

Rwanda

September 2022

An additional **35 DAFI scholarship** places for refugee students were made available in September to help vulnerable refugees access university and tertiary education.

Season B (March-September) harvests concluded in the three marshland areas where refugees and Rwandans make up agricultural cooperatives. **Income from crop sales increased** from previous harvests contributing to refugee self-reliance.

The biometric capturing exercise conducted between UNHCR, DGIE, NIDA and MINEMA concluded in September. **4,433 refugees** had their biometrics captured to receive refugee IDs.

KEY STATISTICS

127,221 individuals are registered with UNHCR in Rwanda as of 31 September 2022. Mainly including individuals from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (60.05%) and Burundi (39.37%).

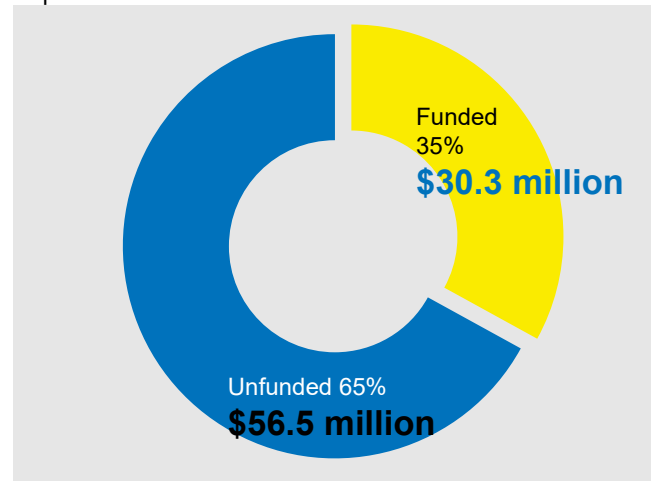
90% of refugees in Rwanda live in refugee camp

4,578 refugees have been submitted for resettlement since January 2022.

FUNDING (AS OF 31 SEPTEMBER)

USD 86,8 million

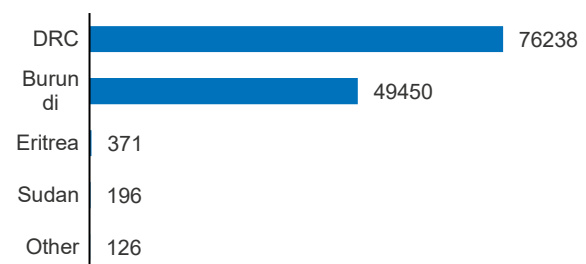
requested for Rwanda



Faustin, a Congolese refugee living in Mugombwa refugee camp, is one of the poultry farmers who is part of the Misizi Marshlands project. As well as providing eggs, manure from the chickens is used for agriculture. © UNHCR/Lilly Carlisle

CURRENT POPULATION OF CONCERN

Countries of Origin



Source: © UNHCR, The UN Refugee Agency

Operational Context & Partners

The Government of Rwanda (GoR), through Ministry of Emergency Management (MINEMA), leads the refugee response in Rwanda in coordination with UNHCR. In addition, a range of UN Agencies, NGOs, operational and development partners participate in sector working groups at both country and district levels. Currently, UNHCR works directly with 11 partners in implementing key activities to assist both the refugee population and Rwandan host communities. To further strengthen the implementation of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF), UNHCR maintains close collaboration with key government institutions and ministries.

Achievements



PROTECTION

- At the end of September, the countrywide biometric capturing exercise for refugee IDs was completed. Since July, 4,433 refugees were enrolled in order to receive refugee IDs by the joint team of NIDA, DGIE, MINEMA and UNHCR. In addition, 2,303 refugee ID cards were distributed, and 1,885 national assessments were carried out allowing refugees who previously fraudulently obtained Rwandan IDs to be issued with refugee IDs.
- Alongside DGIE, UNHCR continued the distribution of refugee ID's for urban refugees in Kigali every Wednesday at Gikondo Community Centre. As part of this, refugee families with new-born babies were also assisted with birth registration.
- In September, UNHCR and partners launched a day care pilot project om Mahama Camp. The project aims to help teen-age mothers continue education or start businesses by taking care of their children during the day. The initiative is also designed to help support survivors of GBV.
- As part of communication with communities, both in the camps and urban settings, UNHCR answered 439 queries from refugees, asylum seekers and other vulnerable populations throughout September 2022. Visiting UNHCR protection desks in person remains the most preferred communication modality (356 queries). It is worth noting that the majority of inquiries received were related the targeting of assistance. In Mugombwa refugee camp, for example, a mass meeting was held with members of the community to listen to their concerns and provide feedback on pressing protection matters.
- UNHCR's child protection team documented 32 new child protection cases in September and continues to follow-up on existing cases. In addition, 44 best interest assessments were undertaken and UNHCR continued to monitor the living conditions and well-being of unaccompanied and separated refugee children.
- Gender based violence incidences among refugee populations continued to be reported to UNHCR in September. As part of this survivors were provided with

psychosocial counseling, medical assistance and referrals to legal assistance when needed. In order to prevent the occurrence of GBV, UNHCR and partners carried out awareness raising activities reaching over 8,000 people. In addition, 54 refugee led committees and support groups ensured that a community-based approach was taken when tackling GBV.

- In September, 280 refugees and asylum seekers received legal assistance from UNHCR and partners. Legal counselling was provided through protection desks in operation in both camps and Gikondo Community Center in Kigali.
- At the Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM) centre in Rwanda, UNHCR and partners continued to provide support to refugees and asylum seekers who had experienced torture and abuse in Libya including through weekly counselling sessions. As of the end of September, 586 refugees and asylum seekers were hosted at the ETM. UNHCR specifically assisted the registration and processing of the 203 new individuals who arrived at the end of August throughout the month. 42 unaccompanied children were also supported such as through psychosocial counselling.



Refugees have their biometrics captured by a joint team of UNHCR, DGIE, NIDA and MINEMA as part of the process of receiving their Refugee ID card.

**EDUCATION**

- UNHCR Rwanda opened an addition 35 new places as part of its DAFI Scholarship program. This is in addition to the 25 scholarships which were awarded to female refugees back in May, bringing the total number of new scholarships for the academic year starting in 2022 to 60 places. Overall, UNHCR is currently supporting 143 refugee students at university in 2022.
- All refugee students in Rwanda are registered in the national education system and continue to benefit from early childhood development (ECD), primary and secondary education. As the new academic year started, UNHCR supported refugee students to enrol in and attend school. In Nyabiheke camp, UNHCR and partners distributed scholastic materials to over 1,400 primary students attending the nearby school.
- UNHCR completed the construction of 24 classrooms in Kiziba camp in September in time for the start of the new school year. In addition, plans for the construction of 28 new classrooms in Mahama primary school were approved after a joint technical mission composed of UNHCR, MINEMA, Kirehe District and ADRA, visited the site. Construction is expected to start in October in order to maximize the use of existing space and improve the quality of education by decongesting the current overcrowded classrooms.
- A total of 636 (370 female) teachers in refugee hosting schools have been trained on digital literacy aimed at improving digital skills and knowledge of teachers. In addition, about half of the teachers have attended training on the use of ProFuturo educational solution platform aimed at improving teachers' teaching methodology, classroom management and follow up of students' learning progress.

**HEALTH**

- UNHCR supports access to health care services for all refugees in Rwanda. In September, primary health consultations were conducted in camp-based health care facilities, among them 6% supported the Rwandan host community. UNHCR also continued to refer refugees in need of emergency, life-saving care to district level hospitals.
- As of September 2022, 68.6% of refugees living camps are recorded as having taken two doses of the COVID-19 vaccination.
- Mental health support for refugees and asylum seekers remained a priority for UNHCR in September. In Nyabiheke camp, UNHCR support the referral of 17 individuals to national psychiatric hospitals to receive specialized support. In Mugombwa camp, almost 400 refugees also received therapy sessions with mental health specialists.
- UNHCR endeavours to provided specialized medical care to refugees and asylum seekers with disabilities. In Kigeme camp, for example, 16 refugees with disabilities received medical care and 46 children physiotherapy in September.
- In September, Kiziba health centre was connected to the national electricity grid.



FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- Refugees in all camps receive cash assistance for food from the World Food Program (WFP). As of the end of September 2022, 93% of the total refugees living in the camps are under targeted food assistance. As per agreed targeting criteria 87% comprising of 99,471 refugees are classified as highly vulnerable and receive full food assistance while 6% refugees comprising of 7,037 refugees are currently classified as moderately vulnerable and receive 50% of the value of full food assistance. 7% comprising 7,448 refugees are classified as Least Vulnerable and do not receive any cash for food assistance.
- In coordination with our partner ADRA, UNHCR continued to provide all refugees and asylum seekers at the ETM three meals a day.



WATER AND SANITATION

- UNHCR, in partnership with World Vision, provides water to refugees living in all refugee camps, reception, and transit centres across Rwanda. Currently, water supply averages 22 litres per person per day although challenges remain in some camps such as Nyabiheke and Kigeme in meeting the minimum requirement of 20 litres per person per day. In Nyabiheke camp, water is expected to reach the minimum requirements once the water pump is fully fixed.
- In September, UNHCR and WASH partners finalized consultations with the refugee community about the upcoming WASH strategy between 2023-2025. Key feedback from the community focused on the need to promote local ownership of WASH facilities to improve health and wellbeing.
- During September, UNHCR fumigated the accommodation blocks at the ETM to tackle challenges with bedbugs and rodents. In addition, sensitisation campaigns are being carried out on personal hygiene to encourage refugees and asylum seekers to also implement measures to prevent such issues.
- In Mahama Camp, UNHCR and partners carried out road works in support of solid waste management.
- UNHCR continues to provide soap and other hygiene items to refugees living in camps across Rwanda. In September, for example, 320 litres of liquid soap were distributed to all handwashing facilities in Nyabiheke camp.



SHELTER AND NFIS

- During the month of September, a total 315 shelters were rehabilitated across all the camps, this includes: 282 shelters in Mahama, 12 shelters in Mugombwa, 10 shelters in Kigeme, 3 shelters in Kiziba and 8 shelters in Nyabiheke camp. This brings the total number shelters rehabilitated across the camps for the year 2022

to 1,334 shelters. In Kiziba camp, 16 vacant shelters were also allocated to vulnerable refugees.

- UNHCR continues to focus on improving shelter access for people with disabilities. In Mahama camp, five such shelters were upgraded in September through mechanisms such as enlarging doors and improving paths leading up to the shelter.
- In September, a total of 34 terraces were constructed to protect shelters on high-risk areas in Mugombwa and Kigeme camps. This brings the total number of terraces constructed in 2022 to 165 terraces.
- In September, UNHCR distributed Exceptional Financial Assistance to 56 households/126 individuals mostly living in urban setting to help them meet their basic needs such as transportation or address urgent protection issues.



ACCESS TO ENERGY

- UNHCR continued to provide gas for clean cooking for approximately 18,000 households (50% of whom are refugees) in Mahama and Mugombwa camps, as well as transit and reception centres.
- In September, UNHCR continued to supply briquettes to all refugee hosting schools nearby camps to provide energy for school feeding programs.



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

- In September, the joint cooperatives of 1,883 refugees and Rwandan farmers completed their first agriculture production harvest in Nyabicwamba and Mushishito marshlands. This enabled the farmers to access food for household consumption and gain income from the production sales. The establishment of the marshlands and cooperatives is part of collaboration between UNHCR, MINEMA and local Districts to ensure that farmers get access to the developed marshlands, Government-subsidized agricultural inputs (improved seeds, fertilizers and tools), agricultural best practices trainings, post-harvest facilities and market linkages for the farmers to sell their production at a competitive price.
- At the end of September, UNHCR and MINIMA organized an inter camp sports tournament in Mahama refugee camp with the participation of over 600 refugee sports enthusiasts from different camps across Rwanda as well as many spectators from Mahama. During the tournament, messages about key protection issues were shared with the community.
- UNHCR operates a range of community centres across camps and in urban areas in Rwanda. In September, for example, over 1,300 people visited the community center in Mugombwa camp taking part in the community library, youth groups, art and sewing activities.
- UNHCR constructed markets and business centres across all refugee camps continued to function in September. In Nyabiheke camp, refugee business

owners were supported through the provision of electricity and trainings promoting the expansion of small income-generating activities.

- In September, 15 cricket coaches in Mahama refugee camp were trained and certified on the Cricket for Protection Playbook developed jointly by UNHCR and Cricket without Boundaries. This will mean that additional cricket activities will be available for refugee youth in the camp in future months.
- At the ETM, 304 refugees, asylum seekers and members of the Rwandan host community attended various vocational trainings in September. 115 individuals completed their motor vehicle driving training, 40 individuals participated in ICT courses while 65 people attended language classes in English, French and Kinyarwanda.



DURABLE SOLUTIONS

- In 2022, UNHCR Rwanda has received submission resettlement quota of 5,915 individuals. By the end of September 2022, 4,578 individuals were submitted to resettlement countries. In addition, 2,945 refugees have departed for resettlement and 38 refugees departed through complementary pathways. In particular, 36 refugees accommodated at the ETM departed on resettlement to Finland and Norway.
- In September, UNHCR held several discussions with Kepler and Save the Children to finalize the preparations for the implementation of the Economic Mobility Pathways Pilot as a means of complementary pathways to resettlement.
- In September, UNHCR Rwanda supported the reception and integration of 269 Rwandan returnees. 250 of these individuals were transported to Nyanza Transit Centre near Huye. UNHCR supports the Government of Rwanda by providing logistical support for Rwandan returnees (former refugees) including cash assistance to support reintegration, one year enrolment in health insurance and transportation to their districts of origin.



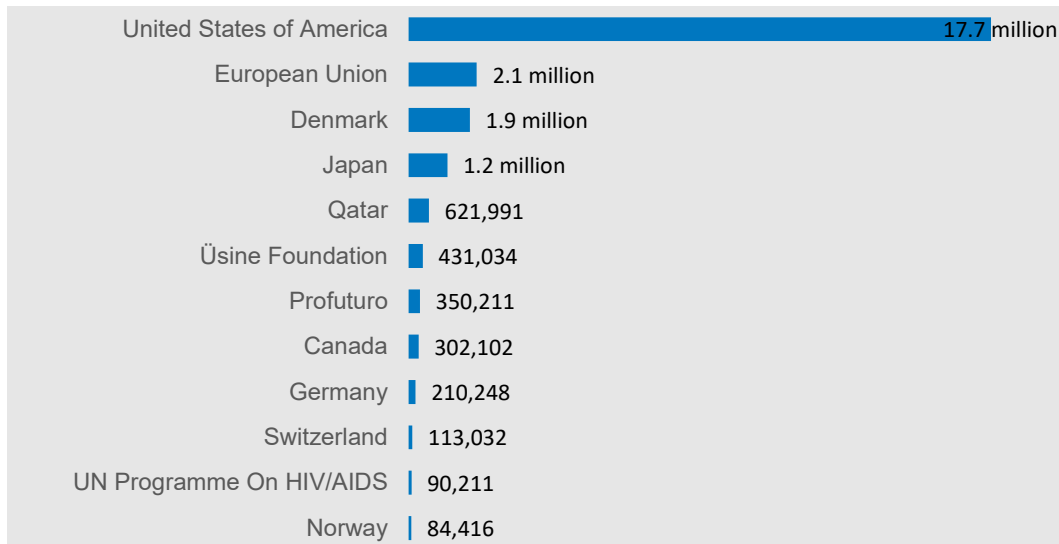
MISSIONS, DELEGATIONS AND EVENTS

- In September, UNHCR Rwanda facilitated the visits of WUSC (World University Service of Canada) and Good People International to Nyabiheke and Mugombwa refugee camps respectively who were interested in learning more about the refugee situation and potentially implementing programs in Rwanda.
- In celebration of the International Day of Peace, various activities took place across the refugee camps. In addition, at Gikondo Community Centre in Kigali, UNHCR and partners conducted activities to raise awareness on child rights.

Financial Information

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to the Rwanda operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes regionally and globally with broadly earmarked and unearmarked funds.

EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS to UNHCR Rwanda in 2022 | USD



BROADLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Special thanks to the major donors of broadly earmarked contributions which contribute to the response in Rwanda and the region

United States of America 28.8 million | Canada 7.8 million | Private donors Australia 7.4 million | Private donors USA 6.2 million | Private donors Germany 3.4 million

UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Special thanks to the major donors of unearmarked contributions.

Sweden 99.3 million | Norway 72.5 million | Private donors Spain 45 million | United Kingdom 40.1 million | Netherlands 37.2 million | Private donors Japan 31.7 million | Germany 27 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 22.6 million | Japan 21.7 million | Private donors USA 19.5 million | France 18.5 million | Switzerland 18.4 million | Private donors Italy 12.9 million | Belgium 11.9 million | Ireland 11.8 million | Private donors Canada 10.5 million | Italy 10 million

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