

A Congolese farmer repatriated from DRC ploughs his field in the Ruzizi plain.



Burundi

Cameroon

Central African Republic

Chad (see under Chad-Sudan situation)

Congo (Republic of the)

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Gabon

Rwanda

United Republic of Tanzania

Central Africa and the Great Lakes



| OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS |

- The Central African Republic ratified the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa.
- The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and UNHCR signed tripartite agreements with Rwanda, the Republic of the Congo and Uganda to prepare for the voluntary repatriation of more than 200,000 Congolese refugees living in these countries.
- In the United Republic of Tanzania, some 162,000 Burundian refugees who were granted citizenship began receiving their naturalization certificates.
- UNHCR and the East African Community (EAC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding in March 2010 to establish a cooperative framework for the protection of the rights of displaced people in the region.
- Some 116,000 refugees were registered in the Congo after fleeing from the DRC in late 2009. UNHCR re-established its presence in northern Congo to assist these refugees.
- More than 3,600 Burundian refugees and 10,800 Rwandan refugees repatriated from the DRC. Some 10,300 DRC refugees also returned home, mainly from Zambia.
- Some 100,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the DRC received UNHCR assistance in the form of camp management and security, protection monitoring, profiling, documentation and shelter.

CENTRAL AFRICA AND THE GREAT LAKES



Working environment

Security remained precarious in the subregion, especially in the DRC and the Central African Republic, reducing repatriation possibilities. Some 1,700 Rwandan nationals were reportedly forced by the Ugandan authorities to return to Rwanda.

In the Central African Republic, efforts to assist IDPs were compromised in 2010 when clashes between government forces and rebel groups resumed in the north and north-west, forcing thousands of civilians to flee their homes and restricting UNHCR's access to these populations. In the south-eastern part of the country, repeated attacks on villages by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) resulted in the displacement of some 30,000 civilians.

In the DRC, following the adoption by the UN Security Council of Resolution 1925, the UN peacekeeping mission (MONUSCO) saw its mandate redefined around the protection of civilians, stabilization and peace consolidation. The east and west of the country continued to experience bloodshed and upheaval, including sexual and gender-based violence targeting women and girls perpetrated by various armed groups. This has led to the displacement of approximately 1.9 million people.

The United Republic of Tanzania went through peaceful general elections in October 2010 which ended in the re-election of the incumbent president. Tanzania continued to press its policy of a "refugee-free zone" and insisted on the repatriation of some 37,000 Burundian refugees living in Mtabila Camp, which was formally closed in June 2009.

General elections in Burundi were relatively peaceful, although the post-electoral period was characterized by clashes between the ruling and opposition parties. Rumours about the formation of a new rebel movement based in the neighbouring DRC, and a rise in armed crime, aggravated the security situation, which hindered the repatriation of Burundian refugees living in neighbouring countries. However, refugees in Burundi and returnees generally did not suffer from discrimination, although conflicts over land have at times left some returnees complaining of injustice.

The political situation in Rwanda remained stable in 2010 despite some wrangling over the results of the August general elections. UNHCR protected and assisted over 55,000 refugees in Rwanda, the vast majority from the DRC. Almost 10,000 returned to Rwanda, mainly from the DRC, and were provided with non-food items (NFIs) and food rations to help with their initial reintegration. The Government agreed to issue individual identity cards to refugees, and in total, almost 11,000 refugees received their cards in 2010.

Achievements and impact

UNHCR's main focus in 2010 was on durable solutions, with emphasis on voluntary repatriation for refugees from Burundi, the Congo, the DRC and Rwanda.

In the DRC, UNHCR signed tripartite agreements with the Governments of the Congo, Rwanda and Uganda to pave the way for the voluntary repatriation of more than 200,000 DRC refugees living in these countries. However, where voluntary repatriation was not an option, possibilities for

resettlement or local integration with alternative legal status were explored to broaden the choice for refugees with specific needs or those who were extremely vulnerable.

As cluster lead for protection in the Central African Republic and the DRC, UNHCR coordinated protection and assistance among various agencies, with special emphasis on tackling the prominent problem of sexual and gender-based violence.

In the Central African Republic, UNHCR assisted the National Committee for IDPs to develop laws and policies to improve the protection of the internally displaced. As a result, the Government ratified the African Union IDP Convention. UNHCR continued to advocate for laws and policies that would allow the Convention to be implemented in the country.

The Government of Tanzania began issuing naturalization certificates to the more than 162,000 former Burundian refugees who were granted citizenship in 2009 and 2010, many of whom had been living in the country since 1972. However, the planned transfer of the new citizens to designated locations in some 50 districts was stalled by the general elections held in October 2010.

In order to support the local integration programme for the new citizens, the Government of Tanzania launched the five-year National Strategy for Community Integration Programme. The integration of the new citizens will bring to an end one of the most protracted refugee situations in Africa.

In Burundi, UNHCR helped reintegrate some 100,000 returnees who repatriated between 2008 and 2010, providing 12,000 individual shelters to 60,000 of them. UNHCR supported the *Commission Nationale des Terres et Autres Biens* (CNTB) in the resolution of 2,600 of the 7,500 or so new land disputes registered in the three main provinces of return. Some 6,700 refugee identity cards were ready for delivery by the Government of Burundi's *Office National pour la Protection des Réfugiés et des Apatrides*, which also issued temporary residence permits to asylum-seekers.

In Cameroon, UNHCR registered more than 4,000 urban asylum-seekers, assessed the claims of some 2,600 individuals and granted refugee status to more than 1,100 people. Over 7,000 identification documents were issued to urban refugees. For Central African refugees living in Langui Camp, some 6,900 identification cards and 8,300 attestations of family composition were issued. UNHCR facilitated the issuance of 6,000 birth certificates for refugee children born in Cameroon. These documents improved the protection of refugees and increased the enrolment of refugee children in school.

UNHCR continued to work with the Rwandan Government, countries of asylum and relevant stakeholders, on the road map for actions leading to the invocation of the cessation clause for Rwandan refugees at the end of 2011. The promotion of voluntary repatriation for Rwandans still in exile is a major component of the road map, as is the search for solutions for those who cannot return—including the opportunity to benefit from continued international protection.

Budget and expenditure in Central Africa and the Great Lakes | USD

Country		PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 2 Stateless programme	PILLAR 3 Reintegration projects	PILLAR 4 IDP projects	Total
Burundi	Budget	33,980,004	74,933	940,014	44,652	35,039,603
	Expenditure	31,647,010	31,727	0	39,792	31,718,529
Cameroon	Budget	19,834,768	0	0	0	19,834,768
	Expenditure	12,210,101	0	0	0	12,210,101
Central African Republic	Budget	14,420,355	0	0	4,501,187	18,921,542
	Expenditure	9,146,723	0	0	3,448,398	12,595,121
Chad	Budget	145,040,806	0	0	16,031,830	161,072,636
	Expenditure	84,800,667	0	0	10,369,503	95,170,170
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Budget	65,034,856	1,310,000	7,624,405	35,008,873	108,978,134
	Expenditure	42,530,997	1,300,835	7,584,900	21,918,889	73,335,621
Gabon	Budget	3,214,823	0	0	0	3,214,823
	Expenditure	2,411,965	0	0	0	2,411,965
Republic of the Congo	Budget	29,622,036	0	0	0	29,622,036
	Expenditure	13,670,774	0	0	0	13,670,774
Rwanda	Budget	20,694,085	0	1,874,010	0	22,568,095
	Expenditure	9,252,911	0	379,860	0	9,632,771
United Republic of Tanzania	Budget	33,218,997	0	8,733,000	0	41,951,997
	Expenditure	25,353,339	0	3,492,194	0	28,845,533
Total budget		365,060,731	1,384,933	19,171,429	55,586,542	441,203,635
Total expenditure		231,024,487	1,332,562	11,456,954	35,776,582	279,590,585

Constraints

The precarious security situation in the subregion seriously hampered the implementation of humanitarian assistance programmes. Violence related to elections also affected the smooth return of refugees to their home countries. Access to people of concern to UNHCR, especially IDPs, was difficult or impossible, due to security concerns, as well as to logistical challenges related to infrastructure, and a prolonged rainy season that washed away roads.

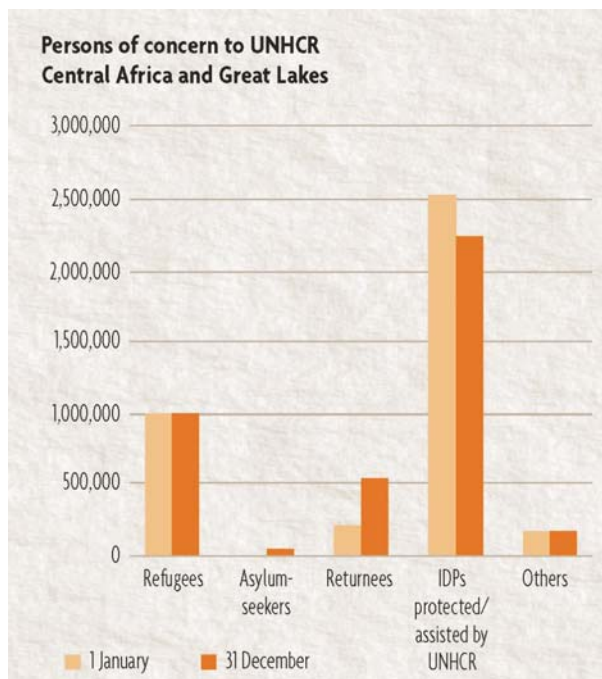
The remoteness of refugee and asylum-seeker sites complicated registration and the distribution of humanitarian aid to the most vulnerable. Moreover, the dependence of people of concern on protection and assistance, coupled with the lack of opportunities for economic self-reliance, complicated UNHCR's plans for voluntary repatriation and local integration. The scarcity of land undermined livelihood possibilities and efforts towards self-sufficiency, while abuses of human rights and weak administrative and judicial structures prevented people of concern from fully enjoying their basic rights.

Widespread poverty and lack of employment affected the smooth integration and reintegration of both refugees and returnees. In Tanzania, the lack of proper reception facilities resulted in overcrowding, while the adoption of restrictive asylum policies aggravated the plight of asylum-seekers.

Operations

Operations in **Burundi**, **Cameroon**, the **Central African Republic**, the **Republic of the Congo**, the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**, **Rwanda** and the **United Republic of Tanzania** are covered by separate chapters.

Gabon hosts some 13,000 refugees and asylum-seekers, mostly from the Republic of the Congo. In July 2010 the Government stopped renewing the identity cards of refugees from the Congo, pressing for the invocation of the cessation clause for them. This decision, coupled with the inactivity of the National Eligibility Committee in 2010, further



restricted access to asylum procedures in Gabon. The Government offered to work with UNHCR to assist refugees who choose to integrate locally or repatriate voluntarily. Some 70 refugees were resettled in third countries.

Financial information

UNHCR's total budget for the subregion amounted to USD 441.2 million in 2010, including USD 29 million in supplemental requirements related to new situations. Adequate resources allowed UNHCR to implement its prioritized activities in the subregion, with some USD 279 million of expenditures. Though there were reductions in some operations' budgets due to repatriation and naturalization, there were significant increases in others due to the fresh flows of refugees from the DRC into neighbouring countries that began in late 2009.

Voluntary contributions to Central Africa and the Great Lakes | USD

Earmarking / Donor	PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 3 Reintegration projects	PILLAR 4 IDP projects	All pillars	Total
CENTRAL AFRICA AND THE GREAT LAKES SUBREGION					
Canada				825,516	825,516
España con ACNUR (Spain)	293				293
Finland				2,164,502	2,164,502
Luxembourg				1,803,752	1,803,752
Central Africa and the Great Lakes subtotal	293	0	0	4,793,770	4,794,063
BURUNDI					
Belgium	1,849,568				1,849,568
European Commission	3,168,568				3,168,568
Germany	1,847,946				1,847,946
Japan	3,000,000				3,000,000
Procter & Gamble	88,211				88,211
Switzerland	470,810				470,810
United Kingdom	1,155,944				1,155,944
United States of America				6,300,000	6,300,000
Burundi subtotal	11,581,048	0	0	6,300,000	17,881,048

CENTRAL AFRICA AND THE GREAT LAKES

Earmarking / Donor	PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 3 Reintegration projects	PILLAR 4 IDP projects	All pillars	Total
CAMEROON					
Procter & Gamble	152,495				152,495
Cameroon subtotal	152,495	0	0	0	152,495
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC					
African Union			50,000		50,000
Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)	2,112,715		270,978		2,383,693
Common Humanitarian Fund for CAR			250,000		250,000
Finland				654,450	654,450
France			404,858		404,858
Germany	663,130				663,130
Japan	320,000		680,000		1,000,000
Slovenia	20,188				20,188
Spain			674,764		674,764
Switzerland	470,810				470,810
UN Programme on HIV and AIDS	42,126				42,126
United States of America	1,450,000			1,950,000	3,400,000
Central African Republic subtotal	5,078,969	0	2,330,600	2,604,450	10,014,020
CHAD					
African Union			50,000		50,000
Australia				1,748,252	1,748,252
Australia for UNHCR	109,756			67,714	177,470
Canada				3,424,015	3,424,015
Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)	3,505,754		916,461		4,422,215
<i>España con ACNUR (Spain)</i>				125,912	125,912
European Commission	7,549,726				7,549,726
Finland				654,450	654,450
France	337,382		337,382		674,764
Germany	1,005,291				1,005,291
HQ online donations	1,107				1,107
Japan	2,000,000			1,076,426	3,076,426
Japan Association for UNHCR	10,226				10,226
Luxembourg				721,501	721,501
Private donors in Canada	38				38
Netherlands				2,377,620	2,377,620
Norway	1,092,726				1,092,726
PricewaterhouseCoopers Ltd.	2,245				2,245
South Africa	71,188				71,188
Spain	1,045,319				1,045,319
Sweden				1,928,375	1,928,375
Switzerland	785,489				785,489
United Kingdom				1,521,407	1,521,407
United States of America	782,615			27,450,000	28,232,615
USA for UNHCR	17,103			143,011	160,114
Chad subtotal	18,315,966	0	1,303,843	41,238,682	60,858,491
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO					
African Union				200,000	200,000
Australia			3,252,788		3,252,788
Australia for UNHCR			2,226	1,628	3,854
Belgium	1,849,568		1,233,046		3,082,614
Canada				2,814,259	2,814,259
Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)	369,687		2,998,667		3,368,354
Charities Aid Foundation				639	639
<i>Deutsche Stiftung für UNO-Flüchtlingshilfe (Germany)</i>	121,131				121,131
European Commission	2,621,232				2,621,232

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Earmarking / Donor	PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 3 Reintegration projects	PILLAR 4 IDP projects	All pillars	Total
France	464,350		674,764		1,139,114
Germany	845,517	135,000	243,564		1,224,081
HQ online donations				351	351
Japan	2,930,000	320,000	1,750,000	1,614,639	6,614,639
Japan Association for UNHCR	99,456			10,226	109,682
Luxembourg				721,501	721,501
Private donors in United Kingdom				4,149	4,149
Pooled Funds for the DRC	918,285		910,519		1,828,804
Spain	1,229,790	2,074,326	271,979		3,576,095
Stabilization and Recovery Fund in Eastern DRC			760,024		760,024
Stichting Vluchteling (Netherlands)			142,665		142,665
Sweden				4,184,100	4,184,100
UN Peacebuilding Fund	931,495				931,495
UN Programme on HIV and AIDS	269,964				269,964
UN Trust Fund for Human Security			282,202		282,202
United States of America	2,600,000			17,300,000	19,900,000
USA for UNHCR				32,000	32,000
Democratic Republic of the Congo subtotal	15,250,475	2,529,326	12,522,444	26,883,492	57,185,736
GABON					
UN Trust Fund for Human Security	280,905				280,905
Gabon subtotal	280,905	0	0	0	280,905
RWANDA					
Church of Latter-day Saints (USA)	499,050				499,050
Germany	26,656				26,656
Great Lakes Initiative on HIV and AIDS (GLIA)	133,088				133,088
Procter & Gamble	90,211				90,211
UN Delivering as One	643,500				643,500
United States of America	176,843			2,200,000	2,376,843
USA for UNHCR	100,353				100,353
Rwanda subtotal	1,669,701	0	0	2,200,000	3,869,701
REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO					
African Union	200,000				200,000
Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)	582,049				582,049
European Commission	2,914,863				2,914,863
Germany	721,501				721,501
Japan				538,213	538,213
Procter & Gamble	520,726				520,726
Slovenia	20,188				20,188
Sweden	688,705				688,705
United States of America	5,500,000				5,500,000
Republic of the Congo subtotal	11,148,033	0	0	538,213	11,686,246
UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA					
European Commission	3,168,568				3,168,568
Germany	1,034,733				1,034,733
Japan	500,000	1,000,000			1,500,000
UN Delivering as One				28,435	28,435
United Kingdom	6,000,000				6,000,000
United States of America				7,700,000	7,700,000
United Republic of Tanzania subtotal	10,703,301	1,000,000	0	7,728,435	19,431,736
Total	74,181,186	3,529,326	16,156,887	92,287,043	186,154,441

Note: Includes indirect support costs that are recovered from contributions to Pillars 3 and 4, supplementary budgets and the "New or additional activities – mandate-related" (NAM) reserve.