

Rwanda

October 2022

On October 26, UNHCR Rwanda facilitated the **voluntary repatriation of 218 Burundian refugees** from Rwanda back to their country of origin - Burundi.

A delegation from the **African Union** visited Rwanda in October. The mission aimed learn about services provided to refugees living in camps to understand the services provided in camps in response to refugees' needs, as well as exploring best practices.

In October 2022, UNHCR supported the reception of **244 Rwandan returnees** at the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Goma and Bukavu.

KEY STATISTICS

126,916 individuals are registered with UNHCR in Rwanda as of 31 October 2022. Mainly including individuals from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (59.93%) and Burundi (39.59%).

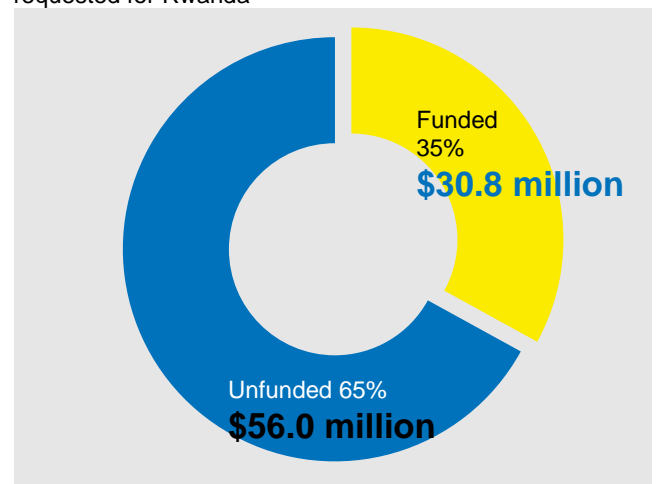
91% of refugees in Rwanda live in refugee camp

5,590 refugees have been submitted for resettlement since January 2022.

FUNDING (AS OF 25 OCTOBER)

USD 86,8 million

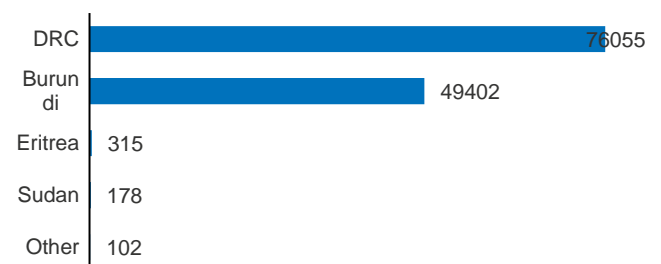
requested for Rwanda



Refugees compete in the first Inter-Camp games tournament held in Mahama camp at the beginning of October. Over 600 refugee sports enthusiasts from across the five refugee camps in Rwanda took part in the competition. © UNHCR/Lilly Carlisle

CURRENT POPULATION OF CONCERN

Countries of Origin



Source: © UNHCR, The UN Refugee Agency

Operational Context & Partners

The Government of Rwanda (GoR), through Ministry of Emergency Management (MINEMA), leads the refugee response in Rwanda in coordination with UNHCR. In addition, a range of UN Agencies, NGOs, operational and development partners participate in sector working groups at both country and district levels. Currently, UNHCR works directly with 11 partners in implementing key activities to assist both the refugee population and Rwandan host communities. To further strengthen the implementation of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF), UNHCR maintains close collaboration with key government institutions and ministries.

Achievements



PROTECTION

- In Rwanda, the inclusion of refugees is facilitated through the issuance of refugee ID cards by the Government of Rwanda. In October, Directorate-General Of Immigration And Emigration (DGIE) and UNHCR jointly distributed 33 refugee ID cards further safeguarding their access to essential services.
- Gender based violence incidents among refugee populations continued to be reported to UNHCR in October. 63 new GBV incidents were reported and provided with appropriate multi-sectoral support. The new cases reported include incidents of rape, sexual assault, physical assault, denial of resources, psychological and emotional abuse, and an incident of early marriage. 20 GBV cases were closed during the reporting period, and the existing 353 open cases continue to receive GBV psychosocial counselling, medical assistance, material support, referral to legal services and to the Police and/or Rwanda Investigation Bureau.
- In October, a community-based approach continued to be utilized to reinforce the dignity and self-esteem of refugees in camps and urban settings, to empower them, help them understand their rights and the services available to them.
- In October, UNHCR conducted trainings on the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation Abuse (PSEA) and SGBV, for 108 Partner staff from WVI, H&I, Ayateke, H&I, LAF, Caritas Rwanda, Maison Shalom, Pro-femmes, GIZ and Rwandan Red Cross in Mahama camp. These trainings aimed to further train, refresh and strengthen partners to provide support to people who have experienced SEA and reduce its occurrence among communities.
- Throughout October 2022, UNHCR in collaboration with Humanity and Inclusion (HI), supported 1,709 persons, 547 elderlies in vulnerable situations and 1,162 other people with specific needs/living with disabilities, with non-cash support, mostly by providing Non-Food Items (NFIs), medical care and psychosocial support.
- At the Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM) centre in Rwanda, UNHCR and partners continued to provide support to refugees and asylum seekers who had experienced torture and abuse in Libya including through weekly counselling

sessions. As of the end of October, 512 refugees and asylum seekers were hosted at the ETM. UNHCR continued the registration and processing of the 203 new individuals who arrived at the end of August throughout the month. 45 refugee and asylum seekers were also supported with psychosocial therapy, while 58 people received occupational therapy.

- UNHCR in collaboration with MINEMA and protection partners, celebrated the International Day of the Girl, in all refugee hosting locations in Rwanda using the national theme “My health, my dignity” and the global theme “My time is now, my right, my future”.



Refugee students in Mugombwa camp use tablets as part of the Profuturo digital education project during their maths lesson.



EDUCATION

- UNHCR Rwanda awarded a total of 35 refugees with scholarship under DAFI (The Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative) programme, bringing the number of new refugee students awarded the scholarship to 60 students in 2022. As part of efforts to improve gender equality, out of the total admissions, 44 scholarship places have been awarded to qualified female refugees. As of October, there are 152 (79 female and 73 male) refugees currently at university in Rwanda supported under the DAFI scholarship programme.
- UNHCR supported a refugee student who has been awarded scholarship at University of Barcelona, to travel to Barcelona through complementary education pathways on 18th of October.

- UNHCR continues to support and advocate for early education for children in refugee camps in Rwanda. To improve refugee children's cognitive skills and develop coping mechanisms, UNHCR through the partnership with Rwanda Mobile Book, continues to make books available through the physical community library in Mahama camp, as well as online. In October, 670 children (227 girls, 443 boys) had access to books in Mahama camp, by renting them or by accessing them online, through the community library.
- All refugee students in Rwanda are registered in the national education system and continue to benefit from early childhood development (ECD), primary and secondary education. As the new academic year started, UNHCR and ProFuturo supported the registration of the new students in grade four within the ProFuturo platform in Mugombwa, Nyabiheke and Mahama. ProFuturo is a digital education programme created by Telefónica Foundation (Spain) used to deliver lessons through the use of tablets and increase digital literacy among students. So far, 1,436 pupils were registered, including 676 males and 760 females, from Mugera, Nyabiheke, and Nyabicwamba.
- In October, UNHCR facilitated the enrolment of 56 refugee students from Kiziba camp who performed well in national exams to boarding schools for high achievers located across Rwanda. All students also received scholastic materials (notebooks and pens) and will further be sponsored by World Vision International (WVI) for the remaining academic year 2022-2023.
- UNHCR supplied 10,375 kgs of briquettes (2,575 kgs for porridge and 7,800 kgs for hot meal) to Mugombwa camp and 1,250 kgs of briquettes in Kigeme camp, as part of UNHCR's school feeding programme.

**HEALTH**

- UNHCR supports access to health care services for all refugees in Rwanda. In October, 26,802 primary consultations were conducted in all camp-based health facilities, averaging 42 consultations per day per clinician. UNHCR also continued to refer refugees in need of emergency, life-saving care to district level hospitals. In total, 560 health cases were referred for secondary and tertiary level care and management in October.
- In October 2022, UNHCR initiated Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) screening campaign for diseases such as breast and cervical cancer. This screening campaign targeted 500 people and took place in the Mahama refugee camp.
- UNHCR in coordination with One Sight Rwanda supported the eye-screening of refugees in need of glasses. In October, 13,520 refugees were screened in Mahama, Mugombwa and Kigeme camps, and 1,193 refugees in need of spectacles were provided with free eyeglasses.
- As of end of October 2022, 68.6% of refugees living in refugee camps in Rwanda are recorded as having taken two doses of the COVID-19 vaccination.
- UNHCR continues to work with health partners to provide specialized medical care to refugees and asylum seekers with disabilities. In Nyabiheke camp, for example,

85 refugee children and 21 disabled members of the host community received functional rehabilitation services and care in October.

- Despite the protracted refugee situation, refugees and asylum seekers in Rwanda continue to suffer from mental health challenges. In October, all refugee camps in Rwanda, continued to provide psychosocial services to refugees and asylum seekers. In Nyabiheke camp for example, UNHCR and HI supported 323 persons (32 males and 291 females) with mental health and psychosocial issues, through therapeutic sessions, group occupational and animation therapy, and individual psychotherapy support sessions.



FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- Eligible refugees in all camps receive cash assistance for food from the World Food Program (WFP). As of the end of October 2022, 94% of the total refugees living in the camps are under targeted food assistance. As per agreed targeting criteria, 87% of refugees in Rwanda (99,243 refugees) are classified as Highly Vulnerable and receive full (100%) food assistance, while 6% refugees comprising of 6,901 refugees are currently classified as Moderately Vulnerable and receive 50% of the value of full food assistance. And 7% comprising 7,420 refugees are classified as Least Vulnerable and do not receive any cash for food assistance.
- In coordination with our partner ADRA, UNHCR continued to provide all refugees and asylum seekers at the ETM three meals a day. 50 refugees and asylum seekers with specific nutritional needs (medical cases, lactating mothers, etc.) in the ETM were also supported through the provision of special meals in accordance with their dietary needs.



WATER AND SANITATION

- UNHCR, in partnership with World Vision, provides water to refugees living in all refugee camps, reception, and transit centres across Rwanda. In October, water supply averaged 21.3 litres per person per day throughout the refugee camps in Rwanda. Camps such as Nyabiheke and Kigeme continue to provide less than the minimum water supply of 20 litres per person per day. In Nyabiheke camp, water is expected to reach the minimum requirements once the water pump is fully fixed. Additionally, 6,029 members of the host community around Mahama and Gashora, also received potable water of 15 litres per person per day in the reporting period.
- In October, UNHCR conducted a joint assessment with WASH partners, of potential WASH needs (latrines, handwashing, water connection, etc.) for Ebola isolation facilities in all camps. The assessment indicated that the isolation sites inside the camps or within the existing healthcare facilities are not currently appropriate for handling Ebola related isolation needs if an outbreak were to occur.
- To curb the impact of poor hygiene related diseases and stave off COVID-19 in all refugee camps and transit locations, UNHCR through WASH partners in camps across Rwanda provided a total of 2,547 litres of liquid soap, for handwashing and

other cleaning practices. Furthermore, sludge was collected from latrines' septic tanks from all refugee camps and disposed of to the respective waste dumpsites.

- In Mahama, UNHCR completed the installation of back-up raw water pumping system in October. The performance testing is pending and planned for November. Furthermore, road works to support solid waste management was also completed.



SHELTER AND NFIS

- During the month of October, a total 382 shelters were rehabilitated across all the camps, this includes: 329 shelters in Mahama, 14 shelters in Mugombwa, 37 shelters in Kigeme, two shelters in Kiziba. This brings the total number shelters rehabilitated across the camps for the year 2022 to 1,716 shelters.
- UNHCR continues to focus on improving shelter access for people with disabilities. In Mahama camp, 60 such shelters were upgraded in October, through mechanisms such as enlarging doors and improving paths leading to the shelter.
- In October, UNHCR ensured the construction of 22 terraces to protect shelters on high-risk areas in Mugombwa and Kigeme camps. This brings the total number of terraces constructed in 2022 to 187 terraces.
- UNHCR also supported the transformation of 13 shelter roofs from old iron sheets to new iron sheets in Kiziba camp. This brings the total number shelter roofs upgraded to 343 shelters this year.
- As part of efforts to increase shelter adequacy and improve the living conditions of refugees in camps, UNHCR supported the construction of six new shelters in Kigeme camp. In total, UNHCR has constructed 21 new semi-permanent shelters in the camps for 2022.
- In October, UNHCR, with implementing partner WVI, distributed and facilitated the planting of 11,000 fruit trees (5,000 avocados, 4,500 oranges, 400 citruses, and 1,100 mangoes), as well as 2000 bamboos. Among the trees that were planted, UNHCR donated 6,000 of the fruit trees (3,000 avocados, 2,100 oranges and 900 mangoes) to the host districts of Gisagara, Huye and Nyamagabe, allocating three fruit trees per family program within those districts. 2,250 Eucalyptus (maiden) and 140 Alnus seedlings were also planted in Kigeme.



ACCESS TO ENERGY

- UNHCR continued to provide gas for clean cooking for refugees in camps. In October 2022, approximately 21,345 households in Mahama and Mugombwa camps received cooking gas.
- In 2018, UNHCR introduced the cash assistance programme to ensure refugees receive monthly cash payments that enable them to have the financial resources to purchase gas according to their energy needs. In October, UNHCR Rwanda supported refugees in camps such as Kiziba, Mugombwa and Kigeme with cash assistance / cash for energy.

- Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) cookers emit 50 times fewer pollutants than cooking stoves fuelled by biomass such as mud stoves. In October, UNHCR provided 2,878 LPG cylinders to refugees in Mugombwa camp for cooking their daily meals.



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

- In October, the Rwanda Social Security Board (RSSB) and UNHCR launched a process to support the systematic enrolment of urban refugees and students in boarding schools within the Community Based Health Insurance plan (CBHI). During a mission to Rubavu, the two organizations sought to address challenges faced by refugee populations and improve the regular distribution of CBHI cards.
- From 13 - 15 October 2022, UNHCR Rwanda supported 14 refugee youth to attend the YouthConnekt Africa Summit 2022. The summit took place in Kigali with the theme of “Resilient Youth, Resilient Africa”, and brought together more than 5,000 participants from across the continent.
- In October, UNHCR met with the Private Sector Federation in Gisagara District to discuss how to expand refugee inclusion and employment within the private sector in line with the Global Compact on Refugees.
- On the 27th of October, UNHCR in partnership with CARITAS distributed start-up kits for 28 graduates of Technical and Vocational Education Trainings (TVET), to 20 refugees and eight members of the host community in Kiziba camp. The start-up kit included equipment that is used for construction, sewing machines, culinary art, hair dressing, welding, and mechanic toolboxes, to help the graduates start their business in line with UNHCR’s approach to help refugees ‘graduate’ from humanitarian assistance and become more self-reliant.
- UNHCR and MINEMA organized an inter-camp sports tournament in Mahama refugee camp, where refugee sports enthusiasts from across all refugee camps in Rwanda competed in different disciplines such as football, martial arts, basketball, volleyball and sit ball. During the tournament, messages on GBV, child protection and child rights were shared. A total of 13,544 participants were reached (643 women, 3,924 men, 2,778 girls, and 6,199 boys).
- In October, UNHCR Rwanda received USD 50,000 from the Digital Inclusion Fund, to set up an online job and scholarship search desk in all refugee camps and the two urban areas. At the help the desk, refugee youth will be helped by a trained “Digital Career Counsellor” selected among refugee youth in their search for job and scholarship opportunities.
- At the ETM, UNHCR Rwanda supported 201 refugees, asylum seekers and members of the host community attend various vocational trainings in October. 115 individuals completed their motor vehicle driving training, 71 individuals participated in ICT courses, 80 individuals benefitted from TVET trainings such as electrical courses, hair dressing and tailoring, while 49 people attended language classes in English, French and Kinyarwanda.

**DURABLE SOLUTIONS**

- In 2022, UNHCR Rwanda has received resettlement quota of 5,915 individuals. By the end of October 2022, 5,590 individuals were submitted to resettlement countries. In addition, 3,190 refugees have departed for resettlement and 60 refugees departed through complementary pathways so far this year. This includes 74 individuals who departed for resettlement to Canada, Finland, Netherlands, and Norway in October 2022.
- UNHCR continued to support Burundian refugees to return home. On the 26 October, a return convoy successfully repatriated 218 Burundian refugees from Rwanda. Since the beginning of 2022, UNHCR has repatriated a total of 790 Burundians, and 30,315 Burundians have been repatriated since August 2020.
- The USA resettlement processing partner Resettlement Support Centre (RSC) Africa supports refugees going through the resettlement process such as through offering cultural orientation classes to help refugees integrate easier in their new communities. In October, RSC has obtained all the necessary authorizations to open an office in Rwanda and has signed an MOU with the government of Rwanda.
- UNHCR supported the reception of 244 Rwandan returnees from DRC in October. 218 of the returnees were hosted in Kijote Transit Centre and 26 were hosted in Nyarushishi Transit Centre.

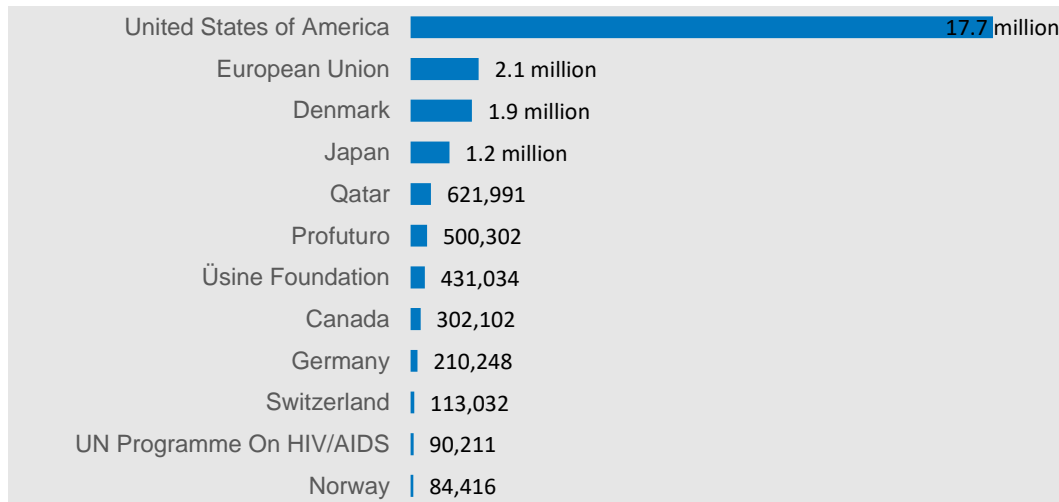
**MISSIONS, DELEGATIONS AND EVENTS**

- The United States resettlement pre-screening mission from Resettlement Support Centre (RSC) kicked off in Kabarore on the 04 October. The RSC Africa team were in Karongi district on the 05 October to pre-screen 279 cases of 627 refugees from Kiziba camp for further processing and admission to the USA. The pre-screening mission by RSC is expected to end in November.
- Between the 11th and 14th of October, UNHCR facilitated the visit of Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) delegation comprised of 16 Members of Parliament and four senior government officials. The visitors were briefed about the refugee response in Rwanda as part of a visit to Gikondo community centre in Kigali. The delegation expressed that they appreciated refugees' skills, as well as the hospitality of Rwandan people to host refugees.
- On October 14th, representatives from the Swedish Postcode Lottery visited Mahama refugee camp to see the impact of their funding on child protection programmes implemented in coordination with Save the Children.
- On October 18th, UNHCR facilitated the visit of an African Union Commission assessment mission to Rwanda. As part of their mission, the delegation visited the ETM, Mahama, Mugombwa and Kigeme refugee camps with the aim of gathering best practices that could be replicated in other parts of Africa.
- UNHCR hosted a mission from Belgian Red Cross delegates in Mahama camp on the 28 October. The aim of the mission was to monitor activities implemented by Rwanda Red Cross in the camp.

Financial Information

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to the Rwanda operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes regionally and globally with broadly earmarked and unearmarked funds.

EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS to UNHCR Rwanda in 2022 | USD



BROADLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Special thanks to the major donors of broadly earmarked contributions which contribute to the response in Rwanda and the region

Germany 45.1 million | United States of America 29.3 million | Private donors USA 15.2 million | Austria 14.8 million | France 13.3 million | Private donors Australia 11.1 million | Canada 7.8 million | Denmark 7.6 million | Private donors Germany 6.9 million | Australia 4.4 million | Switzerland 4.3 million | Netherlands 4 million | Private donors United Kingdom 3.6 million | Private donors Italy 2.4 million | Spain 2.3 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 2 million

UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Special thanks to the major donors of unearmarked contributions.

Sweden 99.3 million | Norway 72.5 million | Private donors Spain 45 million | United Kingdom 40.1 million | Netherlands 37.2 million | Private donors Japan 31.7 million | Germany 27 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 22.6 million | Japan 21.7 million | Private donors USA 19.5 million | France 18.5 million | Switzerland 18.4 million | Private donors Italy 12.9 million | Belgium 11.9 million | Ireland 11.8 million | Private donors Canada 10.5 million | Italy 10 million

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