

UGANDA

UPDATE ON THE BURUNDI REFUGEE RESPONSE

31 July – 6 August 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

- The average daily new arrivals has decreased to less than fifty per day.
- Kabazana Reception Centre is currently hosting 2,000 refugees from Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), far in excess of its capacity of 1,500. This is because Juru Reception Centre was closed last week and most of the refugees from DRC who were being hosted there were relocated to Kabazana. Plans are in place to relocate refugees at the Reception Centre to the refugee settlements to ease the congestion. Juru Reception Centre may be re-opened if the number of new arrivals continues to outpace registration.
- The United Kingdom Department for International Development visited Nakivale and Oruchinga to monitor the Burundi emergency and to assess the impact the influx is having on Uganda.
- The Central Emergency Response Fund has approved a funding request coordinated by UNHCR for the Burundi refugee emergency response in Uganda. UNHCR will receive 45% of the total funds (US\$1.49 million from a total of US\$3.3 million) towards protection, health, and shelter and non-food items. Other beneficiary agencies include UNICEF, IOM, WFP, UNFPA and WHO.



DFID Regional Humanitarian Adviser, Erlend Linklater and Interagency Emergency Response Team at Misiera village in Nakivale. ©UNHCR/E.Ohanusi

KEY FIGURES

13,390*

Burundian refugees have fled to Uganda since November 2014

Further breakdown of the above figure:

8,681

Refugees in Nakivale Refugee Settlement

197

Refugees in Kyaka II Refugee Settlement

118

Refugees in Oruchinga Refugee Settlement

2,540

Urban refugees registered in Kampala

**statistics are provided by the Government of Uganda Office of the Prime Minister*

PRIORITIES

- Resolve overcrowding in Kabazana Reception Centre;
- Providing sufficient water coverage to settlements in Nakivale without the use of water trucking;
- There has been a recent rise in children arriving with cases of malnutrition;
- Ensuring sufficient access to education for secondary-age children.

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

- The majority of new arrivals, around 65% are women and children. This is presenting specific challenges associated with a young refugee population and multiple female-headed households.
- The majority of new arrivals are entering Uganda from Rwanda through the Mirama Hills border crossing.

Achievements

Protection

- ARC in partnership with Refugee Law Project conducted an awareness session at Kabazana Reception Centre on the laws of Uganda and rights of refugees. A total of 87 individuals participated in the session and were advised on how to respect the laws of Uganda and access justice.

Child Protection

- UNHCR, UNICEF, Save the Children and World Vision conducted a three day assessment mission at Kabazana Reception Centre and Misiera village. They discussed child protection issues with local community structures, teachers and school management committees. It emerged that a number of unaccompanied children had been placed with foster parents who had subsequently abandoned them. New foster parents are currently being identified for these children and heightened sensitization is being carried out to ensure that potential new foster parents are aware of the responsibilities involved.
- In Nakivale, finding school places for children of secondary-school age continues to be a challenge. Efforts are underway to improve accessibility to local infrastructure for young new arrivals.

Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs)/Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV)

- In Nakivale, to strengthen community-based protection, 14 protection focal persons have been selected by the community. The focal persons were sensitized on their roles and responsibilities including identification and referral of protection cases and PSNs.

Education

- In Nakivale, 1,003 Burundian children have been enrolled in local primary schools. 179 have been enrolled in secondary school. This is because currently there is only one school that is enrolling Burundian secondary-aged children. Efforts are ongoing to improve accessibility to local secondary school for young new arrivals. The long distances between the refugee villages and the schools is negatively impacting attendance and enrolment.
- 20 teachers were recruited by Windle Trust Uganda and deployed to primary schools in Nakivale, Nyarugugu, Kabazana and Kashojwa where new arrivals from Burundi are enrolled.
- In Nakivale, a number of schools have inadequate latrine coverage. ARC is in the process of constructing more toilets to improve the latrine to pupil ratios.



Health

- In Nakivale, malaria remains the most prevalent disease amongst Burundian new arrivals. 181 individuals are currently receiving treatment for malaria and MTI is conducting sensitization to the new arrivals on the use of mosquito nets. 10,000 nets are in need of distribution to new arrivals.
- In Nakivale, due to the increasing geographic area sheltering Burundian new arrivals, MTI are in need of an additional ambulance to maintain coverage levels.



Food Security and Nutrition

- In Nakivale, a total of 483 households of 1,156 Burundian refugees were provided with the monthly dry food ration by World Food Programme through their partner Samaritan's Purse.
- In Nakivale, Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) rates among the new arrivals from Burundi registers at 0.2 and 4.6 respectively. 5 moderately malnourished children were identified and enrolled for supplementary feeding program out of 95 screened cases by MTI at Kabazana Reception Centre. Malnourished cases are noticeably increasing among the Burundian new arrivals being received recently in the month of July as compared to previous months.



Water and Sanitation

- In Nakivale, access to water is at 10.8 litres per person per day. Adequate water provision continues to present an acute challenge. Consequently, water trucking is being carried out to meet the gap, though this comes at a higher cost. Plans are underway to improve the quality and quantity of safe water. This includes extending the piped water system in the settlement.
- Access to bathing shelters is at 1:100 and household latrine coverage is at 6%.



Shelter, Environment and NFIs

- NSAMIZI conducted sensitization in on environment conservation and sustainable use of natural resources. 78 households from Kabahinda B, Kashjowa B and Ngarama were assisted to construct local energy saving stoves.

Working in partnership

The Government of Uganda Office of the Prime Minister and UNHCR are assisted by:



Contacts:

Charlie Yaxley, Associate External Relations Officer, yaxley@unhcr.org, Tel: +256 (0) 776 720 045

Abdelrahman JABER, Associate Information Management Officer, Jaber@unhcr.org, Tel: +256 (0)772 701057

Links: [Burundi regional portal](#) - [Twitter](#) – [UNHCR: Thousands continue to flee Burundi](#)

