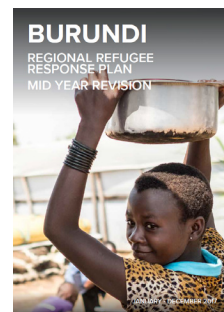


BURUNDI - Regional RRP 2017 End of Year Report

December 2017



2017 PLANNED RESPONSE

425,780

BURUNDIAN REFUGEES
(DEC 2017)

US\$ 249.3M

REQUIREMENTS IN 2017

21%

FUNDING RECEIVED
(DEC 2017)

30

RRRP PARTNERS
INVOLVED

REGIONAL SITUATION OVERVIEW

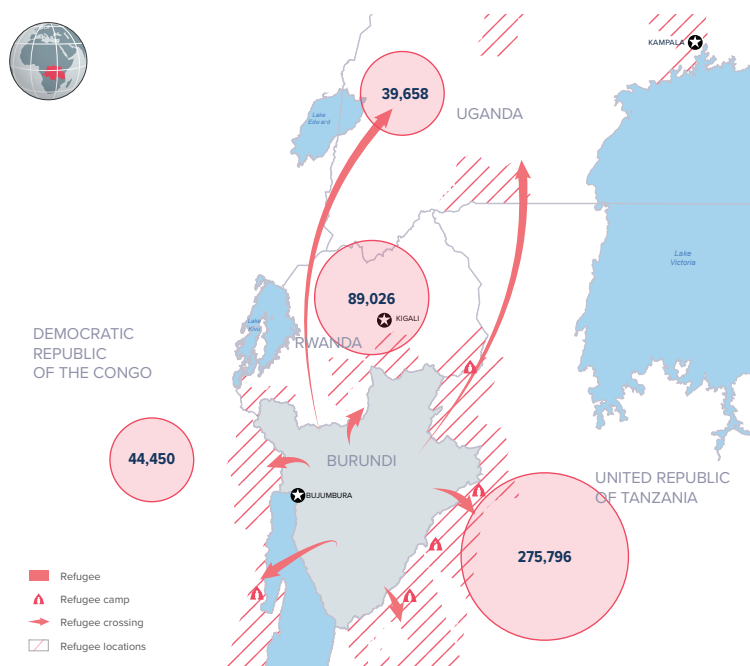
While insecurity and violence in Burundi were at a lower scale in 2017 than the previous year, political tensions and human rights violations continued to cause outflows of refugees, even as others chose to return. Some 61,000 asylum seekers left Burundi in 2017. Tanzania, Uganda, and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) all stopped granting refugee status to Burundians on a prima facie basis during 2017, while Rwanda continues to do so. Receiving countries have struggled throughout the year to meet the basic needs of refugees due to severe underfunding of the crisis.

Tanzania is supporting the largest number of Burundian refugees with 40,238 arrivals in 2017, most of whom arrived in the first few months of the year. Rwanda received a total of 7,683 Burundian refugees, with arrival rates remaining relatively stable throughout the year. The DRC registered 8,575 new refugees from Burundi in 2017. And arrivals to Uganda amounted to 5,312, decreasing from over 700 in January to less than 100 in December 2017. A total of 13,104 refugees were assisted to return from Tanzania to Burundi between 7 September and 31 December 2017 as per the agreement resulting from the Tripartite Commission meeting on 31 August 2017. UNHCR is not promoting refugee return to Burundi, but is assisting those who indicate they have made a voluntary choice to repatriate.

Protection: Progress on protection activities by RRP partners was noted throughout the region. This included achievements such as: providing 100% of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) survivors with support in Uganda; training government officials and implementing partners on refugee and migrant protection in Rwanda; biometric registration of 100% of refugees in DRC; and reuniting 750 children with their families through inter-camp and intra-camp tracing programs in Tanzania. Alongside the progress, many gaps still remain. These include, but are not limited to: scaling up support for SGBV survivors in the DRC, and improving access to individual case management services for children with specific needs in Uganda.

Education: Across the region, there has been success in achieving high enrollment rates to primary schools, but difficulties persist in terms of attendance. In the DRC, despite an 85% enrollment rate, actual attendance is believed to be much lower. Similarly in Uganda, while there is an enrollment rate of 65% in primary schools, only 45% have been recorded as attending. Distance from learning facilities and parental attitudes towards education are two key factors affecting attendance. A positive approach in addressing this was taken in Rwanda whereby RRP partners participated in parents and teachers association meetings to improve school attendance and quality of education. The ratio of students to teachers is another challenge being faced in all countries of asylum (up to 100:1 in some classrooms), exacerbated by a shortage of classrooms and qualified teachers. More funding is needed for countries to make adequate investments in education for Burundian refugees.

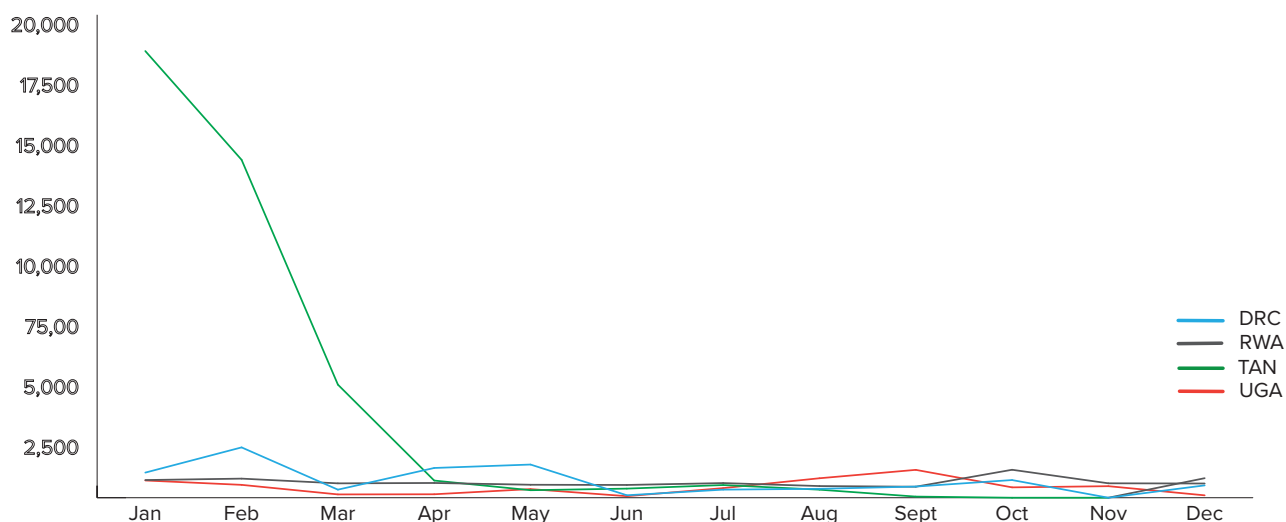
Food Security: RRP partners managed to maintain food assistance throughout the year to Burundian refugees in the region, including special assistance to vulnerable groups in all countries. Achievements included the increased dietary diversity score in Uganda from 3.7 in 2016, to 3.8 in 2017 and the provision of monthly in-kind food distribution to



56,206 refugees in Mahama camp, Rwanda. However, due to funding shortfalls, food rations were not always at 100% and in Tanzania food ration reductions ranged between approximately 10% and 40% throughout the year, arguably a factor in some refugees' decisions to return to Burundi.

Health and Nutrition: Improvements in health facilities in 2017 included the expansion of facilities in Tanzania increasing health service provision capacity, and in Rwanda, the upgrade of facilities from emergency to semi-permanent structures. Common challenges in the health and nutrition sector persist regionally, including a lack of trained health care staff. Tanzania has reported that staffing levels at health care facilities are inadequate to sustain the provision of quality healthcare services and the DRC has noted the absence of psychiatric staff to treat refugees, and a lack of training for health care staff working in maternal care.

2017 MONTHLY ARRIVAL TRENDS



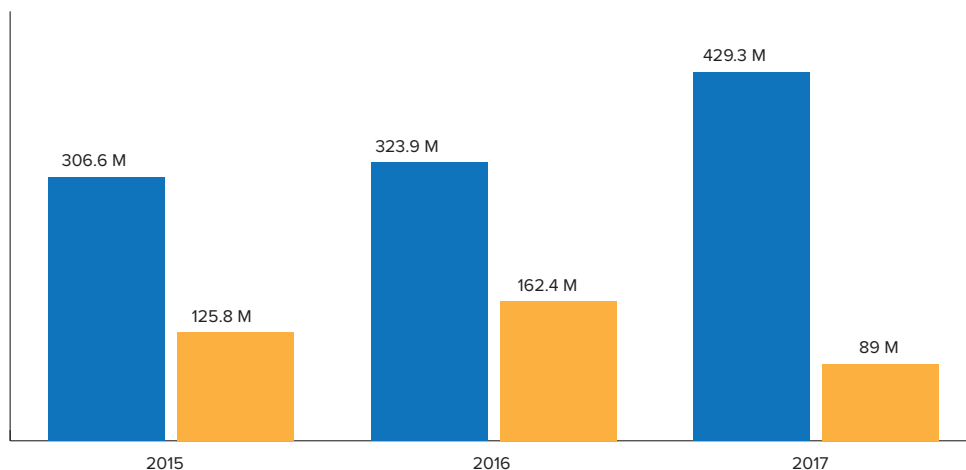
Livelihoods and Environment: With the RRP's emphasis on promoting economic self-reliance and reducing dependence on aid, Burundian refugees received livelihood support that included over 37,000 people benefiting from livelihood programs in Tanzania, and over 3,000 refugees receiving support to start businesses in Uganda. A common issue in the region is dependence on limited natural resources, sometimes leading to conflict with surrounding communities and related protection concerns. In the DRC, an initiative to support income generating activities in Lusenda camp included the production of briquettes for cooking, reducing dependence on firewood. Similar initiatives are needed and would ideally be scaled up around the region, environmental protection being a high priority of all host governments.

Shelter and NFIs: Across the region shelter facilities were established to accommodate new arrivals. Key achievements included 84% of Burundian refugees in Rwanda with semi-permanent shelter in 2017, and 100% distribution of NFI kits to new refugee households in Uganda. Alongside this success there is room for improvement, especially in Tanzania where 65% of the refugee population continued to live emergency shelters without access to semi-permanent shelter, and in Uganda where only 4% of refugees with specific needs were provided with semi-permanent shelter.

WASH: Significant progress was made regionally in the WASH sector. In Uganda, there was a move from emergency water systems to more sustainable models, with 97% of the population now supplied with water at an average rate of 17.5 liters per person per day. In Tanzania, improved access to potable water was achieved for over 115,000 Burundian refugees in Nduta camp, who are now receiving an average of 20.5 lit/person/day. A new water treatment plant was set up in Rwanda with the capacity to support 60,000 refugees and the host community around Mahama camp. However, more support is needed to improve maintenance of water supply. In Uganda for example, despite the achievement of drilling 8 new boreholes in 2017, only 6 of the 27 boreholes drilled in 2016 remain functional.

Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF): RRP partners and government counterparts applied the CRRF approach throughout the region by seeking to anchor the multi-sector assistance and protection response in government systems, policies, and plans, delivering integrated services for refugees and host communities wherever possible. In Rwanda, some 19,000 Burundian refugee children are enrolled in the national school system alongside host community children. In the DRC, the new Mulongwe site was purposefully developed with the refugees and host community benefiting from the same health, education, and other social services. In Uganda, in an effort to integrate humanitarian health services into the national health system, improvements were made to semi-permanent and permanent health structures which were part of the local government development plans. In Tanzania, in an initiative supported by UNICEF, government social workers have been deployed to refugee camps as part of child protection and SGBV response. Greater investments are needed to strengthen government systems to better serve refugees and host communities alike, and to increase opportunities for refugee self-reliance.

RRRP FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS AND FUNDS RECEIVED FROM 2015 TO 2017



REGIONAL COORDINATION

In June 2017 the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees appointed Ms. Catherine Wiesner as the Regional Refugee Coordinator (RRC) and Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) Champion for the Burundi Situation, with a mandate to work with UNHCR Representatives in Burundi, Tanzania, Rwanda, Uganda, and the DRC to ensure an overarching vision and coherent inter-agency engagement across the region in pursuit of protection and solutions for Burundian refugees. In so doing the RRC works at the regional level to facilitate strategic, planning, and operational synergies and collaboration with Governmental, UN system, Non-Governmental Organizations, donors, civil society partners, private sector, and other stakeholders.

Following her appointment, the RRC led the updating and presentation to donors of the 2017 Burundi RRP – which brought together 30 partners across 4 main countries of asylum – to reflect changes in the protection environment and operational context, including the decision to initiate assistance to voluntary returns to Burundi. The RRC introduced measures to improve reporting, including the development of common regional reporting indicators, more accurate financial tracking, and better articulation of achievements and gaps in the multi-agency response.

The RRC worked with inter-agency partners to increase visibility and understanding among UNHCR member states and other donors about the Burundi situation through a variety of regional meetings, telephone briefings and other engagements seeking their financial and diplomatic support. An enhanced communications strategy was developed, including the circulation of key messages, background briefings, infographics, and expanded social media content.

Dual-hatted to champion the CRRF in the region, the RRC worked to integrate the CRRF approach into the RRP and to strengthen collaboration with a wide range of stakeholders, particularly development actors. She also undertook diplomatic outreach to encourage host Governments to apply the inclusion and solutions-oriented principles of the CRRF and worked toward its regional application, including with regional institutions.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Burundi Data Portal - <https://data.unhcr.org/burundi>

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REGIONAL RRP PARTNERS

- ADRA - Adventist Organization
- IRC - International Fund
- Development and Relief Agency
- FCA - Finn Church Rescue Committee
- UNHCR - United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- Aid
- LAF Legal Aid Forum
- AEC African Entrepreneurship Collective
- GHDF Global Humanitarian and Development Foundation
- NRC - Norwegian Refugee Council
- UNICEF - United Nations Children's Fund
- OXFAM
- PI - Plan International
- AHA African Humanitarian Agency
- GNT Good Neighbours
- SCI - Save the Children International
- WFP - World Food Programme
- AIRD African Initiatives for Relief & Development
- HAI - Help Age International
- TCRS Tanganyika Christian Refugee Service
- WHO - World Health Organisation
- HI Handicap International
- WMU - Water Mission
- DRC - Danish Refugee Council
- IA Indego Africa
- Tutapona Uganda
- UN WOMEN
- WVI - World Vision
- IOM - International Organisation for Migration
- UNFPA - United Nations Population