

Burundian Refugee Situation in South Kivu Democratic Republic of the Congo

November 2017

Highlights

- The new site of Mulongwe (Fizi territory) was opened on 29th November, and a **first convoy of 218 refugees regrouped into 56 households were transferred from Monge Monge Transit Centre (Baraka) to Mulongwe**. They were welcomed by the local community and local authorities. The new site will shelter recent arrivals and refugees from the overcrowded Lusenda camp.
- UNHCR's new Field Office in Baraka opened on 29th November. The office will supervise UNHCR activities in Uvira and Fizi territories, including the two refugee sites of Lusenda and Mulongwe.
- On 27th November, a team from the National Commission for Refugees (CNR) went on mission to Kamanyola for biometric registration of some 2,000 Burundians living at a makeshift site close to MONUSCO base. However, members of the group rejected biometric registration and individual interviews that are necessary to determine refugee status.

KEY INDICATORS

43,937

Burundian refugees biometrically registered in D R Congo as of 30th November 2017 (40,284 arrived since April 2015).

392

Burundian Refugees were transferred to new site of Mulongwe during the month of November

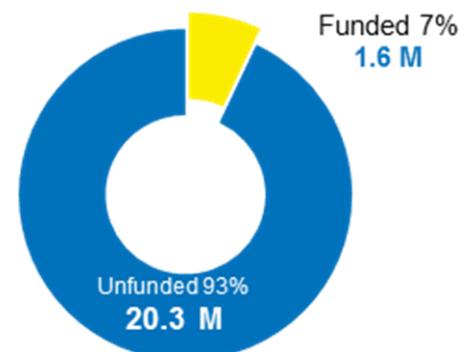
32,054

Burundian refugees residing at Lusenda Refugee Camp as of 30th November 2017.

FUNDING (AS OF 28 NOVEMBER 2017)

USD 21.9 M

requested for the DRC - Burundi situation



Update on Achievements

Operational Context

- Tensions of a political character continued to impact South Kivu province, with several calls for demonstrations and to shutdowns of towns (Ville Morte) during the month of November.
- In Fizi territory, the coastal area by Lake Tanganyika from the Uwari peninsula towards Tanganyika province (Kalemie) remains under the control of the armed group coalition CNPSC (*Coalition Nationale du Peuple pour la Souveraineté du Congo*). These groups are active in the territories of Fizi and Kabambare. On 24th and 27th November 2017, the FARDC launched a counter-attack to push back CNPSC armed groups who were approaching Baraka (16 km north of Mulongwe site) and Sebele (8 km south of Mulongwe site) towns.
- Ambushes and sporadic attacks continue to affect local populations in the territories of Fizi and Uvira. Extortions on main roads have been repeatedly reported.



Burundian refugees celebrate their transfer to the new site of Mulongwe.
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Movements of UNHCR staff and partners have become easier as security measures on the Baraka-Sebele axis have been lightened by UN Security.

- Local population demonstrated against the lack of security in the area of Kamanyola.

Achievements



PROTECTION

Achievements and Impact

- The new site of Mulongwe (Fizi territory) was opened on 29th November, and a first convoy of 218 refugees (56 households) were transferred from Monge Monge Transit Centre (Baraka) to Mulongwe. They were welcomed by the local community, local authorities and the CNR, UNHCR and operational partners. A second convoy of 174 refugees (55 households) were transferred the next day, on 30th November 2017. Mulongwe can in the initial phase host up to 840 people.
- During the month of November, 400 Burundian refugees were relocated to Lusenda camp from the overcrowded transit centres of Sange and Kavimvira (200 from each site). They are temporarily hosted in the communal shelters while awaiting their transfer to Mulongwe site.
- UNHCR Bukavu followed up on the case of four Burundian refugees detained at the central prison of Bukavu to ensure their liberation as they have been acquitted.
- A 3-day campaign was held in Lusenda camp under the theme “*Protect our children against all forms of violence by defending their rights*” to promote the protection of children. 22 groups of young people (2,498 refugees and 1,822 locals) were sensitized through theatre, song, and presentations on child protection.
- Activities for the “16 Days of Activism against Sexual and Gender-Based Violence” started on 25th November at Lusenda camp, under the theme: “*Leave no-one behind – Let’s work together to end sexual and gender-based violence*”, including awareness campaigns, theatre shows, traditional singing and dancing and a parade.
- Four cases of rape on Burundian refugees (including three on minors) were identified and documented; three in Kavimvira Transit Centre and one in Lusenda camp. The incidents documented in Kavimvira happened in Burundi. The survivors were referred to partners Save the Children and ADES for psychological and medical care. The victim of the case that occurred in Lusenda camp was given medical care. The perpetrator was arrested and sent to the tribunal in Baraka.
- A Best Interest Determination (BID) Panel was held for the case of three unaccompanied minors in Lusenda camp whose parents are deceased. The panel agreed to reunite the children with a family member in Burundi, after consultation with UNHCR Burundi and Protection team in Kinshasa to ensure all factors of dignity and

security are respected. In total, since January 2017, seven meetings of the BID Panel were organised and 11 cases were deliberated.

- While awaiting the deployment of FARDC troops outside the new site of Mulongwe, 28 National Police elements were deployed to ensure the security of the site.



HEALTH

Achievements and Impact

- A new infirmary in Lulinda village, in the camp of Lusenda, was opened to improve access to health care for residents who live far from the health post.



FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

Achievements and Impact

- WFP's Cash Based Transfers (CBT) for the November food fair started on 23rd November 2017, instead of the planned date of 17th November 2017, due to discussions between WFP and traders about the settlement of payments.



WATER AND SANITATION

Achievements and Impact

- In Mulongwe, AFPDE has finalised the building of 2 water tanks and 36 water taps. 5 km of piping have been placed (out of 6.5 km planned). Partner ADES ensures water trucking to the site for the newly arrived refugees until the works are completed.
- In Mulongwe, five latrine blocks and eight shower blocks have been completed while four latrines and four shower blocks are still in the process of being finalised. Works on the health post continue.
- AFPDE donated 450 kg of chlorine to treat drinking water as well as a kit to analyse the quality of the water in Lusenda.
- In Kamanyola, the 30 latrines completed by ICRC at the beginning of the month were filled within 3 weeks. Two latrine blocks of 20 latrines were rapidly built to respond to the urgent need as a temporary measure, with the help of the refugees and partner ADES under the supervision of UNHCR WASH Officer.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- In Kamanyola, due to the limited space on site, it is not possible to keep building temporary latrines.



SHELTER AND NFIS

Achievements and Impact

- In Kamanyola, wooden sticks were distributed to the community to improve their individual shelters, while waiting for additional plastic sheeting.
- In Mulongwe, Caritas completed 12 communal dormitories able to host 840 people, and 12 more are in the process of being completed. A hangar for medical screening was completed by partner AIRD for the relocation of refugees to the new site. A dormitory for the police (PNC), as well as a guard hut was completed for police officers protecting the Mulongwe site.
- In Mulongwe, partner AIRD proceeded with demarcation of 10 blocks of land. Each block has dormitories, latrines, showers and water station.
- An administrative team from the Ministry of Land Affairs visited the Mulongwe site for the establishment of a map of the site and neighbouring villages.
- In Lusenda, shelter kits composed of plastic sheetings, rafters and nails were distributed to the households whose shelters had been destroyed by storms.



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

Achievements and Impact

- To support self-reliance, nine former unaccompanied children having reached the age of 18 were given ICT kits (laptops, printers, cameras etc...) during three ICT trainings in the hope of opening an ICT centre in Lusenda. 10 former unaccompanied children having reached the age of 18, including six girls were enrolled for sewing classes for a training course of 6 months at Lusenda camp.

Working in partnership

- For this operation, partners financed by the UNHCR are: AIRD, CNR, ADES, INTERSOS and SAVE THE CHILDREN. Other partners working with their own funds include ADED, AFPDE, BVES, EBEN EZER, CARITAS, GEADES, FAO, ICRC, , PAX CHRISTI, RHA, UNFPA, WAR CHILD HOLLAND, WFP, WHO, SVH and WORLD VISION.

External / Donors Relations

Donors for Burundian refugee response in DRC in 2017

Belgium (1.1 M) | United States of America (0.5 M)

Other donors for UNHCR operations in DRC in 2017

United States of America (38.4 M) | CERF (3.3 M) | Japan (2.5 M) | Republic of Korea (1.5 M) | European Union (1.1 M) | Sweden (1.1 M) | UNIQLO Co. Ltd (1.0 M) | DRC Humanitarian Fund (0.8 M) | Canada (0.7 M) | Private Donors Germany (0.5 M) | France (0.5 M) | Belgium (0.3 M) | Church of Jesus Christ of Latter day Saints (0.2 M) | U.N. Foundation (0.2 M) | Private Donors Republic of Korea (0.09 M) | Private Donors Spain (0.07 M) | Vodafone Foundation (0.05 M)

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LINKS

[Regional portal for Burundi situation](#) - [DRC page for Burundi situation](#) – [DRC Facebook page](#)