As of December 2017, Rwanda hosted 89,026 Burundian refugees. Of this, 56,206 refugees are living in the country’s largest refugee camp, Mahama, and in four transit/reception sites. The remaining refugees are living in urban areas, mainly in Kigali and Huye. Burundian asylum seekers are recognised on a *prima facie* basis. Two reception canters (Bugesera and Gatore) receive all new arrivals for protection screening and registration before relocation to Mahama camp. At the end of the year, the number of Burundian asylum seekers waiting for relocation were as follows: Bugesera Reception Centre 711, Gatore Reception Centre 182, and Nyanza Reception Centre 27.

Burundian refugees continued to flee daily into Rwanda, with an average of 150 persons weekly. This creates new, additional challenges and necessities immediate intervention to ensure adequate levels of protection and basic assistance are provided. Currently, UNHCR does not foresee a possibility for a safe and dignified repatriation of refugees to Burundi in the near future. Intention surveys have been conducted among Burundian refugees in Mahama and 100 percent of respondents indicate that they do not feel safe to return to Burundi in light of the current security situation.

With generous contributions from the international community, RRP partners were able to cover urgent, life-saving needs and tackle emergency challenges faced by newly-arrived Burundian refugees. However, now that the Burundian refugee population has been in Rwanda for almost three years and continues to grow, emergency facilities established in 2015 are deteriorating and need rehabilitation.

UNHCR and MIDIMAR co-lead coordination for the refugee response, which includes the UN Agencies, humanitarian and development partners, as well as private sector actors, and donor communities. RRP partners are working closely with a range of development partners and government actors to achieve more integration of refugees into national systems, programmes and planning - in line with the Sustainable Development Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) which pledge to ‘leave no one behind’, including refugees. Rwanda adopted in 2016 the New York Declaration on Refugees and Migrants and further committed at the 2016 Leaders’ Summit on Refugees that refugees would be included in its development vision.

RRP partners will continue to assist refugees fleeing from the Burundi, providing access to registration, documentation and life-saving support in multi sectoral areas.
All refugees in Mahama camp were registered at level II and provided with Proof of Registration (POR) documents. It is planned to provide Refugee ID cards to all refugees aged 16 and above after the completion of the verification exercise in 2018. At the end of 2017, the population in Mahama camp was 56,206, all of whom were individually registered with the minimum data set that is required for protection and assistance purposes.

The profile of the refugee population in Mahama shows that there are more men (particularly youth) than women. This is likely to increase the protection risks which may include, petty crime, organised crime and an increase in Sexual Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) incidents. Half of the population of the camp is composed of children. The majority is from Kirondo province (66 percent). 88 percent are from rural areas, and the majority are farmers. Refugees are requesting land for cultivation in order to become self-sufficient but unfortunately, access to land is a challenge. Refugees have the right to work which is promoted by the government's recent adoption of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF), however there are less job opportunities for the refugees who have to compete with the nationals. More funds are needed to build refugee capacity and also to provide them with vocational training in order to create income generating activities.

At the refugee executive committees, quarters, village and sectorial levels, women are represented at 30 percent. There are 206 children committees, groups and other structures in the camps that are supporting child protection prevention and response activities. 20 community volunteers were trained on youth resilience to facilitate the implementation of youth resilience workshops in young adolescent in Mahama camp. During this period 10,117 adolescent and youth participated in targeted programs like resilience workshops and other structured psychosocial activities. 100 parents and caregivers participated in positive discipline training on everyday parenting.

Safe and survivor centred SGBV procedures and coordination mechanisms are functional in the camp. Community awareness raising campaigns were organised and reached 38,667 (21257 females and 17410 males). During these sessions, 39 community based groups supported in the delivery of messages via songs; sports; testimony and dances).

Key Achievements
- 6,541 individuals were registered in 2017 (Male: 3,611, Female: 2,930) and 692 persons of concern were reactivated (Male: 528, Female: 164).
- 2,663 (100 percent) of new born children were registered in the official civil status register/system, including 107 who were registered through the "late registration procedure". Birth certificates were registered to them.
- 75 government officials and implementing partners were trained on refugee and migrant protection.
- Group sessions took place in Mahama with the aim of sensitizing community members on mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) and their role in supporting vulnerable groups and individuals mainly, single women, widows, and survivors of SGBV. The total number of participants amounted to 33,360.

Remaining Gaps
- Lack of community centers for psychosocial activities for refugees groups.
- Lack of space for interviews for protection cases.
- Limited access to land for refugees for agriculture and income generating activities.
- Insufficient number of social workers for monitoring, assistance and response to child protection needs; 1219 unaccompanied and separated children need assistance and monitoring.
- Insufficient number of social workers for monitoring, assistance and response to GBV victim's needs.
- Insufficient number of legal assistant to monitor the detention centers, and provide legal assistance to all the detainees and the protection cases in the camp;
- Insufficient funds for protection training for government officials, partners and refugees.
In 2017, 12,492 Burundian refugee children (6,430 boys and 6,062 girls) were enrolled in primary education. 3,796 refugee children, (2,299 boys and 1,497 girls) were enrolled in secondary education. 3,312 national students were provided with scholastic materials, shoes, and school feeding programmes. 589 refugee learners attended and graduated from an orientation program to be integrated into the national program for 2018 academic year. 373 university students (12 DAFI students, 7 Kepler students and 354 Maison Shalom) were supported to attend different universities in Rwanda. Maison Shalom also supported 10 students with scholarships to study in France.

RRP partners provided 16 sessions of training on the curriculum, child protection, psychosocial support, positive discipline in teaching, inclusion and the importance of Early Childhood Development (ECD). They also conducted different campaigns and outreach programmes to ensure that children are in school. Health insurance coverage remain as a challenge for students studying away from camps. 2,220 graduated from alternative education activities which include; 362 learning English as a Second language; 1,367 in literacy and numeracy training, 430 in a Catch up program, and 116 in Youth Resilience. 44 Burundian teachers were granted access to teacher training colleges (TTCs) located in Zaza and Matimba to upgrade their qualifications. 48 private candidates managed to sit for the secondary national examination.

**Key Achievements**

- 4,499 (63 percent) ECD aged children (3-6 years) were enrolled in ECD and provided with scholastic materials and school feeding.
- 12,492 children were enrolled in primary education and 3,796 children in secondary education. This also included over-age students. A total of 7,294 (86 percent) primary school aged children (7 – 12 years) are enrolled in primary school. In addition, 1,377 (19 percent) secondary school aged children (13-18 years) are enrolled in secondary school.

**Remaining Gaps**

- Insufficient classroom capacity (72 for ECD, 30 for both primary and secondary level)
- Insufficient number of teachers.
- Insufficient qualified teachers.
- Insufficient scholastic materials and uniforms.
- Lack of laboratories, libraries, and ICT labs.
- Lack of recreational facilities.

**Food**

Due to a lack of funding, food rations were cut by 10% in November 2017, with a further 25% cut anticipated in 2018.
56,206 refugees in Mahama camp received monthly in-kind food distribution. Also, some 4,551 newly arriving refugees were served with wet meals twice a day while in reception centres pending their relocation. The commodities included; rice, bean, oil and salt. Corn Soya Blend (CSB) was also included in the food basket. Distribution was well structured and maintained. A Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) was conducted in July and August to assess the food security situation and provided recommendations for necessary improvements. RRP partners strategised to distribute food rations in reduced percentages to make it last longer in anticipation funding shortfalls.

Key Achievements
- JAM was conducted in July and August to assess food security situation and provided recommendations for improvements.
- Improved coordination of food distribution between RRP partners and refugee committees has increased attendance at general food distributions to 98 percent.

Remaining Gaps
- Lack of resources to continue provision of the full ration. A 10 percent food ration cut started from the month of November and further reductions to 25 percent was planned to take place from January 2018. Food insecurity is severe for vulnerable groups of the population.
- Insufficient income generating activities to support the food distribution.
- Lack of micronutrients supplements.

% of refugees receiving monthly food assistance

100%

Mahama camp has two modern health centers that serve a population of 56,738 providing free primary health care services. Refugees in the camp have access to out-patient facilities, immunisations, HIV and reproductive healthcare, mental healthcare and referral services. Diseases like upper and lower respiratory tract infections, malaria, watery diarrhea and intestinal parasites are the main cause of morbidities in Mahama. To control the burden of malaria, the camp was sprayed in November 2017 in collaboration with Ministry of Health, Kirehe district and the Global Humanitarian Development Fund (GHDF) resulting in drastic decline in malaria incidence and mortality. The crude and under five mortality rates are 0.4 and 0.6 per 1000 per month respectively, in line with Sphere standard emergency indicators. The Global Acute Prevalence (GAM) in Mahama has decreased steadily since 2015. The last assessment in 2017 showed a GAM rate of 4.5, though stunting prevalence (42.5) still remains a challenge. Anaemia prevalence remains above WHO critical threshold (40 percent).

Key Achievements
- 100 percent of refugees have access to primary health care in two camp clinics.
- Typhoid fever cases dropped sharply with improved shelter infrastructure and community education.
- 100 percent of refugees have access to secondary and tertiary referrals.
- Trained refugee community health workers (CHWs) sensitise and mobilise refugees to increase health service utilisation.
- Successful HIV, malaria and tuberculosis prevention and treatment programme with the

Remaining Gaps
- Due to funding short-fall the food ration has been reduced by 10 percent from November 2017 and will then further reduced by 25 percent by March 2018, which will negatively impact on the nutritional status of the population.
- High stunting and anaemia rates among children under five years.
- Need for expansion and rehabilitation of health service delivery points due to increase of the population size.
- Need for standardized (updated) health education material.
support of the Global Fund and partnership with Rwanda Biomedical Centre.  
• Improvement of infrastructure of camp health facilities that transitioned from emergency to semi-permanent structures.  
• Lack of access to Hepatitis B and C screening, vaccination and treatment services.  
• Additional resources for HIV and malaria services as not part of national programs.  
• Limited budget for referrals for secondary and tertiary medical care.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of measles vaccination coverage</th>
<th>97%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% of camp-based refugees have access to primary health care</td>
<td>100%</td>
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Livelihoods

Several RRP partners implemented different income generating activities. These included 50 female refugees that formed the Akeza Karigura cooperative in Mahama camp and who were trained in professional weaving skills to participate in the global artisan economy. They produce high-quality baskets and they are facilitated by Indego to trade their -made in Rwanda- woven products at both local and international export markets in USA, which improves Rwanda’s balance of trade. The cooperative members make on average RWF 500,000 (equivalent to USD 593) per month from basket sales, of which they save 10 percent with the purpose of purchasing their own raw materials, grow their business and obtain their own workspace outside the camp, integrate within the local community and become fully self-reliant. 750 refugees were trained in vocational and entrepreneurship skills including tailoring, soap making and handcrafts, and received start-up kits to engage in different income generating. Refugee traders and cooperatives were linked to financial institutions whereby the Bank of Kigali and Umurenge Sacco came to Mahama camp twice a week to enable refugees to easily access financial services.

Key Achievements

• 399 refugees were trained on business plans and basic business management and provided with restricted unconditional business cash grants (200K each).  
• 100 refugees received start-up kits.  
• One tailoring Co-op (192 members) received kits  
• 48 Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs) formed and given tools by SCI.  
• 50 women trained in basket weaving and basic business knowledge, and provided with orders and the market for their products.  
• 25 youth graduated in Masonry at Kirehe Vocational Training.  
• 100 refugees trained on making soap and handcraft.  
• 1461 household were trained in gardening.

Remaining Gaps

• No budget to support livelihood activities.  
• Current livelihoods initiatives target refugees with potential to become successful entrepreneurs. Refugees with no or few skills and those that are too vulnerable to undertake a real job tend to be left behind. Plans are in place to undertake a graduation model programme specifically for the most vulnerable, but there are no funds available to do this at present.  
• Discrimination against foreign people in accessing jobs. Further policy advocacy is needed to ensure that employers are aware that refugees have relevant skills and can be legally employed.  
• Lack of identity documents prevent refugees moving freely to search for jobs.
The government through the Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA) approved the construction of 1,157 shelters in village 17-21 where 151 communal temporary hangars were initially constructed during the emergency. They also approved additional camp land extension giving Mahama Camp 160Ha of surface land area. With the additional land, RRP partners constructed 2,530 dual semi-permanent shelters and 24,351 persons were relocated to the new shelters. By the end of the year all of the new emergency shelters (151) have been replaced with semi-permanent shelter. This creates a total of 6,468 duplex semi-permanent shelters which accommodates a total of 47,273 persons with the remaining population to be accommodated in the remaining 332 shelters under construction. In other shelter activities, 820 shelters were repaired/maintained in both Mahama Camp and Bugesera.

Distribution took place, including soap, jerry cans, sanitary materials for women, sleeping mats, blankets, kitchen sets and cooking sets as per the distribution cycles in the different camps albeit in a targeted fashion for certain items that were in short supply.

Key Achievements
- In August 2017, an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Certificate was provided by Rwanda Development Board (RDB) to UNHCR for more shelters and latrines construction.
- 2,530 semi-permanent shelters were completed giving a total of 6,468 semi-permanent shelters hosting 84 percent of camp population.
- 1,433 m³ of eroded gully were restored through backfilling and stabilising the drainage paths. 3,402 meters of drainage channels were constructed at Paysannat satellite and L Schools to help the host community.
- 11 nutrition kitchens were rehabilitated and transformed from plastic sheets to iron sheet walling.
- 5km of new access road was constructed, existing drainage was maintained and maintenance was provided for existing access roads in the camp.

Remaining Gaps
- A gap of 593 semi-permanent shelters has been identified and there is no space for construction of more shelters. 1,717 semi-permanent shelters constructed with reeds and timber in 2015 need to be plastered for wall reinforcement.
- 3,500 m³ of gully erosions throughout the camp require immediate restoration. There is a need to ensure proper drainage channels in both the camp and host community to avoid further erosion from surface runoff.
- Some public infrastructures is housed in old plastic sheeting including two food distribution points, 45 ECD classrooms, five waiting areas, and offices and all require reconstruction using durable materials.
- There is a need for construction of 9 kilometres of masonry drainage channel within the camp.
- Blanket distribution of sleeping mats and blankets was not possible due to budget constraints.

WASH
- 20.9L of clean water per person per day in Mahama camp in 2017
- An average of 18 people per latrine
- 740 hand-washing facilities
- 90% of refugees in Mahama camp live within 200m of a water point

During the reporting period, operation and maintenance of permanent treatment water plant (PWTP) ensured 1,200 cubic metres of water per day to provide 56,738 people 20 litres per person per day according to the Sphere standard. An estimated 10,000 of the host population were also connected. To supply water in host community and in Paysannat L School; 1,200m of water pipeline, two reservoir tanks and six water points were constructed. The raw water tank
was reconstructed at PWTP. The water system was upgraded and a routine for reporting, surveys, and monitoring of pumping hours was established. Plans for monitoring of fuel and chemical consumption and maintenance of generators and pumps were also set up. Other activities included preventive maintenance of storage tanks, repairs on the distribution networks, replacement of damaged water taps. Ten water points with six water taps were constructed and the water pipeline of 4,425m was extended and upgraded in Mahama Camp. A team of local technicians formed and trained in 2016 have been provided with appropriate tools and given support to continue maintenance. Bacteriological tests are performed daily at water treatment plant, distribution points as well as at household levels.

150 dischargeable latrines (600 drop holes) were constructed at various villages within the camp thus making 18 persons per drop hole as per recognised standards. 120 hygiene workers assisted in daily sensitization on hygiene matters. The solid/waste management is conducted on weekly basis in order to improve the sanitation and hygiene conditions of the entire camp.

In Transit/Reception Centers, 300m of water line were constructed at Gatore RC and connected to national water supply system with a booster pump. The water supply to Nyanza Reception Center is through the utility pipelines while Bugesera Reception Centre has a dedicated temporary water treatment plant and distribution network within the centre.

**Key Achievements**

- The annual average clean water supplied to refugees in Mahama was 20.89 Litres/person/day, exceeding the standard of 20L/p/d. In addition, OXFAM supports the host communities and Paysannat L School with clean water on a daily basis.
- Total of 3,625 metres of water pipeline was upgraded in the camp and 2,000 m of water pipeline was extended to host community areas.
- 2 water tanks (50m3 capacity for each) were installed and 6 water points were constructed in host community areas.
- The cracked pre-sedimentation (raw water) tank at PWTP was redesigned and is currently in use.
- The minimum standard has been met by construction of 150 dischargeable latrines with 18 persons per drop hole.
- Gatore Reception Centre was connected to the national water supply system and a temporary water treatment plant was completed for Bugesera reception Centre.
- Water pipelines were constructed in Nyanza to enable connection to national water supply system.

**Remaining Gaps**

- Water storage capacity needs to be increased by the construction of one sediment tank and two steel elevated tanks. Also, 15 additional water points in Mahama camp are required.
- There is need for a hybrid system (manual or automated) to act as a backup in case of any unforeseen mechanical problem.
- There is need for construction of 55 additional dischargeable latrines (220 drop holes) within the camp communities and at market places on the boundaries of the camp villages.
- There is a lack of sufficient sanitation tools for use in Mahama Camp for promoting the ownership and only one dislodging truck in the camp is not sufficient to cover the whole camp.
- Old temporary latrine structures in plastic sheeting at Bugesera RC need to be transformed to durable facilities.
**RRP PARTNERS IN RWANDA IN 2017**

- ADRA Adventist Development and Relief Agency
- AEC African Entrepreneurship Collective
- AHA African Humanitarian Agency
- ARC American Refugee Committee
- GHDF Global Humanitarian and Development Foundation
- HI Handicap International
- IA Indego Africa
- IOM International Organization for Migration
- LAF Legal Aid Forum
- PLAN International
- SCI Save the Children International
- UN Women
- UNFPA United Nations Population Fund
- UNHCR United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- UNICEF United Nations Children's Agency
- WFP United Nations World Food Programme
- WHO World Health Organization

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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Burundi Situation Data Portal: data.unhcr.org/burundi
BURUNDI REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE PLAN
Rwanda: 2017 Key Response Figures
1 January - 31 December 2017

PROTECTION
10,000+
Burundian refugee adolescents & youth participated in structured psychosocial activities

206
child protection groups & committees operational by end of 2017

38,667
people reached with SGBV awareness campaigns

EDUCATION
12,492
Burundian refugee children enrolled in primary school

3,796
Burundian refugee children enrolled in secondary school

An additional 74 classrooms are needed:
60 for early childhood development
10 for primary school
4 for secondary school

FOOD
56,206
Burundian refugees in Mahama camp received monthly in-kind food assistance in 2017

Due to a lack of funding, food rations were cut by 10% in November 2017, with a further 25% cut anticipated in 2018

HEALTH AND NUTRITION
Indoor residual spraying in 2017 decreased malaria prevalence from 30% to 3%

Under-5 Mortality Rate: 0.6/1,000/month
Crude Mortality Rate: 0.4/1,000/month

Anaemia prevalence remains above the WHO critical threshold at 40%

LIVELIHOODS AND ENVIRONMENT
3,000+
kitchen gardens established in Mahama Camp

400 Burundian refugees trained on integrated nutrition & agriculture concepts

750 Burundian refugees trained in vocational & entrepreneurial skills

SHELTER AND NFIs
84%
of Burundian refugees in Rwanda had semi-permanent shelter in 2017

NFIs distributed in blanket and targeted distributions in 2017:
199,765kg soap
181,104 sanitary pads
39,651 jerry cans
12,208 sleeping mats
9,530 blankets
30,506 mosquito nets

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE
20.9L
of clean water per person per day in Mahama camp in 2017

An average of 18 people per latrine

740 hand-washing facilities

90% of refugees in Mahama camp live within 200m of a water point

For more information: Said Osman, Snr. Field Coordinator, osmans@unhcr.org