DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO
REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE PLAN

JANUARY 2024 – DECEMBER 2025

Cover photo: Faustin, a refugee from the DRC, is the distributor for eco clean green energy cooking stoves in Kigeme camp, Rwanda. © UNHCR/Lilly Carlisle

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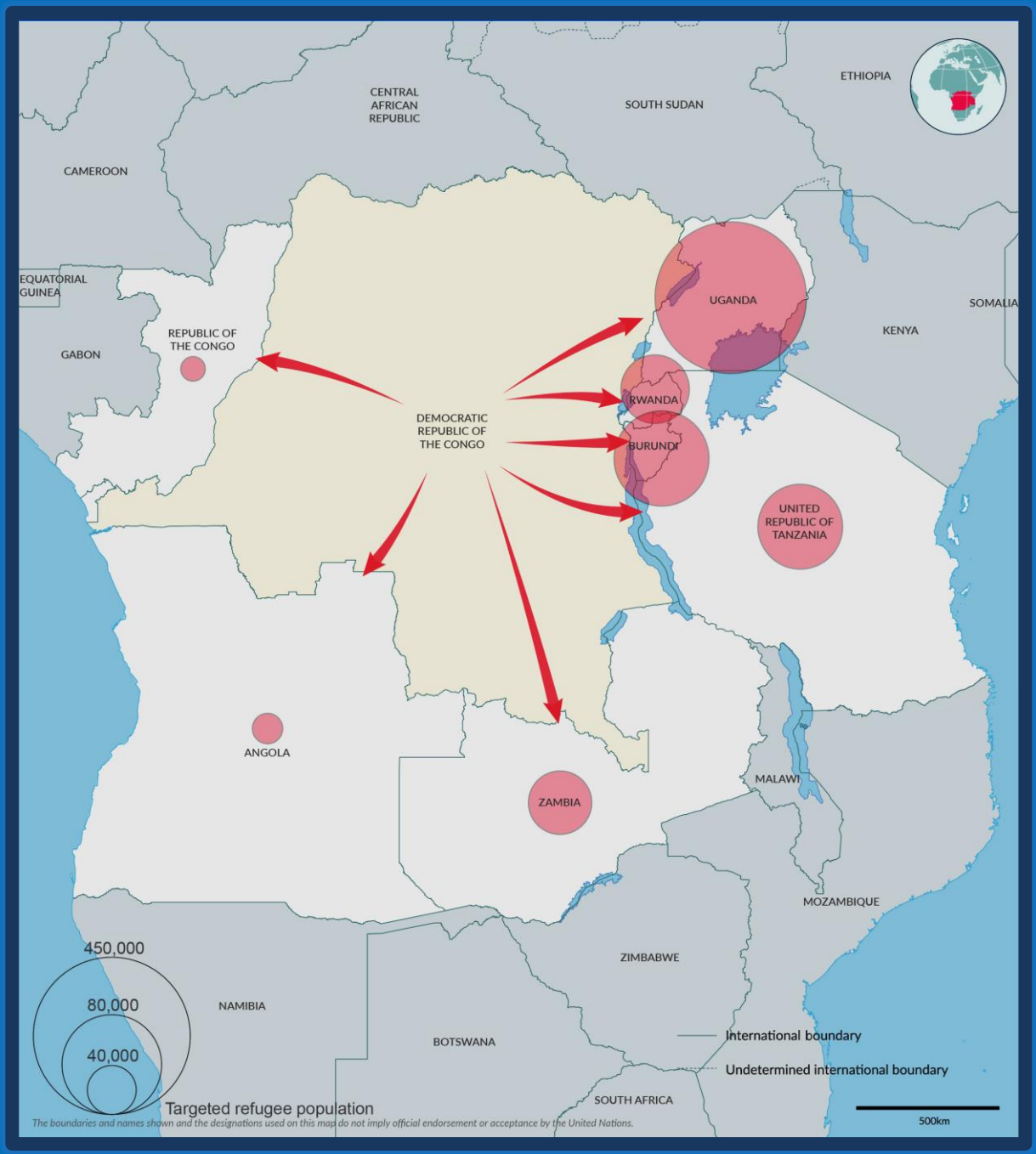
REGIONAL RESPONSE DRC SITUATION

954,500
2024 refugee population to be assessed

1,038,400
2024 host community members benefiting from assistance

668.3 M
2024 total financial requirements

105
Partners involved



Refugee families recently relocated by authorities to the transit centre in Dzaleka refugee camp,Zambia. © UNHCR/Hélène Caux

Executive Summary

The humanitarian emergency in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is one of the most complex humanitarian crises in the world. Three decades of deadly clashes between armed groups, widespread violence, and large-scale violations of human rights, including devastating acts of gender-based violence (GBV), have caused unprecedented levels of protection needs and vulnerabilities, leading to the displacement of some 6.2 million people within the country and forcing around 900,000 to seek asylum across Africa. Since the beginning of 2023, insecurity in the eastern and western provinces has surged, resulting in an increase in criminal activities, especially those related to sexual violence, and severely restricting the humanitarian space and access to basic services, all of which furthered displacement. Consequently, in June 2023, an Inter-Agency Standing Committee system-wide scale-up was activated for the eastern DRC, and, a month later, 24 United Nations entities came together to urge immediate action to protect women and girls. The situation in the country is aggravated by inflation, epidemics, natural hazards, and food insecurity.

Drivers of displacement in the DRC are expected to worsen with increased political instability and the phased drawdown of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission (MONUSCO) from 2024, likely to prolong displacement within the country, exacerbate existing challenges with regards to protection of civilians and humanitarian access, and drive people into neighbouring countries as refugees.

Most refugees from the DRC are hosted by the seven countries that are part of the Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP): Angola, Burundi, the Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Zambia. Several of these host countries demonstrated commitment to protecting and finding solutions for refugees during the Global Refugee Forum, held in 2019 and 2023. Consequently, refugees from the DRC can anticipate continuing to benefit from international protection in 2024-2025. Some governments have adopted policies safeguarding refugee protection, guaranteeing freedom of movement and other socioeconomic rights, such as the right to work, establish a business, own property, and access national services like education and health, thus fostering opportunities for refugee integration into the local economy and national plans. Others have made pledges to enhance asylum space through better registration and processing of asylum claims and to improve refugee protection and solutions, promoting resilience and self-reliance in affected communities. In contrast, some countries have made reservations to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of

Refugees, thereby restricting refugees' rights, while others continue to promote encampment policies and impose restrictions on refugees' freedom of movement and on their right to work, own land and property, and access education and justice, curtailing refugees' resilience and self-reliance. This limits refugees to overcrowded settlements, in areas where basic services are stretched to their limits. Outbreaks of measles, cholera, and malaria; food insecurity and poor nutritional status; inaccessibility of agricultural areas; rising prices; funding shortages; prolonged drought; and tropical storms and cyclones are growing concerns among refugee families. Under these constraints, refugees are increasingly vulnerable to human rights violations, exploitation, and abuse, and frequently resort to harmful coping strategies. GBV and protection risks faced by children pose additional challenges for refugees from the DRC. In addition, in some countries, incidents of discrimination, unequal treatment, expulsions, and even deportations have been documented.

The prolonged nature of this crisis places a tremendous strain on countries that have generously opened their borders to refugees from the DRC. The DRC Regional RRP, which complements and supports host government responses, is shifting to a two-year focus to strategize and articulate the needs and priorities with longer-term vision to improve solutions and strengthen resilience of communities.

In 2024-2025, RRP Partners will engage with governments to safeguard unhindered access to asylum and international protection and promote refugees' full enjoyment of rights. Partners will also continue to advocate for the removal of the restrictions to the 1951 Convention and the adoption of policies that mirror good practices in the region, in line with the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR). Partners will ensure all programming includes age, gender, and diversity considerations, accountability to affected populations, and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse. Humanitarian assistance and access to basic services will be provided based on needs, and refugee inclusion into national systems will be promoted. Partners will also emphasize the importance of partnering with local responders, and will seek to promote refugees' and vulnerable host communities' economic self-reliance and resilience, in line with national development plans and with a particular focus on youth- and women-led initiatives and empowerment. The ultimate aim of interventions is to reduce dependence on assistance, foster social cohesion and peaceful coexistence, and promote socioeconomic inclusion.

Lastly, policies and conditions that facilitate voluntary repatriation, resettlement, and local integration will be promoted. The 2022 revised position on returns to the DRC will serve as guidance to facilitate the granting of refugee status to new asylum-seekers from the eastern DRC provinces of Ituri, North Kivu, and South Kivu.

In 2024-2025, most refugees from the DRC are expected to remain in their countries of asylum. Consequently, local integration is a key objective in the response. Prospects for voluntary repatriation are limited, with a small number of refugees returning home in 2023. The voluntary repatriation of an estimated 5,700 refugees in 2024 and 7,900 refugees in 2025, primarily from Angola, Burundi, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, and Zambia, is forecast if conditions allow for a safe and dignified return. Resettlement and complementary pathways for admission to third countries will be promoted through the United States Refugee Admissions Program and opportunities provided by other states.

The DRC Regional RRP is an inter-agency planning, coordination, and fundraising tool developed through collaboration between over 100 humanitarian partners and the Governments of Angola, Burundi, the Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Zambia. For 2024 alone, the Plan appeals for $668.3 million to implement activities to support 2 million people – 950,000 refugees from the DRC and 1 million host community members – in the seven countries. In the spirit of the GCR and in accordance with the Refugee Coordination Model, host governments steer the provision of protection, assistance, and durable solutions to refugees, while RRP Partners, coordinated by UNHCR, support and complement national and regional strategies, working closely with development actors and the private sector.

Regional Overview

Regional Situational Overview

The humanitarian emergency in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) stands as one of the most complex crises in the world. The challenges of the past three decades, which have included deadly confrontations between armed groups, rampant violence, frequent flooding in some regions, high-impact epidemics like Ebola and cholera, acute food insecurity[1], and inadequate or absent basic infrastructure, have caused unprecedented levels of needs and forced millions to flee their homes. The critical situation has only worsened since the start of 2023: insecurity in North Kivu, South Kivu, and Ituri has reached new heights, with widespread human rights violations against the civilian population and the exponential rise in incidents of gender-based violence (GBV) being particularly concerning[2]. Traditionally safe areas, such as Mai-Ndombé, have also seen increasing violence in the past years, forcing 5,000 to seek refuge in the Republic of the Congo as of December 2023.

As a result of this unrelenting instability, by the end of 2023, some 6.2 million people were displaced within the DRC and over one million refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC were hosted across the Southern and Great Lakes regions. Increased political instability and the phased drawdown of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the DRC are likely to lead to further insecurity and displacement, negative repercussions on access for humanitarian actors, and refugee flows to neighbouring countries in 2024. As a result, it is expected that the asylum-seeker and refugee population from the DRC will increase in the region in 2024 and continue to moderately grow in 2025.

The 2024-2025 DRC Regional Refugee Response Plan (Regional RRP or RRP) details the inter-agency response in seven neighboring countries to the DRC: Angola, Burundi, the Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Zambia. Together, they host some 900,000 refugees from the DRC – more than 55,000 of whom fled in 2023 alone. People fleeing from North Kivu, South Kivu, and Ituri provinces in the DRC tend to cross the border towards Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda, and the United Republic of Tanzania; those leaving Mai-Ndombé province, in the western region, mostly seek safety in the Republic of the Congo; and those escaping violence in the southern provinces of Kasaï, Haut-Katanga, and Tanganyika tend to flee into Zambia and Angola. Some areas in provinces of Haut-Katanga and Kasaï have recently begun seeing a progressive stabilization of their security situation, allowing for small numbers of refugees from the DRC to return from Zambia and Angola in 2023.

High population growth rates, food insecurity and poor nutrition status, and worsening socioeconomic conditions, all exacerbated by escalating fuel and fertilizer prices, epidemics, and supply chain constraints, continue to put substantial pressure on host governments and communities. Additionally, countries in the region frequently experience shocks associated with the adverse effects of climate change, which further contribute to food insecurity and the loss of livelihoods, in turn leading to harmful coping strategies linked to protection risks.

All seven DRC RRP countries are parties to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, have acceded to the 1969 Organization of African Unity Convention Governing the Specific Problems of Refugee Populations in Africa, and have affirmed the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR). In accordance with these frameworks, some host countries pledged at the 2019 and 2023 Global Refugee Forum (GRF) to strengthen their asylum system capacity, as well as their registration and data collection systems, in order to enhance refugee protection and pathways towards effective inclusion and solutions. Notably, countries like Rwanda and Uganda have adopted progressive refugee laws, granting forcibly displaced communities the right to work and access national services, including education, health, and banking.

Conversely, other States have maintained reservations to specific provisions of the 1951 Convention and have adopted their own restrictive legislations, hindering refugees' self-reliance and enjoyment of human rights. Zambia, for instance, has four reservations to the 1951 Convention concerning freedom of movement and access to education, employment/business opportunity, and travel documents. Similarly, Angola has reservations to nine provisions to the 1951 Convention related to access to employment and property, as well as to the rights of association, freedom of movement, and

[1] Approximately, 25.4 million people in the DRC are experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity, with over 23 per cent of the population affected. The most affected populations are displaced people, returnees, host families and populations living in conflict zones or affected by natural disasters. See: Democratic Republic of the Congo: Acute Food Insecurity Situation for July - December 2023 and Projection for January - June 2024 | IPC - Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (ipcinfo.org).

[2] 24 UN entities urged immediate action to protect women and girls on 14 July 2023.

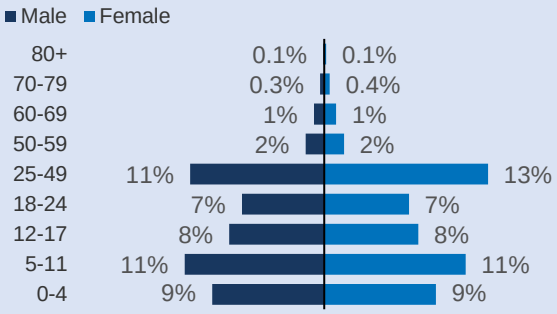
reciprocity. In 2023, Angola resumed the process of registration and documentation of refugees, which had been put on hold since the adoption of a new Asylum Law in 2015; however, the reestablishment of a functioning refugee status determination system is still pending. Additionally, the United Republic of Tanzania's 2003 Refugee Policy imposes restrictive measures on refugee livelihoods and enforces a strict encampment policy, although there was an agreement to ease restrictions reached during a High-Level Bilateral Meeting between the Government and UNHCR, followed by subsequent meetings with the High Commissioner for Refugees in 2022 and 2023.

2024 population to be assisted*

Country	Refugee population to be assisted	Host community members benefitting from assistance	Total population to be assisted
Angola	27,199	3,000	30,199
Burundi	98,146	22,000	120,146
Republic of the Congo	37,400	5,615	43,015
Rwanda	82,566	11,972	94,538
Uganda	536,914	958,800	1,495,714
United Republic of Tanzania	101,647	21,982	123,629
Zambia	70,656	15,000	85,656
Total	**954,528**	**1,038,359**	**1,992,897**

*Planning figures, financial requirement breakdown, and targets for 2025 can be found in Annex 2 & 3. Planning figures and targets for 2025 will be updated at the end of 2024.

2024 Age and gender breakdown - refugee population to be assisted



16% People with disabilities

52% Women and girls

48% Men and boys

Regional Risks and Needs

While some hosting countries continue to demonstrate significant generosity towards displaced populations, others are tightening their asylum regulations, impacting various aspects of the day-to-day of refugees, such as access to territory and services, freedom of movement, registration, and efficient asylum procedures. This is particularly notable for those with diverse sexual orientations, gender identities, and sex characteristics (SOGIESC), who struggle amidst a growing antagonism and the enactment of discriminatory national legislation.

The reduction of asylum space through the suspension of government-led refugee status determination procedures in some host countries has resulted in the risk of forcibly displaced people being left without the prospect of claiming and obtaining refugee status and accessing life-saving support. In certain instances, overall access to asylum and the quality of refugee status determination are further hindered by a shortage of human resources among government officials. In some countries, securing the necessary exit permits

for resettlement, family reunification programmes, and complementary pathways to third countries has become a challenge. Incidents of discrimination, expulsions, and deportations are documented in certain countries.

Gender inequality and GBV pose significant concerns for refugees from the DRC. Instances of GBV among people affected by the DRC humanitarian crisis are widespread, with heightened risks due to high poverty rates and exacerbated in settlements by the lack of public lighting, inadequate shelters, and insufficient privacy in communal facilities. GBV incidents frequently go unreported due to fear of reprisal, limited access to justice, stigma, discrimination, a culture of impunity, and a lack of confidence in reporting channels.

The challenging protection environment significantly impacts the well-being of refugee children, especially in areas where access to asylum and protection is restricted. In such circumstances, children face barriers in accessing child-friendly procedures and are generally excluded from national child protection systems and services. As a result, refugee children are more often exposed to significant protection risks, as reported by Partners who documented cases of family separation, psychosocial distress, and other violations, including instances of sexual violence, psychological abuse, trafficking, and exploitation.

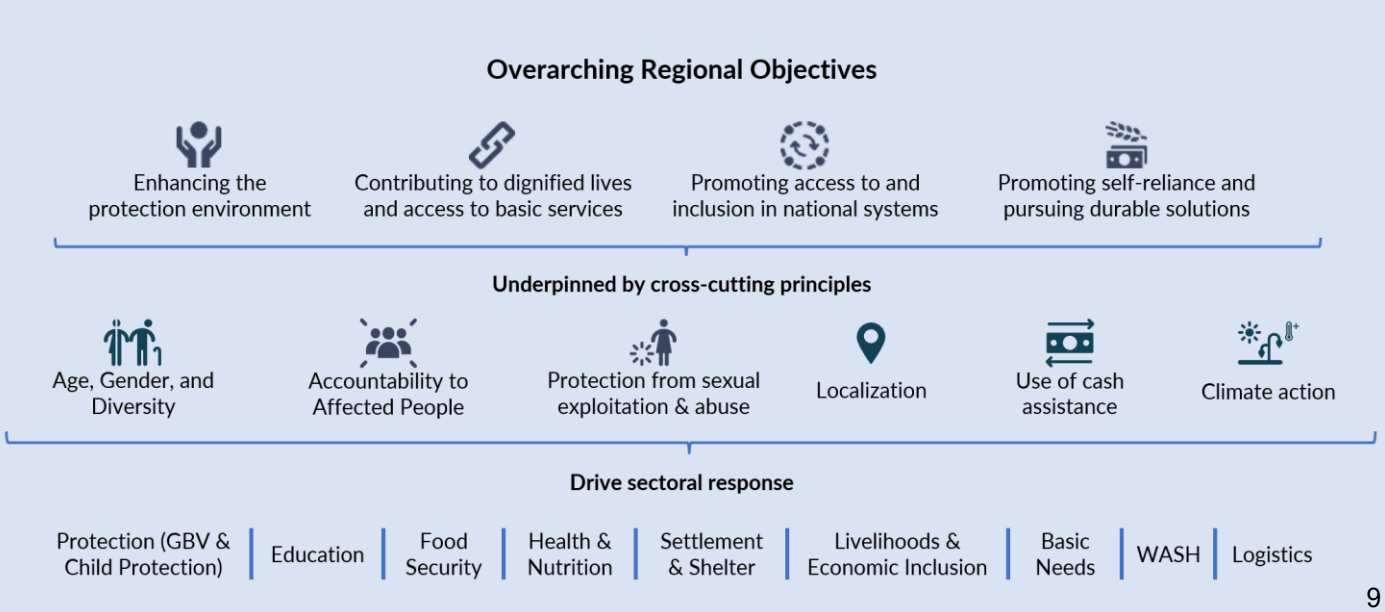
Some host countries continue to promote encampment policies, limiting refugees to overcrowded settlements, in areas where basic services are stretched to their limits. This creates risks for refugee well-being, in no small part because the health conditions in most host countries are fragile and compounded by natural hazards. Outbreaks of measles, cholera, malaria, and other diseases place further strain on already-limited health services and infrastructure. Moreover, there are high rates of mental health issues among both refugees and host communities.

Food insecurity and related poor nutritional status, inaccessibility of agricultural areas, rising prices of commodities, prolonged drought, and tropical storms and cyclones are growing concerns among families. There is a pressing need to address food insecurity and to support populations to meet their basic needs. At the same time, lack of access to sustainable employment and livelihood opportunities and restrictions on refugees' freedom of movement and on their right to work, own land and property, and access education and justice remain major challenges.

Under these constraints, refugees are increasingly vulnerable to human rights violations, exploitation, and abuse, and more frequently resort to harmful coping strategies to meet their basic needs, resulting in the exposure of segments of the population, particularly women, children, older people, and other persons at risk of exclusion, to additional protection risks.

Regional Response Priorities and Strategic Objectives

- The DRC Regional RRP is shifting to a two-year focus to strategize and articulate the needs and priorities in a way that allows for longer-term vision in terms of solutions and community resilience.



In the spirit of the GCR and in accordance with the Refugee Coordination Model (RCM) principles, governments steer the response, while RRP Partners, led by UNHCR, will support and complement national and regional strategies, working closely with donors, development actors, the private sector, local partners, and civil society. **The DRC Regional RRP is steered by four overarching objectives**, which drive the respective sectoral responses, and is underpinned by cross-cutting principles and priorities, which are mainstreamed in all country responses.

Protection programming for 2024-2025 will involve enhancing asylum systems and legal protection frameworks. This includes improving access to territory, advocating for the civilian character of asylum, and promoting access to fair and efficient status determination procedures, registration, and data management/analysis, as well as border and detention monitoring. The 2022 revised UNHCR position on returns to the DRC will serve as guidance to facilitate granting of refugee status to new and existing asylum-seekers for eastern DRC.

Efforts will be directed towards refining the prevention, risk mitigation, and response to GBV, including ensuring that quality, life-saving GBV services for survivors are available, strengthening collaboration with key response Sectors, including health and psycho-social and legal support, and working closely with other Sectors to mitigate the risks of GBV. To strengthen the inclusion of refugee children in national systems, the focus will be on bolstering child-friendly procedures and enhancing child protection prevention and response services, including the continued implementation of best interests procedure for children at risk. Furthermore, efforts will be directed towards strengthening protection monitoring and case management and reinforcing community-based protection.

Partners will continue to complement and deliver community-driven basic assistance programmes hygiene by supporting health and nutrition services; maintaining and expanding water, sanitation, and (WASH) systems while ensuring facilities are strategically located, well-lit, and easily accessible, especially for children, women and girls, and people with disabilities; improving household shelter infrastructure and making them safer, more accessible, and more resilient to climate hazards; bolstering access to education, with a focus on girls' education; and distributing food assistance either in-kind or through cash and voucher modalities.

Furthermore, local integration will be supported for those who choose to remain in countries of asylum, with emphasis on cultivating sustainable livelihood opportunities and fostering financial inclusion for both refugee and host communities, including women and young people, to reduce and mitigate socioeconomic vulnerabilities, food insecurity, and harmful coping mechanisms. To promote local inclusion, social cohesion, and peaceful coexistence, Partners will, where national policies allow, aim to strengthen inclusive national systems and public services, benefitting refugees and host community members alike.

Overall, opportunities for return will remain limited in 2024-2025. In areas where conditions are conducive to sustainable return, voluntary repatriation operations to the DRC will be facilitated, depending on significant funding investments from both humanitarian and development partners. Therefore, case identification for refugees facing heightened protection risks and in need of resettlement will continue, based on advocacy with resettlement countries for larger, more flexible programmes and equitable responsibility-sharing. The commitment of the United States of America to increase the number of refugee admissions in 2024 will create momentum for a multi-year regional strategy and more predictable resources for planning, while facilitating group resettlement for refugees in protracted displacement, resettlement case identification, and prioritization based on protection referrals and vulnerability assessments. Additionally, access to family reunification and complementary pathways for refugee admission to third countries through private sponsorship, labour mobility, and other innovative programmes will be expanded.

Regional Strategic Objectives

The RRP is aligned with the objectives of the GCR, guiding the work of Partners and Governments toward refugee inclusion, self-reliance, and resilience. Notable progress has already been made, particularly in Rwanda, Uganda, and Zambia, where Governments have committed to working within the scope of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework. Governments in the region have made pledges at the 2019 and 2023 GRF that provide for improved conditions of asylum, enhanced protection environment, livelihoods and economic opportunities, access to services, and inclusion into national planning, among others. Through four overarching objectives, Partners will aim to ease the pressures on host Governments by enhancing the self-reliance of refugees and host communities, expanding access to third-country solutions, and supporting safe and dignified return to DRC.

▶ Enhancing the protection environment

Protection remains at the centre of the response. Through close engagement with authorities at the local and national levels, RRP Partners will support building and strengthening national asylum systems; promote policies and legislation that safeguard unhindered and non-discriminatory access to asylum and international protection, including in the context of mixed movements; enable refugees' full enjoyment of rights; and promote a conducive environment for local solutions. GBV prevention and response will be strengthened, and risk mitigation will be mainstreamed across all Sectors. Child protection and support services to people with specific protection needs, including people with disabilities, will be enhanced, in coordination with State authorities and in cooperation with other local actors, including community-based organizations.

▶ Contributing to dignified lives and access to basic services

Refugees and vulnerable host populations face a range of challenges arising from displacement and the socioeconomic impacts of multiple crises, with the most vulnerable struggling to access food, education, WASH and health services, housing, and employment opportunities. RRP Partners will help mitigate challenges directly through multi-sector assistance and will prioritize the delivery of basic services to meet the needs of vulnerable refugee and host communities, ensure they receive the support they need to live in dignity, and strengthen their capacity to deal with future shocks.

▶ Promoting access to and inclusion into national systems

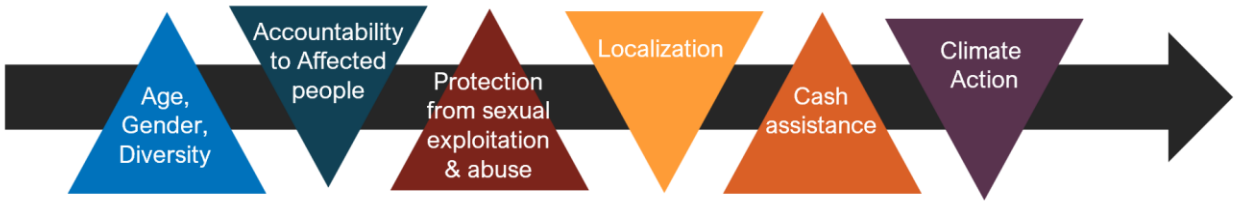
Where possible, the RRP will be anchored in national systems, development plans, multi-year strategies, and regional frameworks. RRP Partners will continue to work with governments and other partners towards supporting the integration of asylum-seekers and refugees from the DRC into national systems, including health, education, employment, and social services and (sub-)national development plans, in support of the pledges made by host countries at the GRF. Municipalities and local authorities are among the primary responders to the refugee situation in the hosting countries – RRP Partners will, therefore, continue to support strengthening public institutions across the region, helping to restore their capacity to deal with the impact of the crisis.

▶ Promoting self-reliance and pursuing durable solutions

Given the protracted nature of the crisis, promoting and achieving durable solutions for refugees remains a priority, be it through exploring local solutions and opportunities, supporting voluntary return when conditions allow, or advocating for more resettlement places and complementary pathways for admission to third countries for refugees with high protection risks and needs. Locally, RRP Partners will prioritize the promotion of livelihood opportunities and economic inclusion of refugees and vulnerable host community members to increase self-reliance and foster social cohesion and peaceful coexistence, as well as to reduce negative coping strategies and the exposure to protection risks such as child protection and GBV. Resettlement remains a critical option for vulnerable refugees, including persons with specific needs and medical cases, for whom local solutions are not possible. Meanwhile, refugees who decide to voluntarily return will continue to be supported.

Regional Cross-Cutting Principles

- The regional response is underpinned by six cross-cutting approaches. All cross-cutting principles are mainstreamed and prioritized throughout the seven country chapters and their responses.



Age, gender, and diversity (AGD)

RRP Partners will promote an age, gender, and diversity-oriented approach and pursue the 'leave no one behind' principle in all programmes and interventions. To strengthen the commitment to ensure and mainstream inclusive planning and delivery of humanitarian interventions, meaningful participation and engagement of forcibly displaced persons of different age, gender, and diverse characteristics, including people with disabilities and diverse SOGIESC, will be promoted throughout the programming cycle in all interventions.

Partners will ensure equal gender and diversity representation in community-based structures and will encourage and prioritize the participation of women and girls, people with disabilities, children, older people, and young people through robust community-based platforms, such as children and youth committees. RRP programming will also aim to alleviate physical, information, communication, attitudinal, and institutional barriers faced by people with disabilities, considering sex, gender, and age, to ensure access to essential protection services and assistance. To foster effective mainstreaming of the AGD approach, Partners will conduct training and awareness-raising sessions with all relevant humanitarian and governmental stakeholders.

Accountability to affected people

Partners will promote a people-centred approach and ensure active participation and inclusion of diverse groups of refugee and host communities at all stages of project planning, implementation, and evaluation. Facilitating refugee inclusion and meaningful participation will involve timely and transparent access to information on services and referrals, with inputs taking a leading role in interventions; ensuring systematic feedback is responded to, and action is taken, as appropriate; ongoing organizational learning and adaption informed by refugees and host community, including engaging organizations led by refugee women, young people, and people with disabilities.

Protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA)

Sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) constitute acts of gross misconduct and a violation of the fundamental rights of refugees and other affected people. RRP Partners are committed to upholding a zero-tolerance policy on SEA and actively preventing such acts. Throughout the response, Partners will strive to establish a safe, trusted, respectful, and inclusive environment where refugees, asylum-seekers, and host communities feel equipped and empowered to advocate for themselves.

Partners will adopt a survivor-centred approach in responding to SEA incidents. To achieve the goals of protection from PSEA, Partners will integrate SEA risk assessment, mitigation, and prevention across Sectors, ensure survivors have access to timely support through GBV referral pathways, and strengthen complaint, feedback, and reporting systems. This includes establishment of GBV helplines, complaint boxes, protection litigation desks, and confidential email addresses that are accessible to the community and accommodate diverse genders, ages, and characteristics.

Furthermore, Partners will provide PSEA training to personnel, volunteers, and other stakeholders involved in the response, emphasizing adherence to the Code of Conduct. Similar trainings will be organized to empower communities with information around protection from SEA. Partners will collaborate on targeted awareness-raising sessions and, where possible, develop harmonized key messages for the refugee population regarding PSEA and the process for reporting any concerns related to SEA.

Partners will work under the in-country inter-agency PSEA networks, the primary bodies for technical-level coordination and oversight of PSEA activities, to prevent and respond to SEA. These networks will facilitate joint efforts to minimize SEA risk, ensure effective responses, and raise awareness, while also collaborating with other sectoral groups to mainstream PSEA throughout the response.

Localization

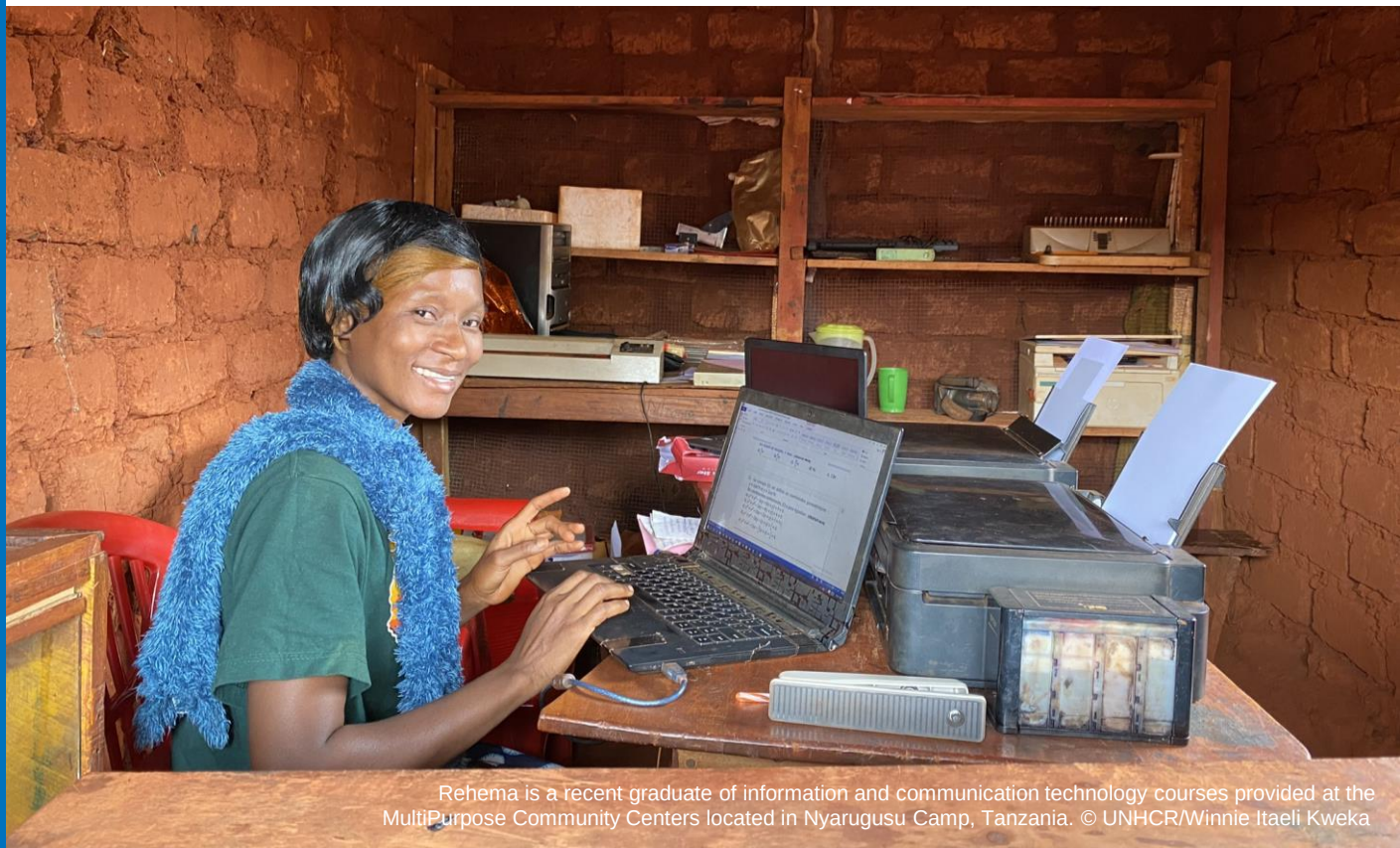
Partners will promote meaningful engagement and participation of civil society organizations, including grass-root organizations led by refugees and host community members, as well as local authorities, municipalities, and private sector actors. This will mean including them in refugee coordination structures, considering their views and needs within the response plans and throughout planning cycles, and advocating for financial support to their initiatives. Partners will therefore strengthen the role and capacity of refugee-led and civil-society organizations, including women-led organizations, acknowledging diversity as an asset. Partners will aim to build and nurture effective partnerships based on the principles of equality, transparency, responsibility sharing, and complementarity.

Use of cash assistance

Partners will aim to provide forcibly displaced persons the dignity, choice, and flexibility to prioritize their own needs while supporting local economies and laying the foundations for recovery and resilience by increasing the use of cash assistance wherever possible. Partners have made significant progress in harmonizing approaches, with a strong emphasis on digital and financially-inclusive forms of cash delivery. However, the scaling-up of cash assistance is subject to the functionality, accessibility, security, availability, political goodwill, and affordability of the market, as well as the liquidity of local agents. The promotion of cash as a modality will be done with the goal of including the most vulnerable and adhering to the 'do no harm' principle and will require a strong cooperation between cash and protection actors.

Climate action

Partners involved in the refugee response will enhance efforts to ensure that their programmes are climate-smart and environmentally sustainable to strengthen the resilience of displaced people and host communities to climate-related risks. The expansion of initiatives aimed at safeguarding both individuals and the environment, including reforestation, clean cooking, solar energy interventions, and projects to make shelters more climate-resilient, will be implemented across RRP countries, where feasible. Furthermore, when applicable to the situation, data collection and analysis, as well as assessments of climate and environmental risks and their impact on protection and solutions, will be carried out to inform climate action and disaster risk reduction across humanitarian and development objectives. The promotion of community-based projects, which can be replicated, will be undertaken as proof of concept.



Rehema is a recent graduate of information and communication technology courses provided at the MultiPurpose Community Centers located in Nyarugusu Camp, Tanzania. © UNHCR/Winnie Itaeli Kweka

Humanitarian-Development Peace Nexus

The prolonged DRC crisis unavoidably impacts the capacity of host countries and communities to absorb and integrate asylum-seekers and refugees into existing national systems and public services. To continuously advance local solutions for asylum-seekers and refugees from the DRC, efforts will be made to promote the humanitarian-development-peace nexus, in alignment with the GCR, where the policies of host countries so permit. RRP Partners will continue to support efforts by governments to incorporate refugees into their national education, health, livelihoods, and social protection systems, as per the strategic objectives, and, where not available, to instead advocate for a robust protection and solutions framework.

RRP interventions aim to promote peaceful coexistence and social cohesion and adhere to a whole-of-society approach, the 'leave no one behind' principle, and the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development. The commitment of the seven RRP host Governments in achieving the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is resolute. RRP partners aim to contribute to a wide spectrum of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and will place increased focus on how interventions can continue to advance the implementation of the SDGs and support host governments in localizing the SDGs and meeting SDG targets.

RRP Partners will continue to collaborate with government counterparts and strengthen partnerships with development actors to bridge the divide between humanitarian and development programming and promote the inclusion of refugees into (sub-)national development plans, social protection programmes, labour markets, programming and interventions of development actors, and the United Nations Common Country Analyses and Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCF).

Partnerships and Coordination

In accordance with the RCM, national leadership and capacities are at the forefront the DRC Regional RRP, and host governments will continue to play a leading role, while UNHCR coordinates with Partners – comprising UN Agencies, international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), national NGOs, faith-based organizations, development actors, academia, private sector, regional organizations, financial institutions, and community-based organizations to support the hosting authorities in the response.

All RRP programmes and interventions are planned and executed in close collaboration and consultation with relevant government counterparts and aim to support and complement national systems, plans, and initiatives. At regional level, as the Regional Refugee Coordinator for the DRC Situation, UNHCR's Director of the Regional Bureau for Southern Africa ensures an overarching vision and coherent engagement for refugees from the DRC in the seven RRP countries.

The 2024-2025 DRC Regional RRP will emphasize building constructive connections with regional bodies, including the African Union, the Southern African Development Community, among others. Strategic partnerships with development agencies, international institutions (such as the World Bank and the African Development Bank), bilateral donors, civil society actors, and the private sector will be established and strengthened to support the move towards resilience and durable solutions.

RRP Partners are committed to collaborate with Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams to ensure that refugees are included in all UN plans, including the UNSDCF advocate for refugees' inclusion in national plans, datasets, budgets, and systems, and uphold the 2023 GRF pledges. Lastly, efforts will be made to strengthen the partnerships with refugee-led, women-led, and faith-based organizations through direct funding partnerships, capacity-building, and support or advocacy for direct funding from other actors.

Regional Monitoring Framework

- Progress and gaps will continuously be monitored and reported via the RRP regional indicators, as well as the regional monitoring framework, developed jointly by the seven country RRP Partners. Regional targets for both 2024 and 2025 are available in Annex 3. Monitoring on regional targets will be undertaken on a bi-annual basis by all RRP Partners involved in the Response Plan.

Regional Financial Requirements

Total financial requirements

2024	2025
$668,277,343	$696,349,258

Budget by Hosting Country

Country	2024 Financial requirements in US$	2024 Partners involved	2025 Financial requirements in US$	2025 Partners involved
Angola	20,646,267	8	22,059,130	8
Burundi	64,310,270	13	66,535,857	13
Republic of the Congo	23,619,974	8	22,195,738	8
Rwanda	78,302,432	24	75,373,482	23
Uganda	355,093,420	73	359,371,376	70
United Republic of Tanzania	94,132,855	15	114,330,532	15
Zambia	32,172,125	10	36,483,143	10

2024 Budget by Partner Type

105 Partners Involved*	10 UN Agencies	4 Development actors	60 International NGOs			28 National NGOs		
	$453,550,197	$4,559,372	$171,956,404			$37,694,483		
1 IFRC/ICRC	1 Academia	1 Private Sector	INGO Refugee-Led Organizations 3	INGO Faith-Based Organizations 8	INGO Women-Led Organizations 0	NGO Refugee-Led Organizations 2	NGO Faith-Based Organizations 4	NGO Women-Led Organizations 1
$77,104	$402,868	$36,916	$4,115,505	$27,760,090	$0	$745,398	$429,842	$604,400

*This list only includes appealing organizations under the RRP, many of which collaborate with partners, funded by RRP partners, to carry out RRP activities. See Annex 1 '2024 Budget summary by Partner' for Partner breakdown.

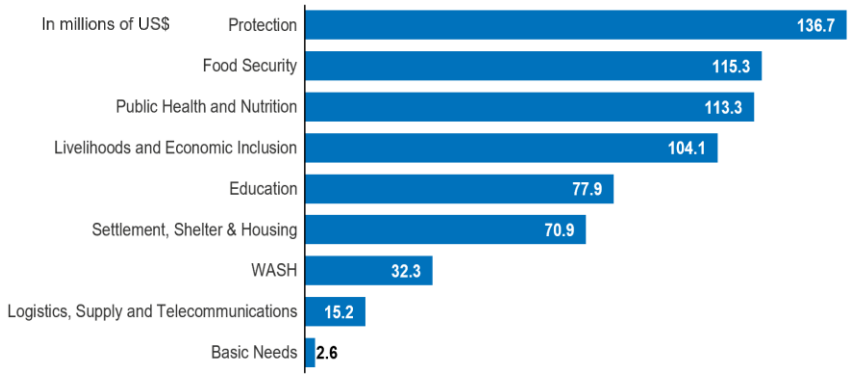
2024 Budget by Sector*

Total Protection Requirements $136,693,288

General Protection	GBV	Child Protection
$89,083,098	$19,722,558	$27,887,632

Total Cash Assistance Modality** $82,933,177

Protection	Food Security	Livelihoods
$240,948	$61,715,479	$2,138,399
Basic Needs	**Public Health**	**Shelter**
$2,500,000	$8,451,001	$7,887,350



*The financial requirements under Settlement, Shelter, and Housing for Uganda incorporate the Environment & Energy, Shelter, Settlement, and NFI financial requirements from the Uganda Country RRP.
** Cash assistance is pursued as a key modality of assistance and protection and is used as a cross-cutting intervention across the various Sectors. As the modality of choice of refugees, the RRP aims to use cash assistance as the primary means to meet immediate basic needs and provide protection.

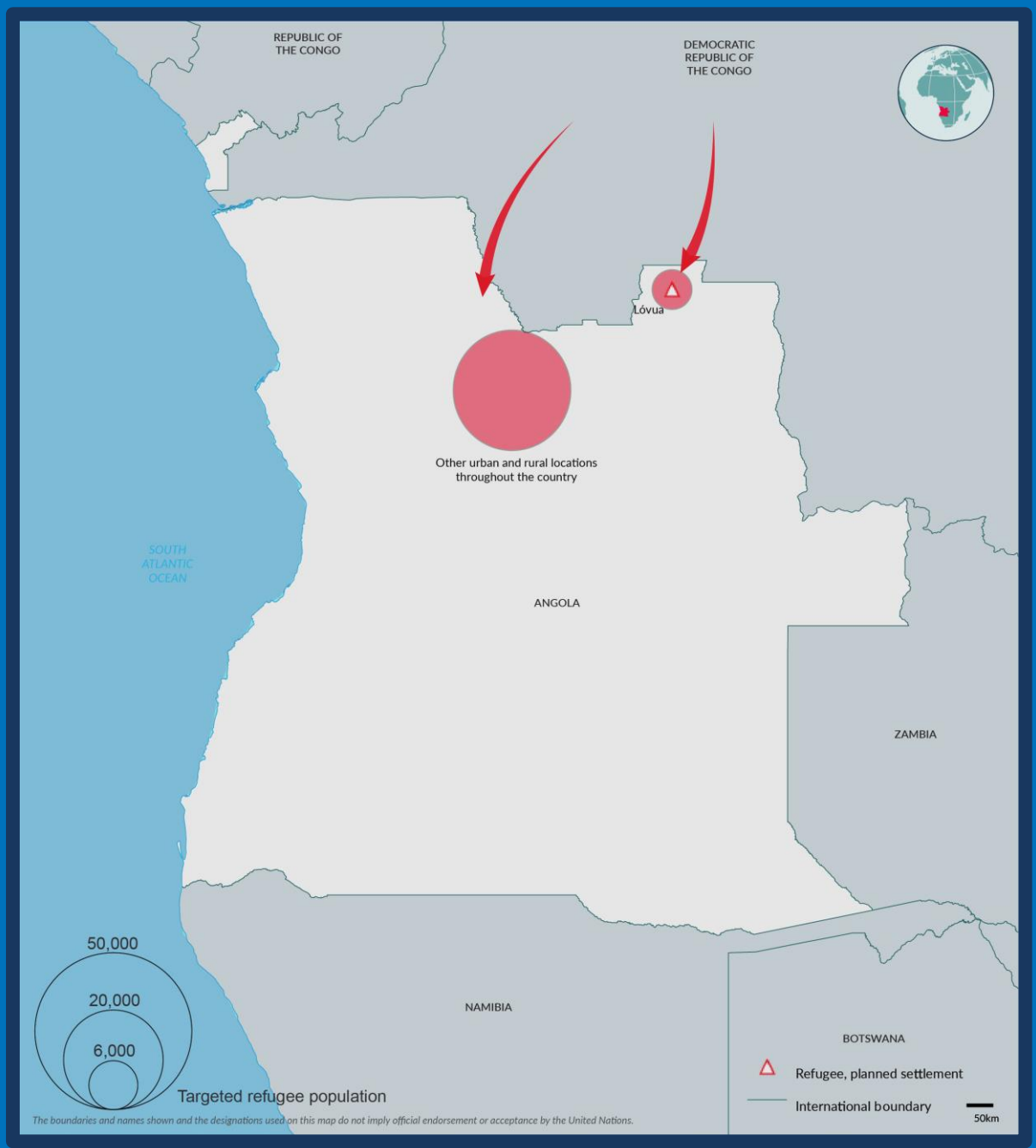
ANGOLA

27,200
2024 refugee population to be assessed

3,000
2024 host community members benefiting from assistance

20.6M
2024 total financial requirements

8
Partners involved



A primary school class at the Lôvua Settlement, Angola. ©ADPP/Spelile Rosa Musonza

Current Situation

Situational Overview

As of end 2023, Angola hosted 22,819 refugees and asylum-seekers from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Out of this total, 88 per cent live in urban areas, most of them in Luanda. Around 40 per cent of refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC arrived in Angola during the 2017 mass influx from the Kasaï region and were recognized as refugees on a *prima facie* basis. Approximately 9,400 refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC live in Lunda Norte province, among whom 6,600 reside in Lôvua settlement.

It is expected that the refugee population from the DRC in Angola will increase during 2024 and 2025 due to possible communal conflict in Mai Ndombé and instability in Kasaï, in the south of DRC, as well as incresed political instability and risks associated with the phased drawdown of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the DRC.

In 2023, the Government of Angola showed greater engagement on issues related to the forcibly displaced. Angola joined the UNHCR Executive Committee as a permanent member for the first time[3], resumed registration and documentation of refugees, and added references to refugees, stateless persons, and persons at risk of statelessness in the National Development Plan for 2023-2027.

In July 2023, the Government of Angola resumed the refugee registration and documentation process, which had been put on hold since the adoption of a new Asylum Law in 2015. The authorities started with the renewal of expired refugee cards in Luanda and plan to extend the exercise to other provinces. Furthermore, asylum-seekers with expired documentation will be included in the process in the future. Providing documentation to refugees is critical in enabling them to exercise their rights: documentation plays a crucial role in preventing arbitrary arrest, detention, and deportation and facilitates access to vital services and opportunities, including healthcare, education, social assistance, livelihoods, and social welfare programmes. From October 2019 to February 2020, Partners in Angola and the DRC, along with the Governments of both countries, conducted a voluntary repatriation programme. As a result, 2,900 refugees who resided in Lôvua settlement returned to the DRC. In 2020, voluntary repatriation was suspended due to restrictions and logistical challenges caused by the

COVID-19 pandemic. The process resumed in 2022, with the repatriation of 820 refugees, and a further 605 refugees returned in 2023 (majority by air transport). Preparations for voluntary repatriation

[3]In 2023, the Government only registered refugees with the expired documents. However, the Government announced in November 2023 that starting from 2024 also asylum seekers will be provided with documents.

involve joint efforts from national authorities and partners to organize birth registration brigades, issue vaccination and education certificates, and conduct campaigns to allow refugees to make informed decisions and be familiarize themselves with the repatriation procedures.

Despite the comprehensive support for returns, most refugees in Lôvua settlement intend to remain in Angola. According to the intention survey carried out in 2023, 85-90 per cent of refugees intend to remain. This also holds true for the older generation of refugees from the DRC, some of whom have been living in the country for as long as 35 years. While these intentions may vary based on the evolving situation on the ground, it is crucial to consider local integration as a preferred form of durable solution, particularly for those refugees who continue to fear return and wish to remain in Angola.

Country Risks and Needs

The main challenge refugees face in Angola continues to be the limited asylum space and the lack of reception and referral mechanisms, despite DRC Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP) Partners' advocacy in this regard. Even though the Government resumed registration and documentation for refugees in 2023, the reestablishment of a fully-functioning asylum system, which includes refugee status determination processes (RSD), has been pending since 2015. It is estimated that 30,000 asylum-seekers from different nationalities are waiting for the adjudication of their asylum claims. A fully-functioning asylum system would reduce the risks of asylum-seekers and refugees being subjected to arbitrary detention, abuse, and exploitation.

Furthermore, the Government has adopted a strong security lens to irregular cross-border movements and migrants, leading to a reduction of asylum space. Operations to deport people travelling as part of mixed movements in diamond mining areas have intensified, with 3,000 people from the DRC reportedly deported in the first half of 2023 from the Lunda Norte and Lunda Sul provinces. Monitoring mixed movements remains challenging, especially the identification of people in need of international protection among these groups, due to the lack of referral pathways to facilitate access to the national asylum system, as well as ongoing police operations, which entail a heightened risk of arbitrary detention and refoulement for those who may be forcibly displaced.

Overall preparedness, including through border monitoring, also remains challenging. RRP Partners, in coordination with authorities, have put in place a contingency plan and trained partners to adequately respond to a population influx. However, this plan is limited to the Lunda Norte province due to restricted financial and human resources. Partners only have access to six border points for monitoring and awareness-raising activities, all located in Lunda Norte. There is a need to expand preparedness and response to potential influxes to other areas that might receive influxes, including the provinces of Lunda Sul, Moxico, and Malanje.

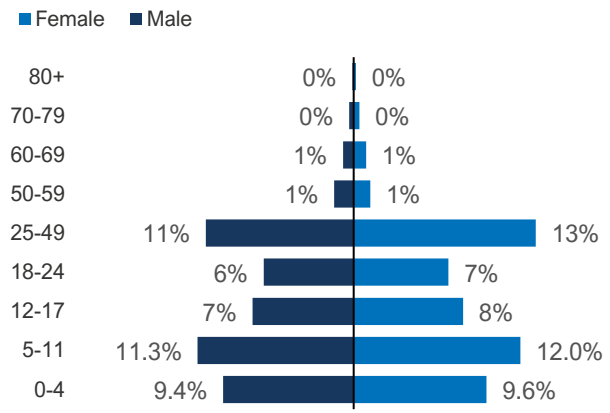
GBV and other forms of violence against women and children, particularly girls, are alarmingly present in Angola, with high rates of early pregnancy and child marriage. Additionally, the lack of valid documentation hinders the access of women, children, and other vulnerable refugees to social protection and economic and educational opportunities that could prevent or mitigate such risks. Child protection and GBV interventions, including life-saving services for GBV survivors and for children at risk and referral pathways for urban-based vulnerable refugees are limited due, in part, to budget constraints. Challenges persist in terms of opportunities for local integration and inclusion in public services, primarily stemming from Lôvua settlement's remote location. Despite Partners' extensive advocacy for local integration, the Government has been hesitant to assume responsibility for service delivery in the settlement. While the Government has expressed willingness on multiple occasions to relocate refugees to other provinces, this has not materialized due to a shortage of financial resources.

Lack of funding has also led to systematic cuts in food rations; activities such as education, vocational training, and health referrals; assistance provided, in particular child protection and gender-based violence prevention and response services; and shelter interventions. Other investments, including in health infrastructure, were put on hold. Reduced funding has notably affected Lôvua settlement, potentially leading to a reduction of activities in 2024-2025, and, as consequence, tensions could arise in Partner's relationships with refugees and asylum-seekers, many of whom are entirely dependent on humanitarian assistance. RRP Partners will continue engaging with authorities to guarantee the sustained provision of services to refugees in the settlement, also highlighting the benefit for host communities.

Country Response and Solutions Strategy

- In 2024, the 8 RRP Partners in Angola plan to assist **27,199** refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC (52 per cent of whom are women and girls, 48 per cent who are men and boys, 58 per cent who are children, and 16 per cent who are people with disabilities). In addition, Partners will aim to support **3,000** members of the host community during the year.
- The 2025 planning figures are slightly higher: **29,127** refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC and **3,000** host community members will be assisted. Partners will also support preparedness planning for a potential new influx of refugees from the DRC.
- The Angola response plan is steered by four overarching objectives, which drive the respective sectoral responses, and is underpinned by the regional cross-cutting principles and priorities. Additionally, the RRP is aligned with the Government's GRF pledges made in 2019 and 2023, including those related to voluntary repatriation, supporting local integration, registration, and documentation, and with the 2024-2028 UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, which includes references to refugees in its People and Peace pillars.

2024 Age and gender breakdown - refugee population to be assisted



52%
Women and girls

48%
Men and boys

Overarching Country Objectives

- Access to territory and processes
- Resumption of refugee status determination
- Access to livelihoods and local integration
- Voluntary repatriation

Underpinned by cross-cutting principles

- Age, Gender, and Diversity
- Accountability to Affected People
- Protection from sexual exploitation & abuse
- Localization
- Use of cash assistance
- Climate action

Drive sectoral response

Protection (GBV & Child Protection) | Education | Food Security | Health & Nutrition | Settlement & Shelter | Livelihoods & Economic Inclusion | WASH

Country Strategic Objectives

Ensure access to territory, registration, and documentation

RRP Partners will continue advocating for asylum-seekers to have an unhindered and safe access to territory and for the establishment of a functioning referral pathway to the asylum system. Further, Partners will advocate for and support national authorities in the registration and documentation exercise, including registration of newly-arrived undocumented asylum-seekers and documentation renewal of refugees residing in Lôvua settlement, facilitating access to basic rights and self-reliance.

Registration and documentation will improve the protection environment, including by lowering risks of arbitrary arrest, detention, and deportation, and improving access to services and assistance, including healthcare, education, social assistance, formal livelihood opportunities, and social welfare programmes. RRP Partners will advocate with authorities to ensure newly-issued refugee documentation is accepted by private and public services, such as opening bank accounts, registering businesses, and student enrolment.

Support the Government in the resumption of refugee status determination (RSD)

RRP Partners will continue to advocate with national asylum authorities for asylum-seekers to have access to functional and qualitative RSD mechanisms and procedures in line with international standards. Following resumed registration and documentation activities, and with an asylum-seeker population estimated at over 30,000 (500 of whom from the DRC), it will be critical to support authorities to adopt a fair and efficient asylum system to ensure refugees are properly identified, documented, and assisted.

Promote access to livelihoods and local integration

Given the socioeconomic challenges refugees and asylum-seekers face, Partners will prioritize sustainability and resilience activities, in addition to the anticipated opportunities to access the labour market resulting from the resumption of registration and documentation efforts. Partners will seek opportunities and partnerships to scale-up agriculture and promote employment opportunities, academic studies, and vocational trainings.

Partners will focus on increasing livelihood opportunities and integration prospects through enhancing sustainable inclusion of smallholder farmers into value chain agriculture in Lôvua settlement. In addition, technical and vocational educational training will be offered to refugees for skills-building and integration into labour market mainly in urban areas.

Partners will continue to advocate for the inclusion of refugees in national development plans, increasing the prospect of more sustainable solutions to reduce dependence on humanitarian assistance and ensuring refugees have access to social services at the same level as nationals.

Support voluntary repatriation

Voluntary repatriation of refugees from the DRC will remain a priority in 2024-2025. While considering that most refugees in Lôvua settlement currently do not wish to return, the humanitarian response will seek to empower refugees to make well-informed decisions, facilitating safe and sustainable returns. RRP Partners will continue to support the voluntary repatriation of 1,000 refugees from the DRC, while ensuring returns are voluntary and well-informed to enhance chances for successful reintegration.

Refugees during the registration process in Luanda, Angola.
©UNHCR/Lina Ferreira

Sectoral Responses

Protection

Support will continue to be provided to the Government during the documentation and registration exercise initiated in 2023 in Luanda, ensuring a fair, efficient, and non-discriminatory process. Advocacy will continue with asylum authorities for the registration of new asylum-seekers under the Refugee Law and for the resumption of RSD to adjudicate outstanding claims and reduce the significant backlog.

RRP Partners will continue to support different initiatives to improve the overall protection space, including the training of police officers and other law practitioners (e.g. border control officers and officials from The Migration and Foreigners Service) in basic principles of international refugee law, including in situations of detention and *non-refoulement*. Partners will, furthermore, conduct regular missions to border areas to monitor any potential influx and strengthen reception capacity.

Assessment of return intentions, information campaigns, and the provision of counselling on voluntary repatriation will continue, taking into consideration the situation in the DRC. For those refugees wishing to voluntarily return, Partners will provide safe transportation and support on arrival.

Strengthening community structures by placing refugees at the forefront of decision-making remains crucial. This not only promotes self-reliance but facilitates a sustainable and contextually-appropriate response to challenges. RRP Partners will ensure individuals of different backgrounds are involved in the annual participatory assessment to provide first-hand insights into evolving community needs.

Child Protection Sub-Sector

Partners will continue working with government counterparts and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to ensure the protection of children. This will include effectively responding to child protection risks through best interests procedure, alternative care, and family tracing and reunification for unaccompanied children, in collaboration with the ICRC. RRP Partners will continue promoting community engagement to protect children from discrimination, abuse, neglect, violence, and exploitation, while ensuring access to appropriate services as needed.

Exclusion from education due to lack of birth registration remains a challenge[4]. Lôvua settlement faces major challenges in registering newborns into the civil registry due to the unavailability of civil registration offices and a lack of necessary material infrastructure at provincial level. In early 2024, Partners plan to conduct a mapping of children lacking birth registration. Based on findings, Partners will facilitate access to birth registration services within refugee communities by supporting the identification and registration of approximately 400 new-born children throughout 2024-2025.

Partners will sensitize and provide training on child rights and protection, including for community leaders and mobilizers, teachers, partner staff, as well as government counterparts, foster families, and social workers, while promoting children's rights to information, participation, and representation.

Gender-Based Violence Sub-Sector

Partners will continue to work with authorities to prevent, mitigate, and respond to GBV and foster gender equality through the delivery of quality GBV services to survivors, promoting community-driven GBV prevention, including through the engagement of boys and men, and working with other Sectors to mitigate the risk of GBV and elevate women and girls' participation and engagement. The Women's Centre in Luanda and Women-Friendly Space in Lôvua settlement will remain key for the provision of survivor-centred services to GBV survivors, including immediate psychosocial support, as well as an entry point for survivors' referral to other services, such as health, safety, security, and legal assistance.

Partners will continue working closely with specialized service providers from all Sectors to ensure the delivery of quality services that align with GBV guiding principles and approaches. To address the lack of community understanding of GBV, in addition to GBV response services, Partners will also support and promote community-based GBV prevention activities.

Multisectoral working groups will enhance coordination and allow for the understanding of compounding factors for GBV, such as lack of access to basic needs, separation from relatives, lack of documentation, vulnerability, dependence, and the introduction of new power dynamics during displacement. GBV Partners will be working closely with all Sectors to ensure accountability and proactive GBV risk mitigation in their own Sectors.

[4]Many school-age children are unable to register for school due to lack of birth certificates/ documents (2023 RRP participatory assessment)

Education

Partners will collaborate with national and provincial governments to ensure school-aged children have equal access to quality education, as mandated by the country's Constitution. In Lôvua settlement, RRP Partners will continue providing schooling for children, ensuring girls' retention in schools, and offering literacy classes for adults, while extending these services to the host community. In Luanda, Partners will support the payment of school fees and academic materials for the most vulnerable. Additionally, Partners plan to build eight classrooms in the new school in Lôvua settlement and to rehabilitate other existing infrastructure, to offer students and teachers quality learning conditions and more space.

Assistance will be provided to the Government in certifying the studies of those refugees who wish to return to the DRC. Partners will collaborate with refugee community teachers to develop curricula tailored to the specific needs of refugees, and will advocate with education authorities to implement technical courses for the municipality of Lôvua, which also covers the refugee settlement.

Last, Partners will advocate for inclusion of refugees in the national education system. The registration and documentation process will likely facilitate access to government-run schoolincluding tertiary education. Partners will seek partnerships with local universities and the World Bank to integrate refugees into existing educational programmes and establish scholarship opportunities.

Food Security

Food security in Lôvua settlement remains a concern. Due to funding and logistical challenges, food distribution in 2024-2025 remains uncertain. As such, Partners will continue fostering self-reliance by implementing programmes to develop food production and meet nutritional requirements. Partners will continue to provide asset-creation support, such as the provision of farming training, seeds, and tools, with the aim to facilitate a gradual transition from general relief distribution towards more targeted assistance for individuals who can be trained and become self-sufficient.

In addition, in 2024, Partners will conduct a food and non-food needs assessment and undertake a nutritional survey to establish the nutritional status of the population. Information based on a district-level nutritional survey in 2023 revealed that the nutritional wasting level was between 5 and 6 per cent in Dundo district, which hosts Lôvua settlement. The composition of the general food ration will be reviewed to consider factors such as nutritional status, demographic distribution, level of physical activity, and self-reliance opportunities. In addition, awareness-raising activities will focus on promoting appropriate child feeding practices and behavioral changes related to nutrition within the community.

Public Health & Nutrition

Improving access to quality healthcare, reducing morbidity from communicable diseases, and improving child survival rates will remain priorities in Luanda and Lunda Norte. The health response will emphasize outbreak management, mental health, and the control of diarrhoea, measles, acute respiratory infections, and malaria. RRP Partners will work towards enhancing access to reproductive health, maternal and newborn care, and measures to prevent sexually transmitted infections, with a focus on preventing the transmission of the human immunodeficiency virus, as well as providing health services to GBV survivors.

Partners will continue to support prevention of undernutrition and micronutrient deficiencies, including anemia, and strengthen treatment of acute and severe malnutrition. Selective feeding programmes for severely and moderately malnourished people will be included in baseline surveys. Partners also continue to advocate for inclusion of refugees in the national health system.

Livelihoods & Economic Inclusion

Resumption of registration and documentation will likely help eliminate barriers for refugees to enter the formal economy, whether through employment or entrepreneurship. Livelihoods trainings will be organized to better prepare refugees for this new phase. In addition, Partners will advocate for the socioeconomic inclusion of refugees, particularly women, in national plans and projects.

With the aim to increase financial independence and ensure financial stability for families and women and girls, refugees from the DRC living in urban areas in Luanda will benefit from vocational training through local training institutions, as well as by livelihood Partners, courses that will create employment opportunities on completion. This will contribute to reducing protection risks, particularly GBV and child protection. In Lôvua settlement, Partners will continue implementing the graduation approach focusing on integrated mixed farming, including crop, livestock, poultry, and fisheries. Additionally, they will continue working on market development and supporting small and medium enterprises by offering trainings and business start-up kits.

Settlement and Shelter/Housing

Shelter support for refugees from the DRC living in Lôvua settlement will focus on improving settlement infrastructure, including the building of durable infrastructure for the Protection Hub[5], installing solar energy in different facilities, and promoting capacity-building for refugees on construction skills, with a specific focus on GBV risk mitigation and reducing child protection risks.

Approximately 26 per cent of the settlement population (400 households) reside in refugee housing units (RHUs), which are susceptible to leaks during the rainy season. Therefore, refugees will be supported with building materials, such as timber, cement, iron zinc sheets, and nails, to construct transitional shelters to replace the RHUs.

[5]Protection Hub is a desk for refugees to come and address some issues of social protection, legal etc.

WASH

The WASH response aims to ensure consistent water supply, supported by clean energy, to maintain hygiene standards in Lôvua settlement. Partners plan to drill additional solar-powered boreholes in the settlement and host community areas, fostering peaceful coexistence. In WASH interventions and service provision, Partners will adopt measures to mitigate protection risks, notably GBV, in consultation with affected populations.

Additionally, RPP Partners plan to install a 30m³-capacity water tank in the settlement to enhance the reliability of water supply. Real-time monitoring of assets will support supervision of water levels and quality, contributing to an effective response. Further, WASH response will include rebuilding strategically-located and gender-separated latrines and bathing shelters, along with the constructing ablution buildings in the clinic and the market. Finally, Partners will continue raising awareness of hygiene to prevent water-borne diseases.

Partnership and Cooperation

In line with the Refugee Coordination Model, UNHCR will continue to lead the coordination of the response, working closely with the Government, particularly the Ministry of Interior (including the Service for Migration and Foreigners), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, and the Ministry of Welfare, Family and Promotion of Women. Eight Partners participate in the RRP, including UN Agencies and NGOs, and maintain close collaboration with provincial and municipal authorities.

The existing coordination mechanism encompasses sectoral meetings among Partners, as well as engagement with the national and provincial authorities, the refugee community through their community structures, development actors, and faith-based organizations. Partners continue, in close collaboration with community structures, to involve refugee leadership, women's groups, and youth groups. Lastly, advocacy for the inclusion of the forcibly displaced in the National Development Plan across different Sectors and levels (national, provincial, and municipal) will remain a priority.

Financial Requirements

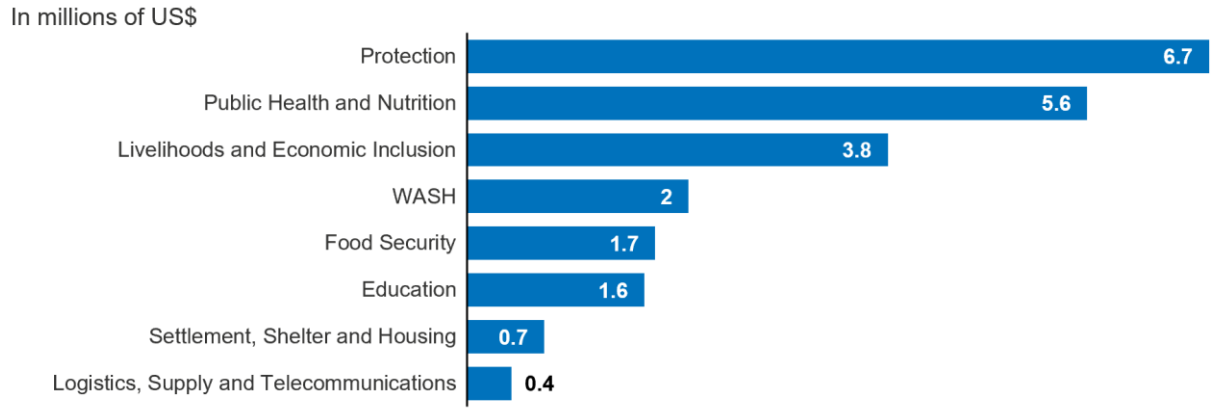
Total financial requirements

2024	2025
$20,646,267	$22,059,130

2024 Budget by Partner Type

Partners Involved: 8	4 UN Agencies	0 Development actors	2 International NGOs			2 National NGOs		
	$19,768,967	$0	$540,000			$337,300		
	0 Academia	0 Private sector	Refugee-Led Organizations 0	Faith-Based Organizations 2	Women-Led Organizations 0	Refugee-Led Organizations 0	Faith-Based Organizations 1	Women-Led Organizations 0
	$0	$0	$0	$540,000	$0	$0	$187,300	$0

2024 Budget by Sector



Total Protection Requirements $6,740,000

General Protection	GBV	Child Protection
$372,093	$1,010,000	$5,357,907

Total Cash Assistance Modality $5,000

Protection
$5,000

2024 Budget by Partner

Partner	Requirements in US$
United Nations	**19,768,967**
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	**16,300,000**
World Food Programme (WFP)	**1,898,967**
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	**870,000**
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	**700,000**
International NGOs	**540,000**
Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS)	**300,000**
World Vision International (WVI)	**240,000**
National NGOs	**337,300**
Igreja Evangélica dos Irmãos em Angola (IEIA)	**187,300**
Ajuda de Desenvolvimento de Povo para Povo (ADPP)	**150,000**
Total	**$20,646,267**

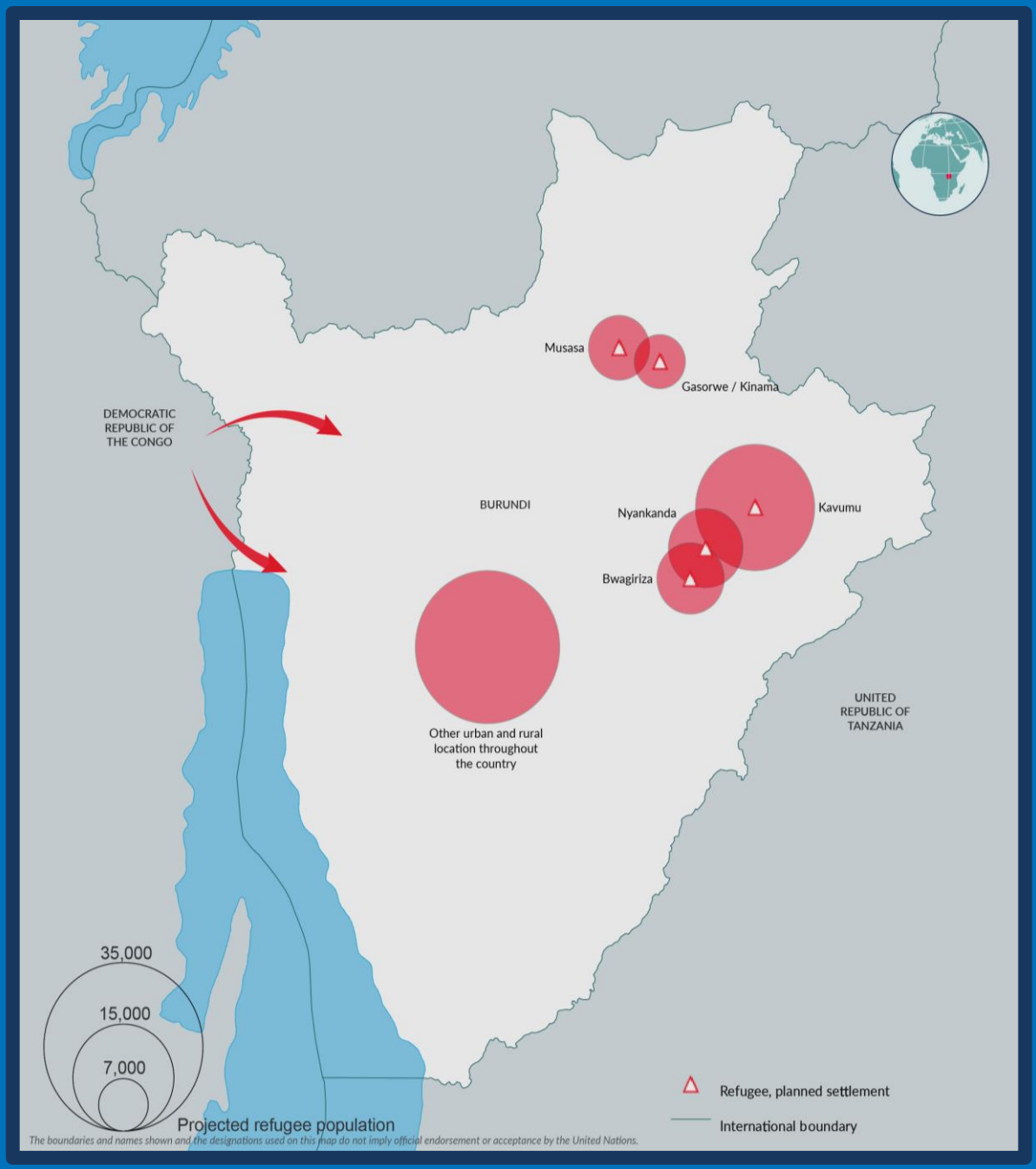
BURUNDI

98,100
2024 refugee population to be assessed

22,000
2024 host community members benefiting from assistance

64.3M
2024 total financial requirements

13
Partners involved



Refugee women in Musasa refugee camp in Burundi weaving handcraft.. © UNHCR/ B. Ntwari

Current Situation

Situational Overview

As of the end of 2023, Burundi hosted 86,503 refugees and asylum-seekers from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). The majority of the refugees from the DRC (57,200) have been residing in Burundi since 20 years. Since 2019, approximately 24,000 refugees from the DRC fled to Burundi due to the unstable political situation in their home country, with 3,046 new arrivals in 2023 alone. It is expected the refugee influx will increase driven by potential political. Consequently, maintaining the protection space and access to asylum will remain a priority.

While Burundi ratified the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1969 Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa, it maintains reservations to the rights to education, remunerated labour, and freedom of movement. Furthermore, some clauses of the immigration law passed on 5 November 2021 are yet to be clarified to ensure alignment with international refugee standards. The new law categorizes refugees, asylum-seekers, and stateless persons as part of the larger group of foreigners, which includes migrants. The Government of Burundi has made commitments to promote refugee and host community self-reliance, guaranteeing refugee freedom of movement, eradicating statelessness, and reducing the impacts of climate change.

The World Bank estimates 87 per cent of the population in Burundi lives below the poverty threshold, with youth unemployment at 65 per cent, according to the African Development Bank. This unfavorable socioeconomic context, coupled with the political climate, negative effects of climate change, and limited access to land, continues to adversely impact lives of Burundians and refugee populations alike. Rampant poverty within the country has led to a deterioration in the living conditions of the population, specifically the most vulnerable refugees. This has resulted in an increased inability to meet basic needs, which is often the root cause of other protection concerns, including child protection and gender-based violence (GBV). Providing support to the most vulnerable families to meet basic needs and increase access to livelihood opportunities will continue to be a focus of the response.

In the absence of large-scale voluntary repatriation opportunities, continued efforts are needed to support refugees with local integration initiatives – such as providing Burundian nationals access to basic services inside the camps – which should also benefit host communities, foster peaceful coexistence between refugees and host communities, and advance the inclusion agenda. In addition, resettlement and complementary pathways will continue to be considered as a durable solution for the most vulnerable refugees from the DRC, albeit this remains a limited option, with only 4,303 individuals having been resettled in 2023.

Country Risks and Needs

In principle and as per law, refugees and asylum-seekers enjoy freedom of movement in Burundi. In practice, however, camp-based refugees, which comprise 63 per cent of the overall refugee population from the DRC, are required to obtain an exit permit to leave the camp, a practice that restricts freedom of movement. At the end of 2022, a decision from the Minister of Interior to suspend issuance of exit permits further impeded refugees' freedom of movement. Fortunately, advocacy with the Government resulted in lifting of this suspension in March 2023. Nevertheless, the process of obtaining exit permits in the camps remains problematic, undermining the right to freedom of movement.

GBV remains one of the main protection risks, frequently underreported due to fears of reprisal, restricted access to justice, stigma, cultural attitudes, discrimination, and a culture of impunity. Refugees continue to face challenges in accessing both formal and informal justice mechanisms, primarily due to issues of discrimination in access to justice and in due process, and unaffordability of legal aid. A 2022 Results Monitoring Survey indicates that GBV is exacerbated by factors such as inadequate public lighting in camps, lack of adequate shelter, insecurity in neighbourhoods, a lack of privacy in communal facilities, and the low socioeconomic status of displaced women and girls in urban areas.

Access to quality education remains challenging, exposing young refugees to child protection risks, such as early child marriages. The proportion of refugees and asylum-seekers enrolled in primary, secondary, and tertiary education in camps and urban areas is 78 per cent, 59 per cent, and 29 per cent, respectively[6]. Refugees in urban areas can access public schools, although the proportion of students enrolled in the National Education System represents only 32 per cent of the total refugee population. Even though the new National Education Sector Plan (2022-2030) does not mention refugees, the Ministry of Education has shown willingness to include refugees in the National Education System, and a project to estimate cost of refugee inclusion has started.

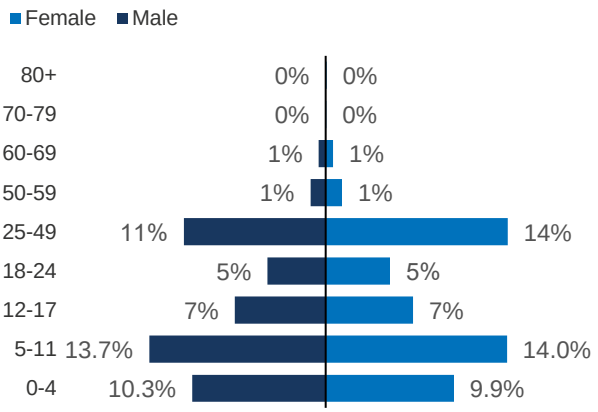
Lastly, access to livelihoods and financial inclusion remains a significant challenge. According to Article 66 of the 2021 Burundian Migration Law, every refugee has the right to work. However, refugees who secure employment lack valid employment contracts and do not enjoy labour rights on par with nationals. A high level of informality characterizes the economy. According to the Results Monitoring Survey (2022), many refugees have experienced a decline in income: 72 per cent of refugee households are unemployed and 88 per cent of refugee households reported a net reduction in the purchase of goods and services necessary for family survival, compared to a year ago. Additionally, according to a 2022 survey, only 7 per cent of refugees possess a bank or financial institution account. The percentage of women with a bank account is merely 3 per cent, in contrast with 7 per cent of men. Women also encounter substantial difficulties in accessing bank credit due to their low financial inclusion and the lack of mortgages.

[6]UNHCR Burundi Annual-Results-Report (unhcr.org).

Country Response and Solutions Strategy

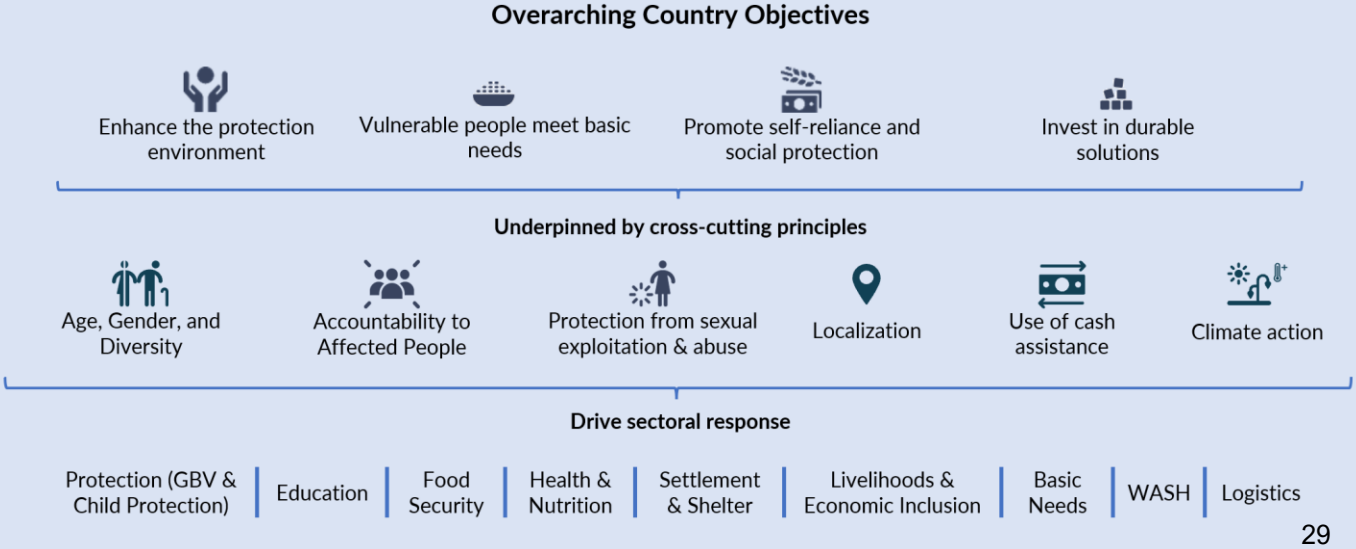
- In 2024, the 13 DRC Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP) Partners in Burundi plan to assist **98,146** refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC (52 per cent of whom are women and girls, 48 per cent who are men and boys, 62 per cent who are children, and 16 per cent who are people with disabilities). In addition, Partners will aim to support **22,000** members of the host community during the year.
- Planning figures for 2025 are slightly higher due to an expected increase in new arrivals and births (**107,644** refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC and **22,000** host community members will be assisted).
- The Burundi response plan is steered by four overarching objectives, which drive the respective sectoral responses, and is underpinned by the regional cross-cutting principles and priorities. In 2024-2025, RRP Partners will continue providing support to government counterparts to strengthen national asylum systems, address main protection risks, and facilitate access to assistance and services for refugees from the DRC.

2024 Age and gender breakdown - refugee population to be assisted



52%
Women and girls

48%
Men and boys



Country Strategic Objectives

▶ Ensure the protection environment

RRP Partners will advocate with government counterparts to maintain the asylum space in line with international standards and obligations, including for the registration and documentation of newly-arrived refugees from the DRC on an individual basis. Partners will also provide capacity-building to and engage with authorities to identify and address gaps and weaknesses in the asylum system. This will aim to prevent refoulement, identify onward movement, address refugee status determination (RSD) backlogs, and identify and document non-registered asylum-seekers. Additionally, RRP Partners will continue to advocate for an overall improvement of the protection space, including policies that enable refugees and asylum-seekers to access public services and enjoy freedom of movement, with a particular focus on camp residents.

▶ Ensure vulnerable individuals meet their basic needs

The provision of multisectoral assistance, including food assistance, continues to be a priority. Partners will target the most vulnerable, with a specific focus on individuals who experienced GBV or who are at risk of GBV, for assistance combined with survivor-centred multisectoral support and case management. Where possible, Partners will advocate for the inclusion of refugees and asylum-seekers in public services and national protection systems, with emphasis on education and the social registry to be developed under the Merankabandi project[7].

▶ Promote self-reliance & social cohesion

Considering the dire socioeconomic situation in Burundi, RRP Partners will prioritize livelihood interventions to enhance self-reliance and social cohesion. For instance, Partners will continue the mapping of financial services and will sensitize refugees on the availability of opportunities for livelihood and self-employment. Regular assessments will be conducted to understand refugee engagement in self-employment.

Partners will provide support to refugees participating in community-based group savings or loans for their businesses and assist refugee associations in engaging with livelihoods and economic inclusion interventions. This will target small businesses, livestock, mill management, and soap making. Financial education and savings training sessions will be offered through establishment of and support to savings and loan groups to encourage financial inclusion, empowerment through income-generating activities, and social cohesion in camps. Recognizing that both Burundian nationals and refugees are impacted by socioeconomic challenges, Partners will actively promote peaceful coexistence throughout design and implementation of their interventions by including vulnerable host-community members in the programming.

▶ Invest in durable solutions

RRP Partners will continue to facilitate the voluntary repatriation of refugees from the DRC. However, options remain limited, as over 98 per cent of refugees from the DRC in Burundi originate from areas where conditions are not conducive for a safe and dignified return. Therefore, Partners will strive to support refugees for whom local integration is not an option with resettlement or complementary pathways. Partners plan to submit the cases of 5,000 refugees from the DRC in Burundi for resettlement in 2024, subject to the allocation of quotas by resettlement countries. Resettlement will be pursued for the protracted refugee caseload, with priority given to the most vulnerable, including women and girls at risk.

[7]The Merankabandi project is a social protection safety and support project for Burundi's most vulnerable households, including refugees and returnees, which aims to promote inclusion and access to employment.

Sectoral Responses

Protection

In Burundi, asylum procedures, including registration and RSD, are managed by the Government. Capacity-building and material support will continue to be provided to the National Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons, the Secretariat of the Consultative Commission for Foreigners and Refugees, and the Appeal Committee. RRP Partners will advocate for compliance with international instruments, national law, and international refugee law principles in national asylum procedures, including through RSD interview monitoring, individual coaching of asylum authorities,] and provision of country-of-origin information.

Partners will provide legal aid to asylum-seekers undergoing RSD procedures at appeal level and will advocate for prioritized treatment of asylum-seekers with high protection risk to ensure they have access to a fair asylum procedures and enjoy their rights. Furthermore, advocacy for the Government to undertake a joint assessment of the capacity of the asylum institutions in light of the 2021 legislation to identify any gaps or weaknesses will be pursued.

Child Protection Sub-Sector

RRP Partners will continue to protect children from violence, abuse, neglect, exploitation, and discrimination and ensure access to child-friendly procedures and inclusive national services. A strategic partnership with the National Independent Commission for Human Rights will enhance management and response to child protection concerns, including increased focus on access to justice.

Ongoing support for the most vulnerable children will be prioritized, with focus on enhancing capacity of relevant national services. This will ensure an improved response aligned with international norms, the national child protection policy, and established referral pathways. These efforts will build upon collaboration with relevant stakeholders.

Gender-Based Violence Sub-Sector

GBV risk mitigation will be mainstreamed into programmes to reduce the risks of violence, especially for women and girls. Partners will support community-driven and inclusive prevention interventions that promote knowledge of gender equality and GBV, fostering positive change in the attitudes and practices of community members. The involvement of men and boys is crucial to promoting positive masculinity as a catalyst for change in achieving gender equality. This preventive approach will involve establishing and supporting groups of men who are advocates for gender equality, as well as engaging male religious and traditional leaders in processes that promote equality.

To identify new entry points for community-based GBV prevention, effective tools such as inclusive sports for change, art therapy, and inclusive play therapy will be used. Communities will be empowered to support GBV survivors, cultivate a zero-tolerance stance towards GBV, and share information to enhance the understanding of topics such as diverse sexual orientation and gender identity, child marriage, sexual violence, and intimate partner violence.

Education

Partners will strive to ensure that 65 per cent of refugee children and younger people have access to early childhood, primary, secondary, and tertiary education, with a specific focus on removing barriers for girls' access to education. The inclusion strategy developed by the ad hoc technical committee, established by the Minister of Education with support from RRP Partners, will be validated by the end of 2024, and the inclusion of refugees in the national education system is expected to be implemented in a phased approach.

RRP Partners will contribute to provide school materials to children in refugee camps, and young refugees will benefit from tertiary education scholarships. Partners will support complementary pathway initiatives, such as education scholarships and labour mobility to third countries.

Food Security

RRP Partners will continue to support refugees to access food and a source of income, and address issues related to food security and nutrition through a joint strategy. Vulnerable refugee groups, including pregnant and lactating women, children under five years with acute malnutrition, people living with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, and the chronically ill, will receive complementary nutritional supplementary food. In camps, refugee households will receive food rations and cash assistance. However, to increase food security, more additional emphasis will be placed on expanding livelihood and socioeconomic opportunities to supplement monthly humanitarian food assistance.

Public Health & Nutrition

RRP Partners, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, will aim to ensure that refugees have access to life-saving primary and secondary health care, including for GBV survivors, and to sexual and reproductive health, mental health, HIV, and nutrition services, including the infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices. Furthermore, Partners will advocate for the inclusion of refugees in the national system, health insurance scheme, and the national strategic plan.

RRP Partners will place more emphasis on significantly reducing morbidity due to communicable and noncommunicable diseases and epidemics in refugee camps, focusing on malaria prevention and early treatment to avoid complications. Additionally, Partners will support community-based management of acute malnutrition, including detection, referral, and treatment of moderate and severe acute malnutrition cases, as well as the promotion and support of IYCF practices, and nutritional support for people living with HIV and tuberculosis patients.

Livelihoods & Economic Inclusion

Including refugees in projects aimed at supporting agriculture, livestock farming, fishing, employment, entrepreneurship, and vocational training is key to enabling refugees to become self-reliant. As such, technical and financial support will be provided to economically viable initiatives, including commercialization and marketing of local productions. Examples include supporting local cooperatives, promoting the commercialization and marketing of specific artisanal products (including through the MADE 51 model), supporting vocational training and access to the labour market, and increasing access to credit and financial services, especially to reduce the risks of gender-based violence for women and girls.

To foster self-sufficiency among refugees and promote sustainable solutions, a comprehensive strategy for supporting livelihoods will be developed. This strategy will involve enhanced strategic interactions with development actors, such as the World Bank, to leverage their operational portfolios to support protection and solutions objectives. Partners will also strive to ensure active contribution from the private sector to create job opportunities and to incorporate refugee enterprises and cooperatives into their value chains.

Settlement and Shelter/Housing

Through the new Shelter Strategy, RRP Partners will continue to collaborate with the Government, UN Agencies, and development actors in housing interventions. The five camps in Burundi, located in the east and north, are facing significant challenges. Most of the shelters in refugee camps, except Nyankanda in the east, require regular rehabilitation each year. With regards to the rehabilitation and reconstruction of existing shelters, Partners will

Refugees from the DRC in Musasa refugee camp in Burundi cutting a bar of soap. ©UNHCR: B/Ntwari

consider safety, including from GBV, and accessibility, including for people with disabilities, and use environmentally friendly locally available materials capable of absorbing climatic shocks. The Government has allocated 60 hectares of land for the construction of the sixth camp, which commenced in 2023, with substantial progress expected in 2024. Additionally, Partners will install small solar power plants in the camps.

WASH

Increased emphasis will be placed on enhancing access to WASH infrastructure and services to safeguard refugees' health and well-being. RRP Partners are committed to ensuring refugees have access to clean, safe, accessible, and sufficient drinking water, to accessible and gender-segregated sanitation facilities, and other hygiene services. This will contribute to healthy living environments, reduce the risks of GBV, and prevent WASH-related diseases. Partners will also give priority to providing hygiene items, including soap, water containers, and menstrual hygiene materials to ensure dignified conditions.

Based on national standards, the WASH response will focus on enhancing access to clean water in sufficient quantity, sanitation, hygiene promotion, and other WASH facilities and services, with a focus on integrating refugees into the national WASH system. Recognizing that some water sources may vary seasonally, the plan takes into account these fluctuations in water supply and demand, as well as mechanisms for accessing drinking water, domestic water, and water for livelihoods.

Basic Needs

RRP Partners will continue to make use of multipurpose cash assistance. Among others, multipurpose cash assistance will enable refugees to access basic needs, including housing, food, energy, clothes, and communication according to their priorities. While currently cash interventions are limited in Burundi, efforts are ongoing by the RRP community to enhance the use of cash assistance and harmonize or mainstream cash modalities among the relevant Sectors.

Logistics, Supply & Telecommunications

RRP Partners will continue to manage four warehouses across the country, keeping security stocks. In the context of adopting a cash assistance modality, a market assessment will be conducted to ascertain the absorption capacity of the field market for basic needs, including non-food items, and explore stronger market integration. Additionally, concerning transportation, a fuel delivery plan will be communicated to suppliers to secure an adequate fuel stock.

Partnership and Cooperation

RRP Partners aim to strengthen and improve partnership and collaboration at country-level, through multi-stakeholder and partnership mechanisms. In Burundi, following the Refugee Coordination Model (RCM), the RRP is led by UNHCR, supporting the National Office for the Protection of Refugees and Asylum-Seekers, acting under the Ministry of Interior, Community Development, and Public Security. RRP Partners actively engage with government counterparts, through the Protection Sector and other working groups, to identify needs, priorities, achievements, and gaps.

Provincial, communal, and local authorities will be more vigorously involved in programming efforts and will receive the necessary capacity-building support in 2024. Monthly coordination meetings will be held in camps and urban areas, with the participation of the refugee community, to ensure streamlined and collaborative approaches between UN Agencies, NGOs, and other humanitarian and development actors, leading to improved information sharing and joint advocacy.

Financial Requirements

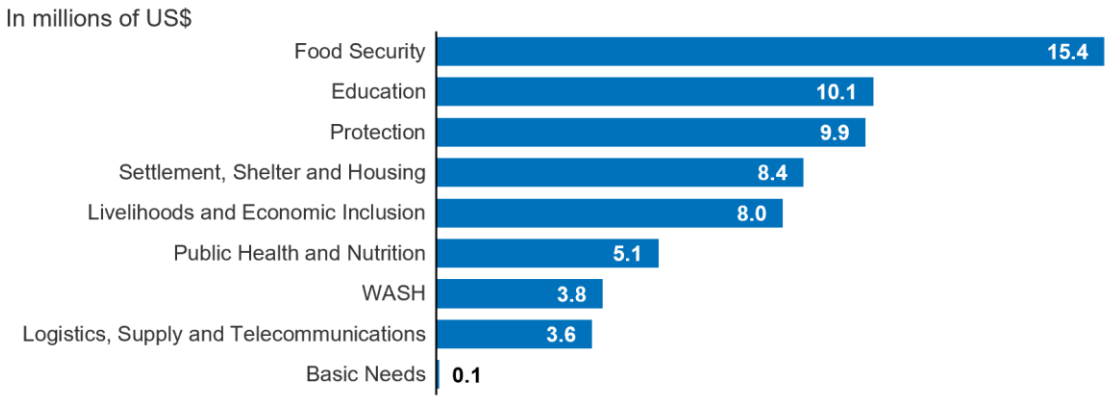
Total financial requirements

2024	2025
$64,310,270	$66,535,857

2024 Budget by Partner Type

13 Partners Involved	4 UN Agencies	1 Development actors	6 International NGOs			2 National NGOs		
	$55,066,110	$1,847,000	$7,140,045			$257,115		
	0 Academia	0 Private sector	Refugee-Led Organizations 0	Faith-Based Organizations 1	Women-Led Organizations 0	Refugee-Led Organizations 0	Faith-Based Organizations 0	Women-Led Organizations 0
	$0	$0	$0	$81,024	$0	$0	$0	$0

2024 Budget by Sector



Total Protection Requirements
$9,878,042

General Protection	GBV	Child Protection
$7,659,617	$1,703,235	$515,190

Total Cash Assistance Modality
$8,895,130

Food Security	Settlement and Shelter/ Housing
$5,436,625	$3,458,505

2024 Budget by Partner

Partner	Requirements in US$
United Nations	**55,066,110**
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	39,457,023
World Food Programme (WFP)	15,339,087
United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN WOMEN)	180,000
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)	90,000
International NGOs	**8,987,045**
Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS)	5,044,689
World Vision International (WVI)	1,847,000
WeWorld - Haranire Amaraga Meza – La communauté au service de la santé au Burundi (WeWorld GVC)	1,812,532
Refugee Education Trust (RET)	125,000
World Relief Burundi (WRB)	81,024
Help A Child (HaC)	40,800
African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD)	36,000
National NGOs	**257,115**
Conseil Pour l'Education et le Développement (COPED)	182,115
Social action for Development (S.A.D)	75,000
Total	**$64,310,270**

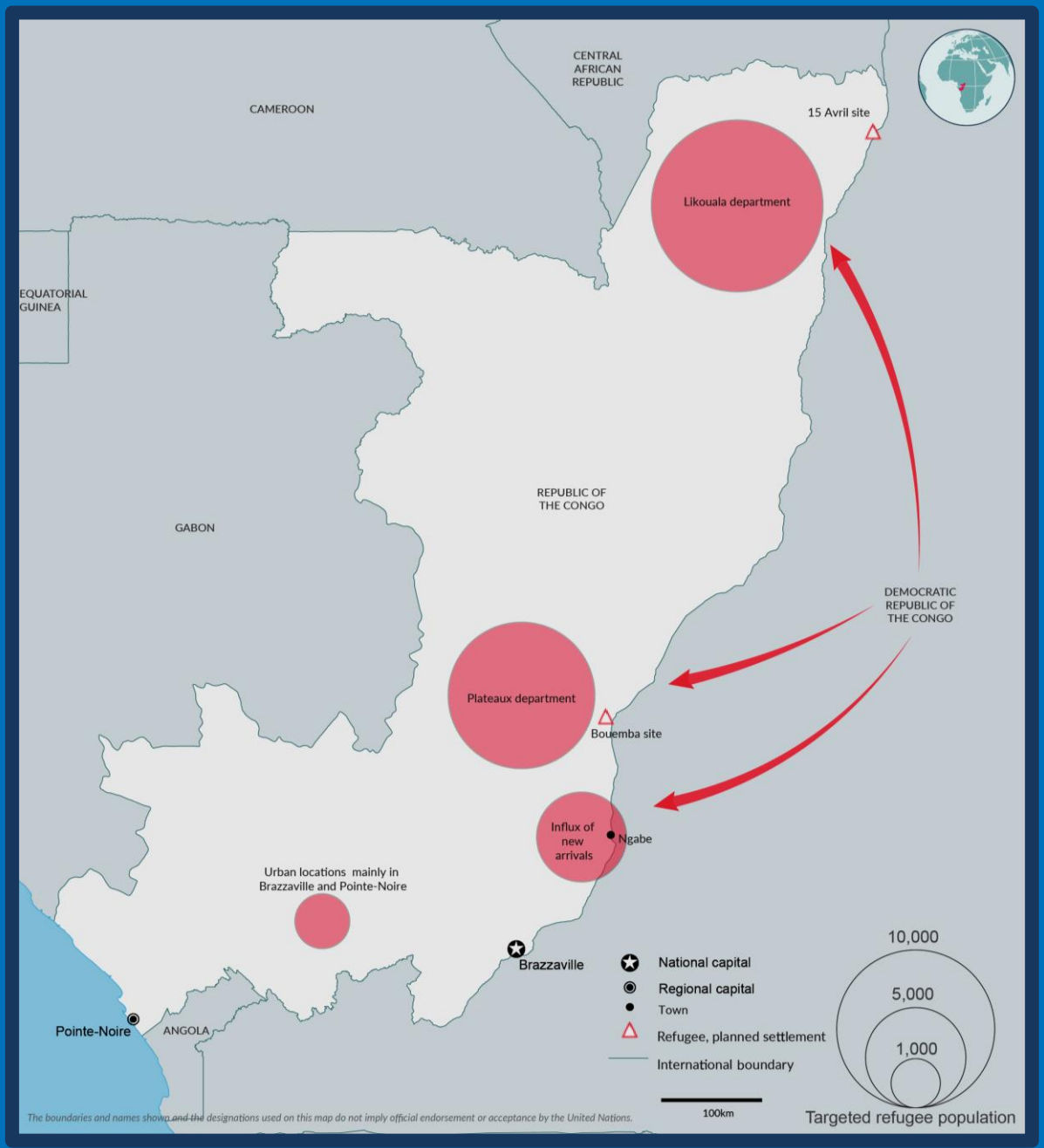
REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

37,400
2024 refugee population to be assessed

5,600
2024 host community members benefiting from assistance

23.6M
2024 total financial requirements

8
Partners involved



Asylum-seeker woman cooking cassava with a woman from the host community in the Republic of the Congo. © UNHCR/Cyprien Cheval

Current Situation

Situational Overview

By the end of December 2023, the Republic of the Congo hosted 27,328 refugees and asylum-seekers from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Ninety-five per cent live in remote rural locations, including in the Likouala, Plateaux, and Pool departments. Five per cent live in Brazzaville and Pointe Noire, cities that are home to more than half the Republic of the Congo's population.

About 13,000 refugees from the DRC have been living in the Republic of the Congo for more than five years. In December 2018, an outbreak of violence in Yumbi, Mai-Ndombé province, in the DRC, led some 8,900 refugees to flee to Plateaux, where they have since been living. Further instability in Mai-Ndombé, this time in Kwamouth, on the eastern bank of the Congo River, between July 2022 and December 2023 caused an additional influx of 5,200 refugees into Ngabé, Mpouya, and Ignié districts, Plateaux and Pool departments. A response plan was developed, in collaboration with the National Refugee Assistance Committee (CNAR) and local authorities, to meet their most urgent needs. Continued instability in the DRC, particularly in Kwamouth, Mai Ndombé province, spilling over into three provinces surrounding Kinshasa and the western DRC, and potential political instability expected to lead to further waves of new arrivals in 2024.

Refugees enjoy a largely favourable protection environment in the Republic of the Congo, with freedom of movement, access to the justice system and other basic services, such as healthcare and education, and relatively unrestricted employment rights being the same as nationals (a better regime than that for foreigners). In September 2021, the Government promulgated an asylum legislation (Law 41-2021), and on 3 October 2023, the Government published two statements granting refugee status on a prima facie basis to 14,100 individuals who fled intercommunal violence in Mai-Ndombé province in the DRC and sought refuge in Plateaux department in 2018 and in Pool department in 2022. On 6 October 2023, the Government of the Republic of the Congo also published a decree setting the fees for issuing, transferring, and renewing biometric travel documents for refugees. These fees are the same as those paid by Congolese citizens.

Additionally, the Republic of the Congo has been at the forefront of implementing the Global Refugee Forum (GRF) pledges, showing commitment to

promoting the socioeconomic integration of refugees and improving basic social services in refugee-hosting communities through the national development policy. At the 2023 GRF, the Republic of the Congo pledged that it would: elaborate and adopt a multi-year National Asylum Strategy for refugee management; continue to integrate refugees in national development programmes; operationalize in 2024 the National Committee for the Eradication of Statelessness; finalize a quantitative and qualitative study of statelessness cases by 2026; continue public awareness activities to encourage the registration of every birth; and continue to reform nationality legislation.

Prospects for local integration are further reinforced by inclusion initiatives such as the Lisungi Project. This project, financed by the World Bank and rolled out in Likouala in 2021, will be redefined by the Government as a national social safety net programme. Its objective is to optimize the local integration of refugees and asylum-seekers, facilitate access to the Unique Social Registry for vulnerable individuals, and enact nationality laws that enable the naturalization of foreigners who have been legally staying in the country for 10 years or longer.

Refugees and host community members, however, face challenges in terms of overstretched services and limited economic opportunities. This situation was further exacerbated by a long-lasting economic crisis in the Republic of the Congo. RRP Partners will continue to work in collaboration with the Government for the effective integration of refugees, and to respond to refugees' and asylum-seekers' fundamental needs through protection and assistance, while simultaneously focusing their activities on promoting empowerment and self-reliance in cooperation with refugee communities and their structures.

Country Risks and Needs

While the protective environment may be favourable, many refugees from the DRC continue to urgently need dedicated assistance. This is especially true for individuals with specific protection needs and at risk of marginalization and exclusion, who total approximately 2,600 people, mainly single parents, people with chronic medical conditions, older people, people with disabilities, women at risk, gender-based violence (GBV) survivors, and children at risk – including separated and unaccompanied children. Risks for refugee children, especially girls, include exclusion from education or school drop-out, sexual violence, and child labour affecting their psychosocial well-being and development. GBV remains a persistent and complex challenge for women and girls. The main types of GBV identified by RRP Partners are physical assault, rape and attempted rape, domestic violence, sale and exchange of sex, sexual abuse, psychological violence, denial of resources, child marriage, and harassment.

Local socioeconomic services in rural refugee-hosting areas continue to be weak. There is a need to continue providing multisectoral assistance in a context of unmet basic needs and limited services, including access to shelter, clean water, hygiene and sanitation, primary healthcare, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), sexual and reproductive healthcare, and education.

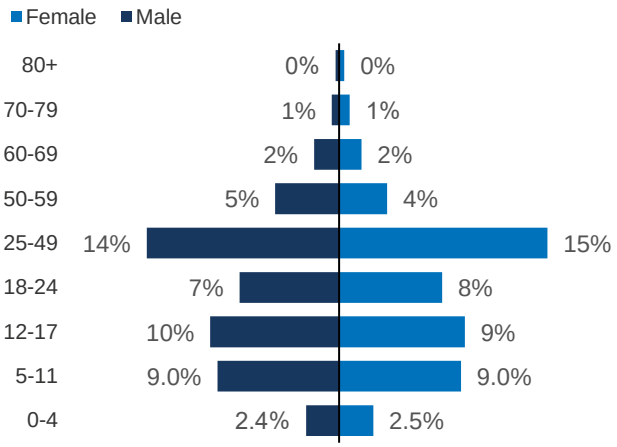
Refugees from the DRC in Plateaux and Pool departments remain reliant on food assistance due to limited access to socioeconomic opportunities, especially in hard-to-reach areas. One-third of the population of new arrivals from Main-Ndombé in 2022 received a one-time food distribution in September 2023. While about 33 per cent of refugee adults are engaged in agriculture, forestry, and fishery, 41 per cent report no economic occupation, according to the joint verification exercise carried out by RRP Partners and CNAR from August to December 2023.

Refugees need increased support to develop livelihoods and other income-generating initiatives to alleviate their reliance on assistance and gradually transition towards food self-sufficiency. Additionally, climate change-related vulnerabilities require close attention, as refugees and asylum-seekers are mostly located in rural areas that are prone to tropical storms and recurring periods of flooding.

Country Response and Solutions Strategy

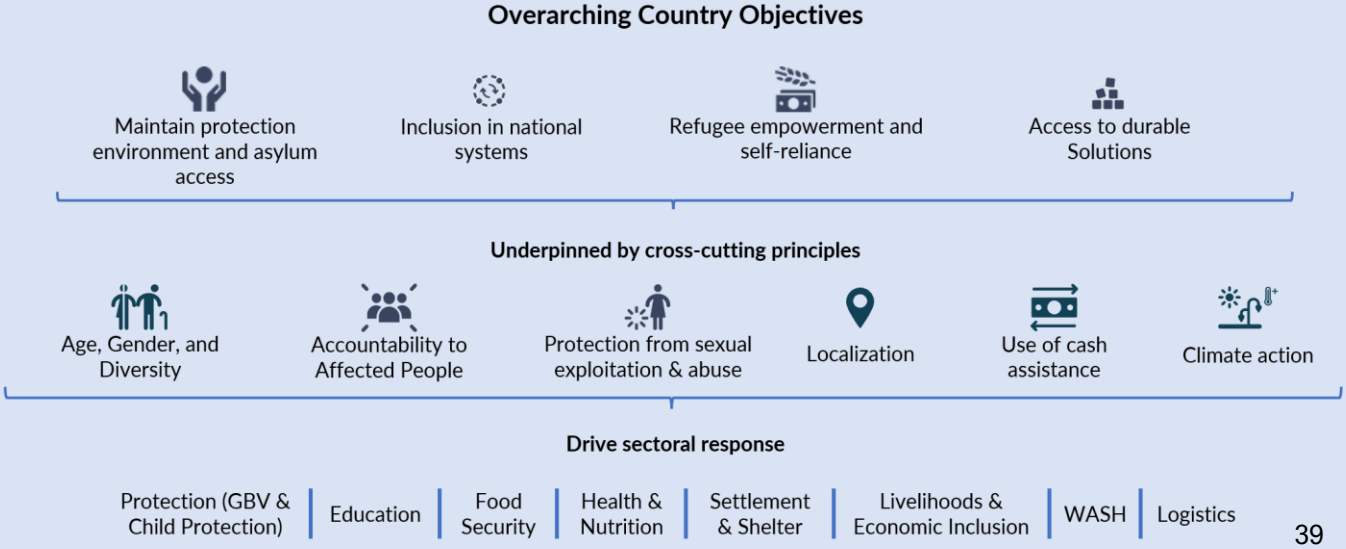
- In 2024, the 8 RRP Partners in the Congo response plan to assist **37,400** refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC (50 per cent of whom are women and girls, 50 per cent who are men and boys, 42 per cent who are children, and 16 per cent who are people with disabilities). In addition, Partners will aim to support **5,615** members of the host community during the year.
- Planning figures for assistance in 2025 are similar: **37,230** refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC and **5,585** host community members will be assisted.
- Taking advantage of the favourable protection environment and progressive legislation, and in line with the regional strategic objectives, the Republic of the Congo response plan is steered by four overarching objectives, which drive the respective sectoral responses, and is underpinned by the regional cross-cutting principles and priorities.

2024 Age and gender breakdown - refugee population to be assisted



50%
Women and girls

50%
Men and boys



Country Strategic Objectives

Maintain the conducive protection environment and access to asylum

RRP Partners will focus on providing support to the Government for fast, fair, and efficient asylum procedures across the country, with improved quality refugee status determination (RSD) to ensure that refugees are timely identified, documented, and assisted, and to reduce the current backlog of asylum-seekers awaiting adjudication for their cases while maintaining procedural standards of fairness and efficiency.

Additionally, protection monitoring, especially of refugees living near border points along the Congo River, will continue to be essential to safeguard international protection, including the respect for the principle of non-refoulement. Lastly, to prevent statelessness, Partners will support the Government in issuing birth certificates.

Promote access to essential services through inclusion into national systems

RRP Partners will continue to prioritize inclusion in national systems, while advocating for the enhancement of basic socioeconomic services in areas hosting refugees. RRP Partners will anchor activities and advocacy efforts in the 'leave no one behind' principle and collaborate to strengthen local basic services alongside national and local authorities, following a community-based approach that will rely on community-structure and grass-root organizations, to ensure synergies and positive outputs to the entire community. Given the ongoing challenges in accessing essential services, efforts will be directed towards bolstering the delivery of basic health, nutrition, food security, education, gender-based violence prevention, risk mitigation, and response, child protection services, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services. Collaboration with relevant government counterparts will be integral to these initiatives.

As such, Partners will continue to advocate for refugees to be included in development projects. Advocacy will also be prioritized for the development and implementation of sound normative frameworks that stipulate and protect integration-related rights and strengthen the search for durable solutions, in line with the Government's 2017 Letter of Development Policy and Law 41-2021.

Foster refugee empowerment and self-reliance

To promote self-reliance and social cohesion, and reduce dependence on humanitarian assistance, Partners will reinforce efforts to enhance services in remote areas, facilitating effective socioeconomic inclusion. In regions where seasonal floods have profoundly affected refugees and host communities, Partners will formulate consultative preparedness and response measures to alleviate climate change-related environmental impacts, including soil erosion and destruction of crops and shelters. Additionally, Partners will collaborate on projects to bolster climate resilience.

RRP Partners will also support opportunities that increase resilience, including income-generating activities, vocational training, and financial inclusion. This collaborative effort will involve working with the Government, development actors, and the private sector. Partners will promote peaceful coexistence between refugees and host communities by implementing self-reliance and cohesion projects that target both populations, with a specific emphasis on women as active enablers of peace. Special attention will be given to advocating for land access and implementing mixed farming projects.

Lastly, Partners will advocate for the inclusion of vulnerable refugees, who are unable to meet basic needs, in national social protection programmes and safety nets, and other World Bank-financed projects, to enhance local integration of refugees.

Ensure access to durable solutions

Local integration, up to naturalization, remains the primary durable solution for refugees in the Republic of the Congo. Piloting the provision of legal aid to refugees seeking naturalization will be a priority–in 2024, RRP Partners plan to pilot legal aid for a minimum of five refugees, provided they meet criteria and express a desire to follow necessary procedures for naturalization. This effort aims to reach at least 10 more refugees by the end of 2025.

Voluntary repatriation to the DRC is expected on a small scale in 2024 and 2025, with around 1,500 and 750 refugees, respectively, returning to areas where security conditions are conducive to sustainable reintegration. Resettlement remains a viable solution, albeit reserved for a very small number of vulnerable refugees facing urgent protection needs. Finally, complementary pathways, offering avenues to third countries through family reunification, humanitarian visas, employment, vocational training, and education opportunities, will remain available to a limited number of refugees.

Sectoral Responses

Protection

Protection Partners will support the Government's efforts to provide international protection to refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC, to whom the CNAR issues ID cards. Partners will also advocate for the Government to bring in interpretative legislation for the 2021 asylum law and ensure that their individual documents are promptly updated upon expiration or in case of significant life events. Differentiated case processing and other RSD management strategies, with emphasis on safeguarding the right to fair, efficient, and timely adjudication, child-friendly procedures, and legal counselling, will be promoted with asylum authorities to address the backlog of asylum-seekers awaiting a decision on their claims. Collaboration with district authorities will be strengthened to facilitate registration and the issuance of birth certificates for new-born children of refugees from the DRC, thereby reducing risk of statelessness. Further, legal assistance for access to justice in administrative, civil, and criminal matters, and for naturalization purposes, will be provided to those in need.

Child Protection Sub-Sector

To prevent and respond to child protection risks and ensure accessibility of child protection services for children at risk, RRP Partners will advocate for protection of refugee children and bolster their inclusion in national systems and with private sector, in line with the 'leave no one behind' principle and a community-based approach. RRP Partners will also collaborate with the Government to facilitate the issuance of birth certificates for children not currently registered in the national registry census.

RRP Partners will continue supporting the Government in undertaking best interests procedure and strengthening family tracing, reunification, and alternative care arrangements for separated and unaccompanied children and other children at risk. Partners will ensure child protection services are accessible to children with disabilities and other marginalized children.

In addition, mixed (refugees and host community members) children's committees will be set up and trained within hosting communities so they can carry out a range of awareness-raising activities on the themes of child protection, education, birth registration, and environmental protection, and help identify children in need of protection, thereby promoting peaceful coexistence as part of a participatory and accountability-based approach.

Gender-Based Violence Sub-Sector

GBV Partners, in collaboration with the Government, will continue to provide equitable and quality GBV services to survivors and promote gender equality and women's empowerment. Priority will be given to enhancing community-based GBV prevention and response mechanisms, in line with a holistic case management and survivor-centred approach. This includes capacity-building on GBV for all stakeholders, including national authorities, community leaders, and community structures, such as GBV-management committees. GBV prevention interventions will be organized through community relays to enhance knowledge of GBV risks and share information about available response services among refugee and host communities.

Further, Partners will work with all Sectors to ensure GBV risk mitigation considerations are taken into account within sectoral interventions. Finally, the Government will be supported to strengthen national social services for GBV survivors, foster inclusion of refugee women and girls in national services and policies, establish survivor-centred referral systems for GBV response, and ensure survivors' access to multisectoral GBV services.

Education

Education Partners will collaborate to ensure that children of primary school age – totalling 6,700 children between 5 and 11 years old – have equitable and inclusive access to the national education system and benefit from learning opportunities facilitated by qualified teachers and supported by adequate materials. To address challenges such as shortages of school spaces and qualified staff, particularly in rural areas, as well as issues like overcrowding and school evasion, children will receive school kits and be covered by free school insurance. Non-government-deployed teachers will receive allowances, and sufficient educational materials will be provided. In rural areas, refugees have the same access to state schools as children from the host community, but, in practice, there is limited equality of opportunity for refugees. Improving equal opportunities between refugee and host community boys and girls and enabling the development of employability skills will be a priority.

Education Partners will advocate with the Ministry of Secondary Education and the Ministry of Technical Education and Vocational Training to promote refugees' inclusion and ensure the equitable deployment of school teachers across the Republic of the Congo. Partners will intensify efforts to

engage development and private sector partners in expanding availability of educational opportunities and vocational training for girls, boys, and young people, as well as provision of school kits for vulnerable families. To this end, community participation in development of partnerships with the diaspora, initiated in 2023, will be encouraged.

Food Security

In-kind, cash-based, and hybrid food distributions by Partners remain insufficient to sustain most refugees in rural areas, where resources and livelihood opportunities are highly limited. Food Security Partners will strengthen coordination to ensure the timely and effective delivery of food items, with particular emphasis given to refugees in Ngabé, Mpouya, and Inié districts. There are plans to subsequently extend food assistance to residents in hard-to-reach areas within the Plateaux department. Provision of unrestricted cash assistance to enable refugees to meet their basic food and nutrition needs is contingent upon the availability of funding.

Food distributions will be complemented by timely post-distribution monitoring, and nutritional supplementation will be offered for the most vulnerable, including pregnant and breastfeeding women and children under 5 years old. These households will benefit from efforts to promote an understanding of nutrition, caregiving practices, and diets that contribute to improving nutritional status.

Public Health & Nutrition

Aside from Bouemba (29 per cent), all refugee settlements present a very high stunting rate, between 40 and 50 per cent. Additionally, anaemia prevalence is universally high, ranging between 50 and 77 per cent (SENS survey, 2021). Health and Nutrition Partners will, thus, collaborate to improve refugee access to national primary, secondary, tertiary healthcare, including curative consultation, sexual and reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, nutrition, outbreak management, and referral mechanisms for secondary and tertiary healthcare.

While complementing the national system, Partners will focus on strengthening the national capacity in areas where health infrastructure and services are weak. Support will also be extended to healthcare sustainability funds and initiatives like the Lisungi project, which oversees the management of 17 health centres and offers free consultations and medicine to vulnerable persons in departments hosting refugees. Partners will continue collaborating with the Government to strengthen community-based prevention and response to infectious diseases by implementing an integrated disease surveillance system, with specific emphasis on border entry points along the Congo River. Finally, Partners will continue advocating with the Ministry of Health for the inclusion of refugees into sustainable health projects, ensuring that refugees receive the same healthcare as the host population.

Livelihoods & Economic Inclusion

Through a community-based and integrated livelihoods approach, the Livelihoods Sector will foster empowerment and social cohesion, improve living conditions for refugee and host communities, and bolster local integration. Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion Partners will continue to advocate refugee integration into development and climate change adaptation projects, emphasizing socioeconomic inclusion to enhance self-sufficiency. Priority will be given to expanding the national social safety nets project and providing cash for income-generating activities and conditional cash assistance to asylum-seekers from the DRC living in Plateaux.

© UNHCR/Cyprien Cheval

Enhancing socioeconomic self-reliance through inclusion will require increased advocacy with local authorities for allocation of more farmland for refugees and for provision of capacity-building and support for innovative income-generating projects and start-ups. Partners will ensure activities involve host community, promoting peaceful coexistence, sharing natural resources and fostering a positive trickle-down effect.

Settlement and Shelter/Housing

In terms of shelter and renewable energy, efforts will be made to pursue risk-based programming and mitigate impacts of climate change and emergencies. Shelter Partners will engage in the construction of new safe and accessible shelters, emphasizing the use of local materials to provide enhanced and more resilient housing for people with specific needs. Shelters provided to refugees, asylum-seekers, and host communities in Likouala, Plateaux, and Pool departments will help promote social cohesion. Further, promotion and use of energy-efficient stoves, solar lamps, and other alternative energy sources in infrastructure will be a pillar of response that contribute to mitigating protection risks, including GBV. The Sector will continue to advocate for refugee inclusion in national and international programmes for climate resilience and adaptation.

Due to exposure to adverse weather, Bouemba refugee settlement will need adequate equipment for construction of resilient shelters, and environmental protection measures such as reforestation. The trickle arrival of new refugees creates constant need for emergency shelters to ensure adequate response. RRP Partners' current stocks of emergency shelter kits and materials are very limited.

WASH

Priority will be given to ensuring safe and inclusive access to WASH services. Efforts will focus on providing safe, accessible and equitable WASH services and increasing access to water for refugees and host communities in Likouala, Plateaux, and Pool departments. More water points are needed, particularly in Bouemba and Bouanga (Plateaux department). Menstrual hygiene management will be at the heart of all activities and will take into account the cultural preferences and feedback of women and girls from refugee and host communities.

While moving towards solar-powered pumping as a goal, interventions will first focus on rehabilitation of non-functional hand-pumps, the promotion of single-family latrine ownership, strengthening of hygiene practices, and empowerment of refugees to manage water and sanitation facilities. Establishment of a network for exchanging and selling spare parts is necessary to enhance operation and maintenance of hand-pumps at the community-level.

Logistics, Supply, and Telecommunication

Partners will continue to build logistics and coordination chain throughout the territory. To promote backups to cash assistance, susceptible to problems due to the unstable telephone network, storage capacities and warehouse management will be strengthened, especially in Bétou and Gamboma, where non-food items (NFIs) will be pre-positioned for swift emergency response. Partners will coordinate supply of goods to hard-to-reach areas with no NFI access. Telecommunication platforms will be established to connect refugees, asylum-seekers, and host populations with protection and assistance monitoring and coordination units.

Special attention will be given to strengthening river transport and car fleets, enabling Partners to carry out protection and assistance activities even in adverse weather conditions. Finally, interventions will prioritize improving land and river communication infrastructure to facilitate trade; boosting the electricity supply by promoting sustainable energy; and supporting the protection and development of forest ecosystems.

Partnership and Cooperation

In line with the Refugee Coordination Model and revised 2020-2024 UN Development Assistance Framework in the Republic of the Congo, UNHCR coordinates the refugee response. As per the Global Compact on Refugees, the 2017 Letter of Policy Development, and the 2022-2026 National Development Plan, the Government assumes a leading role in hosting refugees and asylum-seekers and facilitating their local integration through inclusion in national systems. Coordination is ensured through leadership of the CNAR at national level. In late 2023, an inter-agency refugee contingency plan was updated, revisiting planning scenarios and responses.

RRP Partners work also with the Ministry of Social Affairs, Humanitarian Action and Solidarity, local authorities, civil society and local grassroot organizations for broader refugee protection matters. Partners conduct regular coordination meetings at both strategic and operational levels. In 2024-2025, RRP Partners will bolster partnership-building and advance the implementation of the new pledges made at the 2023 GRF. Priority will be given broadening advocacy to consolidate traditional donor resources and fundraising through private and public funding sources, anchored in the principle of 'leave no one behind'

Financial Requirements

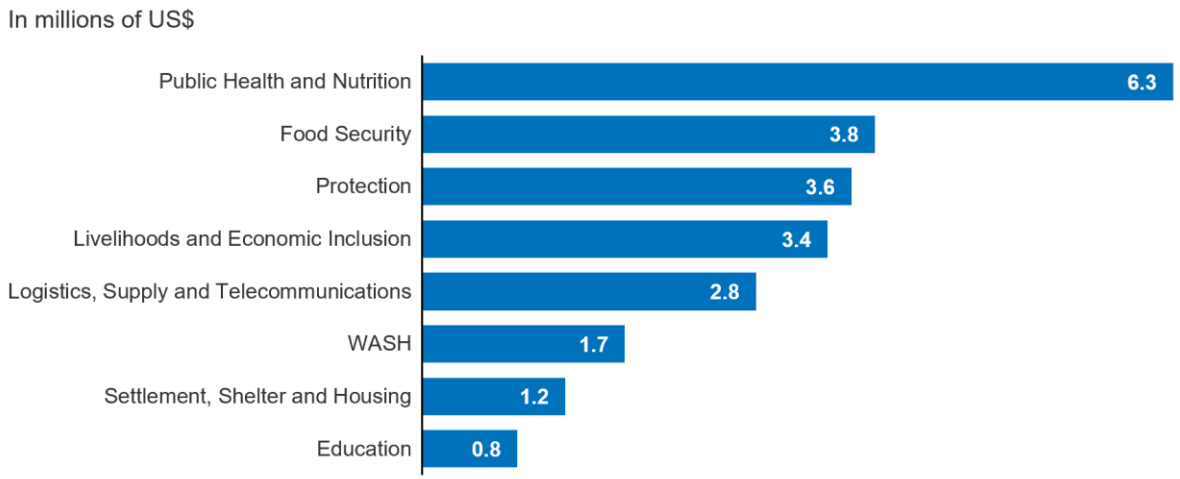
Total financial requirements

2024	2025
$23,619,974	$22,195,738

2024 Budget by Partner Type

Partners Involved	UN Agencies	Development actors	International NGOs			National NGOs		
8	6	2	0			0		
	$22,585,687	$1,034,287	$0			$0		
	Academia 0	Private sector 0	Refugee-Led Organizations 0	Faith-Based Organizations 0	Women-Led Organizations 0	Refugee-Led Organizations 0	Faith-Based Organizations 0	Women-Led Organizations 0
	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0

2024 Budget by Sector



Total Protection Requirements
$3,636,827

General Protection	GBV	Child Protection
$2,000,000	$1,522,349	$114,478

Total Cash Assistance Modality
$2,563,706

Food Security
$2,563,706

2024 Budget by Partner

Partner	Requirements in US$
United Nations	22,585,687
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	**9,346,273**
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	**4,000,000**
World Food Programme (WFP)	**3,765,465**
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	**2,634,717**
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)	**2,439,232**
World Health Organization (WHO)	**400,000**
(National) Development Actor	**1,034,287**
Medecins D'Afrique (MDA)	**1,032,787**
Association des Professionnels en Protection de l'Enfance (APPE)	**1,500**
Total	**$23,619,974**

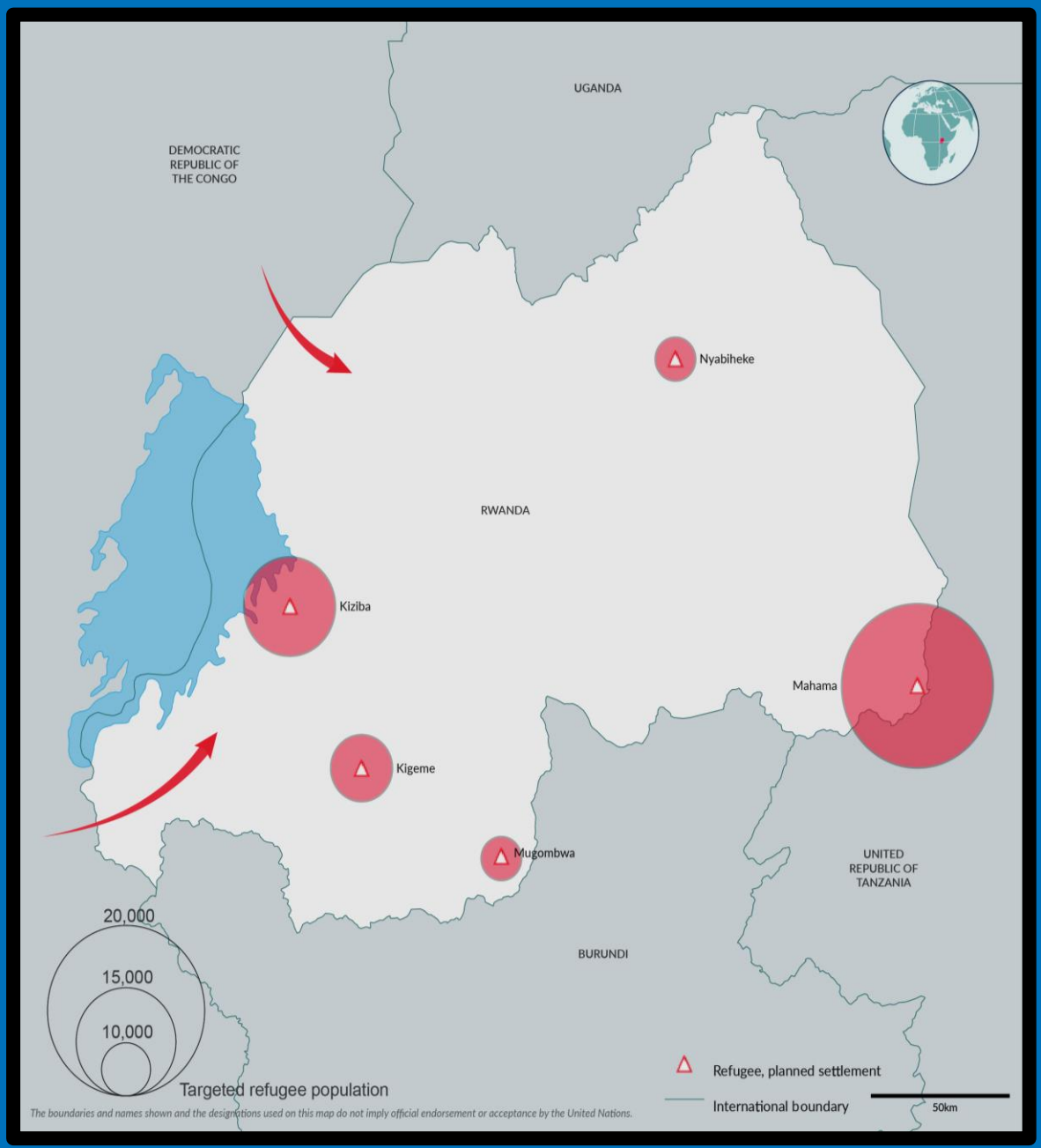
RWANDA

82,600
2024 refugee population to be assessed

12,000
2024 host community members benefiting from assistance

78.3M
2024 total financial requirements

24
Partners involved



18-month-old Stella has lived with her family in Nkamira Transit Centre, Rwanda since January 2023. ©SavetheChildren/ Biziyaremye, Thacien

Current Situation

Situational Overview

▶ *This chapter of the DRC Regional RRP extracts information from the Rwanda Country RRP, which relays the activities and budget needed to support refugees from the DRC living in Rwanda in 2024 and 2025. All Partners working on the response to the needs of refugees from the DRC in Rwanda also support Burundian refugees, with most programmes delivered regardless of nationality.*

As of December 2023, Rwanda hosted 79,090 refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC, which represent 62 per cent of the total refugee population in the country. The vast majority of them live in the five refugee camps of Kigeme, Kiziba, Mugombwa, Nyabiheke, and Mahama and in Nkamira transit centre; only 1.5 per cent live in urban areas.

Most refugees from the DRC who are currently living in Rwanda arrived during the 2012-2013 influx, with 69 per cent of this group having lived in Rwanda for over 10 years and the remaining 41 per cent having been born in the country. However, since December 2022, Rwanda has received approximately 13,822 new arrivals fleeing increased instability in the eastern provinces of the DRC, and this upward trend is likely to continue in 2024 and 2025. While most refugees from the DRC were previously registered on a prima facie basis, since 2020, all new asylum Seekers, regardless of nationality, now undergo refugee status determination by the Government.

Rwanda provides a conducive protection environment for asylum-seekers and refugees. The law is progressive, granting this population the right to work and access national services, including in areas such as documentation, education, and finance. In alignment with its Vision 2050 and the National Strategy for Transformation, Rwanda has also solidified commitments to international frameworks like the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR)[8] and the Sustainable Development Goals. Further, RRP Partners have established strong working relationships with Ministries over the years.

Yet, despite the favourable policies and legislation in the country, the living conditions for refugees remain challenging. Many camps in Rwanda are grappling with environmental degradation, and there is an increasing need to repair and maintain refugee

[8]At the Global Refugee Forum in 2023, the Government of Rwanda recommitted to pledges made in 2019 and added a new pledge to facilitate the inclusion of camp-based refugees in the national community-based health insurance scheme

shelters and infrastructure in these locations – water consumption across camps, for instance, averages 21 litres per person per day, just one litre above emergency standards[9]. In addition, some 87 per cent of refugees in Rwanda are categorized as highly vulnerable and depend on cash assistance to meet food needs[10]. While 93 per cent of refugee children are enrolled in national primary and secondary schools, only 4 per cent access tertiary education.

In this context, RRP Partners' advocacy is directed towards the inclusion of refugees' in national services and social protection schemes. For health, for example, Partners ensure that refugees have access to essential healthcare through camp-based primary health facilities and the integration of urban-based refugees into the national Community-Based Health Insurance (CBHI). Refugees also receive assistance to cover the cost of referrals to secondary and tertiary care at national hospitals.

Due to the protracted nature of the refugee situation in Rwanda, the response is expanding beyond a humanitarian approach to focus on inclusion, sustainable livelihoods, and social cohesion. This shift has led to increased efforts to help refugees graduate out of poverty and become less reliant on assistance. At the same time, finding durable solutions for the refugee population through resettlement and complementary pathways, such as labour mobility, educational scholarships, private sponsorship, and family reunification, has been and will remain a priority for Partners. In 2023,, over 7,000 refugees departed on resettlement from Rwanda. Given volatility in eastern DRC, voluntary repatriation will likely be restricted for the next years; yet, discussions are ongoing between Governments of Rwanda and the DRC to support any refugees who may wish to return in safety and dignity.

Country Risks and Needs

In 2024 and 2025, most refugees from the DRC hosted in Rwanda are expected to continue to live in camps and remain highly dependent on humanitarian assistance to meet their basic needs. Since the implementation of targeted conditions for food assistance distribution in 2021, several assessments by RRP Partners have indicated a rise in the number of people resorting to harmful coping mechanisms in refugee camps[11].

Among the most concerning behaviours undertaken by families are the sale of productive assets, begging, the sale and exchange of sex, child neglect, and the accrual of high levels of debt. Due to financial constraints, efforts to develop additional targeting criteria and enhance the efficiency of food assistance delivery are envisioned for 2024, and the likely consequent removal of more households from the programme will lead to increased risks for this population. Moreover, Rwanda's susceptibility to the effects of climate change is resulting in floods, soil erosion, and the formation of dangerous ravines. This in turn is increasingly forcing refugees to upend their lives to relocate from old camps to safer areas, compounding their vulnerabilities.

In contrast to refugees living in the camps, urban refugees receive minimal assistance and are generally more self-reliant. However, many among this group grapple with escalating socioeconomic precarity due to inflation, and Partners are often requested to provide emergency support to the most vulnerable families.

Beyond basic assistance, refugees across Rwanda have crucial protection needs. Though improvements in response have been made over the past few years, GBV and child protection incidents remain a significant issue, aggravated by underreporting and overstretching of RRP Partner case management services. Exposure to sexual exploitation and abuse poses a significant risk for refugee communities in Rwanda as well, and more investment is needed to boost prevention efforts.

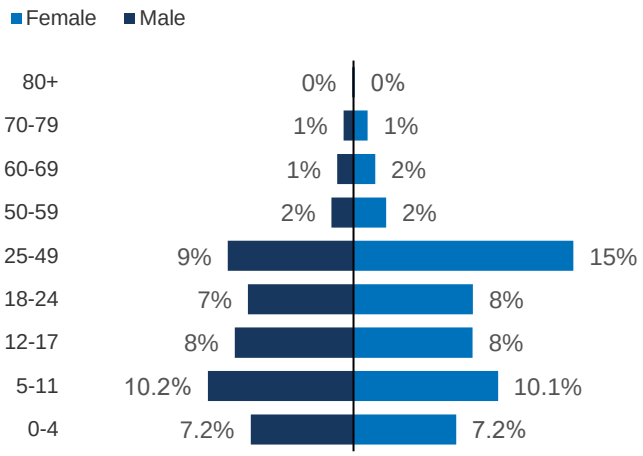
While local integration is possible as per the nationality law[12], there is little uptake among the refugee community, and Partners working on the response continue to collaborate with the Government of Rwanda to change this reality. For refugees unable to locally integrate, resettlement will remain the most viable durable solution in the next few years, as voluntary return is an unlikely option due to the increased instability in the DRC.

[9]Against a standard of 20 litres per person per day for post-emergency situations.
[10]As per criteria established by UNHCR and WFP related to targeting of assistance; 6 per cent of the population is classified as moderately vulnerable and 7 per cent as least vulnerable.
[11]Joint Post Distribution Monitoring Preliminary Report May 2022 indicated 50 per cent of refugees living in the camps are adopting emergency and crisis coping mechanisms.
[12]As per the nationality law, refugees can get citizenship after being in Rwanda over 25 years or through marriage to a Rwandan. Currently, 7,600 refugees have been in Rwanda over 25 years according to data, of whom there is little interest in getting citizenship as dual nationality is not allowed in the DRC.

Country Response and Solutions Strategy

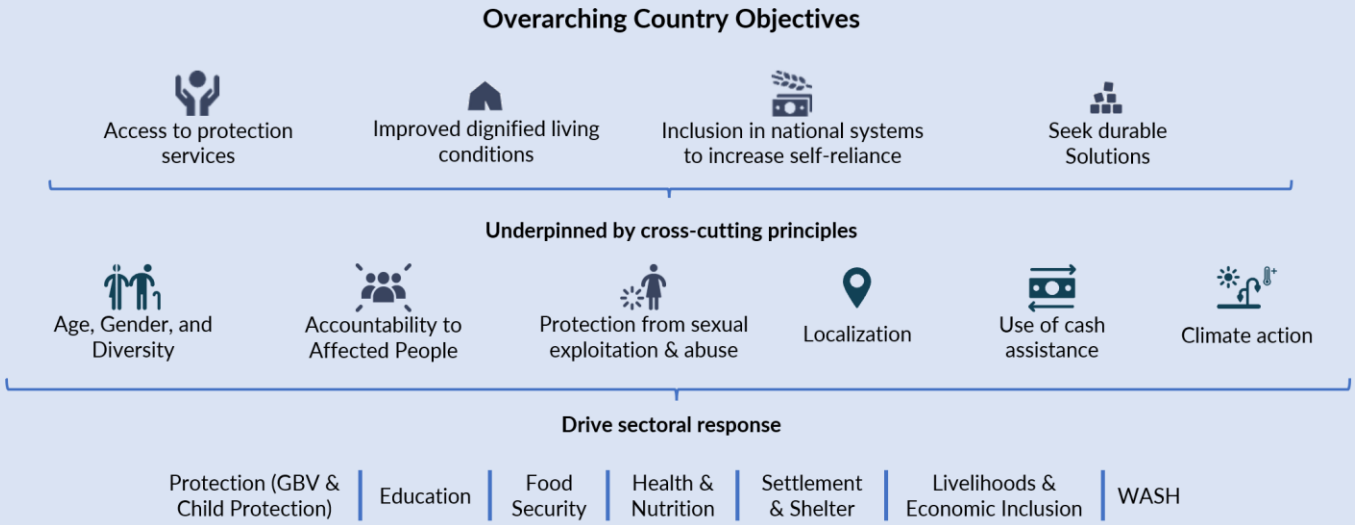
- In 2024, the 24 RRP Partners in Rwanda plan to assist **82,566** refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC (54 per cent of whom are women and girls, 46 per cent who are men and boys, 52 per cent who are children, and 16 per cent who are people with disabilities). In addition, Partners will aim to support **11,972** members of the host community during the year.
- Planning figures for assistance in 2025 are similar: **77,865** refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC and **11,972** host community members will be assisted.
- The Rwanda response plan is steered by four overarching objectives, which drive the respective sectoral responses, and is underpinned by the regional cross-cutting principles and priorities. The delivery of assistance through cash modalities will be mainstreamed, where possible, to increase flexibility and allow people the autonomy to choose how to meet their most pressing needs. At the same time, cash transfers will directly benefit the local economy and contribute to peaceful coexistence with host communities.

2024 Age and gender breakdown - refugee population to be assisted



54%
Women and girls

46%
Men and boys



Country Strategic Objectives

Maintain and strengthen access to comprehensive & inclusive protection services

RRP Partners will continue to ensure that inclusive protection services are available for refugees and asylum-seekers, including new arrivals. Through adoption of a community-based approach, interventions will be strengthened at local level and aligned with national structures. Attention will be given to the accessibility of services and to the active participation of women, girls, children, people with disabilities, older people, as well as other vulnerable groups in interventions. Individual case management will be provided to people affected by violence and abuse, with psychosocial support and counselling being offered according to need. Community centres across Rwanda will continue to serve as safe spaces for the forcibly displaced and their hosts to access inclusive protection services, and community-based initiatives such as programmes to train refugees and asylum-seekers as community volunteers and mobilizers will be expanded to improve capacity to detect protection risk and needs, refer cases, and inform communities on available services.

Partners will continue to offer free access to legal assistance for refugees and asylum-seekers and to provide technical assistance to the Government to support fair, affordable, efficient asylum procedures. Partners will enhance information flow and legal counselling in languages in which asylum-seekers are comfortable and advocate for inclusion of refugees and asylum-seekers in national legal aid systems.

Improve living conditions and support dignified lives for refugees

Efforts will be dedicated to improving living conditions of refugees and asylum-seekers across Rwanda as a driver to ensure their protection and well-being. Partners will focus on tackling the key concerns highlighted by refugees during participatory assessments and reports, which include the increase in family conflicts, GBV risks (including the sale and exchange of sex), child protection issues (such as neglect and child sexual abuse), and food scarcity.

Partners will continue to emphasize improving the living conditions of refugees, with a special focus on camp areas. Climate-sensitive planning will guide efforts to enhance the environment of refugee camps. Old and depreciating infrastructure, including shelters, WASH facilities, classrooms, and community centres, will be maintained, upgraded, and made accessible to all. In addition, RRP Partners will work to improve service delivery, especially for quality education. Lastly, the most vulnerable refugee families will continue to receive cash assistance to meet their basic needs. Given the proposed further targeting of cash and food assistance distributions, programmes will seek to incorporate activities that mitigate the potential negative impact of cuts on refugee families. In particular, robust approaches to mitigate risks of GBV will be implemented.

Support the inclusion of refugees in national systems to increase self-reliance

Building on commitments made by the Government of Rwanda as part of the Global Refugee Forum (GRF), the response will continue to support the inclusion of refugees in national systems. Furthermore, efforts will be directed towards strengthening refugees' and host communities' livelihood opportunities and self-reliance, in accordance with the principle ‘leave no one behind’. Programmes will assist the large population of young refugees with technical and vocational skills training and support access to higher education.

Seek durable solutions for refugees

Finding solutions for refugees from the DRC remains a core responsibility of RRP Partners. Resettlement opportunities for the most vulnerable refugees, based on existing methodology for prioritization, and complementary pathways for admission to third countries will be prioritized, owing to the increased size of the United States Refugee Admissions Program, as well as new and emerging programmes elsewhere. Voluntary repatriation of refugees to the DRC, while unlikely to be widespread, may start in 2024 as a result of improvements in the security situation in areas of return and of the Tripartite discussions between the two Governments and UNHCR. Where possibilities for local integration exist, refugees will be supported to obtain Rwandan citizenship.

Sectoral Responses

Protection

The RRP Protection priorities are: advocating with the authorities for access to territory and supporting authorities in strengthening the asylum system, providing registration and documentation, and promoting social cohesion. These will be pursued through advocacy with national asylum authorities and other line ministries, informed by analysis and protection monitoring; tailoring of services and assistance; capacity-building for authorities and partners; continued strengthening of community-based protection mechanisms; and provision of legal aid to asylum-seekers and other refugees in need.

The strengthening of community-based structures and capacity-building of community volunteers will improve two-way communication and feedback mechanisms, empower refugees to take the lead in their own protection, and help Partners in the identification and referral of vulnerable individuals in need of specialized support. Awareness-raising on child protection, inclusion of people with specific needs, and gender equality will be conducted with the broader population.

In line with the principle of 'leave no one behind', the protection response in Rwanda will continue to involve advocacy for refugee inclusion in national systems. The Protection Sector will also work towards durable solutions, such as resettlement, return, and integration. Moreover, coordination mechanisms to support the protection of refugees and host communities will be strengthened.

Child Protection Sub-Sector

Partners will ensure children are protected from violence, abuse, and exploitation and have access to child-friendly and inclusive procedures and services. Child Protection community-based structures will support identification and monitoring of at-risk children and facilitate child protection prevention interventions with communities. Child Protection Partners, in turn, will be responsible for initiating best interests procedure and ensuring the most vulnerable children have access to needed support, including alternative care arrangements and durable solutions, such as facilitated return and family reunification.

Child- and young people-friendly spaces offering psychological first aid and specialized mental health and psychosocial support will be rehabilitated, upgraded, and made more accessible to a higher number of at-risk children.

Increased collaboration with national structures for integration of refugee children into existing systems and ensuring access to services will be pursued.

RRP Partners will also build the capacity of the available workforce to ensure quality best interests procedure, with engagement of the Ministry in charge of Emergency Management (MINEMA), the Directorate General of Immigration and Emigration, the Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion, and the National Child Development Agency.

Gender-Based Violence Sub-Sector

GBV Partners will advance the roll out and contextualization of the inter-agency minimum standards for GBV response and the RRP Partners' GBV Policy and its accompanying monitoring tool. Community-based protection mechanisms, referrals, and engagement of frontline workers will be further enhanced. Innovative prevention initiatives targeting women, men, girls, and boys will be prioritized to encourage the wider refugee community to take ownership of GBV prevention. In addition, mainstreaming GBV risk mitigation across Sectors will continue to be one of the key components of RRP activities in 2024 and 2025.

GBV-specialized services targeting survivors, including medical, legal, psychosocial, material, and livelihoods support, will be strengthened in close collaboration with other relevant Sectors. Inter-agency standard operating procedures for GBV prevention, risk mitigation, and response, as well as case management, will be updated, and strong referral pathways for quality, survivor-centred, and inclusive services will be implemented. Regular coordination among partners will be reinforced and joint advocacy with the Government to ensure the integration of refugee women and girls into national systems will be conducted. Lastly, complaints, feedback, and reporting mechanisms such as GBV helplines, complaint boxes, protection desks, and an email address will be made accessible to all community members.

Education

To enhance the sustainable inclusion of refugees in the national education system, Education Partners will continue to support the Ministry of Education to improve learning conditions and outcomes for all children in Rwanda. Partner interventions will also address the challenges faced by out of school children, especially girls, and children with special education needs. Investments to improve the quality of education through the expansion of school infrastructure, development of teachers' capacity, adoption of connected learning, and supply of teaching and learning materials will be a priority.

RRP Partners will collaboratively develop a roadmap

on how to address the education needs of refugees during potential influxes, to ensure new arrivals can quickly access language training, curriculum orientation, catch-up classes, and educational resources. The ultimate goal is to facilitate their integration into the national education system.

Education activities will also include equipping school personnel with knowledge and skills to identify and safely refer children and young people at risk and support those at risk of dropping out of school; supporting the national school feeding system in schools in refugee-hosting areas; and enhancing refugee access to tertiary education, including universities, and technical and vocational education and training.

Food Security

Camp-based refugees will continue to be primarily dependent on cash transfers for food security. Given the current funding constraints, Partners will work in consultation with the refugee community to develop additional targeting criteria, ensuring the most vulnerable refugees continue to receive food assistance.

Refugees living in urban settings do not ordinarily receive food assistance due to their higher degree of self-reliance and accessibility to the labour market. However, Partners will provide the most vulnerable families with cash assistance for food and accommodation on a temporary and exceptional basis, if required. New arrivals in reception and transit centres will receive in-kind food support upon arrival and until relocation.

Further emphasis will be given to supporting sustainable livelihoods to supplement the monthly humanitarian food assistance distribution and increase food security among refugees and host communities. Efforts to bolster sustainable food production systems and promote resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity will also advance the goal of zero hunger for all.

Public Health & Nutrition

Health and Nutrition programmes for refugees will focus on making existing services more efficient, accessible, and responsive. They will also focus on increasing preparedness for future health emergencies, in collaboration with national authorities. RRP Partners will continue to deliver primary healthcare for refugees in camps, as well as facilitate referrals to hospitals, prioritizing life-saving interventions. To this end, health infrastructure across camps will be rehabilitated and maintained to meet Ministry of Health standards. Health information systems will also be enhanced, and the quality of data will be improved. Mental health and psychosocial support will be strengthened and made easily-available to communities, including survivors of gender-based violence. The procurement of essential medicines and medical supplies will be undertaken in accordance with standards and guidance provided by the Rwanda Food and Drugs Authority. Lastly, urban refugees will be supported to access CBHI, and Partners will advocate for the scheme to be extended to camp-based refugees.

The nutrition response will prioritize the prevention, screening, detection, and treatment of acute malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies, to keep malnutrition rates in refugee camps low. Pregnant and lactating women will receive nutritional support, and awareness-raising on good nutritional practices will be a continuous activity.

Livelihoods & Economic Inclusion

Livelihoods and economic inclusion efforts in 2024 and 2025 will focus on diversifying strategic partnerships, including with the private sector, and on closer coordination between Partners to maximize synergies. In addition, all interventions will be in line with the UNHCR and MINEMA's joint strategy on Economic Inclusion of Refugees and Host Communities in Rwanda 2021-2024, which aims to support refugees, asylum-seekers, and the host community to become self-reliant.

Increased evidence-based advocacy for the inclusion of refugees in national systems and programmes will be carried out by Partners. This will include joint market assessments and information-sharing on opportunities for refugee employment. Supporting the reduction of non-legal barriers to employment by changing perceptions of employers and the private sector about refugees' eligibility to work and turning inclusive policies into reality will also be a priority. Efforts will be made to emphasize livelihood activities in sectors such as technology and agriculture, identified in Rwanda's Vision 2050 for their growth potential. Previous livelihood interventions, such as climate-smart agriculture in marshland areas, will be scaled up.

Settlement and Shelter/Housing

Shelter Partners will maintain shelter standards in refugee camps and transit centres through the rehabilitation and repair of ageing shelters, construction of new shelters and improvement of communal infrastructure. These interventions will

improve refugees' living environment, improve accessibility, protect individuals and families against protection risks, harsh weather conditions, and the impact of climate change, and lead to improved well-being in the community.

RRP Partners will provide liquefied petroleum gas cooking resources to refugee families in Mugombwa and Mahama camps, as well as transit centres. In Kiziba, Nyabiheke, and Kigeme camps, refugee families and individuals will receive cash assistance for energy. Similarly, cash assistance for non-food items will be distributed on a periodic basis to help families and individuals meet their basic needs. Due to funding restrictions, such interventions will likely be delivered on a targeted basis to reach the most vulnerable. Partners will also promote solarization and scale up renewable energy access. In addition, investments will be made in reforestation programmes to rehabilitate ravines, prevent soil erosion, and mitigate the impact of climate change.

WASH

The approach to improving WASH conditions for refugee communities will be three-pronged: Partners will increase the accessibility to safe facilities; ensure that facilities are operated effectively and efficiently by the refugee community and that the community is involved in safeguarding and cleaning them; and raise awareness of safe hygiene practices among the refugee population. Gender considerations and access for people with specific needs, as per international standards, will guide all efforts. Further, innovative practices, including solarization, will be pursued in the construction and maintenance of WASH facilities, where possible.

Coordination between Partners and government agencies will seek to ensure refugee communities have uninterrupted water supplies and reduced water losses. Partners will also support provision of water to host communities who face similar challenges, to reduce risk of tensions. The overall objective of the Sector will be to mainstream refugee water supply into government services. Refugee committees and individuals will be equipped to operate and maintain WASH facilities, as per the national Community-Based Environmental Health Promotion Programme, which aims to empower communities to identify problems and devise solutions with autonomy and accountability. Lastly, Partners will work to distribute soap to refugees and ensure adequate waste and garbage disposal.

Partnership and Cooperation

The refugee response in Rwanda is led and coordinated by MINEMA and UNHCR. In 2024 and 2025, 24 RRP Partners, including UN Agencies, NGOs, academia, and development actors, will implement activities, in close collaboration with relevant ministries across Sectors. A quarterly refugee coordination meeting will continue to be organized at national level as a forum to share information, develop mechanisms to respond to challenges, and define the way forward for joint advocacy.

The RRP is aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) and the National Strategic Transformation; the latter provides thematic guidance for accelerated transformation in the areas of economy, social protection, and governance, while emphasizing the sustainability of results and the advancement of development for all. A new UNSDCF is currently being developed which will come into force in July 2024. The Common Country Analysis has been completed and RRP Partners successfully managed to advocate for the inclusion of refugees under several sections.

The response to refugee needs is gradually progressing from humanitarian activities to development interventions, with emphasis on sustainable livelihoods and social cohesion, reflecting a larger, global move towards a humanitarian-development-peace nexus approach. Rwanda's involvement in the GCR and pledges made at the GRF have built up the move in this direction, creating space for RRP Partners to explore partnerships with new and strategic stakeholders in support of refugees.

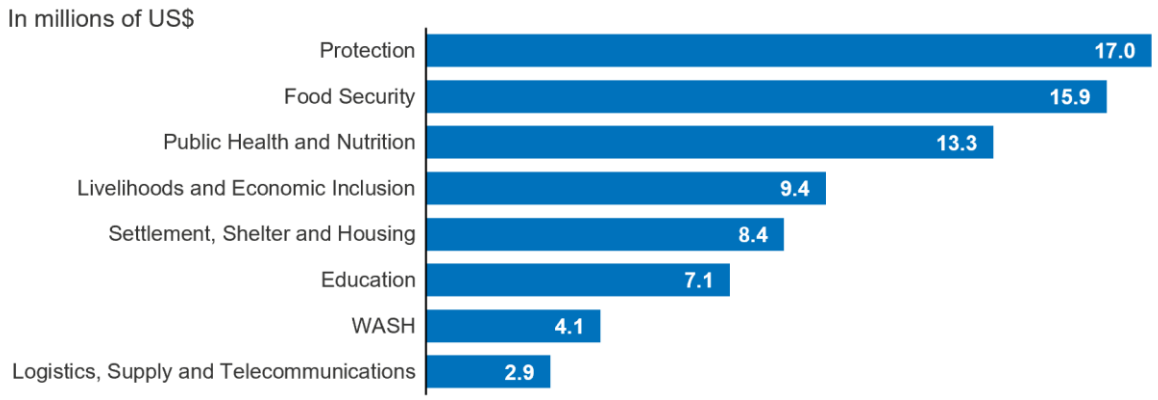
Financial Requirements

Total financial requirements	2024	2025
	$78,302,432	$75,373,482

2024 Budget by Partner Type

24 Partners Involved	7 UN Agencies	2 Development actors	6 International NGOs			6 National NGOs		
	$59,205,943	$3,525,085	$13,156,741			$1,897,775		
1 IFRC/ICRC	1 Academia	1 Private sector	INGO Refugee-Led Organizations 0	INGO Faith-Based Organizations 1	INGO Women-Led Organizations 0	NGO Refugee-Led Organizations 2	NGO Faith-Based Organizations 2	NGO Women-Led Organizations 0
$77,104	$402,868	$36,916	$0	$676,000	$0	$685,398	$180,000	$0

2024 Budget by Sector



Total Protection Requirements
$17,013,770

General Protection	GBV	Child Protection
$ 12,368,085	$1,509,111	$3,136,574

Total cash assistance requirements
$20,544,569

Protection	Food Security	Livelihoods & Resilience
$103,948	$12,757,651	$691,949

Public Health and Nutrition	Settlement, Shelter and Housing
$3,177,176	$3,813,845

2024 Budget by Partner

Partner	Requirements in US$
United Nations	**59,205,943**
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	**36,213,732**
World Food Programme (WFP)	**19,918,534**
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	**1,951,577**
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	**522,100**
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	**300,000**
International Trade Centre (ITC)	**150,000**
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)	**150,000**
International NGOs	13,156,741
Save the Children International (SCI)	**5,550,941**
ALIGHT	**4,670,000**
Practical Action	**1,009,800**
Humanity & Inclusion (HI)	**850,000**
World Vision International (WVI)	**676,000**
Plan International (PI)	**400,000**
National NGOs	1,897,775
Impact Hope	**1,002,377**
Maison Shalom	**600,953**
Adventist Development and Relief Agency Rwanda (ADRA-Rwanda)	**90,000**
CARITAS	**90,000**
Mondiant Initiative	**84,445**
Prison Fellowship Rwanda	**30,000**
Academia	402,868
Kepler	**402,868**
Development actor	3,525,085
Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)	**1,925,085**
Inkomoko Business Development	**1,600,000**
Private Sector	36,916
Indego Africa (IA Indego Africa)	**36,916**
ICRC/IFRC	**77,104**
Rwanda Red Cross	**77,104**
Total	**$78,302,432**

Eugene, a 65-year-old refugee from the DRC, has been living in Kigeme refugee camp, Rwanda, for a decade. He is a key member of his camp's environmental club. ©UNHCR/Lilly Carlisle

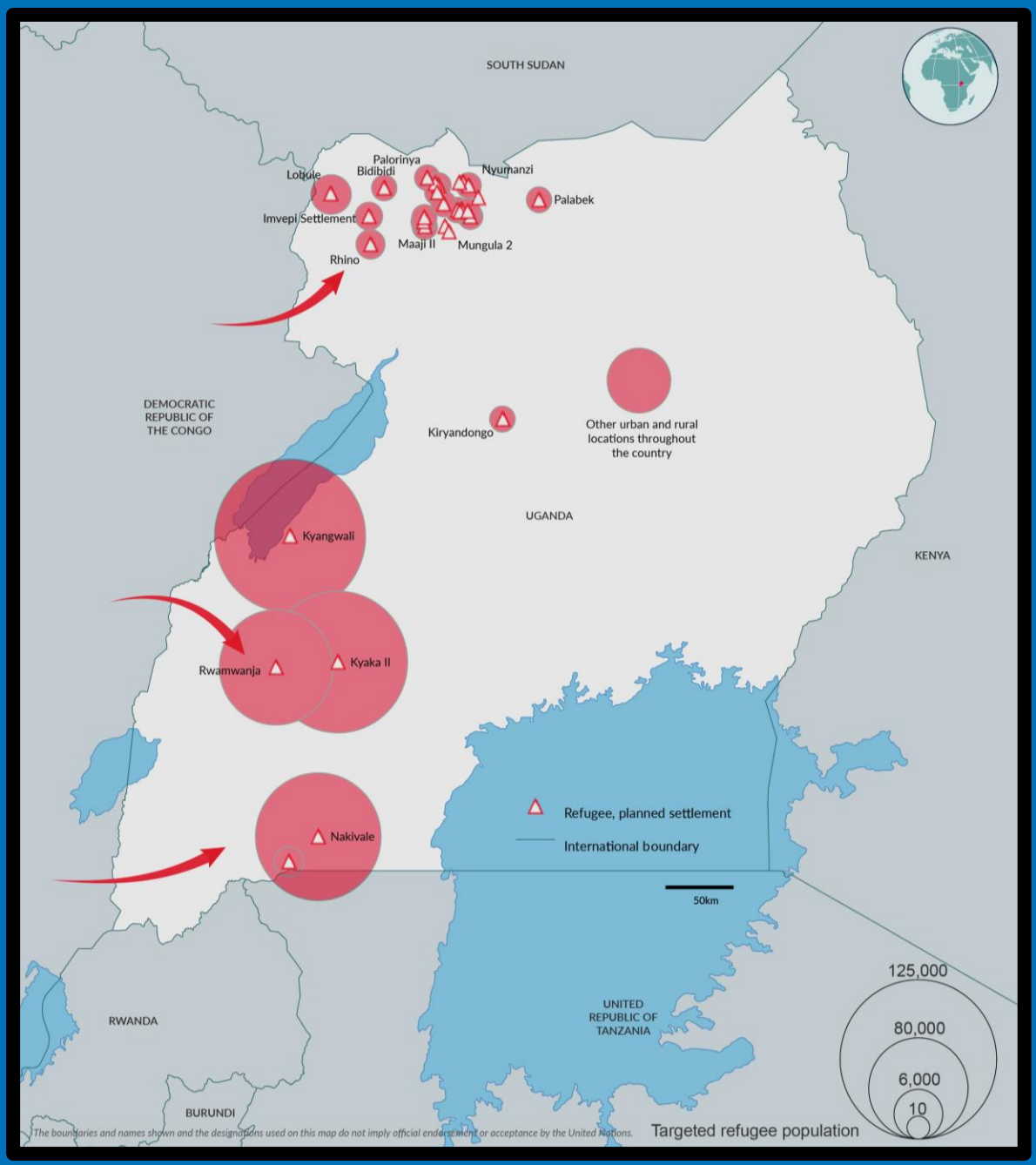
UGANDA

537,000
2024 refugee population to be assessed

958,800
2024 host community members benefiting from assistance

355.1M
2024 total financial requirements

73
Partners involved



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Current Situation

Situational Overview

▶ *This chapter of the DRC Regional RRP covering Uganda is an updated extract from the Uganda Country Refugee Response Plan (UCRRP), a joint plan between the Office of the Prime Minister, UNHCR, and international and national Partners covering the period of 2022-2025. Under the UCRRP, the response for refugees from the DRC, alongside other refugee populations hosted in the country, is articulated in a comprehensive and integrated manner*

Uganda continues to be Africa's largest refugee-hosting country, with over 1.6 million refugees across 13 districts. Refugees from the DRC are the second largest population in Uganda, numbering 505,738. Uganda continues to receive a regular flow of new arrivals that has added pressure to an already underfunded response: in 2022, 98,000 new refugees arrived, while this number stood at 23,814 for 2023. This large presence of refugees has exacerbated economic, environmental, and development challenges faced by host communities. It has also impeded the ability of RRP Partners to provide an emergency response whilst at the same time continuing to work closely with the Government, development partners, and refugees to ensure a more sustainable and integrated refugee response. In 2024 and 2025, it is anticipated that refugees from the DRC will continue crossing into Uganda through official and unofficial entry points due to ongoing instability in North Kivu and Ituri provinces.

Uganda has one of the world's most progressive asylum regimes, anchored in the 2006 Refugee Act and the 2010 Refugee Regulations. This legal framework safeguards refugees' freedom of movement and the rights to work, establish a business, own property, and access national services, including education and healthcare. In Uganda, refugees live in settlements alongside nationals; in dedicated areas, they are provided with plots of land for housing and cultivation, a practice that favours self-reliance and resilience. Asylum-seekers from eastern DRC are granted refugee status on a prima facie basis.

Funding for the UCRRP has dwindled in past years. Capacity of RRP Partners to provide lifesaving support to new arrivals and basic assistance to refugees has diminished, manifested as significant reductions in food rations with over 80 per cent of the population receiving USD 3 per person per month, which is barely enough to survive. Partners continue to prioritize delivery of essential services, but more involvement and support from development actors, as agreed through the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), are needed to transition the

management of parallel systems from humanitarian partners to sustainable government systems.

Poverty levels are high among both refugee and host communities in Uganda. Although refugee households have access to land, in accordance with the legislation, productivity is low and frequently impacted by drought and flooding. Faced with mounting economic, social and protection pressures, refugee men, women, and children have increasingly resorted to harmful practices, such as reducing the number of meals per day, accumulating debt, and sending children to work.

Despite these challenges, Uganda has been recognized for its exemplary leadership in refugee management and was invited as co-convenor at the Global Refugee Forum (GRF) in December 2023. This was an opportunity to build on the significant progress made by governments and other stakeholders towards the implementation of the GRF pledges and initiatives announced since 2019. It also offered a platform for the announcement of recent pledges, particularly around the thematic areas of transition of services, taking action against climate change, increasing resilience and self-reliance, localizing response, and pursuing durable solutions.

Country Risks and Needs

Most asylum-seekers and refugees in Uganda are highly vulnerable. GBV is widespread among refugee and host communities, demanding special attention from Partners. A significant concern is the underreporting of GBV incidents due to fear of stigma, reactions from the family and the community, perceptions of GBV as a private matter, and lack of confidence in reporting channels. Children face heightened risks of neglect, separation from caregivers, violence, exploitation, child labour, GBV, child marriage, and psychological distress. The primary contributing factors are reduction in cash for food and land for farming, exposure of women and girls to the risk of GBV. Additionally, across Uganda, host communities and refugees have experienced a rise in mental health issues and poor psychosocial well-being, often without receiving proper treatment. The 2022 participatory assessment further revealed that vulnerable groups of refugees, such as elderly persons, persons with disability and other minority groups (i.e., minority religious and ethnic groups and sex workers) seem to be more affected by difficulties in accessing basic services, either because of physical barrier to access or because of stigma and discrimination. There is a need to strengthen referral pathways and other mitigation measures to reduce the risk of marginalization and discrimination. Most refugees from the DRC face socioeconomic vulnerabilities, often the root cause of protection concerns. The 2023 Food Security and Nutrition Assessment (FSNA) found that 67 per cent of refugees from the DRC were food insecure, up from 63 per cent in June 2022. Forty-five per cent of refugee households had poor and borderline food consumption scores, and 42 per cent employed crisis and emergency livelihood coping strategies, such as selling of productive assets, withdrawing children from school, begging, and engaging in illegal activities. The majority (74 per cent) of refugee households reduced meals eaten per day or limited portion sizes as a coping strategy for food shortage. The FSNA also found that 78 per cent of refugee households had debt to pay.

Access to essential services remains problematic. Challenges related to teacher availability and qualification, inadequate infrastructure, financial resource gaps affecting the national education system, and restricted availability of scholarships are further compounded by the new arrivals. As of September 2023, education enrolment rates stood at 40 per cent in pre-primary, 92 per cent in primary, and 6 per cent in secondary. The capacity of primary healthcare institutions in Uganda is overstretched, with clinicians conducting, on average, 57 consultations a day. The leading causes of death are malaria, maternal and perinatal morbidity, and respiratory tract infections. Lack of medicines, long waiting times, and failure to get referrals are listed as the main obstacles for refugees to access healthcare. For human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, poor knowledge and awareness about the conditions, serious stigma, and inadequate provision of preventative and treatment services hinder interventions.

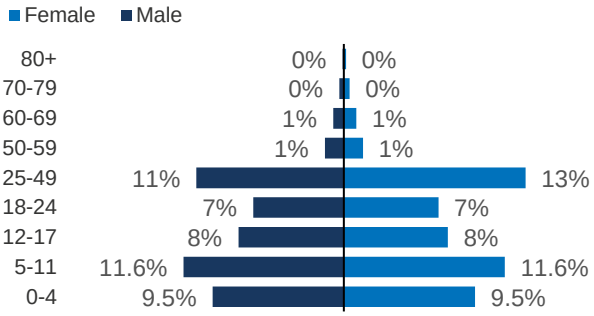
Reduction in the availability and level of WASH services is attributed to the gap between the high rate of arrivals from the DRC since 2022 and speed of infrastructure development in settlements. Certain settlements (notably Kyangwali, Kyaka, Nakivale) have high proportions of refugee households (up to 44 per cent) usiing unprotected water sources for drinking and cooking, compared to 9 per cent across all settlements.

The lack of adequate electricity supply in camps is impacting Partners' ability to operate health facilities, schools, water pumps, reception centres, and street lighting. Further, increased environmental degradation is expected to exacerbate tensions, protection risks, and socioeconomic vulnerabilities, as well as compromise basic shelter. Major drivers of environmental degradation both within and around refugee settlements include the continuous influx of people and deforestation for fuelwood, construction materials, and farmland.

Country Response and Solutions Strategy

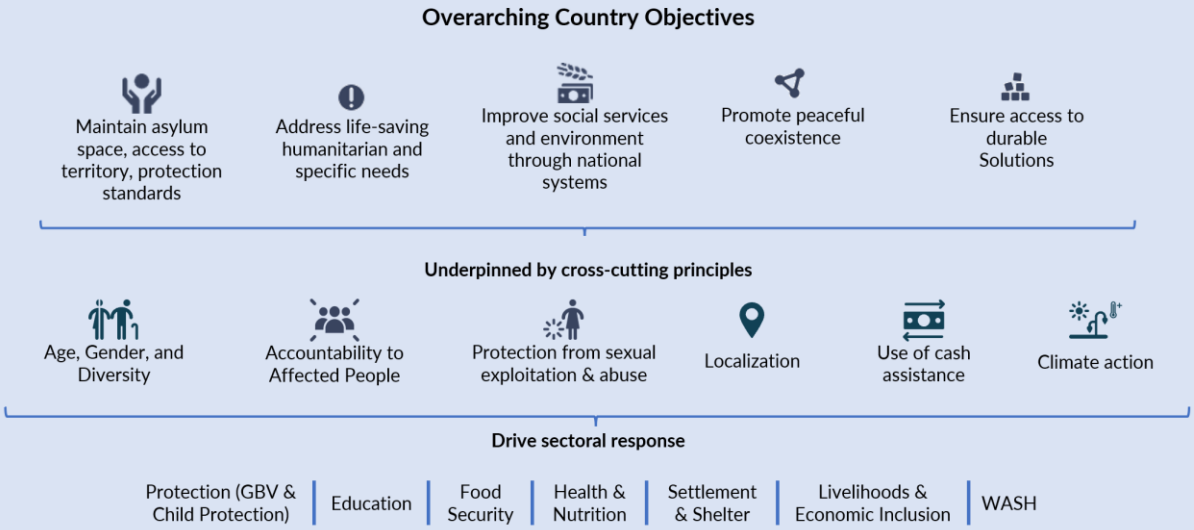
- In 2024, the 73 RRP Partners in Uganda plan to assist **536,914** refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC (52 per cent of whom are women and girls, 48 per cent who are men and boys, 57 per cent who are children, and 16 per cent who are people with disabilities). In addition, Partners will aim to support **958,800** members of the host community during the year.
- Planning figures for assistance in 2025 are slightly higher: **577,264** refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC and one million host community members will be assisted.
- The 2022-2025 UCRRP promotes strategic priorities identified by the Government of Uganda and Partners, with interventions aligning to national policies and strategies to respond to evolving needs and complement and build upon international assistance programmes in the country. The Plan focuses on humanitarian assistance to refugees and host communities and seeks to expand investments, partnerships, and delivery models geared towards longer-term development strategies. The UCCRP reinforces partnership and collaboration with local civil society organisations, RLOs and beneficiary communities as part of the localisation agenda and to promote sustainability of interventions.
- There has been significant progress and commitment from RRP partners to use cash modalities in the response, where feasible, and harmonizing approaches. Led by the Cash Working Group (CWG), a coordinated, collaborative, and multi-stakeholder Common Cash Approach is being pursued. The purpose of this approach is to deliver context-specific, harmonized, efficient, and refugee-centric cash assistance and services to boost financial inclusion.
- The response is anchored in national and regional multi-year protection frameworks, policies, laws, and standards that comprehensively address the legal and physical protection needs of refugees from the DRC. In line with the Regional RRP strategic objectives, RRP Partners in Uganda will prioritize interventions to achieve the following five objectives, which will drive the sectoral responses and are underpinned by the regional cross-cutting principles and priorities.

2024 Age and gender breakdown - refugee population to be assisted



52%
Women and girls

48%
Men and boys



Country Strategic Objectives

▶ Uganda's asylum space is strengthened and unhindered; access to territory preserved; international protection standards are adhered to

RRP Partners will continue to ensure that refugees and asylum-seekers have access to asylum, fair and accelerated asylum procedures as well as full enjoyment of their rights as set forth in international and domestic laws. Partners will continue to strengthen the capacity of national institutions to respond to emergencies, and support improvements in registration and the asylum system. Partners will provide protection services, based on identification and referral of cases through protection monitoring, and will work with community-based structures to mitigate protection risks.

▶ Life-saving humanitarian needs of refugees and asylum-seekers are met, with attention to any specific needs

After the immediate needs of refugees and displaced families have been met, Partners will continue to provide life-saving assistance on an ongoing basis. This includes access to protection, healthcare, shelter and more. In addition, special focus will be given to vulnerable groups at risk of exclusion to ensure equal access to protection services and assistance and decision-making opportunities.

▶ All affected people[13] in refugee-hosting districts benefit from a healthy natural environment and improved social services, including health, education, water & sanitation, and social welfare, provided through national systems, where possible

RRP Partners will continue to work to promote inclusive access to quality education and health in the national systems; sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems; and inclusion of refugees into national development plans and national statistical systems (including the upcoming census in 2024). Partners will increase advocacy with development actors to bridge the humanitarian-development divide and further facilitate the transition from humanitarian response to stabilization, recovery, and development, in line with the government's commitments to achieve the goals of the CRRF/GCR.

[13]The UCRRP refers to "People of Concern" in its Response Plan, a category which includes "refugees, returnees, stateless people, internally displaced people, and asylum-seekers"

▶ All affected people in refugee-hosting districts live peacefully with each other and progressively attain self-reliance in an environment conducive for livelihood opportunities

Peaceful coexistence among communities as well as the provision of mental health and psychosocial support services (MHPSS) will remain a priority. The peaceful co-existence atmosphere prevailing in the settlements and surrounding communities enables refugees and asylum seekers to pursue livelihood and economic activities for the enhancement of their self-reliance. Partners will continue to strengthen the enabling environment for refugee economic inclusion through strengthening coordination structures at both settlement and national levels. Sustained advocacy for refugee access to economic resources such as arable land, formal employment opportunities and enterprise development will continue to be pursued.

▶ Refugees and stateless persons access durable solutions, including voluntary return or third-country solutions

Considering ongoing armed conflicts in the areas of the DRC from where Congolese refugees in Uganda originate, safe returns are not an option for this population at this time[14]. Advocacy for peace-building processes and negotiations will continue with the aim of creating an enabling environment for voluntary repatriation to the DRC. Partners will further advocate for resettlement and complementary pathways for refugees in need of family reunification in third countries, while international scholarships and labor mobility opportunities are promoted and facilitated for talented refugees.

While most refugees do not wish to have permanent citizenship or residence in Uganda[15], the progressive refugee policy provides a conducive environment for refugees to become self-reliant. Partners will continue to promote self-reliance among refugees and inclusion in national systems where possible.

[14]UNHCR Position on Returns to North Kivu, South Kivu, Ituri and Adjacent Areas in the Democratic Republic of Congo Affected by Ongoing Conflict and Violence– Update III, Nov 2022

[15]https://reliefweb.int/report/democratic-republic-congo/refugees-generation-generation-preventing-statelessness-advancing-durable-solutions-great-lakes-region

Provision of maternal health services at Rwamwanja Heath facility, Uganda. @Medical Teams International

Sectoral Responses

Protection

The overall protection objective is to ensure that refugees and asylum-seekers have access to a fair, efficient, and adaptable asylum system, as well as full enjoyment of the rights outlined in international and domestic laws. Partners will continue to strengthen the capacity of national institutions to respond to emergencies and support improvements in registration and the asylum system. RRP Partners will provide protection services, based on identification and referral of cases through protection monitoring, and will work with community-based structures to mitigate protection risks. Partners will work in close collaboration with community-based structures including the Refugee welfare committees (RWCs), sector specific structures like the Village health teams (VHTs), Child protection committees (CPCs), Village education committees (VECs) and Refugee led organisations (RLOs), to identify protection needs and support referrals to service providers. Increased efforts will be directed at reinforcing comprehensive feedback and response mechanisms to ensure accountability to affected populations. In addition, special focus will be given to vulnerable groups at risk of exclusion to ensure equal access to protection services and assistance and decision-making opportunities.

While durable solutions remain limited for refugees from the DRC, Partners will work with the Government to implement their GRF pledges. To enhance resilience, RRP Partners will continue to work with the Government to enhance access to electronic Conventional Travel Documents and other civil documentation (birth certificates, ID cards). Advocacy for peace-building processes and negotiations will continue with the aim of voluntary repatriation to the DRC.

Child Protection Sub-Sector

Child protection is a priority, given the large number of refugee and asylum-seeker children in Uganda (over 290,500) as of the end of 2023) and the disproportionate number of unaccompanied and separated children. During displacement, children are often at a heightened risk of violence, abuse, neglect, child marriage, teenage pregnancy, and child labour. To promote longer-term change and prevent violations of child rights, Child Protection Partners will work to enhance the role of community structures in protecting children.

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structures in protecting children.

Further, to address complex needs of refugee children, the Child Protection Partners will continue to apply a comprehensive approach. This approach will prioritize the provision of quality best interests procedure for children at risk; the placement of unaccompanied children into adequate alternative care through community-based fostering initiatives, in line with the National Framework for Alternative Care, under leadership of the Ministry of Gender, Labour, and Social Development; the promotion of children's access to psychosocial support and recreation; and targeted programming focused on the specific needs of adolescent girls and boys.

To foster sustainability and change, all programmes will integrate capacity-development activities for Partners, including UN and NGO personnel and community level workers. All activities are aimed at facilitating the inclusion and access of refugee and Ugandan children into national child protection systems.

Gender-Based Violence Sub-Sector

To decrease the occurrence of GBV, which disproportionally affects women and children, RRP Partners will continue to engage in prevention activities aimed at addressing the root causes of violence, including longer-term attitude and behaviour changes. To see longer-term changes in attitudes towards gender norms and power relationships, the SASA! Together Methodology, which focuses on domestic violence against women, is currently being rolled out in eight out of 13 refugee-hosting districts, and will be rolled out gradually to all the refugee settlements.

GBV Partners will ensure that survivors of GBV have access to survivor-centred and timely case management services, as well as linking survivors to multisectoral support. The comprehensive referral pathways in place at national and sub-national levels, ensuring timely access to GBV specialized services, will be enhanced and regularly updated, and inter-agency GBV prevention, risk mitigation and response standard operating procedures will be developed.

In line with the 2021-2025 National GBV Sector Working Group Strategy, GBV incidents will be reduced by integrating risk mitigation measures and

reviewing sectoral strategies and activities. Partners have developed comprehensive referral pathways at national and sub-national levels ensuring timely access to GBV-specialized services. In 2024, the sub-Sector will scale up training of frontline workers and enhance the integration of GBV response into existing national coordination platforms, in collaboration with the OPM and Minister of Gender Labour and Social Development. The Sector will support refugee and women-led organizations and civil society actors to upscale their engagement in GBV prevention and response, as well as their contribution to the coordination structure.

Education

To ensure equitable access to quality education for over 214,400 school-aged children and younger people from the DRC in refugee-hosting areas, the Ministry of Education and Sports, in partnership with stakeholders, has developed the second Education Response Plan for Refugees and Host Communities (ERP II, 2022-2023). The UCRRP is aligned with the ERP II, and its main objective is to ensure the population in refugee-hosting districts benefits from improved access to social services, including education (36 per cent provided through national systems).

Partners will continue to provide safe, equitable, and inclusive quality education and training services to increase access and the retention of children, adolescents, and young people, particularly girls, within a progressively integrated (refugees and host communities) education system, in line with the aspirations of the ERP II.

To enhance government-led coordination, system strengthening, and monitoring and evaluation, Education Partners will advocate for supportive plans, strategies, and regulatory frameworks through community-level engagement. Partners will also ensure that the Sector benefits from improved multisectoral coordination of services, strengthen evidence-driven planning and decision-making, and policy and regulatory advocacy.

Food Security

The Food Security Sector has implemented a progressive shift to needs-based targeting of all food and cash assistance distributed to refugees. The new model resulted from consultations, including with refugee and hosting communities, and drew extensively on vulnerability data of an Individual Profiling Exercise conducted by an RRP Partner in 2022. Currently, the most vulnerable beneficiaries receive a 60 per cent ration, the moderately vulnerable receive a 30 per cent ration and the least vulnerable have been moved off food assistance.

Partners will assess the needs and causes of food insecurity across the different settlements through the food and nutrition security monitoring and evaluation systems, such as the FSNA and Mobile Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping, as well as

post-distribution monitoring, to inform the targeting criteria for individual households based on needs and context. The choice of the assistance modality will continue to be based on feasibility and appropriateness (in-kind or cash transfer) based the specific needs of groups such as women, girls, and people with disabilities.

Public Health & Nutrition

The Health and Nutrition Sector aims to strengthen the provision of equitable, safe, quality, and sustainable health services for new arrivals, refugees, and host communities. Comprehensive primary healthcare for refugees is to be integrated into the national health system. Emphasis will be laid on strengthening disease prevention through health promotion, the use of Village Health Teams and Refugee Welfare Councils, and the provision of curative, palliative, and rehabilitative services, as guided by the Health Sector Integrated Refugee Response Plan 2019-2024.

The overall goal will be to have improved healthy and productive lives through reducing maternal and perinatal morbidity and mortality, reducing morbidity and mortality associated with HIV and tuberculosis; reducing mortality and disability from communicable and non-communicable diseases; enhancing well-being through mental health and psychosocial support services; and reducing mortality and the impact of undernutrition.

Livelihoods & Economic Inclusion

In a context of high levels of poverty and diminishing external funding, the only way forward for most refugees is to seize economic opportunities and become self-sufficient. The Sector will aim to ensure that refugees and host communities live peacefully, and progressively attain self-resilience in a conducive environment. Agriculture remains the dominant sector of employment for 202,700 (40 per cent) refugees from the DRC, driven by the fact that most of the settlements are in rural areas. The Sector will therefore promote surplus agricultural production integrated into national value chains and facilitate employment linkages and enterprise development. The Sector priorities are aligned with Uganda's Jobs and Livelihoods Integrated Response Plan and National Development Plan III (2020/21 – 2025/26).

As part of the GRF, the Government has pledged to create a minimum of 300,000 viable economic opportunities for refugees and host communities by 2027. Partners will support by advocating for and facilitating access to sufficient farmland, as well as enhancing productivity to improve income sources, food security, and nutrition. In addition, they will support value-addition initiatives, promote access to better produce markets, provide market-driven skills training, encourage private sector investment activities, and facilitate apprenticeships and job placements.

Settlement and Shelter/Housing

The Environment and Energy Sector and Shelter, Settlement, and Non-Food Items (NFIs) Sector will ensure that refugees benefit from a healthy and resilient natural environment and improved social services provided through national systems. Achieving a healthy environment that also meets the community's needs for shelter, water, livelihoods, and settlement services requires an integrated, area-based approach to settlement planning that takes into consideration land-carrying capacity, the sustainability of natural resources, and community priorities. Before the relocation of new arrivals, land will be systematically planned and demarcated for appropriate uses following a master plan approach to settlement planning. Through awareness-raising, refugees and host communities will be mobilized to actively carry out tree-growing initiatives at household, institutional, and community levels.

Efforts will continue to support the Government's GRF pledges to include refugees in climate change adaptation and mitigation action plans aimed at effectively reducing the carbon emissions from deforestation and enhancing access to safe, clean, and affordable energy in refugee hosting districts by 2027. The Sector will continue to ensure that refugees receive timely emergency shelter materials and NFI support, in line with the agreed upon Uganda Shelter Strategy, and prioritize cash assistance for shelter and NFIs to empower refugees and contribute to local economic growth.

WASH

WASH Partners will aim to improve access to equitable, sustainable, safe WASH services, including solarization of water systems to replace diesel-powered generators. Needs of the population and the environment will remain at the centre of all interventions. Innovative approaches will also be explored to help refugees and host communities achieve self-reliance. The specific needs of refugee groups, including people with disabilities and women and girls, will be addressed. The Water and Environment Refugee Response Plan (WESRRP) expired in June 2023; the review and drafting of the WESRRP II is underway and will be completed by June 2024. Partners will keep focusing on the incorporation of the delivery of WASH services into systems managed by government institutions, such

as the Ministry of Water and Environment, Catchment Management Committees, Utilities authorities, and Local governments.

WASH service improvements are expected in households and institutions like schools and health facilities. Improvement in the coverage and quality of water supply and sanitation infrastructure is needed to meet minimum thresholds for WASH services[16], taking into account the needs of new arrivals. In line with the objectives of the Energy and Environment Sector, the use of renewable energy for water pumping will be promoted. Community engagement in managing facilities and services will be strengthened to improve participation and ownership. Finally, opportunities to engage with the private sector will be explored.

[16]The target is to meet minimum thresholds of water supply at 15 litres per person per day and sanitation at a ratio of one latrine stance per 50 people.

Partnership and Cooperation

The UCRRP promotes the strategic priorities identified by the Government of Uganda and Partners, with interventions aligned with national policies and strategies. It seeks to complement other frameworks and international assistance in the country. Uganda's refugee response is co-led by UNHCR and the Department of Refugees within the OPM.

The multi-stakeholder and whole-of-society refugee response is coordinated under the leadership of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) Steering Group, the main policy and decision-making body for the implementation of the CRRF. The Steering Group (CRRF SG) is co-led by the OPM and the Ministry of Local Government in a national arrangement for the fulfilment of GCR commitments. Its membership includes government departments and agencies, local authorities, development and humanitarian donors, UN Agencies, NGOs, the private sector, and international financial. The CRRF SG also involves the participation of affected populations, with five Ugandan nationals and two refugees representing their communities.

The Refugee Engagement Forum and the District Engagement Forum in Kampala are quarterly events that bring together refugee leaders from all settlements and representatives of refugee-hosting districts ahead of the CRRF SG meetings to provide communities with a platform that amplifies their voices and ensure timely report of issues to the CRRF SG.

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Financial Requirements

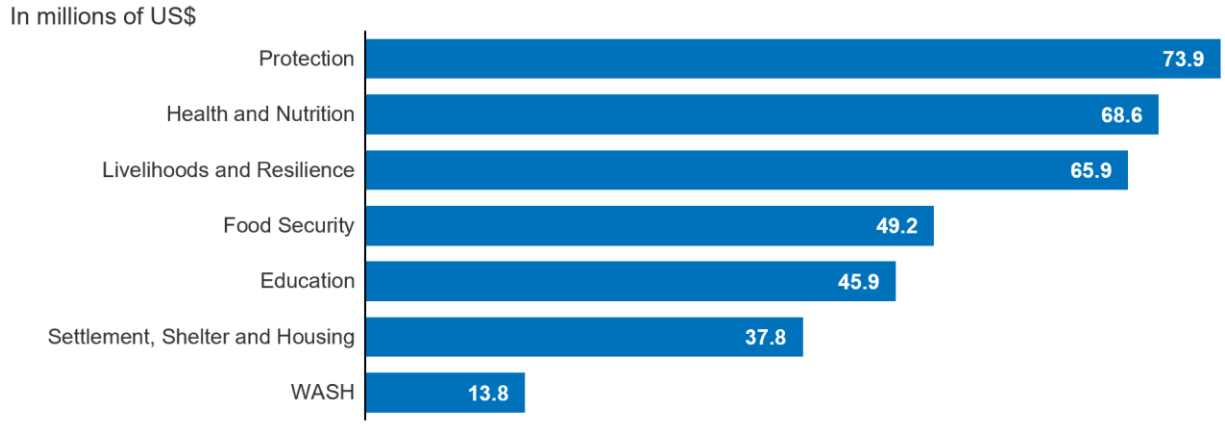
Total financial requirements

2024	2025
$355,093,420	$359,371,376

2024 Budget by Partner Type

73 Partners Involved	9 UN Agencies	0 Development actors	49 International NGOs			15 National NGOs		
	$193,272,695	$0	$127,744,618			$34,076,107		
	0 Academia	0 Private sector	INGO Refugee-Led Organizations 1	INGO Faith-Based Organizations 7	INGO Women-Led Organizations 0	NGO Refugee-Led Organizations 1	NGO Faith-Based Organizations 0	NGO Women-Led Organizations 0
	$0	$0	$1,815,505	$25,374,655	$0	$60,000	$0	$0

2024 Budget by Sector



Total Protection requirements
$73,933,183

General Protection	GBV	Child Protection
$46,209,053	$12,175,044	$15,549,086

Total cash assistance requirements
$43,156,370

Health and Nutrition	Food Security	Settlement and Shelter
$5,273,825	$37,357,545	$525,000

2024 Budget by Partner

Partner	Requirements in US$
United Nations	**193,272,695**
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	**109,899,455**
World Food Programme (WFP)	**43,501,398**
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	**11,500,000**
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	**8,000,000**
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)	**6,115,020**
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	**5,279,000**
World Health Organization (WHO)	**3,393,600**
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	**3,264,222**
United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN WOMEN)	**2,320,000**
International NGOs	**127,744,618**
Save the Children International (SC)	**16,800,000**
Humanitarian Initiative Just Relief Aid (HIJRA)	**14,621,239**
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	**10,630,000**
Mercy Corps (MC)	**10,000,000**
Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)	**7,400,000**
Alight (formerly American Refugee Committee) (Alight)	**7,042,497**
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	**6,448,000**
Medical Teams International (MTI)	**6,162,173**
War Child Canada (WCC)	**4,500,000**
Finn Church Aid (FCA)	**4,500,000**
Association of Volunteers in International Service (AVSI)	**4,194,000**
Action Against Hunger (ACF)	**4,000,000**
Regional Psychosocial Support Initiative (REPSSI)	**3,410,610**
Lutheran World Federation (LWF)	**3,271,688**
Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE)	**2,200,000**
War Child Holland (WCH)	**2,000,000**
Opportunity International UK (Opportunity International UK)	**1,932,448**
Building Resources Across Communities (BRAC)	**1,750,000**
Oxford Committee for Famine Relief (Oxfam)	**1,750,000**
Danish Refugee Council (DRC)	**1,466,348**
Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS)	**1,331,162**
World Vision International (WVI)	**1,113,000**
Street Child (Street Child)	**1,085,910**
Humanity & Inclusion (HI)	**1,050,000**
Self Help Africa (SHA)	**1,000,000**
Give Directly (Give Directly)	**787,500**
Windle International Uganda (WIU)	**771,281**
Peace Winds Japan (PWJ)	**770,390**
Finnish Refugee Council (FRC)	**750,000**
World Youth Organization (WYO)	**500,000**
DanChurchAid (DCA)	**500,000**
Swiss Church Aid (HEKS/EPER (SCA))	**450,000**
DAI Global LLC (DAI)	**420,000**
Caritas Uganda (Caritas)	**417,216**
Malteser International (Malteser)	**366,573**
Children on the Edge Africa (COTEA)	**337,825**
Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA)	**315,000**
Raising Gabdho Foundation (RGF)	**300,000**
Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED)	**300,000**
International Aid Services (IAS)	**300,000**
Right to Play (RtP)	**250,000**
IsraAID (IsraAID)	**125,000**
ZOA International (ZOA)	**107,326**
Community Volunteer Initiative for Development (COVOID)	**72,432**
Alliance Forum for Development (AFOD)	**70,000**
Hope Health Action East Africa (HHA)	**60,000**

HealthRight International (HRI)	
Child Voice International (ChildVoice)	**45,000**
HelpAge International (HelpAge)	**20,000**
National NGOs	**34,076,107**
Baylor college of Medicine Children's Foundation-Uganda (BAYLOR)	**18,126,777**
Tusitukire Wamu Group (TWG)	**2,900,000**
Trust Synergy Foundation - Uganda (TSFU)	**2,851,500**
Hunger Fighters Uganda (HFU)	**2,704,827**
Refugee Law Project (RLP)	**2,000,000**
African Women and Youth Action for Development (AWYAD)	**1,710,000**
Transcultural Psychosocial Organization (TPO)	**1,240,000**
Care and Assistance for Forced Migrants (CAFOMI)	**1,128,787**
Cheshire Services Uganda (CSU)	**500,000**
Soroti Rural Development Agency (SORUDA)	**350,000**
Hopelink Action Foundation Uganda (HAF Uganda)	**305,000**
Humanitarian Assistance and Development Services (HADS)	**85,000**
Luigi Giussani Foundation (LGF)	**75,000**
All for Integral Development (AfID)	**60,000**
Andre Foods International (AFI)	**39,216**
Total	**$355,093,420**

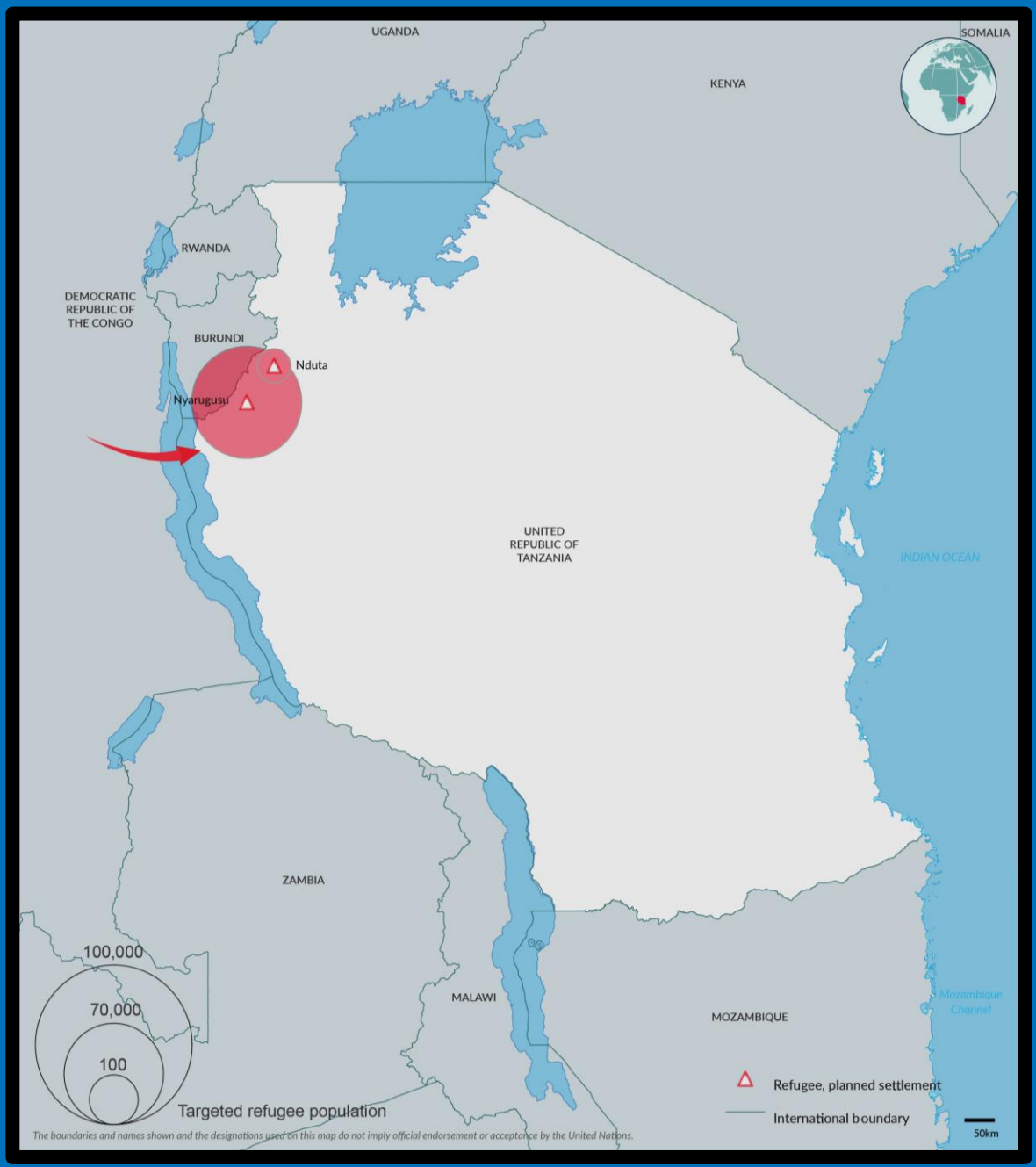
UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

101,600
2024 refugee population to be assessed

22,000
2024 host community members benefiting from assistance

94.1M
2024 total financial requirements

15
Partners involved



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Current Situation

Situational Overview

As of end 2023, the United Republic of Tanzania (Tanzania) hosted 88,586 refugees and asylum-seekers from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). With few exceptions, all are registered as residing in Nyarugusu camp, located in the Kigoma region of northwest Tanzania. Since its creation in 1996, the camp has continuously received successive influxes of refugees from the DRC.

Since March 2023, Tanzania received a marked increase in new arrivals from the DRC due to renewed violence and continued instability in the eastern areas of the DRC, mainly North Kivu and South Kivu. By the end of 2023, 12,599 individuals were registered among this influx and accommodated in Nyarugusu camp. It is anticipated that more refugees and asylum-seekers will arrive in 2024 due to potential political instability.

In Tanzania, refugee affairs are governed by two main legal instruments: the 1998 Refugees Act and the 2003 Refugee Policy, both of which contain restrictive sets of measures for refugees and asylum-seekers. Constraints on access to territory and asylum procedures severely impact refugee populations. Since January 2017, border entry points have either been closed or made inaccessible to humanitarian partners. Furthermore, a strict encampment policy, coupled with limitations on livelihood and self-reliance opportunities, contributes to increased dependence on humanitarian assistance. This policy also limits access to national systems and public services, including education services. These restrictive measures also apply to all refugees (including Burundians) residing in Nduta and Nyarugusu camps.

Despite this context, the March 2022 High-Level Bilateral Meeting between UNHCR and the Government of Tanzania, as well as visits by the UNHCR High Commissioner in August 2022 and February 2023, have renewed opportunities for engagement and collaboration with the Government for the preservation of the asylum space. This has paved the way for granting access to territory for asylum-seekers from the DRC in 2023.

At the 2019 Global Refugee Forum (GRF), the Government pledged, among others, to ensure access to territory, to fair and efficient asylum procedures, and to quality education for refugees and to regularize access to labour markets[17]. These pledges were reconfirmed by the government at the 2023 GRF. RRP Partners will continue advocating for implementation of pledges made by the Government. Given the limited options for local integration and

[17]Refugees in Tanzania are educated using the curriculum of the country of asylum.

voluntary return, third-country resettlement will continue to be the main durable solution for refugees from the DRC. About 4,500 individuals are planned to be processed for resettlement in 2024 and in 2025 respectively, subject to the quotas allocated by resettlement countries. Nonetheless, this opportunity remains limited, considering the size of the overall refugee population.

Country Risks and Needs

The reduction of food rations due to limited funding (which stood at 60 per cent of needs as of end December 2023), combined with limitations on livelihood opportunities and restrictions on freedom of movement due to the encampment policy, have led to deteriorating nutrition conditions among the population, as well as increased exposure to protection risks. As refugees, particularly women and girls, increasingly resort to harmful coping mechanisms, they face greater exposure to risks of gender-based violence (GBV). Children, who account for 57 per cent of the refugee population, are particularly vulnerable to protection risks, including violence and neglect. Poor-quality diets and vitamin and mineral deficiencies contribute to delayed childhood development, causing irreparable damage, which could lead to longstanding, life-changing effects, such as severe malnutrition or rising susceptibility to disease.

Refugees continue to face multiple protection risks, including GBV and child marriage due to, among other reasons, overcrowded shelters, and a lack of domestic energy supply. Government restrictions on shelter upgrades negatively impact the ability to provide support that is tailored to the needs of the community, especially for members who require specialized assistance.

Following the High-Level Bilateral Meeting between the Government and UNHCR in 2022, some improvements were observed related to livelihoods. An agreement was reached to facilitate the continuation of household-level kitchen gardening activities. However, government policies and directives related to livelihoods remain restrictive. Refugees living in camps are still fully dependent on humanitarian support.

These key concerns require an immediate action and response to ensure: guaranteed access to territory; expedited adjudication processes; secured access to protection services; improved livelihood activities for refugees in camps; enhanced access to education, water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), and health and nutrition services; and enhanced coordination and collaboration between Protection Partners and government counterparts.

Instant Network Schools programme supports refugee and host community students in Tanzania.
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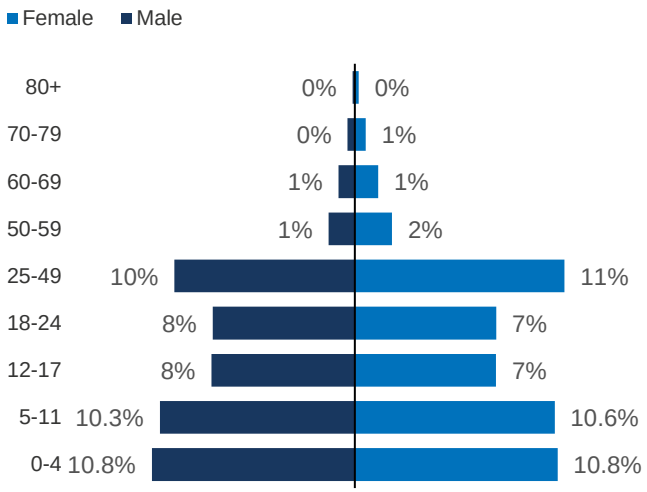
Country Response and Solutions Strategy

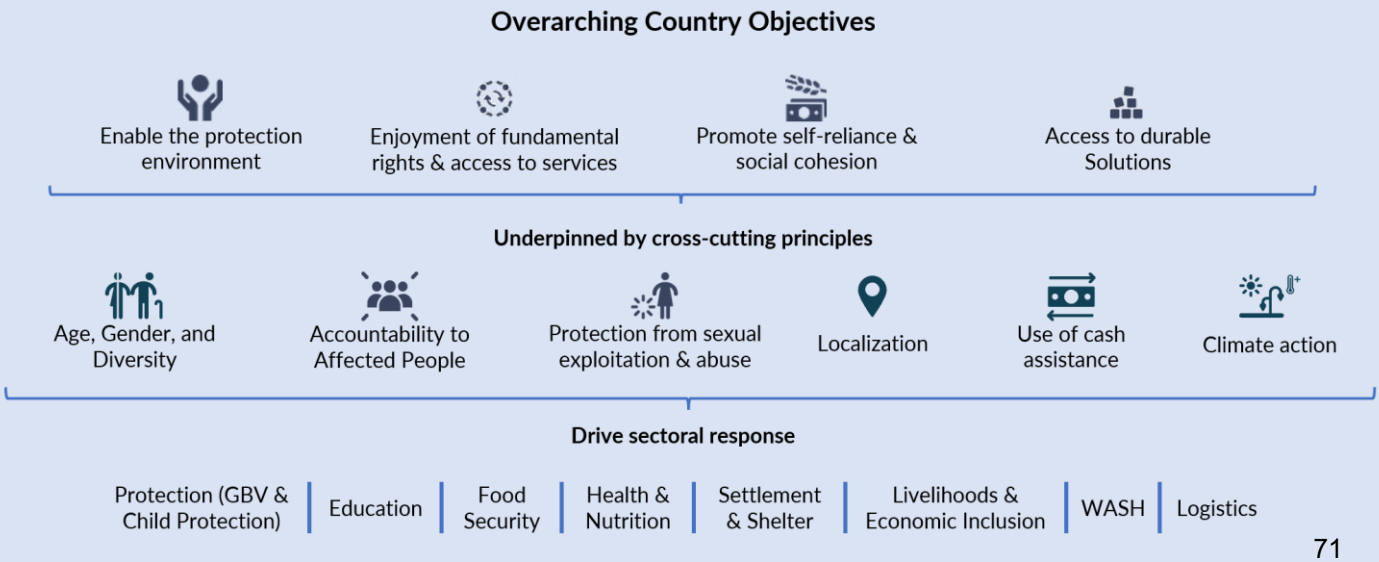
- In 2024, the 15 RRP Partners in Tanzania plan to assist **101,647** refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC (51 per cent of whom are women and girls, 49 per cent are men and boys, 57 per cent are children, and 16 per cent who are people with disabilities). In addition, Partners will aim to support **21,982** members of the host community during the year.
- Planning figures for assistance in 2025 are similar: **100,077** refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC and **22,641** host community members will be assisted.
- RRP Partners are committed to continuing the provision of protection services and essential assistance to refugees and asylum seekers from the DRC. They will focus on targeted interventions that meet the refugees' and host communities' humanitarian and development needs. The Tanzania response plan is steered by four overarching objectives, which drive the respective sectoral responses, and is underpinned by the regional cross-cutting principles and priorities.

2024 Age and gender breakdown - refugee population to be assisted



51%
Women and girls

49%
Men and boys



Country Strategic Objectives

Enable a protection environment in compliance with international standards

RRP Partners will continue to collaborate with authorities, strategic stakeholders, and refugee representatives to tackle protection concerns. Priorities include access to territory, border monitoring, improvement of asylum procedures, timely adjudication processes, freedom of movement and access to justice, GBV response, and child protection.

The response will prioritize strengthening the national legal aid capacity on asylum and statelessness issues, mobilizing human rights institutions and civil society organizations. To enhance protection and assistance outcomes, capacity-building and technical support will be provided to actors that contribute to the overall protection environment. Additionally, Partners will adopt a community-based approach for a comprehensive understanding of the community needs and to facilitate the development and sustainability of the response.

Ensure enjoyment of fundamental rights and access to essential services

Both new arrivals and already-present refugees from the DRC will receive timely, life-saving, and protection-sensitive humanitarian assistance and services, with a focus on achieving eventual durable solutions. RRP Partners will work with different stakeholders to ensure access to basic needs, including livelihood opportunities within camps, education, health, nutrition, and WASH.

Partners will continue efforts to improve the quality of services being delivered in Nyarugusu camp, and will ensure that programmes meet international standards. Assistance will be delivered in partnership with ministries and departments in sectoral interventions to promote local ownership, improve the quality of services, and advocate for the inclusion of asylum-seekers and refugees in national systems and public services.

Forcibly displaced persons were, through advocacy with at UN Country Team-level, successfully included in the UN Common Country Analysis and the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) across different outcome areas. Partners will continue to build on these efforts to ensure that asylum-seekers and refugees are included in development projects to strengthen national systems and public services.

Promote self-reliance and social cohesion

While it remains unlikely that restrictions on refugee movement will be eased, Partners will continue advocating with the Government to enhance refugee livelihood activities. While continuing these advocacy efforts, Partners will continue with the design and implementation of sustainable livelihoods and economic inclusion programming, including kitchen gardening and vocational and technical training. This will help increase and diversify households' dietary and nutritional intakes and equip households with life-saving skills to become more self-reliant and combat their socioeconomic vulnerabilities.

Partners will continue to promote community-based protection networks and local leadership structures to strengthen social cohesion and promote peaceful coexistence. The UN implements an area-based Joint Programme, the Kigoma Joint Programme Phase Two, a humanitarian-development-peace nexus-oriented programme designed to extend development support to refugees, migrants, and host communities, in collaboration with regional and district authorities, communities, and other stakeholders.

Reach refugees with a wider range of durable solutions

As the situation in the DRC is not generally conducive for returns, Partners will continue to advocate for third-country resettlement, as well as other complementary pathways, as a durable solution for refugees. Thus, Partners will continue to engage in judicious analyses of cases and advocacy for increased resettlement quotas, in alignment with the principle of global responsibility-sharing presented by the Global Compact on Refugees.

Partners will also seek to engage the Government in reviewing its administrative and national policies that have created the perception that resettlement and voluntary repatriation are the main available solutions. This review aims at including local solutions, such as integration and naturalization, which have not received sufficient attention as possible solutions

Sectoral Responses

Protection

Advocacy for access to territory, including increased access to border areas and to screening procedures, will continue. Partners will seek a verification exercise and correction of registration biodata to ensure access to assistance and social services. Protection Partners will further advocate for the grant of timely adjudication or provision of refugee status to ensure access to assistance and solutions, namely resettlement.

Further, Partners will conduct awareness-raising sessions to help refugees understand their legal rights, duties, and options when facing legal issues. Partners will also assist with dispute resolution, legal coaching, and legal representation for children in contact with the law and monitoring visits to prisons, police stations, and immigration offices. Access to legal proceedings, including the use of the Nyarugusu Virtual Court, will continue to be pursued. Partners will seek the inclusion of refugees in national and district development systems and to reduce restrictions on freedom of movement.

Given limited options for local integration and voluntary return, the most feasible durable solution will continue to be resettlement. The submission of cases for resettlement consideration will continue. Most of the submitted group cases, along with some individual cases, will be processed for the United States. Complementary pathways will continue to be pursued to take advantage of expanded access to various programmes in third countries.

Child Protection Sub-Sector

Child protection interventions remain a high priority, given that 57 per cent of refugees in Tanzania are under the age of 18. The child protection strategy will continue to focus on prevention and response to abuse, neglect, exploitation, and violence against children. This will include ensuring immediate access to appropriate best interests procedure and specialized stand-alone and integrated services and securing durable solutions in the child's best interest.

Community-based child protection structures will be strengthened to facilitate the timely identification and safe referral of at-risk children, including unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), in line with the standard operating procedures and referral pathways established by the child protection sub-Sector. The best interests procedure will be improved to respond to the negative impact of the food ration cuts and other root causes and contributing factors which expose children to various protection risks, including child marriage, child pregnancy, the sale and exchange of sex, and child labor.

Partners will prioritize verification and assessments to formalize alternative care arrangements and durable solutions for 3,500 UASC and will aim to increase the number of caseworkers and enhance their capacities to meet the demands of the best interests procedure. Additionally, Partners will support the prevention of statelessness by registering newborns and providing birth certificates through the Government of Tanzania Registration Insolvency and Trusteeship Agency.

Gender-Based Violence Sub-Sector

GBV prevention, risk mitigation, and response remain a priority and will be implemented by multi-sectoral approach and mainstreamed in all Sectors. The implementation will be guided by the inter-agency standard operation procedures and strategy.

Prevention and risk mitigation activities will focus on the strategic and meaningful participation of community members and structures through mass information sessions, trainings, campaigns, and the implementation of social transformative programmes, such as engaging men and boys in accountability practices[18]. Economic empowerment activities focusing on skills-building and informal education sessions will be prioritized to promote recovery, resilience, and mitigate root causes.

Routine GBV risk assessments will be conducted, and mitigation and response measures will be jointly implemented with all Sectors. Gender-based violence case and data management will be harmonized using inter-agency case management tools and GBV information management system.

Education

Education Partners will continue to focus on access to quality education and retention of refugee children, while striving to enroll out-of-school refugee children, with specific focus on girls. Shortage of infrastructure, including classrooms, laboratories, offices, latrines, and WASH facilities, remains a challenge. Overall education activities face quality constrains due to inadequate teaching and learning materials, low teacher incentives, inadequate capacity-building opportunities, and poor-quality assurance mechanisms. Semi-permanent classrooms are dilapidated and require renovation.

[18]For example, initiatives such as Engaging Men Through Accountable Practice and Girl Shine.

The issue of high school dropout rates, and shortage of qualified teachers caused by resettlement and the inadequate remuneration remains an issue and will be addressed by Partners through community sensitization; enhancing safe school environments, including through protection from sexual exploitation and abuse and school-related gender-based violence and child protection incidents, and through providing positive discipline training and psychosocial support; and rehabilitating school infrastructure, providing scholastic teaching and learning materials, organizing capacity-building for teachers, and implementing incentive payments. In parallel, RRP Partners will continue to advocate for refugee inclusion in the national education system.

Food Security

Insufficient funding has led to a 50 per cent reduction in food rations, significantly affecting the refugee population living in camps. The food rations for refugees have been progressively decreasing, leading to a decline in food consumption patterns and an increase in poor and borderline consumption. This has severely affected the food security and nutrition of refugee communities, compelling them to resort to harmful coping mechanisms. Considering the limited livelihood opportunities within the camp and lack of market access, the primary focus of Partners will be to advocate with donors for more funding to improve the food basket.

Additionally, Partners will maintain the supplementary nutrition programme for the most vulnerable populations, such as children under 5, pregnant and lactating women, and people with chronic illnesses, including mental health issues. Expansion of kitchen gardening programmes will be promoted to ensure refugee access to food diversity. Partners will also focus on multisectoral assessments and monitoring activities to continuously assess and analyse the food security situation of forcibly displaced and stateless populations.

Public Health & Nutrition

Extensive primary health services are crucial and will be prioritized for refugees and surrounding host communities. Priority will be given to maintaining low mortality rates, improving the quality of healthcare, and strengthening disease surveillance and control. Emphasis will be placed on upgrading the overall health infrastructure, especially for newly-arrived asylum-seekers, and improving referral care services, which will include quarterly specialist visits and medical referrals to secondary and tertiary care. Attention will also be given to reproductive and child health services, including services related to human immunodeficiency virus. Additionally, essential medicine and medical supplies will be pre-positioned to support GBV survivors, as well as support for non-communicable disease services, including mental health and psychosocial support.

Malnutrition remains a significant public health concern, especially among newly-arrived asylum-seekers. High-impact nutrition interventions will be prioritized, including prevention and management of acute malnutrition through a community-based approach, promoting and supporting infant and young child feeding, preventing micronutrient deficiency, and strengthening activities for behavior change communication.

Livelihoods & Economic Inclusion

RRP Partners will continue to implement multiple livelihood interventions, such as the cultivation of kitchen gardens; promotion of sustainable agricultural practices; provision of life, technical, and vocational skills training; distribution of inputs for vegetable production for dietary diversification; installation of information and communication technologies for online learning; and promotion of small-scale commercial activities. Partners will ensure that the host community will also benefit from activities to promote good agricultural practices and be provided with small-scale irrigation support.

Partners will continue promoting a comprehensive and integrated approach to the response by facilitating the inclusion of refugees in national and district systems. This will further promote peaceful coexistence between refugee and host communities. Some initiatives will focus on climate-smart agricultural practices, enabling refugees to adapt to climate change disasters, including floods and droughts. These practices involve the use of drought-resistant crop varieties, implementing mulching and crop rotation in kitchen gardens, and sensitizing refugees to preparedness, response, and recovery from environmental disasters.

Settlement and Shelter/Housing

The Shelter response will continue with the community-based approach, prioritizing the use of locally available materials. The shelter coordination forum will remain the platform to engage all actors, including the Government, host community, and Partners, to ensure a shelter and non-food items (NFIs) response in line with its established 2023-2025 shelter strategy and standard operating procedures.

Additional resources will be required for the procurement of essential and targeted NFIs.

Prioritization will be given to the distribution of soap, blankets, sleeping mats, mosquito nets, kitchen sets, buckets, solar lamps, clothes, and sanitary kits (wrappers, underwear, sanitary pads, buckets, and soap). While some partners will be engaged in the distribution of NFIs, Protection Partners will focus on identifying individuals with specific needs for targeted assistance, such as the need for specific assistive devices, like walking sticks and tricycles.

WASH

Solar-hybrid water supply systems are predominantly used in the refugee camps, and WASH Partners will continue to improve water supply, in collaboration with other stakeholders, by implementing backup systems, ensuring regular and timely service and repair of generators, and replacing defective taps. Partners will also provide sufficient water collection and storage containers.

Sanitation coverage will be improved by constructing household latrines that are safe and accessible for new arrivals and people with specific needs, as well as replacing full latrines. The construction of household latrines will follow a participatory approach, involving refugees and asylum-seekers in the construction and the provision of working tools, digging tools, and construction materials. Additional interventions encompass the construction of communal washing slabs, drainage systems, and garbage pits for solid waste management. Hygiene awareness initiatives will be undertaken to enhance hygiene knowledge and practices, so as to prevent WASH-related diseases. Maintenance of hand washing facilities and provision of hygiene supplies will be prioritized. Partners will ensure the adequate and sustainable distribution of soap and dignity kits for women of reproductive age.

Logistics, Supply and Telecommunications

Partners will strengthen logistics coordination and the establishment of multipurpose spaces, such as warehouses for NFIs, food, and medical equipment. While RRP Partners directly procure organizational telecommunications services, one Partner will be identified to handle warehouse management and vehicle maintenance, as well as to oversee all fuel, cargo and passenger transportation needs. These tasks go beyond the routine responsibilities managed by each partner within their fleet resources. Support supervision will be regularly carried out to strengthen service delivery, and capacity-building will be conducted on identified essential logistical capacity gaps for improved service delivery.

Partnership and Cooperation

The overall coordination of the refugee response in Tanzania is based on the Refugee Coordination Model with leadership provided by UNHCR and the Government through the Ministry of Home Affairs. UNHCR and the Ministry co-lead the Refugee Operations Working Group at national, regional, and field level.

The Inter-Agency and Inter-Sector Working Groups meet regularly to promote the synergies and collaboration with other UN agencies and the UN Resident Coordinator's Office. These meetings facilitate joint advocacy and partnership among UN agencies to deliver support to refugee communities and support wider development initiatives for host communities, leading to successful initiatives through the UNSDCF at national level and the Kigoma Joint Programme at regional level.

Various coordination Sectors, working groups and sub-groups, including the Sectors and areas of Education, Protection, Child Protection, GBV, Shelter, NFIs, Health, and Camp Coordination and Camp Management, will continue to support a coordinated response within the camps. This will help to prevent duplication of efforts and enhance the efficient use of resources.

Financial Requirements

Total financial requirements

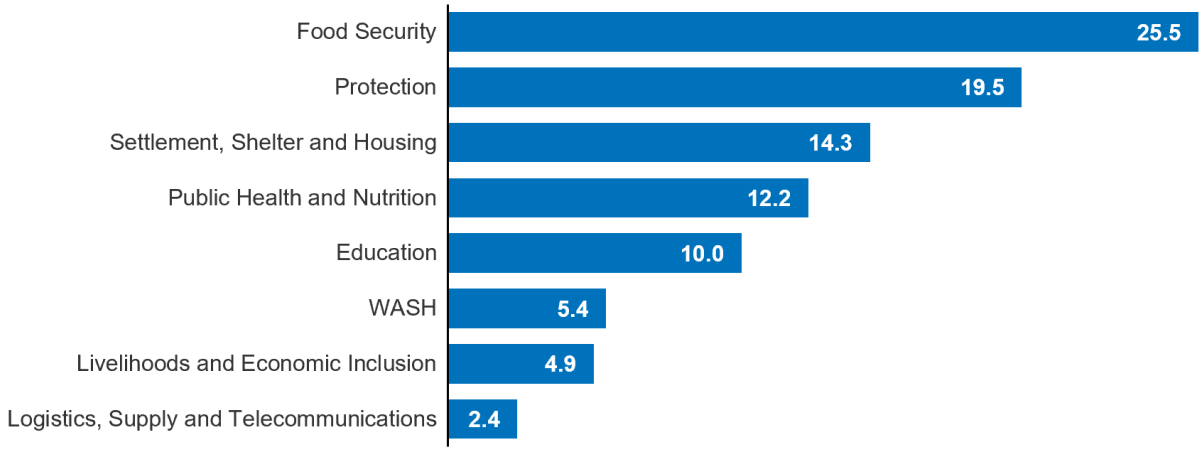
2024	2025
$94,132,855	$114,330,532

2024 Budget by Partner Type

15 Partners Involved	4 UN Agencies	0 Development actors	9 International NGOs			2 National NGOs		
	$77,799,212	$0	$15,305,000			$1,028,643		
	0 Academia	0 Private sector	Refugee-Led Organizations 2	Faith-Based Organizations 2	Women-Led Organizations 0	Refugee-Led Organizations 1	Faith-Based Organizations 0	Women-Led Organizations 0
	$0	$0	$2,300,000	$2,430,000	$0	$60,000	$0	$604,400

2024 Budget by Sector

In millions of US$



Total Protection requirements $19,483,637

General Protection	GBV	Child Protection
$16,477,637	$900,000	$2,106,000

Total cash assistance requirements $250,000

Protection	Settlement & Shelter & Housing	Livelihoods & Resilience
$132,000	$90,000	$28,000

2024 Budget by Partner

Partner	Requirements in US$
United Nations	**77,799,212**
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	**49,224,614**
World Food Programme (WFP)	**26,816,598**
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)	**900,000**
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	**858,000**
International NGOs	**15,305,000**
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	**3,650,000**
Danish Refugee Council (DRC)	**3,125,000**
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	**1,800,000**
World Vision International (WVI)	**1,730,000**
Medical Teams International (MTI)	**1,350,000**
Water Mission (WM)	**1,300,000**
Save the Children International (SCI)	**950,000**
Tanzania Red Cross Society (TRCS)	**700,000**
Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS)	**700,000**
National NGOs	**1,028,643**
Dignity Kwanza - Community Solutions (DIGNITY Kwanza)	**604,400**
Relief to Development Society (REDESO)	**424,243**
Total	**$94,132,855**

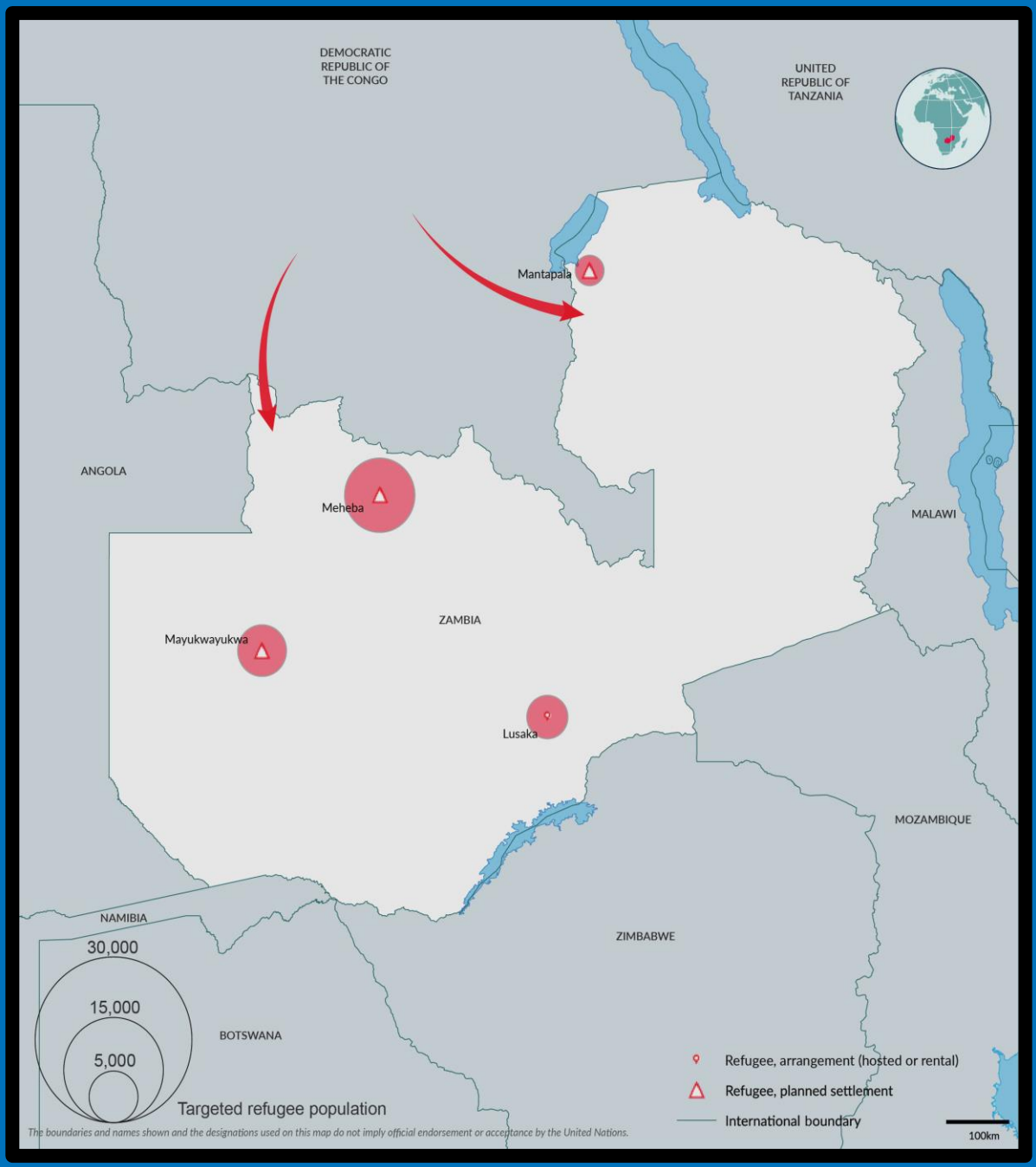
ZAMBIA

70,700
2024 refugee population to be assessed

15,000
2024 host community members benefiting from assistance

32.1M
2024 total financial requirements

10
Partners involved



A returnee mother and her children arrive at Pweto Transit Centre in Pweto DRC. © Bruce Mulenga.

Current Situation

Situational Overview

As of end 2023, Zambia hosted 61,153 refugees and asylum-seekers from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), with 4,303 refugees from the DRC arriving in 2023 alone. The new arrivals primarily fled from Katanga province due to the persistent conflict in southeast DRC. It is anticipated that Zambia will receive an additional 10,000 refugees by the end of 2024, considering the ongoing instability in the DRC.

Zambia maintains an open-door policy, ensuring access to territory and asylum for refugees from the DRC. However, refugees continue to encounter a challenging protection environment due to Government reservations to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees articles related to rights to work, freedom of movement, and access to tertiary education. These reservations significantly hinder the ability of refugees to achieve self-sufficiency and reduce dependency on humanitarian assistance, particularly in light of Zambia's adoption of an encampment policy. Refugees caught working outside designated areas or lacking a valid mobility pass or permit may face arrest.

The Government recently achieved a milestone with approval of the first ever National Refugee Policy by Cabinet, awaiting finalization of the action plan for implementation. The Policy contains provisions aimed at enhancing the protection environment for refugees, addressing legal impediments related to freedom of movement (encampment policy), access to economic opportunities, self-reliance, socio-economic inclusion, and achievement of solutions. Other complementary legislations, such as the Immigration Act and 2017 Refugee Act, will need to be amended to align with the new Policy.

Approximately 77 per cent of refugees from the DRC reside in settlements in remote districts, characterized by poor social infrastructure and reception/transit facilities and a limited presence of development actors, impacting access to protection and other services. Given the high rates of poverty (78 per cent) among Zambian nationals in rural areas, where most of the refugee settlements are located, the capacity of the host communities to absorb refugees into public services and national systems remains very limited. Nevertheless, the rural communities around the border entry points display great hospitality and solidarity by sharing food, WASH facilities, and natural resources with asylum-seekers before before they continue onward to designated border areas or reception centres.

The Government made 10 inclusion pledges at the 2023 Global Refugee Forum (GRF), including enhanced local integration and documentation, empowering refugees through diversified livelihoods, digitised civil registration for refugees, inclusion in Farmer Input Support Programme, comprehensive inclusion in education, social inclusion through sports, access to electricity and sustainable energy, inclusion in National statistics, alternatives to immigration detention, and extension of existing processes for inclusion of refugees in the National insurance scheme. Notably, some self-sponsored refugees and older people already benefit from the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIMA).

Schools were established by NGOs at the inception of the Mantapala settlement have been officially gazetted and recognized by the Government, enabling them to receive benefits like other rural schools. Refugees engage in sports activities, forming teams alongside nationals and participating in competitions, which promotes peaceful co-existence between and among refugees and host communities. Despite these positive strides, Partners must continue to intensify advocacy to unlock local integration, facilitate issuance of documentation, and ensure inclusion of refugees in national plans, policies and systems.

A total 767 individuals from Mantapala settlement were assisted to voluntary repatriate to the DRC in 2023. Depending on the security situation in the DRC, it is expected that support for voluntary returns will continue in 2024-2025, with 1,000 individuals returning per year. Resettlement and complementary pathways, such as international scholarships, employment opportunities, and private sponsorship programmes, will continue being supported as a solution for a limited number of individuals. In 2023, some 838 refugees from the DRC departed for resettlement to third countries.

Country Risks and Needs

While refugees enjoy access to territory and asylum, the lack of freedom of movement, delays in issuing civil documentation, and lack of standards in refugee status determination procedures remain significant challenges for refugees and asylum-seekers. The upcoming National Refugee Policy presents an opportunity for institution-building with focus on decentralized registration, enhanced RSD standards, and reduced delays in issuance of documents.

GBV, sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), abuse , harassment, and child protection issues continue to be key concerns for refugees from the DRC in Zambia. Participatory assessments conducted by Partners revealed that women and girls are particularly vulnerable to SEA due to high levels of poverty, existing power imbalances, and language barriers. Moreover, assessments indicated that barriers to accessing GBV services include fear of stigma, lack of knowledge about available services, limited legal support, and distance to the health facilities. In addition, inadequate alternative care arrangements for children at risk persist due to lack of support for families offering guardianship. Refugee children and young refugees lack recreational facilities, which places them in vulnerable situations that increase the risk of abuse and exploitation. This undermines their ability to enjoy their rights. Youth-friendly spaces that exist in refugee settlements lack the requisite equipment and materials required to run effective programmes that promote protection, peacebuilding, skilling, and access to opportunities.

Further, refugees highlighted barriers to community participation due to educational background, age, gender, diversity, cultural norms, and language. While refugees generally confirmed their ability to voice protection concerns, it was observed that women had a lesser voice and power in decision-making processes. Refugees recommend enhanced community participation and greater accountability to affected people. Consultations should not only include community leaders, but also the general population, accounting for age, gender, and diversity.

Moreover, quality of services such as education, health, and nutrition remains problematic. Provision of quality education continues to face obstacles, including high pupil-to-teacher ratios, inadequate infrastructure, limited teaching and learning material, and an insufficient power supply for access to information and communication technology.

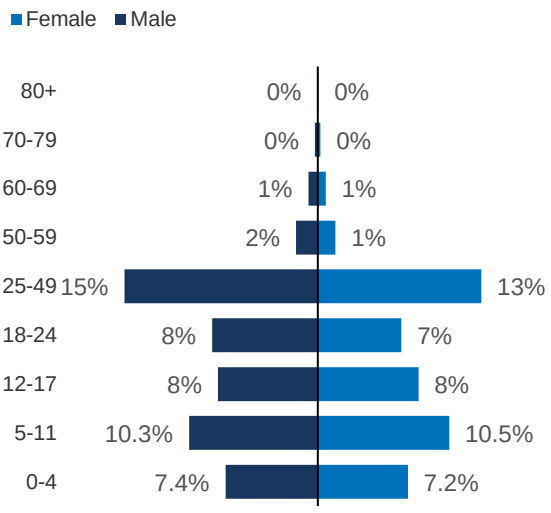
Healthcare and health infrastructure are limited, leading to frequent referrals to distant secondary- and tertiary-level health facilities. Regarding reproductive health services, there is need for Comprehensive Emergency Obstetrics and New-born Care to avert delay of complicated deliveries.

The nutrition situation in Zambia remains a concern. The latest standardized expanded nutrition survey conducted in December 2021 revealed that the global acute malnutrition rate stood at approximately 5 per cent across all three refugee settlements, entering the medium level of wasting (5-10 per cent), according to the World Health Organization (WHO) classification. Apart from Mayukwayukwa refugee settlement, which recorded a stunting rate of 17 per cent, both Meheba and Mantapala settlements presented very high levels of chronic malnutrition, with stunting rates of 33 per cent and 53 per cent, respectively, well beyond the WHO-classified critical level of 30 per cent. All three settlements displayed a high prevalence of anaemia among children under 5 years, ranging from 40 to 74 per cent, indicating a widespread and severe micronutrient deficiency.

Country Response and Solutions Strategy

- In 2024, the 10 RRP Partners in Zambia plan to assist **70,656** refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC (48 per cent are women and girls, 52 per cent are men and boys, 51 per cent are children, and 16 per cent are people with disabilities). In addition, Partners will aim to support **15,000** members of the host community during the year.
- Planning figures for assistance in 2025 are slightly higher: **74,112** refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC and **15,000** host community members will be assisted.
- The response and solutions strategy for 2024-2025 will continue to focus on targeted support to the most vulnerable refugees, while pursuing self-reliance and solutions for the remaining population. The response plan is steered by four overarching objectives, which drive the respective sectoral responses, and is underpinned by the regional cross-cutting principles and priorities.

2024 Age and gender breakdown - refugee population to be assisted



48%
Women and girls

52%
Men and boys

Overarching Country Objectives

- Enhance the protection environment
- Improve access to essential services
- Promote self-reliance & social cohesion
- Support durable Solutions

Underpinned by cross-cutting principles

- Age, Gender, and Diversity
- Accountability to Affected People
- Protection from sexual exploitation & abuse
- Localization
- Use of cash assistance
- Climate action

Drive sectoral response

Protection (GBV & Child Protection) | Education | Food Security | Health & Nutrition | Settlement & Shelter | Livelihoods & Economic Inclusion | WASH | Basic Needs

Country Strategic Objectives

Enhance the overall protection environment

RRP Partners will prioritize advocacy and support for completion of the Action Plan to operationalize the new Refugee Policy. This marks a significant step towards enhancing the protection and solutions environment for refugees from the DRC. It aims to alleviate restrictions on refugees, representing a substantial move towards meaningful inclusion of refugees into national systems. Additionally, Partners will participate in reviewing other pertinent policies and legislation (such as the Immigration Act), to ensure alignment with refugee-related legislation.

While access to territory and asylum are favourable, Partners will continue to engage with the Government to safeguard refugees' unhindered access to fair and efficient asylum procedures and documentation. This aims to establish a solid foundation for access to economic opportunities, self-reliance, enhanced socioeconomic inclusion and achievement of solutions. Critical to this is the enhancement of asylum capacity by providing technical support to the Government for the revision and harmonization of asylum legislation, coupled with institution-building.

Improve access to essential services through multi-sector assistance

Partners will continue to maintain minimum standards essential for service delivery and strengthen access to health, education, and protection services, including child protection and prevention and response to GBV. Collaboration will be strengthened with government line ministries and local authorities to facilitate inclusion of refugees in existing national systems and programmes, as well as local area plans and initiatives, along with the host communities.

RRP Partners will strengthen targeting methodologies for food and cash assistance to ensure that the most vulnerable refugees are able to meet their basic needs. However, to decrease dependency on humanitarian assistance, refugees will be encouraged to join and form cooperatives, working and supporting groups to access available assistance, which will also help promote peaceful co-existence.

RRP Partners will continue to include both refugees and vulnerable host community members in their fundraising and assistance programmes and advocate for inclusion of refugees in development programmes and interventions that mainly target host communities. Emphasis will be placed on linkages with the development sector, especially in areas like energy that can have a cross-cutting transformative effect on both host and refugee communities.

Promote self-reliance and livelihoods opportunities

In light of the challenging socioeconomic circumstances, RRP Partners will strive to enhance the livelihoods of refugees, foster economic inclusion, and cultivate self-reliance for those capable of achieving it. This vision is in line with the 8th National Development Plan and the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF). To accomplish this, RRP Partners will be urged to collaborate with non-traditional partners, such as academia, which has the potential to provide research, assessment, and analytical support. Additionally, partnerships with the private sector will be actively pursued as an instrumental approach to offering skills transfers to refugees, adding value to production, creating markets for both refugee and local products, promoting income generation opportunities, and fostering access to decent work.

Further, Partners will provide support to facilitate operationalization and implementation of the Government's Modernization of Refugee Settlements and Host Community Areas with the aim to enhance protection, provide solutions, foster social cohesion, and promote peaceful coexistence among refugees, former refugees, and host communities.

Support durable solutions for refugees and asylum-seekers

In addition to promoting local integration, RRP Partners will continue supporting refugees from the DRC with voluntary return and resettlement opportunities. Despite the challenging situation in the DRC, RRP Partners are expected to support around 1,000 individuals per year with voluntary returns in 2024-2025. Additionally, it is estimated that around 3,000 individuals per year will be submitted for resettlement.

Sectoral Responses

Protection

Zambia recently achieved a milestone with approval of the first-ever Refugee Policy, launched in January 2024, aimed at improving the overall protection environment to address asylum issues and refugee needs. Some of the major protection concerns that forcibly displaced persons face in Zambia are the result of restrictions in existing legislation and administrative procedures, including reservations made to the 1951 Convention which affect freedom of movement, access to education, employment, documentation, and barriers to local integration.

The operationalization of this Policy will define most of the interventions that Protection Partners will undertake to ensure that refugees are able to enjoy their rights and freedoms. In addition, the review of complementary legislation, such as the Citizenship Act, the Department of National Registration, Passports and Citizenship Policy, will be a priority. Additionally, Partners will advocate for the repeal of the 2017 Refugee Act to amend and align it with the new Policy. Regular protection monitoring and capacity-building support to refugee leaders and other community structures will be enhanced, to emphasize working closely with and for the communities to ensure that humanitarian assistance is planned and delivered in a safe, accountable, and participatory manner.

Child Protection Sub-Sector

Partners will build upon the best practices and lessons learned from a recent joint programme on Children on the Move. This is to guarantee the protection of refugee children from the DRC and to ensure that the rights of children in conflict with the law as defined in the Children's Code Act 12 of 2022 are respected. This will entail reducing the risk of prolonged arrest for children, promoting child-friendly spaces, and expanding the use of diversion.

Child Protection Partners will prioritize capacity-building on the recently enacted Children's Code to ensure that child protection best interests procedure is conducted in accordance with international standards. As an example, parents need further guidance before fostering children. A total of 450 births were recorded in 2023 among refugees from the DRC. Similarly, there will be efforts to strengthen the alignment of the best interests procedure in refugee settlements. This will be through advocacy to influence further change in legislation, facilitated by the recently approved National Refugee Policy.

A Memorandum of Understanding is being developed with the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services to reaffirm the Ministry's statutory mandate in the delivery of social protection services, including child protection and GBV services. Finally, provided funding is available, Partners will refurbish youth-friendly spaces and support engaging young people in activities related to their diverse needs.

Gender-Based Violence Sub-Sector

Partners prioritize GBV interventions based on the findings from the recent inter-agency GBV and Gender and participatory assessments conducted countrywide in 2023. Emphasis will be given to the engagement of men and boys in GBV prevention, ensuring effective female participation in activities and decision-making, utilizing refugee-led women organizations, and strengthening multisectoral response services to gender-based violence survivors. To mitigate risks of GBV, safe disclosure and referral of GBV survivors will be strengthened, and the empowerment of women and girls will be promoted, including through collaboration with Livelihoods Sector.

Partners will continue to collaborate on the Gender Equality and Women's Participation Initiative aimed at addressing perceptions of sexual exploitation and abuse in Mantapala refugee settlement. This will entail working closely with legal clinics that have legal and paralegal desks for support to survivors of GBV. Furthermore, Partners will work closely with all Sectors to mainstream risk mitigation and ensure accountability and proactive mitigation of GBVrisks.

Education

Partners will ensure the integration of refugee education in the national system, in line with Sustainable Development Goal 4, the Global Compact on Refugees, and the 2030 Refugee Education Strategy. The provision of refugee education is aligned with Zambia's national education system, which is organized at various levels, from early childhood education to primary, secondary, and tertiary levels. RRP Partners will facilitate the enrolment of new arrivals in existing government schools in refugee settlements.

To meet in the growing educational needs in terms of required number of teachers, classrooms, and learning materials, Partners will continue to liaise with the Government to fulfil its commitment to include refugees in the national education system, as pledged at the 2019 GRF, including construction and establishment of additional classrooms, allocation of additional teachers, and provision of learning materials in refugee settlement schools.

Efforts will be made to organize refugee volunteer teachers to provide language support for students with language challenges across schools and,

additionally, to supplement in other areas where the Government is facing challenges. Refugee children will be provided with material and financial support to ensure enrolment in the right grade for their age. Furthermore, the settlement schools will ensure, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and RRP Partners, that safeguarding and reporting mechanisms for protection from SEA are in place.

Food Security

Challenges related to the mobility of refugees have hindered refugee inclusion in the government-supported Farmer Input Support Programme. Limited access to livelihood opportunities, inadequate support and funds, as well as scarcity of opportunities for vocational skills training for young people and school leavers, coupled with a deficient road network, adversely affect trade in settlements. This ultimately hampers self-reliance prospects for refugees. Therefore, it is crucial to prioritize the development of cooperatives and market aggregation in the settlements, especially through collaborative efforts with the local population.

The promotion of multi-year funded programmes and increased funding for dual enterprises, focusing on food security and income generation among households, will be pivotal in supporting sustainable self-reliance. Strengthening linkages for markets, financial inclusion, and out-grower schemes will ensure access to functional networks.

Advocacy for administrative policy adjustments to include refugees in economic activities and national social safety nets, along with engaging the private sector, will contribute to enhancing food security and sustainable livelihoods. While advancing these inclusion priorities, input and capacity development, including training on climate-resilient livelihood practices, will be provided to refugees.

Public Health & Nutrition

Partners will support the Ministry of Health to deliver health services in refugee locations. Refugees will continue to have access to basic curative, preventive and promotive services, including mental health and psychosocial support, at primary healthcare facilities within the settlements, and urban areas. Healthcare provision will include specific clinics, such as GBV survivor services, child health, reproductive health, anti-retroviral treatment clinics, and specialized mobile sessions, particularly in Mayukwayukwa settlement. Areferral mechanism will be supported for chronic illness and emergency cases needing secondary or tertiary care.

Infectious disease outbreak prevention, preparedness, and response plans (including in response to ongoing outbreaks of cholera) will be formulated through a multi-disciplinary and sectoral approach, following the Incident Management System under Zambia National Public Health Institute. RRP Partners will supplement government efforts in nutrition and therapeutic and supplementary feeding programmes where the Government is facing challenges by equipping health infrastructure, supplementing essential medicines and medical supplies, and facilitating referral and access to secondary and tertiary healthcare.

Livelihoods & Economic Inclusion

The Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion Sector response will focus on supporting productive activities in the agriculture and non-agriculture sectors, as well as the inclusion in the national systems and programmes. Agriculture is the main source of income for many refugees and asylum-seekers residing in settlements. As such, support will be provided to enhance the access to agriculture inputs, technical training services, and markets. Non-agriculture support will focus on artisan skills training, market linkages, entrepreneurial support, and financial inclusion.

Refugees will have access to business grants and will be linked to financial service providers to enable them with access loans and other financial products that are vital for building their resilience. Host community members will also receive support in both agriculture and non-agriculture activities to ensure social cohesion. The private sector will be engaged at multiple levels as a market for producers, a provider for skills training, job placement and business development, and potentially, as an employer.

Shelter Partners will prioritize support to vulnerable refugees to construct shelters, while other refugees will be encouraged to construct their own housing, mirroring the shelters constructed by the surrounding local communities using readily-available local materials. Nevertheless, guided by the ongoing government settlement planning under the Modernisation of Refugee Settlements and Host Community Areas (MORSHCA) and the recommendations from Rapid Environmental Assessments, refugee settlements will undergo long-term improvements and modernization to ensure that settlement and shelter standards are met and monitored, aligning with local standards, policies, and norms.

Settlement and Shelter/Housing

Collaboration with the Government and development actors has been initiated, and advocacy efforts to attract more private and public

partners will continue. Equally, feasibility studies and market surveys are underway to facilitate the monetization of non-food items (NFIs), leaving only a small and sustainable emergency stock for distribution during an emergency. Cash assistance will be used for the provision of NFIs to new arrivals.

In accordance with the 2019 GRF pledge made by the Government, a joint project is underway for electrification of the public facilities in Meheba settlement. Sustainable energy supply is being explored in Meheba and Mayukwayukwa settlements to strengthen the resilience of the settlements, allow residents to undertake income-generating activities, and prevent scourges, such as GBV, due to lack of lighting in the settlements.

WASH

Significant efforts and investments have been dedicated to WASH over the recent years, benefitting all populations. This has greatly contributed to the enhancement of WASH standards. At the outset of 2023, the number of litres of water available per person per day was above 20 litres, while over 90 per cent of the settlement population had access to sanitation facilities. RRP Partners will focus on maintaining and improving these standards, ensuring that sufficient WASH services are available to the growing population resulting from new arrivals.

Further, there will be strong emphasis on community-centred WASH approaches and harmonization with the local context, consistent with the WASH strategy and the broader inclusion agenda. The Government will play a leading role in the delivery of WASH services in settlements, with RRP Partners complementing government efforts.

Basic Needs

The Basic Needs Sector is implementing a multipurpose cash assistance programme for refugees in the settlements and Lusaka urban areas. The programme's objective is to enhance access to basic needs, and to facilitate beneficiary access to other services, such as the Farmer Input Support Program, as well as the NHIMA. The inter-agency response will continue collaborating on targeting approaches to ensure that support reaches the most vulnerable individuals.

Targeting methodology for multipurpose cash assistance applies an age, gender, diversity approach based on a consultation with different groups in the refugee community. Negotiations are underway with the Ministry of Community Development to synchronize this multipurpose cash support programme with the Government's social transfer programme. The Basic Needs response is looking into expanding this programme as protracted refugees endure dire situations due to insufficient assistance to meet basic needs.

Logistics, Supply and Telecommunications

Market assessments and feasibility studies are under way to transition to the monetisation of NFIs in 2024, following the closure of warehouses in refugee settlements at the end of 2022. This leaves only one warehouse in Lusaka, which will maintain a small emergency stock of NFIs even after transitioning to monetization.

Partnership and Cooperation

In accordance with the Refugee Coordination Model, UNHCR coordinates and mobilizes partners to support the Government of Zambia, through the Office of the Commissioner for Refugees (COR), in providing protection and assistance to refugees. Monthly inter-agency meetings are conducted in all locations where refugees reside, co-chaired by the COR and UNHCR. UNHCR also leads the Humanitarian Working Group under the UNSDCF. Donors are included in RRP consultations, joint assessments, and monitoring activities.

In line with the inclusion agenda, collaboration will be enhanced with government ministries. This will include entering into Memoranda of Understanding with the Government and development partners and local actors and enhancing joint workplans under Letters of Understanding between UN agencies to foster inclusion of refugees into national plans, systems, and policies. An inter-ministerial committee is in place, composed of major line ministries such as health, education, home affairs, community development and social services, water, and energy. The committee is chaired by the Resettlement Department under the Office of the Vice President, to spearhead implementation of the MORSHCA, aimed at improving social conditions in the refugee settlements.

To ensure meaningful participation from refugees in the response, Partners will strengthen engagement with refugee-led organizations, refugee leadership structures, and women organizations and provide structured capacity-building to women-led-refugee organizations to enhance skills in programme management, in collaboration with RRP Partners and government institutions.

Financial Requirements

Total financial requirements

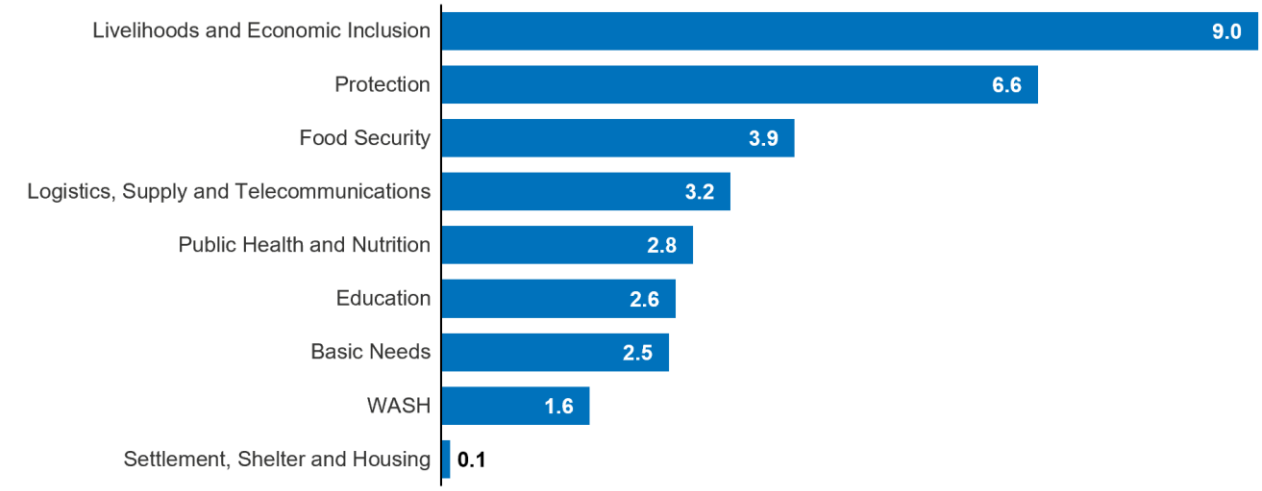
2024	2025
$32,172,125	$36,483,143

2024 Budget by Partner Type

10 Partners Involved	3 UN Agencies	0 Development actors	5 International NGOs			2 National NGOs		
	$25,851,583	$0	$6,223,000			$62,542		
	0 Academia	0 Private sector	INGO Refugee-Led Organizations 0	INGO Faith-Based Organizations 1	INGO Women-Led Organizations 0	NGO Refugee-Led Organizations 0	NGO Faith-Based Organizations 1	NGO Women-Led Organizations 0
	$0	$0	$0	$5,500,000	$0	$0	$62,542	$0

2024 Budget by Sector

In millions of US$



Total Protection requirements $6,558,854

General Protection	GBV	Child Protection
$4,013,854	$1,000,000	$1,545,000

Total cash assistance requirements $7,518,402

Basic Needs	Food Security	Livelihoods & Resilience
$2,500,000	$3,599,952	$1,418,450

2024 Budget by Partner

Partner	Requirements in US$
United Nations	**77,799,212**
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	**20,630,476**
World Food Programme (WFP)	**5,186,107**
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	**35,000**
International NGOs	**15,305,000**
CARITAS Czech Republic (CARITAS)	**4,000,000**
World Vision International (WVI)	**1,500,000**
Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE)	**391,000**
Action Africa Help (AAH)	**240,000**
Regional Psychosocial Support Initiative (REPSSI)	**92,000**
National NGOs	**1,028,643**
CARITAS Zambia (CZ)	**62,542**
Lifeline/Childline Zambia (LLCZ)	**35,000**
Total	**$32,172,125**

ANNEXES

Annexes

Annex 1: Regional Budget by Partner*

Partner	Requirements in US$
United Nations	**453,550,197**
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	**281,071,573**
World Food Programme (WFP)	**116,426,156**
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	**12,000,000**
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	**11,800,000**
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)	**9,694,252**
United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)	**9,613,516**
United Nations International Organization for Migration (IOM)	**6,501,100**
World Health Organization (WHO)	**3,793,600**
UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN WOMEN)	**2,500,000**
International Trade Centre (ITC)	**150,000**
International NGOs	**171,956,404**
Save the Children International (SC)	**23,300,941**
Humanitarian Initiative Just Relief Aid (H&IJRA)	**14,621,239**
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	**12,430,000**
ALIGHT (Alight)	**11,712,497**
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	**10,098,000**
Mercy Corps (MC)	**10,000,000**
Medical Teams International (MTI)	**7,512,173**
Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)	**7,400,000**
Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS)	**7,375,851**
World Vision International (WVI)	**7,106,000**
Danish Refugee Council (DRC)	**4,591,348**
War Child Canada (WCC)	**4,500,000**
Finn Church Aid (FCA)	**4,500,000**
CARITAS (CARITAS)	**4,417,216**
Association of Volunteers in International Service (AVSI)	**4,194,000**
Action Against Hunger (ACF)	**4,000,000**
Regional Psychosocial Support Initiative (REPSSI)	**3,502,610**
Lutheran World Federation (LWF)	**3,271,688**
Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (Care)	**2,591,000**
War Child Holland (WCH)	**2,000,000**
Opportunity International UK (Opportunity International UK)	**1,932,448**
Humanity & Inclusion (H&I)	**1,900,000**
WeWorld -Haranire Amaraga Meza – La communauté au service de la santé au Burundi (WeWorld GVC)	**1,812,532**
Oxford Committee for Famine Relief (Oxfam)	**1,750,000**
Building Resources Across Communities (BRAC)	**1,750,000**
Water Mission (WM)	**1,300,000**
Street Child (Street Child)	**1,085,910**
Practical Action (PRACTICAL ACTION)	**1,009,800**
Self Help Africa (SHA)	**1,000,000**
Give Directly (Give Directly)	**787,500**
Windle International Uganda (WIU)	**771,281**
Peace Winds Japan (PWJ)	**770,390**
Finnish Refugee Council (FRC)	**750,000**
Tanzania Red Cross Society (TRCS)	**700,000**
DanChurchAid (DCA)	**500,000**
World Youth Organization (WYO)	**500,000**
Swiss Church Aid (HEKS/EPER (SCA))	**450,000**
DAI Global LLC (DAI)	**420,000**
Plan International (PI)	**400,000**
Malteser International (Malteser)	**366,573**
Children on the Edge Africa (COTEA)	**337,825**
Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA)	**315,000**

Partner	Requirements in US$
Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA)	315,000
International Aid Services (IAS)	300,000
Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED)	300,000
Raising Gabdho Foundation (RGF)	300,000
Right to Play (RtP)	250,000
Action Africa Help (AAH)	240,000
RET (RET)	125,000
IsraAID (IsraAID)	125,000
ZOA International (ZOA)	107,326
World Relief Burundi (WRB)	81,024
Community Volunteer Initiative for Development (COVOID)	72,432
Alliance Forum for Development (AFOD)	70,000
Hope Health Action East Africa (HHA)	60,000
HealthRight International (HRI)	50,000
Child Voice International (ChildVoice)	45,000
Help A Child (HaC)	40,800
African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD)	36,000
HelpAge International (HelpAge)	20,000
National NGOs	**37,694,483**
Baylor college of Medicine Children's Foundation-Uganda (BAYLOR)	18,126,777
Tusitukire Wamu Group (TWG)	2,900,000
Trust Synergy Foundation - Uganda (TSFU)	2,851,500
Hunger Fighters Uganda (HFU)	2,704,827
Refugee Law Project (RLP)	2,000,000
African Women and Youth Action for Development (AWYAD)	1,710,000
Transcultural Psychosocial Organization (TPO)	1,240,000
Care and Assistance for Forced Migrants (CAFOMI)	1,128,787
Impact Hope (Impact Hope)	1,002,377
Dignity Kwanza - Community Solutions (DIGNITY Kwanza)	604,400
Maison Shalom (MAISON SHALOM)	600,953
Cheshire Services Uganda (CSU)	500,000
Relief to Development Society (REDESO)	424,243
Soroti Rural Development Agency (SORUDA)	350,000
Hopelink Action Foundation Uganda (HAF Uganda)	305,000
Igreja Evangélica dos Irmãos em Angola (IEIA)	187,300
Conseil Pour l'Education et le Développement (COPED)	182,115
Ajuda de Desenvolvimento de Povo para Povo (ADPP)	150,000
CARITAS-Rawanda (CARITAS-Rwanda)	90,000
Adventist Development and Relief Agency Rwanda (ADRA-Rwanda)	90,000
Humanitarian Assistance and Development Services (HADS)	85,000
Monidant Initative (Monidant Initative)	84,445
Social action for Development (S.A.D)	75,000
Luigi Giussani Foundation (LGF)	75,000
CARITAS Zambia (CZ)	62,542
All for Integral Development (AfID)	60,000
Andre Foods International (AFI)	39,216
Lifeline/Childline Zambia (LLCZ)	35,000
Prison Fellowship Rwanda (Prison Fellowship Rwanda)	30,000
Development actors	**4,559,372**
Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)	1,925,085
Inkomoko Business Development	1,600,000
Medecins D'Afrique (MDA)	1,032,787
Association des Professionnels en Protection de l'Enfance (APPE)	1,500
Academia	**402,868**
KEPLER (Kepler)	402,868
Private Sector	**36,916**
Indego Africa (IA Indego Africa)	36,916
IFRC/ICRC	**77,104**
Rwanda Red Cross (Rwanda Red Cross)	77,104
Total	$668,277,343

Annex 2: 2025 Population Figures and Financial Requirements

2025 Population to be assisted

Country	Refugee population to be assisted	Host community members benefitting from assistance	Total population to be assisted
Angola	29,127	3,000	32,127
Burundi	107,644	22,000	129,644
Republic of the Congo	37,230	5,585	42,815
Rwanda	77,865	11,972	89,837
Uganda	577,264	1,015,884	1,593,148
United Republic of Tanzania	100,077	22,641	122,718
Zambia	74,112	15,000	89,112
Total	**1,003,319**	**1,096,082**	**2,099,401**

Total financial requirements

2025

$696,349,258

2025 Budget by Partner Type

101 Partners Involved	**11** UN Agencies	**2** Development actors	**61** International NGOs			**28** National NGOs		
	$477,105,843	**$2,750,000**	**$172,922,274**			**$43,106,772**		
	1 Academia	**1** Private sector	Refugee-Led Organizations 2	Faith-Based Organizations 9	Women-Led Organizations 0	Refugee-Led Organizations 2	Faith-Based Organizations 2	Women-Led Organizations 1
	$429,488	**$34,881**	$3,150,0000	$24,983,375	$0	$191,579	$249,842	$747,800

Annex 3: Country and Regional Targets

2024

Sector		Indicator	Angola 2024	Burundi 2024	ROC 2024	Rwanda 2024	Uganda 2024	Tanzania 2024	Zambia 2024	Total Target 2024
	Protection	Number of refugees and asylum-seekers registered on individual basis	27,199	98,146	37,400	82,566	536,914	101,647	70,656	**954,528**
		Number of refugees and asylum-seekers receiving legal assistance	175	750	11,229	1,550	20,000	1,000	0	**34,704**
		Number of refugees who voluntarily returned in safety and dignity to their country of origin	1,000	1,200	1,500	1,000	0	0	970	**5,670**
		Number of refugees submitted for resettlement	7	5,000	9	5,000	3,180	4,500	3,000	**20,696**
	Child Protection	Number of refugee children whose birth is registered by civil authorities	400	4,500	1,640	2,650	0	3,400	600	**13,190**
		Number of refugee children at high risk, including unaccompanied and separated children, with best interests procedure undertaken	100	1,500	5	550	4,000	250	300	**6,705**
		Number of individuals trained on child rights and child protection prevention and response, including mainstreaming	45	936	236	750	4,000	650	1,274	**7,891**
	GBV	Number of GBV survivors who received specialized case management services (psychosocial support, case management and referral).	600	27,287	23,888	9,000	200,000	10,000	23,297	**294,072**
		Number of individuals reached through GBV awareness raising activities	350	715	20	100	2,000	350	60	**3,595**
		Number of trained participants (Partners workforce and government authorities) who increased their GBV knowledge and skills on prevention and response	20	60,000	200	90	2,000	30	100	**62,440**

Sector		Indicator	Angola 2024	Burundi 2024	ROC 2024	Rwanda 2024	Uganda 2024	Tanzania 2024	Zambia 2024	Total Target 2024
	Education	Number of people benefitted from education programming (early childhood, primary, secondary, tertiary, technical & vocational, and non-formal education)	3,700	30,000	19,707	32,000	125,000	32,000	18,000	**260,407**
	Food security	Number of persons receiving food assistance (in-kind or cash assistance)	5,980	60,000	29,944	43,286	536,914	97,500	15,000	**788,624**
	Health & Nutrition	Number of consultations provided for health care services	27,000	60,000	8,830	217,000	870,000	593,300	50,000	**1,826,130**
		Number of children 0-59 months with acute malnutrition (SAM and MAM) admitted for treatment	120	515	82	350	6,261	1,950	480	**9,758**
		Number of children aged 9 months to 5 years who have received a measles containing vaccine	2,550	4,800	1,778	1,200	18,500	19,500	5,000	**53,328**
	Livelihoods & and economic Inclusion	Number of people who benefitted from livelihoods and economic inclusion interventions (cash grants, inputs/ tools/ equipment, small business development, self/ employment opportunities, training and capacity-building)	450	20,000	300	3,662	209,984	750	9,992	**245,138**
	Settlement & Shelter & Housing	Number of people who received shelter and housing assistance	750	4,500	7,486	7,692	49,500	20,000	1,080	**91,008**
		Number of individuals receiving assistance to cover energy supply (including for cooking purposes)	200	1,000	26,201	43,286	135,000	30,000	5,000	**240,687**
		Number of people who received non-food items (in kind and cash assistance)	6,265	10,739	29,944	81,740	49,500	101,647	8,000	**287,835**
		Number of women and girls receiving sanitary material (cash or in-kind)	2,500	27,253	16,533	34,364	14,850	40,357	6,000	**141,857**
	Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	Average litres of potable water available per person per day	20	25	20	20	19	30	23	**23**
		Number of people supported with access to water and sanitation services	6,265	24,000	26,201	81,740	536,914	101,647	90,000	**882,984**

2025

Sector		Indicator	Angola 2025	Burundi 2025	ROC 2025	Rwanda 2025	Uganda 2025	Tanzania 2025	Zambia 2025	Total Target 2025
	Protection	Number of refugees and asylum-seekers registered on individual basis	29,127	107,644	37,230	77,865	577,264	100,077	74,112	**1,003,319**
		Number of refugees and asylum-seekers receiving legal assistance	200	750	5,615	1,750	20,000	1,000	0	**29,315**
		Number of refugees who voluntarily returned in safety and dignity to their country of origin	1,000	1,200	750	4,000	0	0	970	**7,920**
		Number of refugees submitted for resettlement	10	5,000	5	5,000	3,180	4,500	2,500	**20,195**
	Child Protection	Number of refugee children whose birth is registered by civil authorities	400	4,500	1,312	2,500	0	3,000	800	**12,512**
		Number of refugee children at high risk, including unaccompanied and separated children, with best interests procedure undertaken	100	1,500	5	600	4,000	200	400	**6,805**
		Number of individuals trained on child rights and child protection prevention and response, including mainstreaming	150	150	50	1,500	960	300	130	**3,240**
	GBV	Number of GBV survivors who received specialized case management services (psychosocial support, case management and referral).	50	941	230	900	4,000	650	2,057	**8,828**
		Number of individuals reached through GBV awareness raising activities	650	27,465	23,728	10,000	200,000	10,000	30,912	**302,755**
		Number of trained participants (Partners workforce and government authorities) who increased their GBV knowledge and skills on prevention and response	400	715	20	110	2,000	350	90	**3,685**
	Education	Number of people benefitted from education programming (early childhood, primary, secondary, tertiary, technical & vocational, and non-formal education)	3,700	30,000	19,360	33,500	135,000	35,000	20,000	**276,560**

Sector		Indicator	Angola 2025	Burundi 2025	ROC 2025	Rwanda 2025	Uganda 2025	Tanzania 2025	Zambia 2025	Total Target 2025
	Food security	Number of persons receiving food assistance (in-kind or cash assistance)	5,980	60,000	29,784	43,286	577,264	97,500	15,000	**828,814**
	Health & Nutrition	Number of consultations provided for health care services	27,000	60,000	8,800	217,000	940,000	548,800	50,000	**1,851,600**
		Number of children 0-59 months with acute malnutrition (SAM and MAM) admitted for treatment	100	540	105	300	6,500	2,242	480	**10,267**
		Number of children aged 9 months to 5 years who have received a measles containing vaccine	2,910	4,800	1,768	1,200	19,000	22,420	5,000	**57,098**
	Livelihoods & and economic Inclusion	Number of people who benefitted from livelihoods and economic inclusion interventions (cash grants, inputs/ tools/ equipment, small business development, self/ employment opportunities, training and capacity-building)	450	20,000	300	3,772	209,984	900	7,960	**243,366**
	Settlement & Shelter & Housing	Number of people who received shelter and housing assistance	650	5,000	7,446	7,692	46,300	20,000	1,200	**88,288**
		Number of individuals receiving assistance to cover energy supply (including for cooking purposes)	500	1,500	26,061	43,286	135,000	32,000	8,000	**246,347**
		Number of people who received non-food items (in kind and cash assistance)	6,500	11,275	29,784	77,086	46,300	100,077	8,000	**279,022**
		Number of women and girls receiving sanitary material (cash or in-kind)	3,000	23,853	16,533	34,364	13,890	39,913	7,000	**138,553**
	Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	Average litres of potable water available per person per day	20	25	20	20	20	32	23	**23**
		Number of people supported with access to water and sanitation services	6,500	24,000	26,061	77,086	577,264	100,077	90,000	**900,988**