

RWANDA

EMERGENCY UPDATE - BURUNDI REFUGEE INFLUX

18 – 24 May 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

KEY FIGURES* (as of 24

May)

27,732

Burundian refugees have crossed into Rwanda.

Further breakdown of the above figure:

23,532

Refugees in Mahama Refugee Camp

3,560

Refugees in Bugesera Reception Center

478

Refugees in Nyanza Reception Center

160

Refugees in Nyagatare Transit Center

2

Pending in Districts

*statistics are according to the Government of Rwanda.

PRIORITIES

- Focus on enhancing water services in Mahama camp, by constructing boreholes and hiring more water tankers
- Conduct intensive individual case management services to look into appropriate solutions for unaccompanied and separated children

- UNHCR launched the interagency Regional Refugee Response Plan to respond to the Burundi refugee emergency—a total appeal of USD 207 million, in which USD 94 million is requested for the response in Rwanda. UN and NGO partners are presenting their needs to ensure basic protection and assistance for Burundi refugees through September 2015. Ensuring protection as well as providing shelter, clean water, sanitation and health services are among the main priorities of the RRP. *Since early April, over 110,000 Burundians have fled to neighbouring Rwanda, Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.*
- UNHCR has received USD 5.9 million from the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) for life-saving activities in response to the emergency influx of Burundian refugees. An additional USD 1.9 million has been allocated to WFP, UNICEF, UNFPA and WHO to strengthen their efforts in assisting Burundian refugees in Rwanda.
- ECHO has contributed to UNHCR an additional EUR 1 million for the Burundian refugee response.

High level visits

- The Rwandan and Ugandan Ministers of the East African Community Affairs (EAC), accompanied by the Governor of Eastern Province and Mayor of Kirehe District, visited Mahama camp on 22 May to assess the refugee situation. The visit followed last week's meeting in Arusha between EAC Heads of State to discuss the Burundi situation, in which it was recommended to monitor refugee camps in Rwanda and Tanzania to assess the situation. "We are not happy when we see people fleeing their homes [...] we are thus determined to see this end," the Ugandan Minister said.
- A UNHCR Senior Management Level mission to Rwanda was conducted to support the operation in the response to the Burundi refugee influx. The UNHCR Deputy Director for the Regional Bureau of Africa covering West and Central Africa and the Great Lakes Region, traveled to Rwanda to assess the emergency response to the Burundian crisis. During her mission, she met with UNHCR colleagues, the Minister of Disaster Management and Refugee Affairs (MIDIMAR), heads of UN Agencies and partners, and visited the new Mahama camp and Bugesera reception center.
- During the week of 18 May, several representatives from diplomatic missions in Rwanda visited Mahama Camp, including the Ambassador of the Netherlands, First Secretary of the Embassy of Japan (*bottom left photo*), and other representatives of the Dutch and Japanese embassies, as well as the Regional Director of West & Central Africa Division at DFAIT Canada, and the chargé d'affaires of Canada (*bottom right photo*).



UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

- Zedi Feruzi, leader of Burundian opposition party Union for Peace and Development, was shot dead in Bujumbura on 23 May. Protests are currently on hold to allow for Feruzi's funeral. On Friday, two people in Bujumbura were killed in a grenade attack.
- In contrast to previous trends, the majority of newly arriving refugees are persons coming from Bujumbura. They have reported to UNHCR an increase in roadblocks and checkpoints in Burundi, making it extremely difficult to leave the country. Reasons for flight reported by refugees remain insecurity and violence linked to the political situation.



Protection

Child protection (CP) & Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) Achievements and Impact

- Thus far UNHCR has identified and registered 920 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC).
- RRC/ICRC, in coordination, with UNHCR is so far working with 563 UASC to help them trace their families; 382 of these are now back in contact with their families thanks to RRC/ICRC phone call services.
- Plan International continues to support UNHCR by assisting those UASC who are waiting to be registered, including regular visits and monitoring.
- UNHCR has conducted 702 Best Interest Assessments (BIAs) and 1 Best Interests Determinations (BIDs) for UASC and other children at risk.
- Child-friendly spaces have been established by Plan International in Bugesera and Nyanza and are underway in Mahama with 2 tents erected thus far by UNICEF.
- Refugee community mobilizers have facilitated recreational activities in Mahama camp, reaching approximately 270 to 700 children every day.
- UNHCR has established referral pathways for SGBV which are currently implemented in both reception centers and in Mahama camp. Thus far 21 SGBV cases have been identified and assisted by different actors.
- Plan International has conducted several community awareness sessions in Mahama camp on SGBV prevention and how to report incidents, gender equality, and different services provided by partners. Between 130 and 355 community members (including women, men, girls and boys) attended those sessions.
- Care International, in partnership with UNICEF, started identifying children under 6 years old in Mahama in order to organize early childhood development activities.



Health

Achievements and Impact

- In collaboration with the Ministry of Health, UNICEF and WHO, a two-day immunization campaign, targeting over 10,000 children to prevent against measles (under 15 years old) and polio (under 5 years old) was launched in Mahama camp on 23 May.
- The Standard Expanded Nutrition Survey (SENS) for Mahama camp was completed on 24 May. The results will provide a clearer picture of the nutrition status of the concerned community and the impact of the nutrition interventions that have been thus far carried out by partners.
- ARC has completed an isolation facility in Mahama camp and remains on standby to respond to any epidemic.
- UNFPA provided an orientation for health providers in Kirehe district hospital and Mahama camp on the use of emergency reproductive health kits, generously provided by UNFPA.
- There are no reported cases of cholera in Rwanda. Screening upon arrival into the country has started and isolation tents are now in place.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The main cause of morbidity remains respiratory tract infections, which is responsible for 44% of the total health issues among refugees from Burundi.



Water and Sanitation

Achievements and Impact (in Mahama camp)

- 860 latrines: 27.3 persons/drop hole -- standard in an emergency is 40 persons/drop hole
- 429 showers: 54.8 persons/shower -- standard in an emergency is 70 persons/drop hole

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- 9L of water per person per day -- standard in an emergency is 15L/person/day. Securing enough water for refugees has been the biggest challenge in Mahama camp. To address this issue, 3 additional water tankers have been hired by UNHCR's WASH partner, World Vision, for a total of 9 deployed tankers to increase the water supply by 40-50%. World Vision has also started constructing 2 boreholes.

STATISTICS

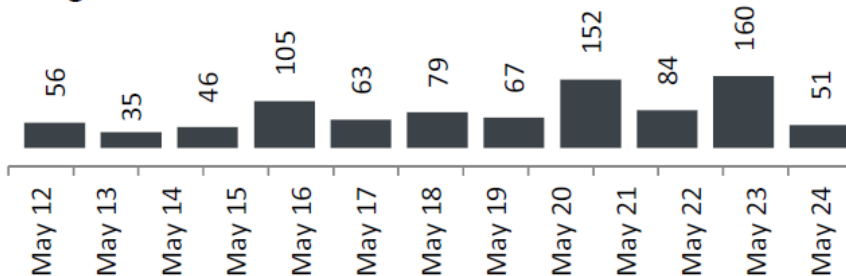
- UNHCR has put into place Level 1 registration in the two reception centers and Level 2 in Mahama to expedite relocation. 23,654 refugees have been registered to date.

Age Cohort	Female	Male	Total	%
0 - 4 years	2,049	2,180	4,229	18%
5 - 11 years	2,300	2,329	4,629	20%
12 - 17 years	1,837	2,072	3,909	17%
18 - 59 years	5,379	5,074	10,453	44%
60+ years	280	154	434	2%
Total	11,845	11,809	23,654	

Nyanza Arrivals



Bugesera Arrivals



Thanks to our partners:



World Food Programme



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