

BURUNDI - Regional RRP

2018 Mid Year Report

January - June 2018

2018 RESPONSE

394,778

BURUNDIAN REFUGEES

US\$ 391M

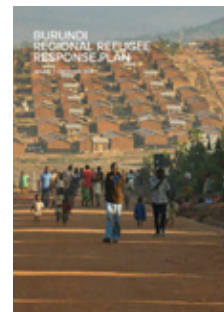
REQUIREMENTS IN 2018

12%*

FUNDING RECEIVED
(17 JULY 2018)

27

RRRP PARTNERS
INVOLVED



REGIONAL SITUATION OVERVIEW

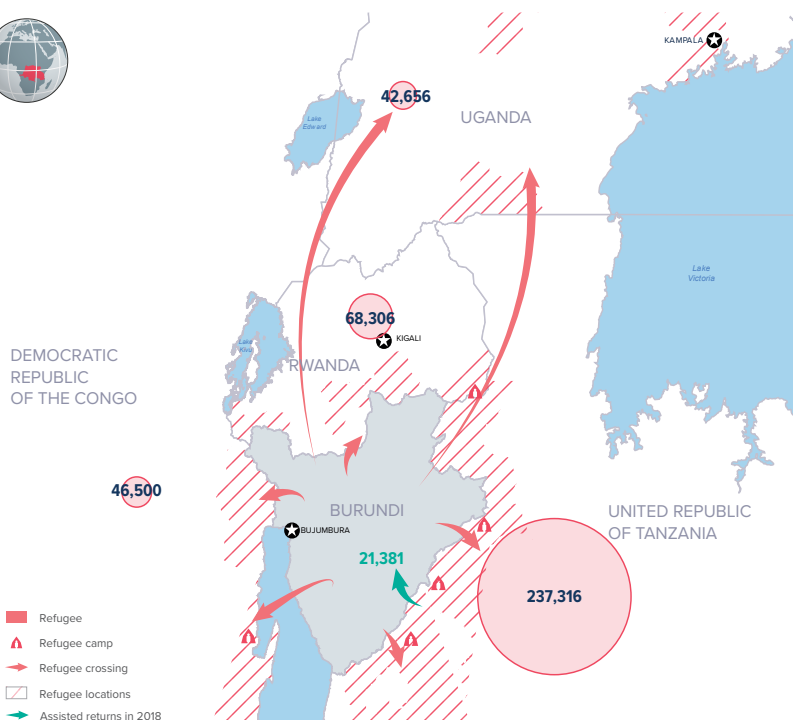
While the general security situation has improved in Burundi, political tensions and human rights concerns persist. In this context, refugee arrivals from Burundi have continued in 2018, albeit at lower levels than in previous years, with new arrivals citing persecution, violence, harassment and fear, as well as food insecurity and a desire for family reunification. At the same time, some refugees are choosing to return home, citing improved overall security, adverse conditions in countries of asylum, a desire to reoccupy their farmland, and family reunification.

As of 30 June there are 394,778 Burundian refugees in the four main refugee hosting countries (the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda). 5,922 new refugee arrivals were registered in the first half of the year, with some 358 people leaving to seek asylum in June compared with 1,114 in January. In 2018 Rwanda has received the most new arrivals (2,026) followed by Uganda (1,991), and DRC (1,904). No new arrivals were admitted in Tanzania, which has effectively closed its borders to new asylum seekers. In the most recent months, however, arrivals to Uganda have remained over 200 per month whereas they have progressively decreased in DRC and Rwanda.

More than 37,000 refugees have returned to Burundi since UNHCR began assisting voluntary returns last year – the vast majority from Tanzania, with smaller numbers having returned from Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Kenya. UNHCR is not promoting or encouraging returns to Burundi, but is assisting those refugees who indicate they have made a free and informed choice to return voluntarily.

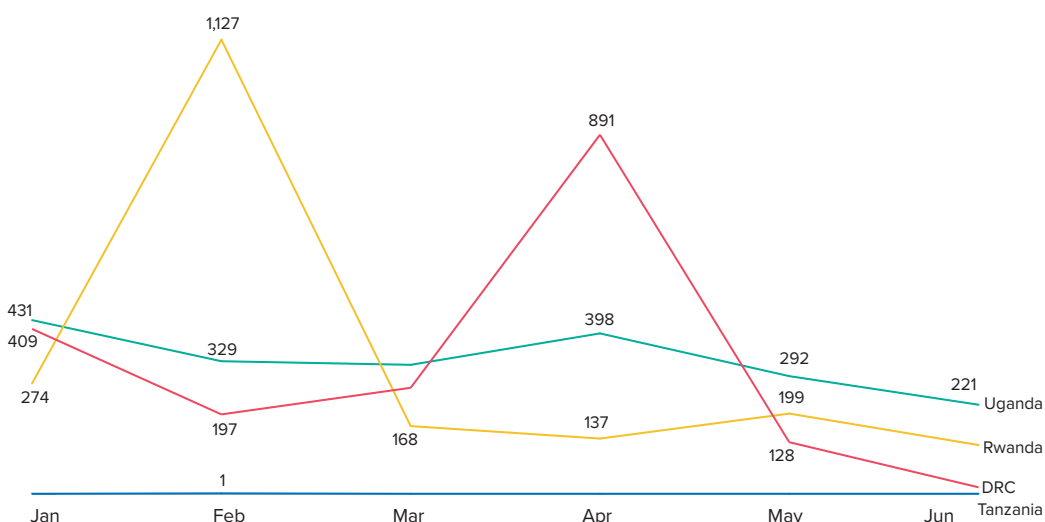
21,380 returns have taken place from Tanzania in the first six months of 2018. While the government of Tanzania continues to reaffirm its official commitment to the voluntary nature of refugee returns, RRP partners working in Tanzania are concerned about recent government statements and actions to encourage refugees to repatriate to Burundi, suggesting that camps would close soon, and shutting down markets and businesses to further restrict economic activity in and around the refugee camps. Compounding the concerns about the protection environment in Tanzania and the threat of coerced return, the diversion of limited funds and human resources to support the return operation, has resulted in a deterioration of the services being provided to refugees who choose to remain in the camps. An increase in funding is needed to be able to develop a dedicated capacity for voluntary repatriation while maintaining other important protection programming.

Protection: Throughout the region progress was made on protection activities. RRP partners provided support to 100% of identified sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) survivors in all countries. There is consensus that more focus needs to be put on prevention activities as opposed to solely response but funding constraints currently limit this. Another challenge to SGBV response is the lack of reporting of cases and lack of effective mainstreaming of SGBV activities in other sectors. Regionally, action is being taken to provide protection response for unaccompanied and separated minors (UASC). 100% of identified UASC's received appropriate alternative care in DRC and Tanzania. Response coverage in Rwanda and Uganda only reached 73% of the identified caseload in both countries. In DRC the ratio of caseworker to children is 1:5,640 in Lusenda and 1:1,506 in Mulongwe, which limits the quality of care given to vulnerable children.



* Reported funds only include contributions earmarked to the Burundi refugee situation. Unearmarked and broadly earmarked funding is not reflected.

Education: In the education sector, the enrolment rate in primary schools at regional level is 86%. Enrolment rates in primary schools in Rwanda and Tanzania are high at 97% and 85% respectively. There was an increase in Uganda from 65% at end of 2017 to 74% in 2018 and DRC has similar primary enrolment levels at 71%. Despite having high enrolment rates RRP partners in Tanzania have reported that the quality of education is compromised by the teacher student ratio which is 1:200. All countries in the region are facing challenges in terms of secondary education and enrollment rates are



low across the region. Overall there is a combined enrollment rate of 21% in secondary schools, with 29% enrolled in secondary education in DRC, 49% in Rwanda, 9% in Tanzania and 4% in Uganda. In Uganda a particular challenge is that there is only one secondary school in the main Nakivale settlement, where two thirds of all Burundian refugees reside.

Food Security: RRP partners provided food assistance to refugees in all of the hosting countries. However, due to underfunding the full ration was only provided in Uganda. In DRC, Rwanda and Tanzania, reduced rations were provided. Food vouchers were reduced from USD \$15 to \$12 in DRC and only 85% of the ration was provided in Rwanda and 88% in Tanzania, which is an improvement on last year when general food distribution stood at 72% of the full basket in Tanzania. Reduced food rations reduce the nutritional wellbeing of refugees and can potentially contribute to increased malnutrition and other health problems. It can also adversely impact on education and livelihoods as performance is reduced when there is insufficient food intake and kilocalories per day.

Health and Nutrition: Across the region the number of women delivering with assistance from qualified personnel is high. Regionally, assistance by qualified personnel during birthing is provided in 97% of cases as of 30 June. Global acute malnutrition (GAM) rates among children of 6 to 59 months remained within the acceptable threshold of below 5% in Rwanda (3.3%) and Uganda (4%). The rate in Tanzania also remained acceptable at 4.4%, however this is a regression from a rate of 2.3% in 2016. DRC was above the threshold with GAM rates of 5.8% which falls within the range of medium severity. Anemia in young children of 6 to 59 months was prevalent in Rwanda (45%) and Tanzania (41%). Anemia prevalence was lower in Uganda (25%) where the full food ration is being provided.

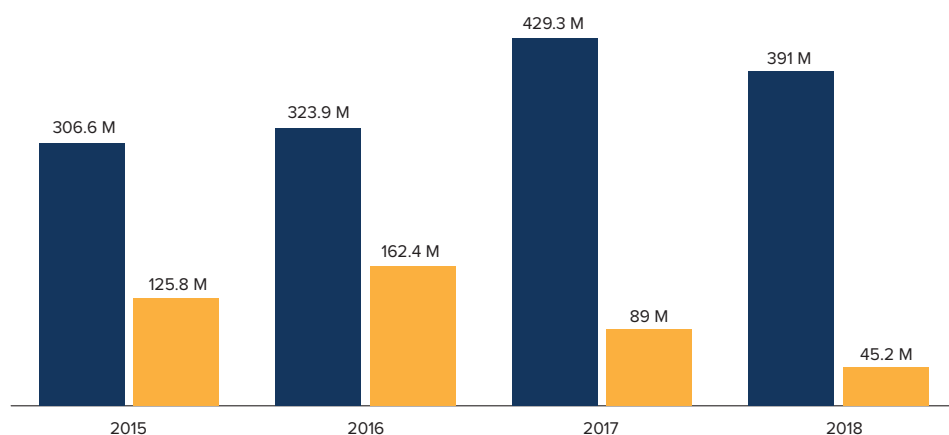
Livelihoods and Environment: Various livelihood activities took place in the region. In Rwanda 50 women were trained in weaving and their products are being sold locally and internationally. 306 Burundian refugees in Uganda and 722 in Tanzania received vocational skills training and 80 people were trained in business activities in DRC. However, sustainable engagement in livelihood activities is low overall, with huge gaps between the needs and available support. Regionally only 4% of refugees in the region have access to self employment or facilitated businesses (excluding Uganda where data was not available). This includes 5% in Tanzania, 3% in Rwanda and 2% in DRC. Those with access to livelihoods are likely to have improved food security and health as well as more resilience to shocks. Currently financial restraints often result in RRP partner's being able to provide training but not having the capacity to provide the follow up support necessary to ensure sustainable employment for those who receive training.

Environmental protection is a key issue for host communities and governments but there has been limited environmental activities in 2018 due to underfunding. Rwanda has by far the highest coverage of energy saving stoves and equipment per household with coverage of 90% of households while the second highest coverage is in Tanzania at only 14%. Over reliance on firewood for cooking is a common problem in refugee setting and it leads to significant environmental degradation and is an area that requires greater investment.

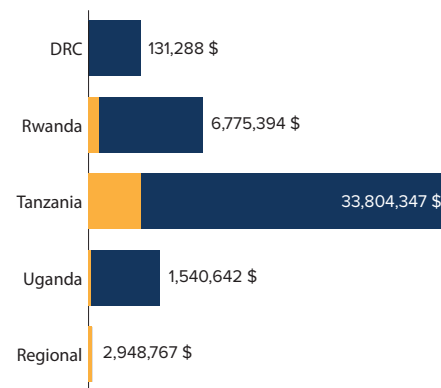
Shelter and NFIs: The overall percentage of refugees in semi-permanent shelter in the region is 50%. In Rwanda 100% are in semi-permanent shelter compared with 84% at the end of 2017. 42% in Tanzania and 10% in DRC are also in semi-permanent shelter. Uganda had no breakdown on the distribution of shelter types among the population available. 100% of new arrivals received NFI kits in Uganda and Rwanda. However, in all countries in the region there is a problem in terms of NFI kit replenishment as NFI kits only have a life span of 3 years. Overall there is only 22% coverage regionally for adequate NFIs among refugee households.

WASH: All countries in the region set a target of achieving 20 litres of water per person per day (l/p/d) in 2018. RRP partners have achieved this in Tanzania and Rwanda, with Uganda also close with an average of around 18 l/p/d. In DRC an average of 15 l/p/d was achieved. 100% of refugees in Rwanda and Uganda have access to an acceptable 450 grams per person per month (g/p/m) of soap. In Tanzania, 83% of households had access to a reduced amount of 250g/p/m. Gaps remain in terms of latrine access for refugees. 64% of households regionally are still accessing communal latrines. Family latrine coverage increased from 26 to 29% between March and June in Tanzania. In Uganda coverage is at 66% as of 30 June, but this is a reduction from 88% in March.

RRRP FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS AND FUNDS RECEIVED FROM 2015 TO 2018



FUNDS RECEIVED IN 2018



REGIONAL COORDINATION

Between January and June 2018, the RRC/CRRF Champion for the Burundi Situation continued work to ensure an overarching vision, coordination and coherent multi-agency engagement in pursuit of protection and solutions for Burundian refugees in the region. The RRC introduced measures to improve regional reporting and enhance visibility and communication, including with member States, the East Africa Community, and donors.

The Burundi RRRP 2018 which is the main inter-agency advocacy and fundraising document was launched in Geneva by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr. Filippo Grandi, together with OCHA's Assistant Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs, the Permanent Representative of the AU, and the Executive Director of African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD), representing different regional partners and stakeholders.

The RRC also participated in the launch of the Rwanda Chapter of the 2018 RRRP, which was an opportunity to congratulate the Government of Rwanda as the newest CRRF country and showcase the work of several RRP partners in promoting socio-economic inclusion, self-reliance and resilience for refugees and host communities.

A series of regional meetings have been convened with partner agencies, and donor representatives around various themes - including protection challenges, voluntary repatriation, and RRRP implementation - with the dual purpose to share programmatic and advocacy perspectives while enhancing resource mobilization.

Separate donors' briefings in Geneva and in capitals through the region were also undertaken as part of efforts to address underfunding of the Burundi refugee response. In Nairobi the RRC established a regular series of Ambassadors Briefings, to inform and engage the support of the diplomatic corps.

REGIONAL RRP PARTNERS

- Adventist Development and Relief Agency
- African Initiatives for Relief & Development
- American Refugee Committee
- CARITAS - The Catholic Diocese of Kigoma
- Church World Service
- Community Environmental Management and Development Organization
- Danish Refugee Council
- Food and Agriculture Organisation
- Good Neighbours Tanzania
- HelpAge International
- International Organisation for Migration
- International Rescue Committee
- IsraAID Uganda
- Norwegian Refugee Council
- OXFAM
- Plan International
- Relief to Development Society
- Save the Children International
- Tanganyika Christian Refugee Service
- Tanzania Red Cross Society
- Tutapona
- UN Women
- United Nations Children's Fund
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- United Nations Population Fund
- World Food Programme
- World Health Organisation

FOR MORE INFORMATION

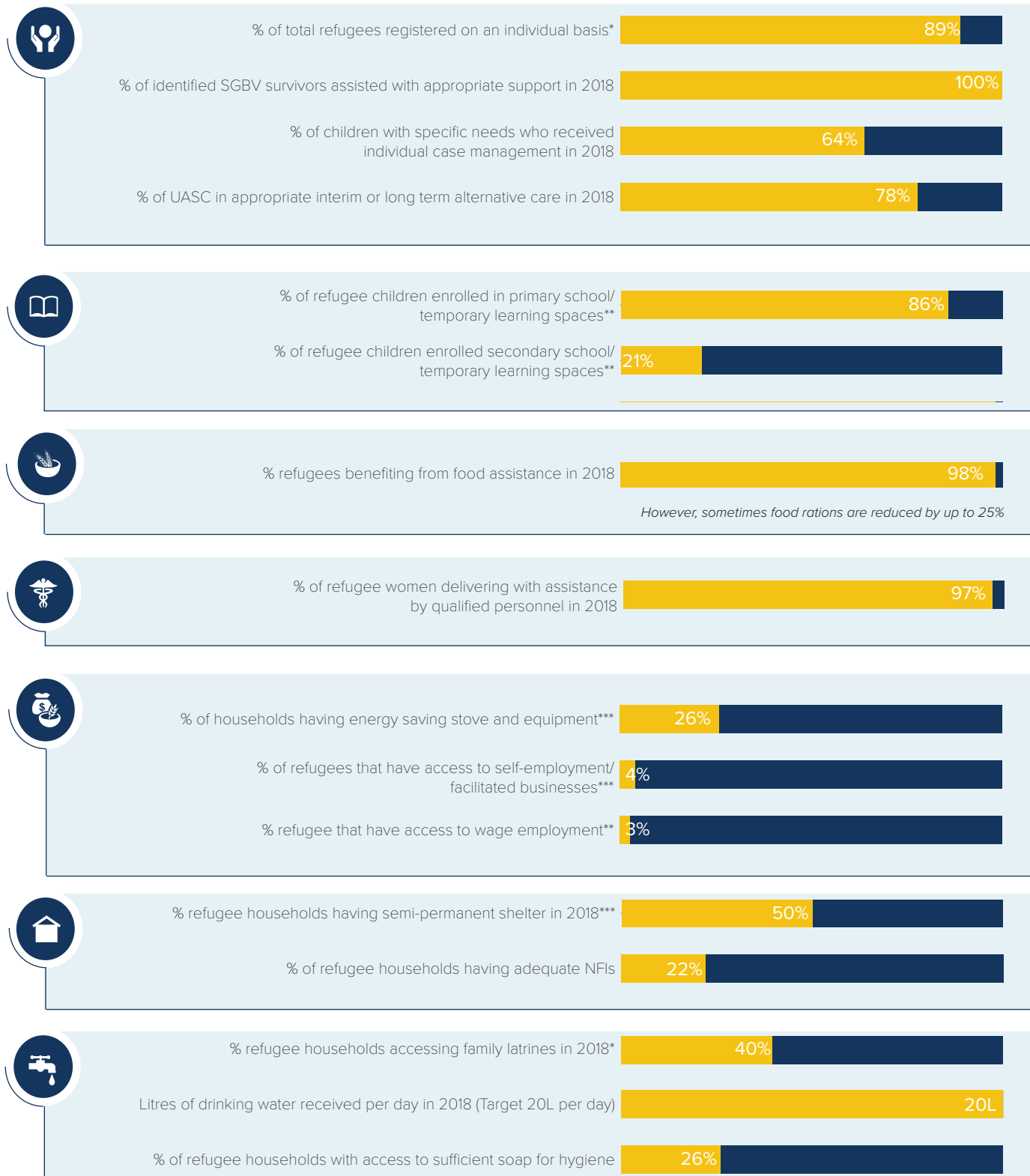
Burundi Data Portal - <https://data.unhcr.org/burundi>

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* - excludes DRC, as data is not available. ** - excludes Uganda, as data is not available. *** - excludes DRC and Uganda, as data is not available.

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