

# Rwanda

April - May 2020

The total population of concern to UNHCR in Rwanda at the end of May 2020 was **147,630 registered individuals**, mainly from Burundi and DRC. The Rwandan Government maintained **open border policy** to enable refugees seeking asylum access the Rwanda territory.

MINEMA validated the UNHCR led **interagency contingency plan for Burundi Situation** and jointly prepared the sector level operationalization of the plan in order to be prepared for and respond to Burundian Influx which could follow the presidential election in the country.

There is **no confirmed case of the COVID-19** among the PoCs. Since the beginning of the crisis, **907 asymptomatic refugees were quarantined** at camps and district quarantine facilities after returning from various areas to the camps.

## KEY INDICATORS

# 6,161

most vulnerable urban refugees (53.5% of the total urban refugees) affected by the COVID-19 lockdown measures were assisted with an equivalent of USD 30 one-time assistance.

# 4

Toyota land cruisers (second hand vehicles) were donated to Karongi District to assist the district activities including COVID-19 prevention.

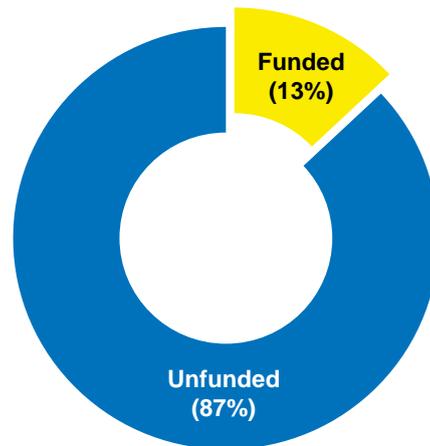
# 258 Evacuees

are in Emergency Transit Mechanism Gashora Transit Centre.

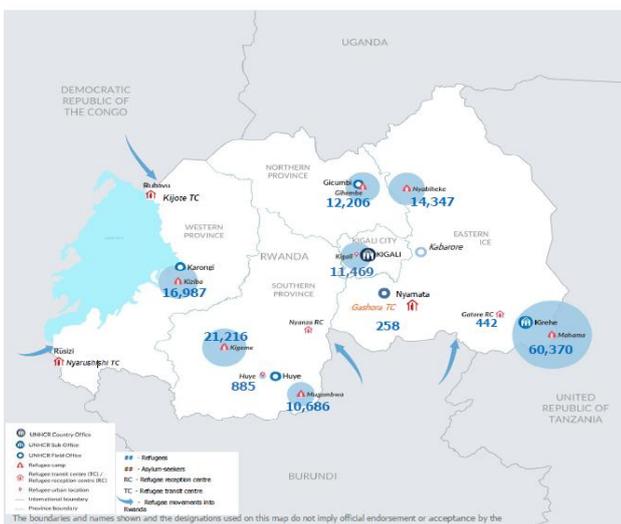
## FUNDING (AS OF 28 MAY 2020)

# USD107.1M

is requested for Rwanda (Burundi, DRC, ETM and Coronavirus Emergency situations).



## POPULATION DISTRIBUTION BY LOCATION IN RWANDA



## POPULATION OF CONCERN

### MONTHLY TREND OF NEW ARRIVALS



## MAIN COUNTRIES (REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS)



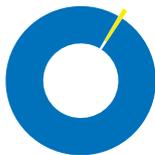
# Burundi Refugee Response



Refugees in Mahama camp are respecting the physical distancing requirement during distribution of assistance. @UNHCR/Justin Ngabonziza

## FINANCIAL REQUIREMENT

**USD 46.96 M**  
 FUNDING (AS OF 28 MAY 2020)



■ Funded - 1%

■ Unfunded - 99%

## Achievements & Highlights



### PROTECTION

- No Burundian new arrival was received in April and May 2020. 454 persons of concern are still accommodated in the Gatore Transit Center pending the relocation to Mahama camp subject to availability of space.
- 1,178 persons with specific needs received psychological support, material assistance and rehabilitation services.
- 64 birth certificates were issued to newborn Burundian refugees in May 2020.
- 33 child protection cases (April – 17 and May - 16) were supported through assessments (best interest assessment and best interest determination) for solutions, including family reunifications.
- 27 SGBV survivors received comprehensive assistance, including medical treatment, legal counselling and representation, and psychosocial support.



### DURABLE SOLUTIONS

- Resettlement departures were put on hold following the COVID-19 restriction measures.



### EDUCATION

- 27,350 refugee students in Mahama camp were sensitized to follow the online education program provided through radio. UNHCR and partners assist the refugees in accessing handouts of the courses for all the levels.



### HEALTH

- Crude and under-5 mortality rates were 0.14 deaths / 1,000 / month and 0.4 deaths / 1000 / month, respectively.
- An average of 13,736 refugees and host community accessed primary health care services from the two health posts in Mahama camp. Also, 205 patients were referred to secondary and tertiary health services.
- 761 persons accessed HIV prevention services, i.e. antiretroviral treatment, nutritional and psychosocial support.
- An average of 58,525 condoms was distributed to prevent new cases of HIV/AIDs, STDs and unwanted pregnancies.
- 5,575 women of reproductive age attended family planning services.
- 357 babies were born in Mahama camp (April – 182 and May - 175), and 98% of deliveries were attended by trained health professionals.
- Awareness-raising activities and screenings were conducted in Mahama camp as part of the COVID-19 prevention and response plan.



### FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- 61,468 refugees received food assistance through monthly hybrid assistance of cash and in-kind food.
- 1,404 “inactive” refugees in UNHCR database received cash assistance while waiting for the registration exercise.

- 3,965 children aged 6-23 months were supported through the Supplementary Feeding Program.
- 1,954 persons with specific needs, such as elderly, persons with disability, persons with chronic illness were given supplementary feeding.



### WATER AND SANITATION

- The monthly average of clean water supply was at 20.29 liters/person/day in Mahama camp and 25.7 liters/persons/day in Gatore Transit Center.
- 39 permanent handwashing stands were constructed in Mahama camp (36) and Gatore Transit Center (3) to foster proper hygiene as a prevention measure of COVID-19.



### SHELTER AND NFIS

- 147 semi-permanent shelters were repaired in Mahama Camp (April – 78 and May - 69) to provide adequate dwellings to refugees.
- Each refugee in Mahama camp received two reusable cloth facemasks as preventive measures against the spread of COVID-19.



### ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

- 22,298 households used gas refilling services for domestic cooking energy (April – 19,129 and May – 3,169).
- Rwanda Red Cross donated 3,481 cooking gas cylinders to refugees in Mahama camp in April 2020 covering 49.7% of the existing gaps of 7,000 cylinders.
- 7,582 trees (mangoes, jack fruits, pruning trees and bamboo) were planted as part of environmental protection in Mahama camp and the host community.



### COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF-RELIANCE

- Refugees in Mahama camp participated in the production of face masks for the protection from COVID-19 with the support of Maison Shalom.

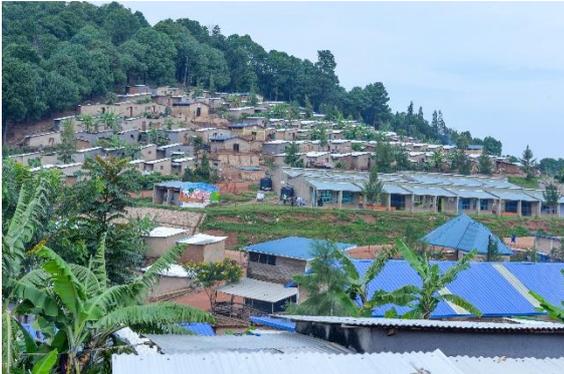
## Needs & Gaps

- 1,414 Persons of Concern who missed the 2019 refugee verification exercise in the camp have no access to assistance while pending a continuous registration exercise.
- 40% of family planning prevalence.
- 16 children with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and 208 children Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) were admitted in the nutrition program.
- Environmental degradation (soil erosion resulting from lack of appropriate drainage systems) is impacting various structures. Expansion of ravines and gullies have become life hazards to the population in Mahama camp.
- Congestion / need for additional space (at least 26 hectares) in Mahama to accommodate an expected increase in the population and to allow for the expansion of existing camp infrastructures.
- Gatore Transit Center reached its full capacity. 454 refugees are waiting for relocation to permanent camp.
- Need for more resources to increase vocational and technical training for out-of-school youth, provide special education for children with disabilities, as well as increase access to higher education.
- 27,350 refugee students do not have access to online learning programs or education programs provided through radio or television.



Refugees with disability are supported to have assistive times like crutches. Photo was taken before Covid-19 outbreak @UNHCR/Justin Ngabonziza

# Congolese Refugee Response

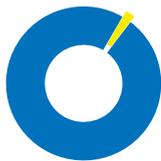


Mugombwa Refugee Camp, Gisagara District @UNHCR/Eugene Sibomana

## FINANCIAL REQUIREMENT

# USD 41.81 M

### FUNDING (AS OF 28 MAY 2020)



- Funded - 2%
- Unfunded - 98%

## Achievements & Highlights



### PROTECTION

- 50 refugees in Gihembe (21) and Nyabiheke (20) camps with mental health problems were assisted with medical and counselling services.
- 20 refugees (Gihembe – 2 and Nyabiheke - 18) with disabilities were provided with assistive devices, including elbow crutches and axial crutches.
- The community-based rehabilitation of children with disabilities was conducted at household level by parents and caregivers and 31 children were assisted in Gihembe camp.
- 28 new child protection cases were reported in Gihembe (13), Kiziba camp (9) and Mugombwa (6) camps. The children cases were assessed and assisted through the community-based protection mechanism.
- 61 new SGBV cases were reported in Gihembe (10), Nyabiheke (12), Kiziba (2) and 37 cases in Kigeme and Mugombwa camps. The survivors received comprehensive protection and material assistance, including legal, psychosocial, health support.



### DURABLE SOLUTIONS

- The resettlement departures were put on hold following the COVID-19 restriction measures.



### EDUCATION

- 22,652 refugee students in Congolese camps were sensitized to follow the online education program provided through radio. UNHCR and partners assist the refugees in accessing handouts of the courses for all the levels.



### HEALTH

- A total of 23,840 refugees and host community accessed primary health care services provided by the health clinics in Congolese camps.
- 243 refugees were referred to secondary and tertiary health care facilities through the established referral system in Congolese camps.
- 153 newborn babies were reported in Congolese camps, and 98.4% of deliveries were attended by trained health professionals.
- Awareness-raising sessions are organized by community health workers and community-based protection volunteers in all the camps for prevention and response to COVID-19.
- Camp level task forces continue to support the coordination of prevention and response activities related to COVID-19 with the district authorities.
- 77,564 condoms were distributed to prevent new cases of STIs and unwanted pregnancies.
- 701 persons accessed HIV prevention services, including antiretroviral treatment, nutritional and psychosocial support.



### FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- 76,287 refugees in the Congolese camps received cash for food assistance from WFP.



### WATER AND SANITATION

- The average monthly clean water supply in Kiziba and Mugombwa camps was 21.5 liters and 25.0 liters per person per day respectively.

- WASH partners developed individual operational continuity plans, including pre-positioning of suppliers (plumbing spare parts, water treatment chemicals, fuel, disinfectant) to avoid delays that can be caused by the break in supply line or further movement restrictions during the COVID-19 crisis.



### SHELTER AND NFIS

- 3,039 girls and women in reproductive age (12-59) in Mugombwa camp received 3 months sanitary pads package.
- 150 refugee families (Kiziba – 30 and 120 in both Gihembe and Nyabiheke camps) were assisted with construction materials to rehabilitate their shelters.
- Reusable cloth facemasks (2 per person) were distributed to refugees in the Congolese camp to strengthen measures against the spread of COVID-19.



### ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

- 37,109 refugees in camps received monthly cash assistance for cooking energy in Gihembe, Nyabiheke and Mugombwa camps.
- Due to lack of access to cooking energy supply in Kigeme camp and the movement restriction imposed to prevent the COVID-19, 18,024 refugee households in the camp received in-kind briquets assistance.
- 15,000 trees were planted in Gihembe camp for the environment protection.



### COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF-RELIANCE

- Food for Hungry Rwanda supported the livelihoods and nutrition status of the individuals, families and communities of Nyabiheke camp through the farming project. The farmers' association harvested about 12 tons of cabbage and parts were sold on the market, and others used to improve their household nutrition.
- Cooperative Icyerekezo of refugees and host community of Mugombwa camp managing the Misizi Marshland project harvested 2.7 tons of maize. The cooperative won an award of USD 640 from the Gisagara District for their

innovative integration approach with the host community.

### Needs & Gaps

- Need to improve camp-based health facilities to meet Government accreditation requirements for health centers.
- 37% of family planning prevalence.
- Average monthly clean water supply in Congolese camp was below minimum standards at 15.7 liters per person/day. Water shortage in Gihembe camp (15 liters/person/day), Nyabiheke camp (14.2 liters/person/day) and Kigeme camp (17.9 liters/person/day) was due to a reduction of water supply from the public water grid.
- The heavy rain season of April has increased risks of landslides and destroyed 216 family shelters in Kiziba – 66, Gihembe – 50, Kigeme – 20 and Nyabiheke - 80.
- 24.6% prevalence of anemia in children aged 6-59 months in Congolese camps (data does not include Nyabiheke camp).
- 21.45% prevalence of chronic malnutrition (stunting) in children aged 6-59 months in Congolese camps (data does not include Nyabiheke camp).
- 1.2% GAM and 0.24% SAM in children aged 6-59 months in Congolese camps (data does not include Nyabiheke camp).
- The distribution and construction works were delayed by the movement restriction resulting from COVID19 restriction measures.
- 1,700 shelters are in dire conditions and need for urgent rehabilitation and 2,000 shelters need roof rehabilitation with iron sheets in Gihembe and Nyabiheke camps.



Newly constructed drying house for the Misizi project harvest. Mugombwa camp. Photo was taken before Covid-19 outbreak. @UNHCR/Eugene Sibomana

# Emergency Transit Mechanism



Arrival of Eritreans, Somalis, Sudanese and Ethiopians from Libya to Rwanda. ©UNHCR/Eugene Sibomana

## FINANCIAL REQUIREMENT

# USD 14.5 M

### FUNDING (AS OF 28 MAY 2020)



■ Funded - 72%

■ Unfunded - 28%

## Achievements & Highlights



### PROTECTION

- On 16 April, 40 PoCs held a demonstration in the center to express their frustration with the camp movement restrictions imposed after the Covid-19 crisis. UNHCR and MINEMA intervened and resolved the issue.
- Various Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) were conducted with the aim of encouraging women and girls, and Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UACs) to communicate their protection issues, including information on the existing protection referral pathways.
- In May, 145 individuals contacted UNHCR through the Protection hotline in the ETM Gashora Transit Centre. The hotline is temporarily replacing the protection desk in the Centre during the COVID-19 pandemic, is used by PoCs to liaise with UNHCR for various issues, including protection concerns.



### EDUCATION

- All the education activities are on hold following the Government Instruction to limit the spread of COVID-19.



### HEALTH AND NUTRITION

- 555 consultations were conducted for primary healthcare services, including 20 referrals to secondary and tertiary health care service providers.
- 48 PoCs (42 males and 6 females) in need of psychosocial support participated in the group counselling sessions.
- Six children aged 6-23 months and 39 PoCs were supported with Blanket Supplementary Feeding Program (BSFP).
- 39 PoCs in need of additional food assistance were supported through the supplementary food assistance program.
- Temperature testings are conducted at the entrance of the Center for everyone entering as part of the COVID-19 prevention and detection of the COVID-19 measures.



### FOOD SECURITY AND COOKING ENERGY

- All the 258 PoCs at the ETM Gashora TC were provided with three meals daily.
- 14 new households of 25 individuals were enrolled in the cash assistance program in April 2020. 113 individuals in 97 households have received monthly cash assistance through CBI.
- A cost-benefit analysis was conducted to deliberate on the engagement of humanitarian and/or commercial partner to manage the provision of daily hot meals to the PoCs in the Center.



### WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

- The average of potable water supply per person per day was 58.4 Liters in April and 74.9 Liters in May 2020.
- 36 latrines drop holes are in use, and 6 blocks of latrines with 24 drop holes are under construction.
- 6-month supply of hygiene essentials, including liquid soaps, emergency mobile toilets and personal prevention equipments were provided to PoCs in April 2020.

- Handicap International and World Vision distributed household hygiene materials to the PoCs to promote better hygiene practices for COVID-19 prevention measures. The materials included 63 brooms, 63 mops, 63 hard brushes, 68 mopping rugs, buckets, basins, bed sheets and mosquito nets.



### SHELTER AND NFIS

- All the construction projects in the center were put on hold following the COVID-19 related lockdown.
- On 2 June 2020, UNHCR and MINEMA handed over the construction site to contractors for the construction of additional accommodation block for 200 PoCs, new office block and communal kitchens.
- On 28 May, IOM donated some hygienic materials to the 258 PoCs in the ETM Gashora TC. The materials comprised of soaps, toothbrushes and toothpaste, sanitary towels, diapers, mosquito nets, bed sheets and a few other necessities.



### COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF-RELIANCE

#### Achievements and Impact

- In April 2020, UNHCR Rwanda donated an ambulance to the Nyamata District, which is hosting the ETM Gashora Transit Center, to support the health referral system as well as strengthening the response capacity to COVID-19.
- During the month of Ramadan (April), UNHCR provided the Muslim community in the Center with special supplementary cash assistance through CBI, as well as prayer mats and gas cooking cylinder.



### CASE PROCESSING FOR SOLUTIONS

- A protection desk was reestablished in the Centre following the 16 April "sit-in" and PoCs were able to get updates on their cases (RSD and RST) as well as report protection concerns. PoCs are also able to share protection concerns confidentially online through an email address.

- The RSD applications for five PoCs (two Ethiopian and three Somali) received negative decisions at first instance. The PoCs were provided with psychosocial support and will be provided with legal counselling by UNHCR to file their appeals.

#### Needs & Gaps

- Pending the resumption of the construction activities, including the accommodation blocks, connection of the water supply to health clinic and other activities. The delay is due to the COVID-19 test clearance requested for each contractor and laborer's before accessing the Center.

## Return & Reintegration



#### Achievements & Highlights

- 13 returnees who arrived in the country on 19 March 2020 were relocated to their districts of origin from Kijote Reception Center after the end of the movement restriction.

#### Needs & Gaps

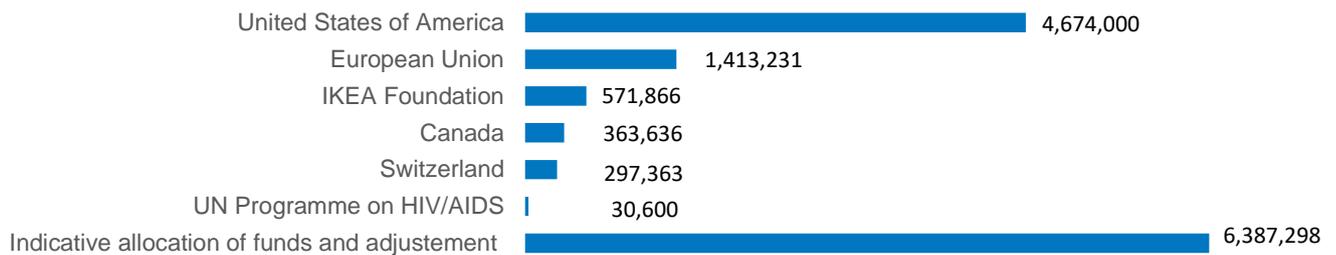
- The reception of Rwandan returnees has been suspended during the COVID-19 lockdown period.
- The provision of the return and reintegration cash grant to returnees has been pending since September 2019. This is due to the continued API Integration/interface with the financial service provider.
- 27 Rwandan returnees are pending repatriation from Goma, DRC waiting the lift of the border closure due to COVID-19.

## Financial Information

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

UNHCR Rwanda launched an urgent appeal for funding to the prevention and response activities to COVID-19 to persons of concern in Rwanda.

### Funding received in million USD 12,109,274



### Other softly earmarked contributions | USD

**Germany** 46.6 million | **United Kingdom** 24.8 million | **United States of America** 21.9 million | **Denmark** 14.6 million | **Private Donors USA** 12.6 million | **Canada** 10.2 million | **Private Donors Germany** 4.2 million | **Sweden** 4 million | **Private donors Japan** 3.5 million | **Private donors Australia** 2.1 million | **Ireland** 3.3 million | **Finland** 3.3 million

Iceland | Italy | Jersey | Liechtenstein | Luxembourg | Morocco | Norway | Spain | UN COVID-19 MDTF | Private donors

### Unearmarked contributions | USD

**Sweden** 76.4 million | **Norway** 41.4 million | **Netherlands** 36.1 million | **Denmark** 34.6 million | **United Kingdom** 31.7 million | **Private donors Spain** 26.6 million | **Germany** 25.9 million | **Switzerland** 16.4 million | **Private donors Republic of Korea** 13.9 million

Australia | Belgium | Bulgaria | Costa Rica | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | Indonesia | Ireland | Kuwait | Liechtenstein | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Malta | Monaco | Montenegro | New Zealand | Peru | Portugal | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Slovakia | South Africa | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Private donors

For more information: <http://reporting.unhcr.org>

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**Statistics:** <http://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/burundi> **UNHCR Rwanda:** [www.unhcr.org/rw](http://www.unhcr.org/rw) **Twitter:** @RefugeesRwanda