

BURUNDI SITUATION

UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE 22

15 February 2016

KEY FIGURES

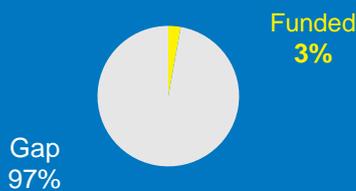
247,581

New Burundian refugees in the neighbouring countries since the beginning of April 2015

FUNDING

USD 175.1 million

requested for the situation for January-December 2016.



PRIORITIES

Tanzania: Pursue the relocation of refugees from Nyarugusu to Nduta and to the recently opened Mtendeli camp.

Rwanda: Increase border monitoring and systematize screening procedures to reduce the risk of potential recruitment.

DRC: Scale up durable shelter, education and HIV prevention response.

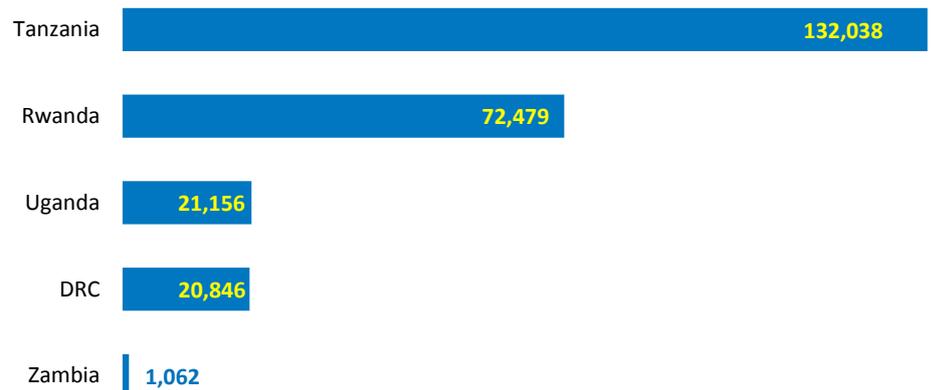
Uganda: Clear the registration backlog and ensure relocations to settlements are carried out quickly to free up space at reception centres.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Search and seizure operations continue in Bujumbura. There are reports that increasing numbers of women are detained for extended periods of time when their sons, brothers or husbands are not found.
- The African Union has decided against deploying the MAPROBU peacekeeping force. Instead, a high-level delegation comprising representatives from Gabon, Mauritania, Senegal, South Africa and Ethiopia have been selected by the AU to consult with the Burundian Government and other stakeholders on resolving the conflict.

Population of concern

A total of **247,581** people of concern as of 15 February



RECENT DEVELOPMENTS



Protection

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

- As of 5 February, 20,846 Burundian refugees had been biometrically registered by UNHCR and the Government's National Commission for Refugees (CNR). The majority are located in the Uvira and Fizi territories. Over half of the refugee population originate from the Cibitoke and Bururi provinces as well as Bujumbura.
- As of 5 February, 599 individuals had been relocated from transit centres and regrouping sites to Lusenda camp which currently hosts 14,046 refugees.
- The number of arrivals into the DRC has remained low but steady at a rate of approximately 20 per day. Small groups of Burundian refugees have arrived into the DRC and registered at the Kavimvira transit centre (TC) and Sange regrouping point. Others are reported to have arrived through unofficial entry points.
- The *Forces Armées de la RDC* (FARDC) is leading a military operation aimed at tracking down armed groups in the Fizi territory. Lusenda camp is located in a safe zone but security measures are being enhanced nevertheless and military presence is being increased.
- On 20-21 January, over 500 refugees living in mass shelters were relocated to 184 family shelters. The relocation of this group that had arrived between December and early January had been postponed due to the lack of available shelters and following the demonstrations which had taken place on 8 January.

RWANDA

- As of 15 February, the number of active¹ Burundian refugees in Rwanda stood at 72,479 individuals with 47,282 registered in Mahama camp.

Achievements and Impact: In continuous efforts to address the camp's significant unaccompanied minor/separated children (UAM/UASC) situation, it was decided following a meeting between UNHCR and child protection/SGBV actors that individual interviews be conducted with UAM/SC who have turned 18 years old to identify whether the latter have any specific requirements. It was also decided that high level interventions would be required for the registration of children born of single mothers and the waiver of registration fees. Furthermore, 1,153 new arrivals including 30 UAMs were briefed on the various services available to them in the camp. Finally, in order to harmonize UNHCR and ICRC's UAM/UASC databases, a comparison exercise has been taking place. So far, 1,211 names have been checked out of 1,598. The findings indicate that 422 children are living with blood relatives, 166 require family reunification and that 179 were not in UNHCR's database. Additionally, 162 cases have been identified as adults and 63 are inactive in UNHCR's database.

- Regarding child protection, a five person youth committee was established during the reporting period. The committee will ensure children participate in decision making for issues that directly affect them and will also provide them with opportunities to voice ideas, concerns and solutions to address the specific problems they encounter. In the child friendly spaces (CFS), a total of 4,441 children took part in activities such as basketball, singing, dancing, English club, karate and reproductive health lessons.

Challenges, needs and remaining gaps: An analysis of the police crime records from October 2015 to date has indicated that physical assaults are the most frequent form of misconduct with 31 cases recorded. During a recent meeting with the Ministry of Disaster Management and Refugee Affairs and the Rwanda National Police, it was noted that alcohol trading had increased and the police were requested to follow up on the issue. In order to improve the security situation in Mahama II, plans have been made to construct a police post and enhance patrols.

¹ See Regional Update n°19

- Upon arrival, refugees are increasingly reporting SGBV incidents in transit from Burundi. *Imbonerakure* militia are allegedly capturing women and girls and sequestering them in facilities where they are sexually exploited. Following a meeting held on 19 January, it was decided amongst UNHCR and child protection/SGBV implementing partners that an assessment would be carried out to gather more information on the issue. In collaboration with Save the Children International (SCI), focus group discussions were carried out in the camp with several groups of refugees including community leaders, mobilisers and new arrivals to obtain information.

UGANDA

- The number of new arrivals into Uganda had reached 21,156 persons as of 9 February according to the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), including 15,883 in Nakivale, 252 in Oruchinga, 410 in Kyaka II, 4,521 in Kampala, and 90 in Kisoro. The average weekly arrival rate stands just below 600 persons and the majority of new arrivals in Nakivale are fleeing from Bujumbura, Muyinga, Kirundo, Cibitoke and Bubanza citing insecurity resulting from clashes between the government and opposition. Aside from the difficulties they face in leaving the country, refugees say they risk family separation as many of those fleeing are either arrested or killed. They also cite arbitrary arrests, looting and sexual assault as their main reasons for fleeing while others choose to come to Uganda to regroup with relatives already in the country.

Achievements and Impact, in Nakivale: OPM, UNHCR and American Refugee Committee (ARC) conducted a joint physical head count at Kabazana Reception Centre, which is currently accommodating around 565 new arrivals, almost double its capacity of 338 individuals. Emergency teams have prioritized registration and weekly relocations to settlements to free up more space at the centre.

- ARC received 17 protection cases from various villages. Psychosocial support was provided to all. Cases were referred to the police and/or Medical Teams International (MTI) depending on their needs and files were opened for all cases and follow-up is ongoing through home visits.
- ARC received five SGBV cases involving women who had been assaulted in Uganda by their partners but also while in transit from Burundi. During the monthly awareness-raising session on SGBV, the forms and effects of violence, causes and referral pathways were discussed and the discussions benefited 39 persons. They were encouraged to report SGBV to the ARC office.
- ARC conducted best interest assessments (BIAs) for 22 children in the various villages and Kabazana reception centre. They were provided with counselling as well as educational and medical support from Windle Trust Uganda (WTU) and MTI; other cases in need of family tracing were referred to the Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS). ARC also conducted 6 home visits for children at risk and unaccompanied minors. Finally, ARC conducted an assessment for persons with specific needs (PWSN) in one of the villages in Nakivale. A total of 100 PWSN were identified and community members have been identified to construct shelters out bricks and corrugated iron sheets.
- **In Kyaka II**, DRC conducted home visits for 67 individuals: out of this group, 52 persons residing in the Bwiriza zone were found to be residing in semi-permanent homes while they construct their shelters. Through community participation, refugees are constructing roads to improve accessibility. A primary school has also been established to shorten the distances children need to travel to go to school. Other refugees have migrated to the closest town in search of livelihoods and improved services.

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

- According to UNHCR and Tanzanian authorities, 132,038 Burundian refugees had arrived in the country as of 14 February, at an average daily arrival rate of about 200 persons. New arrivals are predominantly young males joining their families, who had stayed in Burundi in the hope that the situation would improve. Nduta camp currently hosts 46,000 refugees and will reach full capacity in the coming weeks due predominantly to limited water availability. Mtendeli camp was opened on 14 January and currently hosts some 5,000 refugees. Additional camp space is urgently required to augment shelter construction and allow for the construction of a water distribution network. A new camp called Karago will be opened in the near future given the aforementioned space limitations. Preliminary site planning is taking place but additional resources are needed to move forward.

Achievements and Impact: Normal arrival management procedures continued in Mtendeli camp during the reporting period and included police screening and the dissemination of information to new arrivals on

camp services and regulations. Various infrastructural improvements are ongoing to reduce crowding and enhance reception capacity. Plan International is working with IRC to receive case files for all UAM/SCs, so as to facilitate their reintegration and follow-up support. Refugees do not remain in mass shelters for longer than two days, as the Tanzania Water and Environmental Sanitation (TWESA) NGO has constructed sufficient amounts of family shelters. Only one hot meal is required before refugees can cook for themselves, as they arrive with rations from Nyarugusu camp and have received non-food items. Relocation capacity is regularly assessed by UNHCR, partners and authorities, particularly in light of land and water supply challenges.

- UNHCR has started to issue proof of registration documents to registered refugees. This exercise was intentionally stalled to allow adequate time for family compositions to be harmonized, given the scattered manner in which most refugees arrived into the country.
- UNHCR is strengthening its processes to facilitate biometric registration within 72 hours of arrival in all the camps. This is closely linked to the implementation of continuous registration and profiling activities for existing populations, including but not limited to the tracking of changes in family compositions, including births, spontaneous departures, deaths and family reunification.
- Following the joint UNHCR and partner mission to border points in December 2015, UNHCR Shelter and Protection staff, the Senior Emergency Coordinator and TWESA visited border entry points to review shelter construction and maintenance progress. The rehabilitation and construction of shelters by TWESA is on-going and it has been agreed that the NGO will manage border entry points, as well as provide wet feeding in cooperation with WFP and UNHCR. There is currently insufficient presence in border/reception areas to support refugees. However, IOM provides daily transport and UNHCR is establishing presence through its selected partners at the border points to provide health services, hot meals and non-food items.
- The SGBV sub-working group met and agreed on the next steps to develop the inter-agency standard operating procedures for Nyarugusu camp and also agreed on the standard indicators that would be used for the sub sector. During the reporting period, the 2016 inter-agency strategy was also circulated for Nyarugusu camp and work began on a collective 'unmet needs' document for programming and funding purposes.
- Training on SGBV and referral pathways for all Child Protection Committees in Nyarugusu camp took place from 10-13 February. Trainings were also carried out for members the WASH sector on SGBV and standards in WASH. These were attended by key WASH partners in Nyarugusu camp and follow-up will be ensured during forthcoming WASH sector meetings.

Education

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Achievements and Impact: The construction of kitchens in the five schools surrounding Lusenda (participating in the WFP school feeding program) was completed by African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD). The NGO also finished rehabilitating the Isungu, Zawadi and Kahunga schools and started working on the construction of four additional classrooms at Anuarite and at Ndunda/Rulimbi primary schools.

- School uniforms were distributed to 409 students (185 girls and 224 boys) at Kahunga Primary School.

RWANDA

Achievements and Impact: The State Minister of Primary & Secondary Education inaugurated the 112 classrooms constructed at the 'Paysannat School' (in the host community), which will provide integrated education for Burundian refugees as well as the host population. The integration of refugees into the school is ongoing. The Minister was accompanied by the MIDIMAR Minister, a representative from the Ministry of Health and the UNHCR Representative in Rwanda. On 2 February the academic year was initiated and some 9,772 students are currently enrolled. Since beginning their school year, students have been receiving school materials and uniforms from the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA). A feeding programme has also been initiated in the camp school and will begin next week once the construction of kitchens is finalised in Paysannat.

- The Department of Education has said it will add additional subjects to the curriculum following a request from Burundian refugees. The subjects in question mathematics, economics, geography, and literature in Kiswahili and French.
- The MIDIMAR Permanent Secretary authorised 47 refugees who had been identified by the Maison Shalom NGO to travel to Kigali for six months to participate in a vocational skills training. All the costs are met by Maison Shalom.

Identified needs and remaining gaps: Refugee students have been drinking rain water because there is no water being piped to the Paysannat School. While the correlation has not been verified, a number of students are falling sick at school and a nurse is required to provide first aid services.

- Adults impersonating students were found to be causing trouble when not issued with school materials. The DoE has promised to discuss this matter with security staff but there is a risk police staff could have to be involved on school grounds as a result. Additionally, certain refugee children have been selling the equipment provided to them by ADRA.
- In the Paysannat School a number of facilities are missing: a library, a laboratory and computer laboratory and adequate playground space.
- Refugee teachers are unsatisfied with their pay/workload ratio but also with regards to their national counterparts who receive better compensation.

TANZANIA

Achievements and Impact: The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) confirmed that the construction of schools in the Mtendeli camp is complete. These will be handed over to the International Rescue Committee on 16 February. On average, the number of school registrations stands at 320 students per week with over 1,400 registered to date. Although the school year has not officially commenced in Mtendeli camp, the challenge of insufficient classrooms is already apparent. Desks are also in short supply as reported previously, and this is being resolved by a revision of the IRC agreement to include desk provision. UNICEF is planning to support schools and child friendly spaces including ramps for children living with disabilities and WASH infrastructure.

UGANDA

Achievements and Impact: In Nakivale, WTU identified four children with special educational needs in Ngarama village and referred them to MTI for medical examinations to ascertain whether they qualify to be enrolled for special education. School registration for Burundian children who arrived in the settlement during the end of the last school term is ongoing, to allow them to attend classes when schools starts for term one later this month. However, there are no special needs schools in the settlement. Children with special needs are referred to schools outside the settlement.

- WTU registered 63 Burundian children living in Nyarugugu, Nakivale, Kabazana and Kashojwa villages for primary school enrollment. After mobilizing parents, refugee leaders and village education committees to participate in the “Go back to school” campaign, WTU launched the event this week. It focuses on ensuring all children of school-going age are enrolled at the beginning of the term, which begins on 22 February.
- In Nakivale, WTU announced the 2015 Primary Leaving Examination results with 71 percent of candidates passing in division one to three, lower than last year’s 84 percent. The decline in performance is attributed to shorter study hours during examination preparation as the children were not aided with solar lamps to study at night as was the case in 2014.

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Health

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Achievements and Impact: A total of 3,837 refugees received medical care from partner *Action pour un Développement Economique et Social* (ADES) at both Transit Centers and at Lusenda camp. Malaria, intestinal parasites, respiratory infections and flu are the most frequent illnesses detected. ADES is advocating that the quality of health services provided to the refugees by the Lusenda health centre be improved and is seeking authorisations from the provincial health inspection body to provide a wider range of medical services at the Lusenda health post.

RWANDA

Achievements and Impact: A permanent health facility was inaugurated at Mahama II by representatives from the Ministry of Health, MIDIMAR, the State Minister for Education and the UNHCR Representative. The health centre is complete with outpatient and inpatient services, nutrition services and maternal and child health facilities. The centre will also provide immunization and family planning services.

- SCI recently opened a health centre in Mahama and the amount of consultations has sharply risen, due in part to the fact that the health centre is new. As a result, the NGO is going to be opening a health post that had been previously shut down in order to handle the surge. The post will be open at least twice a week between 08:00 and 12:00.
- The number of typhoid fever cases has decreased by 84 percent since the first half of January and late December 2015. WHO is currently undertaking a case control study in order to better identify the source of the outbreak.

Identified needs and remaining gaps: The number of malaria cases is increasing. This pathology now account for 30% of all consultations in the camp. The WASH team has yet to undertake fumigation.

TANZANIA

Achievements and Impact: In Mtendeli camp, new arrival screening commenced immediately upon the opening of the camp on 14 January. Renovations of various in-patient wards have now been completed and are functional. The main cause of morbidity in Mtendeli has been malaria, lower respiratory tract infection and diarrhoea. The Tanzanian Red Cross Society (supported by IFRC) is implementing health care in the camp but requires support with logistics and supply.

- The Community based programme to treat moderate acute malnutrition is being rolled out in Mtendeli camp. In Nduta camp, MSF-CH and World Vision International are supporting nutrition in partnership with WFP and UNICEF. In Nyarugusu camp, training has been implemented with UNICEF support to enhance the capacity of health providers in infant and young child feeding practices including exclusive breast feeding and complementary feeding. There are plans to conduct a nutrition survey this year and UNHCR is in the process of identifying a consultant for the purpose.

UGANDA

Identified needs and remaining gaps in Nakivale: The malaria epidemic fluctuated during the reporting period and accounted for 36 percent of consultations this past week. However, the incidence of the pathology decreased by 6 percent in comparison to previous weeks. This progress can be attributed to sustained prevention, treatment and control interventions in the settlements as well as outreach activities that are conducted three times a week, through which healthcare is brought to isolated communities.



Food Security and Nutrition

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Achievements and Impact: WFP announced that Corn Soy Blend (CSB) would be added to the distribution basket, given its numerous nutritional benefits. While there have been cuts in food provision in the Central African Republic emergency situation among others, WFP has maintained food assistance at the regular level in the Burundi situation. During the reporting period, a total of 18,292 Kg of rations were

distributed as hot meals to refugees in the transit centre and mass shelters. Furthermore, AIRD distributed 394 Kg of food to persons with specific needs and dietary requirements.

Identified needs and remaining gaps: On 4 February, WFP visited Lusenda camp in view of the cash voucher distribution that was to take place the next day. The delegation met with the village chiefs who asked whether exchanging the food obtained with the vouchers with other types of food would be possible. WFP responded that while exchange or sale is not authorised, retailers will be requested to propose a greater variety of products. Refugees also complained about the National Police's behaviour, as the latter allegedly confiscate food from them when they attempt to sell or exchange it. The issue is being addressed with the authorities.



Water and Sanitation

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Achievements and Impact: *Aide au Développement Economique et Social (ADES)* conducted awareness-raising activities with the support of 30 hygiene promoters on waterborne disease transmission and prevention. A total of 6,230 refugees benefited from the sessions.

RWANDA

Achievements and Impact: In late January, a 250,000 L steel panelled water tank was inaugurated in Mahama. The tank is connected to a water pipe network itself linked to the treatment plant at the Akagera River. The water tank was handed over by World Vision to Oxfam, UNHCR's new WASH partner at the camp. The quantity of water supplied currently stands at 20L per day, in accordance with UNHCR standards.

TANZANIA

Achievements and Impact: The detailed WASH operational plan (2016-18) and budget for Nyargusu camp has been developed. Surface water will be phased out in the camp and all water trucking will cease from March 2016 onwards. The daily provision of water per person stands at 25L for Nyarugusu, 18L for Nduta and 20L for Mtendeli.

UGANDA

Achievements and Impact: In Nakivale, average water consumption stands at 17.2 l/p/d. Two villages of Kabahinda D and Kashojwa C received below 10 l/p/d. The reason for this is that refugees living in other settlements continuously relocate to these villages because they are rapidly developing, thereby increasing population size and causing shortages of basic services such as water.

- Household latrine coverage stands at 64.5 percent. However, various interventions such as the training of Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) groups, and community hygiene education sessions should increase the number of household latrines constructed. This development will be complemented with a rapid assessment of hand washing practices following latrine use.
- ARC completed the construction of 12 communal latrines and 12 bath shelters for newly settled Burundians in the various villages. This additional infrastructure will reduce the risk of diarrhoea outbreaks among the new arrivals.



Shelter and NFIs

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Achievements and Impact: At Lulinda site, one of the extensions of Lusenda refugee camp, a total of 886 shelters have been completed, while 144 shelters and 81 latrine blocs (2 toilets and 2 showers each) are under construction.

- AIRD ensured the distribution of NFIs in Lusenda camp and at Kavimvira Transit Centre. In Lusenda the NGO distributed NFIs to the orthopaedic rehabilitation centre and in the transit centre, breastfeeding women received baby kits, and 1,175 persons received soap. The 300 refugees relocated from the mass shelters were provided with soap, mats, blankets, mosquito nets, and lamps. AIRD also

distributed NFIs to the surrounding villages, benefiting 2,451 persons and provided traditional clothing and lamps to two pregnant women and two children.

RWANDA

Achievements and Impact: The allocation of shelters and the relocation of refugees from tents to semi-permanent shelters are almost complete. This last week, 87% of the remaining planned household for relocation were allocated shelters. In total, 12,000 refugees will have been transferred from tents to 1,200 semi-permanent shelters over the past weeks.

- Hangars and Rubb halls were rehabilitated to accommodate 500 refugees relocated from the Bugesera reception centre at the end of January. Since then space has been identified in the camp to accommodate the new arrivals in tents, but these are currently not in good condition.
- Some of the refugees who were allocated semi-permanent shelters took the tents they had been living in with them to use as sleeping mats or partitions. This issue is being addressed as these tents will be needed in the future and the majority have already been assigned.

TANZANIA

Achievements and Impact: To date, no refugees are living in mass shelters beyond the registration period in Mtendeli camp. All refugees are moved directly to family shelters. UNHCR is working in close cooperation with DRC, TWESA, the Tanganyika Christian Refugee Service (TCRS) and the Relief to Development Society (REDESO) to ensure that shelter, WASH and environmental protection are coordinated and that shelters are allocated to new arrivals in the camp.

- DRC recently completed the construction of seven schools and five two-classroom buildings in Nduta with UNHCR funding. The buildings will be handed over to CARITAS later this month. In Mtendeli, DRC have completed the construction of six school buildings.

Identified needs and remaining gaps: Local populations are encroaching on the land allocated for the construction of shelter and necessary water networks around Mtendeli camp. While family shelters have been constructed to date with almost no resistance from locals, the matter is being taken up with the Regional Administrative Secretary and Regional Coordinator in Kigoma. A mission is planned to visit the site and resolve the issue.

UGANDA

Achievements and Impact: In Nakivale, OPM allocated 15x20 plots for 432 households (2,160 individuals) and 20X50 cultivation plots will be allocated later this month. With Nakivale approaching its 100,000 person capacity, plot sizes are determined by the OPM and subject to the availability of land as well as the number of refugees to be settled.

- In Kyaka II, OPM settled and allocated plots of land measuring 50 X 100 metres to 100 households (260 individuals). Burundian refugees in this settlement have not yet received plots for cultivation because they prefer to engage in small scale business in order to generate income. They are yet to receive livelihoods support.



Livelihoods, energy and environment

UGANDA

Achievements and Impact: In Nakivale, the Nsamizi NGO conducted a household survey to identify refugees interested in planting sorghum (grain) as a supplementary food security measure and 68 families responded positively. The Isingiro District Farmers Association will support the interested families with 500kg of sorghum seedlings and 47 households have been trained in its cultivation. Nsamizi also trained refugees in the construction of energy saving stoves powered by using briquettes (combustible biomass), in the context of the Safe Access to Fuel and Energy (SAFE) strategy.

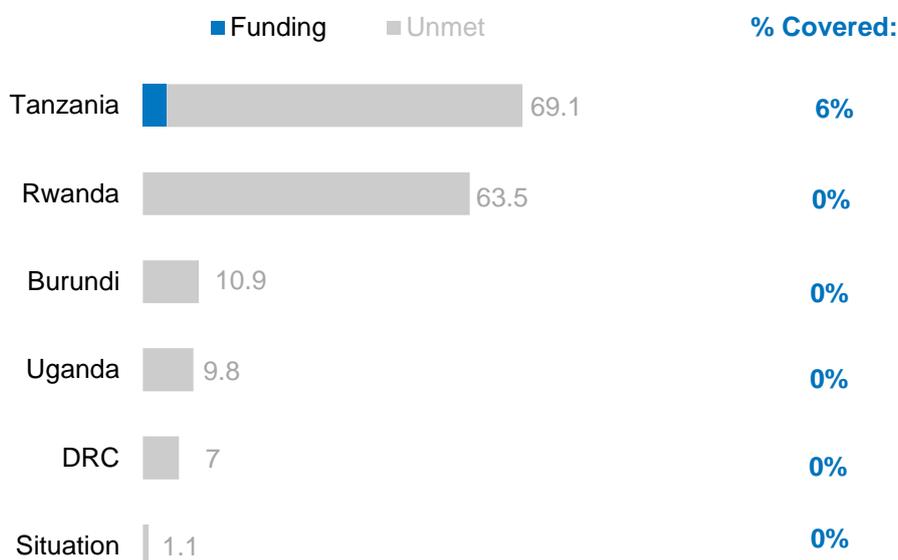
FINANCIAL INFORMATION

On 22 December 2015, UNHCR released a Supplementary Budget Appeal for the Burundi Situation, which includes needs for Burundi, the DRC, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda from January to December 2016. UNHCR's total financial requirements for the Burundi Situation currently amounts to USD **175.1 million**. This includes USD 154 million for the response in the DRC, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda from January to December 2016, as presented in the Regional Refugee Response Plan launched on 15 December. UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors, particularly those who have contributed to UNHCR activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds, as well as for those who have already contributed to the Burundi situation. **The organization's overall needs for this situation are currently funded at 3%.**

A total **USD 4.6 million** has been funded:

Donors:

European Union



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Burundi Situation

Displacement of Burundians into neighbouring countries since April 2015

as of 15 February 2016

