

# BURUNDI SITUATION

1 – 31 July 2018

**388,400\***

Total refugees from Burundi in four main hosting countries (United Republic of Tanzania, Rwanda, the DRC, and Uganda), as of 31 July 2018.

**5,803**

Burundian refugees assisted to return from the United Republic of Tanzania in July 2018, totalling 27,184 assisted to return to date in 2018.

**182\*\***

Burundian refugee arrivals /registrations recorded in July 2018. As of 31 July, 6,104 Burundian refugees have arrived in the region in 2018.

**40,293**

Number of Burundian refugees assisted to return from the United Republic of Tanzania since September 2017.

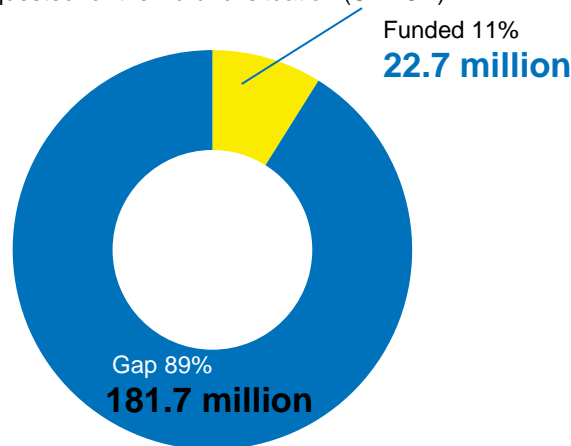
**168,674**

Internally Displaced Persons in Burundi according to IOM, where 26 per cent are displaced as result of the socio-political situation, and 74 per cent are due to natural disasters, as of July 2018.

EARMARKED FUNDING (AS OF END OF JULY 2018)

**USD 204.4 million**

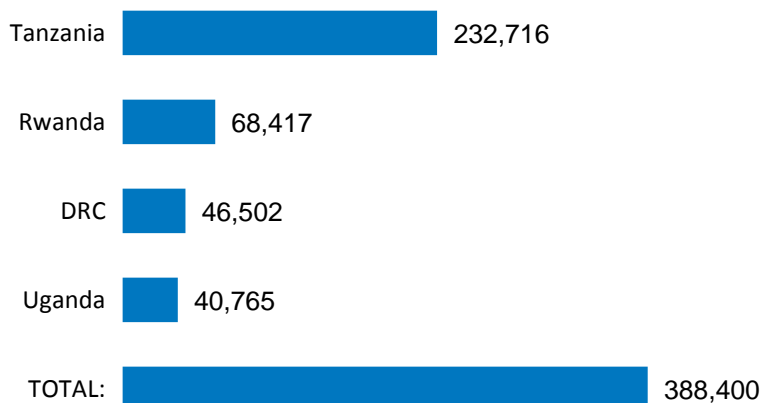
requested for the Burundi situation (UNHCR)



## 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 RRRP.



\*The total above is in line with the 2018 Burundi RRRP regional coverage, and does not include some 34,200 Burundian refugees in Kenya, Mozambique, Malawi and Zambia and assisted within the respective country level programmes, as well as a further 23,000 Burundian refugees who have lived for decades in Tanzania and no longer receive assistance.

\*\*The data for DRC, Rwanda and Tanzania are as of 31 July 2018, for Uganda as of 30 June 2018.

## Highlights and Operational Context

- **UNHCR's Regional Refugee Coordinator (RRC) for the Burundi situation briefed Ambassadors and Head of delegations in Nairobi on the needs of Burundian refugees on July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 hosted by the Australian High Commissioner.** The RRC gave an update on achievements and challenges in the regional response for Burundi refugees and appealed for more support to meet urgent humanitarian needs of the nearly 400,000 Burundian refugees who remain in exile, as well as the more than 40,000 who have chosen to return home.
- **On 4<sup>th</sup> July 2018, UNHCR Kenya started facilitating the voluntary repatriation of Burundian refugees who have expressed their will to return to Burundi.** As of 25 July 191 returnees were received in Burundi, mainly to the provinces of Kirundo, Muyinga and Cibitoke. About 81 per cent of the returnees do not own a house, and face challenges regarding their ability to maintain sustainable livelihoods, access basic services and fully reintegrate.
- **UNHCR's Regional Refugee Coordinators (RRCs) for the Burundi and South Sudan situations convened Regional Directors from partner agencies to discuss enhanced reporting on the Burundi and South Sudan situations.** Regional directors agreed on the need to enhance visibility of the two situations and strengthen joint analysis and advocacy, including by revamping the existing communication network to market the strategic objectives and reach the relevant audiences for each situation.

## Update on voluntary repatriation of Burundian refugees from the United Republic of Tanzania

### Background

- UNHCR is not promoting refugee returns to Burundi at this time, however it is working with the governments involved to ensure that returns are based on the principles of voluntariness and informed decisions, and take place in safety and dignity.
- The current return operation is taking place under the framework of a Tripartite agreement between the two governments and UNHCR in which all parties have acknowledged that while some refugees may opt to return now, others may still have well-founded reasons not to return at the present time and will continue to be in need of international protection.

### Update

- As of 31 July 2018, 40,293 individuals have been assisted to voluntarily repatriate to Burundi since September 2017. The main areas of return are Makamba with 7,645 (19.0 per cent), Muyinga, 7,472 (18.5 per cent), Ruyigi with 7,078 (17.6 per cent), and Cankuzo, 4,227 (10.5 per cent).
- Both UNHCR Burundi and the United Republic of Tanzania operations are in need of additional resources to scale up the operation to reach 2,000 returnees per week as agreed to at the March 2018 Tripartite Commission meeting, as well as to continue attending to the humanitarian needs of refugees in Tanzania and to support returnees in Burundi.

### 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 Burundi, UNHCR is collaborating with the Department of Repatriation under the Government of Burundi, World Food Programme (WFP), International Rescue Committee (IRC), Caritas and the Civil Volunteer Group (GVC).

## Achievements during the Reporting Period

### TANZANIA

#### Latest Developments

- **A total of 477 refugee teachers from Nduta, Mtendeli, and Nyarugusu attended a training session on Refugee Education Management Information System (REMIS) ahead of its roll out in September 2018.** REMIS is a data collection, management and analysis tool intended to improve the planning, monitoring and reporting of refugee education programmes.
- **Although cereals were provided at 100 per cent, there were reduced portion sizes for pulses (92 per cent), vegetable oil (80 per cent), and salt (80 per cent).** Reduced food rations due to funding shortfalls can increase the risk of malnutrition, accelerate spontaneous movements outside camps, and even spark negative coping mechanisms such as theft which can heighten tensions between refugees and host communities.

#### Achievements and Challenges

- **A World University of Canada (WUSC) mission visited Nyarugusu which may lead to an expansion of access to tertiary education for Burundian refugees beyond the DAFI programme.** The WUSC carried out a screen of potential scholarship recipients to study in universities in Canada for the academic year 2019-2020.
- **20 mother care groups were set up in Nduta and Mtendeli with the aim of establishing vegetable sack gardens in the camps.** These gardens are part of a food security strategy which is intended to support dietary diversity among the refugee population.

### RWANDA

#### Latest Developments

- **The World Food Programme has restored the food ration, which was previously at 85 per cent in May and June, to 100 per cent (7600 RWF per person) for both General Food Distribution and Cash Based Transfers.** However, there is not enough fresh food for anaemic patients.

- **A shelter verification exercise is in progress to collect information on physical status of shelters (number of rooms, plastered or not, in good conditions or in need of repairs) and to tackle illegal occupancy.** Moreover it intends to update the shelter addresses of refugees into ProGres and facilitate a mapping of the current unoccupied shelters in specific villages as well as record the specific location of each family shelter. Six villages were completed covering 7,936 households.

### **Achievements and Challenges**

- **Due to the high prevalence of theft and vandalism there is a need to enhance the security at the permanent water treatment plant with durable fences, lightning arrestors and public lights.**
- **While daily hygiene promotion activities are conducted in all communities in Mahama camp and surrounding villages to increase awareness on best hygiene practices, there is a lack of sufficient sanitation tools for use in the camp.** Other hygiene challenges include many toilets full and in need of desludging, and insufficient handwashing facilities around toilets and dustbins, which increases the risk of poor hygiene and sanitation diseases.

## **DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO**

### **Latest Developments**

- **In line with the Best Interest Determination (BID) policy, UNHCR has facilitated the reunification of two refugee children with their families in Burundi.** This decision entailed a careful consideration of the most appropriate durable solution for the children as it may have a long term impact on the child.
- **UNHCR visited the central prison in Mulunge, Uvira Territory, to monitor the situation of refugees and verified the poor health conditions of detention, namely detainees did not receive sufficient food and did not have spare clothes.** As of July, 34 Burundian refugees are under detention.

### **Achievements and Challenges**

- **On 23 and 24 July, 45 participants from administrative, military, judicial and police authorities in Uvira Territory were trained on UNHCR's mandate, asylum procedures in the DRC, refugee protection, humanitarian principles, and SGBV prevention and response.** The workshop was jointly organized by UNHCR and the National Commission for Refugees (CNR), as part of the efforts to enhance collaboration with the local authorities.

- **UNHCR paid the total amount (USD 47,656) due to schools in Lusenda camp for the 2017-2018 year which ended in June, covering refugees' fees for primary and secondary education.** UNHCR also made payments to cover outstanding fees for 288 students in Lusenda camp (USD 2,304) and 163 students at Mulongwe site (USD 306). However, UNHCR is in dire need of funding to cover school fees for the upcoming school year starting in September 2018.

## UGANDA

### Latest Developments

- **Upon the Minister of Education and Sports' recommendations, a revision process of the Education Response Plan for Refugees and Host Communities 2018-2021 (ERP) was undertaken to align the ERP more accurately to the Ministry of Education and Sports' (MoES) position on pre-primary education.** A consultation process also took place with Early Childhood (ECD) implementers to explain the rationale for revision and implications for ECD programming and budget.
- **UNHCR's Regional Refugee Coordinator for the Burundi Situation visited Nakivale refugee settlement, Mirama Hills border entry point used by Burundians to enter in Uganda, and urban refugees in Kampala.** She met with government counterparts, partners, refugees and refugee leaders to review the multi-agency response.

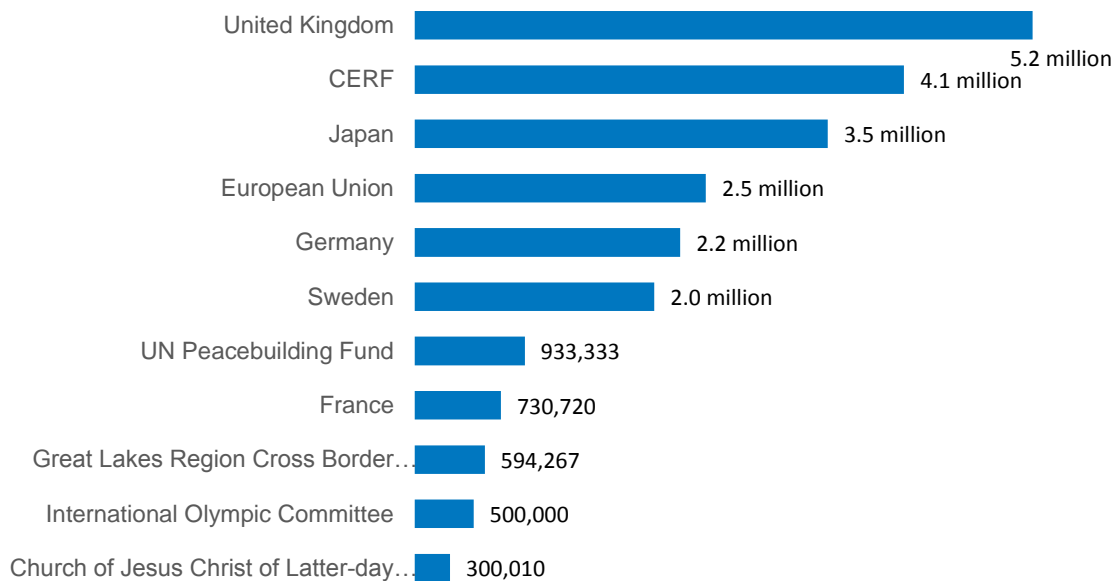
### Achievements and Challenges

- **86 per cent of the water provided in the month of July was sourced from permanent water schemes.** Hence, water trucking continues to reduce, with completion of 05 permanent water schemes, in the month of July, in West Nile settlements.

## Financial Information

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 country operations.

Earmarked contributions for the Burundi Situation amount to some **\$22.7 million** as of end of July 2018.



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

United States of America 77.8 million | Private donors Australia 7.4 million | Canada 6.6 million | Sweden 3.2 million

### Special thanks to the major donors of unearmarked contributions | USD

Sweden 98.2 million | Norway 42.5 million | Netherlands 39.1 million | Private donors Spain 37.8 million | United Kingdom 31.7 million | Denmark 25.5 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 19 million | Switzerland 15.2 million | France 14 million | Italy 11.2 million | Private donors Japan 11.1 million | Private donors Italy 10.2 million

## External / Donors Relations

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### 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/burundi-situation.html>