

BURUNDI SITUATION

UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE #30

October 2016

KEY FIGURES

325,089

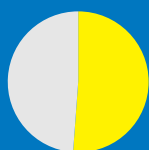
New Burundian refugees in asylum countries since April 2015 as of 31 October 2016

FUNDING

USD 180.6 million

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

Gap
49%



Funded
51%

PRIORITIES

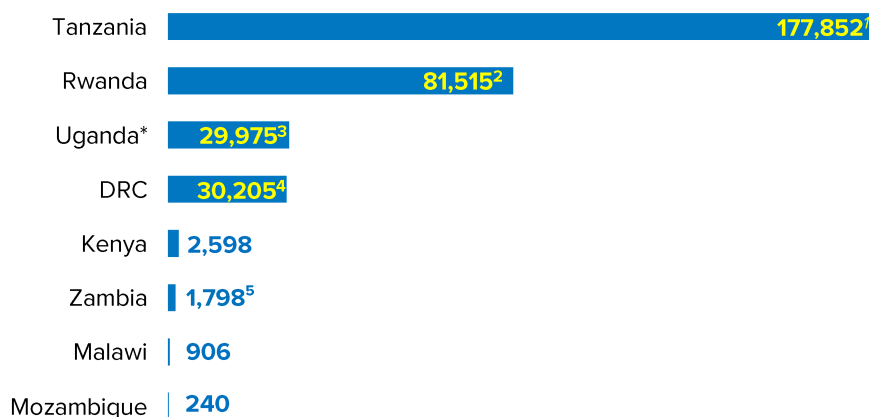
- Tanzania:** Development of a new camp site once new land will be allocated by the Tanzanian Government
- Burundi:** Implementation of emergency response to vulnerable populations through activities funded by CERF and protection / monitoring of spontaneous returnees.
- DRC:** Development of extension of Lusenda Camp to host incoming refugees.
- Rwanda:** Continue to prioritize the construction of semi-permanent shelters in Mahama Camp to complete 5,000 by the end of 2017.
- Uganda:** Community awareness raising on the causes and prevention of malaria by village health teams

HIGHLIGHTS

- Burundi:** Insecurity and macro-economic factors, including a decline in external financial support resulting in severe budget cuts, have severely hampered the provision of basic services.
- Tanzania:** As Burundians continue to cross the border into Tanzania, the existing refugee camps are at full capacity or close to it. The Government allowed for Nduta Camp to go beyond its initial maximum population from 50,000 to 60,000. As an interim measure, this capacity level was subsequently further increased to 65,000 individuals, pending a decision from the Government to identify new sites to accommodate the growing refugee population. The average daily arrival rate remained high and stood at 363 refugees.
- DRC:** In order to accommodate new arrivals, local authorities have granted additional land ('Katungulu III') to extend Lusenda Camp, which could accommodate up to 5,000 people. Construction works have already started. During October, 1,050 Burundian refugees were relocated to Lusenda.
- Rwanda:** UNHCR's Assistant High Commissioner (AHC) for Protection, Mr. Volker Türk, co-chaired a high level ministerial consultation on refugee protection issues on 26 October. During the consultation, important protection and operation challenges were reviewed, including the asylum regime and the importance of the respect of the civilian and humanitarian character of camps.

Population of concern

A total of **325,089** people of concern as of 31 October 2016 since the influx began in April 2015



¹ Nyarugusu: 66,997 | Nduta: 60,739 | Mtendeli: 50,116

² Mahama: 51,162 | Urban (Kigali + Huye): 29,842 | Reception Centres: 511

³ Nakivale: 22,337 | Urban (Kampala): 6,331 | Other settlements: 1,307 | *Since 1 January 2015

⁴ Lusenda: 22,241 | Out of camp/RCS: 7,964

⁵ Majority live in Lusaka, as well as in Meheba and Mayukwayukwa settlements

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

- The international Burundi peace talks are still stalled, with no further date for the resumption of talks scheduled. International talks are done in parallel to internal discussions in Burundi, where the National Commission for Inter-Burundian dialogue is chairing the dialogue process. In October, five domestic non-governmental organizations (NGOs) were banned while five others that work in the fields of human rights, election monitoring, and anti-corruption were suspended. In addition, the Government of Burundi initiated the process to leave the International Criminal Court (ICC).
- Pregnant women and children under five, who rely on state-provided free medical care, are particularly at risk, as **access to basic services is weakening**.
- According to WFP, **600,000 people are short of food** in Burundi due to drought and flooding in the past year and the number could rise to 700,000 in 2017.

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR is continuing **border and protection monitoring**. The implementation of the humanitarian response for IDPs and spontaneous returnees is also underway. UNHCR is leading the protection working group and co-leading (with IOM) the shelter, NFI and CCCM sectors. The cluster system has not yet been activated in Burundi.
- As part of the CERF project, UNHCR distributed non-food items to 330 households / 1,554 persons. This group included IDPs, spontaneous returnees and vulnerable residents in Mabanda and Kayogoro in Makamba Province. A further 77 families / 401 individuals were assisted with shelter kits. In the provinces of Makamba and Rumonge, a total of 1,340 individuals, including 200 IDPs, 682 spontaneous returnees and 458 vulnerable residents benefited from psychosocial counseling from UNHCR's local partner.

Countries of Asylum

TANZANIA

Latest Developments

- **The lack of land** is becoming an increasingly pressing issue, as there is insufficient capacity, which has effects on the provision of basic services in the camps. UNHCR is therefore in constant dialogue with the Government, whose decision on the allocation of new land is pending. It is important to mention is that Tanzania has maintained a generous open-door policy receiving a significant amount of refugees, not only from Burundi, but also from the Democratic Republic of Congo.
- **Food insecurity is a major concern**. An earlier reported food reduction by WFP for November 2016 was averted through an appeal, to which the Governments of the United States of America and Germany responded. These contributions will allow WFP to provide full rations for food distribution during the month of November 2016.
- **Malaria** is widespread and cases of malaria infection are expected to increase during the rainy season. Despite efforts to control the disease, overcrowding of camps and transit centers make it an increasing challenge.
- With a student to classroom ratio of 200:1 there is a critical need to increase additional infrastructure and expand access to all levels of **education**, including early child care and development, as well as accelerated learning programs.

Achievements and Impact

- In collaboration with the Refugee Services Department of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), UNHCR conducted a capacity building workshop on International Protection for authorities in border areas. The workshop aimed at developing a harmonized understanding and application of basic international refugee law principles, but also to share knowledge and experiences, as well as fostering team building between the 35 participants. Plans are underway to conduct a similar training exercise in Ngara and Kasulu districts in November 2016.
- The newly recruited **community watch-team members** (*sungu-sungu*) in Nyarugusu were trained on 19 October on basic referral pathways within the camp, as well as on Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and

Code of Conduct (CoC). In addition, a total of 18,028 (10,333 f/7,695 m) Burundian refugees have benefitted from a range of SGBV information sharing and outreach activities across all three refugee camps this reporting period.

- The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between UNHCR, MHA and the District Administrative Secretary (DAS) for the issuance of **marriage certificates** is in its final stage and is expected to be signed and thus come into force within the coming weeks.
- The attendance rate of all **Child Friendly Spaces (CFSs)** in Nduta and Mtendeli Camp stood at 5,976 children (2,874 f /3,102 m). These sites are providing children with protected environments, where they can play and continue their development.
- The fabrication of 3,000 additional school desks for the primary and secondary schools in Nyarugusu is ongoing. As of now, 754 desks have been fabricated and distributed. The exercise is anticipated to conclude by the end of November 2016.
- Refugee's **connectivity** increased, as Airtel mobile network installed a 35-meter high **mobile tower** in Nyarugusu. The tower is currently providing 2G and 3G connectivity.

RWANDA

Latest Developments

- The rate of new arrivals of refugees at the end of October has been the highest since mid-July 2016, with an average of 23 new arrivals per day over the span of two weeks of October. New arrivals continue to come from the areas of Kirundo (53%), Bujumbura (12%) and Muyinga (6%).

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR and protection partners organized a **mobile protection clinic** in Mahama to give a workshop to refugees on child protection and SGBV. Refugees were informed on how to properly report incidents in a timely manner and how to maintain confidentiality.
- Since it was observed that 82% of SGBV cases identified since mid-2016 were related to domestic **intimate partner violence (IPV)**, UNHCR's protection partner, Plan International, organized a He4She campaign to involve men and boys in SGBV prevention and to encourage men to take on the responsibility of being positive role models throughout Mahama Camp. UNHCR has observed that the number of reported SGBV cases has decreased from an average of 2.25 per week to 1 per week.
- UNHCR's Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, Mr. Volker Türk, visited Rwanda to co-chair with the Minister of Disaster Management and Refugee Affairs (MIDIMAR) a **ministerial consultation on refugee protection**, which took place on 26 October. Important protection and operation challenges were reviewed, including the national asylum regime and the importance of the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps in Rwanda.
- Accompanying Mr. Türk, Her Royal Highness Princess Sarah Zeid of Jordan also visited both Congolese and Burundian refugees, as well as urban refugees in Kigali, in her capacity as a member of **UNHCR's Gender Advisory Board**. Both the Princess and Mr. Türk visited Mahama Camp on 25 October to engage with Burundian refugees living in Rwanda and listen to their concerns and needs.
- UNHCR has **relocated all remaining 1,040 Burundian refugees** who were living in reception centers to Mahama (572 individuals from Bugesera, 441 individuals from Nyanza and 27 individuals from Nyagatare reception centers). In order to accommodate the additional refugees, UNHCR and its local partner, Global Humanitarian Development Fund (GHDF), have constructed 12 temporary communal shelters, 9 communal kitchens, and 11 shower and latrine blocks.
- Currently, 250 school age children from the above mentioned convoy were enrolled in orientation classes, scheduled to start in the first week of November, to prepare them to enter the Rwandan school curriculum next year.
- Construction of more than 3,000 **semi-permanent shelters** is in Mahama.



DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Latest Developments

- The total number of refugees has topped 30,000 in the DRC. Due to the arrivals and the overcrowding in Lusenda, the **camp is being extended** to be able to accommodate those Burundians seeking protection in the DRC.
- The **malnutrition rate** among children under five in Lusenda decreased from 10% (December 2015) to 5.8% (October 2016), which may be attributed to the community-based approach to address malnutrition.

Achievements and Impact

- 1,050 refugees were transferred from transit centers to Lusenda Camp. In addition, during the first two weeks of October, 566 Burundian refugees were biometrically registered.
- 897 protection incidents were recorded by UNHCR's protection and border monitoring partner INTERSOS in both Fizi and Uvira territories, in areas where Burundian refugees live outside the camp. These incidents are mainly linked to extortion and imposition of illegal "taxes". The imposition of such "taxes" mainly occurs at illegal barriers erected by armed forces and by armed groups.
- In order to ensure timely registration of Burundian refugee children in Lusenda Camp, Mboko local authorities decided to open an additional office there to register newborn babies. In 2016, 58 birth certificates for Burundian refugees born in DRC were issued by authorities and 153 others are being prepared.
- WFP food voucher distribution started during the second week of October. The vouchers worth 15 USD were distributed to 20,647 individuals.
- Prevention activities against Cholera have been put in place in transit centers and in Lusenda camp following the reported epidemic in Uvira and Fizi territories.

UGANDA

Latest Developments

- In Nakivale refugee settlement, the number of new arrivals from Burundi was 271, compared to 380 recorded in the previous month. 102 people arrived at Kabazana Reception Centre and 169 were transported from border crossings to Nakivale refugee settlement.
- Insecurity and the mounting pressure of persecution by armed groups were reported as the main reasons for people fleeing Burundi into Uganda. New arrivals alleged that the militias impose high taxes on those they accuse of being members or supporters of opposition groups, and failure to comply with these taxes results in physical assault or death.



Achievements and Impact

- In Nakivale, best interest assessments were conducted for 35 children residing at the reception center. The children were referred for educational support, registration and family tracing.
- The ratio of health workers to refugees in Nakivale is one health worker per 50 households, which is within the Uganda Ministry of Health standard. The family healthcare facility is within the working standard of 5km from the villages.
- A total of 4,741 male and 507 female condoms were distributed to newly arrived Burundians aged 18-45 at Nakivale Health Center III, Kabazana Reception Center, Ruhoko, Misiera mobile clinic and government screening points to prevent the spread of Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs). At Ruhoko Mobile Clinic and Kabazana Reception Centre, 988 sanitary pads were distributed to the newly arrived Burundian women and girls of reproductive age.
- In Nakivale, 534 Burundians were settled and allocated plots of land (each measuring 15 by 20 metres) for construction of shelter in Mugenyi C village, Rubondo Zone. Prior to this settlement, a forum was conducted to create awareness on key services available at the sub-base camp offices. The settlement exercise took place on the 15th of September, 2016. Some 694 refugees were provided with non-food items after an awareness exercise on the quantities and proper use of the items provided (*photo above: model shelters with an iron roof build for the elderly and persons requiring specific needs by UNHCR/IOM through community participation in Kabahinda village, Nakivale.* © UNHCR/E. Ohanusi).

CRITICAL NEEDS & GAPS

TANZANIA

SHELTER: Keep pace with the construction of transitional shelters in all camps, while preparing for development of new camp once land will be allocated.

HEALTH: In light of the growing number of refugees it is vital to ensure that the health facilities are able to provide basic services. Malaria prevention is a pressing concern due to rainy season when the number of malaria cases is expected to rise.

WASH: Increase water access in Nduta camp to accommodate more new arrivals.

EDUCATION: Expedite on the construction of additional class rooms/schools across all camps.

RWANDA

PROTECTION: Install solar lighting to improve protection environment in Mahama.

SHELTER: Continue the construction of communal shelters to accommodate new arrivals and to relocate refugees within Mahama in order to free up space for the construction of more permanent shelters. Furthermore UNHCR continues to prioritize the construction of semi-permanent shelters in Mahama to complete the target of 5,000 before 2017.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

WASH: Some 447 additional latrines are still required to meet UNHCR standard of 3 households per latrine, as well as 8 additional water points. The water distribution system will need to be reinforced to increase water distribution levels.

EDUCATION: 54 additional classrooms, with 887 desks, as well as additional teachers, are required in the host-community schools near Lusenda camp which are also attended by refugee pupils. This would bring the students/classroom ratio down to the standard of 50 students per classroom.

SHELTER: Some 5,000 semi-durable shelters are needed for Lusenda Camp, as the current plastic sheeting needs to be replaced regularly. Semi-durable shelters would also mitigate protection risks.

UGANDA

SHELTER: Ongoing construction of latrine stances to meet required hygiene standards.

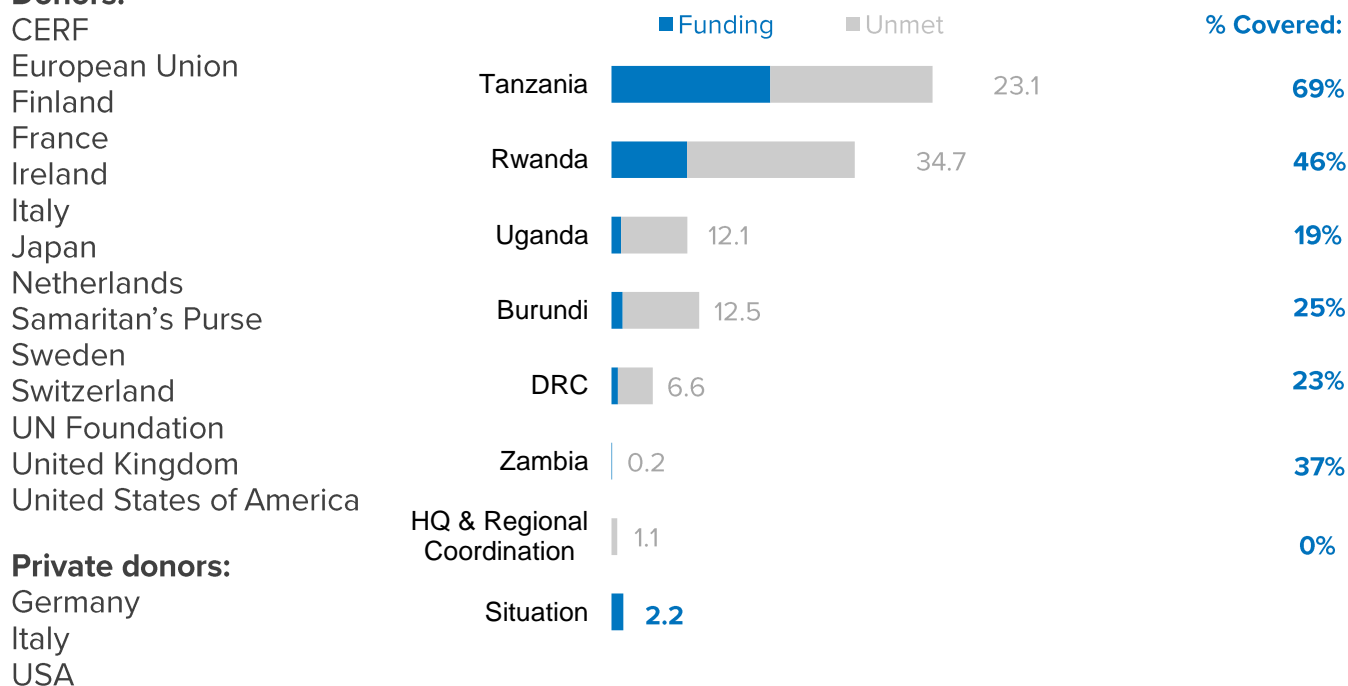
LIVELIHOODS: Livelihood training and activities to empower refugee communities for self-reliance.

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 51%.**

A total **USD 88.2 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 (78 M) | Netherlands (46 M) | Norway (40 M) | Priv. Donors Spain (45 M) | Norway (40 M) | Australia (31 M) | Japan (24 M) | Denmark (24 M) | United Kingdom (23M) | Priv Donors Republic of Korea (17 M) | Priv Donors Italy (16 M) | Canada (16 M) | Switzerland (15 M) | France (14 M) | Priv Donors Japan (13 M) | Germany (13 M) | Priv Donors USA (12 M) | Priv Donors Sweden (12 M) | Italy (10 M)

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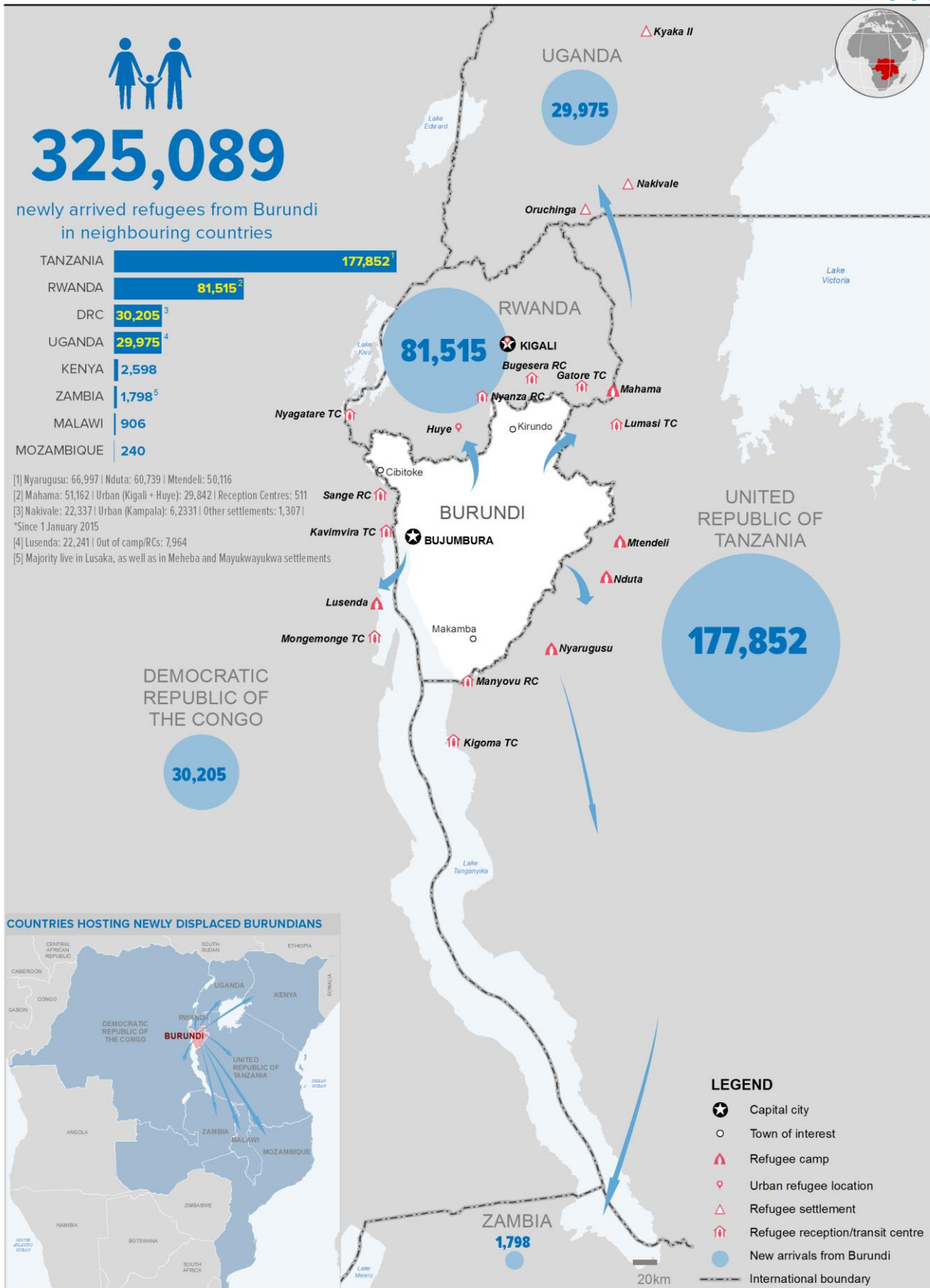
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Burundi Situation

Displacement of Burundians into neighbouring countries since April 2015

as of 31 October 2016



Sources: UNHCR, UNCS Author: UNHCR Regional Service Centre Nairobi Feedback: kenrgis@unhcr.org