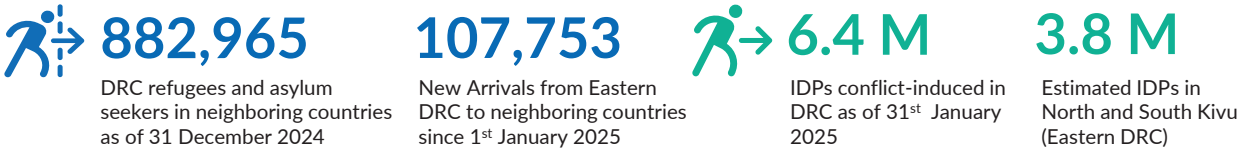


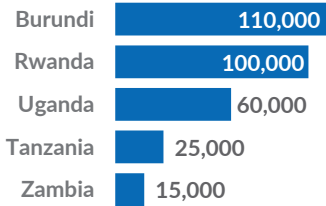
**Context**

Since the end of 2024, security and humanitarian conditions in South and North Kivu have worsened rapidly, with civilian casualties, mass displacement, and violations of International Humanitarian Law. Looting and restricted access have severely disrupted humanitarian operations, leaving many without basic services. UNHCR calls for the safety of civilians to be respected, humanitarian access, and the right to move freely to seek safety. Since the 14 February, there has been a significant increase in the number of asylum seekers crossing into Burundi, with close to 70,000 new arrivals in need of international protection recorded as of 26 March. In support of the Government of Burundi, UNHCR is working with partners to ensure that people arriving in search of safety receive the support they need as they await registration and further registration procedures. Prior to this crisis, the DRC already had 6.7 million IDPs, hosted 520,000 refugees and there were 1.1 million Congolese refugees abroad.

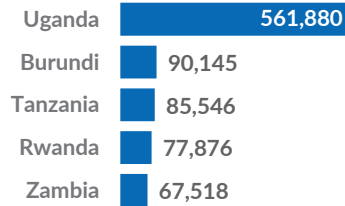
**Key figures**



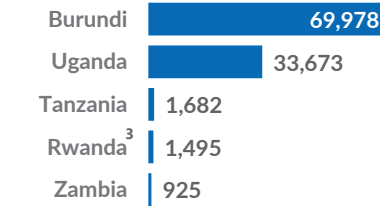
**New arrivals inter-agency contingency planning figures<sup>1</sup> (Feb 25)**



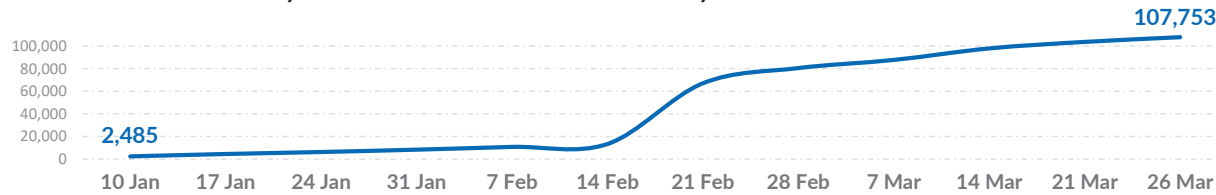
**Cumulative refugees and asylum seekers from DRC (Dec 24)**



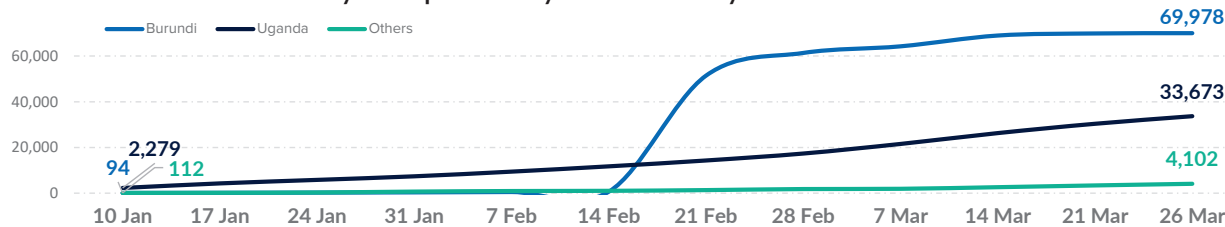
**New arrivals<sup>2</sup> by country of asylum since 1st January 2025**



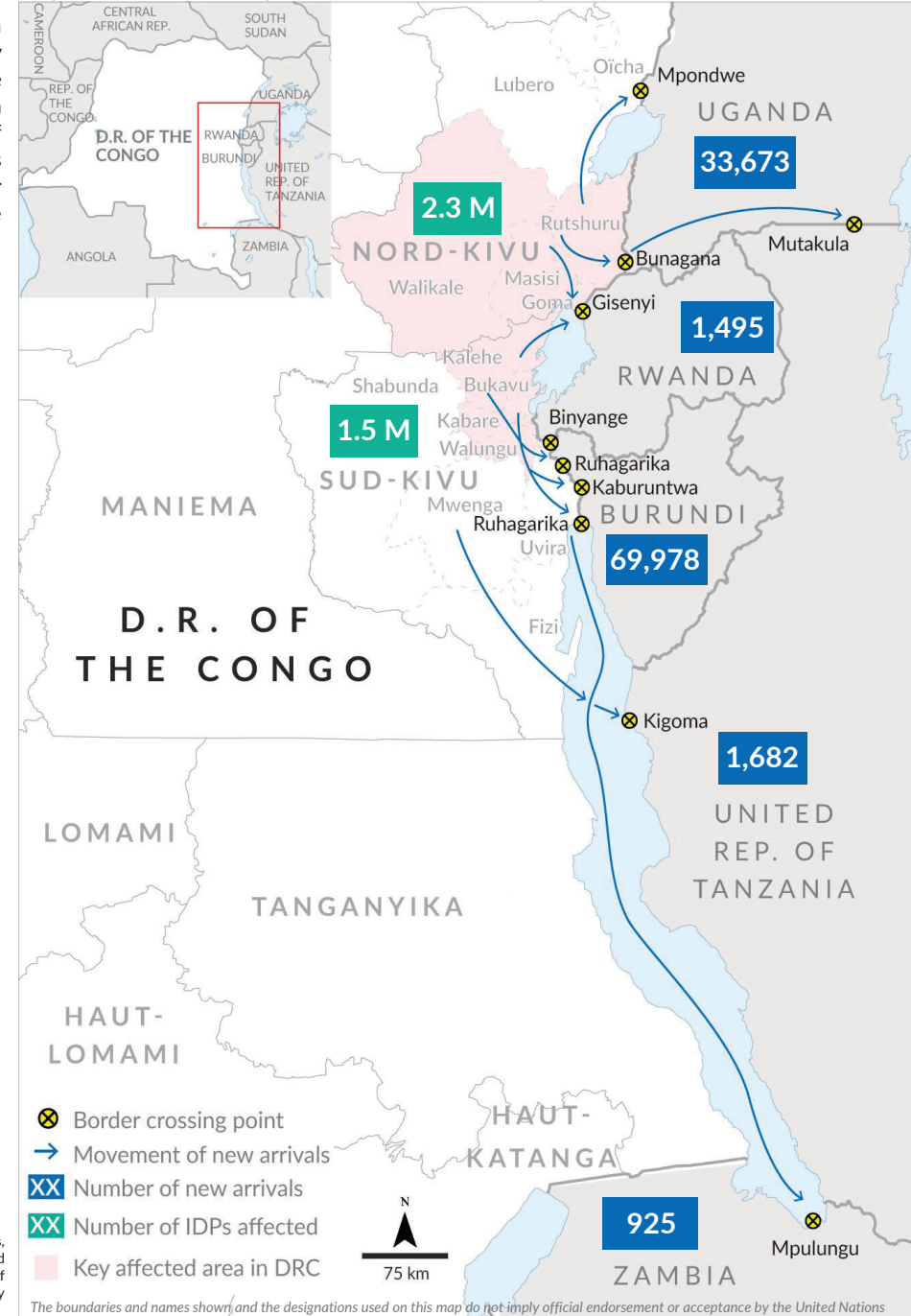
**Overall cumulative weekly trend of new arrivals since 1st January 2025**



**Cumulative new arrivals weekly trend per country since 1st January 2025**



**Map of Eastern DRC displacement since 1st January 2025**



(1) All contingency plans are based on worst-case scenario projections. (2) For countries where data is available, the new arrivals figure includes returnees as well as refugees from third countries, alongside the Congolese new arrivals. The inclusion of these group reflects that returnee populations and third country nationals may also have specific international protection and humanitarian needs. (3) Based on a review of data from Zambia, the number of new arrivals from DRC has been revised to 811 as of 12 March. This figure refers exclusively to arrivals of Congolese nationality arriving from DRC and does not include arrivals of other nationalities who may be arriving to Zambia from DRC or other countries. Disaggregated data on third country nationals arriving directly from DRC to Zambia is not currently available