



## KEY FIGURES

**50,361**

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

**16,000**

Refugees in Mahama refugee camp in Rwanda

## PRIORITIES

- Relocation of refugees to safety away from border areas.
- Preparation of refugee sites allocated by governments of host countries.
- Life-saving multi-sector emergency protection and assistance interventions.
- Identification and protection of children including family tracing, family reunification and alternative care arrangements for unaccompanied and separated children.
- Prepositioning of relief items for anticipated mass influxes to neighbouring countries.

## BURUNDI SITUATION

### UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE 1

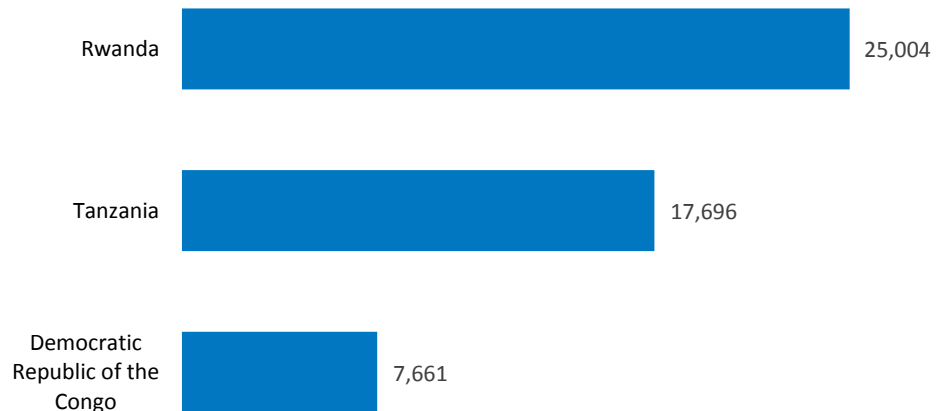
8 May 2015

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Over 50,000 Burundian refugees and asylum-seekers have arrived in the neighbouring countries of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the United Republic of Tanzania and Rwanda since the beginning of April 2015.
- In Tanzania, UNHCR has been transporting asylum-seekers from various villages and islands to Nyarugusu camp. The number of people waiting to be transferred to the camp has increased dramatically in the past week, and is estimated to be around 10,000.
- On 5 May, the Burundian constitutional court ruled that the current President Pierre Nkurunziza is eligible to run for a third term. Burundi's general elections will result in the election of members of parliament, senators, representatives of local councils and the President. The presidential election is to take place on 26 June. A second round will take place on 27 July if no candidate wins a majority in the first round.

### Population of concern

A total of **50,361** people of concern



## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

### Operational Context

- Throughout April, the DRC, Rwanda and Tanzania have experienced flows of people from Burundi. Refugees and asylum seekers cite intimidation, threats and/or fear of violence linked to the upcoming political elections as reasons for fleeing, amid reports of violence and intimidation carried out by the youth groups aligned to political affiliations. In all these countries, women and children are in the majority.



Protection

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

#### RWANDA

- The arrival rate of 1,000 persons per day witnessed in mid-April has decreased to an average of 300 arrivals per day. The main areas of origin are Kirundo, Ngozi and Muyinga provinces, as well as Bujumbura.
- The Government allocated 50 hectares of land in Mahama sector, in the eastern province, for a new camp which can host up to 60,000 refugees.
- UNHCR is conducting biometric registration of new arrivals: level 1 registration in the two reception centres of Nyanza and Bugesera, and level 2 registration in Mahama refugee camp.
- UNHCR and partners started relocating refugees to Mahama camp from Nyanza reception centre on 21 April. Currently, daily convoys are moving up to 1,500 people to Mahama. As of 6 May, the population of the camp was 16,000.



Burundians arrive in Bugesera transit centre in eastern Rwanda. UNHCR/K.Holt

#### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

- Burundians are entering the territories of Uvira and Fizi in South Kivu, with most originating from Cibitoke province.
- The number of new arrivals has reached 7,189 (Burundian refugees and DRC returnees) with an arrival rate of 325 per day.
- The majority are being hosted by Burundian refugee families who have been in South Kivu for many years.
- Protection monitoring has been reinforced at the border and in the localities hosting Burundian refugees.
- A joint mission by UNHCR, the National Commission for Refugees (CNR), the Immigration Services (DGM) and the African Initiative for Relief and Development (AIRD) was carried out on 5 May to assess the area where refugees have arrived and the capacity to absorb refugees. Discussions were also held regarding biometric registration which is due to start this week.

#### UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

- New arrivals are being transferred from villages as well as islands on Lake Tanganyika to Nyarugusu camp. As of 7 May, there were 4,947 new arrivals in Nyarugusu camp and 11,899 waiting to be transferred to the camp. UNHCR is conducting level 1 registration of all new arrivals.

- UNHCR and the Refugee Service Department will organize trainings on refugee protection for Regional and District authorities in Kigoma, Kibondo (Kigoma region) and in Bukoba (Kagera region), in cooperation with UNICEF, UNFPA and IOM.



## Health

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

#### RWANDA

- UNHCR distributes mosquito nets to all families in reception centres, which they then take to Mahama camp. Nevertheless, fumigation of the camp is urgently required as 25% of consultations are malaria-related. UNHCR distributes nets on-site to the small numbers of refugees who are brought directly from border districts to the camp.
- Vaccinations against polio for children under the age of 5, and against measles for children below the age of 15, has commenced in Mahama.

#### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

- New arrivals with critical health conditions have been referred to local health structures.

#### UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

- The Red Cross is conducting medical screening on arrival in Nyarugusu Camp. Children under 15 are receiving measles vaccination. A total of 815 have been vaccinated.
- First Aid is being provided at border points. There is a medical escort on the boat, as well as from Kigoma to Nyarugusu Camp. Emergency medical care is being provided in Kigoma. Overall, there is a general staff shortage as well as a lack of ambulances, inadequate therapeutic food and a large shortage of first aid and trauma kits.



## Food Security and Nutrition

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

#### RWANDA

- WFP is due to start a general food distribution in Mahama camp on 6 May. Following reports of possible malnutrition, WFP is to introduce blanket supplementary feeding and to provide high energy biscuits.

#### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

- WFP is to distribute food for 1,000 Burundian refugees for 30 days composed of cereals, salt, pulses, oil, sugar, Corn Soy Blend (CSB). Distribution took place on 6 May at Kavimvira transit centre and Sange assembly area.

#### UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

- A nutritional assessment is being carried out for children below the age of 5. As of 4 May, 383 patients (30 pregnant women) had received medical care; 16 of them have been admitted. General health education is underway.
- WFP has begun to provide food to families registered in Nyarugusa Camp.



Jeanette, Hadidja and their children arriving in Rwanda on 3 May.  
UNHCR/C.Schmitt.

## Water and Sanitation

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

#### RWANDA

- As of 6 May, 348 latrines had been constructed (48 refugees per latrine) as well as 234 showers (72 refugees per shower). Refugees are receiving 11 litres per person per day, below the emergency standard of 15 litres per person per day.
- WASH standards in Bugesera reception centre are low due to lack of space and lack of WASH construction materials (available stock is finished), and very high rate of arrivals in the last week. Only 7.5 litres of water is being provided per person per day.

#### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

- MONUSCO is providing 5,000 litres of water at the transit centre in Kavimvira on a daily basis.

## Shelter and NFIs

#### RWANDA

##### Achievements and Impact

- So far, 1,375 tents have been erected. There are currently 22 communal shelters that have been constructed with a capacity of 100 people each. Two more trucks with an additional 500 tents are at the Tanzanian border.

#### UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

##### Achievements and Impact

- A new reception area is under construction at Nyarugusu camp. Five shelters with a total capacity of 750 individuals have already been constructed and occupied. Two shelters with a capacity of 100 individuals and two shelters with a capacity of 150 individuals have been completed.
- Additional temporary shelters, such as tents, are urgently needed.
- Latrines and water points are being rehabilitated. Temporary latrines are being constructed and a water tank is being installed.
- 420 plots have been cleared and demarcated for the construction of individual shelters.
- The following NFIs are being issued to new arrivals: soap, buckets, collapsible jerry cans, blankets, plates, cups, sanitary napkins, plastic sheeting, and cooking pots.



*New arrivals in Bugesera reception centre, eastern Rwanda. UNHCR/K.Holt*

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# BURUNDI SITUATION: Displacement of Burundians into neighbouring countries | As of 08 May 2015

