



**THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
OF THE CONGO**

**REGIONAL REFUGEE
RESPONSE PLAN**

January - December 2018

2018
END OF YEAR
REPORT

**THE UNITED REPUBLIC
OF TANZANIA**

CREDITS

UNHCR wishes to acknowledge the contributions of partners and staff in the region and at Headquarters who have participated in the preparation of the narrative, financial and graphic components of this document.

CONCEPT DESIGN

UNHCR, Office of the Regional Refugee Coordinator for the DRC Situation, in Kinshasa, DRC, with the support of Information Management Unit at UNHCR, Regional Representation in Kinshasa, DRC.

The maps in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of UNHCR concerning the legal status of any country or territory or area, of its authorities, or the delimitation of borders or boundaries.

The population figures in this report were updated to reflect the results of continuous biometric registration and verification exercises in countries of asylum. Except where indicated otherwise, all population figures provided in this report are as of December 31, 2018.

WEB PORTAL For more information on the DRC situation go to: [UNHCR operational portal - DRC situation](#)

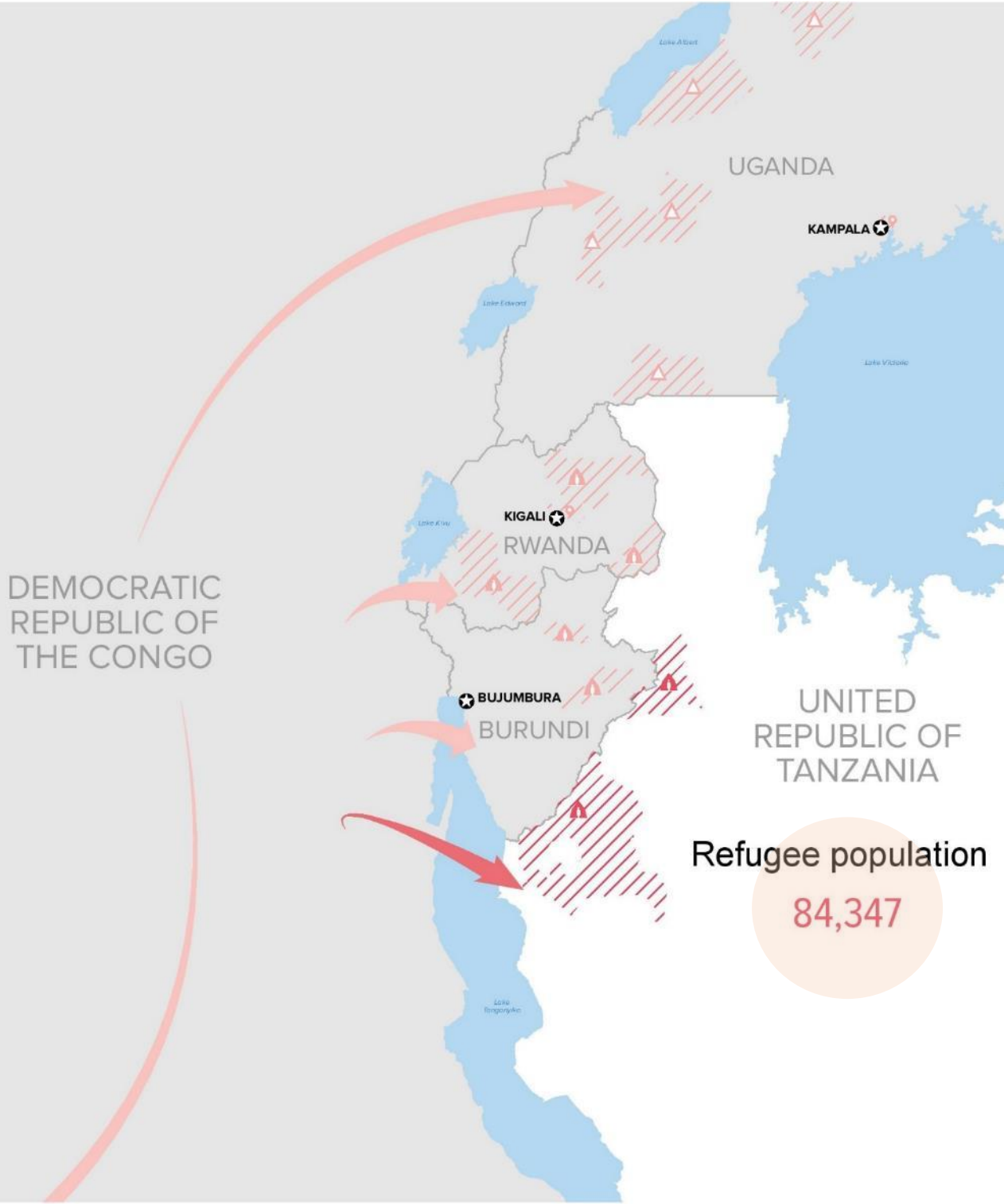
COVER PHOTOGRAPH

Tanzania. A young Congolese refugee girl outside one of the shelter blocks of Nyarugusu refugee camp. ©UNHCR/Georgina Goodwin

INFORMATION

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UNITED REP. OF TANZANIA Response in 2018

84,347

TOTAL REFUGEE POPULATION AS AT DECEMBER 2018

1,774

NEW ARRIVALS IN 2018

US\$ **69** M

TOTAL FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

US\$ **19** M

FUNDING RECEIVED REPRESENTING **28%** OF THE REQUIREMENTS

13

PARTNERS INVOLVED

Situation Overview

The United Republic of Tanzania was host to 84,347 refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC, as of 31 December 2018, representing the 25.8 per cent of the total refugee population in the country. The majority of refugees, some 84,246, continued to reside in the refugee camp of Nyarugusu and the remaining population in urban areas.

In January 2018, there was an influx of some 1,700 asylum seekers from the DRC arriving in Tanzania via small fishing boats along lake Tanganyika. These new arrivals received immediate humanitarian assistance, before being relocated to Nyarugusu camp. However, since then, the protection space in Tanzania has reduced considerably, following the *de facto* closure of 19 border entry and reception points by year end and hundreds of forced returns.

A high first instance rejection rate for refugee claims averaging between 80 and 100 per cent by the Government's National Eligibility Committee (NEC) was also recorded. Currently, all asylum-seekers arriving in Tanzania must undergo individual refugee status determination (RSD) procedures which requires asylum seekers to be assessed by the NEC.

Despite the unpredictable protection environment, as well as the limited capacity and resources to stabilise and strengthen existing programmes, response partners in Tanzania continued to provide critical protection and humanitarian assistance to Congolese refugees and asylum seekers.

A total of 480 transitional shelters were upgraded in Nyarugusu camp and the construction of a primary school was completed with 12 semi-permanent classrooms.

Partners facilitated access for refugees to primary healthcare and reproductive health, HIV prevention and treatment. Refugees were also provided with opportunities to attend awareness campaigns on family planning methods and their benefits. In an effort to strengthen SGBV mainstreaming and better address the related risks facing refugee communities in the camps, a national action plan with priority action points was developed.

However a number of gaps remained. The refugee response remained underfunded with only 30 per cent of the requested funding for the Congolese situation received by year end. Available resources remained stretched and the inadequate funding has resulted in major gaps in the Congolese response, the majority of whom are protracted refugees who arrived in Tanzania over twenty years ago.

The impact was felt in all sectors, including limited services for unaccompanied children and survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), reduced food rations ranging between 72 and 82 per cent from February to September 2018, dilapidated family shelters, overstretched health centres, and overcrowded classrooms.

These gaps were compounded further by the strict implementation of the encampment policy and new restrictions throughout 2018 on project interventions for enhanced livelihood opportunities, leaving refugees more dependent on humanitarian assistance.

Key facts and figures



480

SHELTERS
WERE
UPGRADED



12

SEMI-PERMANENT
CLASSROOMS
WERE
CONSTRUCTED



LIMITED
SERVICES TO
UNACCOMPANIED
CHILDREN AND
SGBV SURVIVORS



Protection



6,333

refugees submitted for resettlement



1,710

persons of concern benefitted from legal services



up to **100:1**
the child-to-caseworker ratio, above the 25:1 standard

Key Achievements

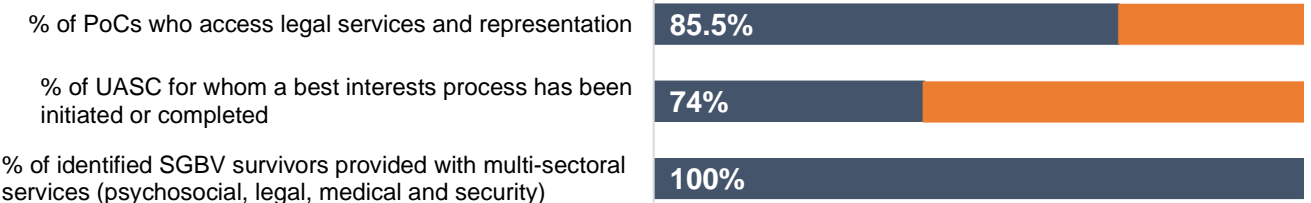
In 2018, over 6,000 Congolese refugees were submitted for resettlement with 3,198 Congolese refugee departures. Response partners prioritised increasing Congolese refugees' access to legal services, launching legal awareness and sensitization campaigns and submitting individuals for refugee status determination; some 446 SGBV survivors received legal assistance. Behavioural change prevention programming based on tested and accepted methods such as engaging men and boys in accountable practices were implemented to support the reduction or eradication of violence at home and address gender inequalities. The coverage of UASC for whom a best interest assessment was completed stood at 74%.

Women's empowerment activities focusing on resilience and creating spaces within the community to enhance meaningful participation were implanted. Although unrecognized Congolese asylum seekers were ineligible to receive life-saving protection and basic service assistance, including SGBV multi-sectoral assistance, the main GBV service provider in the camp continued to provide survivors with counselling and medical assistance to address their health needs following incidents of sexual violence.

Remaining Gaps

Access to territory continued to remain severely restricted, following the closure of all border entry points in 2018. At the same time, a total of 17,996 Congolese asylum seekers were still pending review of refugee status by NEC, as at December 2018,

Intimate partner violence continued to be the highest reported case of GBV, accounting for approximately 65% of all reported incidents. Despite considerable progress in individual case management, one of the specific gaps in child protection included limited case management capacity to undertake best interest processes with the child to caseworker ratio standing at 100:1, which exceeded the acceptable standard of 25:1. Further, there were an inadequate number of child friendly spaces with only two available for the Congolese population located in Nyarugusu.



Education



70%

school-aged children enrolled in formal education

of



367

teachers received subject specific training



over **150**

classrooms are needed

Key Achievements

Congolese children benefited from expanded forms of education, starting with early childhood care education through to primary, secondary and non-formal education. A total of 26,007 refugee children were enrolled in formal education, representing 72 per cent of the net enrolment ratio out of a total of 36,193 school-aged children in Nyarugusu camp. Some 3,515 children enrolled in Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) programmes, while 15,102 children enrolled in primary education and 7,390 students enrolled in secondary education.

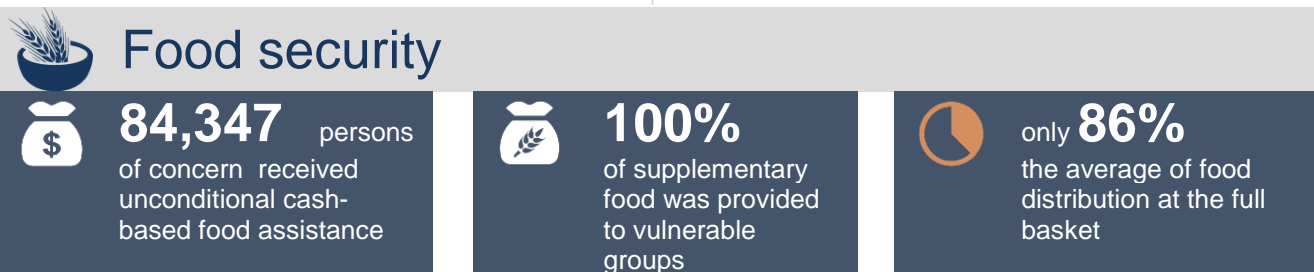
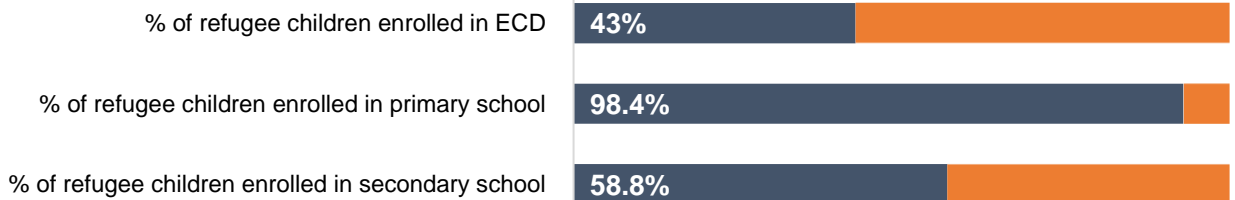
The construction of a primary school was completed with 12 semi-permanent classrooms.

As part of efforts to promote a safe learning environment, all education personnel and teachers continued to attend training workshops, including on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse and teacher code of conduct; a total of 367 primary and secondary education school teachers in Nyarugusu camp were trained.

Remaining Gaps

Tanzania's refugee policy supports the principle of education for repatriation and Congolese refugees and asylum seekers are taught the country of origin curriculum. This has created a lack of alignment with the Tanzanian education system and resulted in insufficient quality assurance mechanisms, inadequate provision of relevant teaching and learning materials, and limited recognition of exam results and certification from the DRC, all of which have seriously disadvantaged Congolese students.

The Government policy on constructing permanent structures continued to restrict the impact of available resources to close the gaps in the student to classroom ratio. Due to this shortage, some children continued to learn under the trees and there remained a gap of over 150 classrooms. A lack of qualified teachers continued to negatively impact the quality of learning. Congolese students have not received formal school certificates from the DRC since 2012.



Key Achievements

Food assistance was extended to new arrivals in Nyarugusu camp, hospitalized refugees and refugees in the refugee transit centre in Kigoma. Supplementary feeding for more vulnerable groups within the camps was delivered at 100%. Children aged six to 59 months, pregnant and lactating women, and people living with HIV/TB were provided with specialized nutritional foods, including fortified maize meal. General food distribution was administered through individual household distributions in Nyarugusu camp and group distributions in Nduta and Mtendeli camps. In most cases, women were the main entitlement holders.

Despite serious resource constraints, individual rations of specialized nutritional foods and micronutrient powders were distributed to vulnerable population groups. Post distribution monitoring and community and household surveillance exercises were conducted on a

Remaining Gaps

The vast majority of Congolese refugees remained heavily dependent on food and nutritional assistance in 2018. Due to critical funding shortfalls, food distribution was maintained at 86 per cent of the full basket in 2018. Funding shortfalls resulted in reduced food rations for some commodities, including maize meal, pulses, corn-soya blend and vegetable oil until October 2018.

The 2017 ban on cash based interventions remained in force limiting refugees' access to cash and diversified foods. Reduced common market days further exacerbated refugees' opportunities for self-reliance.

regular basis. Nutrition, protection, and household economic assessments were also carried out.

% of supplementary feeding delivered to vulnerable population groups

100%

% of rations delivered at the full basket

86%



Health & Nutrition



223,378

medical consultations were conducted



99%

the rate of malaria prophylaxis during pregnancy



56%

the prevalence of anaemia among children six to 59 months

Key Achievements

Congolese refugees continued to have access to a variety of services, including outpatient consultations, in-patient care, routine immunizations, medical referrals, reproductive healthcare and HIV prevention and treatment. A total of 223,378 consultations were conducted at various health facilities with the health facility utilization rate of 2.6 per cent, which was within the minimum standard. Some 482 referrals were made to secondary and tertiary facilities outside the camp. The crude mortality and under-five mortality rates were both within the SPHERE minimum standard of 0.2/1000 population/month and 0.6/1000 population/month, respectively.

In addition, women of a reproductive age continued to have access to family planning services and awareness. Malaria prophylaxis during pregnancy increased from 88 per cent to 99 per cent in 2018. A total of 2,700 live births were carried out with 94 per cent of deliveries conducted in health facilities by skilled medical personnel. Further, the coverage of complete antenatal care increased from 70 per cent in 2017 to 98 per cent in 2018. A standard expanded nutrition survey was carried out and the global acute malnutrition (GAM) rate for the Congolese population decreased from 2.1 per cent in 2017 to 1.6 per cent, which is better than the WHO acceptable level of <5 per cent.

Remaining Gaps

Although progress was made, however a number of challenges remained. The provision of essential medicines and medical supplies continued to be hampered due to importation challenges. As a result, persons of concern did not always receive their full course of treatment. A shortage of qualified health professionals, including medical doctors, midwives, nurses, and clinical officers remained a challenge.

The prevalence of anaemia among children six to 59 months remained high and increased from 46.9 per cent in 2017 to 56 per cent in 2018. A high infectious disease burden, sub-optimum sanitation and the hyper-endemic malaria situation could have contributed to the high prevalence of anaemia among children.

While the mortality indicators remained within the minimum standards, there remained a critical need to refurbish and expand the health facilities available in the camp in order to improve the quality and accessibility of services. The provision of optimum diagnostic equipment also remained a major gap.

% of women delivering with assistance from qualified personnel

94%

% of children aged 6 to 59 months with anaemia rate less than WHO standard of <40%

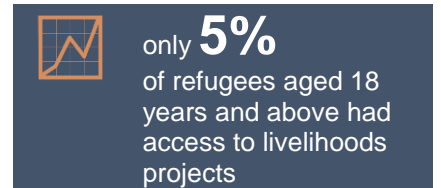
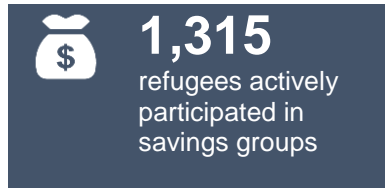
56%

% of non-pregnant women aged 15 to 49 years with anaemia rate less than WHO standard of <40%

100%



Livelihoods & Environment



Key Achievements

Response partners continued to provide support to Congolese persons of concern through a combination of formal and informal vocational training and business start-up support. In 2018, an inter-agency resilience and self-reliance working group was established to help assess the resilience of Congolese refugees on a quarterly basis.

Over 1,300 refugees gained access to savings groups by year end and a total of 446 Congolese refugees received business start-up kits and business skills training.

Some 156,616 trees were planted in the Congolese zones in all three camps in the country, and a total of 16,639 households started having access to fuel efficient mud stoves.

Remaining Gaps

Although some progress was made in early 2018, however the number of livelihoods opportunities for refugees and the surrounding host communities began to decline in mid-2018 following the reduction in the number of market days and subsequent restrictions on access livelihoods. According to a joint inter-agency resilience assessment, the number of self-employed households decreased from 76 per cent in July 2018 to 35 per cent in December 2018, as a result of administrative instructions limiting livelihood opportunities.

Due to severe funding shortfalls, livelihoods projects by response partners were only able to reach 5 per cent of Congolese refugees aged 18 years and above.

Deforestation and competition for resources continued to be a source of increasing tensions between refugee and host communities. This was compounded further by a lack of funding for sustainable alternative energy sources.

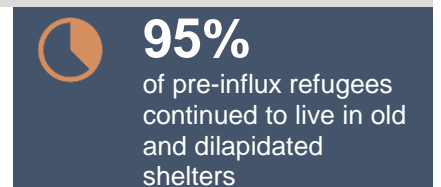
% of households with access to self-employment/facilitated businesses



% of households with improved fuel efficient mud stoves



Shelter & NFIs



Key Achievements

About 62 per cent of refugee households were living in adequate dwellings. A total of 480 households were provided with shelter kits and materials, including durable materials such as timber trusses and corrugated roofing sheets to conduct roof upgrades to prevent leakages during the rainy season via the community based shelter project. The community-driven approach was managed by shelter committees and skilled refugee incentive workers and helped to reduce construction costs by 20 per cent. The project incorporated mobile data technology during material distribution and project

Remaining Gaps

About 95 per cent of pre-influx Congolese refugees continued to live in old and dilapidated shelters, leaving them especially vulnerable during the rainy season and exposed to various health risks. Response partners remained unable to provide durable shelter support to Congolese asylum seekers due to restrictions. As a result, asylum seekers continued to reside in emergency shelters and tents.

A shortage of CRIs due to budgetary constraints remained. There has been no general distribution

monitoring, which also allowed response partners to focus more on vulnerable persons of concern.

In 2018, 30 per cent (144) of the target shelters were set aside for persons with specific needs. Alongside this, a total of 70 refugee housing units (RHU) were assembled for persons with specific needs. A total of 625 emergency shelters and 343 family tents were constructed to reduce number of households living in dilapidated emergency shelters and tents.

of CRIs for Congolese refugees since 2015, resulting in a serious shortage of supplies, including soap, water containers, cooking utensils, mats and blankets.



WASH



23.9 L

the water supply coverage per person per day (target of 20L p/d)



4

solar powered boreholes



39%

of refugee families lacked access to household latrines

Key Achievements

One new solar-powered borehole, 140 m³ of additional storage, backup pumps and generators resulted in an increase in water supply coverage from 19.6 litres/person/day to 23.9 litres/person/day. In an effort to reduce operational costs and increase pumping systems reliability, two operational boreholes were solar powered; all four operating boreholes were solar powered at the end of the year.

Due to the increased availability of reliable water supply in the camps, one surface water abstraction and treatment station at Kaga river was closed.

Remaining Gaps

Although an additional 1,000 single family latrines were installed in 2018, the number of households with their own latrines was maintained at 61 per cent. The number of students per latrine still remained high at 130 pupils/latrine, as opposed to the standard 50 pupils/latrine.

Due to financial constraints, the quantity of soap distributed remained inadequately low at 250g/person/month instead of the SPHERE minimum standard of 450g/person/month and 700 g/person/month for menstruating women and girls.



Funding

ORGANIZATION	REQUIREMENTS (USD) JAN-DEC 2018	TOTAL RECEIVED (USD)	% FUNDED
1. ADRA	\$200,000		0%
2. AIRD	\$884,630		0%
3. CARITAS	\$53,000		0%
4. GNT	\$1,250,000		0%
5. IRC	\$3,575,000	\$4,698,724	100%
6. NRC	\$2,665,000	\$1,063,174	40%
7. PI	\$1,200,000		0%
8. UN-IOM	\$2,290,000		0%
9. UN-UNDP	\$935,000		0%
10. UN-UNHCR	\$34,448,670	\$13,244,443	38%
11. UN-UNICEF	\$2,030,000	\$298,528	15%
12. UN-WFP	\$ 19,000,000		0%
13. UN-WHO	\$200,000		0%
Total	\$68,731,300	\$19,304,869	28%

Tanzania. Life at Nyarugusu refugee camp. Congolese refugee woman (86) lives in a Refugee Housing Unit (RHU) given to refugees with special needs. RHUs are self-standing, sustainable and durable shelters, designed through a collaboration between UNHCR, the social enterprise Better Shelter and the IKEA Foundation. © UNHCR/Georgina Goodwin





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