



### HIGHLIGHTS

<b>117</b> Resettlement departures since January	<b>681</b> Children enrolled in primary and secondary school	<b>2,110</b> Received monthly food distributions	<b>22</b> Shelters under construction since January
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### Population of concern

A total of **2833** people of concern

Country	Total PoC
Burundi	73
DRC	636*
Namibia	938
Rwanda	42
Somalia	370
Zimbabwe	729
Others	45
<b>Total</b>	<b>2833</b>

- Recent new arrivals added

### UNHCR Presence

**Staff:**

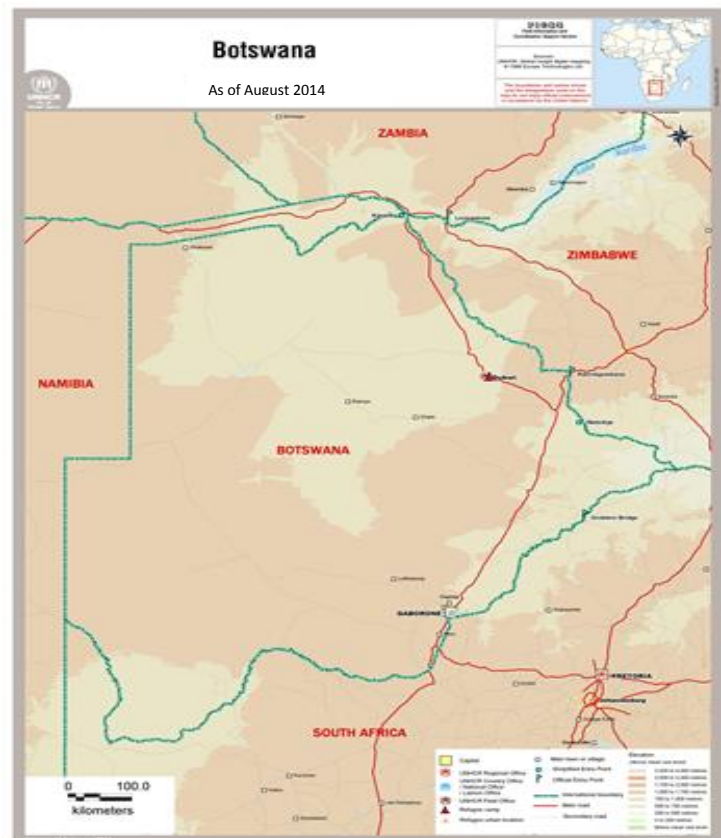
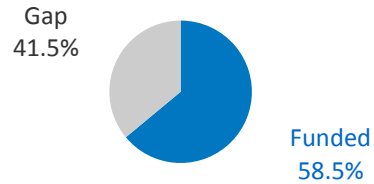
7 national staff  
3 international staff

**Offices:**

2 offices located in:  
OCM Gaborone, FO Dukwi

### Funding

**USD 4,191,907** requested



## WORKING WITH PARTNERS

UNHCR coordinates humanitarian, repatriation and integration assistance with: [Ministry of Defence, Justice and Security](#) | [Botswana Red Cross Society](#) | [Skillshare International Botswana \(SKIB\)](#)

## MAIN ACTIVITIES

### Protection

- UNHCR assists the Government of Botswana (GoB) with the protection of refugees and asylum-seekers through the provision of technical and material support.
- The Refugee Advisory Committee (RAC) has sat three times since January 2015 to conduct Refugee Status Determination interviews. The RAC has thus far interviewed **420** asylum seekers
- Asylum-seekers await the determination of their cases for lengthy periods of time. UNHCR is working closely with the Refugee Advisory Committee for the speedy determination of asylum-seekers in the Centre for Illegal Immigrants (CII) in Francistown. The RAC met in August 2014 to address a backlog of 2013 asylum-seekers and new arrivals from 2014. UNHCR continues to advocate for final decisions to be issued timely in order to commence new RAC hearings and not to accumulate backlogs.
- UNHCR continuously engages and advocates for the Government to take active steps to amend the country's refugee legislation, the 1968 Refugees (Recognition and Control) Act in order to enhance adherence to international refugee protection standards. An initial stakeholder workshop was held on 5-6 February to begin the process to review the Refugee (Recognition and Control) Act.

### Education

- UNHCR through Skillshare International enrolled 216 children at pre-school, 408 at primary, 173 at secondary and 98 at vocational school. In 2014, two new students have enrolled for tertiary education at Gaborone institutions. This brings the total number of students enrolled in a tertiary education programme to sixteen. 55 students are enrolled in distance education programmes. This year 22 students have applied for tertiary education at University of Botswana but have not been enrolled due to financial constraints.

### Health

- Through Botswana Red Cross Society (BRCS), refugees and asylum-seekers continued to receive health and psychosocial services. Refugees and asylum-seekers are not included in the national ART programme. 310 persons are on ARV treatment, men, women and children of diverse nationalities, religion and background living with HIV. BRCS also provides supplementary food to elderly and home based patient as well as toiletries to unaccompanied children. They are also running centre for child recreation as an activity for child welfare and protection.

### Shelter, Food Security and NFIs

- Through Skillshare International, 33 houses for elderly, vulnerable and people with medical conditions are being constructed in Dukwi camp, as part of the continued support initiated in 2012 to assist vulnerable people. 12 houses have been completed so far and others are expected to be finished before the end of the year. Food distribution including paraffin is regularly conducted with food commodities (maize meal, beans, oil, sugar, salt, soup, and soap), provided to refugees on a monthly basis.

### Durable Solutions

- In its efforts to finding durable solutions for refugees in Botswana, Since January 2015, UNHCR facilitated the return of 5 Namibians, and 13 Zimbabweans. In 2015, as of 14 September, 117 people have departed for USA, Australia, Sweden, Iceland, Finland and Canada. UNHCR continues to advocate through its Regional Office for additional resettlement missions to Botswana, as there are only two durable solutions available for refugees in the country which are voluntary repatriation and resettlement.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR this year as well as the following donors who have directly contributed to the operation: [Government of Botswana](#).

#### Contacts:

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