

SITUATION REPORT

19 - 25 Feb 2007

UNITED NATIONS
Office for the Coordination of
Humanitarian Affairs in Burundi
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ACTIVITIES AND UPDATES

Implementation of season2007-B: Over the reporting week, partners involved in the implementation of agricultural season 2007-B started the distribution of seeds, tools and seed protection rations (SPR). In collaboration with partner organizations including Solidarités, and COPED, FAO/ERCU completed the distribution of seeds and tools in the provinces of Bururi, Muramvya, Gitega, Cankuzo, Kirundo, Ngozi, Muyinga and Kayanza. During the current seed distribution programme, FAO/ERCU will provide 2,483 MT of beans (10 Kg per family), 2,483 Kg of vegetable seeds (10g per family) to 248,300 vulnerable families throughout the country. Each of the 151,000 most vulnerable families will receive a hoe. FAO/ERCU will also assist another 7,800 families through organization of seed fairs which brings to 256,100 the total number of families benefiting from this agricultural season assistance. Thanks to financial support by ECHO and in coordination with FAO, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) will provide seeds to approximately 60,000 households for the 2007-B agricultural season. As per its [press release](#), targeted provinces include Bubanza, Cankuzo, Cibitoke, Gitega, Kirundo, Muyinga, Ngozi, and Ruyigi in response to the current food security crisis caused by the heavy rains and floods during the 2007-A season which destroyed many crops.

WFP delivered 330 MT of SPR to 73,940 beneficiaries in Cankuzo and Karuzi. For agricultural season 2007-B, approximately 1,500 MT of SPR will be distributed to 60,000 families (300,000 persons) throughout the country in order to prevent beneficiaries from consuming the seeds.

Assistance to torrential rains victims: UNICEF, OCHA and Burundian Red Cross completed a joint assessment mission in Busoro area in Kanyosha commune (Bujumbura Mairie) further to the violent wind which damaged several houses (night of Feb 20). In addition to the 386 houses which were destroyed by torrential rains early in 2007, another 58 houses had their roofs blown off.

Update on Burundians Expelled from Tanzania: During the week under review, the governmental project for the reintegration of war-affected persons (PARESI) registered 101 Burundians arriving from Tanzania in the transit site of Kinazi (Muyinga province). Since the beginning of year 2007, PARESI has registered 728 expelled persons.

Repatriation: The number of returnees continues to decrease. Over the reporting period, only 109 Burundian refugees returning home were registered by UNHCR through the entry points of Kobero in Muyinga (48), Mabanda in Makamba (31) and Bujumbura airport (30). Since the beginning of 2007, 2,287 persons have returned to Burundi.

OCHA Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) allocation for Burundi

The CERF under-funded 'window' allocated \$8.5 million for life-saving projects contained in the 2007 Consolidated Appeal and not yet sufficiently funded in order to address the current crisis in Burundi. Four projects were submitted (1 for WFP, 2 for FAO and 1 for UNICEF) and all of them received approval. This funding allows the recipient agencies and their implementing partners to quickly respond to the effects of the Dec. 2006 and Jan. 2007 rains.

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Coordination: OCHA and the UNHCR sub-office in Ruyigi fielded a joint mission in Gisagara commune (Cankuzo province) to follow-up the arrival of Burundians expelled from Tanzania. Another mission was organized in Buyengero and Burambi communes (Bururi province) as part of follow-up of the prevailing humanitarian situation and response/assistance delivered. The mission recommended fair targeting in order to reach the most vulnerable families, provision of seeds to returnees and assessment of rehabilitation needs for 12 classrooms which were destroyed in Burumbi commune further to torrential rains in December 2006 and early 2007.

Assistance to victims of sexual gender-based violence: HealthNet-TPO held training for victims of sexual violence on setting and management of income generating activities in Muyinga. The objective of the training was to help them for a better social reintegration.