

United Republic of Tanzania

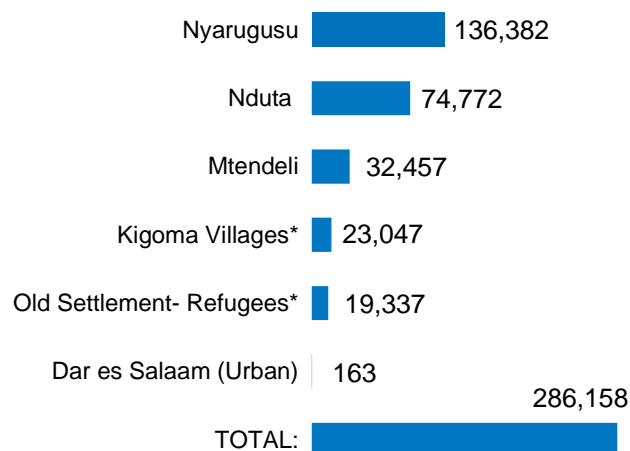
January - March 2020

Tanzania has had a long history as a refugee-hosting country. The country currently hosts 286,158 refugees and asylum-seekers, mainly from Burundi and DR Congo. Over 85 per cent of the refugees in Tanzania live in camps.

Tanzania is a country of solutions. In 2014, Tanzania granted citizenship to 162,000 Burundian refugees who fled Burundi in 1972. As of 31 March 2020, 649 refugees were resettled mostly to the USA, Canada and Australia.

Chronic underfunding continues to hamper the humanitarian response severely. More funding is required to address the needs and vulnerabilities of refugees and asylum-seekers in Tanzania.

POPULATION OF CONCERN AS OF 31 MARCH 2020

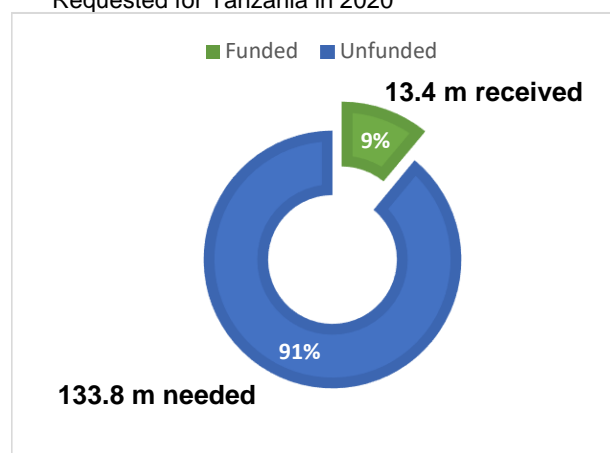


* This number comprises Burundian refugees who fled to Tanzania in 1972 and live in the Old Settlements and settled in villages in Kigoma region.

FUNDING LEVEL AS OF MARCH 2020

USD 147.2 M

Requested for Tanzania in 2020



UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

- 161 National Staff
- 45 International Staff
- 39 Individual Contractors
- 14 International UNVs

Offices:

- 1 Representation Office in Dar es Salaam
- 2 Field Office in Kasulu & Kibondo
- 2 Field Units in Kigoma & Mwanza



Kigoma Regional Commissioner Retired Brigadier General Emmanuel Maganga handing over hospital equipment to Kibondo District. UNHCR, with support of Irish Aid, donated hospital equipment to Kakonko, Kibondo and Kasulu districts, to strengthen the provision of health services to refugees and host communities. ©UNRC/Grace Mongi

Working with Partners

- UNHCR works closely with the Government of Tanzania through the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA), UN agencies and other humanitarian NGO partners.
- 16 UN Agencies are involved in the Kigoma Joint Programme, which was developed in cooperation with the regional and district authorities based on the development needs of the Kigoma region and the capacities of the UN in Tanzania. The Kigoma Joint Programme was officially launched on 20 September 2017 and will run for four years.

Main Activities

Protection

- UNHCR, in collaboration with partners, ensures that prevention, mitigation and response to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) remains a priority area through the development of a National Action Plan. Through this plan, which brings together numerous sectors, UNHCR is working to reduce the risks of SGBV and to ensure support is available for survivors. It prioritizes the creation of safe and accessible spaces for women and children. It also strengthens awareness of and access to reporting mechanisms for SGBV including, access to legal, medical, and psycho-social assistance for SGBV Survivors.
- Working with partners to UNHCR provides special consideration to children who have specific needs by ensuring that their cases are managed individually. Unaccompanied minors and separated children are provided with interim or long-term alternative care arrangements. Also, child-friendly spaces help to provide psycho-social support to children, including those in protection villages across the camps. Engagement with community-based structures is also being enhanced to prevent child trafficking and child labour.
- Age, gender, and diversity considerations, together, form the basis of UNHCR's programming. Participatory assessments are thus conducted every year, while community feedback mechanisms are continuously strengthened.
- In collaboration with the Government of Tanzania and partners, UNHCR seeks to build on opportunities presented by the Global Compact on Refugees to strengthen protection delivery and promote durable solutions and bridge the humanitarian-development nexus.

Education

- The Refugee Education Response Plan seeks to provide school-aged children with equitable, quality formal and alternative education through Early Childhood Care and Development resource materials, infrastructure development, and teachers' professional development. Classroom to student ratio is 1:80, in comparison to the national standard of 1:50. On the other hand, there is only one teacher for every 85 students compared to the 1:50 national standard. Schools in the refugee camps are using country of origin curriculum, which makes it difficult for teachers and students to access reference materials. There are 62 learning spaces that provide 836 classrooms which accommodating 93,000 learners (56 percent of the total camp population). The majority of the school-age children are Burundian (68.4 percent). Less than 30 percent of secondary school teachers and 65 percent of primary education teachers have professional qualifications. Following the Government directive to close all schools in the wake of the COVID-19 situation, learning in the camps was suspended in March.

Health

- UNHCR, through the Tanzanian Red Cross Society, operates two hospitals, two health centers, and seven health posts in Nyarugusu and Mtendeli camps. In addition, IRC is supported to run two maternal health centers in the same refugee camps. Médecins Sans Frontières operates one hospital and six health posts in Nduta camp. There is a need to improve the quality of health services for mental health, chronic and non-communicable diseases in the camps. The intermittent supply of essential drugs and medical supplies due to funding and import regulations continues to be a challenge. In light of the rapidly evolving COVID-19 situation globally, preparedness and response measures are being rolled out. These include the establishment of isolation centers, provision of medical supplies and temperature screening at camps' main entrance

Food Security and Nutrition

- Refugees receive 100 percent of their food entitlements from the World Food Programme. Supplementary feeding also continues to be maintained at 100 percent across all camps. The overall prevalence of global acute malnutrition is 1.9 percent across all camps, which is well below the 15 percent World Health Organization threshold.

Water and Sanitation

- UNHCR and partners exceeded the minimum **SPHERE** standard for water supply coverage in all camps following continued Water, Sanitation and Health programme (WASH) investments. These include the use of both surface water abstraction and drilling of boreholes. UNHCR also remains committed to maintaining latrine coverage of fewer than 20 persons per latrine. To increase a sense of ownership and improve cleanliness levels, UNHCR is working to ensure that families have their own single-family latrines. Hygiene promotion is also a critical aspect of WASH programming and maintaining a ratio of less than one hygiene promoter for 1,000 persons is essential for improved and targeted hygiene messaging. The current average coverage is 774 persons per hygiene promoter. Following the declaration of COVID-19 as a pandemic, hand washing stations have been set up in strategic locations, soap distribution rations have doubled, and awareness-raising campaigns to promote healthy practices have been intensified.

Shelter

- UNHCR and partners are implementing a community-based shelter construction approach that has reduced shelter construction costs and enhanced community participation. In 2020, the target is to increase the adequate shelter for refugees and asylum-seekers for at least 87 percent through the provision of 2,273 transitional shelters. Currently, transitional shelter and Refugee Housing Units (RHUs) covers large percent of the population in all three camps. However, some 45,000 refugees and asylum-seekers across the three camps continue to live in dilapidated emergency shelters and tents for prolonged periods. Persons of concern are also forced to face the harsh weather conditions, especially during the rainy season, leaving them exposed to various health risks.

Energy and Environment

- UNHCR and partners are implementing a comprehensive energy and environment strategy, which includes the fabrication of fuel-efficient stoves, and community-based biomass briquette production. Alternative cooking fuels currently being explored include Liquefied Petroleum Gas, biomass briquettes and sustainably sourced firewood. Afforestation, reforestation, community-based forest management, and enhanced environmental conservation and management through environmental education in the three refugee camps, constitute other efforts to mitigate the impact of refugee presence on the environment in the Kigoma region.

Livelihoods

- UNHCR and partners are working together to create livelihood opportunities and promote the economic inclusion of persons of concern and host populations. This is being done through the provision of vocational based training, life skills, business skills, and functional literacy computer and digital literacy and online learning focusing on women and youth. Access to finance has been improved through sustained advocacy efforts and voluntary saving groups. Kitchen gardens have gained importance in ensuring food security following the recent restrictions on livelihoods. Lack of sustainable livelihoods opportunities has become major contributing factors for i) increased Sexual and Gender-Based Violence against women and girls, ii) increased negative coping mechanisms by refugees, iii) exploitation of Persons with Specific Needs who receive assistance, iv) challenges faced by girls and boys in finding their space in the society, v) loss in the social status for men, and vi) loss of opportunity for peaceful coexistence with the host community

Durable Solutions

- **Voluntary repatriation:** UNHCR and partners are not promoting returns to Burundi but are working with the governments involved to ensure that returns are based on the principles of voluntariness and informed decisions and take place in safety and dignity. The return operation is currently taking place under the framework of a Tripartite Agreement between the two governments and UNHCR. At the 21st Tripartite Commission Meeting that took place in November 2019, all parties have acknowledged that while some refugees may opt to return now, others may still have well-founded reasons not to return at present and will continue to need international protection. The repatriation of Burundian refugees from Tanzania resumed on 6 February after a three-month pause. As of 31 March, 3,049 persons had been assisted to return to Burundi in 2020, bringing the total number to 81,846 since the exercise began in September 2017.
- **Resettlement:**
Resettlement remains the most viable durable solution for Congolese refugees who have been in a protracted asylum situation since the mid-1990s with limited prospects of a return to their country of origin. Refugees at heightened risk and those with intensified vulnerabilities also benefit from resettlement as a protection tool, including those with serious medical needs, survivors of violence and torture, women and girls at risk and those with heightened legal and physical protection needs. The total number of departures since 2012 stands at 22,543 individuals. Main countries of asylum include the USA, Australia and Canada.
- **Local Integration:**
In 2014, the Government of Tanzania granted citizenship to more than 162,000 Burundian refugees who fled to Tanzania in 1972. In December 2018, the Government of Tanzania and UNHCR concluded a Verification, Registration and Intention Survey (VRIS) exercise across the country. The exercise proposed 40,455 individuals currently residing in the old settlements and Kigoma villages for durable solution pending Governments decision.

External / Donor Relations

Special thanks to all our donors for earmarked and unearmarked funding received in 2020

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