

KEY FIGURES

17,353 *

Burundian refugees have been received in Uganda since November 2014 (As of 10 December, 2015)

Further breakdown of the above figure:

12,976

Refugees received in Nakivale Refugee Settlement

291

Refugees received in Kyaka II Refugee Settlement

207

Refugees received in Oruchinga Refugee Settlement

98

Refugees received in Kisoro Refugee Settlement

3,781

Urban refugees received in Kampala

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

PRIORITIES

- Efforts are underway to place Burundian refugee arrivals in their new shelters in a timely manner. Teams remain prepared for an increased influx.
- Road rehabilitation to improve access to refugee settlements.

Uganda

UPDATE ON THE BURUNDI REFUGEE RESPONSE

DECEMBER 4-10, 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

- A total of 253 Burundian refugees sought safety and protection in Uganda this week, almost the same number reported last week (254).
- Most of the new arrivals (152) were received in Nakivale-12 individuals were transported from Mirama Hills, Kizinga and Kareema border points; 11 were referred from Kampala; 83 walked to Office of the Prime Minister (OPM)'s registration office; 19 came aboard a convoy from Kisoro; while 27 walked into Kabazana Reception Centre directly. Mainly coming from Bujumbura, Muyinga, Kirundo, Kibitoke and Bubanza provinces, the new arrivals are citing insecurity in Burundi and family reunion in Uganda as reason for fleeing. They also mention that many Burundians are being blocked at the Rwanda border points.



UNHCR, Uganda Green Fire & Nsamizi exhibiting briquettes in Nakivale © UNHCR/E. Ohanusi

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational context

- In Nakivale, American Refugee Committee (ARC), UNHCR and OPM jointly conducted an awareness session on gender-based violence at Kabazana Reception Center as part of activities to mark “16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence.” Some 55 refugees attended the session where they were urged to make GBV prevention an individual (everyone’s) responsibility. The community were also sensitized on the linkage between HIV/AIDS and GBV. Power posters were used to bring out the messages. “16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence” is a global campaign observed from 25 November- the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, to 10 December- Human Rights Day, to galvanize action to end violence against women and girls around the world. This year’s campaign has been marked under the theme: “From Peace in the Home to Peace in the World: Make Education Safe for All!”

Protection

- At Kabazana Reception Centre, UNHCR, OPM and ARC conducted the weekly joint physical headcount to establish the number of residents. A total of 536 individuals, of which 459 are Burundians are currently residing at the centre. Population at the reception center has decreased compared to the previous weeks when it was above 1,000 individuals. The assessment established that the reception centre can accommodate up to 569 individuals as opposed to the 1,500 individuals indicated before the partitioning of the rooms. ARC also generated and updated an excel sheet for the reception center disaggregated by age, gender and nationality which will be updated on a weekly basis to facilitate the settlement process and associated assistance.

Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs)

- In Nakivale, ARC received, 20 protection cases related to insecurity (6), medical (11), single parenthood (1), survivor of torture (1) and emotional stress (1). These issues originated from their country of origin but still affect them. Psychosocial support was provided to all the cases. Four of the cases were referred to the Police for follow-up while nine were referred to Medical Teams International (MTI) for further management.

Child Protection

- In Nakivale, ARC conducted Best Interest Assessments for three female unaccompanied minors (siblings) from Kashojwa C. They were placed under foster care, accompanied to OPM for registration and Windle Trust Uganda (WTU) for education support next year.
- In Nakivale, (UNHCR, OPM, ARC and the District Probation Office conducted a joint community dialogue meeting in Nyakagando B village, to identify and respond to child protection issues in the new Burundian village. Among the issues raised by community members were high school dropout rates due to failure by parents to pay school fees, domestic violence in some families, poor hygiene at Early Childhood Development Centres (ECDCs) and food shortages in homes. The members suggested that the community/ parents should volunteer to clean ECDCs. They also called for focused group discussions with men and women about domestic violence, and more awareness creation on children’s rights. Some 17 people participated in the dialogue.

Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV)

- In Nakivale, ARC conducted a focus group discussion with Burundian women in Ruhoko A to identify their protection concerns in relation to Gender Based Violence (GBV). The key issues raised included high level of domestic violence in their community due to alcoholism by men, denial of resources by husbands and limited access to medical services. The women were urged to work as a team, form groups for income generating activities, and report of GBV cases to protection offices early for easy referral and re-dress. The participants requested for more GBV sensitization and awareness outreaches.

Education

- Schools closed on 4th December for third term (end of year) holidays and will reopen on 22nd February next year according to the Ministry of Education and Sports calendar. A total of 3,013 Burundian children were in school (Early Childhood Development Centres (ECDCs), primary and secondary school) out of the estimated 5,000 new Burundians of school-going age. Attendance in the last week in all the schools was maintained as children were doing end of year assessment exams.
- In Nakivale, WTU conducted end of year meetings with Centre Management Committees in six ECDCs of Misera A, Misera B, Kashojwa B, Ruhoko, Kabahinda and Ngarama to discuss their progress, achievements and some of the challenges faced. The caregivers raised the issue of monthly allowances and congestion in classrooms. The committee members were urged to mobilize parents to contribute towards the functionality of the ECDCs.



Health

- In Nakivale, a total of 1639 consultations were recorded, up from 990 last week with malaria accounting for most of the morbidity cases (32%)-especially from Kabazana and Ruhoko villages. This sudden rise is attributed to the current wet (rainy) season that is accumulating stagnant water which favors mosquito-breeding in the communities. It's also partly attributed to households planting crops so close to homes, not clearing bushy surroundings, and poor use of insecticide treated nets. MTI is continuing with community awareness and sensitization outreaches on malaria prevention and control measures, including early health seeking behavior. The following were also recorded; (UTIs 22%), watery diarrhea (9.0%) and skin diseases (5%).

Reproductive Health

- Through UNFPA/ACORD, 11 pregnant women were mapped and continuously followed up by Village Health Teams (VHTs), who encouraged them to seek antenatal care services and deliver at Health facilities. Eight Burundian deliveries were reported at Nakivale Health center III and all the women were supported with dignity kits. Fifteen referrals were made from Nakivale Health Center (six to Rwekubo Health Center and nine to Mbarara Regional Referral Hospital).



Food Security and Nutrition

- In Nakivale, a total of 452 children were screened for malnutrition as compared to 733 in the previous week. Some 13 children had moderate malnutrition and were enrolled on supplementary feeding programme (SFP) while one severely malnourished case was admitted on inpatient therapeutic care (ITC).



Water and Sanitation

- Water access gap indicator in the Burundian villages slightly increased as compared to the previous week. This is mainly because water for the additional refugees settled in the respective village (Mugenyi A) was trucked. Many villages have a sphere standard of 15 litres/per/day as per emergency standard save for some (which ones?) which reported below 15 litres/per/day because of the increase in population over the previous weeks.
- In Nakivale, hygiene promotion is ongoing through the use of IEC materials carrying messages on good hygiene practices-environmental, personal, and household hygiene. A total of 1370 individuals have been reached through home to home hygiene sensitization by village health teams (VHTs)

Livelihoods and Environment

- In Nakivale, Nsamizi launched the pilot distribution of briquettes for all refugees including new arrivals on November 29. The distribution criteria is based on household size: a family of up to three receives 2kgms, of four gets 3kgs, while one of five and above gets 5kgs of briquettes. Additionally, PSNs each receive 5kgs kilograms. Refugees will be buying the briquettes at a reduced cost of 300 shillings per kilo effective January 2016.

Working in partnership

The Government of Uganda, through the Office of the Prime Minister and UNHCR are supported by:



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Links: [Burundi regional portal](#) - [Twitter](#) – [UNHCR: Deputy High Commissioner visits Burundian refugees in Nakivale](#)