

## BURUNDI SITUATION

### UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE 21

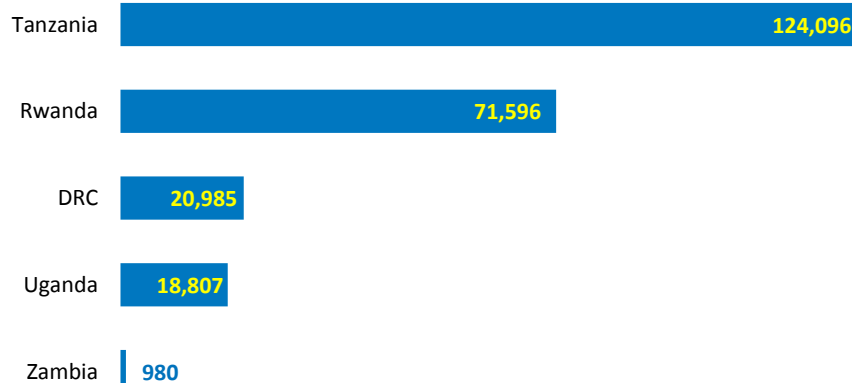
15 January 2016

## HIGHLIGHTS

- A total of 236,464 Burundian refugees and asylum-seekers have arrived in the neighbouring countries of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the United Republic of Tanzania, Rwanda, as well as Uganda and Zambia since April 2015.
- Refugees continue to report grave human rights violations and great difficulty in leaving Burundi. There are increasing amounts of reports of SGBV incidents committed against women in transit to countries of asylum. In the capital, attacks take place on an almost daily basis and added to these factors are the country's rapidly deteriorating socio-economic conditions.

#### Population of concern

A total of **236,464** people of concern as of 15 January



## KEY FIGURES

**236,464**

New Burundian refugees in the neighbouring countries since the beginning of April 2015

## FUNDING

**USD 175.1 million**

requested for the situation for January-December 2016. Funding levels against these requirements will be available from 25 January onward.

## PRIORITIES

- **Tanzania:** Pursue the relocation of refugees from Nyarugusu to Nduta and to the recently opened Mtendeli camp.
- **Rwanda:** Increase border monitoring and systematize screening procedures to reduce the risk of potential recruitment.
- **DRC:** Construct additional shelters to accommodate refugees currently hosted in transit centers and hosting families.
- **Uganda:** Nakivale Settlement is close to its capacity with a population of 20,000 individuals. Site preparation at new settlement areas to be initiated.

## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS



### Protection

#### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

- As of 15 January, 20,985 Burundian refugees had been biometrically registered by UNHCR and the Government's National Commission for Refugees (CNR). The majority are located in the Uvira and Fizi territories. Over half of the refugee population originate from the Cibitoke and Bururi provinces as well as Bujumbura.
- As of 11 January, 960 individuals had been relocated from transit centres and regrouping sites to the Lusenda camp set up to host the Burundian refugees. A total of 13,447 refugees are currently in Lusenda.
- The number of arrivals into the DRC has remained low but steady at a rate of approximately 20 per day. Small groups of Burundian refugees have arrived into the DRC and registered at the Kavimvira transit centre and Sange regrouping point. Others are reported to have arrived through unofficial entry points.
- From 11-17 January, UNHCR took part in a Joint Protection Team (JPT) mission in the Fizi territory with MONUSCO to verify allegations of refugees' military recruitment but no such instances have been corroborated to date.
- From 6-13 January, a UNHCR protection team visited Uvira to identify suitable cases for resettlement. A total of six cases were identified, and legal procedures have been initiated to take the process forward.

#### RWANDA

- As of 15 January, the number of active<sup>1</sup> Burundian refugees in Rwanda stood at 71,596 individuals with 45,422 registered in Mahama camp.

**Achievements and Impact:** UNHCR participated in the inauguration of four child friendly spaces (CFSs) and 2 Youth Friendly Spaces (YFSs) in Mahama II. The CFSs and YFSs will be open daily to provide psychosocial, recreation and protection services to children and youth in the camp.

- Two anti-fraud awareness-raising sessions were conducted with all refugee leaders and materials were shared to be distributed in the camp. The sessions also included information on the resettlement policy for Burundian refugees in Rwanda. It had been noted that certain refugees had misunderstood the interviews conducted during the intention monitoring survey which had taken place in December 2015, thinking it was a resettlement interview, and this has resulted in additional refugees requesting resettlement, hence the need for the above clarifications.
- Two reported cases of detention were followed up with the Police to ensure fair proceedings. The Legal Aid Forum is following up on said cases.

**Challenges, needs and remaining gaps:** Protection monitoring conducted at the host community level (within the vicinity of the camp) reported the emergence of child labour in farms and houses. In order to provide alternatives to children engaging in these activities and curbing exploitation, UNHCR and MIDIMAR are planning to establish regular discussion fora between host community and camp refugee leaders to carry out prevention activities, awareness-raising and improve synergies between humanitarian actors, hosts and refugees aiming at reducing youth idleness.

- The handover of community services activities at Mahama I from Save the Children to Plan International was fully finalized. However, Plan International is currently lacking the necessary staffing and finances to fully run community services activities at Mahama I.
- Rwandan Police at Mahama camp have expressed the need for a temporary custody facility, for cases that do not require referral to Kirehe District Police Station. A request was made to the American Refugee Council (ARC) to obtain possible support with constructing the facility.

<sup>1</sup> See Regional Update n°19

## UGANDA

- The number of new arrivals into Uganda had reached 18,807 persons as of 12 January according to the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), including 14,170 in Nakivale, 225 in Oruchinga, 292 in Kyaka II, 3,959 in Kampala, and 81 in Kisoro. The majority of new arrivals in Nakivale are fleeing from Bujumbura, Muyinga, Kirundo, Cibitoke and Bubanza citing insecurity resulting from clashes between the government and opposition. They express concern over deteriorating security in Burundi and fear that the situation could remain unstable for some time to come. The arrival rate is steady and stands at approximately 60 persons per day.
- The majority of new arrivals are being settled in Nakivale Settlement, which is approaching its 100,000 person capacity. Discussions are ongoing on the possibility of opening up new settlement areas in order to meet the needs of new arrivals if, as expected, Burundians continue to arrive in Uganda.
- In Kyaka II, 17 new Burundian arrivals seeking asylum were not granted *prima-facie* recognition because they had not passed through the official transit centre. The process in question has been enforced to avoid double registration and to take freedom of movement considerations into account.

**Achievements and Impact, in Nakivale:** In Nakivale, ARC provided protection assistance to nine refugees, five of which cited insecurity issues and four in need medical assistance relating to problems incurred in Burundi. They were all provided with psychosocial support and referred to the Police, the OPM and Medical Teams International (MTI) for further management. These cases are monitored and followed up on through home visits.

- ARC conducted monitoring visits to provide psychosocial support to two female SGBV survivors and their family members in Kashojwa C and Kabazana D villages. Follow-up will continue until they are fully recovered. Furthermore, two new SGBV cases (rape and denial of resources) were received, the former originating in Burundi. The rape survivor was referred to MTI and psychosocial support provided to both victims; follow-up is ongoing through home visits.
- ARC conducted an SGBV awareness-raising session for 65 Burundians living in Mugenyi village. The session covered forms, causes, and effects of SGBV, referral pathways and how to respond to emergencies within the community.

## UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

- According to UNHCR and Tanzanian authorities, 124,096 Burundian refugees had arrived in the country as of 13 January, at an average daily arrival rate of about 250 persons. The most used entry points were Mabamba, Manyovu, Kilelema, Kitanga, Bihalu and Bukiriro. Transfers from Nyarugusu to the first of four new camp sites (Nduta) allocated by the government started in early October. Concurrently, all new arrivals are now received at Nduta camp, which hosts over 40,000 Burundian refugees. Mtendeli camp was opened on 14 January and currently hosts just over 800 refugees.

## Education

### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

**Achievements and Impact:** The construction of kitchens in the five schools surrounding Lusenda (participating in the WFP school feeding program) was completed by African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD). The NGO also finished rehabilitating the Isungu, Zawadi and Kahunga schools and started working on the construction of four additional classrooms at Anuarite and at Ndunda/Rulimbi primary schools.

- School uniforms were distributed to 409 students (185 girls and 224 boys) at Kahunga Primary School.

## RWANDA

**Achievements and Impact:** The enrolment of pupils into Early Childhood Development (ECD) classes for 2016 has commenced at the Mahama camp and ECD classes began on 11 January.



## Health

### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

**Achievements and Impact:** A total of 5,016 refugees received medical care from partner *Action pour un Développement Economique et Social* (ADES) at both Transit Centers and at Lusenda camp, and 471 refugees received medical care from Save the Children. Malaria, intestinal parasites, respiratory infections, flu and diarrhoea are the most frequent illnesses detected. Furthermore, ADES referred 147 patients from Lusenda Health Post to Lusenda Health Center and 37 cases were transferred from the Helath Centre to Nundu General Hospital (28 of which are from the hosting community).

- ADES carried out awareness-raising activities on waterborne diseases and sexually-transmitted infections, for the benefit of 429 refugees.
- ADES identified 60 persons with specific needs: 12 pregnant women, 15 breastfeeding women, 2 persons with chronic diseases, and 31 children with uncompleted vaccinations. The latter are receiving treatment at the Lusenda Health Post (prenatal care, pre-school care, and other dedicated medical services).
- A training on the integration child disease treatment into care-taking was carried out in collaboration with the Nundu health office with the participation of medical staff from the Nundu health zone (Health Center, General Hospital, Lusenda health post, TC Kavimvira and Mongemonge). The objective of the training was to enhance capacity building of the medical staff and to acquaint them with integrated caretaking treatments pertaining to the deadliest diseases for children under 5 years old.

### RWANDA

**Achievements and Impact:** The health centre in Mahama II has been transferred from a temporary shelter to a permanent one constructed by Save the Children with funds from UNHCR.

- The reproductive health campaign took place from 11-15 January and awareness-raising activities as well as voluntary counselling and testing (VCT) services were organised.

**Identified needs and remaining gaps:** The five leading causes of morbidity within the camps remain upper and lower respiratory tract infections, malaria, diarrhoea, and typhoid fever.

- Since October, 1,429 suspected typhoid cases have been recorded. Among the 26 blood samples tested at the national reference laboratory, 12 were confirmed and two deaths have been recored to date. Health and WASH response is being enhanced accordingly.

### UGANDA

**Identified needs and remaining gaps in Nakivale:** Malaria continues to be leading cause of morbidity at 55%, up from 40% reported previously. Village Health Teams (VHT) continue to carry out awareness-raising outreach on malaria prevention and control, to address this worrying trend, one that particularly affects pregnant women and children.

- MTI vaccinated 158 children aged between 0-15 years. Out of this number, 43 were vaccinated against measles, 33 received oral polio vaccination, 36 received Mebendazole, 27 received Vitamin A supplements and 19 received tetanus toxoid. Furthermore, 32 children under the age of five received Mebendazole and Vitmain A supplementation.



## Food Security and Nutrition

### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

**Achievements and Impact:**

- On 8 January, protests broke out in Lusenda camp due to delays in cash voucher distributions. A joint delegation composed of UNHCR, the *Commission Nationale pour les Réfugiés* and AIRD reached out the refugees and the situation was stabilized. In response, WFP arranged a three-day food distribution (22 tones) to appease the camp's population living in family shelters (13,061 persons), ahead the voucher distribution that had originally been re-scheduled to 13 January. The overall situation has returned to normal and the voucher distribution began on 14 January, and is due to last until the 17th. The next distribution is planned for 5 February.

- During the reporting period, a total of 16,773 Kg of WFP food rations were distributed as hot meals to refugees both at the transit centers and common shelters. AIRD distributed an additional 241 Kg to people with specific needs.



## Water and Sanitation

### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

**Achievements and Impact:** Since 1 January, UNHCR's partner ADES has taken over WASH related activities at camp, replacing the previous implementing partner AIRD. Such activities include maintenance of hygiene structures, community training and sensitization campaigns on hygiene and sanitation and the distribution of sanitary kits. At Lusenda camp, 422 latrines are operational, with a ratio 32 persons/latrine. Furthermore, 100 hand-washing points have been installed and water quality tests carried out by the NGO have revealed that WHO standards are met. On average, 20L of water are available/person/day in the Lusenda camp and the Lulinda and Kahunga schools have been connected to the water distribution network.

- AIRD carried out a latrine disinfection campaign for latrines located in public areas (schools, distribution hangars, etc...) and villages. A total of 886 latrines were treated between 11-15 January.

### UGANDA

**Achievements and Impact:** In Nakivale the average daily amount water available is 17L per person. Water trucking is ongoing to supply water in Kabahinda C, Mirambira D, Kashojwa C, Kabazana A and Kyeibale A because of the limited access to piped water in these villages.

- In Nakivale, household latrine coverage remains at 68 percent and this is attributed to continuous monitoring and follow up visits to ensure that households meet minimum standards for latrine coverage in the new villages. ARC distributed latrine construction equipment to 292 households in Mugenyi B, Gambira and Seza villages to increase household latrine coverage in these communities. Pre-distribution objectives were discussed on how the equipment is to be utilized with strong reprimands for individuals who fail to use it within the stipulated time.



## Shelter and NFIs

### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

**Achievements and Impact:** At Lulinda site, one of the extensions of Lusenda refugee camp, a total of 832 shelters have been completed, while 198 shelters and 129 latrine blocs (2 toilets and 2 showers each) are under construction.

- AIRD started the construction of a new Regrouping Point (RP) at Lulimba, in the southern part of the Fizi territory, 300 Km south of Bukavu. The Sange regroupement point and Mongemonge transit centre are being enlarged to respond to the ongoing influx.
- In order to support refugees living in the villages surrounding Lusenda camp with building their own brick shelters, AIRD provided 40 brick moulds, as well as overall assistance for the construction process.

### RWANDA

**Achievements and Impact:** The transition from tents to semi-permanent shelters continued during the reporting period. From 11-15 January, 4,462 persons were allocated semi-permanent shelters. They are currently plastering their houses. Cumulatively, 5,965 individuals have been allocated semi-permanent dwelling and in total 12,000 refugees are expected to occupy 1200 semi-permanent shelters before the end of January 2016.

### UGANDA

**Achievements and Impact:** In Kyaka II, the construction of a nine room block to improve accommodation for new arrivals in Sweswe Reception Centre was completed in December 2015. The building was constructed to increase the capacity of the reception centre from 100 to 160 persons. Six

people will be accommodated in each room. The building has been handed over to the Danish Refugee Council (DRC).



## Livelihoods, energy and environment

### UGANDA

**Achievements and Impact:** In Nakivale, the Nsamizi NGO followed up on post-harvest management in Misiera A&B and Kabahinda D villages for 43 households to assess the results of recently implemented improved drying and storage practices for beans, maize and groundnuts. The households were supported with tarpaulins and sacks to facilitate drying and storage. Home visits conducted revealed that Burundian beneficiaries have been able to harvest between 50-75 Kg of beans using the 4 Kg that had been provided, which is a commendable result.

- In Nakivale, Nsamizi conducted a follow-up exercise on environmental protection and tree management in Misiera B village. The purpose was to assess best practices used by households in conserving trees by ensuring continuous weeding and watering. Community based extension workers visited a total of 58 Burundian households during the exercise and found that the five different tree species these households were given to plant are growing well.

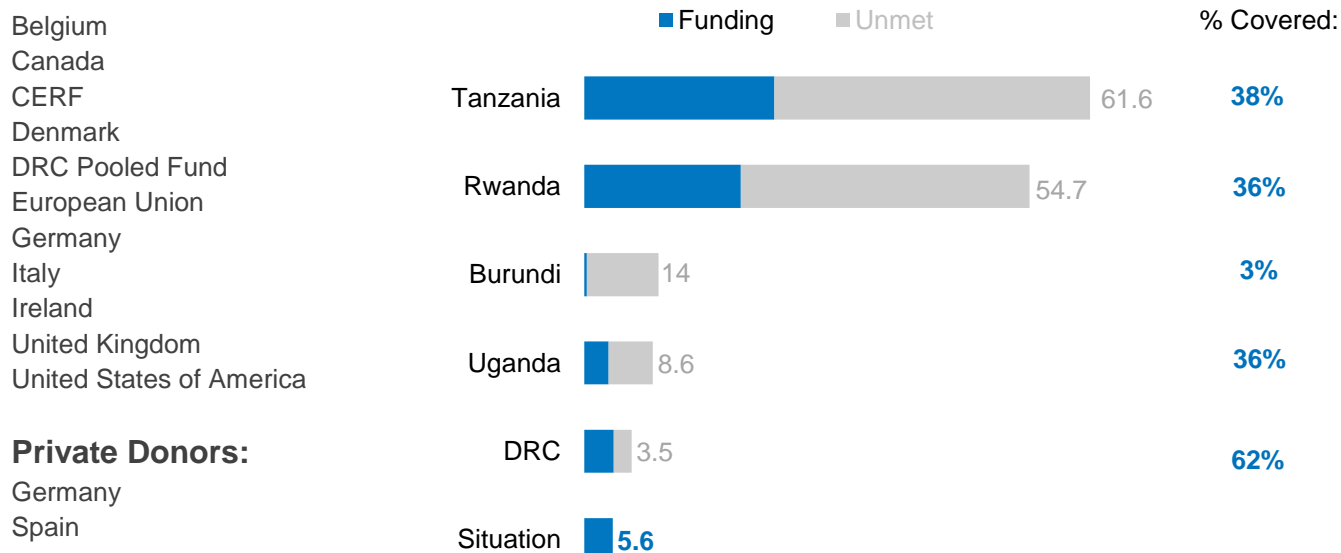


## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

On 22 December 2015, UNHCR released a supplementary budget appeal for the Burundi Situation, which includes needs for Burundi, the DRC, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia in 2016. UNHCR's total 2016 financial requirements for the Burundi Situation currently amount to **USD 175.1 million**. This includes USD 154 million for the response in the DRC, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda from January to December 2016, as presented in the Regional Refugee Response Plan launched on 7 December 2015. UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors, particularly those who have contributed to UNHCR activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds, as well as for those who have contributed to the Burundi situation. Funding levels against the 2016 requirements will be made available from 25 January onward.

In 2015, a total of **USD 84.5 million** was funded out of USD 221.8 million requested, representing 38% of the needs:

### Donors:



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## Displacement of Burundians into neighbouring countries since April 2015

as of 15 Jan 2016

