

# United Republic of Tanzania

## Main objectives

- Ensure the well-being of refugees from Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Somalia by providing essential assistance and services while they remain in Tanzania.
- Assist refugees from Burundi and the DRC by facilitating and, if appropriate, promoting their voluntary repatriation, where conditions in the countries of origin permit.
- Provide support for the local integration of refugees who have been allowed by the Government to settle in Tanzania.
- Help the Tanzanian authorities to provide security in the refugee camps, ensuring that they retain an exclusively civilian and humanitarian character and that they accommodate only those persons entitled to humanitarian protection.
- Implement strategies aimed at eliminating sexual and gender-based violence and controlling HIV/AIDS in the refugee camps.



## Planning figures

Population	Jan. 2004	Dec. 2004
Burundi (refugees)	385,900	341,900
DRC (refugees)	168,300	184,800
Other (refugees)	5,500	5,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>559,700</b>	<b>532,200</b>

**Total requirements: USD 27,361,875**

In 2003, the lower number of arrivals from Burundi and the DRC than in 2002 can be attributed in part, to obstacles that asylum-seekers face on their way to the Tanzanian border, and also to the more vigorous border controls exercised by the Tanzanian authorities.

## Working environment

### Recent developments

Tanzania continues to host Africa's largest concentration of refugees, a total of almost one million people, of whom roughly one half are assisted by UNHCR. While the number of assisted refugees declined steadily during 2003, the overall refugee population under the care of UNHCR remained at about 500,000 persons for most of the year.

Although a potential large-scale influx from Burundi to Tanzania was averted with a peaceful change of government in Bujumbura in May 2003, insecurity continued to characterise many parts of Burundi, preventing large-scale returns to the country. This insecurity led to further internal displacement and periodic outflows of refugees to Tanzania.

The progress achieved through the Inter-Congolese Dialogue and the installation of the Transitional Government in DRC in July brought about a considerable decline in the number of new arrivals from DRC, and an increase in the number of Congolese refugees expressing an interest in voluntary repatriation. Similarly, as the political situation in Burundi began to improve, UNHCR assisted growing numbers of refugees to repatriate to some of the safer areas in Burundi, mainly in the north and centre of the country. There were no new arrivals from Rwanda between January and July 2003, and attention was focused on voluntary repatriation of the 2,717 Rwandans who were in Tanzania at the beginning of 2003.



Women and children are often the most vulnerable in refugee settlements like these Burundian refugees living in a camp near Kasulu. UNHCR / L. Taylor

## Constraints

The traditional hospitality shown for so many years to refugees by the Tanzanian authorities and host communities has been somewhat tempered by the perception of refugees being the cause of mounting insecurity and pressure on limited natural resources. Consequently, assistance and protection programmes for refugees are now delivered in a more restrictive and

politically sensitive environment. Furthermore, the general decline in the level of assistance, coupled with restrictive measures introduced by the Government in the camps, resulted in a sizeable spontaneous outflow of returnees to Burundi, especially during the months of April, May and June 2003. The restrictive measures put in place by the Government effectively limit any movement of refugees out of the camps, even within the formerly permitted four kilometre perimeter. This makes life particularly difficult



for recent arrivals who have not yet developed coping mechanisms and who have no means of supplementing their food assistance, which for most of 2003 was inadequate due to supply shortages.

The current policy of the Government focuses on temporary asylum with a view to swift voluntary repatriation. Not only does this rule out any possibility of local integration, but it also inhibits efforts to achieve self-reliance. The remainder of the Rwandan refugees, for example, were deported from Tanzania after their asylum claims were rejected by the Government, even though many of them had expressed the wish to legalise their stay through other immigration channels.

## Strategy

### Protection and solutions

In north western Tanzania, protection and assistance programmes for refugees in the camps will be maintained throughout 2004. The facilitation and, if possible, the active encouragement of large-scale voluntary repatriation to Burundi and the DRC will remain a priority for UNHCR in Tanzania. This will naturally depend on the outcome of the various national, regional and international initiatives currently underway. For the Somali refugees, the Office is planning to phase out the local settlement programme by the end of 2004.

### Assistance

#### Burundian refugees

As agreed in January 2002 by the Tripartite Commission (the Governments of Burundi and Tanzania and UNHCR), since March 2002, UNHCR has been facilitating the voluntary repatriation of Burundian refugees to nine secure provinces. The Office had originally foreseen major repatriation movements in 2003, but given the slow progress of the peace negotiations and the continuing insecurity in the south and east of Burundi, repatriation could not proceed through the three entry points initially envisaged. It was thus agreed to facilitate repatriation through only the Kobero border point and only to the safer, northern and central areas of Gitega, Karuzi, Kayanza, Kirundo, Muramvya, Muyinga, Ngozi, and Bujumbura Mairie. In March 2003, during the fifth meeting of the Tripartite Commission held in Dar es Salaam, UNHCR agreed to facilitate returns, security permitting, to three southern provinces: Bururi, Rutana and Makamba. By September 2003, the situation in Cankuzo had improved sufficiently for the border crossing point at Murusugamba (between Tanzania and Burundi) to be opened.

If the situation in Burundi further improves, there could be an acceleration of voluntary repatriation in 2004, with an eventual switch from facilitation to large-scale promotion of voluntary repatriation.

#### Congolese refugees

The Inter-Congolese Dialogue (held in Sun City, South Africa, in March 2002), the follow-up agreements, and various other initiatives, all led to the installation of the Transitional Government in DRC in July 2003. Subsequently, increased stability was reported in the Kivu provinces, the area of origin of the majority of the Congolese refugees in Tanzania. This led to a marked decline in the numbers of new arrivals from the DRC in the second half of the year.

If the situation continues to improve, UNHCR could start facilitating voluntary repatriation to the DRC in 2004. In the meantime, however, UNHCR continues to confront the difficulty of accommodating new arrivals in the Lugufu refugee camps (in the Kigoma region of Tanzania), which offer only a limited number of empty plots.

#### Somali refugees

In pursuit of the local settlement programme for Somali refugees, a new site was developed at Chogo in the Tanga Region. By April 2003, work had been completed, and 3,200 Somalis took up residence there. It is hoped that it will be possible by the end of 2003 to make a positive assessment of progress regarding food self-sufficiency so that UNHCR can phase out its assistance programme for this group. In June 2003, the Government announced that it would look favourably upon the Somalis' requests for Tanzanian citizenship.

#### Other activities

UNHCR will provide special assistance and support to the Tanzanian authorities through a "security package". These include the deployment and training of special police contingents and the running of a facility for the separation of ex-combatants from the refugee population.

UNHCR will give limited financial assistance to localities where refugees are settled. The aim is to help build up local institutions, transportation networks and infrastructure.

The empowerment of refugee women will be one of UNHCR's policy objectives in Tanzania. In addition, a comprehensive approach to tackling the problem of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) will continue to focus on prevention through awareness raising among the local communities, with legal, medical and psychosocial support being made available to victims.

UNHCR will continue to put emphasis on recognising the rights of refugee children, and relevant activities will be incorporated into education, community services and protection programmes. Child health care will concentrate on immunisations and the treatment of childhood diseases, especially those associated with anaemia and malnutrition. Additional community-based programmes will be devised for adolescents.

There are ongoing environmental protection programmes to prevent soil erosion and the depletion of wood and water resources. Reforestation is encouraged in threatened camp environments and energy conservation measures are being strengthened.

### Desired impact

UNHCR expects that some 1,000 refugees will have been accepted for resettlement in 2003, and that some 2,000 refugees will be resettled in 2004. These refugees include those who lack prospects of local integration, women-at-risk, and people in need of legal and physical protection.

## Organisation and implementation

### Management structure

In 2004, UNHCR's activities will be carried out in the main city, Dar es Salaam, and in five field locations, by 231 staff members (39 international and 141 national), including 51 UNVs (12 international and 39 national).

### Co-ordination

In 2004, UNHCR will work with 16 NGOs. The Refugee Department of the Ministry of Home Affairs is responsible for the co-ordination of refugee-related matters in Tanzania. Regular inter-agency meetings are held with representatives of NGOs, UN agencies and local government. UNHCR works with WFP, UNICEF, FAO and WHO to ensure a co-ordinated approach to the refugee programme.

Offices
<b>Dar es Salaam</b>
Kasulu
Kibondo
Kigoma
Mwanza
Ngara

Partners
<b>Government agencies</b>
Commissioner of Prisons
Ministry of Home Affairs
Regional Administrative Secretary (Kigoma and Tanga)
<b>NGOs</b>
Africare (Tanzania)
Assistance Road Foundation
ATLAS Logistique
CARE International
Caritas (Diocese of Kigoma/Diocese of Rulenge)
<i>Chama Cha Uzazi na Malezi Bora Tanzania</i>
Christian Outreach Relief and Development
Concern Worldwide
International Rescue Committee
Norwegian People's Aid
Relief to Development Society
Southern Africa Extension Education Unit
Tanganyika Christian Refugee Services
Tanzania Red Cross Society
Tanzania Water and Environmental Sanitation
World Vision Tanzania
<b>Others</b>
<i>Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ)</i>
FAO
UNFPA
UNICEF
WFP
WHO

Budget (USD)	
Activities and services	Annual Programme
Protection, monitoring and co-ordination	8,889,642
Community services	1,196,135
Crop production	31,032
Domestic needs	447,617
Education	1,227,381
Forestry	708,151
Health	2,596,146
Legal assistance	1,790,907
Livestock	28,750
Operational support (to agencies)	2,002,866
Sanitation	587,247
Shelter / other infrastructure	543,911
Transport / logistics	4,257,503
Water	842,354
<b>Total Operations</b>	<b>25,149,642</b>
Programme support	2,212,233
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,361,875</b>