

## RWANDA

### EMERGENCY UPDATE - BURUNDI REFUGEE INFLUX

11 – 17 May 2015

## HIGHLIGHTS

#### KEY FIGURES\* (as of 17 May)

**26,759**

Burundian refugees have crossed into Rwanda.

*Further breakdown of the above figure:*

**21,543**

Refugees in Mahama Refugee Camp

**4,687**

Refugees in Bugesera Reception Center

**313**

Refugees in Nyanza Reception Center

**111**

Refugees in Nyagatare Transit Center

**105**

Pending in Districts

*\*statistics are according to the Government of Rwanda.*

#### PRIORITIES

- Enhance services in Mahama camp, with a focus on health, wash and sanitation, before relocating all remaining refugees in the transit and reception centers;
- Conduct intensive individual case management services to look into appropriate solutions for unaccompanied and separated children.

- The rate of new arrivals from Burundi has stabilized since early May, to on average 200 refugees per day. UNHCR and partners have relocated 422 refugees from Nyagatare Transit Center to Mahama Camp in the last week, and will continue to eventually relocate all refugees remaining in the transit and reception centers in order to ensure preparedness in case of another wave of refugee arrivals.
- The Government of Rwanda and UNHCR have agreed to begin registration of Burundian urban refugees as it is estimated that several thousand may be living in urban areas. The Ministry of Local Government has been instructed to preregister refugees in urban areas and to provide lists of names and contact information to the Ministry of Disaster Management and Refugee Affairs (MIDIMAR) and UNHCR.



UNHCR staff in Bugesera RC assisting refugees for relocation to Mahama camp.  
UNHCR/R. Kundevski

- More than 112,000 Burundians have fled to Tanzania (76,500), Rwanda (27,000) and DRC (9,000) to escape political violence in Burundi since the start of election-related insecurity on 31 March, 2015.

## UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

### Operational Context

- On 13 May, Major General Godefroid Niyombare led an attempted coup in Burundi while President Nkurunziza was attending a meeting with regional presidents in Tanzania. Niyombare ordered the airport in Bujumbura to shut down to prevent the President from returning. However, the President was able to return the following day and arrested coup plotters. Major Gen. Niyombare remains uncaptured. President Nkurunziza has called for an end to all political demonstrations.
- Refugees who have reached Rwanda in recent days report that there are increasing roadblocks put in place by youth militias in Burundi which are preventing people from fleeing to Rwanda. Blockades and checkpoints are mainly around Bujumbura, however they are also reported en route to the Rwandan border. Refugees report that as of 13 May it has been almost impossible for people to pass the blockades.

## Protection

### Child protection (CP) & Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) Achievements and Impact

- 657 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) have been so far gone through level 2 registration in Mahama camp.
- Intensive individual case management services have begun, to find appropriate solutions for UASC.
- Child-friendly spaces are established in Bugesera and Nyanza RCs while they have started to be developed in Mahama (2 tents have been erected so far).
- In Mahama, approximately 1,600 children attended recreational activities during the week.
- In Mahama, 2,000 refugees (400 girls, 412 boys, 625 women and 563 men) attended sessions on environmental risks, prevention of physical punishment to children, sexual violence and negative effect of drugs abuse.
- Referral pathways are in place in Bugesera, Nyanza and Mahama.

## Health

### Achievements and Impact

- A nutrition specialist from UNHCR Headquarters had arrived to assess the situation in Bugesera and Mahama. She was very impressed with the quick response to the overwhelming need of malnourished children. Malnutrition is being addressed through intervention of partners which has resulted in a reduction of the Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rate. However, the GAM rate for newly arriving refugees is estimated at 30%.
- A team led by one medical doctor, eight nurses, one nutritionist, one social worker, two laboratory assistants, four nutrition care givers and ten Community Health Workers carries out on-arrival screening and provides primary health care at Bugesera RC. 1,532 new arrivals were treated at the Bugesera RC health facility during the reporting period.
- On-arrival screening for malnutrition among children under 5 years is on-going. Both severe and moderately acute malnutrition management programs have been established in Bugesera RC.
- Mahama: A team led by two medical doctors, fourteen nurses, two nutrition officers and one midwife continues to provide health care in Mahama emergency health facility. Standby ambulance facilities are available to provide necessary referral care for serious medical conditions.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Respiratory tract infections are the leading cause of illness in Bugesera (53% of all cases).



## Water and Sanitation

### Achievements and Impact (in Mahama camp)

- 560 latrines: 37 persons/drop hole – standard in an emergency is 40 persons/drop hole
- 349 showers: 60 persons/shower - standard in an emergency is 70 persons/drop hole
- 12L of water per person per day - standard in an emergency is 15L/person/day. During the weekly Refugee Coordination Meeting, it was unanimously agreed that the water supply system in Mahama should be boreholes instead of purification of the nearby river as it is more costly.



## Shelter and NFIs

### Achievements and Impact (in Mahama camp)

- UNHCR has mobilized 5,050 tents, all of which have arrived to Rwanda; thus far 2,839 tents have been erected.
- The summary of the shelter strategy and the final selection of a design for more permanent shelters has been prepared by UNHCR emergency site planners and shelter specialists. A more detailed report will be submitted shortly.



Mahama refugee camp

## Working in partnership

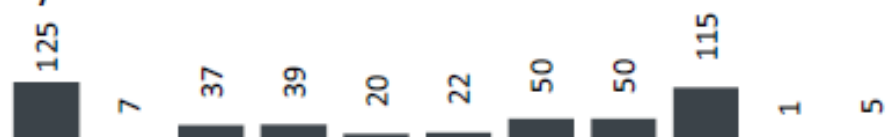
- During the weekly Refugee Coordination Meeting on 12 May, participants agreed on four official border entry points for any future influx in order to better prepare logistically and to conduct accurate border monitoring. The entry points include: Nyaruguru, Kamabuye, Mamba and Bugarama.
- Following the express interest of a number of NGOs to assist in the emergency, the gap-filling process has started by meeting with NGOs interested in food and nutrition.

## STATISTICS

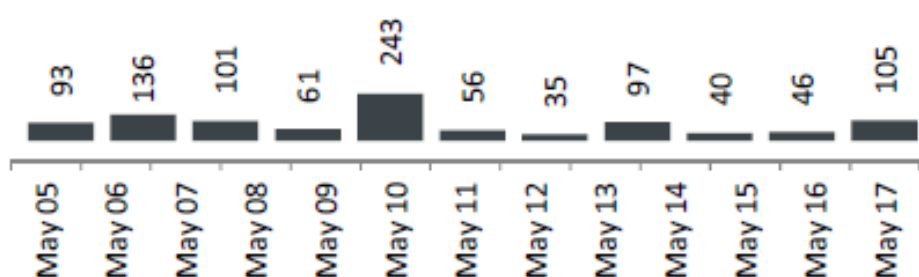
- UNHCR has put into place Level 1 registration in the two reception centers and Level 2 in Mahama to expedite relocation. 19,714 refugees have been registered to date.

Age Cohort	Female	Male	Total	%
0 - 4 years	1,780	1,871	3,651	19%
5 - 11 years	2,012	1,976	3,988	20%
12 - 17 years	1,575	1,698	3,273	17%
18 - 59 years	4,517	3,908	8,425	43%
60+ years	244	133	377	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,128</b>	<b>9,586</b>	<b>19,714</b>	

### Nyanza Arrivals



### Bugesera Arrivals



## Thanks to our partners:



### Contacts:

Martina Pomeroy, External Relations Officer, [pomeroy@unhcr.org](mailto:pomeroy@unhcr.org), Tel: +250-252-589-874, Cell: +250 (0) 78-830-2769

Erika Fitzpatrick, Associate PI/Reporting Officer, [fitzpat@unhcr.org](mailto:fitzpat@unhcr.org), Tel: +250-252-589-874, Cell +250 (0) 78-838-9828

Twitter: @RefugeesRwanda