

28 May 2015

### KEY FIGURES

**91,459**

Number of Burundian refugees who have sought asylum in neighboring countries in 2015

**47,929**

Tanzania (27 May)

**27,732**

Rwanda (24 May)

**9,798**

DRC (24 May)

**6,000**

Uganda (28 May)

### PRIORITIES

- Relocation of refugees to safety from border areas
- Preparation of refugee sites allocated by governments of host countries
- Life-saving emergency protection and assistance interventions including in the sectors of registration, shelter, domestic items, food, water, sanitation, hygiene, health.
- Identification and protection of children including family tracing, family reunification and alternative care arrangements for unaccompanied and separated children.
- Prepositioning of relief items for anticipated mass outflows into neighboring countries

### Highlights

#### Uganda

- Currently Uganda is receiving around **400 new arrivals daily**. Many indicate that they fled violence perpetrated by the youth wing of the ruling party in Burundi. Others express fears the security situation could deteriorate further.
- Many come through the Kajitumba border with Rwanda; other entry points are also in use. They are accommodated at reception centres in Nakivale and Oruchinga where they are registered by the OPM before going through the refugee status determination procedure. Currently the majority are granted refugee status, at which point, in line with Uganda's generous and progressive policies towards refugees, they are provided with a small area of land in the refugee settlement, along with household items and farming implements.
- There will be space to accommodate new arrivals, and work is needed to improve infrastructure in the local areas (roads, hospitals, schools). An assessment is ongoing in the settlements in view of enhancing water, health, education and site facilities to accommodate new arrivals. It may become necessary to establish additional transit centres depending on arrival routes.

#### Tanzania

- DFID has donated GBP 3 million for the Burundi emergency.
- In Nyarugusu camp Level 2 **registration** resumed on 25 May. With many refugees still living in various reception centers the process is challenging. Female spouses are recorded as household Representatives in order to boost female empowerment in household and community decision making.
- WFP agreed to issue a 28-day dry **food** ration to new arrivals starting 1 June. Progress is being made in terms of distribution to new arrivals in Nyarugusu with one UNHCR focusing solely on addressing food-related issues in liaison with Ministry of Home Affairs and WFP. WFP continues to carry out mobile food distributions with the support of its implementing partner, ADRA.

#### Rwanda

- Securing adequate **water** for refugees has been the biggest challenge in Mahama camp where it is only possible to provide 9 litres per person per day against the emergency standard of 15 litres per day. Three additional water tankers have been hired by World Vision, for a total of nine deployed tankers to increase the water supply by 40-50%. World Vision has also started constructing two boreholes.

#### TANZANIA: Revised refugee statistics by location (27 May 2015)

In Nyarugusu	41,299
In various border areas of Kigoma region	32
Lake Tanganyika Stadium – Kigoma Transit Center	6,381
Lumasi Tansit Center (Ngara district)	217
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>67,929</b>

For more information, please contact:

**DRC:** Celine Schmitt, [schmitt@unhcr.org](mailto:schmitt@unhcr.org)

**RWANDA:** Martina Pomeroy, [pomeroy@unhcr.org](mailto:pomeroy@unhcr.org) OR Erika Fitzpatrick, [fitzpat@unhcr.org](mailto:fitzpat@unhcr.org)

**TANZANIA:** Stephen Mhando, [mhando@unhcr.org](mailto:mhando@unhcr.org)

**UGANDA:** Charles Yaxley, [yaxley@unhcr.org](mailto:yaxley@unhcr.org)

## Operational Context



### Tanzania

- **Capacity building:** UNHCR and the Ministry of Home Affairs are organizing on 26 and 27 May on refugee Protection for Regional and District authorities of Kagera region. There were 90 participants, representing eight Districts. The Regional Commissioner opened the workshop and actively participated throughout the sessions. Meanwhile, UNHCR's partner on legal aid in Nyarugusu will start awareness-raising on Tanzanian Laws and guidelines regarding movement outside of the camp for the new arrivals. The partner will produce a brochure to that effect.
- **Child protection:** In Nyarugusu, 1,316 extremely vulnerable children were identified on 25 May. 440 were unaccompanied; 741 were separated children. The focus remains in improving the referral system and the monitoring of foster care arrangements, intra-camp tracing as well as safe and well phone calls to Burundi (in Nyarugusu and at Lake Tanganyika Stadium).
- **Child Friendly Spaces:** IRC and Plan International are setting up the spaces in Nyarugusu and at Lake Tanganyika in order to provide secure environments and improved access to life saving services. Children will receive psychosocial support and those who are ill or considered highly vulnerable can be identified and referred to relevant actors. The centers will also attend to the needs of unaccompanied children and facilitate tracing reunification activities. 30 Social Welfare Officers from the Government (paid by UNICEF) have been deployed to Nyarugusu camp and the Stadium to work at the centers.
- HelpAge and IRC started on 27 May a rapid assessment to identify **elderly persons** and gaps vis-à-vis their welfare. Some of the gaps already outlined are the need to assist isolated elderly to receive their services and to assist them to be reunified with their family members in the camp.

### Rwanda

- **Unaccompanied and separated children:** Thus far UNHCR has identified and registered 920 and continues to collaborate with Rwanda Red Cross/ICRC to help 563 them trace their families. 382 are now back in contact with their families thanks to the RRC/ICRC phone call services. Plan International continues to support UNHCR by assisting those who are waiting to be registered including through regular visits and monitoring. UNHCR has conducted 702 Best Interest Assessments and Best Interest Determinations for these and other children at-risk.
- **Child-friendly spaces** have been established by Plan International in Bugesera and Nyanza transit centres and are underway in Mahama with two tents already erected by UNICEF. Refugee community mobilizers have facilitated recreational activities in Mahama camp reaching 270 to 700 children every day.
- **Sexual and gender-based violence:** UNHCR has established referral pathways which are currently implemented in both reception centers and in Mahama camp. Thus far 21 cases have been identified and assisted by different actors. Plan International has conducted several community awareness sessions in Mahama camp on SGBV prevention, incident reporting, gender equality and different services provided by partners. Between 130 and 355 community members (including women, men, girls and boys) attended those sessions.
- **Early childhood development:** Care International, in partnership with UNICEF, started identifying children under 6 years old in Mahama in order to organize activities.

### Democratic Republic of Congo

- The joint (UNHCR-CNR-IEDA) border monitoring mission has reported 100 households of **new arrivals**. It seems they arrived between 5 and 21 May through the entry points of Mboko, Kenya, Sebele, Kasaka, Kibanga, Ubwari, Luvingi, Sange and settled in those villages. The pre-registration and biometrics registration teams will be deployed following usual procedures.
- **Biometric registration** continues in Uvira and Fizi Territories. In Uvira 542 people (109 households) have been registered, while in Baraka, Fizi 96 people (41 households) have been registered. The total registered to date is 6,814.