

Rwanda

February 2021

HIGHLIGHTS

A. Rwanda hosted a total of 137,975 refugees and asylum seekers at the end of February 2021. The population of concern included mainly persons from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (56.3%) and Burundi (43.5%).

B. In collaboration with the Ministry of Health, 3,338 refugees in Nyabiheke camp received the first shot of the Hepatitis B vaccine. The second shot is scheduled in March 2021. 7,000 individuals are targeted by the vaccination campaign.

C. 4,418 Burundian refugees in Rwanda voluntarily returned to Burundi in February. A total of **7,495 refugees returned since January** which is 19% of the 40,000 targeted in 2021. The number of refugees per convoy was increased from 800 to 1,200.

KEY INDICATORS

432

Cases of COVID-19 were identified among refugees by February 2021. Of the cases, 39 were active and 4 death were recorded.

25

Refugees departed for resettlement and complementary pathways in February and 31 since January 2021.

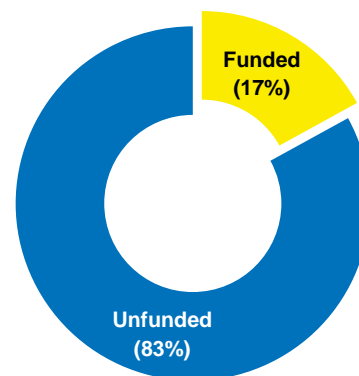
303

Refugees and asylum seekers from Libya were in ETM Gashora Transit Centre.

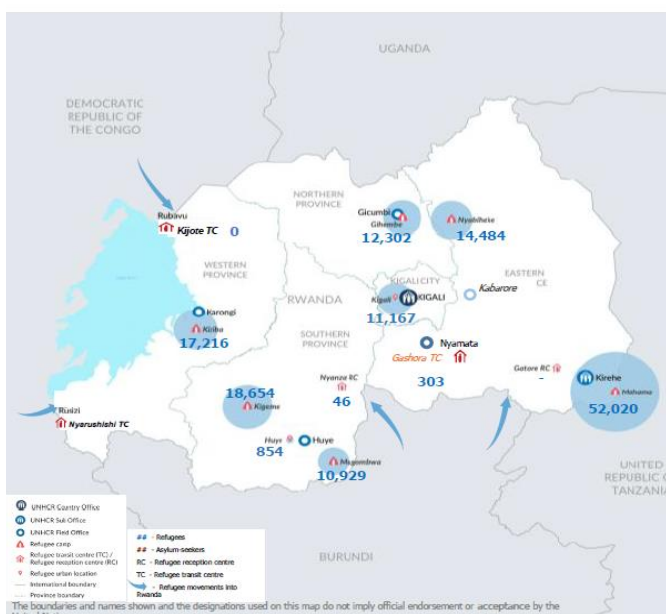
FUNDING (AS OF 23 FEBRUARY 2021)

USD 90.1 million

is requested for Burundi, DR Congo, Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM) in Rwanda.

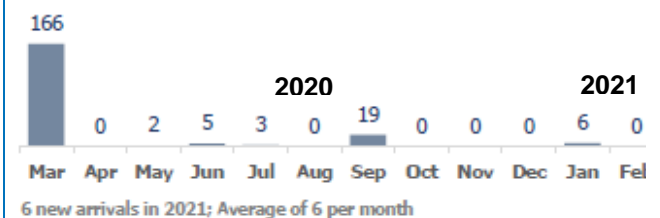


POPULATION DISTRIBUTION BY LOCATION IN RWANDA

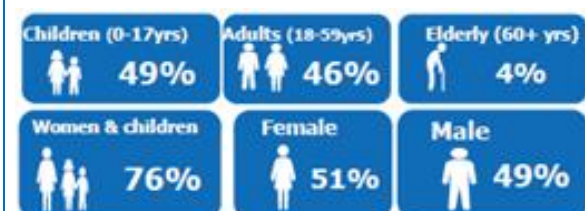


POPULATION OF CONCERN

MONTHLY TREND OF NEW ARRIVALS



DEMOGRAPHICS



Burundi Refugee Response

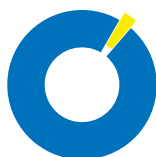


Burundian refugees in Rwanda are voluntarily returning home. Bugesera District @UNHCR/Eugene Sibomana

FINANCIAL REQUIREMENT

USD 42.1 million

FUNDING (AS OF 23 FEBRUARY 2021)



■ Funded - 3%

■ Unfunded - 97%

Achievements & Highlights



PROTECTION

- 214 birth certificates were issued by the authorities to refugee children in the Mahama camp.
- 30 Best Interest Assessments (BIA) were completed to assess the wellbeing of the children and find solutions for their concerns.
- 41 new SGBV cases were identified in Mahama camp, including cases of pregnant children and the survivors were assisted accordingly.
- 998 Congolese Refugees were relocated from the high-risk areas in Kigeme camp to Mahama camp.
- Seven Congolese with protection concerns from the Kigeme camp were assisted upon arrival.



DURABLE SOLUTIONS

- Four convoys of 4,275 refugees voluntarily returning to Burundi were supported return in safety and dignity.
- Seven Burundian refugees departed on complimentary pathways (family unification). Cumulatively, 15 refugees benefited from the program in 2021.



EDUCATION

- 25,659 refugee students were enrolled in schools, including 6,241 in ECD, 7,548 in primary, and 2,849 in secondary education. 365 of the students have a disability and 49% are females.



HEALTH

- Crude and under 5 mortality rates were 0.11 and 0.08 deaths/1,000/month, respectively.
- 12,716 refugees and the host community accessed primary health care services in the camps.
- 240 refugees and the host community were referred for secondary and tertiary health services.
- 579 refugees with HIV/AIDS received antiretroviral treatment, nutritional and psychosocial support.
- 48,425 male condoms were distributed as a preventive measure of new cases of HIV/AIDS, STIs, and unwanted pregnancies.
- 246 newborn babies were delivered in the camps with 98% of them were attended to by trained health professionals.
- 6,017 women of reproductive age attended family planning services.
- 4,507 refugees were tested for COVID-19 in Mahama camp and 53 of them tested positive.



FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- 52,020 refugees of 15,483 families in Mahama camp received food assistance through monthly

support of cash or in-kind food provided by the WFP.

- WFP announced the 60% cut of cash for food assistance to refugees in camps, starting with March 2021.
- 20,799 primary and secondary school children were assisted with school feeding.
- 307 children with severe disabilities in Mahama camp and the host community were supported through a supplementary feeding program to reduce their exposure to malnutrition issues and improve their health conditions.



WATER AND SANITATION

- Adequate potable water supply was maintained at 21.1 liters/person/day in Mahama camp.



SHELTER AND NFIS

- 20 semi-permanent shelters were repaired in Mahama camp.
- 1,758 refugees in the return program received face masks.
- 130 refugees with special protection cases including new arrivals and students in boarding schools, were assisted with soaps and kitchen sets.



ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

- 52,026 refugees were provided with gas for domestic cooking energy in Mahama camp.
- 128 refugee families in Mahama camp were provided with gas cooking, including burners and regulators.



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF-RELIANCE

- 843 refugees in Mahama camp were provided with support to expand or formalize their businesses.
- 14,142 refugees were engaged in income-generating activities.

Needs & Gaps

- 10 children with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and 87 children with Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) were admitted to the nutrition program.
- High risks of contacting COVID-19 in Mahama camp. Three UNHCR staff tested positive during the reporting period.
- Family planning prevalence was at 47% in Mahama camp.



Regular temperature monitoring is used as part of the early identification of COVID-19 cases in Mahama camp, Kirehe @UNHCR/Eugene Sibomana

Congolese Refugee Response



Access to agriculture activities is essential for the refugees' wellbeing. Mugombwa camp, Gisagara District. @UNHCR/Eugene

FINANCIAL REQUIREMENT

USD 36.8 million

FUNDING (AS OF 23 FEBRUARY 2021)



- Funded - 3%
- Unfunded - 97%

Achievements & Highlights



PROTECTION

- One refugee in Gihembe camp obtained machine-readable Conventional Travel Documents issued by the Rwanda Directorate General of Immigration and Emigration (DGIE).
- 48 new cases of child protection, such as child neglect, teenager pregnancy (12), a child with serious medical conditions, children parents, a child in conflict with the law, psychological/emotional abuse, and physical abuse; were identified in Mugombwa (03), Kigeme (06), Gihembe (36), and Nyabiheke camp (03). Best interest assessments were conducted for the children to assess their situation and wellbeing and assist them accordingly.
- 41 new cases of SGBV, including rape, child defilement, psychological/emotional abuse, denial of resources, and physical assault were reported in Kiziba (07), Kigeme (09), Mugombwa (06), Gihembe (09), and Nyabiheke (09) camps, and Huye Urban (01).

- 50 children in the Kiziba (15) and Kigeme (35) camps were issued birth certificates by the local authorities.
- 1,335 refugees with specific needs, i.e. disability and mental health problem in Gihembe (182), Kigeme (344), Mugombwa (147), Kiziba (312), and Nyabiheke (338) camps, and Huye urban (12) were assisted with assistive devices for people with disabilities, rehabilitation services for children, palliative cares, psychotherapy sessions, supplementary feeding and specialized medical assistance, including eye treatment.
- 192 families of 998 individuals from environmental hazards high-risk zones in Kigeme camp were relocated to Mahama camp.



DURABLE SOLUTIONS

- Six refugees departed for resettlement. Also, 63 cases of 201 individuals were submitted to resettlement countries in 2021.



EDUCATION

- The school attendance rate was at the average of 94.5% in primary and secondary.
- Two refugees from the Mugombwa camp received a scholarship in Peace and Conflict Studies (BA) from the Institute of Arts and Social Science (PIASS) in Huye District.
- The construction of an Early Childhood Education (ECD) center in Kiziba camp was at 87% of completion rate.
- Eight refugee students from Gihembe camp were expelled from Gakoni Adventist College in Gatsibo District following their involvement in the demonstration at school.
- Four schools attended by refugee students from Gihembe camp, Groupe Scholaire Inyange, Kageyo and Muhondo, and Gihembe ECD were provided with handwashing facilities with a total of 84 stands.
- 1,878 facemasks were distributed to schools in Gicumbi District hosting refugee students from Gihembe camp.



HEALTH

- Crude and under 5 mortality rates were 0.11 and 0.08 deaths/1,000/month, respectively.

- 16,054 refugees and the host community accessed primary health care services in the camps.
- 359 refugees and the host community were referred for secondary and tertiary health services.
- In collaboration with the Ministry of Health, 3,338 refugees in the Nyabiheke camp received the first shot of the Hepatitis B vaccine. The second shot is scheduled for March 2021. 7,000 individuals are targeted by the vaccination campaign.
- 697 refugees with HIV/AIDS received antiretroviral treatment, nutritional and psychosocial support.
- 65,493 male condoms were distributed as a preventive measure of new cases of HIV/AIDS, STIs, and unwanted pregnancies.
- 123 newborn babies were delivered in the camps with 99% of them attended to by trained health professionals.
- 6,153 women of reproductive age attended family planning services.



FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- 77,649 refugees in the camps received the monthly cash for food from WFP.
- WFP announced the 60% cut of cash for food assistance to refugees in camps, starting with March 2021.



WATER AND SANITATION

- Supply of potable water maintained in Kiziba, and Mugombwa camps at 26.2 liters, and 23 liters per person per day, respectively.
- Rehabilitation work of the old water distribution system in Kiziba camp was at an 82% completion rate.
- Construction of new communal shower blocks in Gihembe (23) and Nyabiheke (25) camps were both at a 95% completion rate.



SHELTER, COMMUNAL INFRASTRUCTURES, AND NFIS

- Construction of a Child-Friendly Space (CFS) and community center in Kiziba camp was at a 95% completion rate.
- Construction of the Early Childhood Development (ECD) center in Kiziba camp was at a 90% completion rate.
- Rehabilitation of multipurpose playgrounds in Kiziba camp was at a 60% completion rate.
- The construction of a playground at Groupe Scolaire Mugombwa was at an 80% completion rate.
- Construction of 88 new shelters to relocate families in environmental high-risk areas in Kiziba camp was at a 7% completion rate.
- The construction of a Business Center with 10 rooms with electricity in Gihembe camp was at an 80% completion rate.



ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

- 77,649 refugees in the camps received the monthly cash for energy.
- 307 fruit trees were planted in Kiziba camp through a community work known as Umuganda.



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF-RELIANCE

- Caritas Rwanda was mentoring 29 Savings and Internal Lending Communities (SILC) groups in Kiziba (15) and Nyabiheke (14) camps. The groups have a total cumulative saving of USD 6,884 and USD10,921, respectively.
- 487 refugee entrepreneurs in Kigeme (382) and Mugombwa (105) camps were trained by INKOMOKO on the Business Model Canvas, including identification of clients, customer care, and financial management.
- 60 families were identified in the Kiziba camp for the joint UNHCR/WFP Graduation Project in 2021.

Needs & Gaps

- Eight children with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and 62 children with Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) were admitted to the nutrition program.

- Family planning prevalence was at 32% in the camps.
- Water shortage remains a problem in Nyabiheke camp (12 liters/person/day) due to the limited capacity of the water borehole, Gihembe camp (18 liters/person/day), and Kigeme camp (16 liters/person/day) due to the limited capacity of the national water grid.
- Environmental degradation continues to impact shelter and infrastructure in the camps.
- Need of drying and storage facilities for agricultural harvests in Kiziba camp,
- Reluctancy of refugees in Kiziba camp to participate in livelihood initiatives proposed by UNHCR and partners with a misconception of being forced for local integration and limiting their resettlement opportunities.
- The low battery storage capacity of the Solar Home Systems provided by BELECOM to refugees in the camps.
- Refugees in Kigeme camp reluctant to contribute the USD0.3 per family to the community-based security and sanitation of latrines and showers.

Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM)

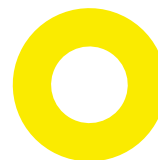


The arrival of Eritreans, Somalis, Sudanese, and Ethiopians from Libya to Rwanda. ©UNHCR/Eugene Sibomana

FINANCIAL REQUIREMENT

USD 8.5 million

FUNDING (AS OF 23 FEBRUARY 2021)



■ Funded - 100%

■ Unfunded - 0%

Achievements & Highlights



PROTECTION

- ETM Gashora is hosting 303 refugees and asylum seekers evacuated from Libya in five evacuation flights since September 2019. The individuals are of five nationalities: Eritrea (167), Sudan (98), Somalia (42), Ethiopia (06), and Nigeria (02).
- On 14 February, a 15-year-old Eritrean refugee died in his house at the ETM. His untimely demise was subject to inconclusive events that are currently being investigated by Rwanda Investigation Bureau (RIB).



EDUCATION

- 69 refugees participated in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) training classes.
- 140 refugees participated in language classes of French, English, and Kinyarwanda. They are in different categories: beginner, lower intermediate, and advanced intermediate.



HEALTH AND NUTRITION

- 398 medical consultations were recorded of refugees accessing primary healthcare services from the Health Post in the Centre.
- 44 cases were referred for secondary and tertiary health care services.
- 59 persons with mental health problems received psychosocial support through individual psychotherapy/counseling sessions.
- 576 male condoms were distributed in the center as part of the HIV/AIDS and unwanted pregnancies prevention.
- 29 persons with specific needs, including under 2 children, lactating mothers, pregnant women, and Tuberculosis patients were provided with supplementary food assistance.



FOOD SECURITY AND COOKING ENERGY

- All the refugees were provided with three hot meals a day.



WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE

- The average adequate potable water supplied was at 76 liters/person/daily.



SHELTER AND NFIS

- The construction of the accommodation and office blocks in the Center was at 70% and 80% completion rates respectively.
- The construction of 30 communal kitchens at existing accommodation blocks was completed.
- 20 packages of baby diapers and 26 packages of baby wipes were provided to families with under 2-year-old children.
- 12 persons with specific needs were provided with sanitation buckets.



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF-RELIANCE

- Three refugees are engaged in airtime/credit selling activities with network operating companies.
- 20 refugees participated in driving classes (theory and practice).



CASE PROCESSING FOR SOLUTIONS

- 12 refugees departed for resettlement in February 2021.
- A total of 215 refugees were resettled from ETM Rwanda to Sweden (132), Norway (46), Canada (32), and France (05) since the establishment of the center in 2019.
- 58 cases of 68 individuals were submitted to resettlement countries.
- 70 refugees are pending interviews with the resettlement countries, Norway (03) and France (67).
- 17 refugees are pending resettlement departure to Canada.

Needs & Gaps

- Pending completion of accommodation building to increase the capacity of the transit center.
- The need for a child-friendly space as the number of children has increased.
- Need of indoor sports facility preferred by females.



Evacuees from Libya going through mandatory COVID-19 testing at Kigali International Airport. @UNHCR/Eugene Sibomana

Return and Reintegration

Achievements & Highlights

- 240 Rwandan returnees were received in Kijote Transit Center, Rubavu District, Western Province, from DRC.
- The returnees were tested for COVID-19 and provided reintegration assistance, including cash grants, three months food packages, health insurance, and transport to their previous districts.
- The rehabilitation of the Kijote Transit center was at a 60% completion rate.

Needs & Gaps

- Delayed provision of ID cards for returnees received in Rwanda since 2019. This has impacted their access to reintegration grants, livelihood opportunities as well as health services.

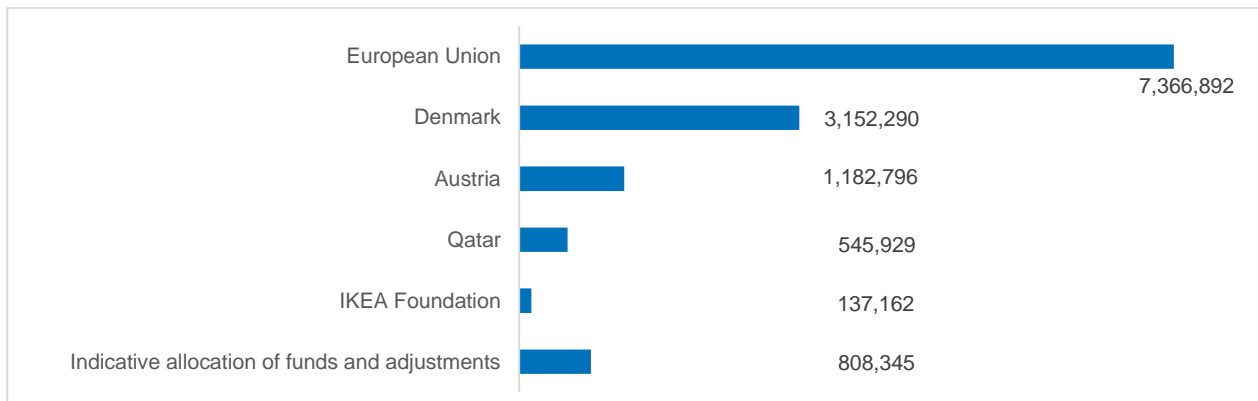
Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF)

- Following the brainstorming meeting held last month with MINEMA, a detailed Terms of Reference for implementation of Rwanda's Global Refugee Forum (2019) pledges is under development to include, among others, two levels of reporting; one at the national and another at the working level. At the national level, a Steering Committee will provide strategic guidance and coordination on the refugee response. At the working level, technical committees will aim to provide the same guidance to individual pledging areas. MINEMA and UNHCR will jointly chair both the Steering and the Technical Committee meetings to be held twice a year each.
- UNHCR submitted a list of 1,242 urban refugees and students in boarding schools away from the camps to the Government of Rwanda for enrolment in the Community-Based Health Insurance (CBHI). This is expected to increase the overall enrolment of refugees in the CBHI to 85%.
- The outcomes for Rwanda One UN Joint Project were announced by the SDG Secretariat. The inclusion of the UNHCR proposed two health posts in the "1,000 Health Posts in a Country of a 1000 Hills" project proposal was accepted in the final 16, four of which are cleared for funding while 12 are in the pipeline.
- Progress on the Stakeholder Mapping project continues. Karongi and Kirehe Districts were mapped in February; final reports and the raw data for both districts are available. Some 76% of stakeholders' projects in Karongi (where Kiziba refugee camp is located) have potential activities that could be linked to the pledges made at the GRF, similarly to 75% in Kirehe (where Mahama refugee camp is located).

Financial Information

UNHCR is grateful for the support provided by donors to this operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programs with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

Funding received in million USD 13,193,414



Other softly earmarked contributions | USD

Germany 5 million

Unearmarked contributions | USD

Sweden 66.9 million | **Netherlands** 36.1 million | **Denmark** 34.6 million | **Germany** 22.1 million | **Switzerland** 16.4 million | **Ireland** 12.5 million | **Belgium** 11.9 million

Algeria | Armenia | Canada | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | Luxembourg | Malta | Monaco | Montenegro | New Zealand | Portugal | Republic of Korea | Saudi Arabia | Singapore | Thailand | Turkey | Uruguay | Private donors

For more information: <http://reporting.unhcr.org>

Contacts:

Elise Villechalane, External Relations Officer, vilecha@unhcr.org, Cell +250 (0) 78-831-5198

Protogene Ndwaniye, Assistant Reporting Officer, ndwaniye@unhcr.org, Cell: +250 (0) 78-324-2477

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