

# UNHCR Burundi Operations Overview

February 2024



### REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI Operation overview

### TOTAL POPULATION

## **332 800**

## 85 600

refugees in camps and urban areas

## 2 600

asylum seekers

## 235 600

assisted returnees

## 8 200

internally displaced persons

### 800

persons at risk of statelessness

Statistics as of **29 February 2024** or lastest available



### **OPERATION OVERVIEW**

While the number of people for whom UNHCR has been entrusted with a responsibility by the international community to protect and assist in Burundi continues to increase, the UN Refugee Agency faces an unprecedented funding gap. As of 29 February 2024, there were 332 800 persons needing life-saving aid, while the funding levels stood at only 7%.

### **PEOPLE OF CONCERN**





#### GENDER BREAKDOWN



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## OPERATION OVERVIEW

### **Summary by Donor** | 2017 - 2024

	Funded							
Donor	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
African Development Bank	-	589,667	825,533	-	-	-	-	-
Belgium	696,428	156,814	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada	-	-	-	-	-	261,643	130,822	-
Central Emergency Response Fund	-	2,527,999	150,092	-	1,200,231	-	-	-
China	-	-	-	-	14,761	-	-	-
Denmark	-	-	-	-	-	-	275,060	565,941
ECHO	-	-	-	1,250,000	1,250,000	1,250,000	1,250,000	722,207
Emirates Red Crescent	-	-	-	230,000	-	-	-	-
European Union	-	-	-	1,209,429	1,483,671	4,109,415	2,634,040	-
France	434,311	580,720	200,000	284,414	293,083	-	873,362	-
Germany	-	-	-	-	1,242,246	2,713,349	317,692	-
Japan	-	1,500,000	-	-	627,809	-	2,400,000	-
Joint United Nations Programmes on HIV/AIDS	25,000	-	-	-	64,200	80,000	-	-
KOICA	-	-	-	-	-	450,000	-	-
Monaco	-	-	-	-	-	-	103,413	110,132
Priv. Donors France	-	-	-	-	-	746	1,004	-
Priv. Donors Hong Kong	-	-	-	-	-	191,000	-	-
Priv. Donors in Denmark	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,736,781	-
Priv. Donors Italy	-	-	-	-	-	341,402	277,308	-
Priv. Donors Switzerland	-	-	-	-	-	439	-	-
Priv. Donors Thailand	-	31,846	-	-	-	-	-	-
Republic of Korea	-	200,000	100,000	-	-	450,000	4,000,000	350,000
Sweden	583,363	1,539,978	827,267	-	-	-	-	-
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	-	-	522,104	519,519	-	54	-	-
United Nations Great Lakes Regions Cross-Border Fund	-	169,359	-	-	-	-	-	-
United Nations Peacebuilding Fund	-	933,333	466,667	-	-	-	-	-
United States of America	3,000,000	11,223,930	10,142,000	15,558,850	11,915,753	16,196,566	16,696,672	-
UNO-Fluechtlingshilfe	-	-	-	-	-	413,039	-	
USA for UNHCR	-	-	-	-	-	-	500,025	
World Food Programme	-	23,891	423,573	17,482	-	-	-	-
Sub-Total	4,739,102	19,477,537	13,657,236	19,069,694	18,091,754	26,457,654	31,196,179	1,748,280
Indicative allocation of funds and adjustments						2,567,355	1,316,547	5,546,664
Grand Total						29,025,009	32,512,726	7,294,944





They are mainly in urban areas.

\*\* More than 3/4 of the people who are not fingerprinted are children under the age of 5 (as this is not a requirement).

not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.



#### BURUNDI OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES **Burundian voluntary repatriation** as of 29 February 2024

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

UNHCR and partners have been facilitating the voluntary repatriation of Burundian refugees since 2017. These refugees have been returning after making free and informed decisions. More than 235 600 Burundian refugees had been recorded as having returned by the end of February 2024. Most are from Tanzania, Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, and other countries. These returns take place under the framework of the Tripartite Agreements between the Government of Burundi, the Governments of countries of asylum, and UNHCR, with all parties having committed to respect the voluntary

#### nature of these returns. **Key figures** 235,575 since 201 1528 in 2024 (3 convoys and flights) 724 convoys and flights (since 2017) Breakdown by gender and age **49%** 56% children men women Returnees by country of asylum 2024 Since 2017 Countries of asylum Tanzania 1055 165,869 Rwanda 95 D. R. Congo 107 Kenya 213 Uganda Mozambique Others 58

#### **Reintegration package** (for 3 months) Non-Food Items Food assistance

1528

flour, salt).

Basic NFI (kitchen set, soap, blankets, loincloths for women, jerrycans, buckets, mosquito nets, plastic mat, plastic sheet, flannel, travel bag, ...) provided by UNHCR.

#### Cash grant

TOTAL

Cash<sup>\*</sup> assistance provided by UNHCR through mobile cash. The equivalent of 200 USD (560,778 BIF) per person.

### Burundian refugees in the region





Korea International Cooperation Agency



Since 2017, UNHCR has supported the voluntary repatriation of over 234 000 returnees, including 65,000 in 2021 and 21,788 in 2022. Upon the arrival of returnees in their province of return, UNHCR and its partners conduct follow-up activities to review their level of reintegration. Monitoring data indicates a low capacity of returnees to access essential social services, which makes some refugees reluctant to return. Despite efforts by the Government of Burundi with support from humanitarian and development actors, access to housing, land, and employment remains a significant challenge. For example, over 69% of returnees are not satisfied with their level of food security. Nevertheless, there have been improvements in the security and justice sectors (land dispute resolution) compared to previous years.

#### MEASURABLE RESULTS BY SECTOR

PROTECTION	The respondents reported that at least 74% of adults in households have national identity cards. 75% of children received birth certificates in 2023 (compared to 69% in 2022), a significant improvement resulting from registration campaigns.
EDUCATION	57% of the children who arrived this year, compared to 52% in 2022, are enrolled in school. The observed decrease is due to the fact that the majority of children arrived during the second semester and experienced difficulties in enrolling and adapting to the Burundian education system.
HEALTH	68% of returnee households do not have a health insurance card compared to 70% in 2022. 82% of returnee children arriving in 2022 are vaccinated against measles from asylum countries. The major challenge is accessing quality healthcare services in the return areas.
WATER, HYGIENE AND SANITATION	85% of households in 2022 reported having access to safe water. More than 90% of them find water within two kilometers. During the drought period, there is an increased need for containers to store sufficient quantities of water at the household level.
SHELTER	28% of returnees live in their own homes. 41% live in rented houses; 68% of this group are in Muyinga, Cibitoke, Kirundo, and Ruyigi provinces. The returnee community is in great need of support in terms of shelter kits and building materials.
FOOD SECURITY	64% of returnee households eat only once a day. 76% of the returning households reported never having received food aid after the one they received upon arrival at the transit center.
ACCESS TO LAND	In 2023, 38% of repatriated households used their cash allowance for the acquisition of land (fields), but only 13% were able to practice farming during the last cropping season. The challenges are the lack of seeds and agricultural tools.
LIVELIHOODS	88% of returnee households report living on less than USD 1 per month on average. Many returnees living in border areas cross the border back and forth to engage in temporary labor.
DONORS	tional