

Uganda

20 February 2018

43,908

DRC new arrivals registered in 2017 (OPM RIMS)

251,730

DRC refugees as of 31 January 2018 (OPM RIMS)

42,784

DRC new arrivals since 1 January 2018 (UNHCR wrist-banding)

60,000

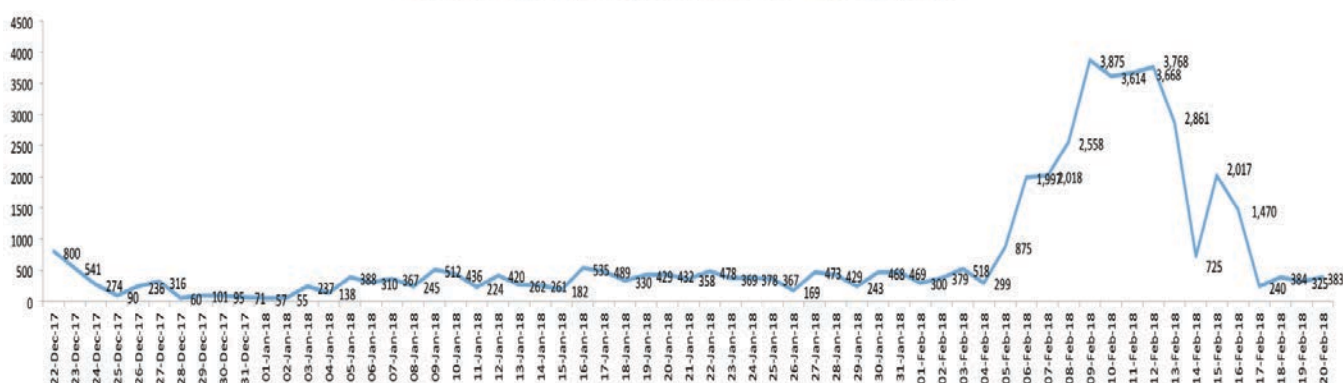
Expected DRC new arrivals in 2018 (Inter-Agency RRP)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Between 17th and 20th February, 961 new refugee arrivals entered Uganda from the Democratic of the Congo (DRC), bringing the total number of new arrivals since 1st January 2018 to 42,784. Of them, 27,349 people fled inter-ethnic violence in DRC's Ituri region and entered Uganda across Lake Albert using fishing boats and canoes. Another 15,435 refugees arrived from North Kivu through Uganda's southwestern borders with the DRC, mainly in Kisoro, Kanungu and Ntoroko districts.
- The arrivals rate continued to drop during the reporting period, with a daily average influx of 333 individuals compared to 1,268 over the previous four days. The latest new arrivals reported that armed groups in Ituri are preventing civilians from fleeing their villages and seeking safety elsewhere.
- During the reporting period, UNHCR relocated 2,224 refugees from Sebagoro, Nsonga and Kaiso – on the shores of Lake Albert, to Kagoma reception centre in Kyangwali settlement, Hoima district.
- In Kyangwali, 8,284 refugees were relocated out of Kagoma reception centre during the reporting period and provided with a plot of land in Maratatu settlement area and household items. Some 4,000 refugees still remain at the reception centre awaiting relocation.
- In the Kyangwali environs, health partners have identified and treated 424 cases of acute watery diarrhea (AWD). The number of related deaths increased from 4 to 26 over the period 15th-18th February, with the mortality rate returning below emergency standards following the injection of additional human resources and reinforcement of health care services in both Sebagoro and Kyangwali settlement. UNHCR provided 24-hour treatment services between 15th and 17th February, in addition to deploying 120 community mobilizers in Maratatu settlement area for hygiene awareness-raising and provision of oral rehydration solution. Further to providing treatment services in Kyangwali settlement, MSF-France strengthened health screening at Sebagoro, including through the establishment of an isolation unit. Medical Teams International deployed to Maratatu on 17th February to provide primary healthcare. UNICEF boosted the capacity of the Ministry of Health and District Health Management Teams and provided a cholera kit. WHO's response includes training of health workers and provision of an additional cholera kit. The Norwegian Refugee Council has begun construction of 200 latrines and bathing shelters in Maratatu, inclusive of 50 handwashing stations.
- In Kyangwali, work continued to construct access roads into Maratatu settlement area, with a total of 11.7 Km completed since the beginning of February. There is an urgent need to address water shortage in Malembo C settlement area. UNHCR re-formed and resumed the Protection Working Group on 19th February, with an initial focus on the functions of the Protection desk and referral mechanisms.

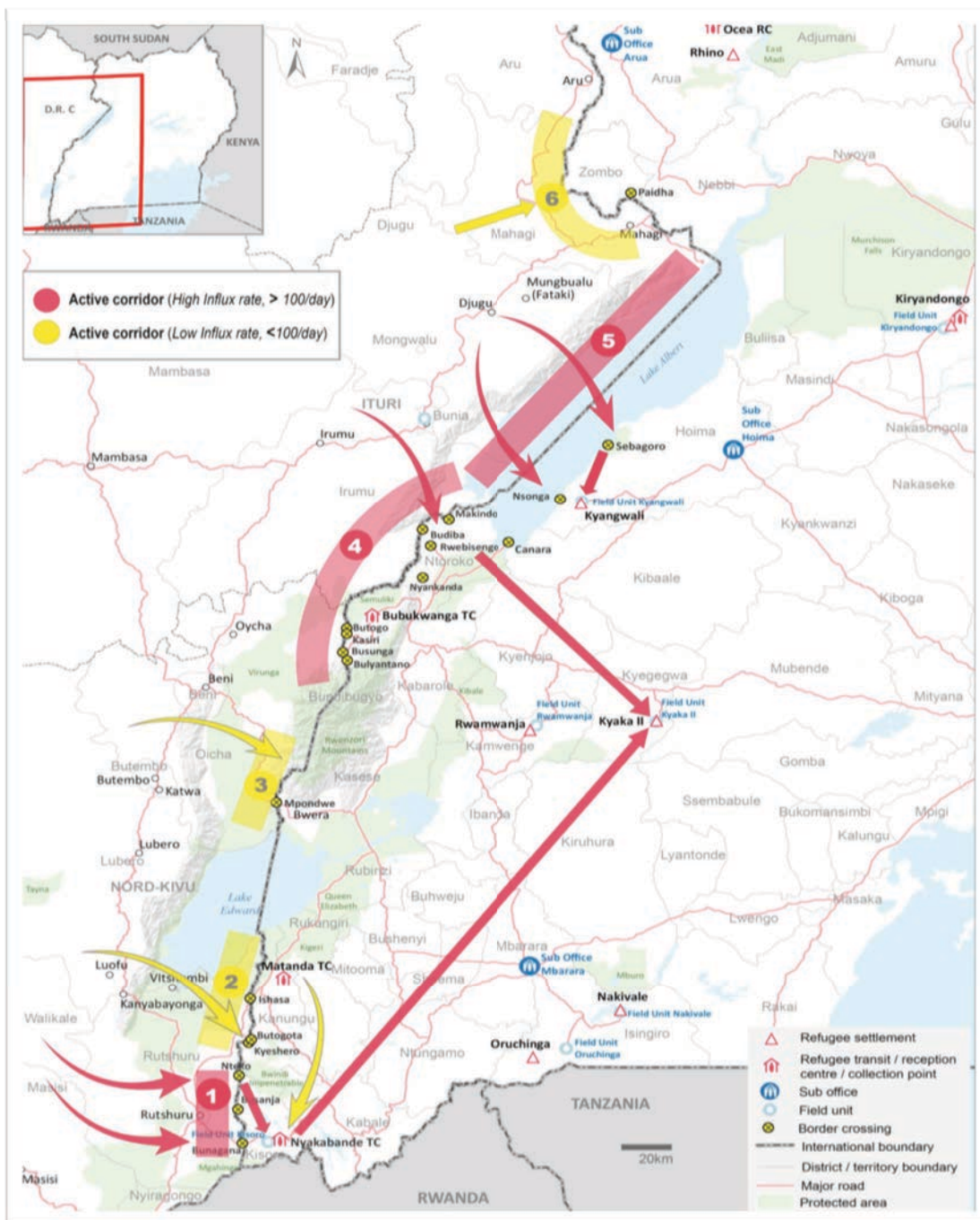
- With regard to refugee arrivals from North Kivu, during the reporting period UNHCR has transferred 1,194 Congolese refugees from Nyakabande transit centre (823) and Ntoroko district's Canara entry point (371) to Kyaka II settlement, Kyegegwa district. This brings the total number of refugees relocated to Kyaka II since 1st January 2018 to 12,393. Some 1,193 new arrivals remain at Nyakabande transit centre awaiting relocation.
- In Kyaka II, some 1,417 new arrivals are currently sheltering at Swese reception centre. A shortage of non-food items has caused delays in the relocation of new arrivals to settlement areas. Protection partners have so far identified 1,536 persons with specific needs (PSNs), including 355 unaccompanied minors and separated children. Of them, 294 children were placed in foster care and 24 others were referred for family reunification. Some 65 survivors of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV), which occurred in the country of origin, were referred for psychosocial support. With the provision of safe drinking water below the emergency standard of 15 litres per person per day, it is critical to increase the number of water trucks on site. The capacity of health workers is overstretched due to the increasing number of new arrivals seeking medical attention. An additional partner is needed to support the health response in Kyaka II.

DRC new arrivals to Uganda | 18 December 2017 - 20 February 2018



©UNHCR/Julius Kasozi. UNHCR public health staff treat children with acute watery diarrhea in Kyangwali settlement, Uganda's Hoima district.

Map DRC refugee influx into southwestern Uganda



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