



# United Republic of Tanzania

Reporting period: September 2019

## Background and Operational Context

In August 2017, the Tripartite Commission (United Republic of Tanzania, Republic of Burundi, and UNHCR) issued a joint communiqué and agreed to implement a work plan from 7 September to 31 December 2017 entailing the voluntary repatriation plan of Burundian refugees who wished to return to Burundi. In a follow up Tripartite Commission Meeting in March 2018, a new work plan to return 72,000 individuals by year end was signed. The Tripartite Commission also acknowledged that while some refugees may opt to return, others may still have well-founded reasons for not returning and will continue to be in need of international protection.

While the political situation in Burundi remains unresolved, UNHCR does not promote the voluntary repatriation of Burundian refugees. UNHCR continues to support voluntary returns as an important durable solution and to ensure returns are based on the principles of voluntariness and informed decisions, and take place in safety and dignity. Since September 2017, UNHCR has assisted the Governments of Tanzania and Burundi in the voluntary return of more than 76,000 refugees.

## Return Figures and Trends from the Reporting Period

- 1,461 people assisted to voluntarily repatriate to Burundi in September
- 732 women (50%) and 729 (50%) men
- 210 returnees have specific needs
- 2 return convoys

## Overall Return Figures and Trends

As at 30 September 2019, 76,100 people have returned since September 2017. Below is the breakdown:

- 38,407 (50.5%) women and 37,693 (49.5%) men
- 43,259 (57%) children
- 7,503 (10%) have specific needs
- The highest number of returns were to Ruyigi, Muyinga, and Makamba provinces (17,608, 14,193 and 13,665 returnees respectively).

The tables below show the breakdown of Burundian refugee returns per month, age and sex, refugee camp, period of asylum in Tanzania, and return destinations in Burundi.

**Table 1:** Number of Returns per Phase

Phase	Phase I (Sep & Oct 2017)	Phase II (Nov & Dec 2017)	Phase III (Jan – March 2018)	Current Phase (as at 30 September 2019)	Total
<b>Number of returns</b>	6,889	6,216	8,347	54,648	<b>76,100</b>

**Table 2:** Age and Sex Breakdown

	0-4 yrs	5-11 yrs	12-17 yrs	18-59 yrs	Over 60 yrs	Total	%
<b>Female</b>	9,281	8,057	4,295	15,689	1,085	<b>38,407</b>	50.5%
<b>Male</b>	9,448	8,137	4,041	15,099	968	<b>37,693</b>	49.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,729</b>	<b>16,194</b>	<b>8,336</b>	<b>30,788</b>	<b>2,053</b>	<b>76,100</b>	100%
<b>%</b>	24.6%	21.3%	11.0%	40.5%	2.7%	100%	



**Table 3: Period of Asylum of Returnees**

<1 month	1-3 months	4-6 months	7-12 months	>1 year	Total
127	934	2,484	21,094	51,461	<b>76,100</b>
0.2%	1.2%	3.3%	27.7%	67.6%	100%

**Table 4: Provinces of Return**

Return Provinces	Individuals
Ruyigi	17,608
Muyinga	14,193
Makamba	13,665
Cankuzo	8,401
Kirundo	6,811
Rutana	5,716
Karuzi	1,957
Gitega	1,484
Bururi	1,350
Rumonge	1,131
Ngozi	1,131
Mwaro	984
Bujumbura	850
Cibitoke	179
Muramvya	164
Kayanza	148
Bubanza	148
<b>Total</b>	<b>76,100</b>

**Table 5: Total Departures per Camp**

Camps in Tanzania	Individuals	%
Nduta	49,356	64.9%
Mtendeli	18,615	24.5%
Nyarugusu	8,129	10.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>76,100</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 6: Registered & Processed vs. Returned**

Pending Travel Arrangements	Returned (as of 30 September)	Withdrawals and Departure No Shows	No Shows for Voluntariness Assessment
403	76,100	10,545	3,170

**Table 7: Key Partners and Activities**

<b>Government</b>	Registration, documentation, security, convoy and immigration formalities
<b>UNHCR</b>	Coordination, ensuring voluntariness of return, verification of return location, biometric enrolment, and documentation
<b>DRC</b>	Management of departure centre, accommodation, wet feeding, and distribution of high-energy biscuits provided by WFP
<b>HelpAge</b>	Assistance to persons with specific needs
<b>IOM</b>	Fit-to-travel medical screening and transportation of refugees
<b>NRC</b>	Management of departure centre, accommodation, wet feeding, and distribution of high-energy biscuits provided by WFP
<b>Plan &amp; IRC</b>	Child protection (unaccompanied and separated children)
<b>TRCS</b>	Medicine and ambulances
<b>WFP</b>	Provision of food for wet feeding in departure centre, on arrival at transit centre and dry rations