UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

OPERATIONAL UPDATE

# United Republic of Tanzania

April 2026

As of 30 April 2026, Tanzania hosts **150,089** refugees and asylum seekers, mainly from Burundi 62,087 and the DRC 87,299 and 703 from other countries who live in two camps, while some refugees live in villages and three old settlements in Kigoma, Katavi, and Tabora regions.

In collaboration with the Government, UNHCR, and partners, have been receiving asylum seekers fleeing violent clashes in the DRC. In April 2026, a total of **29** new arrivals were received in Tanzania, bringing the total number of arrivals to **4,272** since renewed violence in eastern DRC in January 2025.

UNHCR continues to provide **protection** and **assistance** to persons of concern. Some services, including primary health care and education, are also extended to the host community. In addition, UNHCR seeks **durable solutions for refugees**.

## HIGHLIGHTS

**14,918**

**refugees** repatriated to Burundi to the provinces of Bujumbura Mairie, Bururi, Cankuzo, Karuzi, Kirundo, Makamba, Muyinga, Rumonge, Ruyigi, and Rutana.

**13,231**

**refugees and Tanzanians** received health services in Nduta and Nyarugusu camps.

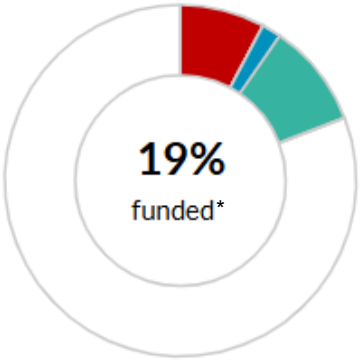
**17,836**

**persons with specific needs** were supported with energy-efficient cooking solutions, including liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and briquettes.

## FUNDING (AS OF 30 APRIL 2026)

**USD 81.1 million**

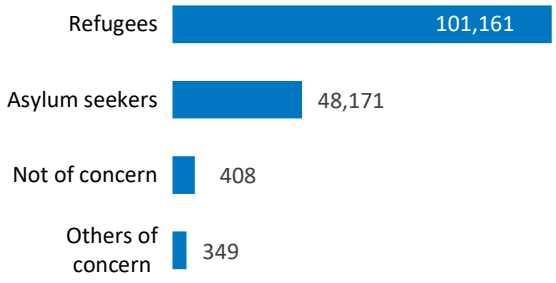
requested for the Tanzania operation.




** Figure may be adjusted subject to reconciliation.*

A dermatologist from Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre examines a refugee as part of a dermatological outreach campaign in Nyarugusu Camp, providing specialized skin care to refugees and the host community. ©UNHCR/Maimuna Mtengela

## POPULATION OF CONCERN (AS OF 30 APRIL 2026)




**Source: Government of Tanzania/UNHCR proGres v4*

## PROTECTION

- **DRC situation:** The Government of Tanzania and UNHCR continued to receive new arrivals from the DRC and recorded 29 individuals seeking safety in Tanzania this month. This brings the total number of arrivals since renewed violence in Eastern DRC in January 2025 to 4,272 individuals. In collaboration with the Government, UN agencies, and NGO partners, UNHCR provided the new arrivals with comprehensive protection and lifesaving assistance, including support to unaccompanied and separated children, shelter, food, core relief items, counselling, and medical care.
- **Child protection:** UNHCR's new child protection funded partner, Dignity Kwanza, officially commenced field operations as of 1 April 2026, strengthening collective capacity for child protection service delivery for refugees. During the month, UNHCR provided orientation and induction for the partner, including engagement with camp authorities and coordination with other child protection partners such as UNICEF, Save the Children, and World Vision Tanzania. In addition, UNHCR convened joint camp-level discussions with UNICEF and other partners to ensure continuity and smooth transition of the CPIMS+ system, contributing to UNSDCF child protection and accountability outcomes.
- **Gender-based violence (GBV) prevention:** UNHCR conducted GBV awareness and outreach sessions for the Congolese refugee community in Nyarugusu Camp, reaching a total of 600 individuals (355 female, 245 male). The sessions covered key topics, including types of GBV, the importance of reporting within 72 hours, available multi-sectoral services, and referral pathways. Participants were encouraged to report incidents promptly and actively engage in GBV prevention within their communities.
- **Nduta Camp closure:** The Government of Tanzania officially closed Nduta Camp on 30 April 2026, in the presence of the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs, senior Government and regional authorities, UNHCR, and partners. The closure took place in the context of the accelerated repatriation of Burundian refugees, in line with the Tripartite Agreement between the Governments of Tanzania and Burundi, and UNHCR. Ahead of the camp's closure, UNHCR and the Government conducted a joint protection assessment from 25 March to 2 April 2026, resulting in the relocation of approximately 1,000 refugees with continued international protection needs from Nduta to Nyarugusu Camp, with a small number transferred to Kigoma Transit Centre for onward durable solutions.

## EDUCATION

- **Allocation of International English Language Testing System (IELTS) vouchers:** UNHCR allocated 400 IELTS vouchers for 2026, in partnership with the British Council and International Development Program, to support refugees with confirmed university and scholarship opportunities by enabling them to meet required English language proficiency standards.

## HEALTH AND NUTRITION

- **Health services:** UNHCR's health partners conducted 13,231 consultations for refugees and host communities in the two camps (1,636 in Nduta, 11,595 in Nyarugusu). Out of these services, 9 per cent were used by Tanzanians in both camps.
- **Comprehensive safe motherhood services:** A total of 663 live births were delivered in the camps, including refugees and the host community (32 in Nduta, 631 in Nyarugusu), with 100 per cent of deliveries conducted by skilled healthcare workers. Out of the 663 live births, 37 live births were delivered by host community women inside the camps.

- **Medical referrals:** A total of 27 referrals from the camps and urban areas were conducted this month to primary and secondary level referral hospitals through partners to save the lives of refugees and asylum seekers (23 from Dar es Salaam, 1 from Nduta Camp, 3 from Nyarugusu Camp). All referrals were emergency cases.
- **Nutrition:** UNHCR's partners and nutrition community volunteers identified a total of eight children under five years old (7 refugees, 1 Tanzanian) with Severe Acute Malnutrition, providing all children with the necessary treatment.

## FOOD SECURITY

- **Food distribution:** Refugees residing in Nduta and Nyarugusu camps received 50 per cent of the dry food rations in April 2026 provided by WFP. UNHCR's partner, the Tanganyika Christian Refugees Services (TCRS), continued providing hot meals for Burundian refugees repatriating and Congolese new arrivals residing at the departure and reception centres at 50 per cent and 82 per cent respectively.

## WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE (WASH)

- **Water:** Water supply coverage was at an average of 23.2 litres per person per day in the camps, which is above the global standard of 20 litres per person per day.
- **Sanitation:** Household latrine coverage was at an average of 68 percent in the camps, a moderate increase from the previous month of 62 per cent, though it remains a substantial gap as it which falls below the 85 per cent global standard for household latrine coverage.
- **Hygiene:** UNHCR, WASH partners, and refugee hygiene promoters continued hygiene promotion activities this month, reaching a total of 135,438 refugees in the camps. However, each hygiene promoter currently covers an average of 2,187 persons, exceeding the global standard of 1,000 persons per hygiene promoter and highlighting a gap in staffing and outreach capacity.

## SHELTER AND ESSENTIAL ITEMS

- **Emergency shelter:** UNHCR and partners installed 84 emergency family tents to accommodate 246 new Congolese asylum seekers (146 female, 100 male) in Nyarugusu Camp this month.
- **Shelter maintenance:** UNHCR and partners maintained 27 shelters for 118 Burundian refugees (60 female, 58 male) in the Congolese zone of Nyarugusu Camp. These individuals form part of approximately 1,000 refugees relocated from Nduta Camp to Nyarugusu Camp ahead of its closure on 30 April 2026, following joint protection assessments conducted with the Government to identify those with continued international protection needs.

## DURABLE SOLUTIONS

- **Resettlement:** UNHCR submitted eight refugees to Canada for resettlement, bringing the total to 49 refugees who were submitted for resettlement since January 2026. In addition, 54 refugees departed for resettlement to Canada and Sweden, bringing the total to 88 refugees who departed for resettlement since January 2026.

- **Return:** The Governments of Tanzania and Burundi, UNHCR, and its partners facilitated the voluntary return of 14,918 individuals to Burundi this month to Bujumbura Mairie, Bururi, Cankuzo, Karuzi, Kirundo, Makamba, Muyinga, Rumonge, Ruyigi, and Rutana. This brings the total number of Burundian refugees repatriated to Burundi since 2017 to 263,958.
- **Impact of fuel price increases on repatriation operations:** Following a 33 per cent increase in fuel prices in Tanzania effective 1 April 2026, in the context of broader global market pressures, the cost of transporting refugees under the voluntary repatriation programme has increased, with potential implications for the timeliness and cost-efficiency of returns. Fuel supply constraints and broader transportation challenges have also contributed to increased operational demands.

## ACCESS TO ENERGY

- **Energy:** From 21 and 30 April 2026, UNHCR joined a joint Green Climate Fund (GCF) field mission with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Vice President's Office (VPO), and local authorities in Kakonko, Kasulu, and Kibondo districts. The mission visited environmental restoration activities co-financed by UNHCR in Nyarugusu Camp, surrounding host communities in Kasulu and Kibondo districts, and the former Mtendeli Camp in Kakonko District. It also covered 22 beneficiary villages, including eight in Kasulu, seven in Kibondo, and seven in Kakonko districts.
- In April 2026, UNHCR, in partnership with the African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD), TCRS, and Good Neighbors Tanzania, provided energy-efficient cooking solutions, including liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and briquettes to 17,836 persons with specific needs (9,594 women, 8,242 men) across four service points in Kigoma Region, including the camps.

## GAPS AND NEEDS

Chronic funding shortfalls continued to impact services for forcibly displaced people in Tanzania. In camp health facilities, staffing gaps affect service quality, with clinicians conducting an average of 57 consultations per day, exceeding the global standard of fewer than 50.

## DONORS

UNHCR in Tanzania is grateful for the support of Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, Denmark, the European Union, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

UNHCR is additionally thankful for support received from the UN community, individuals, foundations, and companies worldwide, including UNEP, and the UN Tanzania SDG Acceleration Fund.

## PARTNERS

Refugee Services Department, Ministry of Home Affairs | Ministry of Health | Ministry of Education | President's Office, Regional Administration-Local Government (PO-RALG) | AIRD | Caritas Tanzania | Dignity Kwanza | FAO | HelpAge Tanzania | Kivulini Women's Rights Organisation| TCRS | TRCS | UN RCO | UNFPA | UNICEF | UN Women | WLAC| WFP | WHO

## LINKS

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