

THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO SITUATION

This update concerns the situation of Congolese refugees and asylum seekers in countries in the region.

As of 30 November 2018, 800,330 Congolese refugees are being hosted in African countries. From 1 January to 30 November 2018 alone, some 154,287 Congolese fled to neighboring countries, with a particularly **significant increase** in refugee flows to Uganda, Burundi and Zambia.

UNHCR together with 43 humanitarian and development partners launched the revised Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP) on 17 July 2018 for **\$547 million to help respond to the needs of Congolese refugees in Africa.**

KEY INDICATORS



Total of refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC



New arrivals in November 2018

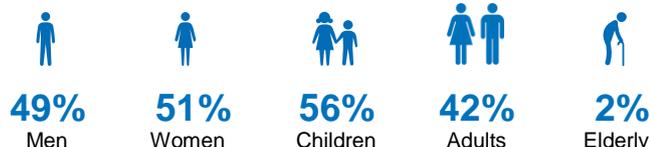


Total of new arrivals in 2018

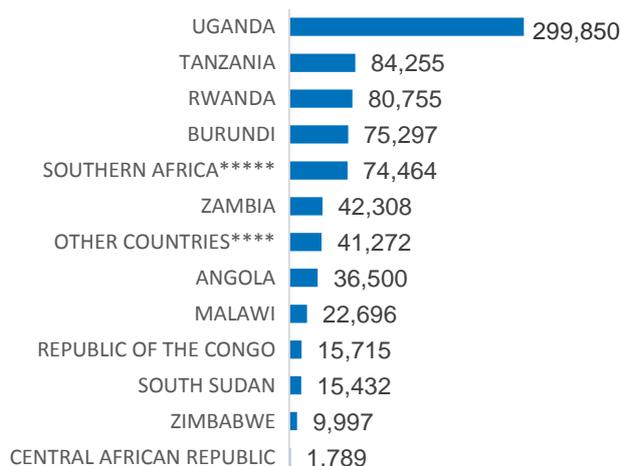


Total number of Congolese refugees assisted to return since January 2018.

AGE, GENDER BREAKDOWN ***



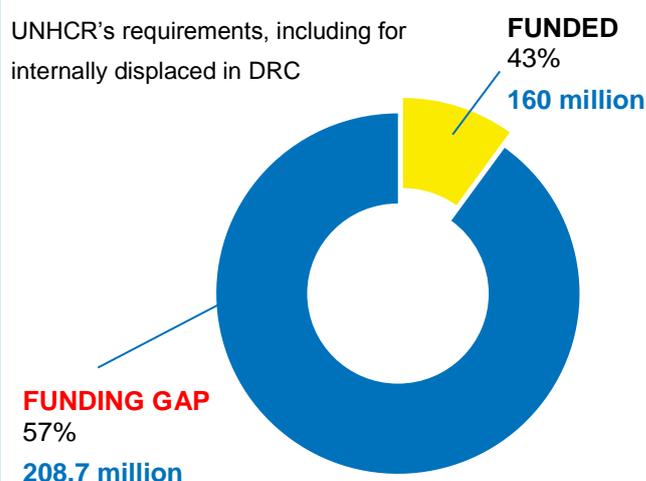
POPULATION OF CONCERN IN HOST COUNTRIES



FUNDING

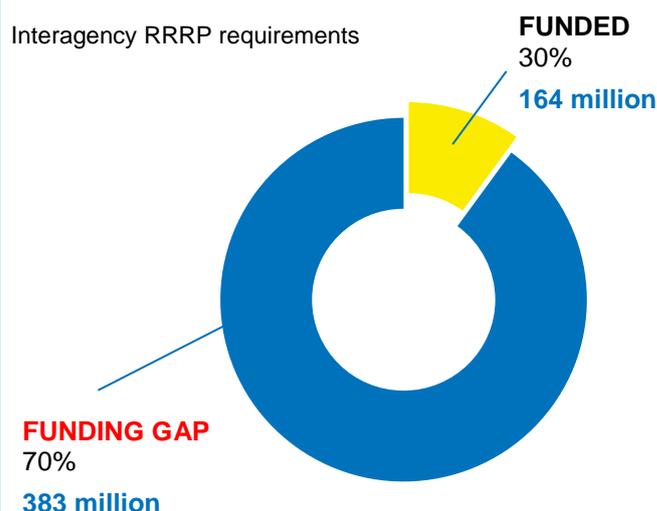
USD 368.7 million

UNHCR's requirements, including for internally displaced in DRC



USD 547 million

Interagency RRRP requirements



* **Total number** includes figures from Angola, Botswana Burundi Central African Republic, Chad, Kenya, the Kingdom of Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, South Africa, South Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

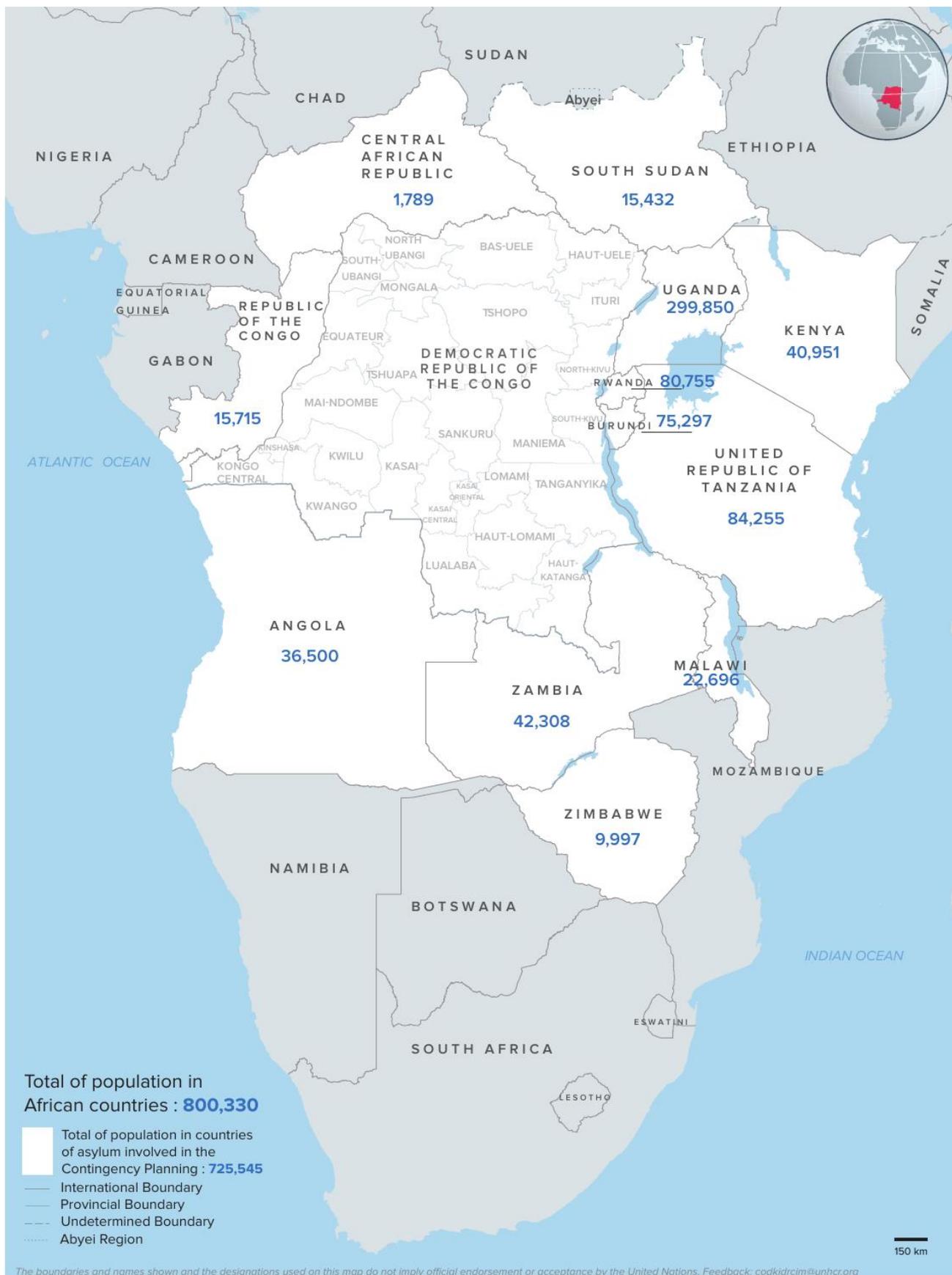
** **New arrivals** include figures from Angola, Botswana Burundi Chad, Central African Republic, Kenya, the Kingdom of Eswatini Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

*** **This age and gender breakdown** includes figures from Angola, Botswana Burundi, Chad, Central African Republic, Kenya, the Kingdom of Eswatini, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

**** **Other countries** include Chad and Kenya.

***** **Southern Africa** includes Botswana, the Kingdom of Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mozambique, Namibia and South Africa.

NUMBER OF REFUGEES & ASYLUM-SEEKERS in countries of asylum as of the end of November 2018

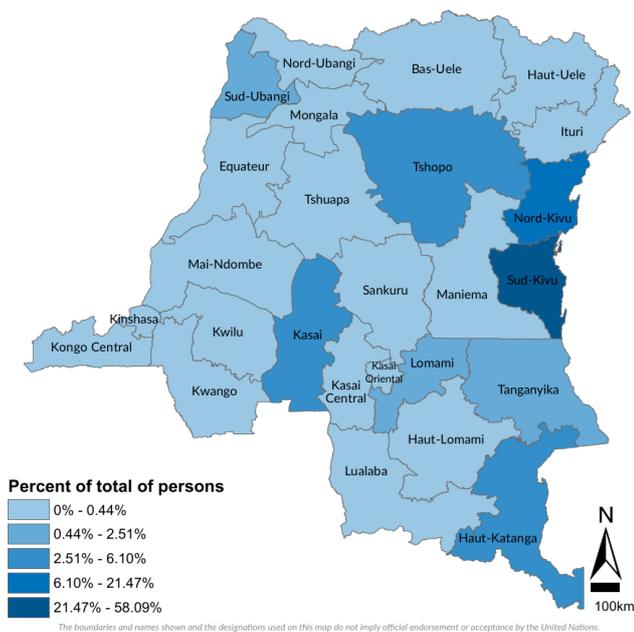


Creation date: 30 November 2018 Sources: UNHCR - Kinshasa Feedback: codkidrcim@unhcr.org

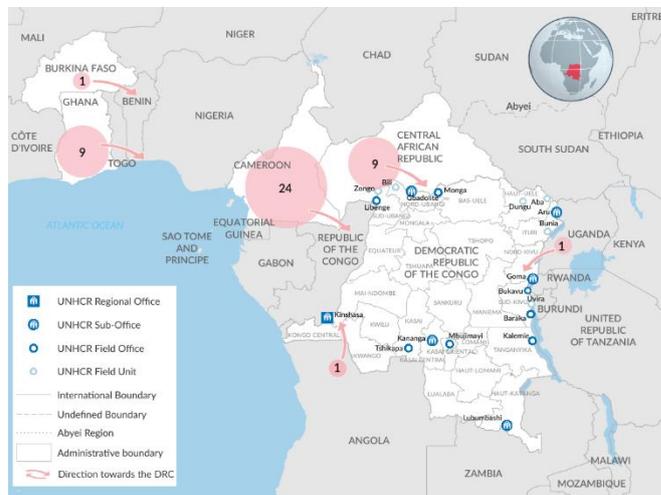
Regional Highlights and Operational Context

- A total of **800,330 Congolese refugees and asylum-seekers** are being hosted in countries in Africa, which have generously maintained an open door policy in granting asylum to old and new asylum seekers.
- **Contingency planning** has been undertaken in connection with the current volatile insecurity and socio-economic situation in the DRC which could witness more outflows of Congolese refugees to neighbouring countries. In the **Regional Contingency Plan** for the DRC situation, it is estimated that in the event of a major emergency in the country, leading up to the presidential elections, and in the post-election period, over 386,000 new Congolese refugees and asylum seekers could arrive in countries of asylum. Further, it is estimated that some 78,000 refugees currently residing in the DRC might return to their countries of origin.
- UNHCR received **\$160 million** for the DRC situation, representing **43 per cent** of the total requirements for 2018, which amount to \$368.7 million.
- The interagency Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP) for the DRC situation received **\$164 million**, representing **30 per cent** of the total requirements for 2018, which amount to \$547 million.

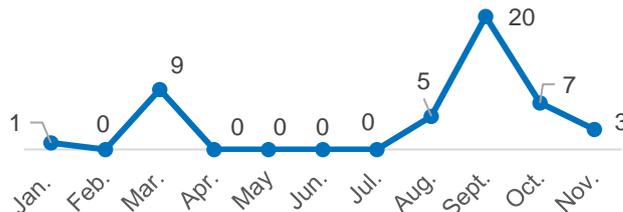
PROVINCES OF ORIGIN of Congolese Refugees



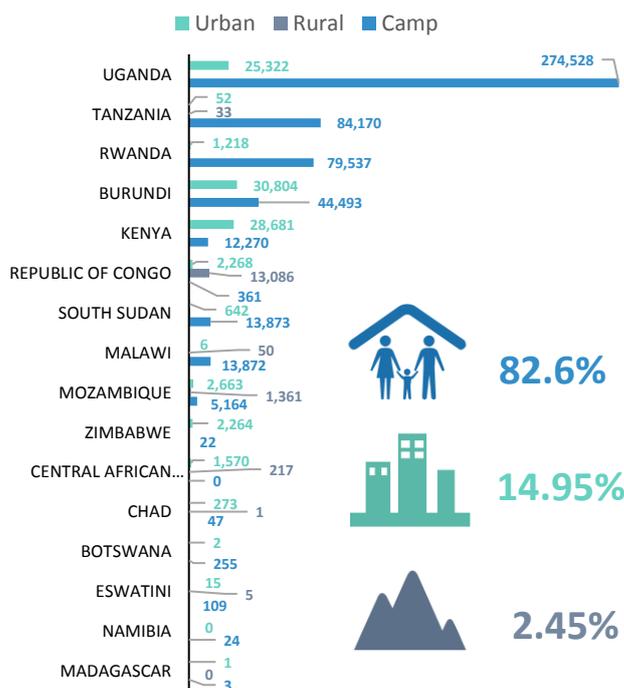
RETURNEES As of 30 November 2018



MONTHLY RETURNEES TREND Since January 2018



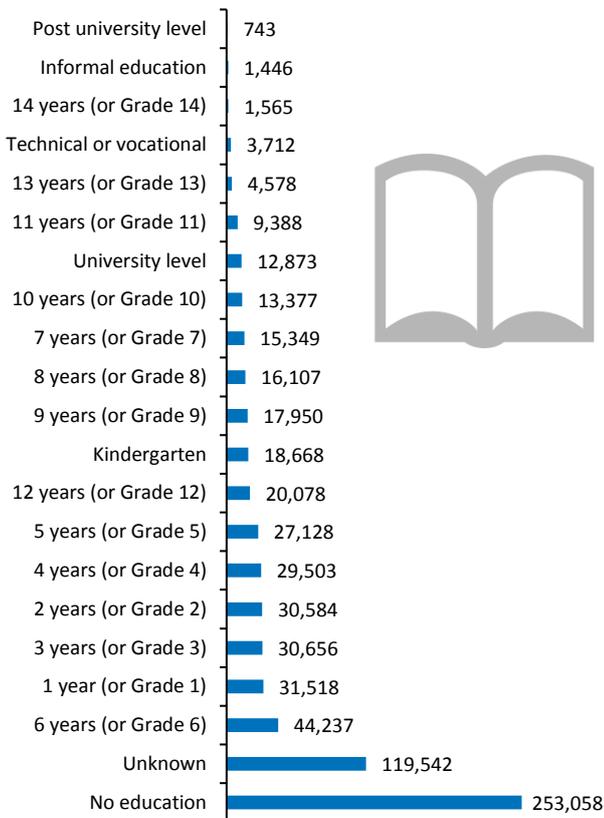
TYPE OF SETTLEMENT In Countries Of Asylum



The above map includes figures from Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Chad, Central African Republic, Kenya, the Kingdom of Eswatini, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, South Sudan, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

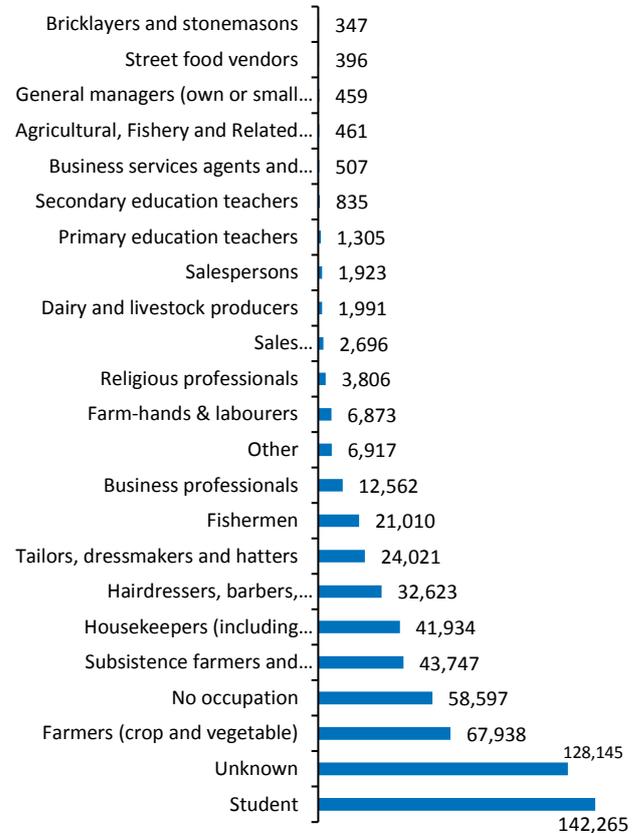
EDUCATION LEVEL OF REFUGEES

Number Of Persons Per Level



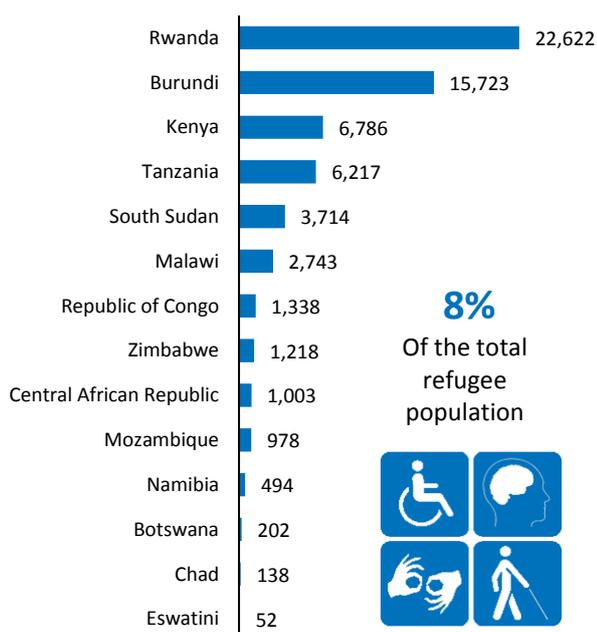
OCCUPATION OF REFUGEES

Number Of Persons By Type Of Occupation



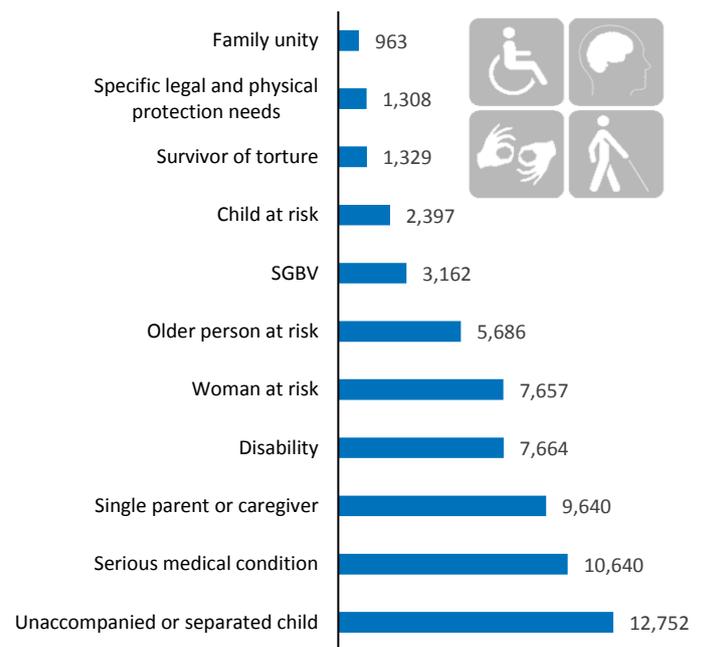
NUMBER OF PERSONS WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS

Per Country of Asylum



NUMBER OF PERSONS WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS

Per Category of Concern



* Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)

The above charts include figures from Botswana, Burundi, Chad, Central African Republic, the Kingdom of Eswatini, Kenya, Malawi, Namibia, Mozambique, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, South Sudan, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

Achievements during the Reporting Period

ANGOLA

Latest developments

- A total of 18,000 Congolese refugees (3,828 families) were residing in Lóvuá settlement, as at 30 November 2018.
- Some 1,900 refugees were relocated from urban communities to Lóvuá settlement.

Achievements

- About 318 dignity kits were equally distributed to girls and women of reproductive age during relocation and awareness activities for pregnant women on antenatal care conducted with newly relocated women. Almost 95 per cent of those pregnant women relocated did not previously have access to antenatal care.
- Vaccinators from Lovua municipality were present twice a week in the health centres of the settlement during relocation. Vaccines were given following the national standards.
- The construction of transitional shelters was ongoing and a total of 2,770 transitional shelters were built.
- Food distribution benefited some 6,846 refugees in Dundo and some 14,404 in Lóvuá settlement.
- A total of 2,000 plastic sheets received from which 822 were used for the construction of shelters as part of the relocation process and 1,128 for distribution to transitional shelters, damaged tents and emergency shelters.
- Four boreholes were drilled in Lóvuá settlement and one in the local community, while the construction of a second borehole in the local community started.

Challenges

- As of 16 November, UNHCR and partners registered around 2,200 individuals *refouled* on the DRC side of the border. Although UNHCR has reported *refoulement* cases prior to *Operação Transparência* (Operation Transparency) by the Angolan authorities, the number of individuals *refouled* was substantially increased since the start of the Operation.
- Since 19 November, all family reunification has been stopped at the provincial level by Lunda Norte authorities. As such, unregistered family members with the right to family reunification remain in an irregular situation, and are consequently at risk of *refoulement*, abuse and exploitation.
- There is a lack of funding support for nutrition-related activities for 2019.

BURUNDI

Latest developments

- A total of 631 new refugees from the DRC arrived in Burundi, bringing the total number of refugees and asylum seekers to 75,297.

Achievements

- Refugee status was granted to 661 asylum seekers. A total of 652 resettlement cases were submitted, while 213 refugees departed for resettlement countries, bringing the number of resettled Congolese refugees from Burundi to 2,237, since the beginning of this year.
- Some 1,947 children with specific needs were identified and assisted in both Kavumu and Bwagiriza refugee camps, including 203 separated and 1,328 unaccompanied children. Further, some 4,884 specific needs cases were identified in Kinama and Musasa refugee camps.
- Three convoys relocated 172 households of 646 refugees to Kavumu refugee camp, including 632 who departed from Cishemere and 14 from Bujumbura urban communities.
- The construction of the fifth refugee camp in Nyankanda, with a reception capacity of 11,000 persons, completed. Refugees will choose among IKEA shelters and traditional houses.

- Six classrooms were handed over by UNHCR's construction partner in Kavumu refugee camp. A total of 52 teachers from Kavumu and Bwagiriza refugee camps, as well as 31 young ladies who have completed their secondary school studies in the pedagogy section were trained on the new DRC school curriculum. The second round of school material distribution was organized in Kavumu and Bwagiriza for pupils in the kindergarten, primary and secondary schools.
- Ebola preventive mechanisms implemented in refugee camps and in transit centers, in line with the national prevention protocols. Sensitization campaigns to prevent other illnesses such as malaria, HIV, pneumonia, TB, diarrhea and respiratory illnesses were as well undertaken in all refugee camps.
- There were 24 refugee students in eastern camps with eyesight troubles who were assisted with medical kits, including drugs and glasses.
- More than 44,000 individuals living in refugee camps were supported by UNHCR with medical care, while around 800 households of refugees in urban areas remained enrolled in the health mutual insurance (SOLIS).
- Low crude mortality rate was achieved (1.2/1000/month) as well as low under 5 mortality rate (0.7/1000/month). All births (100%) were attended by skilled health workers. Immunization coverage (measles) rate stood at 97.7% in refugee camps.
- Food fares were organized in all refugee camps. Available food items included maize and cassava flour, beans, local and imported rice, as well as oil and salt. Cooking briquettes were distributed in refugee camps.
- Individual houses at risk of collapsing in Bwagiriza were rehabilitated. Identification of such houses is ongoing in order to take action quickly. Some 42 improved stoves were distributed to newly arrived refugee households in Kavumu.
- Sensitization session took place in Kavumu on good hygiene practices and hygiene kits were equally distributed to 2,000 refugee young girls and women.
- Individual houses and latrines were disinfected and water chlorinated in refugee camps. Tanks containing chlorinated water were installed at the entrance of refugee camps and transit centers for hand washing as a preventive measure against Ebola.

Challenges

- UNHCR Burundi remains underfunded. This situation has a negative impact on the overall assistance to refugees, including for self-reliance activities and access to quality education.
- There is lack of substantial material assistance for separated and unaccompanied children.
- Drugs purchase and supply process was lengthy which impacts the health care provision to refugees.
- Given the high number of refugees living in Kavumu camp, there is need for extension of the hangar of distribution. UNHCR is considering to extent it as soon as possible and to rehabilitate existing hangars in Musasa and Kinama refugee camps.
- The food basket for refugees living in camps is no more diversified because cash is no longer distributed to buy fresh food.
- Nutrition support/supplementation assistance targets only pregnant women and lactating mothers and the persons living with HIV chronic diseases. The diet of the persons with specific needs has yet to be improved. Nutritional assistance to refugees with severe acute malnutrition is provided by UNICEF through Government's health structures, outside refugee camps.
- There is lack of funds to rehabilitate some 460 individual houses in Bwagiriza as well as for additional street lights in refugee camps.
- Budget constraints do not allow to replace old latrines with drainable ones, as well as to rehabilitate emergency latrines and to repair 500 defective latrines in Kavumu and in Bwagiriza camps.

MALAWI

Latest developments

- There were some 22,696 Congolese refugees and asylum seekers in Malawi, as at the end of November.
- Dialogue and trust building with local communities currently hosting new arrivals and refugees was initiated by the District Commissioners of Karonga and Chitipa.

Achievements

- Some 3,967 children were enrolled in schools in Dzaleka camp (188 pre-school, 2,977 in primary school, 346 in secondary and 456 in tertiary) representing 32.8 per cent of the eligible children for enrollment from DRC.
- Health service delivery at Karonga transit centre, Chitipa and Mbilima reception centers need to be strengthened by providing transportation and ensuring constant supply of drugs. Infection prevention and control measures are not, yet, fully followed. Most of the asylum seekers cannot afford to purchase health passports, which cost MK 200, at the district hospitals.
- Health services provided at Karonga transit centre were for under five children only, and were related to integrated management of childhood illnesses, vaccination, deworming and growth monitoring. Other serious cases and ailments for adults were referred to Karonga or Chitipa district hospitals.
- A monitoring mission was undertaken to the entry points in Karonga, Chitipa and Mbilima to monitor various interventions including for shelter. Refurbishment of a reception shelter in Dzaleka camp was ongoing.
- Welthungerhilfe (WHH), a WASH operational partner, continued to carry out a number of WASH improvements at Karonga transit centre, such as sinking a borehole and installing a submersible pump which is solar powered. At Mbilima, a hand powered pump borehole was sunk.
- Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS), another WASH partner carried out activities, such as general cleanness on latrines every morning using triple action disinfectant cleaner at Karonga, Chitipa and Mbilima transit shelters.

Challenges

- Detention of new arrivals continued at the borders under the guise that were being screened for Ebola. New arrivals remain at the border points between one to three weeks, and in some cases longer. Access to transport services, water and food remains as a big challenge at all the border points.
- Congestion in schools at all levels continues to be a significant challenge compromising the quality of education. Teacher/student and classroom/student ratios remain very high ranging from 1:80-120 per teacher/classroom against minimum local standards of 1:60.
- Full food rations provided in Dzaleka camp. However, refugees and asylum seekers at the transit center in Karonga received only maize without other commodities. UNHCR and WFP are working to address the issue. Further, food is not provided at waystations in Chitipa and Mbilima despite that new arrivals might have to stay up to a week before being cleared by immigration.
- Due to funding shortages, food distribution in Dzaleka camp will be reduced starting in January March 2019.
- Shelter at the borders is totally inadequate and additional number of emergency tents have been requested to house new arrivals. Heavy downpours damaged a number of shelters in the camp in Dzaleka. About 20 houses were affected while some houses are still being assessed. The rainy season in Malawi normally begins in November until April the following year.
- There is need to construct proper drainage systems at Karonga transit shelter, as well as to provide new blankets and mosquito nets and additional hand washing buckets for hygiene practices.

REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Latest developments

- As of 30 November 2018, the number of Congolese refugees and asylum seekers in RoC stood at 15,715.

Achievements

- Three families (12 individuals) were provided with buckets, kitchen sets, jerrycans, mosquito-nets, and hygienic tissues.
- Enrollment of students in primary and secondary education, and vocational training continued (261 students of which 125 girls and 136 boys in primary school, 43 in secondary education of which 12 girls and 31 boys and 36 students of which 12 girls and 31 boys in professional training at the *Centre d'Apprentissage Catholique de Likouala Timber* in Betou.
- UNHCR and its partner AARREC, took care of the payment of about 60 teachers lecturing in Betou and Ikpengbele where the majority of Congolese refugees reside. Six out of the 60 teachers are Congolese refugees.

- Terre sans Frontières, a health partner, conducted regular medical consultation at the CSI integrated health center in Betou and the Hospital in Impfonfo for a total of 1,404 patients, of which 259 were under five years. The same partner organized a raising awareness day on the preventive measures of Malaria.
- A total of eight refugees were tested negative for HIV and advice on attitudes to adopt were given to patients by health professionals. A total of 211 DRC refugees were sensitized, including 114 on HIV/AIDS and the risks of SGBV, and 97 on epidemic diseases.
- About 170 refugee women went for prenatal consultations by a medical doctor. A total of 47 births were attended by qualified staff (no delivery at home) and 29 family planning and 18 after birth consultations were conducted.

Challenges

- There is lack of nutritional inputs (F75, F1000, plumpynuts, Plumpysup, CSB, CSB++, Oil, Sugar, etc.) for the severe and moderate acute malnutrition.
- Insufficiency of medical consumables (transfusers, catheters, infusers, syringes) and a lack of isolation sites remain significant challenges.

RWANDA

Latest developments

- There were 80,755 Congolese refugees and asylum seekers in Rwanda, as at 30 November 2018.

Achievements

- A total of 20 Congolese refugee youth aged from 19 to 25 from Gihembe and Nyabiheke camps participated in a training organized by MindLeaps. The training intended to improve cognitive development and social/emotional learning skills through an arts-based approach and to empower the selected youth to teach other refugee youth who are idle and at risk of dropping out of school.
- Refugee students sat for the national exams completing their different education levels. Over 2,500 students in P₆ level sat for exams completing primary, over 1,000 students in S₃ level completed their secondary lower level, while 294 students in S₆ level sat for secondary national exams.
- A total of 17 Congolese refugee students were granted scholarships through the DAFI project and enrolled in the University of Rwanda.
- Over 19,328 persons benefited from outpatient medical consultation and there were 39 consultations conducted per clinician per day. The top three morbidity diseases were Upper Respiratory Tract Infections (URI) 52 per cent, Intestinal worms 6 per cent and Skin Disease 7 per cent.
- In collaboration with Byumba District Hospital, Gihembe camp has performed male circumcision to under sixty days babies and Kigeme camp has performed a volunteer medical male circumcision to some 150 boys.
- Management of severe and moderate malnutrition for children under 5, pregnant and lactating mothers was done in clinics both outside and inside the camp.
- The recovery rates for moderate and severe malnutrition were 100 per cent, while the average length of the stay in supplementary feeding programme (FP) for moderate malnutrition and therapeutic FP for severe malnutrition were 12.1 days and 75.3 days, respectively.
- Roofs of 503 shelters in Gihembe camp and of 478 shelters in Nyabiheke camp were renovated from plastic sheeting to corrugated iron sheets. In Nyabiheke camp 30 additional shelters were constructed and 88 Refugee Housing Units were built.
- An average of 20.1 litres of water per person per day was provided in Kiziba camp and an average of 23 litres of water per person per day of potable water was supplied in Gihembe camp.

Challenges

- Congolese students enrolled in boarding schools away from refugee camps, still, do not have access to healthcare, whereas the schools are obliging the children to get insured.

- There are gaps in Ebola preparedness related to infrared thermometer, personal protective equipment, trainings, information education and communication (IEC) materials, no isolation room in Kigeme and Gihembe camps.
- There is lack of long lasting insecticide treated mosquito bed nets while malaria is increasing. In Kiziba camp there is need for more than 5,000 mosquito bed nets and in Mugombwa camp for more than 3,000.
- Semi-permanent nutrition structures in Nyabiheke camp need to be changed to permanent structures
- There is an urgent need to expand/extend all the Congolese refugee camps to accommodate the increasing number of refugees.
- An estimated 1,500 shelters are still covered in plastic sheeting in Gihembe and Nyabiheke camps, creating discomfort and poor living conditions, especially during rainy seasons.
- The usage of latrines in Kiziba camp is currently 41 users per drop hole (below the minimum standard of 20 persons per drop hole). In both Kigeme and Mugombwa camps there is a lack of retaining walls and stairs around some dischargeable latrines which creates a high risk of accidents and hinders accessibility.

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

Latest developments

- There were 84,255 refugees and asylum seekers from the DRC in Tanzania, as at 30 November, 2018.

Achievements

- A total of 1,498 persons of concern (PoCs) were reached during legal awareness rising campaign at Nyarugusu refugee camp to gain a better understanding of their rights and responsibilities and be empowered to exercise them. Further, over 140 PoCs had access to legal services at the camp and at detention centers in the Kasulu region.
- International Rescue Committee (IRC), an education partner, distributed 48 UNICEF Early childhood development Kits to 13 Congolese primary schools in Nyarugusu Camp. IRC also conducted community sensitization on school attendance in Nyarugusu refugee camp, in collaboration with Parents and Teachers Association (PTA). With the support of refugee camp leaders, a total of 7,973 (3,665F and 4,308M) persons were reached during the sensitization sessions.
- Thanks to a generous donation from the *Dorris Mollel Foundation*, in partnership also with *Vodacom Tanzania Foundation*, the Tanzanian Red Cross and Red Crescent Society (TRCS) renovated a pre-term unit/ward at the main Hospital in Nyarugusu camp. The donation of medical equipment included oxygen concentrator, baby warmers, phototherapy machines and resuscitation bags and increased the capacity of the ward up to 14 neonates or pre-term babies.
- Crude mortality rate was 0.2/1000 population/month and under five mortality rate was 0.6/1000 population/month. The leading cause of morbidity was Upper Respiratory Tract Infection (URTI) representing 33 per cent of total consultations, followed by Lower Respiratory Tract Infection (LRTI) and Malaria each representing 23 per cent of total consultations and Urinary Tract Infection 7 per cent.
- World Food Programme (WFP) continued its support ensuring food distribution, for the total of the Congolese refugee population, both in Nyarugusu refugee camp and NMC transit center. Food commodities distributed at full rations, including maize meal 380g, parcels 120g, oil 10g, salt 5g and CSB for 50g.
- In Nyarugusu refugee camp Upgrading of Congolese shelters – all 480 shelters have been completed beneficiaries who upgraded their shelters are signing off to acknowledge the receipt of the assistance.
- A total of 24 emergency shelters were constructed in Nyarugusu refugee camp to accommodate refugees with protection cases. Some 280 families were assisted with plastic sheets for roofing their shelters.
- Construction of Sifa primary school was completed with 12 semi-permanent classrooms, one permanent admin block, three permanent block of latrines and fence. At Fraternity secondary school, construction of administration block was completed.
- Average water supply was 20.littles/person/day and latrine coverage was 8 person/drop hole. A total of 339 household were constructed through community participatory approach.

Challenges

- Alternative energy is needed in camps to maintain peaceful coexistence between the refugee and host communities, as well as to prevent sexual and/or gender-based violence (SGBV) against girls and women, who are mostly engaged in travelling outside of the camps for firewood collection and are at high risk of targeted.
- There is lack of sanitary materials, particularly dignity kits.
- Shortage of classrooms continues due to funding shortfalls. About 77 additional classrooms are required, given that classrooms are dilapidated and put students at risk.
- Poor health infrastructure and access to pharmacy services at the main Hospital in Nyarugusu camp, remains a major challenge.
- The existing waiting shelter at center one in Nyarugusu camp cannot accommodate the entire population to be served per day.
- Shortage of core relief items (CRIs) due to budgetary constraints, there has been no general replenishment distribution for Congolese refugees since 2014. This is particularly relevant in the case of Nyarugusu camp, given the environmental conditions and climate change. Additional budget is required to enable distribution of soap at the recommended standard.

UGANDA

Latest developments

- As of 30 November, the number of Congolese refugees and asylum seekers was 299,850 with a total of 3,640 new arrivals from DRC.
- As part of on-going efforts to strengthen emergency preparedness measures in anticipation of the upcoming DRC elections, UNHCR put in place an in-country NFI stock for 50,000 individuals and updated its internal emergency staff roster. The sequencing of settlement sites for DRC new refugee arrivals has been agreed upon with the Office of the Prime Minister, namely Kyaka II, Navikale and Kyangwali.

Achievements

- Access to water and sanitation has greatly improved. On average, 21.0 million litres of potable water was supplied to the refugees daily, ensuring per capita access remained at an average of above 19 litres per person per day, in all settlements. A total of 5 water schemes were commissioned, reducing water trucking to less than 7 per cent. Over 4,000 family latrines were constructed in the different settlements, raising coverage to 68 per cent.
- Ebola preparedness activities were escalated, focusing on personal and environmental hygiene at reception, transit and settlements. Village Health Teams (VHT) trainings were concluded in Kanungu, Isingiro, Ntoroko and Kisoro, to provide them with knowledge on surveillance of disease and case management.
- In the South West where the refugees from the DRC are hosted, in order to improve the living conditions of persons with special needs (PSNs), the construction of 310 semi-permanent PSN shelters, including the renovation of 12 shelters across the settlements, was planned for 2018. Thus far, 72 out of 75 PSN's shelters were completed in Rwamwanja; 60 PSN shelters as the full target have been completed in Nakivale; 12 PSN shelters were renovated in Oruchinga and 48 out of 175 PSN shelters were constructed in Kyaka II. In the reporting month alone, 28 PSN shelters were built in Rwamanja.

Challenges

- Distribution Plans for the 12th General Food Distribution (GFD) cycle for Kyaka and Kyangwali settlements in Kyegegwa and Hoima districts respectively, will be limited to not more than 1,000 food recipients per day, in order to minimize crowding and chances of Ebola Viral Disease (EVD) transmission. Kyaka and Kyangwali settlements were designated high risk districts in the Ebola response. UNHCR and WFP recommended that they receive bi-monthly food rations to minimize risks for EVD transmission.

ZAMBIA**Latest developments**

- A total of 1,113 new arrivals of Congolese were registered in November, bringing the total population of refugees and asylum seekers from the DRC to 42,308, among whom 4,691 persons with specific needs. Reception and registration of new arrivals continued in Lusaka, North-Western, Luapula and Northern provinces.

Achievements

- Issuance of birth certificates and alien cards commenced in all settlements. The card issuance exercise was conducted by the Government's National Registration Passports Citizenship (NRPC) Department in the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- Two schools constructed in Mantapala settlement. Mantapala A with 4 x 2 blocks and one Early Child Education block (Nursery), as well as Mantapala B with 3 x 2 blocks. The buildings were roofed and stocked with desks. The overall enrolment of learners in Mantapala is 5,074 (2,373 boys and 2,701 girls). The Ministry of General Education has deployed 12 teachers to Mantapala A and B schools. Additionally, the school has about 10 volunteer teachers from both the Zambian and refugee communities.
- The health prevention activities in November were met, with many indicators having been reached such as deworming rate, Vitamin A, Oral poliovirus vaccines Zero (OPV0) and measles.
- Monthly food distributions continued in Mantapala Settlement. The new arrivals in Meheba and Mayukwayukwa remained on cash-based-intervention (CBI), except for those who were awaiting adjudication at the reception centre in Meheba and remained on wet rations.
- The distribution of seeds, fertilizers and tools for the 2018/2019 agricultural season started on 1 November for new arrivals in Meheba and Mayukwayukwa refugee settlement, as well as in Mantapala settlement. Over 500 families, including also host community families, received one bag of comp D, urea fertilizer and five kg of maize seed and a set of tools for preparation for the farming season.
- A total of 840 x 0.5 hectare farm plots were demarcated in Mantapala Settlement under the leadership of the Office of the Commissioner for Refugees (CoR) and Ministry of Agriculture (MoA). Thus far, 436 beneficiaries have been allocated 0.5 ha farm plots. Led by District MoA, UNHCR and Caritas Czech Republic (CCR) undertook field monitoring, to track progress and record land preparation by refugee beneficiaries. Of the supported 186 beneficiaries, up-to 70 were verified as having cleared and prepared their farm lands and was scheduled to receive seeds. With support from MoA and MCDSS, engagement of host community members in four villages through the headmen has been planned in order to facilitate completion of land preparation by the remaining beneficiaries.
- The construction of a distribution centre in Mantapala Settlement by UNHCR was on-going and this is expected to make distribution of food easy in a centralized area.
- The Zambia National Service (ZNS) started working on road formation and drainage within the Mantapala Settlement in November 2018. The ZNS worked on about 11Km (road formation with gravel and compacting). In addition, ZNS opened about eight Km of road most of which has been graded and compacted.
- As part of the continued consolidation of Mantapala settlement, a total of 48 boreholes were drilled in Mantapala settlement by World Vision International and UNICEF providing 402m³/day. Thus, water availability in the settlement reached 32.2 liters/person/day.

Challenges

- There is need to create new reception centres as well as to rehabilitate dilapidated reception centres at the border areas to enhance and improve the reception capacity of new arrivals in Zambia.
- Following the exhaustion of the Central Emergency Relief Fund (CERF), 20 partners and three UN agencies have withdrawn from the emergency response, thus, negatively impacting service provision especially in Luapula Province. However, some partners have put in place stop-gap measures to continue with work in Mantapala for a few months, while sourcing long-term financing.
- The construction of an SGBV centre in Mantapala is 95 percent complete, however, the centre requires furniture to be fully operational.
- More teachers are needed, due to the large number of learners enrolled in the two schools. The ratio of teacher to learner is 1: 100 while the standard ratio according to the Ministry of General Education is 1:45.

Challenges

- There is need for more school requisitions such as desks and other teaching aids in Meheba and Mayukwayukwa Refugee Settlements to cater for the ever increasing refugee population.
- A major issue of concern is the increasing number of HIV-discordant couples among Congolese. Among 18 couples tested, four reacted positively and all of them were pregnant women except one convergent couple. The number of teenagers who accept the Voluntary Counselling and Testing (VCT) is growing and has reached 52 per cent. However, compared to women, the monthly rate of men coming for VCT is still very low.
- There are reports of social tension over farm land in some host community villages where Congolese refugees who have been allocated farm lands near host communities are intimidated. Under the leadership of Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Community Development and Social Services (MCDSS) and the Refugee Officer under the Ministry of Home Affairs, community engagement with host community is planned to sensitize host community members to stop intimidating refugees and allow them to continue farming.
- There is currently a household latrines gap of 1,534; bath shelter gap of 1,534; a gap of 15 temporary communal latrines, as well as a gap of 15 temporary communal bath shelters in Mantapala settlement. There has been no soap distribution in the settlement in the last two months and this is contributing to diarrhea diseases in the settlement.
- Additional boreholes and water points are required in Meheba and Mayukwayukwa refugee settlements to meet the needs of new arrivals. Moreover, in the case of an influx, all the three settlements will require enhanced water and sanitation.

ZIMBABWE

Latest developments

- There were 9,997 Congolese refugees and asylum seekers in Zimbabwe, as at 30 November 2018.
- The People's Republic of China donated US\$ 2 million to UNHCR. One million dollars was used to procure core relief items (CRIs) while another million was handed over to WFP by UNHCR to be used for food security cash based intervention (CBI) and some in-kind food provision for the Tongogara refugee population. A handover ceremony of food and non-food items, including blankets, kitchen sets and soap was conducted by a delegation from the People's Republic of China Embassy in Zimbabwe. The Chinese delegation pledged continued support to refugees in Zimbabwe through UNHCR and WFP.

Achievements

- The Zimbabwe operation started conducting the periodic population verification exercise on 27 November 2018 in Harare for the urban based population. By 30 November a total of 1,099 persons had been verified as living outside Tongogara refugee camp. All the urban based refugees that missed the verification exercise will be verified by appointment during regular weekly protection and registration counselling days in Harare. The verification exercise which was previously postponed due to the cholera outbreak in Harare was cleared by the Ministry of Health and Child Care (MoHCC), after UNHCR made arrangements to verify urban and camp based refugees separately. The verification exercise in Tongogara refugee camp was scheduled to take place from 5 to 14 December 2018.
- The school feeding programme that had been suspended earlier in the year as a precautionary measure against the spread of cholera resumed on 5th of November 2018. The camp based Environmental Health Technician (EHT) worked closely with the school and cooks to maintain good hygiene.
- The Clinic in Tongogara refugee camp continued to conduct weekly health education sessions reaching out to 10,948 (4,686 males and 6,262 females) persons during the reporting period. Session topics included indoor residual spraying (IRS), malaria, dangers of using traditional medicines, family planning and diarrhea.
- The health sector distributed mosquito nets to 37 pregnant women to protect the expectant mothers from mosquito bites that can result in malaria infection.

- CBI for food security was conducted from 20-23 November 2018 with 12,087 persons (3,583 households) receiving the cash monthly entitlements of USD13 person. The distributions were conducted by Terre des homes (TDH) a partner NGO responsible for both food distributions and cash disbursement in Tongogara refugee camp.
- A total of 105 under five children received micronutrients as recommended by the Ministry of Health and Child Care (MoHCC). A total of 63 samples of fine salt were tested during the month and found to be satisfactory (iodine content).

Challenges

- There has been a continued increase in reported child abuse and SGBV cases in the camp. Child protection partners and stakeholders have been encouraged to increase their efforts to ensure the full engagement of the affected communities to promote early identification and reporting of cases of abuse.
- The MoHCC still has no malaria prophylaxis (fansidar) for pregnant women and the drug has not yet been found in private pharmacies.
- Due to a small but steady influx of new arrivals to Tongogara refugee camp, there is serious shortage of accommodation space at the Tongogara reception centre. It is highly expected that the 200 shelters being constructed will go a long way to ease the pressure on general accommodation challenge in the camp.

Financial Information

UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors who have contributed to our activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed directly to the situation or operations.

Donors who have contributed to the DRC situation:

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Working in Partnership

Partners involved in the 2018 Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP) for the DRC include:

Action Africa Help | Action Against Hunger | Adventist Development and Relief Agency | African Initiative for Relief and Development | Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development | American Refugee Committee | Building Resources Across Communities | CARE International | Caritas | Danish Refugee Council | Fédération Luthérienne Mondiale | Finn Church Aid | Food and Agriculture Organisation | Good Neighbours International - Tanzania | Gruppo di Volontariato Civile | Help Age International | Humanitarian Open Street Map Team | Humanity and Inclusion | International Aid Services | International Organisation for Migration | International Rescue Committee | Jesuit Refugee Service | Johanniter | Kabarole Research and Resource Center | Lutheran World Federation | Médecins du Monde | Medical Teams International | Norwegian Church Aid | Norwegian Refugee Council | OXFAM | People in Need | Plan International | Save the Children International | Tutapona | Uganda Red Cross Society | United Nations Children's Fund | United Nations Department of Safety and Security | United Nations Development Programme | United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees | United Nations Population Fund | United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office | World Food Programme | World Health Organisation

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UNHCR Operational Portal Refugee Situations DRC SITUATION	UNHCR Global Focus Operations Worldwide DRC SITUATION		2018 Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP) for the DRC situation		2018 Supplementary Appeal for the DRC situation		UNHCR Brochure on Underfunded Situations in 2018
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[Her Royal Highness Princess Sarah Zeid visits Gihembe Refugee Camp](#)

REGIONAL COORDINATION

- **Ann Encontre** is the Regional Refugee Coordinator (RRC) for the DRC situation, covering Congolese refugees in Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Rwanda, Republic of the Congo, South Sudan, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and other countries receiving refugees from the DRC.
- UNHCR leads and coordinates the response to the DRC refugee emergency, ensuring that the response is coherent with developments within the DRC, in close collaboration and consultation with relevant government counterparts, and with the support of UN Country Teams and other humanitarian and developments partners.

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