

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

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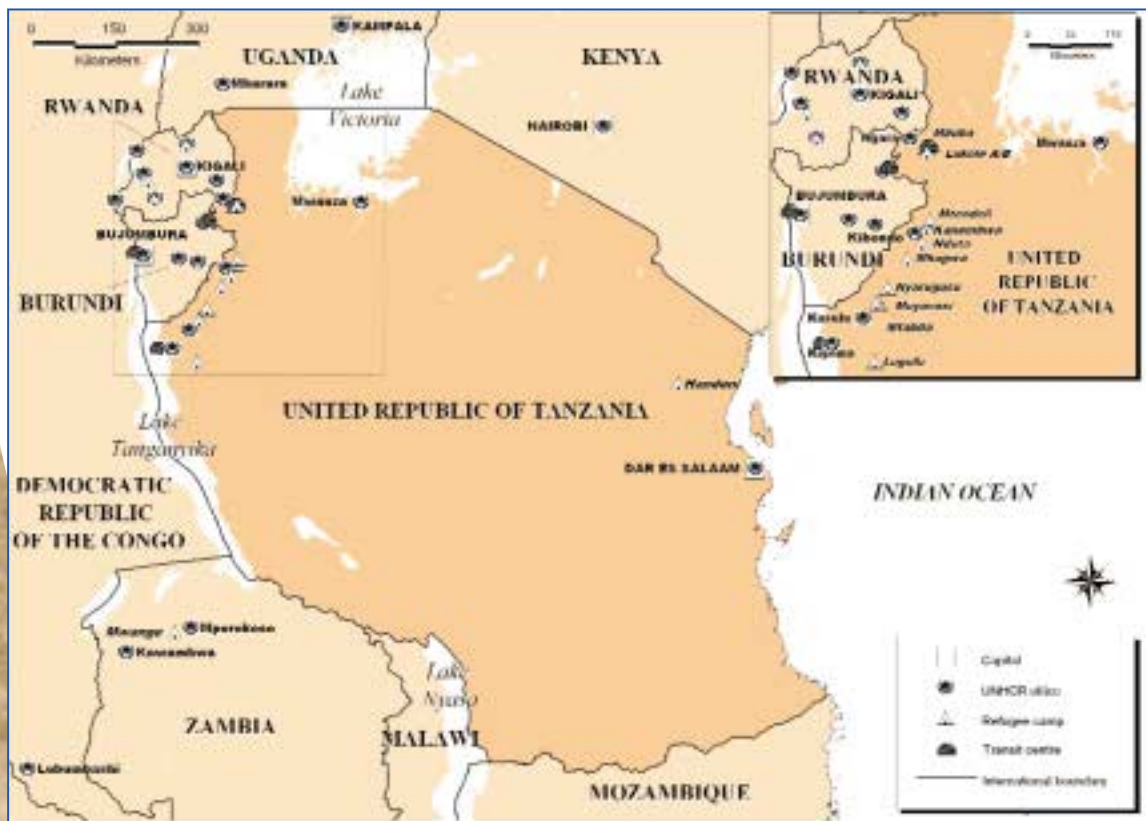
Main Objectives

- Where the situation in the country of origin permits, assist refugees from Burundi, Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) by facilitating and, if appropriate, promoting their voluntary repatriation.
- Protect refugees and ensure their well-being through the provision of essential services while they remain in the United Republic of Tanzania.
- Promote refugee law and help the Tanzanian authorities provide security in the refugee camps, ensuring that the camps retain an exclusively civilian and humanitarian character and that they accommodate only those persons entitled to international protection.
- Maintain the support and goodwill of the Tanzanian Government and people towards refugees and asylum-seekers by providing tangible benefits to the local population in areas affected by the presence of refugees.
- Continue to support the local integration of those refugees whom the Government has allowed to settle permanently in Tanzania.

Planning Figures		
Population	Jan. 2000	Dec. 2000
Burundi Refugees	280,000	195,000
Rwandan Refugees	7,650	8,250
Congolese Refugees (from DRC)	97,700	72,700
Somali Refugees	4,200	4,200
Other Refugees	1,000	1,000
Total	390,550	281,150

** These planning figures were established at a regional coordination meeting in March 1999 and are currently being revised.*

**Total Requirements
USD 31,676,352**



Recent Developments

The current political and military conflicts in the Great Lakes region of Africa continue to cause refugees to flee into Tanzania. In the past decades, refugees benefited from the active support and involvement of the Tanzanian Government (for example, refugees enjoyed access to agricultural land, the possibility of naturalisation, and the opportunity to receive Government assistance for post-primary education). Since 1994, however, successive refugee crises have tested the generosity of the Government and the people of Tanzania. Refugee assistance and protection programmes have thus been delivered in a politically charged atmosphere. The Government's current approach is focused on temporary asylum with a view to repatriation whenever feasible.

Continued civil and political unrest in Burundi and the DRC hinders voluntary repatriation to these countries and causes recurrent influxes of refugees. Large-scale voluntary repatriation, therefore, will depend on significant political progress being achieved through the various national, regional and international initiatives currently underway. Protection and assistance activities in Tanzania, consequently, will continue during 2000.

While the refugee camps are generally peaceful, their proximity to the border exposes them to the armed conflicts raging in neighbouring countries. Furthermore, the refugees face threats to their physical safety in and outside the camps, mainly from criminal and/or politically-motivated elements within the refugee community. Refugee women and children, in particular, have been victims of sexual violence.

Constraints

Continuing political and military instability in the refugees' countries of origin constitutes the single most important constraint, especially in terms of contingency planning and preparation. At the same time, the Burundi and DRC peace processes have not progressed sufficiently to allow significant repatriation to these countries at this stage. In addition, diminished donor support in the Great Lakes region hampers UNHCR's humanitarian assistance programmes.

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STRATEGY**Protection and Solutions**

UNHCR currently provides protection and assistance in Tanzania to some 380,000 refugees from Burundi, the DRC, Rwanda and Somalia. The Somali refugees are settled in north-eastern Tanzania, while the Burundi, Congolese and Rwandan refugees are located in thirteen camps in the Kigoma and Kagera Regions of north-western Tanzania. In addition to the assisted refugees, the Government of Tanzania estimates that there are also some 200,000 unassisted refugees of Burundi origin who arrived in 1972 and who are self-sufficient.

True to its mandate, UNHCR will continue to focus on the search for lasting solutions for the refugee population. While large-scale voluntary repatriation will depend on positive developments in the region, other circumstances may demand UNHCR's attention to the principle of *non-refoulement* of refugees and the requirement that any repatriation be voluntary. At the same time, UNHCR's advocacy will have to include some measure of integration for those refugees who will decide not to return to their country of origin. UNHCR will continue to assist the Tanzanian authorities through a range of measures, including supporting the deployment and training of special police contingents and the development of facilities for the separation of combatants from the refugee population in order to safeguard the civilian and humanitarian character of the refugee camps.

For Congolese (DRC) refugees, prospects for repatriation will depend on progress in the DRC peace process. Following attacks against humanitarian workers in Burundi in October 1999, repatriation there has been suspended. Even under a more positive scenario than currently, UNHCR does not foresee significant numbers of Burundi refugees repatriating until the second half of 2000, and only after the measures agreed upon in the Arusha peace process have been acted upon. A functioning tripartite mechanism is in place and repatriation will continue to be pursued for the Rwandan refugees in Tanzania. For the Somali refugees, a local settlement programme is being negotiated with the Government.



UNHCR is also entrusted with the protection of some 200 refugee students in schools throughout the country. UNHCR will continue to provide them with counselling and financial support and follow their academic progress. In addition, UNHCR will help urban refugees meet their basic needs, including shelter and health care.

Assistance

UNHCR will assist areas affected by the presence of refugees by strengthening local institutions, transport networks and infrastructure. Areas hosting refugees will benefit through the selective construction or rehabilitation of schools, roads, health centres and water facilities, environmental rehabilitation activities in and around both old and new camps, and the provision of support to the central, regional and district authorities involved in the day-to-day management of refugee affairs.

The gradual empowerment of refugee women is one of UNHCR's main policy objectives in Tanzania. Efforts will continue to involve more women in health and education activities through training and community sensitisation. In addition, a comprehensive approach to the problem of sexual and gender-based violence will focus on the prevention of such incidents through awareness raising at the community level and the provision of proper legal, medical and psycho-social support to victims.

Training in the camps will focus on the rights of refugee children, and relevant activities will be incorporated into programmes for education, community services and protection. The specific health needs of children will be addressed through the integrated management of child illnesses, immunisation and the combating of anaemia and malnutrition. Community-based programmes aimed at engaging adolescents in meaningful activities will also be given priority.

UNHCR will continue to implement vigorous environmental protection programmes so as to prevent soil erosion and the deterioration of wood and water resources. Reforestation will be encouraged in threatened camp environments and energy conservation measures will be introduced or strengthened. Environmental concerns will continue to inform family sanitation, vector control, medical waste disposal and household support. Environmental education will continue apace.

Desired Impact

UNHCR's activities and presence should result in a lasting solution for many refugees by facilitating repatriation and providing assistance to those wishing to return to their country of origin. By assisting and supporting the authorities in their task to provide security in the refugee camps, the civilian and humanitarian character of the camps should be preserved.

Refugees in Tanzania should benefit from UNHCR's programme, enjoying, among other things, adequate provision of basic food, non-food items and water. Refugees should have full access to primary health care and to health education. Community-based assistance should be provided

Offices
Dar es Salaam Kasulu Kibondo Kigoma Mwanza Ngara
Partners
Government Agencies Kasulu District Council Kibondo District Council Kigoma District Council Ministry of Health Ministry of Home Affairs Ngara District Council Regional Administrative Secretary -Kigoma
NGOs AFRICARE ATLAS CARITAS Christian Outreach CONCERN world-wide Cooperative American Relief Everywhere <i>Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit</i> Dutch Relief and Rehabilitation Agency Family Planning Association of Tanzania International Rescue Committee Karagwe Development Association Norwegian People's Aid OXFAM Relief to Development Society Southern African Extension Unit Tanganyika Christian Refugee Services Tanzania-Mozambique Friendship Association Tanzania Red Cross Society Tanzania Water and Environmental Sanitation World Vision Tanzania
Other Diocese of Kigoma Diocese of Western Tanganyika

to vulnerable groups and community development and sensitisation activities carried out. Minimum standards in primary education should be implemented and links forged with relevant authorities in the countries of origin for the validation of refugees' education certificates. Education and training in the camps should furnish refugees with valuable skills. Income generation and other targeted measures should enhance the position and security of refugee women. Finally, UNHCR's efforts should mitigate the impact of refugees on natural resources.

ORGANISATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

Management Structure

UNHCR will maintain a total of six offices in Tanzania: Dar es Salaam, Kasulu, Kibondo, Kigoma, Mwanza and Ngara. In 2000, UNHCR's activities in Tanzania will be conducted by 193 staff (34 international and 146 national staff members, 11 United Nations Volunteers and two Junior Professional Officers).

Coordination

The Refugee Department of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) is responsible for the management of the refugee situation in Tanzania. In addition, the Office of the Inspector General provides police officers for the protection of relief operations in the field. Routine matters of mutual concern are discussed by the MHA/UNHCR Technical Committee which meets on a monthly basis. Food is provided by WFP. Other UN agencies, such as UNICEF, WHO and UNFPA, also support the refugee programme. UNHCR Tanzania also participates actively in various UN initiatives, consolidated funding appeals and joint contingency planning.

Budget (USD)	
Activities and Services	Annual Programme
Protection, Monitoring and Coordination	7,682,043
Community Services	2,327,444
Crop Production	138,620
Domestic Needs/ Household Support	2,139,056
Education	1,119,799
Food	92,000
Forestry	652,795
Health/Nutrition	3,549,728
Legal Assistance	2,450,289
Operational Support (to Agencies)	3,270,789
Sanitation	637,876
Shelter/Other Infrastructure	771,553
Transport/Logistics	3,792,639
Water (non-agricultural)	510,512
Total Operations	29,135,143
Programme Support	2,541,209
Total	31,676,352

