



# United Republic of Tanzania

Reporting period: July 2019

## Background and Operational Context

In August 2017, the Tripartite Commission (United Republic of Tanzania, Republic of Burundi, and UNHCR) issued a joint communiqué and agreed to implement a work plan from 7 September to 31 December 2017 entailing the voluntary repatriation plan of Burundian refugees who wished to return to Burundi. In a follow up Tripartite Commission Meeting in March 2018, a new work plan to return 72,000 individuals by year end was signed. The Tripartite Commission also acknowledged that while some refugees may opt to return, others may still have well-founded reasons for not returning and will continue to be in need of international protection.

While the political situation in Burundi remains unresolved, UNHCR does not promote the voluntary repatriation of Burundian refugees. UNHCR continues to support voluntary returns as an important durable solution and to ensure returns are based on the principles of voluntariness and informed decisions, and take place in safety and dignity. Since September 2017, UNHCR has assisted both the Governments of Tanzania and Burundi in the voluntary return of more than 74,000 refugees.

## Return Figures and Trends from the Reporting Period

- 2,128 people assisted to voluntarily repatriate to Burundi in July
- 1,061 women (50%) and 1,067 (50%) men
- 243 returnees have specific needs
- 8 return convoys

## Overall Return Figures and Trends

As at 31 July 2019, 74,099 people have returned since September 2017. Below is the breakdown:

- 37,411 (50.5%) women and 36,688 (49.5%) men
- 42,210 (57%) children
- 7,228 and 9.7% have specific needs
- The highest number of returns were to Ruyigi, Muyinga, and Makamba provinces (17,082, 13,887 and 13,083 returnees respectively).

The tables below show the breakdown of Burundian refugee returns per month, age and sex, refugee camp, period of asylum in Tanzania, and return destinations in Burundi.

**Table 1:** Number of Returns per Phase

| Phase                    | Phase I<br>(Sep & Oct 2017) | Phase II<br>(Nov & Dec 2017) | Phase III<br>(Jan – March 2018) | Current Phase<br>(as at 31 July 2019) | Total         |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Number of returns</b> | 6,889                       | 6,216                        | 8,347                           | 52,647                                | <b>74,099</b> |

**Table 2:** Age and Sex Breakdown

|               | 0-4 yrs       | 5-11 yrs      | 12-17 yrs    | 18-59 yrs     | Over 60 yrs  | Total         | %     |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|-------|
| <b>Female</b> | 9,047         | 7,874         | 4,171        | 15,252        | 1,067        | <b>37,411</b> | 50.5% |
| <b>Male</b>   | 9,235         | 7,947         | 3,936        | 14,618        | 952          | <b>36,688</b> | 49.5% |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>18,282</b> | <b>15,821</b> | <b>8,107</b> | <b>29,870</b> | <b>2,019</b> | <b>74,099</b> | 100%  |
| <b>%</b>      | 24.7%         | 21.4%         | 10.9%        | 40.3%         | 2.7%         | 100%          |       |



**Table 3:** Period of Asylum of Returnees

| <1 month | 1-3 months | 4-6 months | 7-12 months | >1 year | Total         |
|----------|------------|------------|-------------|---------|---------------|
| 126      | 896        | 2,463      | 21,027      | 49,587  | <b>74,099</b> |
| 0.2%     | 1.2%       | 3.3%       | 28.4%       | 66.9%   | 100%          |

**Table 5:** Total Departures per Camp

| Camps in Tanzania | Individuals   | %           |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------|
| Nduta             | 48,843        | 65.4%       |
| Mtendeli          | 18,210        | 24.6%       |
| Nyarugusu         | 7,406         | 10.0%       |
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>74,099</b> | <b>100%</b> |

**Table 6:** Registered & Processed vs. Returned

| Pending Travel Arrangements | Returned (as of 31 July) | Withdrawals and Departure No Shows | No Shows for Voluntariness Assessment |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 792                         | 74,099                   | 11,920                             | 4,244                                 |

**Table 4:** Provinces of Return

| Return Provinces | Individuals   |
|------------------|---------------|
| Ruyigi           | 17,082        |
| Muyinga          | 13,887        |
| Makamba          | 13,083        |
| Cankuzo          | 8,300         |
| Kirundo          | 6,765         |
| Rutana           | 5,546         |
| Karuzi           | 1,878         |
| Gitega           | 1,470         |
| Rumonge          | 1,309         |
| Bururi           | 1,222         |
| Ngozi            | 1,124         |
| Mwaro            | 962           |
| Bujumbura        | 846           |
| Cibitoke         | 179           |
| Muramvya         | 151           |
| Kayanza          | 148           |
| Bubanza          | 147           |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>74,099</b> |

**Table 7:** Key Partners and Activities

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Government</b>     | Registration, documentation, security, convoy and immigration formalities   |
| <b>UNHCR</b>          | Coordination, ensuring voluntariness of return, verification of return location, biometric enrolment, and documentation |
| <b>DRC</b>            | Management of departure centre, accommodation, wet feeding, and distribution of high-energy biscuits provided by WFP    |
| <b>HelpAge</b>        | Assistance to persons with specific needs   |
| <b>ICRC</b>           | Restoration of family links in Burundi  |
| <b>IOM</b>            | Fit-to-travel medical screening and transportation of refugees  |
| <b>NRC</b>            | Management of departure centre, accommodation, wet feeding, and distribution of high-energy biscuits provided by WFP    |
| <b>Plan &amp; IRC</b> | Child protection (unaccompanied and separated children)   |
| <b>TRCS</b>           | Medicine and ambulances   |
| <b>WFP</b>            | Provision of food for wet feeding in departure centre, on arrival at transit centre and dry ration                      |