

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Kristin Davis, Hollywood actress and UNHCR High Profile Supporter, visited Rwanda in December 2016 to better understand UNHCR's operation to ensure protection and assistance for the over 165,000 refugees.

During her visit, Ms. Davis met with Congolese and Burundian refugees living in camps and also a group of urban refugees who work as community organizers in Kigali. Supporting UNHCR's efforts to mobilize resources for its refugee programmes, Ms. Davis filmed in both Gihembe and Mahama camps to showcase the work of UNHCR and to highlight both the tremendous needs, but also the remarkable resilience, of refugees. *Story continued at www.unhcr.org/rw*

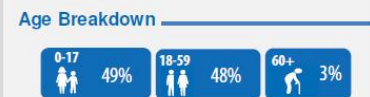
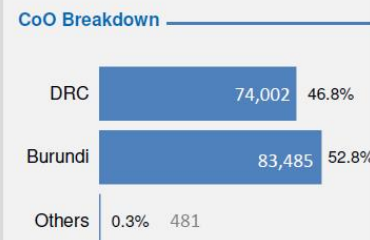
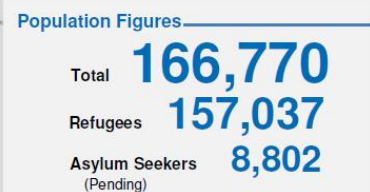
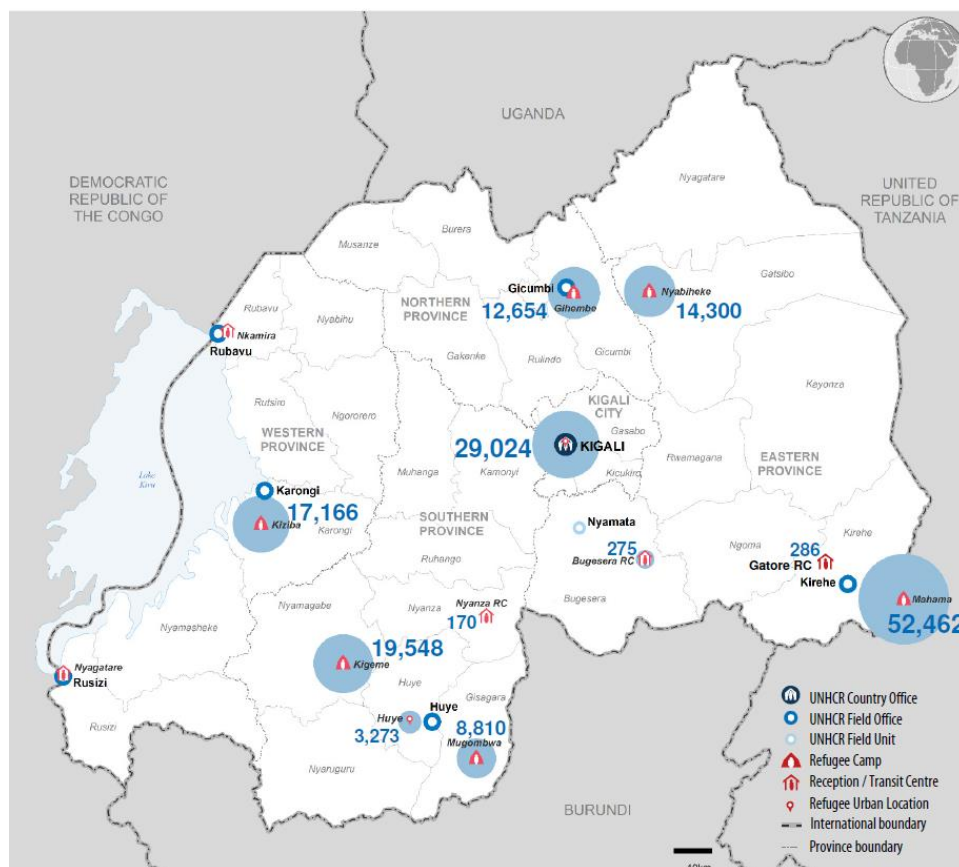
- On 20 January 2017, the UNHCR Representative, Minister of Disaster Management and Refugee Affairs (MIDIMAR), and the WFP Representative undertook a joint trip to Kigeme camp to evaluate environmental damages caused by heavy rains and to witness an exceptional distribution of rice to refugees. Based on a specific request of the government, WFP was able to distribute to refugees a one-time kilogram of rice to each family.



Hollywood actress and UNHCR supporter, Kristin Davis, visited Rwanda in December 2016 to bring global attention to both Congolese and Burundian refugees.

KEY STATISTICS (31 JANUARY 2017)

166,770	1,781	32,297	5,588
Total population of concern (<i>Refugees & Asylum Seekers</i>)	Refugees who are unaccompanied or separated from their parents (<i>Burundian</i>)	Refugees living in urban areas	Rwandan returnees received in 2016



BURUNDI EMERGENCY UPDATE

New arrivals:

- The rate of new refugee arrivals in the month of January has doubled from last year to 732 refugees. New arrivals continue to cite insecurity in Burundi and family reunification as the main reasons for fleeing to Rwanda.

Burundi Refugee Response Plan (RRP) – Funding Status

The comprehensive needs for the 2017 interagency Burundi refugee response in Rwanda are estimated at **USD 83.1 million**. As of January 2017, only **USD \$100,000** had been received by all appealing agencies. The Monthly Interagency Funding Update is available on the UNHCR Burundi Data Portal: <http://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/burundi>.



Protection

Child Protection:

- There are currently **1,781** registered unaccompanied and separated Burundian children (UASC). The total number of UASC has decreased by **314**, which can be explained by the fact that many UASC have turned 18 years old in January 2017, classifying them as adults. To prepare them to take their adult responsibilities over, decisions have been made to continue providing them with support for a transition period while support may be provided to most vulnerable cases (e.g. youth caring for his/her younger siblings, young mother, etc.) beyond that period as relevant.



Education

- The construction of 81 classrooms was completed to accommodate all Burundian refugee students. Out of the 81 new room, 21 were built as an extension to the local school, Paysannat L, just outside of Mahama camp which hosts both Rwandan and refugee students. 60 classrooms were built inside the camp for younger students (P1 and P2) to easily access.
- 21 refugee and 6 Rwandan students were selected among the top students from Paysannat L School to be awarded higher education scholarships, supported by Maison Shalom.
- Kepler's higher education pre-program started January 2017 with 50 refugee students and 10 host community members.
- Back to school campaign: with the generous contribution of UNICEF, UNHCR conducted a campaign jointly with education partners in Mahama camp to sensitize parents and refugee community to send children to school in January 2017. The campaign will continue until March 2017 and the community and refugee leaders will be involved and make sure a number of refugee children re-enroll in school.



Shelter and NFIs

- To date, a total of 4,055 semi-permanent shelters have been constructed in Mahama camp, which currently houses 28,532 refugees. An additional 813 shelters are in the final stages of construction. Of the initially planned 5,660 semi-permanent shelters to be constructed in Mahama, 2,766 shelters were completed and 623 are in final stage of construction.
- Due to lack of land in Mahama, construction of a remaining 2,363 shelters is still pending. 30 hectares of land is required to complete all shelters.

Health

- Two new durable health centres for Mahama Refugee Camp were inaugurated on 26th January, which will serve over 50,000 Burundian refugees currently living in the camp as well as new arrivals. Mahama I's health centre includes an outpatient department (OPD), in-patient department (IPD), laboratory and HIV/AIDS section. The health centre in Mahama II was upgraded with the construction of a maternity ward and laboratory. A medical isolation center (MIC) has also been constructed to isolate infectious diseases. *Story continued at www.unhcr.org/rw*



UNHCR Representative (C-R) and Minister of MIDIMAR (C-L) accompanied by the US Ambassador, the State Minister for Health and ARC cut the ribbon to launch Mahama I Health Centre. Photo ©UNHCR/ E. Sibomana

CONGOLESE REFUGEE PROGRAM UPDATE

Protection

- UNHCR in partnership with MIDIMAR, Legal Aid Forum and the Rwanda National Police organized a campaign to sensitize refugees in Kigeme on prevention and fight against SGBV against adolescents and other crimes. Close to 4,000 refugees participated in the campaign.
- In Nyabiheke camp, Plan International organised a review session with partners to discuss the work carried out in 2016 and get feedback from refugee community mobilizers. The session enabled Plan staff to better understand strengths and weaknesses, which will help to plan well SGBV and Child Protection activities in 2017.

Resettlement to a third country (for the month of January 2017)

- Total submission: 43 cases were cleared for submission.
- Total departures to US: 12 refugees from Gihembe camp.

Education

- 97 classrooms have been constructed for Congolese refugees and Rwanda students in the host communities: 21 classrooms were built in the host community of Kigeme camp, 16 in Gihembe's host community and 60 in Kiziba camp for both refugees and Rwandan students to learn together.
- The School of Excellence is doubling the number of scholarships to refugee students in 2017. At least 400 best performing refugee students will benefit from the School of Excellence Scholarships this year.

Water and Sanitation

- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS) has increased their donation of dischargeable latrines in Gihembe camp to 32 blocks (12 drop holes each). With 24 blocks almost fully completed and connected to the camp's water system, Gihembe is looking forward to phasing out its pit latrines system and associated environmental challenges. UNHCR's sanitation Partner, ARC, is also embarking on an exercise to connect all existing dischargeable latrines to the camp's water system to improve hygiene. 12 out of 16 existing dischargeable latrines have so far been connected and are receiving proper ongoing maintenance from the refugee population.
- Refugee in Gihembe camp received 17L/person/day representing a consistent improvement in water delivery in the camp after the completion of a 250m³ water tank project in 2016, using UNHCR-secured Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF).

- In Nyabiheke Refugee camp, water supply averaged at 15L/person/day which is an improvement after the replacement of a malfunctioning generator by UNHCR. Plans are also underway for an additional source of water supply, possibly a third borehole, to increase water delivery.
- In Mugombwa camp, the pump station has been shifted from a diesel pump to an electrical pump which has increased water delivery to 18L/person/day.

Financial Information – CONGOLESE REFUGEE PROGRAM

- UNHCR's comprehensive needs for the 2017 Congolese program in Rwanda amount to **USD 39.7 million**. Unfortunately no contributions have been received to date.



UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donor countries who have given un-earmarked and broadly earmarked contributions as well as the following key donors who have directly contributed to the operation in 2016:

United States of America | UK Department for International Development (DFID) | Government of Japan | EU Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection department (ECHO) | Netherlands | Canada | Finland

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Daily Statistics: <http://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/burundi> **UNHCR Rwanda:** www.unhcr.org/rw **Twitter:** @RefugeesRwanda