

HIGHLIGHT

Visit of U.S. Regional Refugee Coordinator and Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration Officials to Rwanda

UNHCR Rwanda hosted the first visit of the new Regional Refugee Coordinator, Joshua Fischel, and BPRM officers Bryan Lupton and Sean Mitchell, accompanied by Jonathan Howard, Political Officer, from 2-8 October. The team met with the UNHCR Representative, Heads of Field Offices and implementing partners during their camp visits to assess current programming and critical needs.

Top photo: BPRM team in Nkamira transit centre; bottom photo: in Gihembe camp



STATISTICS

74,590

Persons of concern in Rwanda

4,964

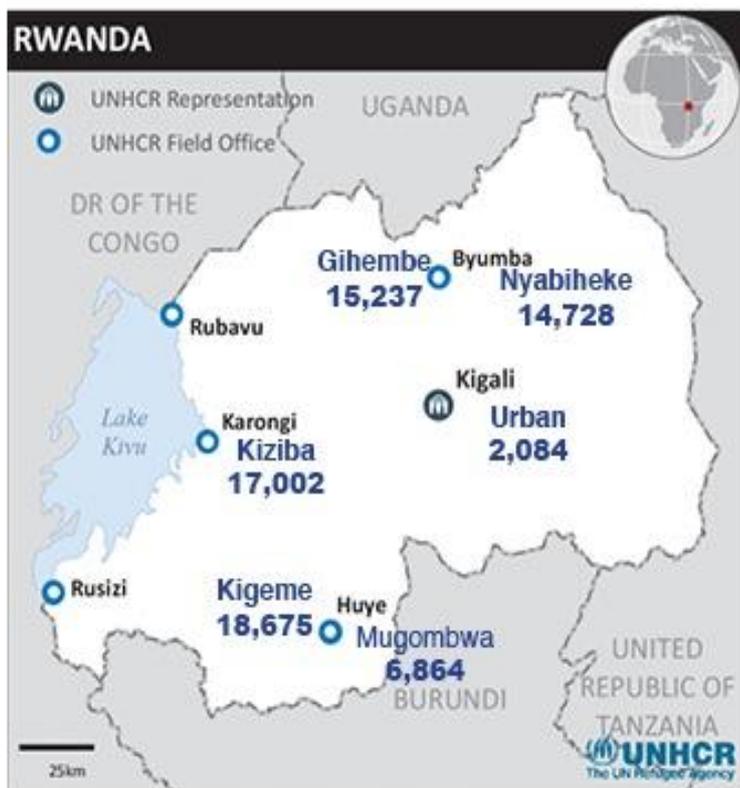
Returnees since the beginning of 2014

1,690

Submissions for resettlement in 2014

2,137

Resettlement Departures in 2014



MAJOR NATIONAL & REGIONAL POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

- Suspected Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) Ugandan rebels were accused of having **massacred around 80 civilians in the North Kivu region**.
- **370 prisoners escaped** from a jail in the town of Butembo of eastern DRC with the help of armed men. Reports are conflicting as to who was responsible for the incident.
- **The DRC has expelled the UN's top human rights official** after a released report accusing Congolese police of executions during a crackdown on gangs.
- A new UN report that details alleged **"serious" human rights violations committed by the M23** group in eastern DRC has been met with opposition by the former rebels.
- In **Burundi** six soldiers were killed by rebel gunmen in an attack north of the capital Bujumbura.
- **All Kinyarwanda services on BBC radio have been suspended** in Rwanda due to outrage of survivors over a recent BBC documentary, **Rwanda's Untold Story**.
- **Joel Mutabazi**, the former bodyguard of Rwanda's president, was sentenced to life in prison for plotting to assassinate President Paul Kagame.
- Rwandan President Paul Kagame clarified that Rwanda is willing to work with Burundi to **investigate the circumstances surrounding corpses found in Lake Rweru**.
- According to a UN study, **FDLR commanders are only keeping combatants originating from Northern Rwanda** and sending back those who originate from other regions of Rwanda.
- Eight Rwandans have returned from DRC after spending at least a month in the Congolese prison in the Northern Kivu Region. **Reports indicate that Rwandans are not wanted in Congo and have been accused of being spies**.
- The Minister of Disaster Management and Refugee Affairs (**MIDIMAR**) **calls for the 1951 Convention Cessation Clause to be implemented**, over one year since it was invoked. Speaking during the 65th Executive Committee meeting of UNHCR in Geneva, the Minister informed that some states have not abided by the Clause.

Protection

Registration:

- **Handover of biometric data:** UNHCR has shared the biodata of all active refugees with the Government of Rwanda and NIDA for the purposes of issuing ID cards.
- **Biometric registration:** The biometric registration of all Rwandan returnees is now in effect in both transit centers, in addition to the issuance of health insurance cards upon arrival to the TCs.

Resettlement:

- Rwanda has thus far attained **54%** of its annual target on resettlement submissions, following completion of an intense continuous registration exercise (July-September) which addressed registration issues that had slowed down case processing. Thus far 1,690 individuals have been submitted to resettlement countries while another 200 individuals have been referred for case review, bringing the **processing total to 63%** of the annual target. The operation has also **exceeded its departure target** of 1,500 by thus far facilitating departures for 2,137 (**142% of the target**) refugees on resettlement.



Refugees waiting for departure at Kigali airport

- **Resettlement Retreat:** To augment staff capacity to adequately respond to the processing needs brought about by upscale of resettlement processing within the operation, 33 people attended the

UNHCR Rwanda Operation's three-day Resettlement Retreat in Gisenyi, covering topics such as Standard Operating Procedures, resettlement fraud, the community information strategy and the way forward in 2015.

Training:

- **Sensitization on the new Rwandan refugee law:** A MIDIMAR team visited Kigeme and Mugombwa camps to inform refugee leaders on the new Rwandan refugee law. They encouraged refugees holding Rwandan identity cards to return them to Immigration Officers in their respective locations.
- **Caring for Child Survivors Training:** Plan International and UNHCR protection staff were trained to enable and empower child protection responders to provide high quality care to children and families affected by sexual abuse.

Special Events

- **Launch of livelihood programme in the new camps:** ARC launched its livelihoods programme (funded by BPRM) in Mugombwa and Kigeme camps. The ceremony was attended by UNHCR, MIDIMAR, District officials and partners operating in respective camps.
- **The International Day of the Girl Child (October 10):** The event was organized by Plan International and celebrated in both Mugombwa and Kigeme camps under the theme "Empowering adolescent girls: ending the cycle of violence".



Updates on Rwanda's newest camp: Mugombwa camp

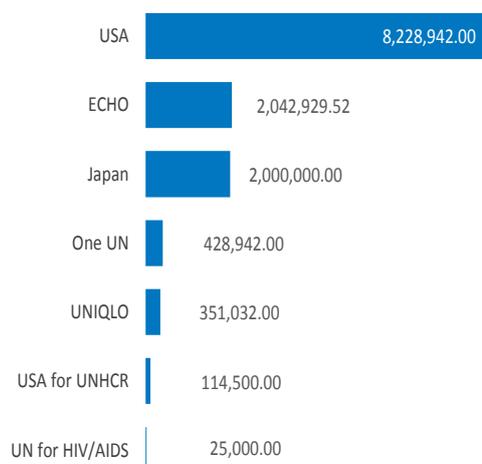
WASH issues in Mugombwa camp:

- 130 drop holes have been shut down and not emptied due to lack of funds, leaving the camp with only 160 drop holes for the current population of 6,851 individuals, or 43 persons per drop hole—beyond double the humanitarian standard. This will impact negatively on the newly installed dischargeable latrines, which will be overused, presenting a risk of disease outbreak in the camp.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

- The 2014 Operations Plan is **US\$ 52.3 million.**
- The 2014 Operating Level is **US\$ 18.2 million.**
- Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to some **US\$ 13.2 million.**

Funding received (in million USD)



Partners	Sectors	Sites
 <p>Ministry of Disaster Management and Refugee Affairs, Immigration and Rwanda National Police http://www.gov.rw/</p>	Security, Camp Management and Coordination	All Refugee Camps
 <p>Plan https://plan-international.org/</p>	Protection, including Children, GBV and persons with special needs	
 <p>ADRA ADVENTIST DEVELOPMENT AND RELIEF AGENCY RWANDA http://www.adra.org.rw/</p>	Logistics, Warehousing, Distribution, Fleet Management, and Education	
 <p>ARC American Refugee Committee http://www.arcrelief.org/</p>	Shelter	
	Infrastructures	
	Livelihood and Economic Recovery (complementary support from BPRM)	
	WASH	
 <p>Africa Humanitarian Action http://www.africahumanitarian.org/</p>	Health care services, Nutrition, Reproductive Health (HIV/AIDS prevention and care)	Kiziba, Kigeme and Mugombwa Refugee Camps, and Nkamira and Nyagatare Transit Centres
 <p>PAJER http://pajer.org.rw/</p>	WASH	Kigeme
 <p>World Vision® http://www.wvi.org/rwanda</p>	WASH	Mugombwa

Contacts:

Martina Pomeroy, External Relations Officer, pomeroy@unhcr.org, Tel: +250-252-589-874, Cell: +250 (0) 78-830-2769

Erika Fitzpatrick, Associate PI/Reporting Officer, fitzpat@unhcr.org, Tel: +250-252-589-874, Cell +250 (0) 78-445-5804

Twitter: @RefugeesRwanda Links: <http://data.unhcr.org/drc> -@RefugeesRwanda