

## BURUNDI SITUATION

### UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE 4

26 May - 1 June 2015

#### KEY FIGURES

**97,301**

New Burundian refugees in the neighbouring countries since the beginning of April 2015 (1 June)

**23,984**

Refugees in Mahama camp in Rwanda (1 June)

**51,385**

Refugees in Nyaragusu camp in Tanzania (1 June)

#### PRIORITIES

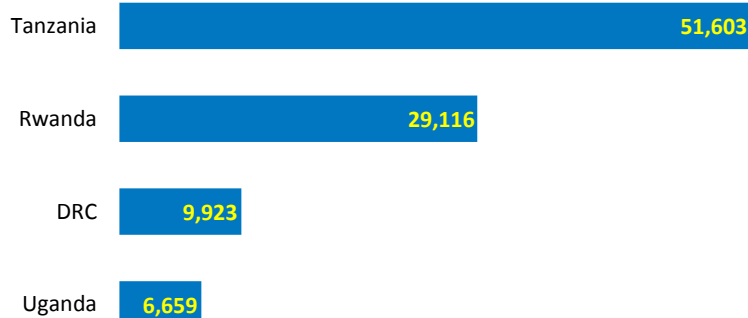
- Relocation of refugees to safety away from border areas.
- Preparation of refugee sites allocated by governments of host countries.
- Life-saving multi-sector emergency protection and assistance interventions.
- Identification and protection of children including family tracing, family reunification and alternative care arrangements for unaccompanied and separated children.
- Prepositioning of relief items for anticipated mass influxes to neighbouring countries.

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- The Summit of Heads of States of the East African Community (EAC) was convened in Dar-es-Salaam on 31 May; however Burundi's President Pierre Nkurunziza did not take part. At the conclusion of the regional summit, the leaders stated they were "concerned about the impasse in Burundi" and called for a postponement of elections for at least 45 days. Burundi's government has yet to officially announce whether parliamentary and presidential elections will be postponed. They are scheduled to take place on 5 and 26 June respectively.
- The UN Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, Mr. Adama Dieng, concluded a two-day visit to Burundi on 31 May. Mr Dieng met with President Nkurunziza and emphasized the importance of ensuring respect for fundamental human rights and the rule of law particularly during this tense and volatile period. Mr. Dieng also warned of "increased tensions and the risk of further violence" if all parties are not engaged in open dialogue to resolve the crisis.
- On 1 June, the UN Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mr. Stephen O'Brien, announced the release of USD 15 million from the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to provide for life-saving assistance for Burundian refugees in Rwanda and Tanzania, where the majority of refugees so far, over 80,000, have fled. Approximately USD 7.5 million will be allocated to various aid agencies in Tanzania and nearly USD 8 million will go towards increasing assistance in Rwanda.

#### Population of concern (as at 1 June)

A total of **97,301** people of concern



## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

### Operational Context

- According to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the security situation in Bujumbura remains precarious notably with the resumption of demonstrations in and outside the city. The heavy presence of armed security and defence forces was observed in areas where demonstrations have been frequent. OHCHR reported that demonstrations resumed on 2 June in the periphery of Bujumbura and received reports of violent confrontations as the police used force to disperse demonstrators.
- Two out of five members of the Burundian National Independent Electoral Commission (CENI) have resigned and fled the country. The former members, including the Vice-President of the CENI, cited an unfavourable environment to hold free and fair elections.
- Over 97,000 Burundian refugees and asylum-seekers have arrived in the neighbouring countries of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the United Republic of Tanzania, Rwanda and Uganda due to pre-election violence and intimidation

### Protection

#### Achievements and Impact & Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

##### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

- The number of new arrivals has reached 9,923 (1 June), with 76% located in Uvira territory and 24% in Fizi territory and with over half the population originating from Cibitoke province. The majority, 8,656 people, are being hosted by Burundian refugee families in South Kivu.
- Biometric registration of refugees in collaboration with the Government's National Commission for Refugees (CNR) continued in Uvira and Fizi territories– as of 1 June, 8,485 people had been registered.
- As of 1 June, 326 Burundian refugees had been relocated to Lusenda from Kavimvira transit centre. Another convoy of some 300 individuals is expected to depart for Lusenda on 2 June.



*Burundian refugees arrive at Mboko, DRC, by boat. UNHCR/F.Scoppa*

##### RWANDA

- The number of new arrivals has reached 29,116 (1 June) with the majority, 23,984, relocated to Mahama camp. The arrival rate has decreased over the past few weeks with refugees reporting more roadblocks on the way to Rwanda.

##### UGANDA

- The number of new arrivals has reached 6,659 (1 June). New arrivals are estimated at 250-300 per day by the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM). Burundians are using Kajitumba border with Rwanda to enter the country and move on to Nakivale refugee settlement. They arrive mainly at night or early morning on foot.
- On 28-29 May, the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), UNHCR's government counterpart, led a multi-stakeholder/multi-sector mission to Nakivale and Oruchinga Settlements as well as border crossing points with Tanzania and Rwanda, to assess the ongoing emergency response and identify unmet protection, infrastructure and assistance needs. Recommendations included the expansion of reception facilities,

reinforced health and nutrition screening at reception centres and increased staffing for registration/profiling by UNHCR and OPM.

## UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

- On 26 May, all refugees present in Kagunga were transported to Kigoma. UNHCR has transported a total 34,804 refugees out of Kagunga and 898 walked to Mkigo. UNHCR and partner agencies cleaned-up the lake surroundings and a decontamination of Kagunga is on-going. The two ships that had transported refugees from Kagunga to Kigoma have been decommissioned. UNHCR has a monitoring team based in Kigoma who will conduct daily visits to Kagunga and maintain daily contact with various stakeholders to obtain the latest information on arrivals. Small numbers of refugees continue to arrive through the Kagunga border.
- Level 2 registration resumed on 25 May in Nyarugusu. A challenge with the exercise is the unsettled condition of many refugees who are living in various reception centers.
- As part of its preparedness, UNHCR has been able to secure a location 3 kilometres along the Kagunga stretch (Kagunga 1) to serve as reception centre for Burundian refugees. The location will be able to accommodate mass shelters to host 3,000 people. The assessment team validated the location as having good water supply, enough space to construct WASH facilities, and being less than half a kilometre from Kagunga dispensary.



*Burundian refugees on the front deck of the MV Liemba being transferred from Kagunga to Kigoma, from where they will be transported to Nyarugusu refugee camp. UNHCR/B.Loyseau*



## Health

### Achievements and Impact & Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

#### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

- New arrivals in Kavimvira transit centre and Sange and Mongemonge reception centres with critical health conditions have been referred to the local general hospital. The most widely reported illnesses are malaria, intestinal parasitosis and respiratory infections.

#### UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

- The cholera outbreak has been contained and MSF have set up a cholera treatment centre (CTC) in Kagunga, the Lake Tanganyika (LT) stadium in Kigoma and Nyarugusu.
- UNHCR and partners need to ensure that other health concerns (malaria, tuberculosis, HIV, respiratory infections) are not overshadowed by the focus on cholera.



## Food Security and Nutrition

### Achievements and Impact & Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

#### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

- On 1 June, WFP distributed 704.78 kilograms of food to refugees in Kavimvira transit centre and the reception centres of Sange and Mongemonge, including corn flour, beans, salt and oil. An additional 75.6 kg of supplementary food has also been provided to people with special needs (manioc flour, vegetables, sugar and spices).

## UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

- WFP continues to carry out mobile food distributions and agreed to issue a 28-day food ration to new arrivals starting on 1 June. WFP is also distributing high energy biscuits to refugees en route to Nyarugusu camp. UNHCR, UNICEF and the International Rescue Committee (IRC) have also requested that biscuits be prepositioned in the camp for children.



### Water and Sanitation

#### Achievements and Impact & Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

## DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

- A total 14,000 litres of potable water is being supplied in Kavimvira by Oxfam, MONUSCO, REGIDESO (the national water supplier) providing 16.2 litres per person per day (l/p/d). In Sange reception centre, 7,000l is available for consumption providing 15.7l/p/d. At Mongemonge reception centre, 8,000l of water is being supplied by Oxfam (13,000l per day) and REGIDESO and provided 16.9l/p/d.

## RWANDA

- Refugees are now 15 l/p/d (up from 7 l/p/d). Increased water trucking (from 7 to 12 trucks) by World Vision has led to this improvement however, water is proving to be a major concern and a more sustainable solution is being explored.
- Relocation to Mahama camp remains temporarily suspended until assistance, such as water provision, are improved. As a result of the suspension of relocation, UNHCR has moved the registration team from Mahama camp to Bugesera reception center in order to complete biometric registration of all remaining refugees.
- In Mahama camp, 1,034 latrines have been constructed (23 refugees per latrine) as well as 639 showers (38 refugees per shower).



A Burundian woman and her children in Mahama refugee camp. UNHCR/K.Holt

## UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

- A WASH assessment team consisting of UNHCR, Oxfam and Tanzania Water and Environmental Sanitation (TWESA) conducted an evaluation in Kagunga on host community projects. In view of the impact of refugees on host community resources, UNHCR is advocating for and will be involved in host community projects. In addition, Oxfam will be constructing new family latrines for 115 Tanzanian families in Kagunga.
- At the new reception centre in Kagunga 1, a WASH assessment team verified that water is sufficient from an existing water network. An extension of the network will be implemented by Oxfam who will install six water points. TWESA will start the construction of 6 block latrines (3 for men, 3 for women) and move the WASH equipment left in Kagunga (old site) to the new reception centre. OXFAM and TWESA will be in charge of water and sanitation meanwhile IRC will implement hygiene promotion.
- In Nyarugusu, 828 latrines and 265 showers have been built. An additional 1,014 showers and 349 showers still need to be built.



## Shelter and NFIs

### Achievements and Impact & Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

#### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

- In Lusenda, in preparation for families being relocated from transit/reception centres, 56 family emergency shelters have been completed and another 51 are being finalized. Sixteen reception centres have been constructed, and 16 latrines finalized.

#### RWANDA

- The Government of Rwanda has agreed to UNHCR's request for an additional 50 hectares of land in order to respond to the current Burundian refugee situation. A total 100 hectares of land will be made available to begin construction of semi-permanent shelters.

#### UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

- Nyarugusu camp can accommodate up to 40,000 but this number has already been surpassed. The Government proposed the development of a new camp site in Migunga hills, however, following a rapid technical assessment, this site was deemed unsuitable because of difficulty in access (swampy area). Discussions are still ongoing with the government for another site.
- In Nyarugusu, as of 1 June, 2,336 family shelters had been completed for 18,688 people. There are also 80 collective shelters each hosting 150 people.



A Burundian family head towards their tent with their belongings in Mahama refugee camp, Rwanda. UNHCR/K.Holt

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

On 28 May, UNHCR released a Supplementary Budget Appeal for the Burundi Situation, which includes needs for Burundi, the DRC, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. UNHCR's total financial requirements for the Burundi Situation currently amount to **USD 151.7 million**, including USD 131.4 million for the response in the DRC, Rwanda and Tanzania from April to September 2015, as presented in the Regional Refugee Response Plan launched on 22 May. UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors, particularly those who have contributed to UNHCR activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds, as well as for those who have already contributed to the Burundi situation. **The organization's overall needs for this situation are currently funded at 6%.**

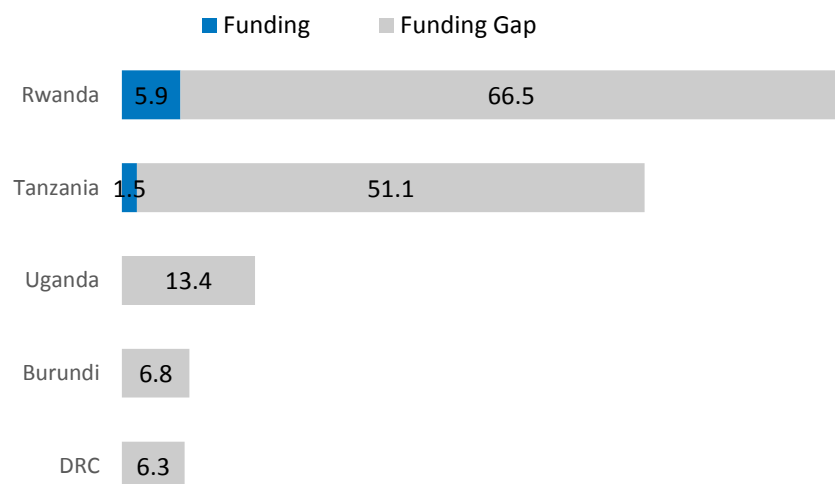
### Donors:

CERF

Denmark

### Funding:

A total **USD 8.4 million** has been funded



### Contacts:

Ms. Kabami Kalumiya, Associate Reporting Officer, [kalumiya@unhcr.org](mailto:kalumiya@unhcr.org) Tel: +41 (0) 22 739 8252

Ms. Mandy Felicia Owusu, Senior Desk Officer, [owusu@unhcr.org](mailto:owusu@unhcr.org) Tel: +41 (0) 22 739 8465



## BURUNDI SITUATION: Displacement of Burundians into neighbouring countries | As of 01 June 2015

