

THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO SITUATION

JUNE 2018

The situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is one of the world's most **complex and challenging yet forgotten crises**. As of 30 June 2018, 781,697 Congolese refugees are being hosted in African countries. From 1 January to 30 June 2018 alone, some 112,401 Congolese fled to neighboring countries, with a particularly **significant increase** in refugee flows to Uganda, Burundi and Zambia. On 23 March 2018, UNHCR together with 30 humanitarian partners launched a Regional Refugee Response Plan for **\$504 million** to help **respond to the needs of Congolese refugees in neighboring countries**.

KEY INDICATORS



781,697 *

Total of refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC



112,401 **

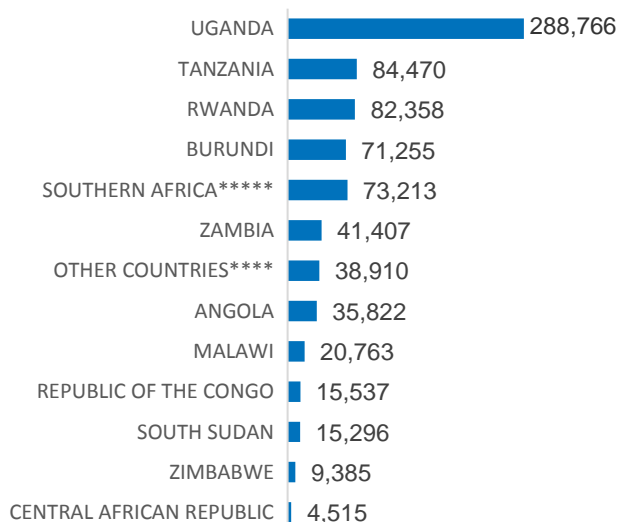
New arrivals in 2018



8,032

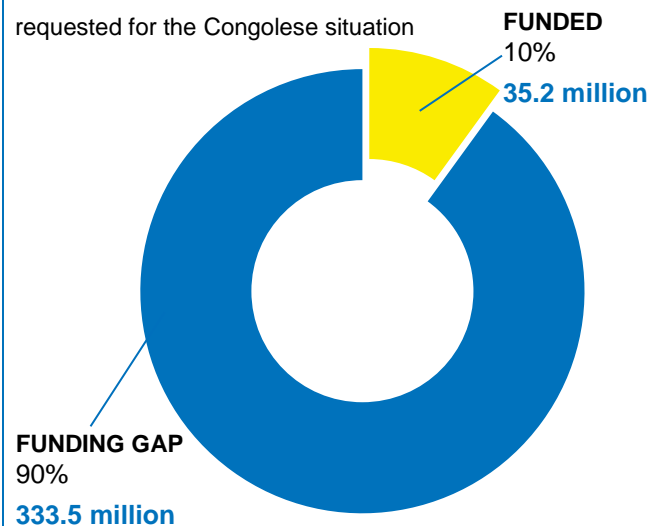
New arrivals in June 2018

POPULATION OF CONCERN IN HOST COUNTRIES

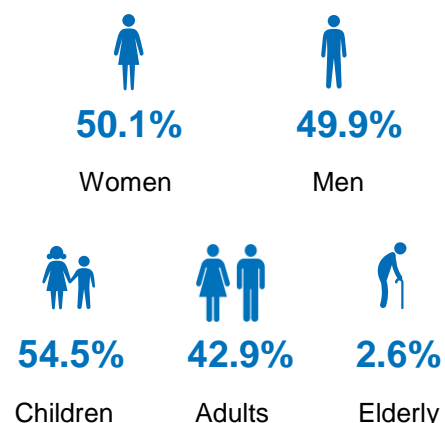


FUNDING (AS OF 30 JUNE 2018)

USD 368.7 million



AGE, GENDER BREAKDOWN ***



* **Total number** includes figures from Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Kenya, the Kingdom of eSwatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, South Africa, South Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

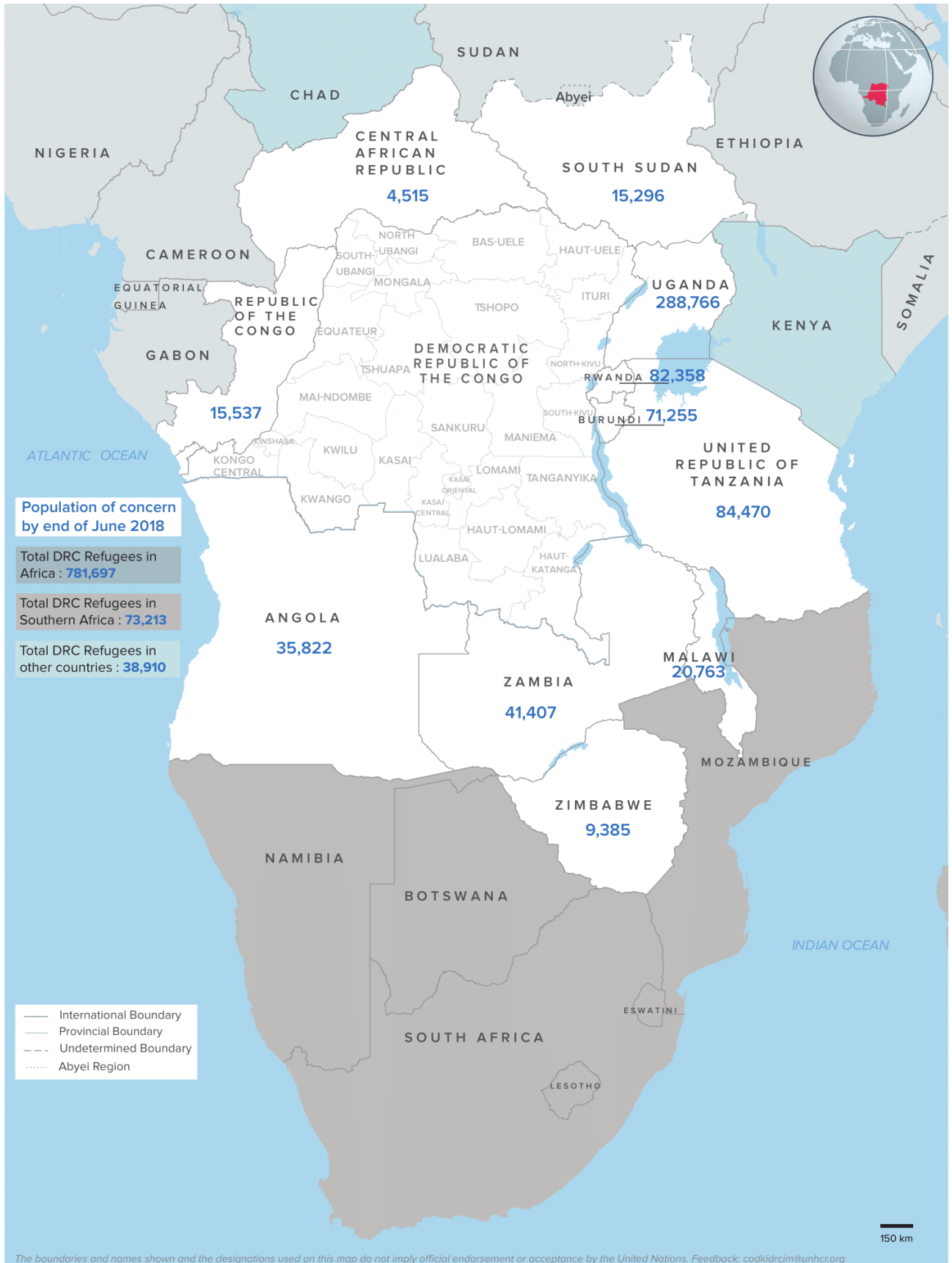
** **New arrivals** include figures from Angola, Burundi, Chad, Central African Republic, Kenya, the Kingdom of eSwatini, Malawi, Mozambique, Madagascar, and Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

*** **This age and gender breakdown** includes figures from Angola, Burundi, Chad, Central African Republic, Kenya, the Kingdom of eSwatini, Malawi, Mozambique, Madagascar, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

**** **Other countries** include Chad and Kenya.

***** **Southern Africa** includes Botswana, the Kingdom of eSwatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mozambique, Namibia and South Africa.

NUMBER OF REFUGEES & ASYLUM-SEEKERS in countries of asylum as of the end of June 2018

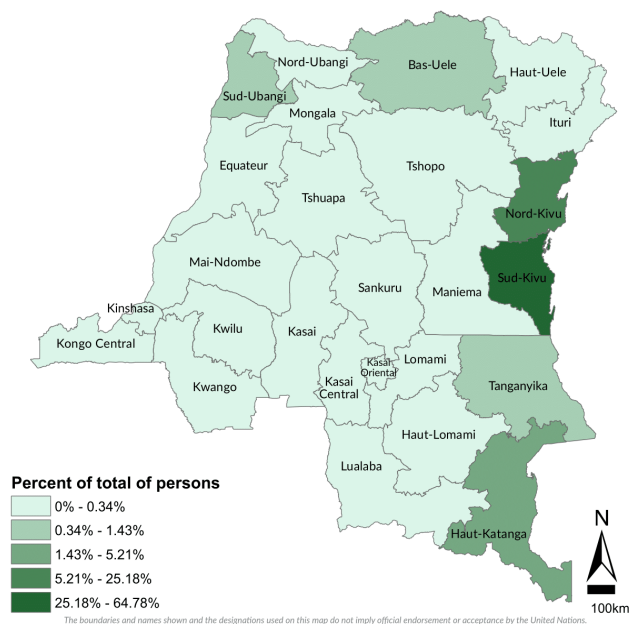


Creation date: 20 June 2018 Sources: UNHCR - Kinshasa Feedback: codkidrcim@unhcr.org

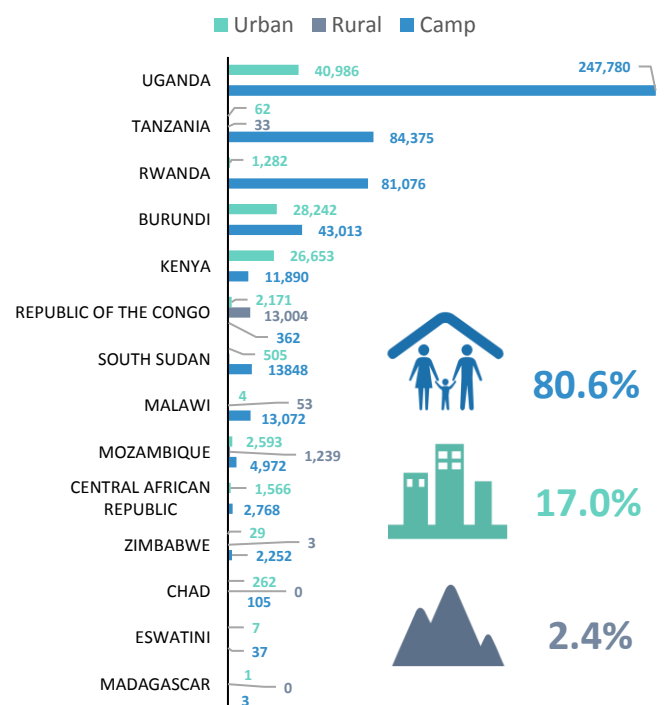
Regional Highlights and Operational Context

- A total of **781,697 Congolese refugees and asylum-seekers** are being hosted in countries in Africa, that have generously maintained an open door policy in granting asylum to old and new population groups.
- The security conditions in the DRC, especially in the eastern and central provinces, remains volatile with sporadic outbreaks of violence leading to displacement of civilians within the country, and across borders to neighboring countries. This has placed the DRC refugee population **among the ten largest in the world**.
- As the end of June 2018, UNHCR received **\$35.2 million** for the DRC situation, representing only **10** per cent of the total requirements for 2018.
- The interagency Regional Refugee Response Plan for the DRC situation has received **\$41.6 million**, as at 12 June 2018, representing only **8** per cent of the total requirements for 2018.
- The DRC Humanitarian Pledging Conference was held in Geneva on 13 April 2018. Donors pledged USD \$528.1 million. The total requirement is USD \$ 1.7 billion.

PROVINCES OF ORIGIN of Congolese Refugees



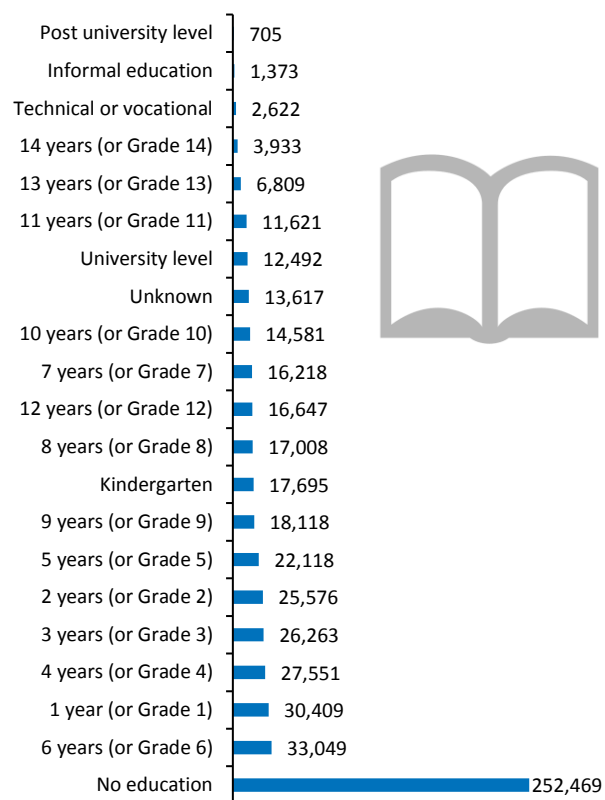
TYPE OF SETTLEMENT In Countries Of Asylum



The above map includes figures from Burundi, Chad, Central African Republic, Kenya, the Kingdom of eSwatini, Malawi, Mozambique, Madagascar, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, South Sudan, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

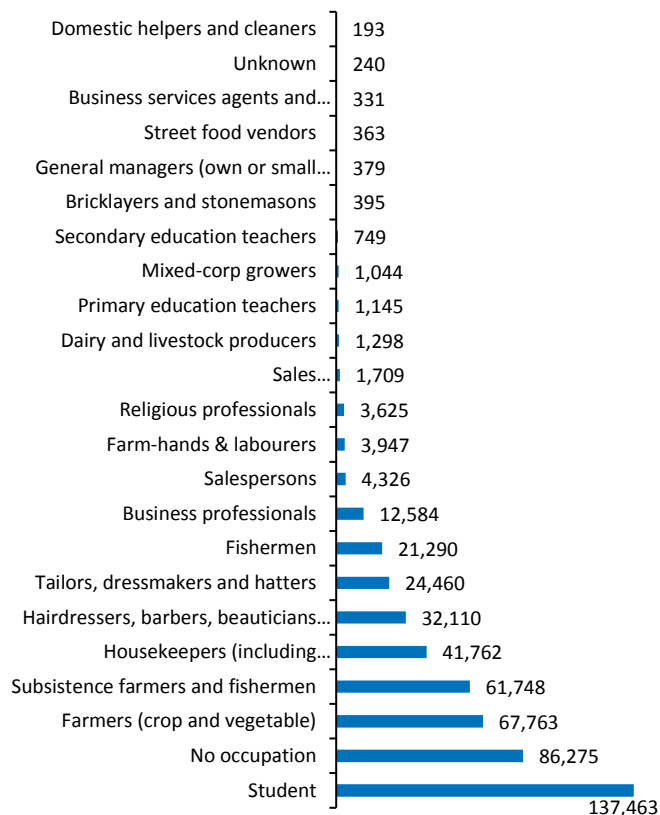
EDUCATION LEVEL OF REFUGEES

Number Of Persons Per Level



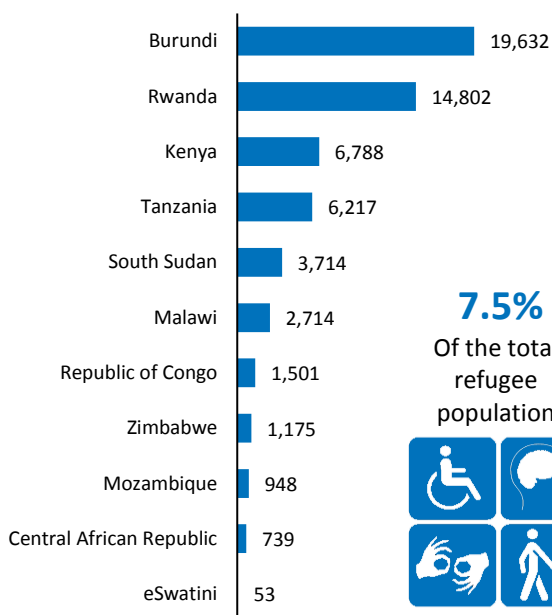
OCCUPATION OF REFUGEES

Number Of Persons By Type Of Occupation



NUMBER OF PERSONS WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS

Per Country of Asylum

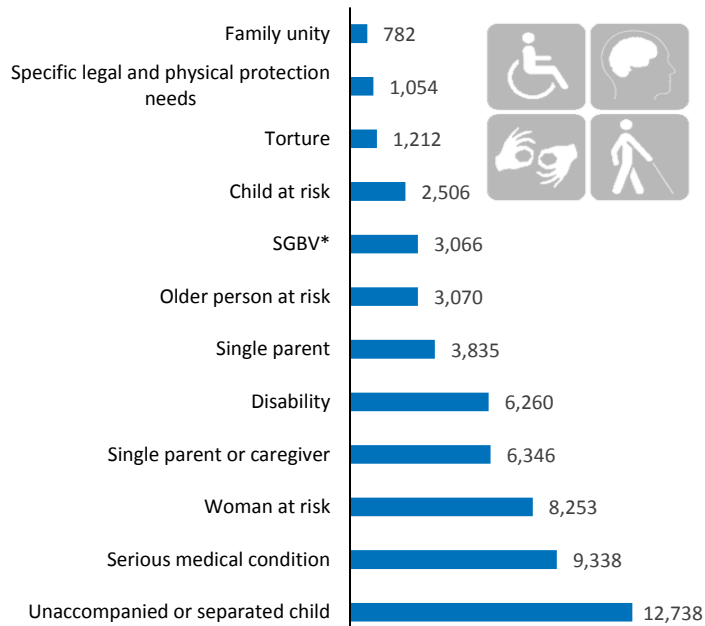


7.5%
Of the total
refugee
population



NUMBER OF PERSONS WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS

Per Category of Concern



* Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)

The above charts include figures from Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, the Kingdom of Eswatini, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, South Sudan, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

Achievements during the Reporting Period

ANGOLA

Latest developments

- As of 30 June 2018, some 13,669 Congolese refugees and asylum-seekers (3,353 families) were residing in Lóvuá refugee settlement, out of the total 35,822 biometrically registered in the country.

Achievements

- A meeting was held between the provincial Governor of Lunda Norte and the UNHCR Head of Field Office in Dundo, the capital city of Lunda Norte province, in order to discuss issues related to the situation of refugees in the area and the relocation to Lóvuá settlement of refugees from urban areas across the province, as well as on preparedness actions for new inflows from the DRC. UNHCR briefed the Governor with regard to an upcoming donors' mission to be held to the province.
- Out of the 35,622 biometrically registered refugees, 22,378 individuals (5,361 families) were present at the monthly food distribution and received food rations.
- The layout for permanent classrooms in Lóvuá settlement was completed and agreed with the Ministry of Education, at provincial level. The construction of permanent structures compliant with the standards of the Ministry of Education, is required to start formal education for refugee children in the settlement.

Challenges

- Water trucking in Lóvuá settlement by partners continues to present severe challenges due to a lack of fuel for the two water trucks provided by the Government, as well as of additional funding to proceed with water sanitation and hygienic (WASH) activities.
- The lack of a second ambulance results in delays and inefficient services in transferring patients in the settlement, due to long distance of many surrounded villages from the main clinic, as well as medical referrals to Dundo hospital.

BURUNDI

Latest developments

- A total of 97 households of 297 new refugees from the DRC arrived in Burundi, bringing the total number of registered refugees and asylum-seekers to 71,255.

Achievements

- Another 392 asylum-seekers were granted refugee status. In addition, 7,898 identity cards, 101 birth certificates, 11 death certificates, 31 temporary stay permits and 338 registration proofs were issued to asylum-seekers and refugees and 1,039 exit camp permits were issued to refugees wishing to go out of the camp.

- Some 264 refugees were resettled to other countries, bringing to 1,524 the number of resettled Congolese refugees from Burundi since January 2018.
- A convoy of 54 households of 188 new Congolese refugees was organized from Bujumbura and Cishemere transit center, in the western province of Cibitoke bordering the DRC, to Kavumu refugee camp, in the province of Cankuzo.
- Camp-based refugees were assisted with food and non-food items, as well as with briquettes for cooking.
- Legal assistance was provided to 23 cases and also civil protection assistance to 2 cases. UNHCR followed up and assisted refugees involved in 4 penal and 2 detention cases.
- Good progress was being made in the construction of the fifth refugee camp in Nyankanda, in the eastern province of Ruyigi. Construction works of three additional classrooms in Kavumu refugee camp were also in progress, to benefit the increasing number of new school-aged children who arrive in the camp.
- For a better preparation and organization of the food fairs in Bwagiriza and Kavumu refugee camps, the distribution hangars were rehabilitated

Challenges

- UNHCR and the Government of Burundi are committed to ensuring an asylum environment to current and new refugees from the DRC. However, UNHCR remains underfunded which is negatively impacting on the overall assistance to refugees, in particular self-reliance activities, education and health care services, as well as improvement of shelter facilities and rehabilitation of latrines.

MALAWI

Latest developments

- There were some 20,763 Congolese refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC, as of June 2018, with an average of 264 arrivals per month, from January to June 2018.

Achievements

- The World Food Programme (WFP) continued its support ensuring food distribution, for the total of the Congolese refugee population, both in Dzaleka refugee camp and Karonga transit center.
- Additional WASH improvements were in progress in Karonga transit center, and in Chitipa and Mbilima reception centers.

Challenges

- UNHCR remains largely underfunded, impacting and challenging the way assistance is provided to refugees and asylum-seekers.
- Congestion at the as transportation is not provided to the new arrivals to get to Dzaleka camp. This is because transportation rates are exorbitant, and verification of credible asylum-seekers is not done.
- Congestion in Karonga transit center remains a major challenge, in particular because transportation is not provided for newly arrived refugees to Dzaleka camp.

RWANDA**Latest developments**

- As of 30 June, the total number of Congolese refugees and asylum-seekers amounted to 82,358.
- A joint verification exercise in Gihembe refugee camp, which involved the Government of Rwanda, UNHCR and the National Identity Agency, was completed on 22 June with 93 per cent show rate of refugees and 47 per cent show rate of asylum-seekers. The verification resulted in an increase of the camp population by 7 per cent, bringing the total number of refugees and asylum-seekers in Gihembe to 13,348.

Achievements

- A total of 30 Congolese refugees (8 cases) departed for resettlement countries.
- The renovated Youth Centre in Kiziba refugee camp, started again its activities serving a multi-purpose function for the young population.
- An ongoing campaign in Kiziba camp, which is aimed at promoting schooling, resulted in a slightly increase of refugee children's participation, bringing to over 90% the school attendance.
- Four (4) Congolese refugee students graduated with the Bachelor of Arts, in different disciplines, from Kepler University's campus in Kiziba refugee camp, which begun its activities in the refugee setting in 2015.
- Treatment of both severe and moderate malnutrition for children under the age of 5, as well as for pregnant women and lactating mothers, took place in clinics inside and outside the camp, with an average length of stay of 7.9 days.
- Some 40 community health workers were trained on treatments against severe malaria and neglected tropical diseases (NTDs), as well as in the use of "Rapid SMS" to report and act appropriately in emergencies with danger signs, in particular in cases of children under 5, and on maternal child health services.

Challenges

- Delay in the issuance of identity documents (IDs) for refugees, negatively impacts on the resettlement process.
- There is a lack of resources for school fees for urban refugees, who, increasingly request to be relocated to camps in order to ensure their continued access to education.
- Access to healthcare services remains a challenge for refugee students in boarding schools, located away from camp settings.
- Facilities at early childhood development (ECD) centers in most of the refugee camps remain in critical conditions, with old and overcrowded classrooms which could collapse at any time, challenging children's learning environment.
- Although cases of inflections of the upper respiratory tract remain high in all camps, however, the overall level of resources for medical referrals remains insufficient to cover the needs.

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

Latest developments

- The total population of Congolese refugees and asylum-seekers stood at 84,470, as of 30 June.

Achievements

- UNHCR and implementation partners provided legal advice and counselling to some 173 Congolese in Nyarugusu camp for several cases including exit camp permits and, also legal services at prison/detention centers in the Kasulu region, including counseling, coaching and representation of minors, as well as interpretation services.
- Three education officers from Kasulu Schools Quality Assurance Office, visited Nyarugusu camp to assess opportunities in order to harmonize education and monitoring systems across all camps. In particular, the mission aimed at strengthening school inspection and encouraging for improved performance results in all camps.
- In collaboration with DRC Ministry of education, national examinations held in Nyarugusu refugee camp, for Grade 6 and Form 6 level students. The examinations were facilitated by the two education inspectors from Kalemie, DRC, with a total number of 2,566 candidates (1141 females and 1425 males) for Grade 6 level and 655 candidates (161 females and 494 males) for Form 6 level.
- In collaboration with the International Rescue Committee (IRC), UNHCR facilitated a visiting mission of the Vodafone Foundation to the Instant Network School Program (INS) at Nyarugusu camp. The main objective of the mission was to conduct classroom observations and to identify knowledge gaps for future training, as well as to ensure proper regular maintenance of the program's equipment. In addition, Vodafone and iWay Africa Online organized a four days technical training for the INS team.
- Medical rehabilitation services were provided to some 601 persons with disabilities (298 females and 303 males) at the community rehabilitation centre in Nyarugusu camp. Out of this number 98 persons (54 females and 44 males) with neuromuscular disorders were newly assessed.

Challenges

- The Government has decided to tighten border controls, with regard to new arrivals from DRC. Since March 2018, the southern points of entry at the borders with DRC are closed, while the authorities of Kigoma, north of lake Tanganyika, apply additional border monitoring measures aimed at limiting the number of asylum-seekers who could reach the port of Kibirizi.
- Given the increasing number of rejected refugee claims in Nyarugusu refugee camp, UNHCR and its partners started documenting and following up on unregistered cases of individuals and families living in the camp, as well as on cases of Congolese who left the camp seeking international protection in neighbouring countries.
- UNHCR expresses its concerns regarding the delayed relocation of asylum-seekers from entry points to Nyarugusu refugee camp, increasing the vulnerability of persons with special needs, including those with mental instability who amounted to 17 per cent of the total cases interviewed during June.

UGANDA**Latest developments**

- Some 5,548 Congolese entered Uganda during June, according to border monitoring at collection points (Ishasha, Kyeshero, Butogota, Nteko, Bunagana, Busanja, Sebagoro, Nsonga, Ntoroko, and Paidha), with a total of 288,766 registered refugees and asylum-seekers in the country from the DRC.
- A young female refugee from DRC in Kampala was invited by a Women Ambassadors Forum (WAF) in Dallas, Texas to participate in a workshop, from 12-16 June 2018, that aims to give young women training in leadership, communication and management. The refugee went through a selection process as a short video was submitted to the WAF showing her life as an urban refugee and the impact that she makes within her community. The WAF have provided feedback and stated that the participant refugee made a major contribution to the forum. Moreover, it was the first time that female youth who is a refugee in Uganda participates in this kind of forum.
- A second selection mission from Norway, since the start of this year, was conducted to interview 350 refugees for resettlement. Norway aims to accept 1,000 DRC refugees from Uganda, who will be resettled by the end of 2018.
- On 21-22 June, Financial Sector Deepening Uganda, a private sector company funded by the UK Government's Department for International Development (DFID), facilitated 6 financial service providers to visit Kyangwali refugee settlement, with the aim of gaining deeper insights into the financial needs of the refugee populations and designing financial products that refugees need. It is anticipated that the actual implementation of tailor-made financial packages will begin by the last quarter of 2018.

Achievements

- Health status of refugees in South/Mid-West settlement areas remained stable, with crude mortality rate at 0.18 against the threshold of 0.75/1000/day and 0.54/1000/day for the under-five year old against a threshold of 1.5/1000/day.
- A total of 75,948 consultations made across health centres in settlement areas hosting Congolese, of which 88 per cent were refugees and 12 per cent were from the host populations. The top leading causes of morbidity included malaria (34.8%), respiratory tract infections (28.3%), watery diarrhoea (4.5%), intestinal worms (2.7%) and eye diseases at (2.4%).
- The second round of cholera vaccination completed in Kyangwali settlement covering the 94 per cent of the total population.
- The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) organized on 21 June, a Farmer Field Day in Rwamwanja refugee settlement, to increase crop productivity and to lay a platform for farmers to learn modern agricultural practices. The event provided an opportunity for mobilization of farmer groups into Farmer Associations/Cooperatives, to initiate collective action such as joint purchase of inputs and collective marketing.

Challenges

- The construction in Kyaka II of semi-permanent shelters for persons with special needs (PSN) has progressed at a slow pace due to rainy weather conditions, resulting in destroying the mud blocks and delaying the overall mud block production.

- Due to poor construction, some road culverts in Kyaka II settlement need to be reinstalled with sufficient lengths, culvert joints and properly compacted cover material

ZAMBIA

Latest developments

- As at 30 June, some 225 new refugees from the DRC arrived in Zambia, bringing the total number of biometrically registered Congolese refugees and asylum-seekers to 41,407.

Achievements

- The relocation of Congolese refugees from Nchelenge's Kenani transit centre to the new refugee settlement of Mantapala, located within the same district, was successfully completed. The process started on 20 January 2018, resulting in the relocation of some 10,337 individuals over a period of five months. The relocation to Mantapala settlement was made possible by the joint efforts of the Government, UNHCR and its partners, such as the International Organization for Migration, and aimed to ensure that refugees are provided with permanent settlement, empowering their self-sufficient.
- In Mantapala settlement, UNHCR started a verification exercise for unaccompanied children and foster families, in order to replicate the ISIBINDI project, a community based child protection mechanism that provides psychosocial counselling, as well as support for recreational activities for refugee children.
- UNHCR supported the office of the Commissioner for Refugees (COR) in conducting Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) consultations for stakeholders with visiting missions in Nchelenge and Solwezi, ahead of national consultations scheduled at the end of August.

Challenges

- Poor inner road network in areas where UNHCR is operating, including those areas inside refugee settlements, remains a major challenge hampering the effective implementation of planned activities.
- Absence of access to energy and in particular lighting, significantly increases the risk of incidents of sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) in refugee settlements.
- Limited funding for UNHCR and its partners has continued to be a major challenge impacting the response to the needs of Congolese refugees and asylum-seekers.

ZIMBABWE

Latest developments

- During June, some 85 new arrivals from DRC into Zimbabwe were recorded, with a steady rate of new arrivals since the beginning of the year. The total population of Congolese reached 9,385, however only 6,306 have been recognized as refugees.
- Some 8,805 persons of the total Congolese population of refugees and asylum-seekers in the country reside in Tongogara refugee camp, located in Chipinge district of

Manicaland province. About 580 Congolese reside across different rural and urban location within the country.

Achievements

- Resettlement applications of 10 Congolese refugees were successfully accepted by the Canadian Resettlement Office and refugees departed to Canada during June.

Challenges

- There are currently some 2,474 Congolese asylum-seekers and 607 rejected seekers, whose application for refugee status was not considered favourably by the Government. UNHCR has been encouraging the Government to review some of the rejected cases as the circumstances in areas of habitual residence of those asylum-seekers have changed, since the time of their arrival.
- Due to funding limitations, UNHCR cannot effectively respond with the shelter needs of new arrivals.

Financial Information

UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors who have contributed to our activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed directly to the situation or operations.

Donors who have contributed to the DRC situation:

- United States of America
- CERF
- Finland
- Denmark
- European Union
- Japan
- Educate A Child Programme (EAC/EAA)
- IKEA Foundation
- Norway
- Italy
- Andorra

BROADLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS

United States of America 77.8 million | **Canada** 6.6 million | **Private donors Australia** 6.2 million | **Sweden** 3.2 million

France | Germany | Luxembourg | Malta | Norway | Republic of Korea | Switzerland | United Kingdom | Private donors

UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS

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** 15.8 million | **Switzerland** 15.2 million | **France** 14 million | **Italy** 11.2 million

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CONTACTS

Stylianos Kostas, Associate Coordination Officer, UNHCR
Kinshasa, DRC - kostas@unhcr.org – Tel. +243 996 041 000 - Cell +243 817 570 227

LINKS

UNHCR Operational Portal - [DRC SITUATION](#)
UNHCR Global Focus website – [DRC SITUATION](#)
UNHCR News & Stories - [Thousands of refugees get primary health care in Tanzania](#)