

BURUNDI SITUATION

April 2018

424,319

Total number of refugees from Burundi in the four main hosting countries (Tanzania, Rwanda, DRC, Uganda), as of 30 April 2018.

2,882

Burundian refugees assisted to return from Tanzania in April 2018, totalling 10,788 assisted to return to date in 2018.

710

New Burundian refugee arrivals /registrations recorded in April 2018.

23,890

Burundian refugees assisted to return from Tanzania since September 2017.

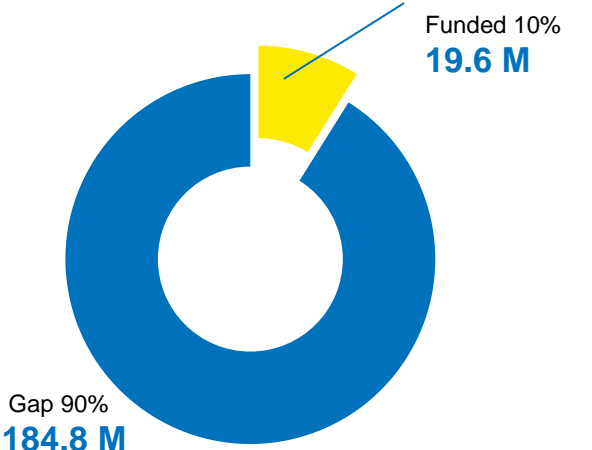
174,011

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Burundi according to IOM, where 29 per cent of IDPs are linked to the socio political situation, and 71 per cent are linked to natural disasters, as of March 2018.

FUNDING (AS OF 30 APRIL 2018)

USD 204.4 M

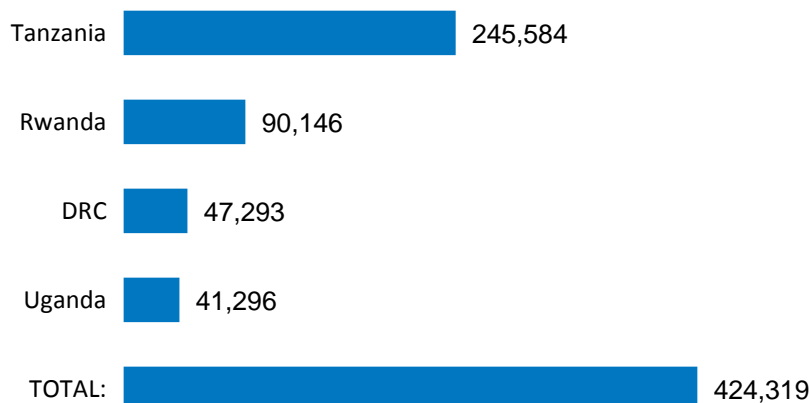
UNHCR requirements for the Burundi situation in 2018



POPULATION OF CONCERN

Host Countries

Note: Figures reflect current number of registered Burundian refugees and asylum seekers pre- and post-2015 who are assisted through the 2018 Burundi Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP).



*The total above is in line with the 2018 Burundi RRRP regional coverage, and does not include some 23,700 Burundian refugees who are registered in Kenya and Southern Africa and assisted within the respective country level programs, as well as a further 23,000 Burundian refugees who have lived for decades in Tanzania and no longer receive assistance.

Highlights and Operational Context

- **The UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi, met with President Nkurunziza in Burundi to discuss issues related to refugees during a landmark visit to the Great Lakes Region.** As part of his visit to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Rwanda, and Burundi in early April to meet with displaced persons and call for renewed efforts to find solutions for refugees, Grandi met with all three Heads of States to encourage a regional approach to refugee issues. During his time in Burundi, Grandi met with Burundian returnees and welcomed news that some Burundian refugees were returning from Tanzania, but underlined that all returns everywhere in the region must be voluntary.
- **The Security Council has urged dialogue amid “a deteriorating political and humanitarian situation in Burundi.”** In a [statement](#) released on 5 April 2018, the 15-member Council voiced concerns over the continued worsening of the humanitarian situation in the country and called on Governments of those countries hosting Burundians to ensure that the return of refugees is voluntary, based on informed decisions and in safety and dignity.
- **Although there have been media reports about refugees leaving Burundi ahead of the referendum, there has been no notable increase in arrivals registered in neighbouring countries thus far.** As of 30 April 2018, 4,257 new arrivals have been registered in the four main hosting countries (Tanzania, Rwanda, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Uganda) in the first quarter of 2018.
- **As of April 2018, UNHCR and partners have received only 11 per cent of the \$391 million appealed for in the 2018 Regional Refugee Response Plan, of which UNHCR’s requirements of \$202.4 million have been only 10 per cent funded.** The Burundi situation remains one of the world’s most underfunded humanitarian crisis. UNHCR continues to advocate with donors and partners for more funds, highlighting the main gaps and challenges faced by refugees.

Voluntary Repatriation of Burundian Refugees from the United Republic of Tanzania

Update

- The voluntary repatriation exercise resumed on April 19 following a two week halt to review IOM’s standards of operation and procedures following the convoy accident on 29th March 2018.

- Some 2,882 Burundian refugees have been repatriated in April to their areas of origin bringing the number of refugees returned to 23,890 since the beginning of the voluntary repatriation in September 2017.
- Kigoma regional authorities in Tanzania have agreed to keep Lumasi transit center open as a half-way point for the voluntary repatriation exercise to help relieve pressure from the Burundi operation due to a high number of returns. However, additional resources are required to upgrade the facilities in Lumasi transit center to accommodate the plan to repatriate 8,000 returnees per month.

Partners

- In the United Republic of Tanzania, UNHCR is collaborating closely with the following partners: Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), HelpAge International, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Tanzanian Red Cross Society (TRCS), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), International Organization for Migration (IOM), Plan International, and the World Food Programme (WFP).
- In the Republic of Burundi, UNHCR is collaborating with the Department of Repatriation under the Government of Burundi, World Food Program (WFP), International Rescue Committee (IRC), Caritas and the Civil Volunteer Group (GVC).

Achievements During the Reporting Period

TANZANIA

Latest Developments

- **Senior staff from UNHCR Headquarters carried out a mission to Tanzania to discuss the current protection strategy and highlighted the need for strengthened data synthesis and analysis, and Sexual Exploitation Abuse (SEA) awareness and visibility.** The mission was co-led by the Division of International Protection Services and the Regional Bureau for Africa.

Achievements and Challenges

- **A total of 2,511 Burundian refugees participated in Sexual and Gender Based Violence awareness sessions in Nduta, Mtendeli and Nyarugusu camps.** Discussions focused on sexual assault, physical assault, early marriage and alcohol abuse and participants highlighted the importance of strengthening SGBV prevention and promoting gender equality.

RWANDA

Latest Developments

- **As of April 2018 the total camp population of Mahama, some 57,772 individuals, are finally all hosted in 6,907 constructed semi-permanent shelters.** However, 1,717 semi-permanent shelters require plastering works /mudding to enhance their durability.
- **A vandalism prevention mechanism was established with village leaders in Mahama camp to tackle the continued theft and vandalism.** Some 30 vandalized water taps were replaced in 3 villages to bridge the existing sanitation gap in the camp.

Achievements and Challenges

- **Umuco and Akeza Karigura cooperatives in Mahama camp produced and sold woven baskets worth 569,000 Rwandese francs (about US \$657) in April 2018.** 10 per cent of the total sales was credited to the cooperatives' account in the Bank of Kigali, while 90 per cent was equally distributed between the members.
- **Hygiene promotion activities were conducted in all communities of Mahama camp to enhance awareness on best hygiene practices.** About 53,115 individuals were reached, including the surrounding villages.
- **In Mahama II there is a significant lack of space for all HIV and Mental Health program.** To accommodate all, the waiting areas for all health posts in Mahama I and Mahama II need to be further enlarged.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Latest Developments

- **On 7 April, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr. Filippo Grandi, undertook an official visit to the Democratic Republic of Congo, including Mulongwe site, home to 4,683 Burundian refugees, in the South Kivu province.** Despite the difficulties faced by the communities heightened by the shortfall of funds, he praised the local authorities for granting access to health infrastructure, schools and to agricultural land to refugees.

Achievements and Challenges

- **1,484 Burundian asylum seekers remained in UNHCR reception structures waiting for registration.** In Mulongwe site, the construction of ten communal

dormitories was finalized, which is expected to allow the rapid transfer of refugees from the transit centres to the site.

UGANDA

Latest Developments

- **A total of 398 new arrivals were registered in April, with an average of 80 arrivals per week.** Since the beginning of the year, the total number of Burundian refugees arriving in Uganda stands at 1,478.
- **Out of the 398 new arrivals, 80 Burundians have reported reason for flight due to forced participation in the voting exercise for the new constitution (constitutional referendum scheduled for 17 May 2018).** Burundian refugees are also reporting fear of persecution by the Imbonerakure militias as well as fear of forced repatriation from Tanzania and Rwanda, as causes of flight to Uganda.

Achievements and Challenges

- **The latest joint physical headcount session conducted for Burundian refugees at the Kabazaana Reception Centre accounted for 1,067 individuals,** which is above the reception centre capacity of 738.
- **In Nakivale, water per capita ratio increased from 12.96 litres per day (l/p/d) to 15.05 l/p/d across the settlement, which is largely attributed to an increment in the fuel supply from 2,665 litres to 3,602 litres.** For the Burundian villages, however, average water per capita is only 10.7 l/p/d.

Financial Information

Funding (in million USD) as of end of April 2018

Out of the \$204.4 million required for 2018, a total of \$19.6 million has been funded. UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors who have contributed to their activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed directly to the Burundi situation or operations.

Donors who have contributed to the Burundi Situation in 2018:

- CERF
- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
- European Union
- Germany
- Great Lakes Region Cross Border Fund
- International Olympic Committee
- Japan
- Sweden
- United Kingdom
- UN Peacebuilding Fund

External / Donors Relations

Special thanks to the major donors of broadly earmarked and regional funds in 2018 | USD¹

United States of America 90.8 million | Canada 8.2 million | Private donors Spain 7.1 million | Private donors Australia 3.8 million | Sweden 3.2 million | Switzerland 2.8 million
Denmark | Germany | Luxembourg | Malta | Netherlands | Norway | Republic of Korea | Private donors

Thanks to other donors of unearmarked contributions | USD²

Sweden 98.2 million | Norway 42.5 million | Netherlands 39.1 million | United Kingdom 31.7 million | Denmark 25.5 million | Private donors Spain 19 million | Australia 18.9 million | Switzerland 15.2 million | Italy 11.2 million

Algeria | Argentina | Belgium | Bosnia and Herzegovina | Canada | China | Costa Rica | Estonia | Finland | Germany | Iceland | India | Indonesia | Kuwait | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Monaco | Montenegro | New Zealand | Philippines | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Serbia | Singapore | Slovakia | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Private donors

CONTACTS

Daena Neto, Reporting Officer, Nairobi

neto@unhcr.org, Tel: +254 20 422 2225, Cell +254 780 04 3430

Wendy Rappeport, Senior External Relations Officer, Geneva

rappepor@unhcr.org, Tel: +41 (0) 22 739 8993, Cell +41 (0) 79 881 91 83

LINKS

Regional Data Portal: <http://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/burundi>

UNHCR Burundi page: <http://www.unhcr.org/burundi.html>

UNHCR Burundi Global Focus : <http://reporting.unhcr.org/node/8488>

Recent News Story: <http://www.unhcr.org/news/stories/2018/4/5ab0d2984/burundian-refugees-congo-forge-better-future.html>

¹ The broadly earmarked contributions listed are those which can potentially be used for the Burundi Situation due to their earmarking to a related region, sub-region, country or theme. The total amount of the contributions is shown for donors who have contributed \$2 million and more.

² The total amount of unearmarked contributions is shown for donors who have contributed \$10 million and more.