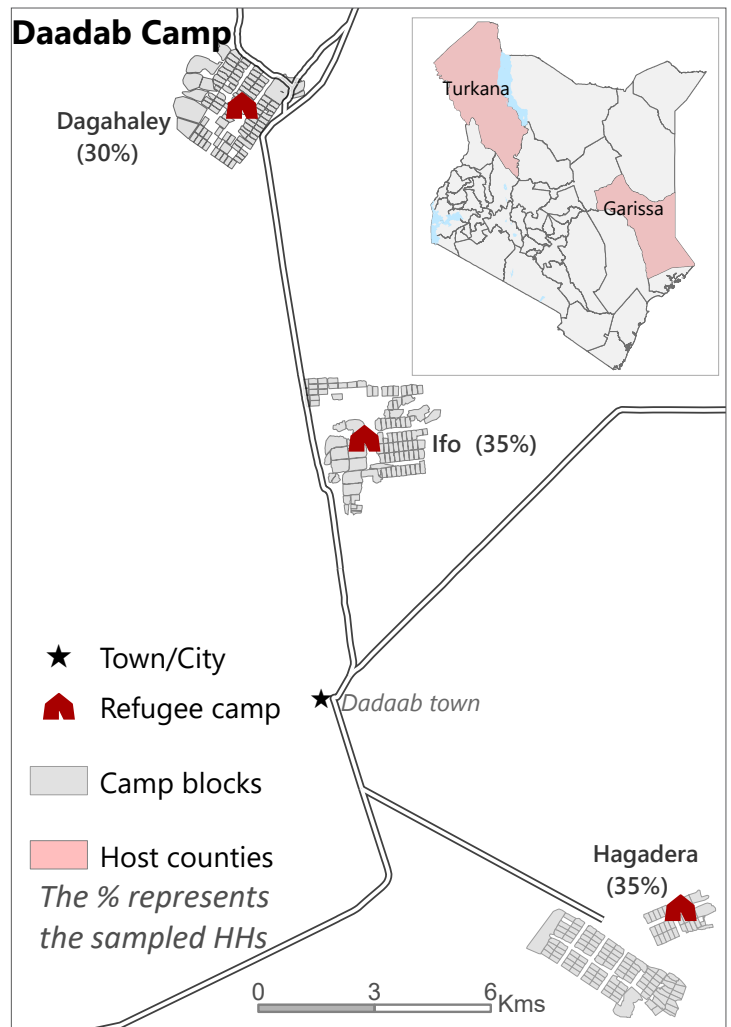
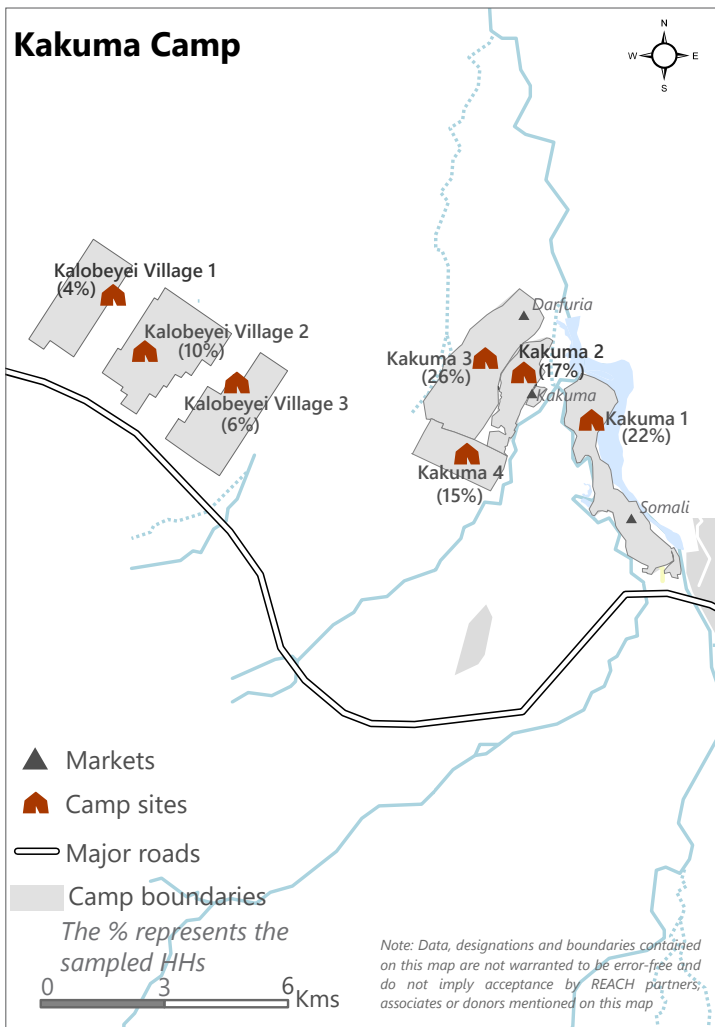
	Dadaab	Kakuma
Programming was safe	100%	100%
No payments to register	100%	100%
No coercion during registration	100%	100%
Programming was respectful	100%	99.3%
No unfair selection	85.7%	86.2%
Community was consulted	29.4%	46.4%
Average KPI Score	92%	92%

METHODOLOGY OVERVIEW

The baseline survey collected data on the HHHs' demographics, overall food security situation, income, expenditure, overall wellbeing, as well as their perceptions of whether the humanitarian assistance offered was delivered in a safe, accessible, accountable, and participatory manner. The targeted HHHs were randomly selected from a list of registered beneficiaries. For sampling, simple

random sampling approach was used to have a representative sample of the beneficiary HHHs, with a 95% confidence level and a 7% margin of error. Out of the total 1,122 beneficiary HHHs, a sample of 336 HHHs were interviewed. The baseline survey was conducted remotely through mobile phone calls and data entered in open data kit (ODK) due to risks associated with COVID-19. The data was then analysed using R software.

ASSESSMENT COVERAGE



ENDNOTES

PAGE 1

¹ <https://storymaps.esri.com/stories/2016/refugee-camps/#map>

² <https://data.unhcr.org/en/country/ken>

³ <https://ndma.go.ke/index.php/resource-center/early-warning-reports/send/11-samburu/6883-samburu-march-2023>

⁴ <https://www.ndma.go.ke/index.php/resource-center/send/87-2022/6833-2022-short-rains-assessment-national-report>

⁵ Persons of no concern refer to persons who are not considered as nationals by any State under the operation of its law. Data from some countries may also include persons with undetermined nationality.

PAGE 2

¹ Sample size (n) refers to the total number of units (in this case households) in the sample under study.

² For multiple answer questions, respondents could select multiple options hence the findings may exceed 100%.

PAGE 3

¹ For multiple answer questions, respondents could select multiple options hence the findings may exceed 100%.

PAGE 4

¹ The Food Consumption Score (FCS) measures how well a household is eating by evaluating the frequency at which differently weighted food groups are consumed by a household in the seven days before data collection. Only foods consumed in the home are counted in this type of indicator. The FCS is used to classify households into three groups: those with a poor FCS, those with a borderline FCS, and those HHs with an acceptable FCS.

² The Livelihood Coping Strategy Index (LCSI) is measured to better try understand longer-term household coping capacities. The household’s livelihood and economic security are determined by the HHs income, expenditures, and assets. The LCS is used to classify households into four groups: Households using emergency, crisis, stress, or neutral coping strategies. The use of emergency, crisis or stress-level livelihoods-based coping strategies typically reduces households’ overall resilience and assets, increasing the likelihood of food insecurity.

³ The Reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI) is an indicator used to understand the frequency and severity of change in food consumption behaviours in the 7 days before data collection when households are faced with food shortage.

⁴ For multiple answer questions, respondents could select multiple options hence the findings may exceed 100%.

Annex 1: Breakdown of Key Indicators

Key Indicators		Dadaab	Kakuma
Food Consumption Score (FCS)	Poor (0-21)	53%	37%
	Borderline (21.5 - 35)	28%	29%
	Acceptable (> 35)	19%	34%
Livelihood Coping Strategy Index (LCSI)	Emergency	45%	54%
	Crisis	8%	10%
	Stress	17%	24%
	Neutral	30%	12%
Average Reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI)		14.88	17.43
Average household income in the 30 days prior to the endline data collection.		KES 2,033	KES 4,510
Average household total expenditure in the 30 days prior to the endline data collection.		KES 7,098	KES 6,222

ABOUT IMPACT

IMPACT Initiatives is a Geneva based think-and-do-tank, created in 2010. IMPACT is a member of the ACTED Group. IMPACT’s teams implement assessment, monitoring & evaluation and organisational capacity-building programmes in direct partnership with aid actors or through its inter-agency initiatives, REACH and Agora. Headquartered in Geneva, IMPACT has an established field presence in over 15 countries. IMPACT’s team is composed of over 300 staff, including 60 full-time international experts, as well as a roster of consultants, who are currently implementing over 50 programmes across Africa, Middle East and North Africa, Central and South-East Asia, and Eastern Europe