

# United Republic of Tanzania

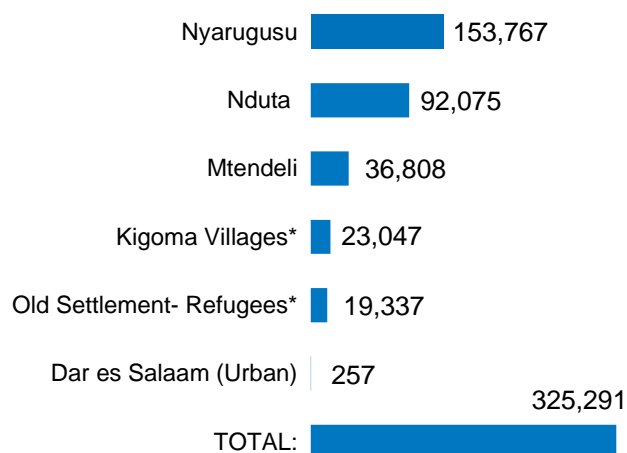
January – March 2019

Tanzania has had a long history as a refugee hosting country. The country currently hosts 325,291 refugees and asylum-seekers, mainly from Burundi and DRC in the three refugee camps of Nyarugusu, Nduta, and Mtendeli,

and Nyarugusu. However chronic underfunding continues to severely hamper the humanitarian response. More funding is required to address the needs and vulnerabilities of refugees and asylum-seekers in Tanzania.

UNHCR works closely with the Government of Tanzania through the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), UN agencies and other humanitarian NGO partners.

## POPULATION OF CONCERN AS OF 28 FEBRUARY 2019

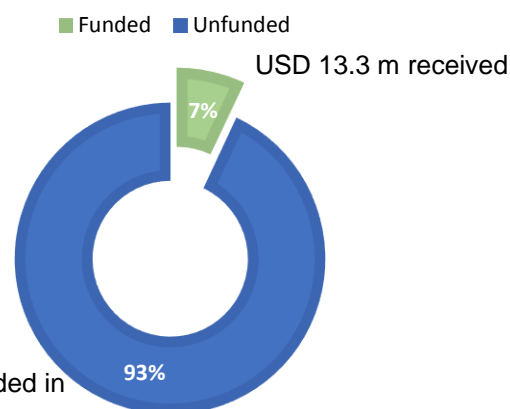


\* This number comprises Burundian refugees who fled to Tanzania in 1972 and live in the Old Settlements and settled in villages in Kigoma region.

## FUNDING LEVEL AS OF 29 MARCH 2019

**USD 13.3 M**

Requested for Tanzania in 2019



## UNHCR PRESENCE

### Staff:

- 158 National Staff
- 41 International Staff
- 49 Individual Contractors
- 9 International UNVs

### Offices:

- 1 Representation Office in Dar es Salaam
- 1 Sub Office in Kibondo
- 1 Field Office in Kasulu
- 2 Field Units in Kigoma & Mwanza



UN High Commissioner for Refugees Mr. Filippo Grandi speaking to refugee women in Nyarugusu camp during his mission to Tanzania © UNHCR/Mtengela

## Working with Partners

- UNHCR works closely with the Government of Tanzania through the MHA, UN agencies and other humanitarian NGO partners.
- 16 different UN Agencies are involved in the Kigoma Joint Programme which was developed in cooperation with the regional and district authorities based on the development needs of Kigoma region and the capacities of the UN in Tanzania. The Kigoma Joint Programme was officially launched on 20 September 2017 and will run for four years.

## Main Activities

### Protection

- UNHCR, in collaboration with partners, ensures that prevention, mitigation and response to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) remains a priority area through the development of a National Action Plan which works to mainstream SGBV across all sectors. In this regard, six areas – Shelter, Wash, Education, Health, Environment and Energy, and Livelihoods – have been prioritised and are underpinned by a focus on strengthening households by empowering men, women, girls and boys in the pursuit of socio-economic opportunities and creating safe and accessible spaces for women and children. In addition, UNHCR works to strengthen awareness of and access to reporting mechanisms for sexual exploitation and abuse and access to legal, medical, and psycho-social assistance for SGBV Survivors.
- UNHCR works with partners to provide children with specific needs with individual case management and unaccompanied minors and separated children with interim or long-term alternative care arrangements. Efforts are ongoing to register and verify unregistered children across all three camps. Engagement with community-based structures is also being enhanced to prevent child trafficking and child labour.
- Age, gender, and diversity considerations form the basis of UNHCR's programming. With this in mind, participatory assessments are conducted every year while community feedback mechanisms are continuously strengthened.
- In collaboration with the Government of Tanzania and partners, UNHCR seeks to build on opportunities presented by the Global Compact on Refugees to strengthen protection delivery, promote durable solutions and bridge the humanitarian-development nexus.

### Education

- The 2018/2019 Refugee Education Response Plan seeks to provide 81,800 school-aged children with equitable, quality formal and alternative education at pre-primary, primary and secondary schools through Early Childhood Care and Development resource materials, infrastructure development, and teachers' professional development. UNHCR and partners acknowledge that improving the capacity of refugee teachers will help strengthen the quality of teaching. However, funding shortfalls continue to affect the implementation of the Education Plan. Currently, more than 1,581 primary school students attend lessons under trees. The 129 semi-permanent classrooms constructed in 2018 will partially ease the burden of education provision in refugee camps but more funds are needed.

### Health

- UNHCR, through the Tanzanian Red Cross Society, operates 2 hospitals, 2 health centres, 1 maternal health centre and 7 health posts in Nyarugusu and Mtendeli camps, while the medical facilities (1 hospital and 6 health posts) in Nduta camp are operated by Médecins Sans Frontières. There is, however, a need to improve the quality of health services for mental health, chronic and non-communicable diseases in the camps. Additional equipment such as laboratory equipment and reagents, incubators and x-ray machines, additional surgical equipment and

specialized staff are needed to strengthen the provision of health services. The intermittent supply of essential drugs and medical supplies are other challenges.

### **Food Security and Nutrition**

- Since October 2018, refugees have received 100% of their food entitlements. Supplementary feeding continues to be maintained at 100% across all camps. WFP also plans to distribute fortified maize meal to diversify refugees' diets. The overall prevalence of global acute malnutrition is 3.9% in Nduta, Mtendeli and Nyarugusu, which is below the 5% World Health Organisation threshold in emergencies.

### **Water and Sanitation**

- UNHCR and partners exceeded the minimum SPHERE standard for water supply coverage in all camps following continued WASH investments, including the use of both surface water abstraction and drilling and equipping of boreholes. UNHCR also remains committed to maintaining latrine coverage of less than 20 persons per latrine drop hole as well as ensuring families have access to their own single-family latrines in order to increase the sense of ownership and cleanliness. Hygiene promotion is also a critical aspect of WASH programming and maintaining a ratio of less than 1 hygiene promoter per 1,000 persons is another priority which can result in improved and targeted hygiene messaging.

### **Shelter**

- UNHCR and partners are implementing a community-based shelter construction approach which has reduced shelter construction costs and enhanced community participation. In 2019, the priority is to provide adequate shelter for 74% of refugees and asylum-seekers through the provision of 2,880 transitional shelters and 3,000 Refugee Housing Units (RHUs). Currently, transitional shelter and RHUs cover 60% of the population in all three camps. However, 40% of refugees and asylum-seekers across the three camps continue to live in dilapidated emergency shelters and tents for prolonged periods of time leading to unacceptable living conditions. Persons of concern are also forced to face harsh weather conditions during the rainy season leaving them exposed to various health risks. More funding is needed to ensure the safety and privacy of persons of concern in the camps, especially women and children.

### **Camp Coordination and Camp Management**

- Overcrowding continues to impede humanitarian efforts in Nyarugusu camp and affect the provision of basic and dignified living conditions for refugees. This has created additional pressure on shelters, schools, and water services.

### **Energy and Environment**

- UNHCR and partners are implementing a comprehensive energy and environment strategy, which includes the provision of fuel efficient stoves. Alternative cooking fuels currently being explored include Liquefied Petroleum Gas, biomass briquettes and sustainably sourced firewood. Afforestation, reforestation, community-based forest management, and enhanced environmental conservation and management in the three refugee camps constitute other efforts to mitigate the impact of refugee presence on the environment in the Kigoma region.

### **Livelihoods**

- UNHCR and partners are working together to create livelihoods opportunities for refugees and host populations through the provision of vocational training and business and life skills with a focus on women and youth. Access to finance has been improved through sustained advocacy efforts and voluntary saving groups. UNHCR and partners are also supporting kitchen gardens which have gained importance in ensuring food security following the recent restrictions on livelihoods. A lack of access to livelihoods can result in an increase in negative coping strategies such as survival sex, child labour, prostitution, early or forced marriage, domestic violence and theft.

## Durable Solutions

### ▪ **Voluntary repatriation:**

As of 28 February 2019, UNHCR and partners assisted more than 61,000 Burundian refugees to return voluntarily since the operation began in September 2017. The principal areas of return in Burundi are Ruyigi, Muyinga, Makamba, Cankuzo, and Kirundo provinces. However there has been a decline in the number of refugees signing up to return. There are many reasons which could explain the increase in no-shows and withdrawals in recent months such as concerns about the security situation in Burundi and a desire to wait until the 2020 elections conclude. While UNHCR does not promote voluntary returns to Burundi due to the unresolved political and security situation, it supports the operation to ensure that returns are based on the principles of voluntariness and informed decisions, and take place in safety and dignity.

### ▪ **Resettlement:**

Resettlement remains the most viable durable solution for Congolese refugees who have been in a protracted asylum situation since the mid-1990s with limited prospects of return to their country of origin. Refugees at heightened risk and those with intensified vulnerabilities also benefit from resettlement as a protection tool, including those with serious medical needs, survivors of violence and torture, women and girls at risk and those with heightened legal and physical protection needs. The total number of departures as of February 2019 stands at 142 individuals. Main countries of asylum include Australia, Canada and the USA.

### ▪ **Local Integration:**

Following the naturalization of more than 162,000 former Burundian refugees in 2014, the Government of Tanzania and UNHCR agreed to undertake a Verification, Registration and Intention Survey (VRIS) exercise for the remaining group of 1972 Burundians living in the old settlements and Kigoma villages to enable them to achieve a durable solution. This joint verification exercise was completed in December 2018; 40,455 individuals were accepted for purposes of a durable solution.

## External / Donors Relations

UNHCR is grateful to the donors who have contributed globally in 2019 with un-earmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as to those who have contributed directly to the Tanzania operation.

## Contacts

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## Links

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