

BURUNDI SITUATION

UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE #32

December 2016

KEY FIGURES

364,723

New Burundian refugees in asylum countries since April 2015 as of 31 December 2016

FUNDING

USD 180.6 million

requested for the overall situation through UNHCR's Supplementary Appeal (January-December 2016)



PRIORITIES

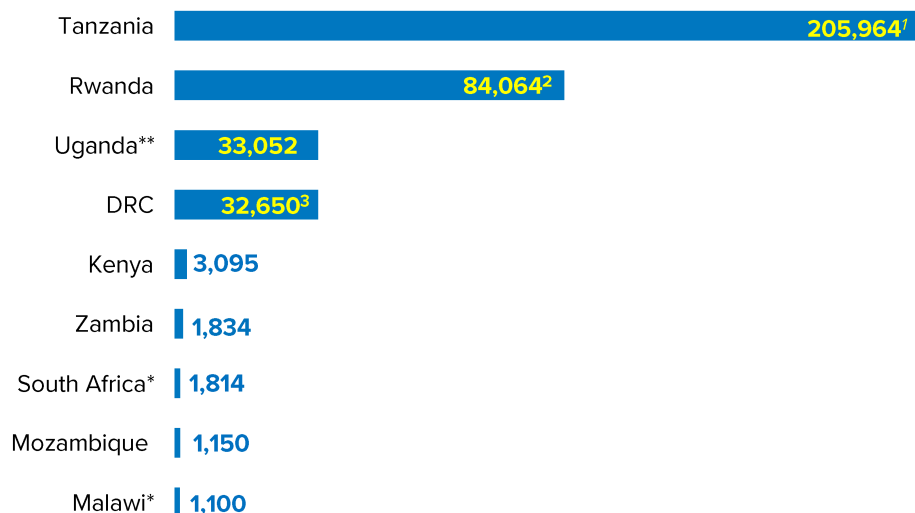
- Tanzania:** Continue working on extension of Nduta Camp and continue the discussions with the Government on the urgent allocation of new camp sites, as well as preparing an interim solution for continued influx.
- Burundi:** Continue the implementation of the emergency response with Caritas and Burundian Red Cross to IDPs and spontaneous returnees in the provinces of Kirundo, Makamba and Rumonge.
- DRC:** Identify and prepare new sites to accommodate the incoming influx of refugees.
- Rwanda:** Scale up construction of semi-permanent shelters in Mahama Camp

HIGHLIGHTS

- Regional:** 2016 witnessed a significant increase in the refugee outflow from Burundi, by the end of December 364,723 Burundians were living as refugees in neighboring countries. Planning figures for 2016 have been exceeded in both Tanzania (170,000) and the DRC (30,000), while 2017 projections indicate that the refugee population will grow further to 534,000 by the end 2017.
- Tanzania:** The number of Burundians continued to rise rapidly in Tanzania, with 356 arrivals daily on average. Nduta Camp is being extended further to host the incoming refugees, but cannot host a population of over 100,000. As it currently already hosts 85,054 refugees it is expected the camp will be at full capacity at the beginning of February, making the need for new land very urgent. Camp facilities also need to be upgraded as soon as possible.
- Democratic Republic of Congo:** The number of newly registered Burundian refugees in the DRC has increased in the second half of 2016 with 7,669 newly registered refugees, compared to 4,476 during the first half of 2016. 1,435 refugees were transferred to Lusenda Camp from transit centers. The camp will reach its maximum capacity in January 2017 and despite efforts by the authorities, a new site to accommodate refugees still needs to be identified.

Population of concern

A total of **364,723** people of concern as of 31 December 2016 since the influx began in April 2015



¹ | Nyarugusu: 69,509 | Nduta: 85,045 | Mtendeli: 50,736 | Transit Center: 674

² | Mahama: 52,714 | Urban (Kigali + Huye): 30,611 | Reception Centers: 739

³ | Lusenda: 24,920 | Out of camp/RCs: 7,730

* | Based on Government figures (partially or entirely) | ** Since 1 January 2015

UPDATE ON THE SITUATION

For more information on the Burundi situation response in specific country operations, kindly refer to the Burundi refugee portal: <http://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/burundi>.

BURUNDI

Latest developments

- Continued mediation with all parties concerned is vital in finding a peaceful solution to the crisis that started in April 2015. Burundian opposition has now called on the Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni to appoint a new facilitator in mediation efforts to end the country's political crisis, stating former Tanzanian President Mkapa was not fully impartial. It is expected that peace talks will continue early 2017, but no date has been set.
- The provinces of Rumonge, Makamba, Kirundo and Bujumbura Mairie have been identified for priority humanitarian interventions, due to reported protection incidents and security challenges, a significant presence of IDPs and returnees, and the proximity with the border.
- The oldest human rights organisation in the country, Ligue Iteka, has been banned by Burundi's Ministry of Interior. This move follows the banning of five other human rights organisations in October.
- Emmanuel Niyonkuru, the Minister for Water, Environment and Planning, was killed on New Year's Eve upon returning to his home in the Rohero section of Bujumbura. Investigations are ongoing to identify the killer.

Achievements and Impact

- A spontaneous returnee verification exercise in Rumonge was carried out by local authorities, to which UNHCR provided technical and logistical support. Some 12,198 individuals were verified who claimed to have fled to neighboring countries without being formally registered (and returned), as well as 858 individuals who alleged to have been registered as refugees pending verification in asylum countries, mainly in Tanzania and the DRC.
- Through CERF funding UNHCR and partners continue to providing basic relief items such as jerry cans, buckets, mats, blankets, kitchen sets, mosquito nets and bars of soap. In addition 1,430 individuals were assisted with shelter kits, in Makamba and Rumonge provinces.

Countries of Asylum

TANZANIA

Latest Developments

- The number of **new arrivals continues to fluctuate between 300 and 600 individuals per day**. The lack of land and overcrowding of camps continues to be a very serious issue and is putting pressure on service delivery.
- Nduta Camp is reaching its full capacity in the next weeks**, as it cannot host more than 100,000 refugees, based on the geographical limitations, having limited water sources. While daily advocacy continues with Tanzanian authorities, UNHCR will have to look at interim solutions to ensure newly arrived refugees receive assistance.
- Nyarugusu's population has increased to 131,314 individuals and needs to be decongested through the continuation of the relocation exercise, which was suspended in July 2016 to prioritize the accommodation of new arrivals. Therefore the new camp space that has been requested by UNHCR should be used to host both new arrivals, as well as refugees in Nyarugusu in order to decongest the camp.

Achievements and Impact

- Protection:** During the reporting period, a two-day workshop was provided to members of the new police contingents in Nduta and Mtendeli. The training covered the code of conduct, international protection of refugees, community service and Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) work in the refugee camps.
- An inter-camp adult **family reunification** was successfully carried out with about 141 individuals successfully relocated to Nduta from Mtendeli. Preparations for the additional adult family reunification exercise are currently ongoing.
- Health:** Emergency stocks of medical supplies and equipment were procured and distributed to Nyarugusu and Mtendeli Camps to fill the low stock levels observed as a result of the growing number of refugees. Meanwhile,

Médecins Sans Frontières Switzerland (MSF-CH) opened an additional health post in Nduta Camp on 21 December 2016 to cater for the increasing refugee population in the camp.

- **Nutrition:** The Vitamin A and Deworming Campaign, which was combined with a Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) Campaign were conducted across all camps from 2 to 4 December 2016. The total number of children reached in the campaigns stands at 94 percent in Nyarugusu, 88 percent in Nduta and 91 percent in Mtendeli. The MUAC screening exercises identified that the Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rates in Nyarugusu, Nduta and Mtendeli stand at 1.3 percent, 2.4 percent and 5.9 percent respectively.
- **WASH:** The water provision in Mtendeli was recorded at an average of 15 liters per person per day during the reporting period, which is below the UNHCR standard of 20 liters per person, per day. The challenges with water provision were caused by a significant decrease in the quantity of water from the aquifer. UNHCR has engaged WASH consultants on the matter and their feedback will be communicated to the Tanganyika Christian Refugee Services (TCRS), as the WASH partner in the camp. Meanwhile, the water distribution rate in Nduta Camp stands at 22.6 liters per person per day and 21.8 liters per person per day in Nyarugusu.
- **Shelter:** Out of the 11,069 transitional shelters anticipated to be completed by March 2017, some **5,852 shelters have been completed** and 1,730 shelters are at various stages of construction across all camps in Kigoma region.
- **Energy:** 3,000 households in Nyarugusu have received Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) as an **alternative to using firewood** as cooking fuel in the third week of December.

RWANDA

Latest Developments

- Access to sufficient firewood continues to be a great challenge for households, especially for vulnerable individuals, as the distributed cooking fuel covers only a half a month of firewood requirements.
- **Some 11,128 shelters have been constructed** this reporting period. One of the major challenges in the construction has been the damage caused by the rainy season, causing minor delays. Lack of space is an issue preventing UNHCR and partners to continue construction. UNHCR is working with partners and authorities to address this issue.

Achievements and Impact

- Rwanda hosts 1,550 (576 girls and 974 boys) registered **unaccompanied and separated Burundian children** (UASCs). Out of the UASCs identified and reunified with their families by UNHCR and implementing partners, 171 children were reached through home visits.
- Due to the newly constructed water plant in Mahama, the average daily clean water supplied to beneficiaries was 1072m³/day giving an average of 20.5 liters per person per day.
- UNHCR in partnership with its partners the American Refugee Council and Save the Children, provided primary level medical care to 1,156 refugees in Mahama during the reporting period. The three most common illnesses are malaria, respiratory infections and diarrhea.
- Innovation in WASH: Mahama Camp in Rwanda is moving towards universal coverage of highly water efficient family latrines using 'satopan and septic tank' flush latrines, which use only 0.5 liter of water per flush.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Latest Developments

- Military operations took place against foreign and local armed groups, namely FNL (Forces Nationales de Libération) in Ruzizi Plain (Uvira territory) and Mai-Mai Yakutumba in Fizi territory.
- Between 3-5 December, small groups of Congolese nationals fled Ruzizi Plain to seek asylum in neighboring Burundi after clashes between Mai-Mai militia and the FARDC.
- In 2016, UNHCR in DRC received contributions for Burundian refugees at 40% of budgeted needs. US\$ 3.5 million was received from four donors: Japan, the United Kingdom (DFID), the United States of America, and the UN Foundation.

Achievements and Impact

- A total of 1,435 refugees were transferred to Lusenda Camp from transit centers. **The camp will reach its maximum capacity in January 2017** and despite efforts by the authorities, a new site to accommodate refugees still needs to be identified. As of 31 December, 420 asylum seekers were waiting to be registered in transit centers.

- **Mobile court hearings** were organized in Lusenda from 28 November to 2 December to pursue incidents of sexual and gender-based violence in the camp. Three Burundian refugees were sentenced to 7 years of prison for rape of minors, while 3 others who had escaped from prison the day before the trial were sentenced in absentia to 10 years of imprisonment. The hearings were followed by a large public of refugees with a positive impact on the awareness of the consequences of such acts.
- The campaign “**16 Days of activism against SGBV**” was closed on 10 December in Lusenda Camp with sensitization activities targeting pupils from schools surrounding the camp.
- On 1 December, **World AIDS Day** was celebrated in Lusenda with sensitization sessions, condom distribution and voluntary testing. Some 200 people affected by HIV live in Lusenda and are under ARV treatment.
- Some 985 shelters, 1,197 latrine blocs and 697 shower blocks were completed, as part of the extension of Lusenda.
- WFP **food distribution** took place without incidents. The vouchers worth 15 USD were distributed to 22,514 individuals, allowing them to purchase their monthly food ration.
- Over the reporting period, 1,197 new latrine blocks and 697 new shower blocks were completed. UNHCR’s implementing partner AIRD is coordinating the construction of 1,255 shelters in Lusenda’s extension, Katungulu III. 985 shelters have been completed. The new site can accommodate up to 5,000 individuals.
- A training on the production of briquettes has been organized in Lusenda Camp (small bricks composed of recycled material used as fuel). These briquettes are meant to replace firewood in the mid-term in the camp, in order to **reduce the ecological impact of the refugee presence**. Some 100 participants (50 Burundians and 50 Congolese) completed the training.

UGANDA

Latest Developments

- A general decrease in school attendance was observed, which can be attributed to the fact that students finished their year and started the Holidays, but also due to long walking distances and the lack of food.
- The Burundi response in Uganda was 19% covered by the end of 2016. US\$2.8 million was received, mostly from the US and the European Union.
- A physical headcount of new arrival residents at Kabazana Reception Centre was conducted on 21 December. The total population of the reception center was 550 (276 female and 274 male) residents, including 353 Burundians (173 female and 180 male), compared to 568 residents (263 female and 305 male) recorded in the previous month. The population at the reception center slightly decreased due to a relocation conducted by the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM). OPM settled 156 Burundian new arrivals in Kyeibale B village, Rubondo zone.

Achievements and Impact

- **Child Protection:** Five Best Interest Assessments were conducted for children at risk in Nakivale. Services including psychosocial support, foster care arrangements and referral and accompaniment for registration were provided according to needs.
- **Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs):** In Nakivale, 31 tricycles were distributed to 31 (25 male, six female) persons with disabilities, for them to increase their mobility around the settlement.
- Some 758 (400 female, 358 male) community members took part in the celebration of ‘16 Days of Activism,’ against sexual and gender-based violence. The participants included representatives from Isingiro District Local Government, OPM, humanitarian agencies, refugee leadership and community members. The key speakers shared messages of non-violence in the community and enabling children, particularly girls, to access education.
- In Nakivale, **361 children were immunized**; 116 against polio, 98 against diphtheria and pneumonia, 47 against measles, 79 against tetanus, and 21 against tuberculosis. 167 children aged between six months and fifteen years were dewormed and 198 received Vitamin A supplements.
- A total of **1,491 Burundian children were screened for malnutrition** in Nakivale. Eight of these children were found to be moderately malnourished and three severely malnourished. The moderately malnourished children were placed on a supplementary feeding program and the severely malnourished children were enrolled in outpatient therapeutic care.

CRITICAL NEEDS & GAPS

BURUNDI

PROTECTION: Provision of basic assistance to IDPs and returnees needs to be continued funded by CERF, while border monitoring will continue to be required to monitor cross-border movements between Burundi and neighboring countries.

TANZANIA

SHELTER: The expansion of Nduta's capacity continues to be a priority, to ensure incoming refugees can be provided with shelter, while decongesting the camp and improving the delivery of basic services. Out of the 11,069 transitional shelters anticipated to be completed by March 2017, some 5,852 shelters have been completed. As Nduta's capacity will be reached soon, it is vital to have new available land to build a new camp site.

EDUCATION: UNHCR and partners are trying to keep up the development of schools (and latrines) for refugee children, while there is also a significant shortage of teachers and scholastic materials.

RWANDA

SHELTER: Lack of space to construct more shelters within the camp, since all the planned for shelters cannot fit in the space availed for construction. As the planning figure for Burundians in Rwanda in 2017 stands at 115,000 more, space needs to become available to host incoming refugees.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

SHELTER: Identify and arrange a new site to accommodate the influx of Burundian refugees.

PROTECTION: Promote and implement peaceful coexistence activities between refugee and hosting communities.

UGANDA

EDUCATION: Increase attendance at Early Childhood Development centers and secondary schools.

LIVELIHOODS: Livelihood training and activities to empower refugee communities for self-reliance.

2017 Regional Refugee Response Plan planning figures for the Burundi situation:

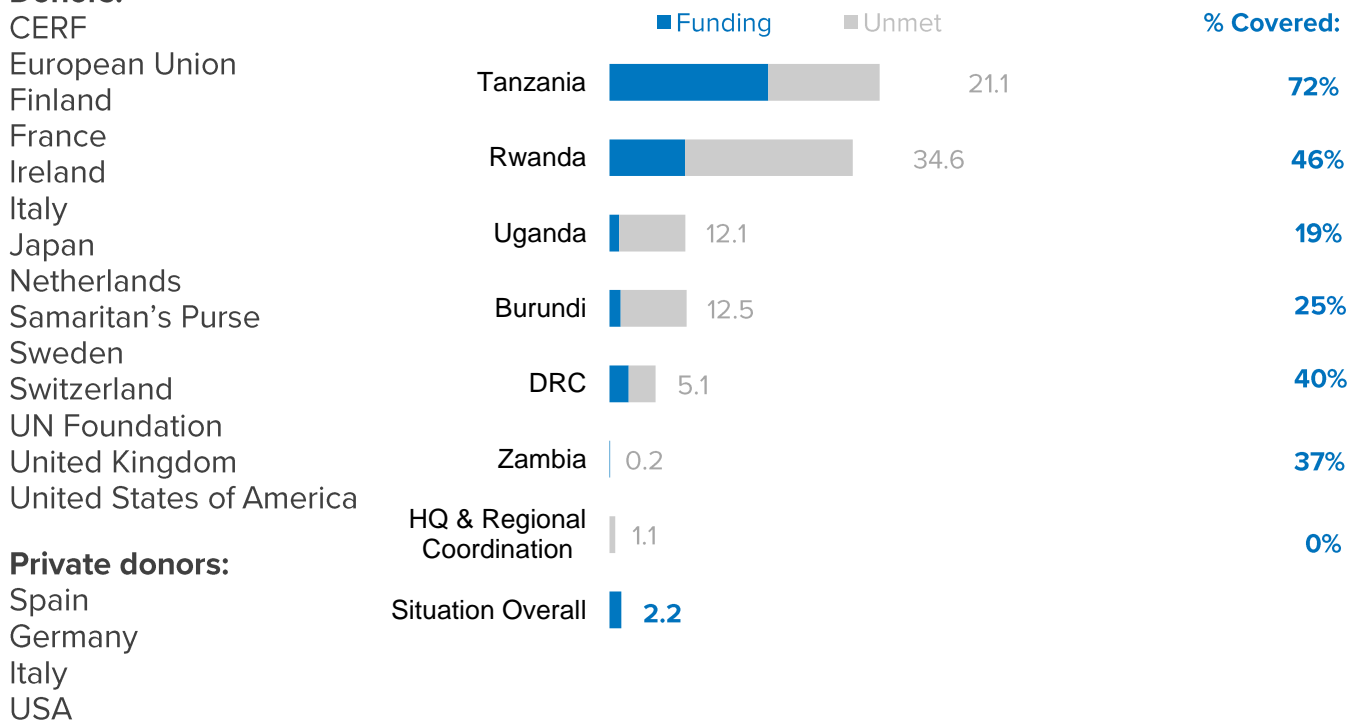
	31 December 2017
Democratic Republic of the Congo	50,000
Rwanda	115,000
Tanzania	319,000
Uganda	50,000
Total Population	534,000

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

On 22 December 2015, UNHCR released a Supplementary Budget Appeal for the Burundi Situation, which includes needs for Burundi, the DRC, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia from January to December 2016. UNHCR's total financial requirements for the Burundi Situation currently amounts to USD **180.6 million**. This includes USD 154 million for the response in the DRC, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda from January to December 2016, as presented in the Regional Refugee Response Plan launched on 15 December. 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 53%.**

A total **USD 96 million** has been funded:

Donors:



Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2016

United States of America (200 M) | Sweden (95 M) | Priv. Donors Spain (50 M) | Netherlands (46 M) | United Kingdom (45 M) | Norway (40 M) | Japan (24 M) | Denmark (24 M) | Priv Donors Republic of Korea (21 M) | Priv Donors Italy (20 M) | Priv. Donors Japan (16 M) | Canada (16 M) | Australia (15 M) | Switzerland (15 M) | France (14 M) | Priv Donors USA (14 M) | Priv Donors Sweden (14 M) | Germany (13 M) | Italy (10 M)

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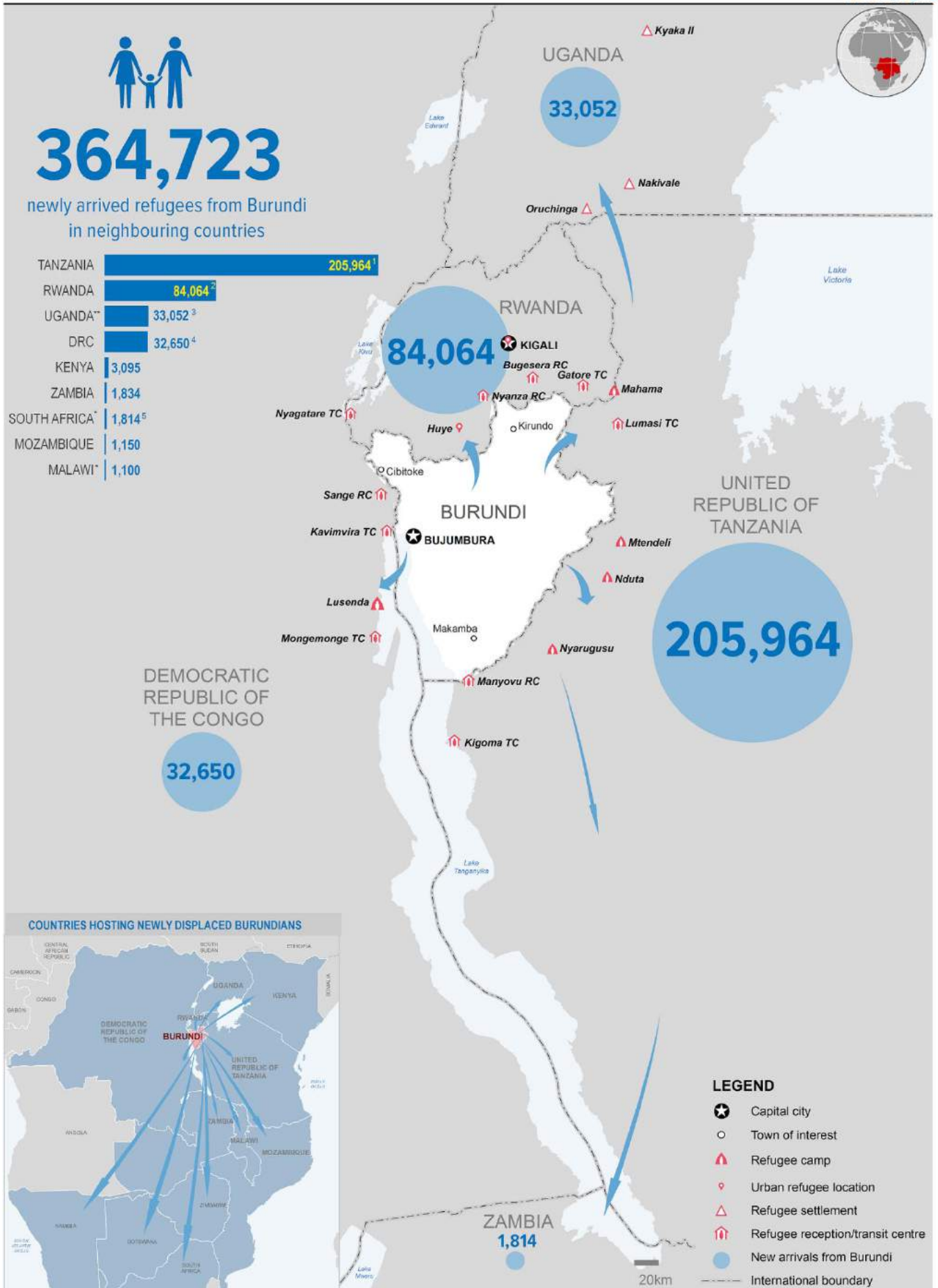
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Burundi Situation

Displacement of Burundians into neighbouring countries since April 2015

as of 31 December 2016



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
Sources: UNHCR, UNCS Author: UNHCR Regional Service Centre Nairobi Feedback: kensrgis@unhcr.org