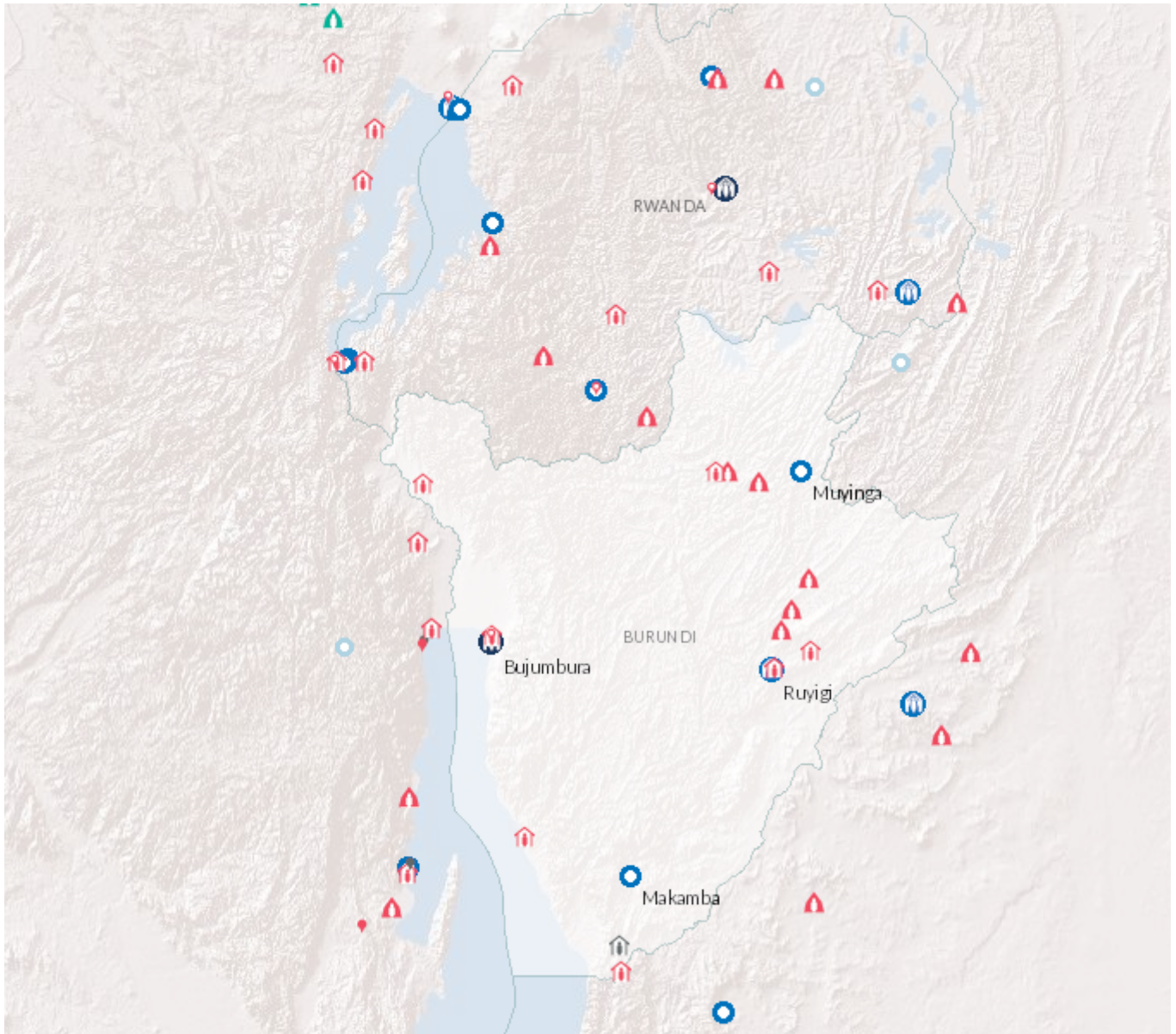


2021 Planning summary

27/1/2021

Operation: Burundi

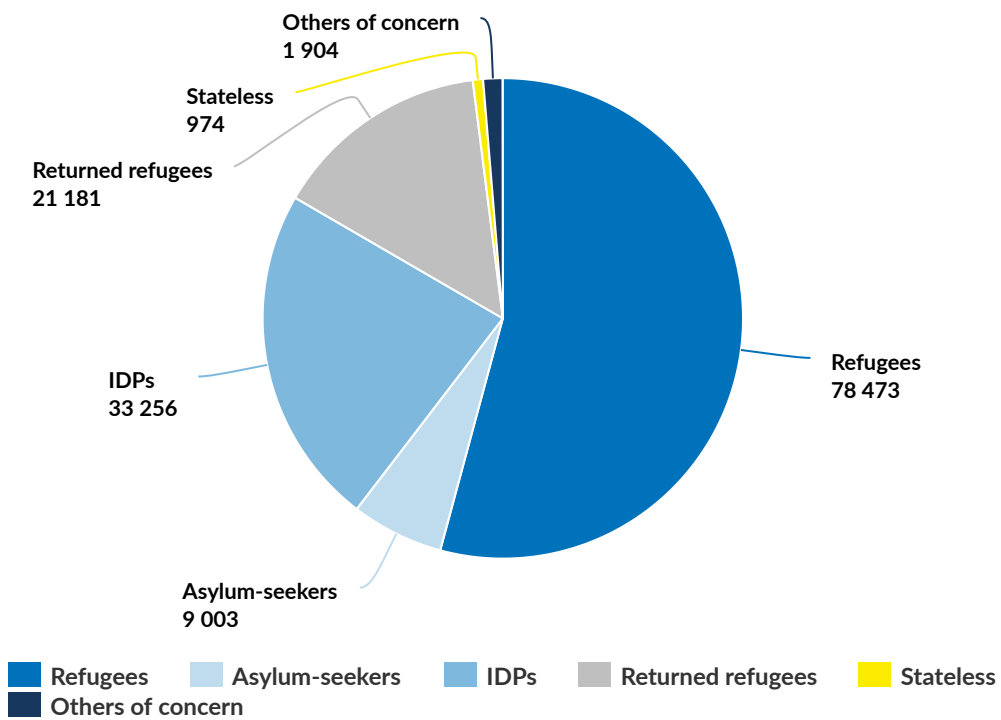


The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

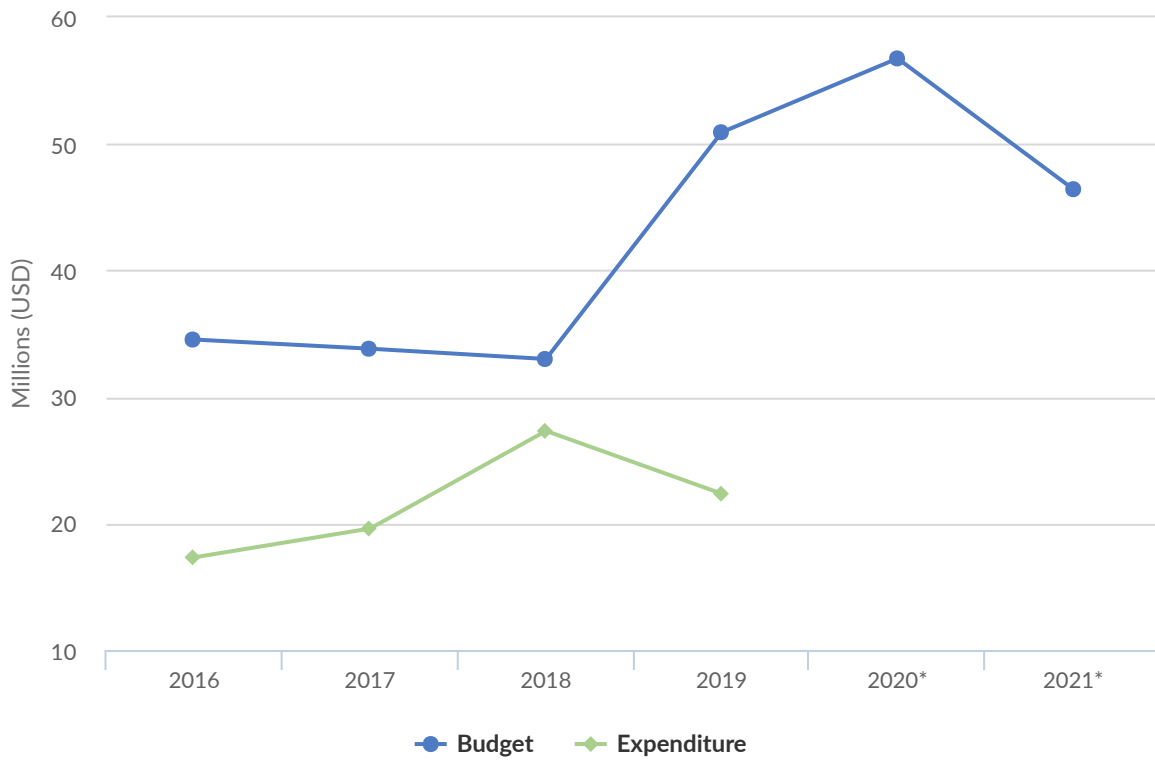
People of Concern

DECREASE IN
7% 2019

2019	144,791
2018	156,392
2017	195,530



Budgets and Expenditure for Burundi



Operational environment

In 2021, UNHCR in Burundi plans to provide protection and assistance to some 95,000 refugees and 5,000 asylum-seekers, in addition to nearly 142,890 Burundian returnees from Rwanda, the United Republic of Tanzania and other countries in the region.

Ongoing insecurity in the Democratic Republic of the Congo may result in additional new arrivals to Burundi, which may require the establishment of a new refugee camp, as the existing camps are full and cannot absorb additional refugees. Furthermore, the asylum policy in Burundi does not provide for out-of-camp services, with the exception of minimal support provided to urban refugees.

UNHCR will continue to advocate for an out-of-camp policy and the right to full freedom of movement for refugees and asylum-seekers in the country. In parallel, UNHCR will continue to advocate access to territory, respect of the principle of non-refoulement and access to basic services including health, along with other fundamental rights for refugees in Burundi.

Empowering refugees while pursuing a more favourable framework for local integration will also remain a priority. This will be done through innovative projects in line with the Sustainable Development Goals and in partnership with development donors' multilateral initiatives to support refugees, returnees, host populations and IDPs.

Despite the relatively peaceful elections in 2020, the prevailing fragile human rights situation risks derailing the decisions of refugees from the region who were intending to return. These regional dynamics may result in a mix of push and pull factors, affecting protection and solutions for refugees.

Returnees will continue to be supported, and monitoring activities will continue to ensure their rights are respected and that reintegration takes place in safety and dignity. A regional approach to ensure sustainability of returns will be applied to avoid secondary displacements in and outside the country.

Furthermore, conditions of return to Burundi will need to be improved to ensure voluntary and sustainable returns. Reception conditions and reintegration programmes in Burundi will also need to be improved, especially in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic and their effect on the local economy.

Key priorities

Priorities for returnees in 2021 will include:

- Ensuring access to cash assistance and shelter for returnees upon arrival - in 2020, only 33% of returnees on average had access to adequate housing upon arrival.
- Increasing school enrolment - in 2020, 52% of returnee children were out of school, exacerbating child protection concerns.
- Strengthening access to administrative and national documentation procedures, including national identification documents upon return.

Priorities for refugees and asylum-seekers in 2021 will include:

- Preserving the asylum space and improving the existing registration and refugee status determination procedures.
 - Preserving the civilian and humanitarian character of asylum.
 - Identifying appropriate durable solutions for refugees.
 - Advocating for freedom of movement and access to public services.
 - Supporting livelihoods and skills development.
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