

Uganda: 2018 Mid Year Report BURUNDI REGIONAL RRP

January - June 2018



42,656

BURUNDIAN REFUGEES
HOSTED IN UGANDA
(30 JUNE 2018)

US\$ 46.8 M

REQUIRED IN UGANDA IN
2018

3%*

FUNDING RECEIVED (17
JULY 2018)

9

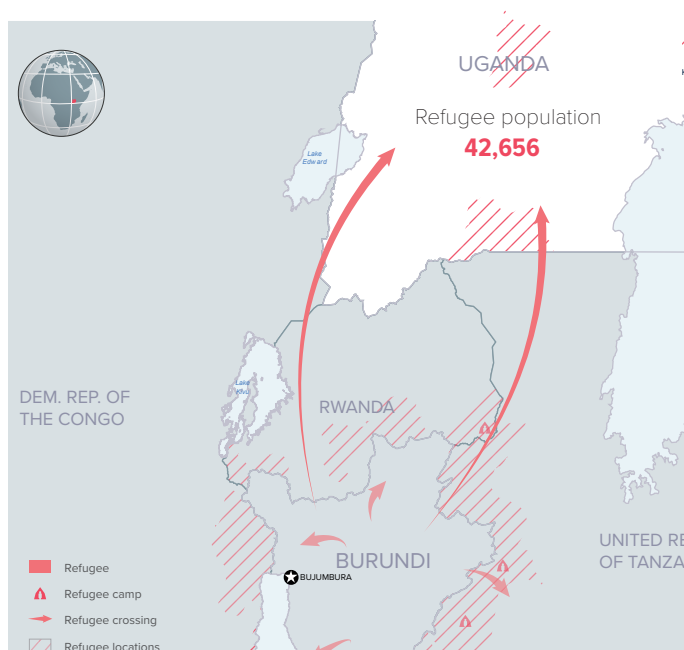
RRP PARTNERS IN
UGANDA IN 2018

SITUATION OVERVIEW

In the first half of 2018, 1,991 new refugees from Burundi sought safety in Uganda, citing threats and abuses by members of the Imbonerakure militia, killings and enforced disappearances of family members as well as gang rapes, torture and illegal detention as reasons for fleeing their country. Some specifically reported general insecurity, intimidation and abuses related to Burundi's Constitutional Referendum, held on 17 May 2018.

By the end of June 2018, Uganda hosted 42,656 Burundian refugees, of which 72 percent were women and children. The majority resides in Nakivale settlement, with smaller numbers in Kampala, Kyaka II settlement, and Oruchinga settlement. No Burundian refugees have expressed an intention to return home.

Since the government revoked the prima facie status for Burundian asylum seekers in May 2017, the Refugee Eligibility Committee, an inter-ministerial body, began conducting Refugee Status Determination (RSD) interviews. Processing delays have created a backlog of RSD cases, with 2,010 Burundians awaiting RSD interviews at the end of June 2018.



In line with the 2006 Refugee Act, Burundian refugees benefit from access to documentation and national services, freedom of movement, and right to work and establish businesses. In the settlements, Burundian refugees received monthly food rations, household items and access to multi-sectoral services. They are allocated a plot of land for housing and farming. In urban areas, the most vulnerable receive targeted assistance from partners.

Following serious allegations of fraud and corruption within the refugee response, UNHCR and WFP reached out to the Government in late 2017 to seek cooperation in addressing growing concerns about the accuracy and reliability of refugee data used for fundraising, programming and assistance. In response, the government and UNHCR launched a verification of all refugees using UNHCR biometric systems. Some 26,623 Burundians were verified as of June, with verification continuing until the end of the year.

Building on existing complaint mechanisms, partners laid the foundations for an inter-agency centralised refugee feedback, complaint and resolution mechanism to enhance accountability to affected populations – which will be launched in the second half of 2018.

With only eleven percent of funding received by the end of June 2018*, RRP partners continued to face enormous challenges in stabilising existing programmes and meeting minimum standards of service provision, let alone investing in long-term and more sustainable interventions. Livelihood and education programming as well as environmental protection continue to be significantly under-resourced.


In line with the Grand Bargain's commitment to improve joint and impartial needs assessments, an inter-agency multi-sector needs assessment of refugee and host communities began in April. A joint analysis taskforce will review the findings with a view to inform the 2019/2020 RRP.

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

Protection

1,991 
new Burundian
refugee arrivals **granted
access to territory**, in the
first half of 2018

100% 
Burundian refugee children
with specific needs received
individual case-management
and follow up

2,010 
Burundian
asylum seekers were
pending **Refugee Status
Determination** with REC
as of 30 June

Partners provided asylum seekers from Burundi with reception assistance at border collection points and transit centres, and provided relocation to refugee settlements, mainly Nakivale. During the reporting period, 353 Burundians were granted refugee status, 26 were found ineligible, and 2,010 others are awaiting RSD interviews with REC.

To improve the quality and reliability of refugee data, the Government agreed to use enhanced biometric systems such as Biometric Identity Management System (BIMS) and ProGres to register refugees. This will contribute to effective individual case management, delivery of protection services and humanitarian aid (including targeted assistance for persons with specific needs) and the pursuit of durable solutions.

By 30 June, verification was completed in Nakivale and Oruchinga with a total of 26,623 Burundian refugees verified during the reporting period. Verification in other settlements is expected to be completed towards the end of the year, including in urban Kampala.


Through protection monitoring and community outreach activities, partners identified 59 sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) survivors between January and June 2018, with most incidents occurring in the country of origin. All survivors were referred to relevant services, including psychosocial, legal and medical assistance, in addition to provision of security and safe shelter, as needed. Some 96 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) remained in foster care by the end of June 2018 and were provided with support and follow-up services. In Nakivale, partners continued to manage 8 Child Friendly Spaces, providing psychosocial support for children with specific needs.


In June 2018, the National Refugee Protection Working Group was launched in Kampala with a view to strengthening coordination and delivery of protection services across the country.

Limited funding and the constant need to reprioritise activities undermines the ability to adequately support prevention and response to SGBV, as well as affecting the quality of child protection services. Refugees continued to face significant challenges in accessing justice, especially in remote areas where the presence of the judiciary and police is limited or non-existent. In most settlements, the number of police officers remained inadequate to respond to the needs of an increasing population, especially female officers – which represents a barrier for female refugees to come forward and report SGBV incidents. Furthermore, limited investments could be made to support the police with transportation and communications.

Education

48 
classrooms constructed
in the first half of 2018

74% 
of Burundian primary school
aged children **enrolled in
primary education**


 There are
**not enough
teachers**,
with an average
of 100 students
per teacher

In Uganda, refugee children have access to universal primary education, pre-primary education, secondary education, vocational skills and tertiary institutions.

In March 2018, the Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES) presented its Education Response Plan (2018-2021) with the aim of identifying and responding to additional educational needs of refugee and host communities in refugee-hosting districts. Education partners and MoES are currently reviewing this plan, due for release in the second half of 2018.

Due to chronic and severe underfunding, huge gaps remain in terms of classrooms, lack of qualified teachers, furniture, scholastic materials and language orientation programmes. Secondary education remained largely under-resourced. There is only one secondary school in Nakivale settlement, which hosts two thirds of Burundian refugees in Uganda, and it was only able to cater for the educational needs of 4 percent of secondary school aged children in the settlement. Distance from learning facilities and difficulties to adapt to English as a medium of instruction continued to remain amongst the key challenges affecting school enrollment and attendance of Burundian children.

Food


32,263 Burundian refugees received monthly in-kind food assistance in the first half of 2018


2,210 Burundian refugees received monthly cash based food assistance in the first half of 2018


 The **vast majority** of Burundian refugees are unable to produce their own food


The vast majority of Burundian refugees continue to remain heavily dependent on food and nutrition assistance, with few being able to provide for themselves using the land given by the Ugandan government and host communities. In the first half of 2018, some 34,473 refugees received food assistance through in-kind distributions and cash transfers.


In conjunction with the verification exercise, new food assistance collection procedures were developed in 2018 to improve accountability and service delivery to refugees, using newly gathered refugee biometric biodata to carry out food distributions to individual households. Under these new procedures which are already in effect in Oruchinga and Navivale settlements, all refugees will receive 100 percent food assistance.

Funding shortfalls expected in the second half of 2018 are likely to cause pipeline breaks between September and December 2018, affecting both in-kind distributions and cash transfers. Without further resources, WFP may be forced to implement ration cuts in all refugee settlements hosting Burundian refugees.

Health & Nutrition

3,795 Burundian refugees reached with Mother and Child Nutrition Programmes


95% of Burundian refugee women delivered with the assistance of qualified health personnel


Anaemia rates were over 25% in settlements hosting Burundian refugees


Partners continued to support the national health care system as well as health facilities and referral services in and around refugee settlements hosting Burundian refugees. This helped to maintain the crude mortality rate and

under five mortality rate at 0.1 death every 1,000 people per month, below the standard of 1 death every 1,000 people per month. Both refugees and host communities had equal access to primary health care and referrals to tertiary institutions, with 73,337 consultations between January and June 2018 – of which 13 percent (9,524) benefitted the host community.


Due to cholera and Ebola outbreaks in the Democratic Republic of Congo, RRP partners deployed resources to strengthen traditional and community-based disease surveillance systems. All new arrivals received a screening package, including vaccination, nutrition assessment, deworming, vitamin A administration and screening for chronic diseases. Partners continued to deliver comprehensive HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment services, with some 321 refugees with HIV/AIDS receiving antiretroviral therapy between January and June 2018.

The prevalence of Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) in settlements hosting refugees from Burundi remained well below the threshold of 10 percent, while anemia among children aged 6-59 months and non-pregnant women aged 15-49 years was reported as “medium” at 25 percent and 30 percent respectively, according to WHO classification.

In the first half of 2018, efforts continued to increase integration of humanitarian health services into the national health care system. The Ministry of Health led the development of the Uganda National Integrated Health Response Plan for Refugees and Host Communities (2018-2020), due for publication in the second half of 2018. This plan seeks to bridge the humanitarian and development programming, based on the Uganda Health Sector’s medium term strategic directions.


Livelihoods & Environment

UGX 78,745,000
(USD 21,200) disbursed as
loans to **Burundian refugee
entrepreneurs** in 2018



**306 Burundian
refugees received
vocational training skills
in the first half of 2018**

Less than 50%
of households had
**access to arable
land** in 2018



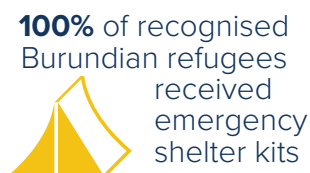
RRP partners continued to provide emergency livelihoods to all new refugee arrivals whilst seeking to transition to recovery livelihood interventions for the existing refugee population. Interventions remain largely focused on agricultural production, with limited opportunities for business development, micro-credit and vocational skills training due to limited engagement of development partners. In Nakivale, partners supported the expansion of commercial vegetable production using small-scale irrigation technology, benefitting some 50 refugees, mostly Burundians. The capitalisation of Moban, a Savings and Credit Cooperative Organization (SACCO), contributed to inject more liquidity into the community, enabling the establishment of small-scale enterprises. However, overall livelihood assistance reached only 3 percent of Burundian refugees, including support in agricultural and livestock production, cash grants and access to formal financial services and training.

Several studies were undertaken to gather socio-economic data on refugees and help develop longer-term strategies for fostering resilience among refugees with the aim of achieving self-reliance. An assessment on remittances found that the provision of digital remittance services to refugees has the potential to support refugees’ basic needs and livelihoods, provided that humanitarian and development partners work to remove the barriers refugees face in accessing remittances. This includes distance to money transfer operator outlets, problems with legal identification and business case misconceptions about refugees. Another assessment took place around the financial needs of refugees in Uganda and the business case for serving them. This will help financial sector providers design credit products that can support business activities and respond to consumption needs, in addition to providing essential information on demand for savings accounts and payments services.

Due to underfunding, environmental protection interventions have been largely de-prioritised, including environmental

sensitisation, access to energy-efficient stoves, tree planting, forest resource management and water catchment restoration. At least 20 replacement trees per refugee are needed every year to contribute to afforestation and reforestation.

Shelter & NFIs



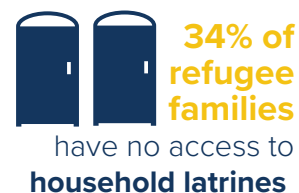
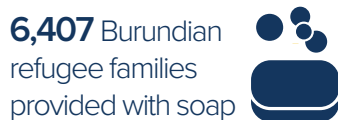
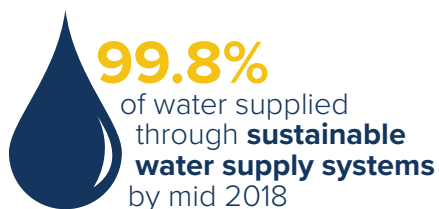
In the first six months of 2018, some 1,991 new arrivals were provided with communal temporary shelter in transit facilities. After relocation to Nakivale, asylum seekers were accommodated at Kabazana reception centre awaiting RSD interviews with REC. The government of Uganda through OPM allocated plots of land to all recognised refugees while partners provided household and emergency shelter kits, comprising of items such as sleeping mats, blankets, kitchen sets, water cans and plastic sheets. There are 2,010 asylum seekers pending RSD interviews who have not yet received a plot of land and, hence no shelter kits.

Several transit sites were built or expanded between January and June to reduce congestion, better organise the provision of humanitarian assistance and to scale up emergency preparedness measures. This included the construction of Nyakabande's new transit centre (Kisoro district) and the Matanda transit centre (Kanungu district). A new rub hall for food and NFI storage was installed in Nakivale settlement to help bring humanitarian assistance closer to Burundian refugees.

Existing settlements need to be re-organised to maximise efficient use of available land, to cluster shelter plots in villages, to increase plantation zones and to incorporate boundary planting, but resources remained limited for longer-term settlement planning. Underfunding also compromised the plan to transition from temporary to semi-permanent and permanent structures, including schools, household shelters and recreational facilities.

Lack of resources also continued to force partners to use spot gravelling for the construction and repair of roads in and around Nakivale settlement, which makes them impassable during the rainy season, cutting several villages off from humanitarian assistance.

WASH



RRP partners continued to make significant progress to shift from emergency water provision to more sustainable water supply systems, though funding shortfalls hampered the complete phasing out of water trucking.

Supply of safe drinking water was maintained at 17.8 liters per person per day by the end of June 2018, with over 99.8 percent provided through permanent water supply schemes. During the reporting period, one motorised borehole was completed, giving a total of seven motorised boreholes across refugee settlements hosting

Burundian refugees.

Partners continued to promote a household approach to WASH services, with the aim of encouraging ownership and positive behaviour practices. 63% of households already have family latrines.

The Ministry of Water and Environment (MoWE) has assumed a more prominent role and responsibility within the refugee response, with an increased coordination role at a national and field level, leveraging resources and technical capacity from various stakeholders. An integrated Uganda Water Sector Plan is being developed under the leadership of MoWE to identify and address the water needs of refugee and host-communities in refugee-hosting areas.

CRRF

The Government of Uganda formally launched the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) in March 2017, embracing existing initiatives, mechanisms and policies seeking to address the needs of refugee and host communities in Uganda. The long-term goal is sustainability of Uganda's refugee settlement response model and inclusion of refugees into national and local development plans.

The CRRF seeks to advance Uganda's Settlement Transformative Agenda (STA), embedded into the National Development Plan II (2016-2021), including through the implementation of the humanitarian refugee response (emergencies and protracted situations) and development-oriented interventions like the Refugee and Host Populations Framework (ReHoPE), under UNDAF.

A multi-stakeholder CRRF Steering Group, co-chaired by the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) and the Ministry of Local Government (MoLG), supports the practical application of CRFF, with technical support from the CRRF Secretariat. The CRRF Steering Group consists of 32 members from Line Ministries, Government Departments and Agencies, Local Governments, development and humanitarian donors, representatives of UN Agencies, national and international NGOs, the private sector and international financial institutions.

In January 2018, the CRRF Steering Group adopted a roadmap, with milestones and priority interventions for refugee stakeholders between 2018 and 2020, bridging the gap between NDP II and NDP III. Creating entry points for non-traditional refugee responders in Uganda, the roadmap highlights the following priority focus areas: adaptation and standardisation of refugee response and protection based on lessons learned; access to quality education for refugee and host communities; water delivery and infrastructure; environment and energy; health care; and livelihoods, resilience and self-reliance.

For the first time in Uganda's history, national and local development plans will include refugee issues. In March 2018, the Ministry of Education introduced its Education Response Plan (2018-2021) which is currently under review with the aim to respond to the additional strains placed on the educational system in refugee hosting districts. Following this lead, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Water and Environment have also begun developing integrated response plans, due for release in the second half of 2018 and early 2019 respectively.

To optimise coordination, the Inter-Agency Coordination Group (IACG) evolved into the Comprehensive Refugee Coordination Forum, in order to better align refugee responses with longer term government planning and management of social service delivery. Moving forward, in addition to OPM Department of Refugees and UNHCR, MoLG will co-chair this forum jointly at both central and district level.

RRP PARTNERS*

- Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA),
- African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD),
- Agency for Cooperation and Research in Development (ACORD),
- American Refugee Committee (ARC),
- Danish Refugee Council (DRC),
- Finnish Refugee Council (FRC),
- Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)
- Humanitarian Initiative Just Relief Aid (HIJRA),
- Hunger Fighters Uganda (HFU),
- Israid,
- Lutheran World Federation (LWF),
- Medical Teams International (MTI),
- Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)
- Nsamizi Training Institute of Social Development (NSAMIZI),
- Reproductive Health Uganda (RHU),
- Right to Play (RtP),
- Samaritan's Pursue (SP),
- Save the Children International (SCI),
- Trauma Counselling (TUTAPONA),
- Ugandan Red Cross Society (URCS),
- United Nations AIDS (UNAIDS)
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- War Child Holland (WHH),
- Windle Trust Uganda (WTU).
- World Food Programme (WFP)
- World Health Organisation (WHO)

* Including those not appealing for funds through the RRRP

FOR MORE INFORMATION

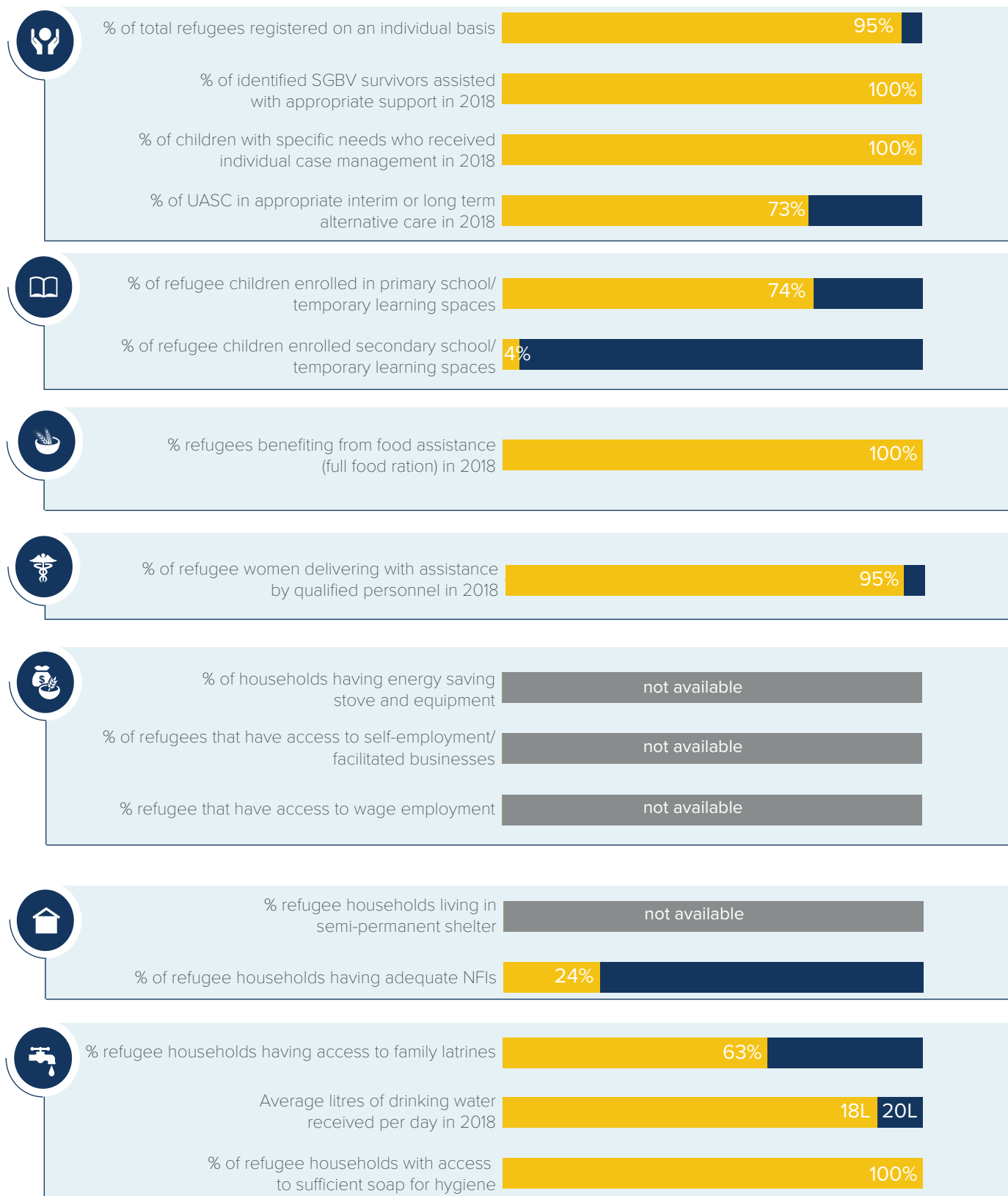
Burundi Data Portal - <http://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/burundi>

Joel Boutroue, Representative to Uganda, boutroue@unhcr.org; **Jens Hesemann**, Snr. Field Coordinator, hesemann@unhcr.org;

Rocco Nuri, Reporting Officer (Inter-Agency Coordination) nuri@unhcr.org

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