Situation Overview

The COVID-19 situation is rapidly evolving with almost nine-million confirmed cases worldwide. In Tanzania, the number of confirmed cases are 509 as of 29 April 2020, when figures were last updated. A serious risk exists for spread within the country, as well as in the three refugee camp locations. To forestall such an event which would have dire consequences on refugees and host communities, UNHCR and partners have initiated preparedness plans across all locations. The Regional Administration and Local Government, Kigoma Region COVID-19 Contingency Plan of March 2020 integrates refugees hosted in the region into the region’s primary strategy for COVID-19. Within the umbrella of this plan and in close cooperation with the Refugee Services Department within the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Regional Authorities, in particular the Regional Medical Officer, UNHCR is coordinating and working closely with partners for camp level preparedness and response aiming to preclude contagion in the refugee camps and to minimize the risk of importation from those seeking refuge. The situation in the camps remains calm, with both police and community watch teams maintaining order. This dashboard summarizes the key highlights of UNHCR’s enhanced measures for COVID-19.

Affected Population

- 242,000 refugees and asylum seekers targeted
- 1,000,000 host community living in Kakonko, Kibondo and Kasulu, the three districts adjoining the refugee camps

National COVID-19 Statistics

- 509 confirmed cases
- 183 discharged cases
- 21 deaths
- 00 infected among UNHCR PoC

Coordination

- National response coordinated by Ministry of Health/WHO
- UNHCR Crisis Management team set up to coordinate response
- Three level coordination for refugee response. National, for strategic direction & policy; Regional, for operational needs & implementation; & camp level for identification of needs

Additional Funding Required*

- 3.4 Million USD total requested
- 53% Funded
- 47% Gap

*These funds will cover activities that UNHCR has already embarked upon

Operational support and Logistics

- 300 Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs)
  Procured of which 240 have been distributed
- Essential drugs procurement in progress
- Medical supplies procurement in progress

Case management & Support to Primary Healthcare

- 41 bed capacity in refugee isolation facilities in the camps
- 05 district isolation centers supported

WASH for infection prevention & control

- 1,085 handwash points established & maintained
- 3,840 kg powder soap and 153 liters liquid soap distributed to handwash points in the three refugee camps
- 421,653 kg soap distributed to 62,099 households

Building capacity for Risk Communication & Community engagement

- Training with Government, UNHCR and partner staff ongoing
- 1,036 Community Health workers trained and mobilized
- Awareness sessions conducted 5 days a week targeting all 242,000 refugees and asylum seekers in the three camps
- 26,850 Information Education and Communication material shared

Reference Map: Refugee locations in NW Tanzania

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