

# BURUNDI SITUATION

## UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE 7

25 June 2015

### KEY FIGURES

**127,334**

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

**21,000**

Number of school aged children identified in Nyarugusu, Tanzania.

**10,425**

People registered biometrically in the DRC (21 June)

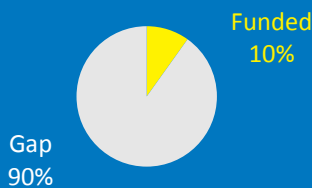
**1,225**

Unaccompanied and separated children identified in Rwanda.

### FUNDING

**USD 152 million**

requested for the situation



### PRIORITIES

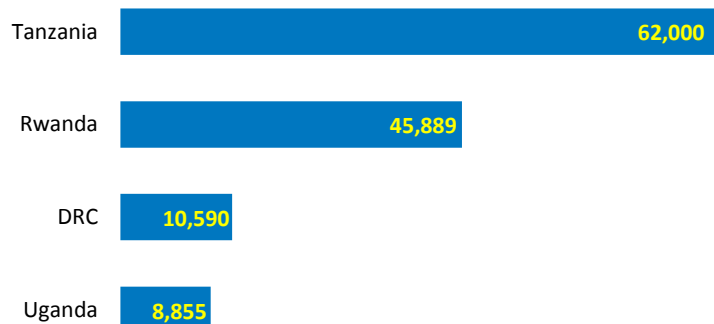
- Relocation of refugees to safety away from border areas.
- Preparation of refugee sites allocated by governments of host countries.
- Life-saving multi-sector emergency protection and assistance interventions.
- Prepositioning of relief items for anticipated influxes to neighbouring countries.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Tension is on the rise in Bujumbura in view of the first round of presidential elections, as rumors of attacks to destabilize the process circulate. In light of this, the number of Burundians leaving the country has increased. The police and military are still present in some parts of the city centre and suburbs. Criminality is on the rise and grenade attacks are recorded almost daily.
- On 19 June, UNHCR's Regional Representative for the DRC undertook a two day mission to the South Kivu Province and Bujumbura. In the Burundian capital, the representative took stock of the prevailing political and security situation and consequently instructed UNHCR staff in Uvira (DRC) to reinforce the relocation procedure for Burundian refugees to the Lusenda site, in light of the deteriorating situation in the country of origin. Since then, measures have been taken to speed up the process for refugees in the Uvira and Fizi territories. The latest convoys were scheduled to depart from Kavimvira and Kamanyola on 22 and 24 June.
- In Tanzania, Nyarugusu refugee camp is becoming dangerously overcrowded. Before the recent arrival of tens of thousands of Burundian refugees, the camp was already home to more than 60,000 Congolese refugees. Services and facilities are stretched as more than 120,000 persons live in close quarters. UNHCR and partners are working with the Government of Tanzania to urgently identify an alternative site to establish a new camp.

### Population of concern

A total of **127,334** people of concern



## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

### Operational Context

- Over 127,000 Burundian refugees and asylum-seekers have arrived in the neighbouring countries of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the United Republic of Tanzania, Rwanda and Uganda due to pre-election violence and intimidation. With the announcement of new election dates for parliamentary and presidential elections, on 29 June and 15 July respectively, UNHCR and its partners are revising their Preparedness and Contingency Plans in the event of another influx of Burundian refugees.

### Protection

#### Achievements and Impact & Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

##### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

- As of 21 June, 10,590 new arrivals from Burundi had been recorded, with the majority located in the Uvira and Fizi territories, and over half of the population originating from the Cibitoke province. A total of 10,425 persons have been registered biometrically by UNHCR and the Government's National Commission for Refugees (CNR). The majority, 8,193 people, are being hosted by Burundian refugee families in South Kivu. As of 19 June, 3,229 Burundian refugees had been relocated to the Lusenda regrouping site.
- UNHCR continues to monitor protection incidents affecting the refugees hosted by local populations. On 18 June, two refugees were harassed by former Mayi Mayi Nyerere individuals in the Kiliba locality. The head of the host family was detained by the former Mayi Mayi who accused him of hiding a member of the 'Imbonerakure'. After local authorities from Butaho/Kiliba intervened, the man was released. UNHCR is concerned by such reports and has informed the 'Commission Nationale' pour les Réfugiés (CNR) of its need for support in transferring refugees to the Kavimvira transit center.

##### RWANDA

- As of 25 June, the number of new arrivals had reached 45,889 with 27,287 relocated to the Mahama camp. UNHCR has recorded a surge in the rate of new arrivals in the past few days. Indeed, on 23 June over 650 Burundians were received at the border entry points, with the figure standing at 500 the previous day. Over 10,000 urban refugees have been registered in Kigali since the procedure began last week. Registration in the country's second city of Huye will start in the coming days.
- Thus far, UNHCR, UNICEF and Plan International have identified 1,225 unaccompanied and separated children. So far 281 have been reunified with their parents, relatives, or customary caregivers.
- The Day of the African Child was celebrated in the Mahama camp and Bugesera Reception Centre linking the theme of Early Childhood Development (ECD) with child protection.
- The clothing distribution resumed in the Mahama camp, a development welcomed by the refugee population. Over 2,000 pieces of clothing were distributed to single-person households; over 400 persons with special needs received at least one garment and over 1,000 articles of clothing were distributed to children under the age of 5.

##### UGANDA

- As of 22 June, the number of new arrivals into Uganda had reached 8,855 at a rate of 100-200 persons per day. Regular border monitoring and registration are ongoing and undertaken by UNHCR and the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM).
- Police accommodation will also be required to ensure security in refugee and host communities. In total, seven permanent police posts and accommodation blocks are required to ensure safety and security in remote areas.

## UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

- As of 25 June, some 62,000 Burundian refugees had arrived in Tanzania. The majority of this population has arrived through Kagunga along the shores of Lake Tanganyika, but recently, refugees have been entering the country from border points further north along the Ngara-Kibondo axis. An average of 150 refugees arrive in Tanzania on a daily basis.
- The Ministry of Home Affairs is preparing a notice for the Government Gazette, in order to formalize the prima facie recognition of the Burundian refugees.

## Education

### Achievements and Impact & Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

#### RWANDA

- UNHCR's Education Officer conducted a meeting with 10 leading refugee university students. During the meeting, it was proposed that a youth centre be created. Students selected focal points for traditional music, athletics and other sport activities, theatre and sketches, a library, and other projects such as fighting against alcohol and drug abuse.

#### UGANDA

- Teaching materials, teachers and 30 additional classrooms needed in the Nakivale camp.



## Health

### Achievements and Impact & Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

#### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

- Patients are received on a daily basis for consultation at the transit centres of Kavimvira and Mongemonge and the regrouping sites of Sange and Lusenda. Serious cases are referred to a general hospital close to the sites. The most recorded illnesses are malaria, intestinal parasitosis and respiratory infections. Assistance and hot meals are provided for refugees at the hospital. Vehicles are available day and night at the centres to take patients to the hospital.

#### RWANDA

- On-arrival vaccination for measles and poliomyelitis is ongoing in Bugesera reception centre. During the reporting period, 119 children were vaccinated against poliomyelitis and 452 against measles and rubella.

#### UGANDA

- In an effort to promote peaceful coexistence, UNHCR has committed, to the extent possible, to extend its services to nationals by up to 30%, particularly in the area of health.

## UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

- The cholera and acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) situation has stabilized and is under control among refugees. Health sector partners survey the camp and proactively identify cases of AWD and cholera in the surrounding villages. One case of suspected cholera was referred to the Cholera Treatment Centre (CTC) in Zone 8 of the Nyarugusu camp by the Ministry of Health and was treated.
- Social mobilization for the oral cholera vaccine is underway, with UNICEF spearheading mobilisation and MSF leading the vaccination procedure. There are never more than 500,000 doses of the vaccine globally available at any one point in time. The vaccine is therefore restricted to emergency situations.



## Water and Sanitation

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### Achievements and Impact & Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

#### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

- Potable water at the transit centre in Kavimvira and the reception centres of Sange and Lusenda is provided by OXFAM, the *Agence de Développement Economique et Social (ADES)* and the *Regie de Distribution d'eau de la Republique Democratique du Congo (REGIDESO)*. The average consumption per person meets the emergency standard of 15 litres per person per day (l/p/d).

#### UGANDA

- Water is the most critical need in all new settlement areas. As an emergency measure, UNCHR and Partners are installing temporary water tanks and water points. However the very high cost of water trucking and poor road access make this method financially and logistically non-viable in the long-term.

#### UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

- Burundian refugees in Nyarugusu have access to some 10.8l/p/d, below the emergency standard of 15l/p/d. The amount of water distributed to each refugee has decreased due to construction of new shelters. Alternative supplementary water supply options are being explored as a matter of urgency.



## Shelter and NFIs

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### Achievements and Impact & Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

#### UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

- Over 3,754 family shelters have been completed together with 80 collective shelters accommodating a total of 42,032 refugees. An additional 2,496 family shelters are required to assist some 13,000 people currently house in schools.
- The use of additional land in Zones 7 and 8 in the Nyarugusu camp has been granted by the authorities. However, an assessment revealed that parts of this land may be unusable, due to the swampy nature of the terrain and/or its flood-prone location. Other options are being explored.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

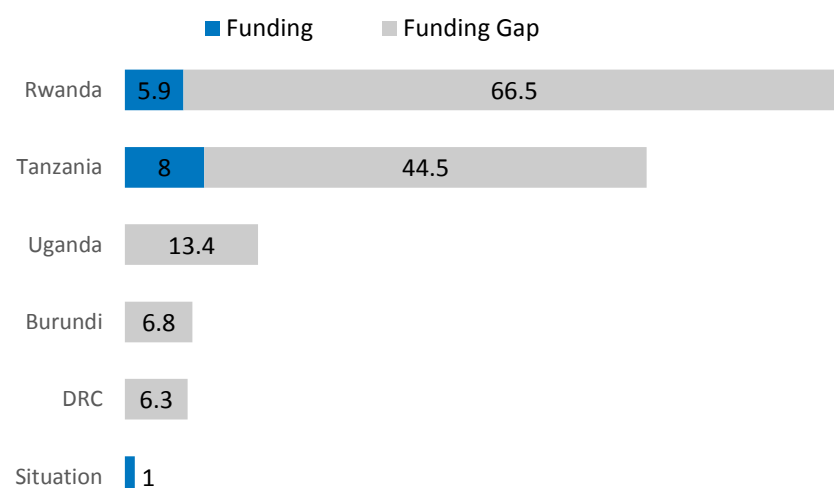
On 28 May, UNHCR released a Supplementary Budget Appeal for the Burundi Situation, which includes needs for Burundi, the DRC, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. UNHCR's total financial requirements for the Burundi Situation currently amount to **USD 151.7 million**, including USD 131.4 million for the response in the DRC, Rwanda and Tanzania from April to September 2015, as presented in the Regional Refugee Response Plan launched on 22 May. 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 already contributed to the Burundi situation. **The organization's overall needs for this situation are currently funded at 10%.**

### Donors:

CERF, Denmark, United Kingdom

### Funding:

A total **USD 15 million** has been funded



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# BURUNDI SITUATION: Displacement of Burundians into neighbouring countries | As of 25 June 2015



**127,334**  
newly arrived refugees from Burundi in neighbouring countries

TANZANIA	49%
RWANDA	36%
DRC	8%
UGANDA	7%

