

# WEEKLY SITUATION REPORT

26 June – 2 July 2006

UNITED NATIONS  
Office for the Coordination of  
Humanitarian Affairs in Burundi  
[www.ochaburundi.org](http://www.ochaburundi.org)



NATIONS UNIES  
Bureau de Coordination des Affaires  
Humanitaires au Burundi  
[www.ochaburundi.org](http://www.ochaburundi.org)

---

## ACTIVITIES AND UPDATES

---

- **Food Security:** As part of efforts to fight crop disease, the FAO/Emergency Rehabilitation and Coordination Unit (FAO/ERCU) in collaboration with ISABU (National Agricultural Research Institute) set up a rehabilitation programme for the production/multiplication of quality seeds including mosaic resistant cassava species. For the agricultural season 2006B, FAO/ERCU distributed such cassava cuttings to cover over 40 hectares through international and national partner NGOs. In order to strengthen the assistance provided in the fight against crop pests, FAO/ERCU has organized training sessions on the types of diseases affecting cassava plants, in-vitro cassava production and rapid multiplication techniques. 130 communal agronomists from Kayanza, Kirundo, Ngozi, Muyinga, Bubanza, Cibitoke, Muramvya and Mwaro attended these sessions. By October 2006, FAO/ERCU and its partner organizations in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock plan to have sufficient cuttings to cover 600 hectares nationwide.



Trainees at a sample rapid multiplication site of cassava cuttings, FAO/ERCU © Ngozi 7 June 2006.



Multiplication of cassava cuttings, FAO/ERCU © Cibitoke 28 June 2006.

- **Health:** On 30 June 2006, the provincial health authority of Gitega held a validation session of a study on the health situation in Kibuye area including the communes of Bukirasazi, Buraza, Itaba, and Makebuko. The study was completed with financial support from the international NGO Health Net-TPO. The study surveyed the socio economic profiles of households, the use of health facilities and the quality of health care provided to a pregnant women and patients with high fever. The validation session also aimed at advocating for an implementation of response strategies.
- **Repatriation:** Over the reporting week, UNHCR facilitated the return of a total of 359 Burundians from Tanzania. In 2006, UNHCR has recorded 5,917 returnees of whom 5,754 were facilitated and 163 spontaneous returns. Since the voluntary repatriation operations were launched by the agency in 2002, UNHCR has recorded a total of 300,000 Burundians.
- **Sexual and Gender Based Violence:** Health Net/TPO supported by UNICEF organised sessions to raise awareness among the youth on sexual violence against women and girls in the commune of Nyanza-Lac (Makamba). Each month, about 3 cases are registered and victims are mainly children. According to authorities, no legal action is taken but cases are addressed through mediation by community leaders between the families.

# WEEKLY SITUATION REPORT

26 June – 2 July 2006

- **Update on repatriation of Rwandan Asylum Seeker:** UNHCR repatriated 394 Rwandans by convoy on 27 June. Over the last months a considerable number of Rwandans returned. Approximately 14,400 Rwanda asylum seekers still remain in Burundi's Northern province of Ngozi and are hosted in the only one site after Songore was closed further to a transfer all asylum seekers to Musasa. Meanwhile, the process of status determination continues. As of 27 June, a total of 87 Rwandans have been transferred to the refugee site in Rutana.
- **NFI:** Over the reporting week, CRS assisted 133 vulnerable families from the Batwa community with non food items.
- **Reintegration activities:** The construction of houses by ADRA, GTZ, Word Relief and NRC continues in Nyanza-Lac and Kayogoro communes (Makamba province). Beneficiaries include war affected persons in general and returnees in particular. On the whole 6,500 houses will be constructed in 2006 in these two communes alone. However, housing issues in the province which is marked by high levels of returns are far from being solved since there are no comparable interventions in the four remaining communes. Intermon OXFAM moreover started sensitization sessions in the province on food security activities encouraging project beneficiaries to regroup into associations.
- **Update on food aid distributed:** During the reporting week, WFP delivered 813 Mt of food aid to a total of 118,810 beneficiaries throughout its different programmes. Returning Rwandan asylum seekers were also assisted.

---

## SECURITY, ACCESS AND COORDINATION

---

- **Human rights violations:** In Isale, Kabezi and Bugarama communes (Bujumbura Rural) a number of civilians were arrested on the suspicion of supporting the FNL. Cases of arbitrary arrests were also reported in Nyanza-Lac (Makamba) affecting persons coming from Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of Congo who were suspected of supporting the FNL rebel movement.
- **Access:** Despite reports on recruitment of new members by the FNL movement throughout Burundi's western provinces (Bujumbura Rural, Cibitoke and Bubanza), no restriction to humanitarian activities was registered over the reporting week.
- **Security in Bujumbura Rural, Cibitoke and Bubanza:** On 27 June, gunfire was heard as an FDN (National Defense Forces) patrol was tracking alleged FNL rebels in Nyarumpongo area (Isale commune). Five suspects were arrested and detained at the police station in Isale. The incident resulted in temporary (short-term) displacement of populations but no looting was reported. Meanwhile, upsurge in cases of theft attributed to FNL combatants has resulted in the displacement of breeders and their livestock towards the communal centres of Isale and Mugongomanga (Bujumbura Rural).
- **Coordination:** A reintegration coordination meeting jointly held by the Government of Burundi and the UNDP project for the reintegration and reinsertion of war-affected persons (PRRSLP) was held on 28 June. Follow-up meetings will be held in the five priority province of Makamba, Rutana, Ruyigi, Cankuzo and Karuzi.

# WEEKLY SITUATION REPORT

26 June – 2 July 2006

- **Early Warning:** On 29 June, OCHA completed an assessment mission to Karuzi province to look at needs likely to arise with the start of the school year 2006-2007. Another field mission was conducted to Rumonge (Bururi) and Nyanza Lac (Makamba) in order to assess the risk of cholera outbreaks from 26 to 30 June. ICRC in collaboration with the Government utilities company (REGIDESO) has undertaken activities in order to improve access to potable water; but the visited areas may still face the risk of cholera outbreaks during the next rainy season.

The Humanitarian Coordinator, Mr Ibrahima D. Fall, ended his mission to Burundi on 2 July. While waiting for the arrival of the new Humanitarian Coordinator, Mr Kaba Neyaga, UNHCR Representative, will assume the interim leadership of the humanitarian community in Burundi.