

Rwanda: 2018 Mid Year Report BURUNDI REGIONAL RRP

January - June 2018



68,306

BURUNDIAN REFUGEES
HOSTED IN RWANDA
(30 JUNE 2018)

US\$ 74 M

REQUIRED IN RWANDA IN
2018

9%*

FUNDING RECEIVED (17
JULY 2018)

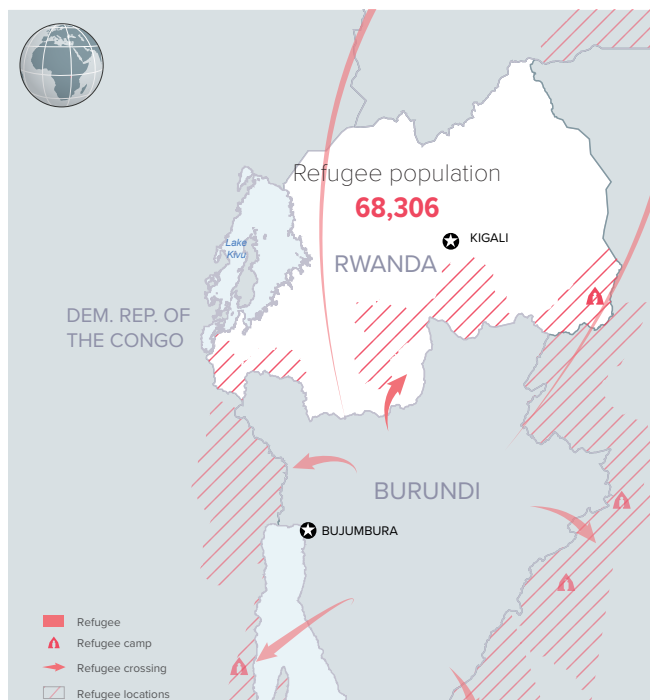
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RRP PARTNERS IN
RWANDA IN 2018

SITUATION OVERVIEW

As of June 2018, of the total of 151,250 refugees and asylum seekers in Rwanda, 68,306 are of Burundian origin. 57,589 Burundian refugees are living in the country's largest refugee camp, Mahama, opened on 22 April 2015. Four transit/reception sites are currently operating. The remaining 10,717 Burundian refugees are living in urban areas, mainly in Kigali and Huye. RRP partners cover urgent, life-saving needs. However, now that the Burundian refugee population has been in Rwanda for three years and continues to grow, emergency facilities established in 2015 are deteriorating and need rehabilitation.

Burundian refugees continue to flee into Rwanda with an average of 176 new arrivals weekly. New arrivals require continuous intervention to ensure that adequate levels of protection and basic assistance are provided. Currently, RRP partners do not foresee a possibility for a safe and dignified repatriation of the majority of refugees in Rwanda to Burundi in the near future.



RRP partners work closely with the Government of Rwanda (GoR) and in particular with its primary counterpart, the Ministry for Disaster Management and Refugees (MIDIMAR), to ensure protection and basic assistance for all refugees in the country and in identifying appropriate durable solutions. A total of nine agencies are involved in the interagency refugee response plan and are working with other partners in Rwanda, providing services in the refugee camp and transit / reception sites and ensuring protection and assistance in urban settings.


UNHCR, in the context of the Government-UNHCR Strategy for Economic Inclusion of Refugees (2016-2020), and UNHCR Policy on Alternatives to Camps (2014), is seeking together with RRP partners to enable refugees to fulfil their productive potential as members of the Rwandan society who contribute to the economic development of host communities. Corresponding to the Government's ambition to enable and promote socio-economic inclusion, in 2018 the operation started implementing its Multi Year Multi-Partner Protection and Solutions Strategy.

RRP partners continue to ensure that refugees fleeing from Burundi have access to the territory, the right to seek asylum and protection from refoulement, access to registration, documentation, protection and life-saving support in multi sectoral areas.

Following the verification exercise conducted in urban settings in the first half of the year, the number of urban Burundian refugees decreased significantly (now standing at 10,717 as of 30 June). The verification will take place in Mahama camp in 2019. This will pave the way for refugees to obtain identity documents issued by the Government.

** Reported funds only include contributions earmarked to the Burundi refugee situation. Unearmarked and broadly earmarked funding is not reflected.*

Protection

 **68,306**
Burundian refugees
were **biometrically**
registered by mid-2018

279
children with specific
needs **received**
individual case
management



 **148 girls** 
have dropped out of
school due to **child**
pregnancy and lack of
child care

RRP partners ensured protection support for all refugees living in both camp and urban settings. Small numbers of Burundian refugees have approached UNHCR since the start of the year seeking to exercise their right to return home. While security and human rights concerns persist in Burundi, and refugees continue to flee, UNHCR is exploring possibilities for assisting voluntary returns, despite lacking a dedicated budget for such support.

All 149 identified survivors of sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) in Mahama camp, Kigali and Huye received multi-sectoral assistance following the principle of confidentiality and survivors' consent to receive services.


In Mahama camp, the establishment of a Peace Dialogue mechanism involved youth from both the camp and host community jointly developing solutions beneficial to both communities to enhance peaceful co-existence and mitigate tensions between communities. All refugees in the camp settings and urban areas who sought legal assistance were provided counselling and legal representation as needed.


RRP partners provided services for persons with specific needs and conducted capacity building sessions for service providers in Mahama camp. A total of 122 children with disabilities benefited from inclusive services in the child friendly spaces in the camp and 202 children were supported with community based rehabilitation services.

In line with the regional action plan, 144 new child protection cases were identified in Mahama and referred to specialised services. With the number of children with specific needs growing every day, challenges are increasing due to the limited care arrangement options and inadequate number of child and youth friendly spaces. So far, only 697 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC's) out of a total of 949 (or 73%) were referred to alternative family care, including 154 newly arrived in the first half of the year.

The main challenges to relating to SGBV prevention and response include persistence of a culture of silence which leads to a lack of reporting of incidents as well as inadequate mainstreaming of SGBV activities throughout sectors. Other challenges are related to the lack of inclusion of refugees in the national legal aid service and limited exceptional financial assistance available for vulnerable urban cases.

Education

13,850 
Burundian refugee children
enrolled in primary school

 **44** primary &
secondary refugee
teachers **enrolled in Teacher**
Training College to obtain
official qualifications

 **5,211 children**
attending Early Childhood
Development classes, **but**
ECD classrooms remain
in very poor condition

In line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Global Education Strategy and commitment by the Government of Rwanda, there are ongoing efforts to integrate refugee children into the national education system, improve access to education for all refugee children and to ensure quality education at all levels. Gaps remain in the capacity absorption of national schools.


As of 30 June 2018, a total number of 5,211 refugee children (2,705 boys and 2,506 girls) are enrolled and supported in Early Childhood Development (ECD). 13,850 children (7,125 boys and 6,725 girls) are enrolled in primary school and 4,180 refugee students (2,522 boys and 1,658 girls) are enrolled in lower and upper secondary at the Paysannat L national school, integrated along with Rwandan children. RRP partners ensure that 23,241 students in ECD, primary and secondary are receiving school feeding, scholastic materials and uniforms.

RRP partners are currently paying monthly incentives to 197 Burundian and 98 Rwandan teachers, which affects their ability to provide other priority education support. Ultimately as part of the ongoing education integration process, Burundian and Rwandan teachers are to be integrated under the Government payroll. As part of enhancing school management capacity, Kirehe district recruited four head teachers (3 male and 1 female) to be paid under Government payroll.

Despite progress in the educational opportunities available for refugee students in Rwanda, a number of challenges remain, including crowded and insufficient numbers of classrooms, lack of facilities such as laboratories and libraries, and the need for more latrines. Recently, the Government of Rwanda announced that the education system for primary schooling will shift from double to single shifts, which will further increase the need for more classrooms, spaces, teachers and resources.

Food

 **57,100**
Burundian refugees in Mahama camp received **monthly in-kind food assistance**

 **27,294**
children received **daily breakfast** at ECD and primary school


 **Due to a lack of funding, food rations were reduced to 75%** of the full ration from Jan - April and to 85% from May - June


All Burundian refugees in Mahama refugee camp and reception centres receive a monthly food basket of dry food rations to meet their food and nutritional needs. These food rations aim to ensure that refugees receive the minimum recommended caloric requirement of 2,100 kcal per person per day. The food basket is comprised of cereals, beans, fortified vegetable oil, salt and SuperCereal (CSB+). SuperCereal (CSB+), a fortified micronutrient food, was added to the general food distribution ration for all Burundian refugees to combat undernutrition and to support the particular food needs of those most in need, such as young children and the elderly.

RRP partners have focused on ensuring gender equality in the distribution of food assistance by encouraging and sensitising women to participate in food management committees, particularly in leadership positions, as representatives elected by other refugees. To ensure gender equality in the management of food assistance at the household level food ration cards were issued in womens' names wherever possible. In most refugee households women make the decisions over the use of food.

A mid-morning porridge was provided to primary-school students and ECD children in Mahama and nearby communities to support their attendance and reduce pressure on household food security.

Health & Nutrition

71,640
 outpatient consultations conducted in 2018

Measles vaccination coverage for children reached 99%


Prevalence of **anaemia** (45%) and **stunting** (30%) among children remains high



Primary Health Care services are 100 percent accessible to the Burundian refugees in Mahama and extended to the local host communities through two health centres. In addition to 71,640 outpatient consultations, 1,911 patients were referred to secondary and tertiary level health facilities for further diagnosis and management.

The Crude Mortality and Under 5 Mortality Rates declined from 0.24 and 0.49 deaths per 1,000 population per month in 2015 to 0.13 and 0.18 deaths per 1,000 population per month, respectively. The decreasing mortality rates are associated with the improved provision of health, nutrition, reproductive health, HIV, and WASH services, including community based health awareness and outreach health programs. 152 refugee community health workers were trained to sensitise communities to increase health seeking behaviours and service utilisation.

Some of the remaining challenges identified include: high levels of anaemia and stunting; lack of access to Hepatitis B and C screening, lack of vaccination and treatment services; and non-accredited health centres on TB diagnosis and treatment centres resulting in delay in TB treatment. Stealing and vandalising of hand washing facilities remained a challenge towards reducing diarrheal diseases, including typhoid fever and other infectious diseases; while lack of supplementary fresh food for medically vulnerable groups also presented a problem.

Findings from a Standardized Expanded Nutrition Survey (SENS) in Mahama camp show that while malnutrition rates are still high, they are improving. Among children aged 6-59 months there was a reduction in global acute malnutrition from 4.5% to 3.3% and in stunting from 29.6% to 42.1% from May 2017 to May 2018. There was also a reduction in anaemia prevalence from 46.1% to 44.6% in children aged 6-59 months and from 26.7% to 15.8% in non-lactating women aged 15-49 years.

Livelihoods & Environment

304 Burundian refugees received **life skills training for livelihoods**



608 Burundian refugee entrepreneurs **trained in business skills** in Mahama camp

Livelihoods opportunities for refugee youth remain limited, but plans are in place to include refugee youth in **UNDP 'Youth Connekt'** programme

In the first half of 2018, 608 refugee entrepreneurs in Mahama camp were trained in business skills. Additionally, 50 women who form Umuco cooperative in Mahama camp were trained by Indego Africa in artisanal weaving. They produce high-quality baskets and they are facilitated by Indego to trade at local and international export markets in USA, hereby contributing to their self-reliance and improving Rwanda's balance of trade. There are two cooperatives involved, Umuco and Akeza (where 50 women trained in 2017), and they have reached combined sales of USD 12,635 in 2018 as of June. 10% is saved on the cooperatives' account, while 90% is distributed equally to all cooperative members. In light of the background of most of the refugees, farming would be the most relevant activity, however, land is limited. More than 2,000 refugees have been enrolled in vocational training on carpentry, masonry and welding works, and they are supporting the community in the construction of new shelters and repair works. 1,262 refugees are wage employed on a monthly basis, representing 5% of the refugee population.

Limited environmental activities have been able to take place in 2018. However, there is a huge problem of

land erosion and there is a need to implement environmental protection activities (reinforcing terraces, building drainage systems, retaining wall construction, etc.). Furthermore, there is a need to develop a reforestation program, promote alternative domestic energy practices, rehabilitate landslides, reinforce terraces and build drainage systems. The refugee population in Mahama camp have formed environmental clubs responsible for environmental management including tree planting in the camp and 8,898 tree seedlings have been planted so far.

Shelter & NFIs

100%
of new refugee arrivals received **NFI Kits**

 100% of households received **monthly soap** & 100% of women of reproductive age received **sanitary pads**


 Only **40%** of overall NFI needs were met & **over 1,700 semi-permanent shelters** still require rehabilitation work


More than 2,000 refugees enrolled in vocational training through carpentry, masonry and welding works and are supporting the construction of new shelters and repair works. Mid-year, 343 semi-permanent shelters were constructed and 6,330 refugee households were relocated to semi-permanent shelters. Currently 100% of the refugee population are in semi-permanent houses however many need repairing as they were damaged due to heavy rains. 600 shelters damaged by rains were repaired to improve living conditions. 2km of access road was maintained through community work as RRP partners mobilised refugee communities to support on general camp work activities in order to improve road access and 240m of drainage channels were constructed to improve the drainage system.

As of mid-2018, there is the major need for a camp extension, requiring a minimum of 24Ha, as the existing land is not adequate to support the shelter and camp infrastructure needs. A total of 1,717 semi-permanent reed and mud shelters require rehabilitation, community infrastructures built with plastic sheeting (i.e food distribution centre) need reconstruction and 4,000 cubic metre gullies are in need of stabilisation.

The NFI's distributed during the beginning of the emergency in 2015 need to be replenished in 2018 (due to 3 years of validity). In addition, the distribution of NFI's from 2015 until mid-2017 to new arrivals were below standard due to unavailability of funds, and as such not all households received the complete NFI kit. It is estimated that currently only 40% of the needs for NFI's are met in the camp. The lack of replenishment of kitchen sets, blankets, mats and mosquito nets is having a significant impact on the refugees' daily life in Mahama Camp.

WASH

 The **20L** of clean water per person per day standard has been met in Mahama camp

 **91%** of refugees are reached by **monthly hygiene promotion campaigns**

Only **45%** of households have access to **hand washing stands** & **89%** are accessing communal **latrines** 

The operation and maintenance of the permanent treatment water plant (PWTP) has ensured 1,200 m³ of water per day to serve the camp within the standard of 20 litres/person/day and 75m³/day to host community. Two water tanks of 90m³ each were installed to increase the storage capacity and the PWTP is under extension to reach the capacity of 1,800 m³/day.

A monthly average of 52,096 persons (90.5% of population) were reached by hygiene promotion activities through the assistance of 120 community hygiene promoters in daily sensitisation, various mobilisation and campaigns on good hygiene practices, proper cleaning of household utensils, and waterborne disease and typhoid prevention practices.

A total of 3,344 drop hole latrines were maintained and dislodged to serve the camp at 17.25 persons per drop holes. Latrine blocks in Mahama are also serving as shower rooms.

Safe waste management, including general cleaning, was carried out to improve the sanitation and hygiene conditions of the camp. A weekly average of 160 m³ of solid waste is collected from the camp, 175.0 m³ of waste from latrines were dislodged and transported to the dumping site for disposal and 26 waste refuse pits were maintained. 100 wash hand facilities were procured for installation in latrine blocks in new villages.

The constraints include high prevalence of theft and vandalism of public infrastructure, insufficient sanitation tools for use to promote ownership and insufficient access roads and drainage. There is a need for the construction of 55 additional blocks of latrines, and one dislodging truck is not enough to cover entire camp.

CRRF

In February 2018, Rwanda issued a declaration that it would be formally adopting the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) approach and also applied for the World Bank's IDA-18 refugee sub-window funding. A CRRF workshop was convened in June 2018 by MIDIMAR with various Government institutions and RRP partners. The workshop confirmed that the GoR intends to frame its CRRF application around the four commitments made at the Leaders' Summit. During his mission in April 2018, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees met the Head of State who indicated that all durable solutions—resettlement, return, and local integration—would be available to all refugees in Rwanda. The GoR has also informed UNHCR that it is in the process of revising its nationality law with a refugee solutions lens; it is hoped that the naturalisation procedures may become more clear and simple, to pave the way for large numbers of refugees, who currently could meet eligibility criteria for naturalisation, to have access to this option.

As the initial step towards exploring alternatives to camps and possibilities for refugees (existing or new influx) to settle in districts, RRP partners conducted a stakeholders' mapping to sensitise local authorities on the CRRF approach and explore the districts' appetite and needs for integrating refugees into their planning. Initial findings were positive and as there is an indication that both local Government officials and development partners are eager for a "whole of society" approach. RRP partners will continue efforts to apply the CRRF in the Burundi refugee response in Rwanda.

RRP PARTNERS

- International Organisation for Migration
- OXFAM
- Save the Children International
- UN Women
- United Nations Children's Fund
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- United Nations Population Fund
- World Food Programme
- World Health Organisation

The Government of Rwanda's four commitments at the Leaders' Summit:

- a) Public launch of joint MIDIMAR-UNHCR livelihoods strategy, with a focus on graduating camp-based refugees out of assistance programs and increasing formal access to work opportunities.
- b) Commitment to ensure that 100% of refugees are in possession of valid refugee identity cards issued by the Government of the Republic of Rwanda (NIDA) by the end of 2017.
- c) Commitment to ensure that 100% of refugee students in secondary school and 50% in primary schools will be integrated into national education systems by the end of 2018.
- d) Commitment to ensure that 100% of urban refugees will have the opportunity to buy into national health insurance systems by the end of 2017.

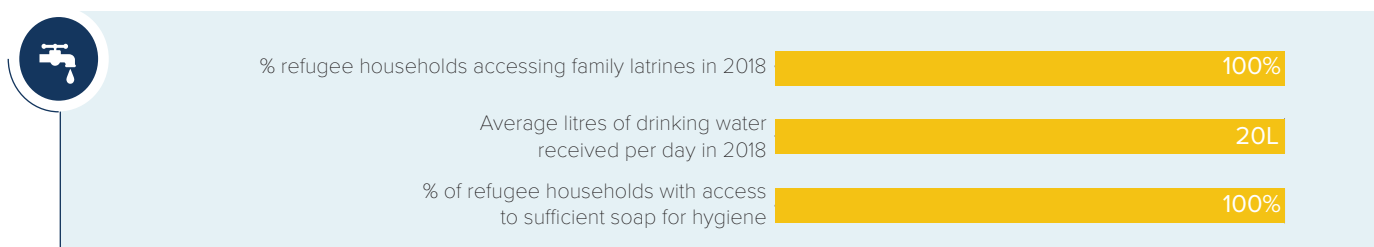
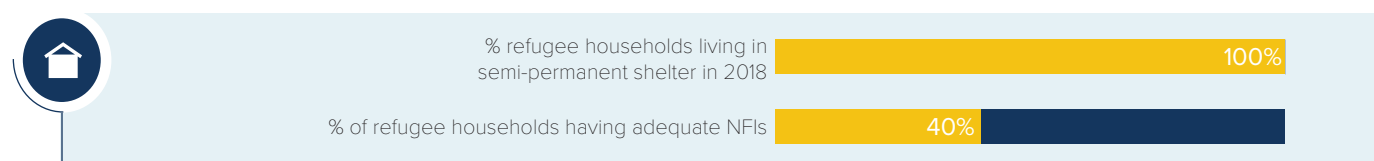
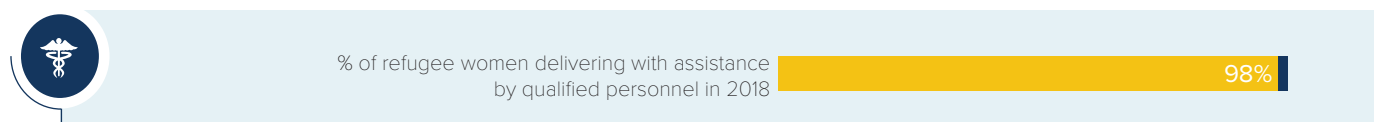
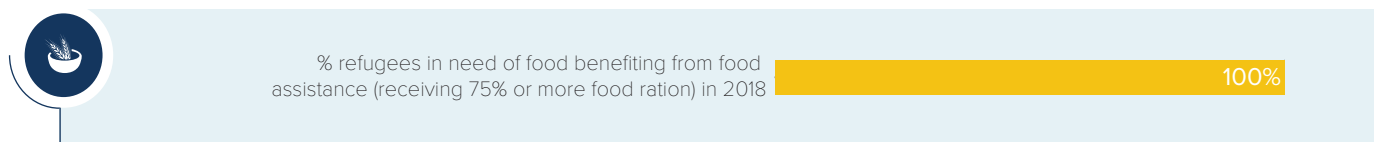
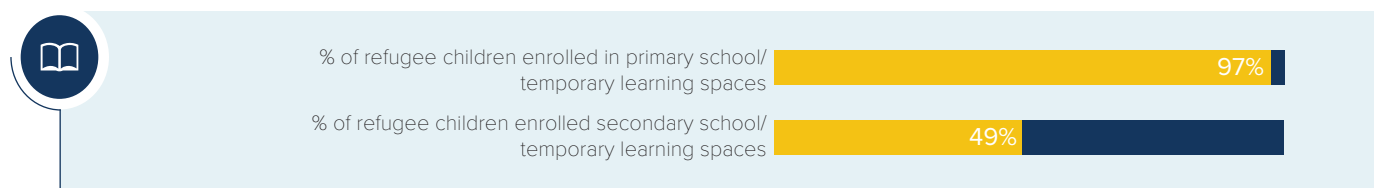
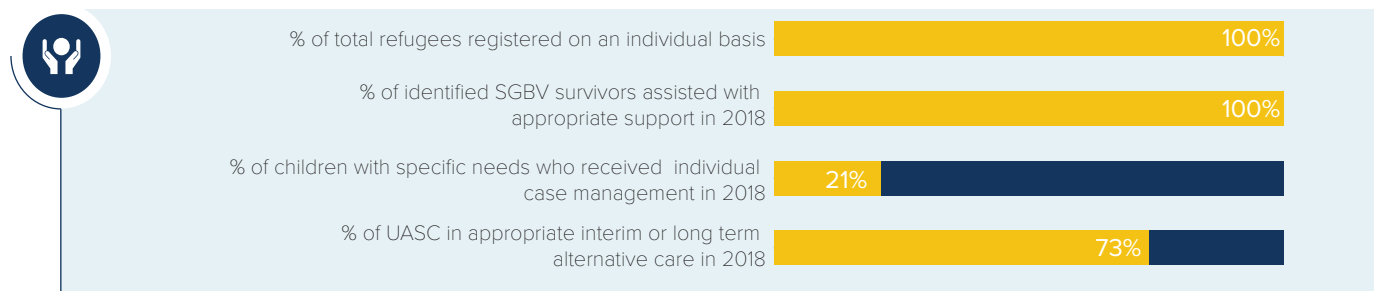
FOR MORE INFORMATION

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

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