



KEY FIGURES

238,074

Total Burundian population of concern

64,452

Total Burundian population in Nyarugusu Camp (Pre-Influx + Influx)

122,362

Total population in Nduta Camp

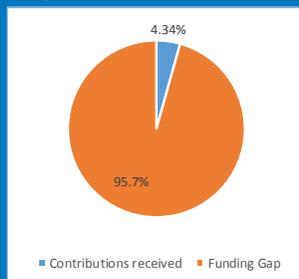
51,177

Total population in Mtendeli Camp

FUNDING

217,250,427 USD

Required Funding for Tanzania as part of Burundi Regional Refugee Response Plan 2017



PRIORITIES

- Keep pace with the construction of transitional shelters and school classrooms construction activities across all camps.
- Continuation of discussions with the Government of Tanzania in ensuring access to asylum-seekers to enter Tanzania.
- Provide support to NECTA in the administration of the special examinations.

TANZANIA

INTER-AGENCY OPERATIONAL UPDATE ON THE BURUNDIAN REFUGEE OPERATION

BI-WEEKLY OPERATIONAL UPDATE

Reporting Period: 3-16 MARCH 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

Challenges faced by asylum-seekers at the border entry points: The average number of Burundian daily arrivals stands at 234 individuals during the reporting period, bringing the total number of individuals admitted to the territory for the two-week period to 3,285 individuals. This number has dropped significantly--by nearly 50 percent--from the previous reporting periods. Reasons for the drop in the number of arrivals could include the commencement of a screening process of asylum-seekers by immigration authorities at some border entry points in Kagera and Kigoma regions following the lifting of the *prima facie* refugee status for asylum-seekers from Burundi, effective 20 January 2017. While UNHCR continues to highlight concerns with the Government of Tanzania at all levels over the challenges faced by Burundian asylum-seekers to gain entry into Tanzania, the Office has embarked on a fruitful collaboration with the Government to develop refugee status determination procedures for people from Burundi in line with the Refugees Act 1998.

The below table shows the progression of the Burundian daily new arrivals from 3 to 16 March 2017:



Examinations for Burundian Students: The examinations for the Burundian refugee students commenced on 13 March 2017 and are anticipated to be concluded on 17 March 2017 across all camps. During the examinations, approximately 1,316 candidates out of the expected 1,592 students, sat for the examinations. The marking of the examinations is scheduled for the week of 20 March 2017 and is expected to last for eight days.

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

For more detailed information on the Burundian Refugee Operation in Tanzania from previous updates, kindly refer to the hyperlinks below:



[Edition 36](#): This reporting period covers 17 February to 2 March 2017



[Edition 35](#): This reporting period covers 3 to 16 February 2017

Operational Context

- The population in Nduta, the only receiving camp for the Burundian new arrivals, stands at 122,362 individuals as of 19 March 2017. Nduta Camp is anticipated to reach its stretched capacity of 127,000 individuals soon.
- The screening of asylum-seekers at border areas by immigration officers continues despite concerns shared by UNHCR with various levels of the Government of Tanzania over the need to ensure respect for provisions of the Refugees Act and international instruments ratified by Tanzania. This screening has led to an almost 50 percent decline in the number of new asylum-seekers accessing Tanzanian territory, compared to the pre-screening figures and the trend in previous reporting periods. This matter is being pursued at various levels of the Government with the anticipation that it will soon be resolved. UNHCR continues to extend its support to the Government of Tanzania in ensuring that all asylum-seekers are granted access to the territory, including access to quality and fair asylum procedures in compliance with the Refugees Act of 1998 and the Government's international commitments on refugee protection.

Achievements



Protection

Achievements and Impact

Access to Legal Remedies

- UNHCR along with the legal aid partner, the Women's Legal Aid Centre (WLAC), continues to monitor law enforcement institutions including the immigration, police and prisons on a weekly basis in order to ensure that the fundamental rights of the persons of concern facing legal issues are safeguarded. In general, UNHCR and its legal aid partner have appreciated the cooperation of relevant institutions although with a few challenges, for the most part, related to access to some persons of concern in custody. However, UNHCR is working very closely with these institutions in order to surmount the challenges.

Physical Safety/Security

- In collaboration with the Settlement Officers of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), the assigned police units and Community Watch Teams (CWTs), UNHCR continued to monitor the physical safety / security of the refugees aimed at minimizing criminality and maintaining the civilian and humanitarian character of the camps. This is particularly important in Nduta Camp given its ongoing expansion and new arrivals living at the peripherals of the camp far from the police and other service centres in the camp.

SGBV

- The Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) Sub-Sector Working Group (Sub-SWG) meetings have been convened across all camps in Kigoma region with key issues focusing on, amongst others, a review of the participatory assessment findings on SGBV, identifying solutions and the way forward for immediate and longer-term actions.



A refugee woman weaving baskets as part of the empowerment initiative at one of the Women Centres - @UNHCR/Gina Meutia

- The SGBV-Child Protection Task Force in Kasulu district has devised the Adolescent Intervention Strategy to address issues faced by adolescents in Nyarugusu Camp and to influence the required community support. The first phase of the strategy, which has a component of community consultation, is currently being rolled out.
- Awareness raising campaigns against the misuse of alcohol and available support services have been conducted in Nduta Camp.

Community Based and Child Protection

- The International Women’s Day was celebrated across all camps with the active participation of refugees, various partners and members of the surrounding communities under the theme: *“Be bold for change—What is your action for women.”* During the celebration, trained facilitators led discussions on gender equality and community participation. District authorities, who have also taken part in the commemoration events, urged the participants to support the meaningful participation of women in bringing about the desired change for their empowerment. Marking this significant day, several events have been conducted, which include traditional dances, songs, speeches and exhibitions of women handmade handicrafts.
- As Nduta Camp expands to over 20 zones exceeding soon its increased capacity of 127,000 individuals, community structures including zonal leaderships have been established up to zone 18 at the extended areas in order to facilitate community engagements in the camp.
- UNHCR issued 850 birth notifications to mothers of new born babies in Nduta and Mtendeli Camps during the reporting period. The Notifications were issued in lieu of birth certificates, which are now pending the issuance by the Government of Tanzania.
- UNHCR conducted a three-day training aimed at strengthening the community based protection mechanism including on child protection structures in Mtendeli Camp. The training was attended by about 45 (23 f/ 22 m) adults and 37 (17 f/20 m) children.

Family Reunification

- During the reporting period, 100 (54 f/46 m) individuals comprising 37 refugee households were assisted to reunite with their families and relatives from Mtendeli Camp to Nduta Camp. The activities are supported by the Tanzania Red Cross Society (TRCS) while International Organization for Migration (IOM) provided the logistical/transportation support for this exercise. Some additional 34 households were assessed in Mtendeli Camp for family reunification to Nduta Camp anticipated to commence in the coming weeks.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The protection presence of UNHCR is currently limited in closely monitoring and reporting for access to territory. However, UNHCR continues to work closely with partners providing services at the border areas. The lack of UNHCR presence at the border entry points is mainly caused by funding constraints.
- The number of SGBV and child protection case workers remain comparatively lower than the cumulative caseload given funding constraints. This subsequently led to challenges faced in conducting follow up of cases.

- The distance to services in Nduta Camp has increasingly become a risk factor as refugees and asylum-seekers have to walk a long distance from the peripherals of Nduta Camp to access services at the centre of the camp, especially at night due to exponential expansion of the camp.
- Lack of rain gear, materials including visibility, identity cards, gumboots and other materials for members of community structures across the camps remain a gap demotivating their activities. There is currently lack of funds available to provide these essentials for the community structures.

Education

Achievements and Impact

- The special examinations for the Burundian refugee candidates commenced from 13 to 17 March 2017 across all camps. During the examinations, approximately 1,316 candidates out of the expected 1,592 students, representing 83 percent, sat for the examinations. The marking of the examinations is scheduled for the week of 20 March 2017 and is anticipated to conclude in eight days. The administration of these examinations is a breakthrough following collaborative efforts by MHA, the National Examinations Council of Tanzania (NECTA), the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), and other Education partners covering a period of over 18 months. Upon completion of the marking process, the successful candidates will be issued certificates from NECTA enabling those completing secondary education with an opportunity to pursue tertiary education in Tanzania on the basis of their academic qualification.
- During the reporting period, a total of 72,102 (35,812 f/36,290 m) Burundian children were enrolled in school across all camps. Out of the total number of enrollment, approximately 54,790 (27,598 f/27,192 m) attended school regularly bringing the average attendance rate to 76 percent. The high absenteeism rate of 24 percent--17,304 students--is mainly caused by the onset of the rainy season that affected students studying under the trees. This is a further drop compared to the last reporting period when the stated absenteeism stood at 23 percent.
- The education working group has convened a consultative workshop to prepare for the Meeting on Accelerated Education slated to take place from 21 to 22 March 2017. The objective of this workshop is to establish which of the globally agreed 10 Accelerated Education Principles aimed at strengthening program delivery are applicable to the Burundi refugee context in Tanzania. The outcome of this workshop and the planned meeting will be shared when finalized.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Education infrastructure remains the major barrier for the access to education. With the onset of the rainy season, the average attendance rate drop was observed from 94 percent to 76 percent. The progressive drop is anticipated to continue given the number of learners studying under the trees. With the current double shift strategy, there are requirements of about 652 classrooms across the three camps in addition to the 137 classrooms currently constructed and anticipated to be fully completed by the end of March 2017.



Students who are studying at an open space in Nduta Camp greeted the visitors and the UNHCR Education Officer during the U.S. Delegation Visit in January 2017 - @UNHCR/Gina Meutia



Health

Achievements and Impact

- The Crude Mortality Rate (CMR) remains at 0.3 death per 1,000 persons per month while the Under Five Year Mortality Rate (U5MR) was observed to be at 0.7 death per 1,000 persons per month across all camps. Both of the CMR and U5MR rates remain within the minimum standards while there is a slight reduction of U5MR as compared to the previous reporting period. Malaria remains the leading cause of morbidity representing 33 percent of the Crude Proportional Morbidity, followed by Upper Respiratory Tract Infection-URTI at 12 percent, Lower Respiratory Tract Infection-LRTI at 6 percent and Urinary Tract Infection-UTI at 5 percent.
- During the reporting period, a total of 121,851 refugee patients were treated at the health facilities across Nyarugusu, Nduta and Mtendeli Camps. Amongst them, some 5,255 patients were admitted and treated at the health facilities.
- The cumulative Acute Malnutrition by Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) for the newly arriving Burundian children in Nduta Camp remains at eight percent. Analysis is required through provision of information particularly on food security to identify the causes of malnutrition in Burundi.
- The construction of a new surgical theatre, installation of theatre equipment and construction of post-operative ward in Mtendeli Camp have been completed. These facilities are anticipated to improve the access to health services for refugees in the camp.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The increasingly high Malaria morbidity, is still a challenge in the health sector. The increase in reported cases of Malaria is most likely caused by the onset of the rainy season.
- There is a critical need of increasing access to health and nutrition services in Mtendeli and Nyarugusu Camps through establishing additional health posts, nutrition facilities and additional staffing to maintain the equity of access to care. Access to health services is currently a challenge due to funding constraints.
- Due to the increasing refugee population and the seasonal morbidity trends, such as the increasing caseload of Malaria, the demand of essential medicines in refugee camps remain high. Meanwhile, smaller quantities of medicines are being supplied into Tanzania at a given time due to limited funding. The above context along with the delays in the arrival of medicine consignments and the long lead time of supply posed a serious risk to life saving efforts across all camps.



Water and Sanitation

Achievements and Impact

- The pumping test for the newly drilled borehole resumed in Nduta Camp, with the issuance of the drilling license. The pumping test will first be conducted in Nduta Camp before proceeding to Nyarugusu Camp. The newly drilled boreholes in both camps are anticipated to increase the water yield for distribution to refugees and asylum-seekers.
- The Lake Tanganyika Water Basin Authority and the Regional Water Engineer have been engaged to assist in the search for additional water sources to be supplied for the population in Mtendeli Camp. The water distribution rate has been increased slightly to 16 liters per person per day. However, this remains below the UNHCR standard of 20 liters per person per day. Improvements to the water network are currently ongoing with the use of additional valves to control the flow along certain branches of the network, as well as flow meters to verify the quantity of water flowing along each branch. UNHCR and partners are continuously working to improve the water yield in Mtendeli Camp despite failed attempts to drill boreholes in the past.
- The commemoration of water week has commenced on 16 March 2017 across all camps. UNHCR and partners are marking the water week with a series of activities which include awareness raising campaigns, sports related events and many other events that engaged refugees, asylum-seekers and host communities in Nyarugusu, Nduta and Mtendeli Camps.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Scattered settlements across the continuously growing population in Nduta Camp are slowing down the capacity of UNHCR and partners to rapidly deploy the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion (WASH) related services.



Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

- Out of the total targeted number of 16,724 transitional shelters, some 11,639 transitional shelters or equal to 70 percent have been fully constructed across all camps leaving some 5,085 transitional shelters remaining to be finalized by the end of March 2017.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Given funding constraints the total number of 47,835 Burundian refugee and asylum-seeker households are covered at merely 35 percent through the Transitional Shelter Project across all camps.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Achievements and Impact

- The crop assessment surrounding Nduta Camp has resumed during the reporting period, which resulted in the recommencement of the construction of emergency shelters at the extended areas of Nduta Camp by the African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD).
- In addition, the arrival of a new stock of 5,000 plastic sheets has allowed the resumption of the construction of emergency shelters and latrines in Nduta Camp.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- It was found that certain extended areas in Nduta Camp are located close to a natural spring. This caused the land to be incredibly wet and prone to flooding which has subsequently affected several shelters. New locations will be sought to relocate the affected households.



Access to Energy

Achievements and Impact

- The final Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) distribution for the first phase of the pilot in Nyarugusu Camp was successfully completed targeting some 1,550 Burundian households. Household level monitoring is currently ongoing.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The energy needs of the population are growing while sustainable solutions remain a challenge at all camps.

Working in partnership



Working in partnership

- UNHCR works closely with other UN agencies through the UN Reform, Delivering as One initiative and participates in the UN Development Assistance Plan (UNDAP II) 2016-2021, under the Resilience Thematic Results Group. Within this group, UNHCR undertakes action to ensure that a joint vision of protection-sensitive and solutions-oriented assistance to refugees and asylum-seekers is delivered in line with international norms and standards. UNHCR also works with the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), its direct Government counterpart in Tanzania, while maintaining excellent and productive relations with other Government entities as well as NGO partners.
- Under the Refugee Coordination Model (RCM), UNHCR leads and coordinates the response to the Burundi refugee emergency in Tanzania. The RCM is intended to provide an inclusive platform for planning and coordinating refugee response in order to ensure that refugees and other persons of concern receive the protection and assistance they require through the collective efforts and capacities of all partners involved. The 2017 Burundian Regional Refugee Response Plan has been finalized in consultation with the key Government actors and humanitarian partners. This document was circulated in the beginning of 2017 to all relevant humanitarian actors.
- UNHCR also works with a number of other partners to support its operation in the country. These partners include: Refugee Services Department (RSD), Ministry of Health (MOH), Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD), Baba Watoto, CARITAS, Community Environmental Management and Development Organization (CEMDO), Centre for the Study of Forced Migration (CSFM), Church World Service (CWS), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Good Neighbors International (GNI), Help Age International, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC), International Organisation for Migration (IOM), International Rescue Committee (IRC), Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF Belgium, Switzerland), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Oxfam Great Britain (Oxfam GB), Plan International, Relief to Development Society (REDESO), Save the Children, Tanzanian Red Cross and Red Crescent Society (TRCS), Tanganyika Christian Refugee Services (TCRS), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Water Missions, the World Health Organization (WHO), Women's Legal Aid Centre (WLAC), the World Food Programme (WFP) and World Vision.

UNHCR, sister UN agencies and partners are grateful to the Government and people of Tanzania for their generosity and long standing commitment to hosting refugees.

UNHCR would like to acknowledge the generous contributions in support of the Burundian refugees of the following donors: Canada, Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), Denmark, European Union (ECHO), Japan, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Norway, Private Donors USA, Sweden, Switzerland, TOMS Shoes (USA), UN Fund for International Partnerships, UNIQLO (Japan), United Nations Foundation, United Kingdom (DFID), United States of America and Vodafone Foundation (UK).

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Links:

<http://data.unhcr.org/burundi/country.php?id=212> - @UNHCR Tanzania