



UNHCR RWANDA: Community Information Strategy Upscale of resettlement for Congolese refugees



OVERALL OBJECTIVES

- Ensure correct , good quality and consistent information is disseminated to refugees and UNHCR partners on resettlement matters;
- Facilitate access to information in order to minimize information gaps and manage refugee expectations;
- Create avenues for effective dialogue through focused discussions between refugees, UNHCR, Government of Rwanda and Implementing partners on resettlement matters.

KEY BACKGROUND INFORMATION/ ADOPTED STRATEGY

I. Regional comprehensive solutions strategy

Upscale to target 50, 000 Congolese refugees within the region from 2012- 2016: Participating countries are Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda and Tanzania.

Rwanda multiyear resettlement plan

UNHCR Rwanda has committed to submitting 2,400 individuals in 2013; 3,000 individuals in 2014 and 2,400 individuals in 2015 with a goal of submitting 3,000 individuals each year to the extent feasible.

II. Resettlement selection criterion

- length of stay (between 1994-2005 on a first-in-first-out basis)
- Type of vulnerability already captured on database.

III. Facts on Rwanda RST processing

- That resettlement is fair and on-going as part on UNHCR routine protection work.
- Resettlement as a durable solution is a limited option available only to refugees who meet very precise criteria and it is to be understood that resettlement is not a RIGHT.
- UNHCR and GoR established arrival dates, vulnerabilities and other individual data during the 2011/2012 verification exercise.
- RST countries make final decisions on acceptance.

IV. Campaign target groups

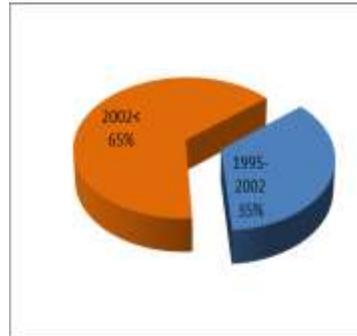
- Camp and urban based refugees and UNHCR partners.

V. Campaign materials

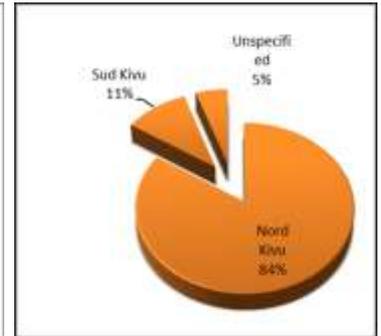
Focused group discussions; pamphlets and short videos.

ANTICIPATED CHALLENGES

- The upscale will focus on the P2 group of which 99% are from Gihembe camp. This needs to be explained to avoid a situation of misperception of the imbalance, which is linked to our adopted selection criteria.
- Resettlement departures are staggered and are not always based on first in – first out basis and the delayed departures cause anxiety among refugees.
- Upscale may lead to a risk of engagement in resettlement fraud and this needs closer monitoring.



Refugee Arrival dates



Areas of origin

PARTNERSHIP AND COORDINATION

UNHCR and the GOVT of Rwanda joint actions;

- Hold monthly meeting with refugees and refugee leaders to discuss and provide information on resettlement as a durable solution.
- Disseminate materials prepared by UNHCR.
- Screen videos prepared on resettlement and take lead in follow up discussions.

UN Agencies :

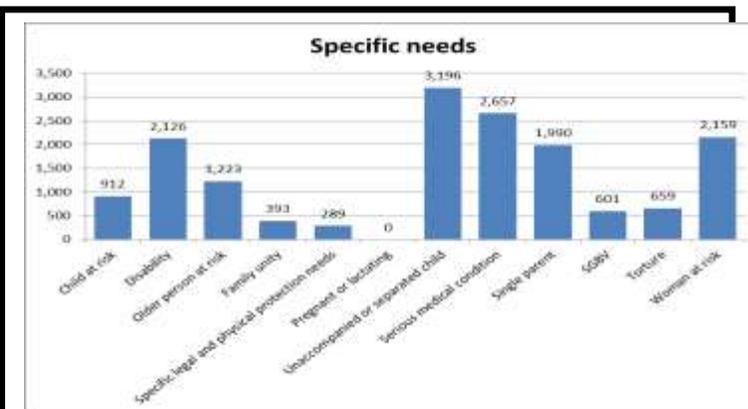
- UN Agencies – to be appraised of the situation regarding the resettlement processing on a quarterly basis.

Resettlement countries

- Resettlement countries will provide country specific information on resettlement procedures and processes prior to and during resettlement selection missions

Resettlement working committee

- The working committee composed UNHCR, MIDIMAR officials, Immigration and Implementing partners will meet periodically, review the contents of community information, and update it based on feedback from session with the refugee community.



“Resettlement to a third country” means that a refugee leaves his/her country of asylum and legally settles in another country. A refugee **does not have a right** to resettlement.

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