51,483 refugees and asylum seekers were registered in Malawi as of 30 June. This included 194 new arrivals and 151 newborn babies registered in June alone. Majority live in Dzaleka refugee camp.

Dzaleka refugee camp has a cumulative total of 408 positive Covid-19 cases 380 recoveries and 3 deaths reported as of 31 January 2023. 4 cases of cholera were recorded among the refugees with one death.

Dzaleka camp initially designed for 10,000 refugees and asylum seekers currently has over 51,483 persons of concern living in congestion and vulnerable to infectious diseases like TB, Covid-19 and cholera.

**POPULATION OF CONCERN**

By Country of Origin

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DRC</td>
<td>33,332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burundi</td>
<td>11,333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>6,523</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>51,483</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FUNDING (AS OF 30 JUNE 2023)**

USD 27.4 million requested for UNHCR operation in Malawi

- 84% Funded
- 16% Unfunded

**UNHCR PRESENCE**

- **Staff:**
  - 42 National Staff
  - 35 International Staff
- **Offices:**
  - 01 Branch Office in Lilongwe
  - 01 Field Office in Karonga

For more information: [http://reporting.unhcr.org](http://reporting.unhcr.org)
Country Overview

Context: As of 30 June, Malawi is home to 51,483 refugees and asylum seekers. Among them, an estimated 8,000 resided in rural and urban towns across the country, before the government embarked on a relocation exercise for urban refugees. On average 200 – 300 asylum seekers are registered every month. 120 -150 new births are registered in Dzaleka refugee camp per month. The camp was established to host between 10,000 – 12,000 people but is now home to over 40,000. The country has been hosting some of the refugees for more than two decades and the protracted conflict in the Great Lakes Region prevents their safe return.

Enforcement of back to the camp relocation order: The Government of Malawi continues with the relocation of refugees and asylum seekers living in rural and urban areas back to Dzaleka refugee camp. So far 2,074 refugees and asylum seekers have returned to the camp since the order was issued in 2021. Among them, 574 are being accommodated in rub halls at the Reception Centre. UNHCR and partners have started the construction of 10 houses and 24 refugee housing units (RHUs) in the new Katubza area to accommodate 34 vulnerable families from the transit Centre.

Solutions:

Voluntary repatriation and resettlement are the focus of solutions as prospects for local integration remain limited. However, resettlement opportunities remain limited to a small percentage of the population. Moreover, only 400 individuals have expressed willingness to return to their countries of origin.

The operation continues to facilitate voluntary repatriation for refugees who wish to return home. On 5 July, UNHCR facilitated the voluntary return of 38 Burundian refugees back to their country.

Strategic Directions

Advocate for the government to rescind its back-to-the-camp relocation order.

Advocate and provide technical support to the Government of Malawi to implement Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF).

Decongestion Dzaleka camp to improve the protection environment.

Promote and facilitate comprehensive solutions; alleviate poverty; and foster resilience.

Financial Information

UNHCR is grateful for donors who contributed to its operation in Malawi with unearmarked and earmarked in 2023.

Belgium | Canada | CERF | Denmark | Education Cannot Wait | European Union | France | Germany | Ireland | Japan | Netherlands | Norway | Private donors | Sweden | Switzerland | United States of America | UNO-Fluechtlingshilfe | UN Peacebuilding Fund

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