

BURUNDI SITUATION

1 – 31 May 2018

396,058

Total refugees from Burundi in four main hosting countries (United Republic of Tanzania, Rwanda, the DRC, and Uganda), as of 31 May 2018.

6,198

Burundian refugees assisted to return from the United Republic of Tanzania in May 2018, totalling 16, 986 assisted to return to date in 2018.

620

Burundian refugee arrivals /registrations recorded in May 2018. As of 31 May 2018, there has been 4,748 Burundian refugees' arrivals in the region.

30,088

Number of Burundian refugees assisted to return from the United Republic of Tanzania since September 2017.

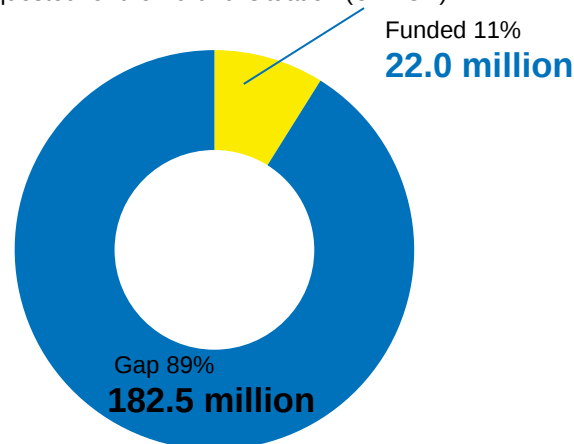
187,026

IDPs in Burundi according to IOM, where 26 per cent of IDPs are linked to the socio-political situation, and 74 per cent are linked to natural disasters, as of May 2018.

FUNDING (AS OF END OF MAY 2018)

USD 204.4 Million

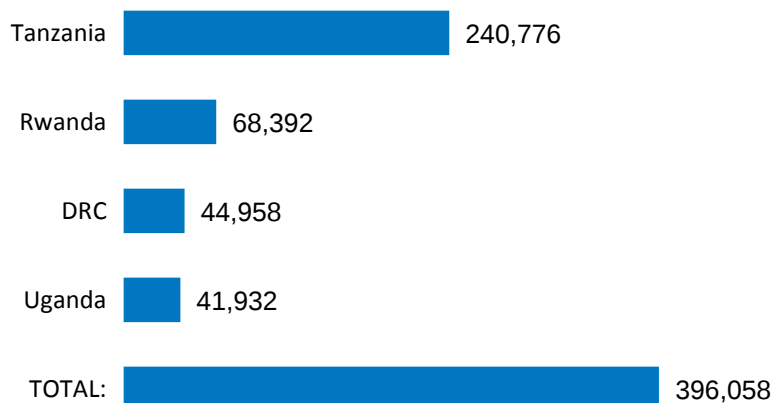
requested for the Burundi situation (UNHCR)



POPULATION OF CONCERN

Host Countries

Note: Figures reflect current number of registered Burundian refugees and asylum-seekers pre- and post-2015 who are assisted through the 2018 Burundi RRRP.



*The total above is in line with the 2018 Burundi RRRP regional coverage, and does not include some 23,700 Burundian refugees who are registered in Kenya and Southern Africa and assisted within the respective country level programmes, as well as a further 23,000 Burundian refugees who have lived for decades in Tanzania and no longer receive assistance.

Highlights and Operational Context

- **UNHCR has not observed major movements from Burundi to the countries in the region due to the referendum held on 17th May 2018.** The overall trend of new arrivals is going down with monthly variations by country. Refugees continue to arrive in neighbouring countries in 2018, with a potential increase in movement between the countries of asylum with some refugees leaving the United Republic of Tanzania and Rwanda to go to Uganda and other countries in the region.
- **UNHCR's Regional Refugee Coordinators (RRCs) for the Burundi and South Sudan situations were invited by the United States Ambassador, H.E. Robert F. Godec, to jointly brief Ambassadors and Heads of delegations on the needs of South Sudanese and Burundian refugees, on the 4th May 2018.** The briefing focused on recent developments of the forced displacement situation and provided information on some of the most significant challenges and opportunities faced by UNHCR operations in the region.
- **On 8th May the High Representative, Federica Mogherini, on behalf of the European Union declared that the regional organization remains deeply concerned by the human rights situation in Burundi, which undermines any initiative for reconciliation, peace and justice.** As a guarantor, the EU calls on the Burundian authorities to respect the spirit and the letter of the Arusha Peace Agreement, which formed the basis for the peaceful transfer of power in Burundi and promoted peace and stability in the region. As part of its efforts in support of an inclusive dialogue as the only viable process for a sustainable political solution in Burundi, the EU will continue to work closely with its main international partners, in particular with the Eastern African Community, the African Union, the United Nations and its Special Envoy, and with the OHCHR in Burundi.
- **The Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Burundi, Michel Kafando, urged 'inclusive' talks to resolve crisis in Burundi during a briefing to the Security Council. Kafando added that "inclusive dialogue, including regional actors, is crucial to reinforce the mutual trust and prompt a lasting solution to the political, socio-economic and humanitarian crisis in Burundi".**

Update on voluntary repatriation of Burundian Refugees from the United Republic of Tanzania

Background

- UNHCR continues not promoting voluntary return to Burundi, however it is supporting the exercise to ensure that returns are based on the principles of voluntariness and informed decisions, and take place in safety and dignity.
- While undertaken the returns, the Tripartite Commission also acknowledged that while some refugees may opt to return now, others may still have well-founded reasons not to return at the present time and will continue to be in need of international protection.

Update

- Some 6,198 Burundian refugees have been repatriated in May to their areas of origin, bringing to 30,088 the number of refugees returned since the beginning of the voluntary repatriation in September 2017.
- Both UNHCR Burundi and the United Republic of Tanzania operations are in need of additional resources due to the need to accommodate the 8,000 returnees per month requirement from the tripartite agreement as well as to continue attending to the lifesaving needs of refugees within the country.

Partners

- In the United Republic of Tanzania, UNHCR is collaborating closely with the following partners: Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), HelpAge International, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Tanzanian Red Cross Society (TRCS), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), International Organization for Migration (IOM), Plan International, and the World Food Programme (WFP).
- In Burundi, UNHCR is collaborating with the Department of Repatriation under the Government of Burundi, World Food Programme (WFP), International Rescue Committee (IRC), Caritas and the Civil Volunteer Group (GVC).

Achievements during the Reporting Period

TANZANIA

Latest Developments

- **Regional Commissioner for Kigoma in collaboration with the Regional Medical Officers carried out an Ebola Preparedness and Response roundtable in Kigoma.** Participants at the meeting included all districts and twin Medical Officers within Kigoma region, UNHCR and partners in the refugee response. The main objective was to review Kigoma Regional Ebola and Marburg preparedness and response contingency plan, identify Ebola Treatment Centres (per council), review the strategies in place for all key intervention area, and conduct mapping of high risk areas and available resources.
- **Across the three camps of Nduta, Mtendeli and Nyarugusu, out of 289 GBV survivors supported in May 2018, 256 were Burundian refugees.** While all survivors received quality case management services and psychosocial support, sexual and gender based violence raising awareness sessions are also ongoing in the camps.

Achievements and Challenges

- **Refugees have reported improvements in their life style and social coexistence with the community and family members due to the participation in economic and social empowerment activities.** However, there have been also reports of people departing with outstanding loans, and of abandonment of families formed whilst in the camps as a result of the voluntary repatriation exercise.
- **Good Neighbours Tanzania conducted a monitoring assessment on vocational training graduates from Nduta and Mtendeli.** Initial findings revealed that 379 out of 490 graduates who completed their vocational training in 2017 started their own tailoring, hairdressing, bread making and soap making businesses, underlining the potential positive impact livelihoods interventions may have on refugees.

RWANDA

Latest Developments

- **A 24 per cent reduction in the Burundian population in Rwanda was observed due to the verification exercise.** The total population of concern in Rwanda at the end of May 2018 was 152,428 individuals, with a 13 per cent reduction due to the inactivation of 22,500 individuals absent in the urban verification exercise.
- **In Mahama II, the health facility managed by Save the Children has been accredited by the Rwanda Biomedical Center and the Ministry of Health (RBC/MoH) for starting the HIV programme.** However, there is a need to enlarge the waiting areas for all health post to accommodate all HIV and Mental Health program in Mahama II.

Achievements and Challenges

- **In view to enhance awareness and prevent Sexual Transmitted Diseases (STDs) and unwanted pregnancies, 36,315 male condoms were distributed to 10,541 people including the youth.** In addition, films about the Youth Reproductive Health were projected twice at the Youth Friendly Services (YFS).
- **UNHCR is not able to support the education of children in urban settings due to lack of funding.** Furthermore, there is also an urgent need for libraries, computer and sciences laboratories in order to ensure quality education to school-aged refugee children.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Latest Developments

- **Refugees constructed 220 family shelters, bringing the total number of shelters built at Mulongwe site to 488.** Refugees in Mulongwe are given an individual shelter kit, cash and a plot of land to build their own homes as shelter responses took in account the local skills and available construction materials.
- **In May, a food fair was carried out in collaboration with the World Food Programme and refugees were able to buy food supplies of their choice in the pre-determined shops.** The monthly cash assistance (\$ 12 per person) was transferred to refugees in Lusenda and Mulongwe, who used electronic cards to buy the food supplies.

Achievements and Challenges

- **As of May, over 5,000 refugees were transferred to the new site of Mulongwe.** However, over 700 families are still waiting to be transferred as current funding only permits for the construction of 100 additional shelters.
- **In Lusenda camp, 99 plastic tarpaulins were distributed to families whose houses were damaged by heavy rains in April.** Overall 1,125 shelters still are in need of repair.

UGANDA

Latest Developments

- **UNHCR has been engaging with National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC) with regards to taking over the management of water supply services in Rwamwanja settlement.** Hence, the inclusion into national systems and sustainable approaches will be enhanced as it is envisaged by the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF).

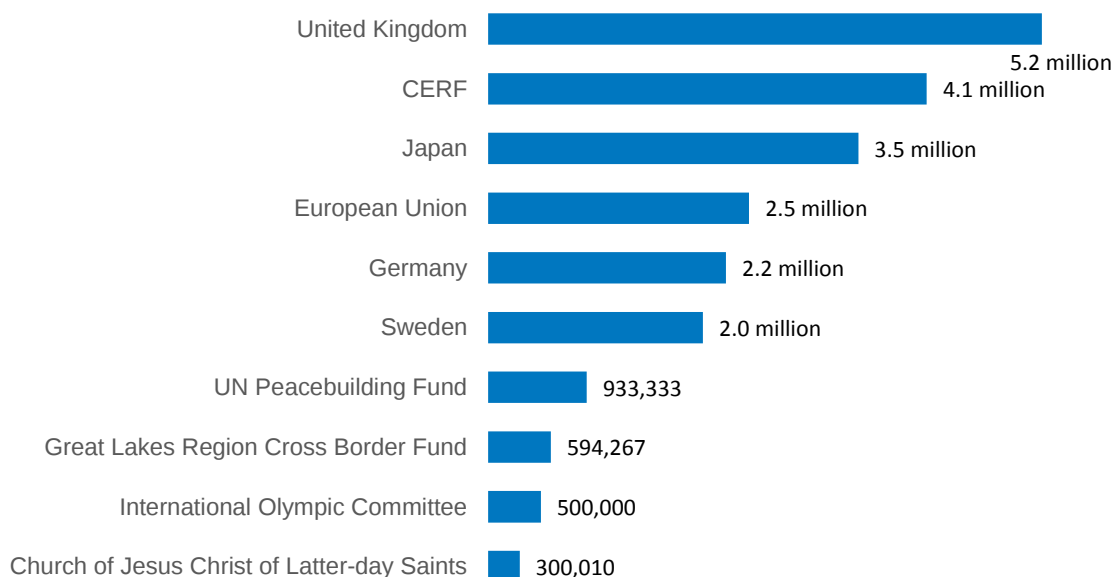
Achievements and Challenges

- **In Nakivale, enrolment for Early Childhood Development Programmes (ECDs) dropped from 40 per cent to 19 per cent while primary school attendance also dropped from 82 per cent to 34 per cent due to parents engaging children in the harvest season.** Windle International Uganda (WIU) is conducting sensitization for parents to enrol their children at the nearest ECDs and allow their children to attend school regularly.
- **In the effort to support feeding programming and generate income for Nakivale Vocational Training Centre, 2.5 acres of Banana plantation and five acres of maize were cultivated for the institution's sustainability.**

Financial Information

UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors who have contributed to their activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed directly to the Burundi situation or operations.

Earmarked contributions for the Burundi Situation amount to some **\$22 million** as of end of May 2018.



Special thanks to the major donors of broadly earmarked and regional funds in 2018 | USD

United States of America 77.8 million | Canada 6.6million | Private donors Australia 5 million | Sweden 3.2 million

Special thanks to the major donors of unearmarked contributions | USD

Sweden 98.2 million | Norway 42.5 million | Netherlands 39.1 million | United Kingdom 31.7 million | Private donors Spain 26 million | Denmark 25.5 million | Australia 18.9 million | Switzerland 15.2 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 12.6 million | Italy 11.2 million

External / Donors Relations

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LINKS

Regional Data Portal: <http://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/burundi>

UNHCR Burundi page: <http://www.unhcr.org/burundi.html>

UNHCR Burundi Global Focus : <http://reporting.unhcr.org/node/8488>

Recent News Story: <http://www.unhcr.org/news/stories/2018/4/5ab0d2984/burundian-refugees-congo-forge-better-future.html>