



# BURUNDI SITUATION

## UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE 25

1 - 30 April 2016

### KEY FIGURES

# 262,505

New Burundian refugees in asylum countries since April 2015 as of 30 April 2016.

### FUNDING

# USD 175.1 million

requested for the situation through UNHCR's Supplementary Appeal (January-December 2016)



### PRIORITIES

**Tanzania:** Operationalize the second borehole in Mtendeli camp to resume relocation and decongest Nyarugusu camp

**Rwanda:** Complete the construction of 470 semi-permanent shelters in Mahama camp

**DRC:** Replace plastic sheeting in all semi-durable shelters in Lusenda camp

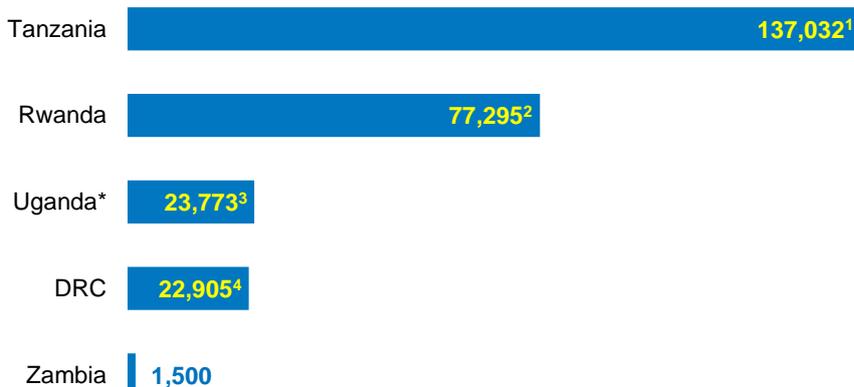
**Uganda:** Carry out malaria prevention and awareness-raising activities

### HIGHLIGHTS

- In **Tanzania**, relocations from Nyarugusu camp to Mtendeli camp resumed on 8 April. UNHCR and partners scaled up shelter response in Mtendeli to accommodate new arrivals and ensure that they spend only one night in mass shelters before being assigned emergency family shelters.
- As of 22 April, **Rwanda's** Mahama camp had been open for a year. Already the largest camp in the country, it is home to almost 50,000 Burundian refugees. Click [here](#) to view a video marking the anniversary.
- Across the region, daily rates of arrivals decreased during the month of April, despite the situation in Burundi which remained volatile. Arrivals reported facing human rights violations such as forced recruitment and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), and difficulties in leaving Burundi.

#### Population of concern

A total of **262,505** people of concern as of 30 April 2016 since the influx in April 2015



<sup>1</sup> | Nyarugusu: 71,095 | Nduta: 55,145 | Mtendeli: 10,792 |

<sup>2</sup> | Mahama: 48,411 | Urban (Kigali + Huye): 28,133 | Reception Centres (RCs): 751

<sup>3</sup> | Nakivale: 17,512 | Urban (Kampala): 5,330 | Other settlements: 931 | \*Since 1 January 2015

<sup>4</sup> | Lusenda: 16,848 | Out of camp/RCs: 6,057 |

## CRITICAL NEEDS

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### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

**NFIs:** Clothes for new arrivals (mostly women and children)

**WASH:** Additional latrines (200+) to meet the UNHCR standard of 20 persons per latrine

### RWANDA

**EDUCATION:** Funding for the maintenance of early childhood development (ECD) programmes

**SHELTER:** Additional semi-permanent shelters to ensure basic security standards are met and funding to repair temporary shelters, roads and latrines damaged by rainstorms

**WASH/SHELTER:** Additional shelters, latrines and water for Gatore transit centre to accommodate new arrivals, following the protocol issued by the Government stating that arrivals not vaccinated against yellow fever should remain in quarantine for six days

### UGANDA

**EDUCATION:** Funding to construct permanent infrastructures for teaching, to employ and accommodate teachers, and to purchase educational materials

**WASH:** With nearly one third of water in Nakivale settlement procured through water tankers, pipelines are needed to reduce expensive water trucking

### UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

**EDUCATION:** Additional classrooms needed in all three camps. UNHCR continues to advocate the review of the national policy on education to obtain authorization to construct and use semi-permanent structures for schooling

**ENVIRONMENT:** The Government has made environmental protection a key priority. Additional costs are incurred and funds are needed to ensure sustainable camp development

**PROTECTION:** Additional protection staff are needed to support law enforcement and community watch teams, and carry out border monitoring

## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

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### Protection

#### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

- **On average, the daily number of arrivals stood at 23 persons per day, as opposed to 22 for the month of March.**
- From 25-29 April, UNHCR's Assistant Regional Representative in charge of protection and Senior Liaison Officer visited South Kivu. They met with refugees in Lusenda camp and hosting communities as well as partners to present UNHCR's protection strategy on durable solutions, results-based response and community approaches. The main recommendations made were the need to diffuse the Code of Conduct (CoC) at Lusenda camp and carry out trainings for police on refugee rights and the child protection strategy.
- On 11 April, the Tanganyika Sector<sup>2</sup> chief and other security personnel met with UNHCR to discuss the security and humanitarian situations in the area hosting Burundian refugees. The chief expressed his availability to provide the necessary support to ensure UNHCR and its partners are able to deliver assistance and protection to persons of concern, in the best possible conditions. At the outset, recommendations were made to strengthen security measures on the Uvira-Mboko-Barak road axis, where a number of ambushes and kidnappings have reportedly occurred in recent weeks. Also under consideration is the possibility of increasing DR Congolese army (FARDC) presence in the area, to effectively reduce the high level of crime.

<sup>2</sup> Administrative sub-division of the Fizi territory, South Kivu Province

## RWANDA

- **On average, the daily number of arrivals stood at 24 persons, down from 72 during the month of March.** The majority of arrivals were males aged between 18 and 35 years old. Reasons for flight included violence, threats linked to voting abstinence, demonstrating against President Nkurunziza's third term, forced recruitment, and reuniting with family members. New arrivals also stated that the number of checkpoints inside Burundi had increased, and that persons without valid travel documents are not allowed to cross the border. Burundians also reportedly face food shortages, which are exacerbated by the inability to travel abroad in order to find small jobs and buy food.

### Achievements and impact

- In the context of trainings aimed at orienting the newly elected refugee governance body, Save the Children (STC) met with 71 representatives to raise their awareness of interventions carried out by the NGO and to request their support with child protection (prevention and response) as well as to inform them of their roles and responsibilities, not only as community leaders but as members of the community itself.
- STC carried out its "[Children Resilience Programme](#)" over the course of four sessions during the second half of April for 250 children (aged 10-16 years) and their parents. The programme has been implemented since early 2016 and is a non-clinical psychosocial protection tool, which focuses on children's positive coping techniques and resilience. It is composed of workshops and parent meetings and can be supplemented with community activities, themselves linked to children's clubs, advocacy initiatives or other community-based forums. Furthermore, in the Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) and Youth Friendly Spaces (YFS), STC initiated a reading programme with a view to motivating primary students to read. Facilitators were trained to manage libraries and provide guidance to children wishing to engage in reading.
- In efforts to raise awareness and increase community engagement in the prevention of protection incidents against children in Mahama camp, Plan International (PLAN) organised football matches and held meetings on child abuse prevention for youth clubs and parasocial workers and with the community on children's rights. In Bugesera reception centre, PLAN organised an awareness-raising session on children's rights focusing on abuse and furthermore, in collaboration with the Ministry for Disaster Management and Refugee Affairs (MIDIMAR), the NGO launched an early pregnancy prevention campaign. In Nyanza reception centre, PLAN held meeting on integration and awareness-raising sessions on child abuse.

## TANZANIA (United Republic of)

- **On average, the daily number of arrivals stood at 114 persons per day, as opposed to 121 for the month of March.** The majority of arrivals were women and children. Arrivals reported increased *Imbonerakure* presence along the border and patrols within Burundi, making it more difficult to seek asylum. As a result, refugees continue to use alternative routes.

### Achievements and impact

- The operational working document for the Refugee Community Watch Team (CWT) was finalised in Nduta and Mtendeli camps. Developed to facilitate refugee participation in decision making pertaining to physical security and community based defence organisms, the CWT model emphasizes voluntarism, gender balance and ethical conduct, in close collaboration with the police force.
- The second borehole in Mtendeli was completed in the first week of April and relocations from Nyarugusu to Mtendeli resumed shortly after; two additional boreholes are under construction but the presence of farmers on camp land is slowing down progress. In addition to the refugees relocated from Nyarugusu, new arrivals into Tanzania are also transferred to Mtendeli, setting the total number of arrivals into the camp at 2,500 persons per week. Before departure from Nyarugusu, families are provided with food and upon arrival and accommodated in mass shelters for one night before being transferred to emergency family shelters by the Danish Refugee Council (DRC). Regular coordination meetings are held and cooperation between agencies and government counterparts has been fruitful.
- On 15 April, the third family reunification convoy from Nduta to Mtendeli was completed, bringing to 1,628 the number of refugees reunited with their families. The reunification was jointly organised by the DRC, IOM, the Tanzanian Red Cross Society (TRCS) and UNHCR.
- The prevention and advocacy teams (see [update n°24](#) p.3) established by the International Rescue Committee (IRC) to enhance SGBV response have yielded positive results. In addition to organising awareness-raising activities on SGBV issues and providing information on access to specialised services, the teams collected feedback on common issues of concern to the refugees and received requests for training and further awareness-raising. In response, SGBV working group members agreed to prepare key messages to be used as a basis for

outreach activities across all sectors. In Nduta, the number of reported SGBV cases stands at 10-15 per week and 5-10 per week in Mtendeli. Although the challenge of underreporting remains, the number of incidents recorded in the Gender Based Violence Information Management System (GBVIMS) is on the rise. Although the camp's population is growing, this trend may also be the result of increased confidence in the services available and SGBV referral mechanisms.

- In coordination with UNHCR, IRC conducted SGBV, Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and CoC training for newly elected refugee representatives, teachers and PLAN incentive staff<sup>3</sup> in Nduta camp. Central to the training for representatives was the topic of survivor-centred response, given the role the latter are often called to play in mediating SGBV, and domestic violence in particular. One of the main concerns is that interventions frequently discourage the survivor from reporting incidents to the fullest extent. As regards teaching staff, although the majority had only very limited knowledge of SGBV and PSEA, a high level of interest was shown and especially in terms of ensuring a safe environment for school children. Further trainings were requested for refugee representatives and police and staff from the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) will be trained in May.

## UGANDA

- **On average, the daily number of arrivals stood at 16 persons, down from 57 during the month of March.** Reasons for flight included violence, forced recruitment, robbery, rape and the murder of opposition members.

**Achievements and impact:** In Nakivale, a team from the American Refugee Committee (ARC) conducted an assessment with a view to constructing houses for persons with specific needs. The needs of some 27 persons were assessed and construction for eight of them was initiated during the month.

**Challenges, identified needs and remaining gaps:** Despite ongoing efforts in Nakivale to allocate land for new arrivals and process asylum applications, Kabazana reception centre remains overcrowded (338 max, currently hosting 560+). Relocations from the reception centre have been stalled due to a lack of plastic sheeting. UNHCR is taking steps to fast-track the acquisition of these items in order to further reduce congestion.

## Education

## RWANDA

**Challenges, identified needs and remaining gaps:** Owing to a lack of funding, the priority in the education sector was the payment of refugee teachers and the maintenance Early Childhood Development (ECD) centres. The need for additional classrooms and WASH facilities to integrate refugee students who continue to arrive in Mahama was also highlighted.

## Health

## DRC

### Challenges, identified needs and remaining gaps

- A cholera epidemic was reported in the Uvira territory, where Lusenda camp is located. Partner *Action pour un Développement Economique et Social* (ADES) monitored the health situation in Lusenda to ensure the disease would not spread to the camp. During the first week of April, a total of 77 non-lethal cases were recorded in the area, but none amongst refugees.
- UNHCR health staff from Goma visited the South Kivu provincial authorities to assess the health needs of refugees living in the area. The visit proved useful towards setting up additional health services at the Lusenda Health Post, including HIV prevention activities and trainings on mother-to-child transmission, malnutrition and tuberculosis caretaking and patient observation.

## RWANDA

**Achievements and impact:** The typhoid situation improved greatly during the month and as of 9 April, all blood samples tested were negative. On 26 April, a meeting was carried out in Kigali on the way forward. It was agreed that WASH efforts would be sustained and that clinical and laboratory surveillance would continue. An official communication by the Ministry of Health (MoH) and WHO is expected, declaring the end of the outbreak.

### Challenges, identified needs and remaining gaps

<sup>3</sup> Some refugees volunteer as nurses, teachers, doctors and more, depending on their skill sets, and are granted a modest financial compensation.

- In Angola and the DRC, a yellow fever outbreak was reported. In Mahama camp, measures were put into place to prevent the disease from spreading. The MoH issued a protocol requiring that refugees who do not possess proof of yellow fever vaccination remain in quarantine for six days. This caused Gatore transit centre to become overcrowded, prompting the need for additional shelters, latrines and water.
- The number of cases requiring Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) soared almost six-fold since the beginning of the year, with over 700 cases recorded as of end March. This trend can be attributed to the recent establishment of additional MHPSS activities, allowing for optimised identification of cases; a de-escalation of the situation in terms of emergency response and arrival rates, allowing for routine care and maintenance activities to take place (analysis, identification of dormant issues, etc...) and improved communication between health partners and refugees. During the month, the MHPSS action plan and standard operating procedures (SOPs) were reviewed by the health team. A number of gaps were identified, mainly in the areas of infrastructure and training, owing to a lack of funding.

## UGANDA

### Challenges, identified needs and remaining gaps

- With the onset of the rainy season malaria remained the leading cause of morbidity throughout the month. Despite ongoing mosquito net distribution campaigns, preventative measures and educative activities, weather conditions favoured mosquito breeding. Refugees were encouraged to clear the bushes around their homes, drain stagnant water and consistently use the mosquito nets provided.
- Uganda was hit by the yellow fever outbreak. A number of casualties were recorded and the MoH organised a mass immunisation campaign in the affected districts. Although no cases were reported in the refugee settlements, UNHCR and partners were urged to include yellow fever in the community health awareness-raising efforts.

## TANZANIA (United Republic of)

### Challenges, identified needs and remaining gaps

- Malaria remained the leading cause of morbidity in all the camps accounting for more than 30 per cent of consultations. Awareness-raising and mosquito net distributions took place in Nduta and distributions began on 25 April in Nyarugusu and Mtendeli. An entomologist from MSF-CH completed an assessment of the situation in Nduta and Nyarugusu with the objective of collecting data on the ways in which the disease has spread throughout the camp and its infectiousness in the various breeding sites. Findings will be shared subsequently.
- UNHCR conducted an assessment of the health posts in Nyarugusu and Mtendeli camps, with the objective of monitoring and assessing the management and distribution of drugs. The assessment was followed by a meeting between UNHCR, the International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC) and the Tanganyika Christian Refugee Service (TCRS) during which it was agreed that a reporting mechanism would be established and that store clerks would receive training. In total 40 persons were trained over a period of six days and new reporting tools were introduced.



## Food Security and Nutrition

## RWANDA

**Achievements and impact:** Preliminary findings from the mass Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) survey carried out at the end of March, which assessed the nutritional status of children in Mahama camp indicated a decrease in the level of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) from 4.5 per cent to 2.5 per cent and severe acute malnutrition from 0.5 to 0.3 per cent. UNHCR's Standardised Expanded Nutrition Survey ([SENS](#)), which will be carried out in May is expected to confirm this positive evolution.

## UGANDA

**Achievements and impact:** The nutritional status of Nakivale settlement improved during the month. From 3.9 per cent in the first week, GAM went down to 1 per cent in the last. Similarly, SAM decreased from 1.7 per cent to 0.3 per cent. This improvement can be attributed to the introduction of maternal child health programmes by WHO, which ensure all children under five years suffering from malnutrition are enrolled in supplementary feeding programmes.



## Water and Sanitation

### DRC

**Challenges, identified needs and remaining gaps:** The number of hygiene promoters is insufficient in proportion to Lusenda's growing population (572:1 as vs 500:1 standard), which could lead to the spread of disease. Owing to a lack of funding, it is not expected that additional promoters will be trained in the coming weeks.

### UGANDA

**Achievements and impact:** In Nakivale, with the onset of the rainy period, ARC carried out activities aimed at improving sanitary conditions. During the first week, teachers were trained on the Personal Hygiene and Sanitation Education (PHASE) methodology, a school-based approach to basic health and hygiene education, which helps children to mitigate diarrhoea and other diseases caused by inadequate WASH conditions. In total, 10 schools (20 teachers) participated in the training. Throughout the month, ARC carried out participatory learning activities for over 200 refugees in the various settlements in the context of the Participatory Hygiene And Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) initiative. In the process, participants were equipped with knowledge and skills to spearhead hygiene and sanitation improvement activities within their communities. ARC also conducted needs assessments and constructed latrines and bath shelters.



## Shelter and NFIs

### TANZANIA (United Republic of)

#### Achievements and impact

- In Nduta camp which has reached its capacity of 55,000 persons, the shelter strategy is now driven by community-led transitional shelter construction. The preparation of bricks, with the use of waste water from taps began in the last week of April. When the first set of bricks is complete in early May, the DRC, African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD) and TWESA will be involved in the construction of the shelters themselves in collaboration with refugees.
- In Mtendeli, the draft camp layout map was developed to fit the boundaries demarcated by the District Land Department, who, in collaboration with the District Commissioner and the MHA, will approve the final version. Out of the 9.6 Km<sup>2</sup> available, 60 per cent of the land is inhabitable, setting the plot size at 150 m<sup>2</sup> for a family of 4.5 persons. According to the draft, a total of 7,056 family plots (31,752 persons) are available on land currently under cultivation in the western side of the camp and 19,000 in the eastern side bringing the total hosting capacity to 51,752 persons. District authorities have informed local farmers who are using Mtendeli camp for agricultural purposes to harvest their crops in order for the land to be available by 1 July.



## Camp Coordination and Camp Management

### TANZANIA (United Republic of)

**Achievements and impact:** During the months of February and March 2016, DRC worked with the community to set up a refugee governance structure in Nduta camp. The structure is composed of male and female refugee leaders (representatives) from the villages and zones<sup>4</sup> that make up the camp, who are engaged in a regular consultative process with the community. Leaders are elected by the camp population and zone level elections are overseen by the MHA, DRC and UNHCR to guarantee an open and transparent process and to give legitimacy to the elected members from the onset. The leaders are supported by DRC with trainings and the provision of in kind assistance to facilitate the conduct of their activities. This governance structure aims to facilitate communication between humanitarian and government partners with the community and allow it to play a more important role in decision making as it relates to service provision. Zone leaders hold weekly meetings at the DRC community centre and at zonal levels with leaders from the villages. To further ensure community engagement, leaders will support their respective constituencies with the community action planning process, which is expected to be rolled out in the coming weeks. During this process, the community will play a leading role in identifying and communicating the issues it faces and designing an action plan to address them.

### UGANDA

**Achievements and impact:** The OPM and UNHCR undertook site assessment and planning activities in two alternative sites Rwamanja and Kyaka II, which should host additional refugees when and if Nakivale reaches full

<sup>4</sup> Administrative levels ranging from a small group of dwellings to larger blocks or 'zones'

capacity. The site planner completed surveying works of settlement areas for new refugee arrivals, and is in the process of developing structured settlement site plans. The site plans will indicate in which settlement areas new arrivals will be allocated plots, detailed plot numbering and the location of additional facilities required. Site assessments provide a detailed understanding of how many additional refugees can be accommodated on lands currently gazetted as refugee settlement areas.

## Livelihoods, energy and environment

### TANZANIA (United Republic of)

**Achievements and impact:** On 22 April, AIRD, DRC, IRC, the MHA, the Relief to Development Society (REDESO), and members of the refugee community jointly organized an event to celebrate Earth Day in Nduta camp. On the occasion, the first plant nursery was opened by UNHCR and the MHA Environmental Coordinator for the Kigoma region. This is the first of many nurseries that will be opened across the camps and host communities in the region in 2016. The nurseries will produce saplings to support nutrition and re-forestation. The draft Environmental Strategy prepared by UNHCR's Environmental Expert, was handed over to the MHA at the event. Earth Day provided an opportunity to raise refugees' awareness of good practices concerning activities such as the collection of firewood and the use of fuel efficient stoves and energy saving.

### UGANDA

**Achievements and impact:** The Nsamizi Training Institute conducted various activities aimed at empowering refugees to become more self-sufficient. During the first week of April, the NGO monitored eight groups (89 persons) engaged in income generating activities in Nakivale. Chief among the achievements recorded during the assessment was a 116 per cent increase in aggregate savings in the month of March compared to February, which can be attributed *inter alia* to trainings in financial management. During the second week, Nsamizi conducted training for some 271 refugees on tending to nursery beds with a view to improving household nutrition. Participants demonstrated new skills by preparing 12 nursery beds, with the support of community workers. During the third week, Nsamizi carried out awareness-raising activities on self-reliance adaption mechanisms for 187 persons. The sessions focused on topics such as 'labour for income', income generating activities, and farming as a business. One of the outcomes included the formation of Saving & Credit Cooperative Organisation (SACCO) groups, to facilitate entrepreneurship development.



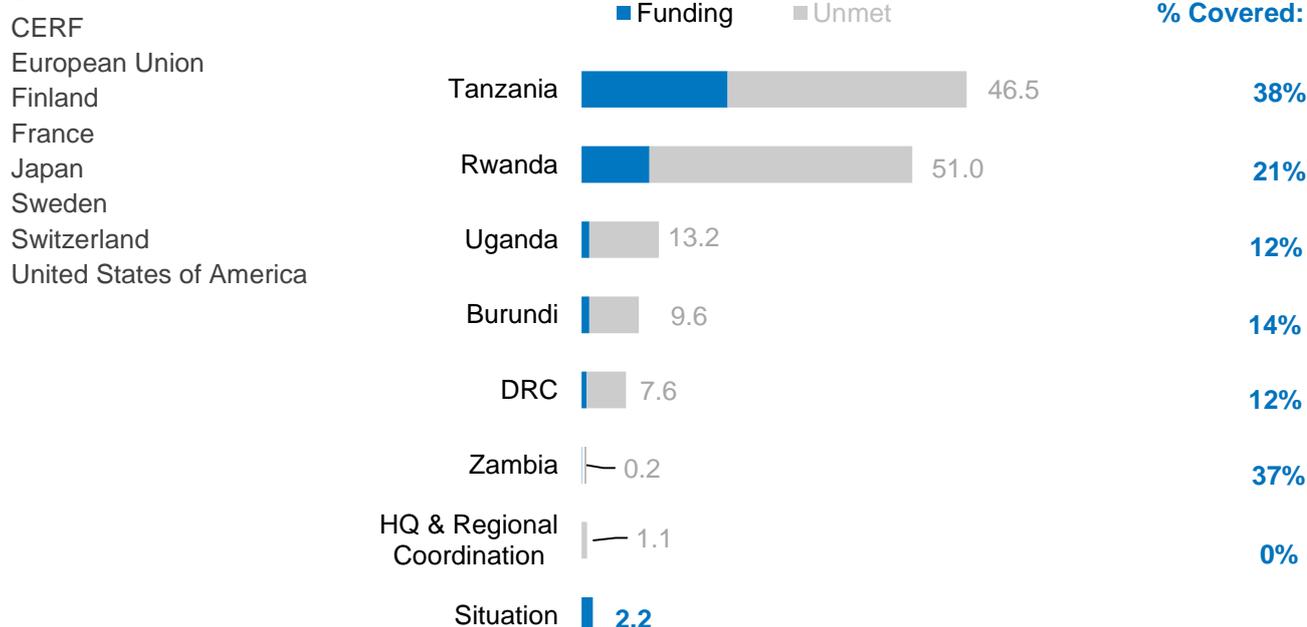
Tanzania/Abdul Yamuremye, 32, and his wife Hadija Umugure, 25 with their children Najajashi Irumka, 6 and Ahisha Kiyatarimira, 2 after going to the mosque on a Friday afternoon, Nduta refugee camp, Kibondo, Tanzania © UNHCR/Benjamin Loyseau/April 2016

## 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 and Uganda from January to December 2016. UNHCR's total financial requirements for the Burundi Situation currently amounts 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 15 December. 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 28%.**

A total **USD 48.2 million** has been funded:

### Donors:



### Contacts:

Mr. Ulysses Grant, Reporting Associate, [grantu@unhcr.org](mailto:grantu@unhcr.org) Tel: +41 (0) 22 739 8730

Ms. Mandy Felicia Owusu, Senior Desk Officer, [owusu@unhcr.org](mailto:owusu@unhcr.org) Tel: +41 (0) 22 739 8465

Ms. Wendy Rappeport, Senior External Relations Officer, [rappepor@unhcr.org](mailto:rappepor@unhcr.org) Tel: +41 (0) 22 739 8993



# Burundi Situation

Displacement of Burundians into neighbouring countries since April 2015

as of 30 April 2016

