

# RWANDA



## Operational highlights

- UNHCR protected and assisted more than 55,000 refugees in Rwanda, the vast majority from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Others included refugees from Burundi, Chad and Somalia.
- Approximately 8,600 Rwandan refugees returned to Rwanda with UNHCR's assistance, mainly from the DRC.
- No repatriation of refugees took place from Rwanda to the DRC, due to insecurity situation in the eastern part of the latter country.
- UNHCR continued to implement the Comprehensive Strategy for the Rwandan Refugee Situation, which was first announced in October 2009 and reviewed in 2011 to

include recommendations on the applicability of the "ceased circumstances" cessation clauses.

- Some 720 refugees were helped to resettle in third countries.
- A verification and re-registration exercise was carried out in 2011, in the three camps in the country and in urban areas.

## Working environment

Rwanda continued to enjoy a relatively stable political environment in 2011. The Government set as a priority the repatriation of Rwandan refugees living in neighbouring countries. For its part, UNHCR issued recommendations on the planned application of cessation of status for Rwandan

## Persons of concern

Type of Population	Origin	Total	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Per cent female	Per cent under 18
<b>Refugees</b>	DRC	55,000	55,000	55	54
	Various	370	370	49	40
<b>Asylum-seekers</b>	DRC	260	260	52	60
	Various	30	30	47	44
<b>Returnees (refugees)<sup>1</sup></b>	DRC	8,400	8,400	62	55
	Various	170	170	62	55
<b>Total</b>		<b>64,230</b>	<b>64,230</b>		

<sup>1</sup> Demographic breakdown of returnees refers to the total 8,570 Rwandan returning refugees.

refugees scheduled for the end of June 2013. Meanwhile, UNHCR began assisting the voluntary repatriation of Rwandan refugees still in exile, and sought solutions for those who may not be able to return.

## Achievements and impact

### Main objectives

UNHCR's main objectives for 2011 were to ensure comprehensive protection and assistance for all refugees in Rwanda; to encourage Rwandan refugees and asylum-seekers abroad to return home in view of the cessation clauses; to facilitate their reintegration in Rwanda; and to pursue resettlement for those with specific protection and health concerns. UNHCR also sought to build the Government's capacity to ensure that the proper procedures were in place to ensure the admission, registration and eligibility determination of people of concern. Finally, UNHCR sought to strengthen its partners' ability to provide international protection and manage programmes.

### Favourable protection environment

- Rwanda's refugee framework has been in line with international refugee law since the amendment of national refugee legislation in 2006. However, environmental problems in the country—soil erosion, landslides and continued deforestation in all the camps—have given rise to grave concern, and posed heightened protection risks. The deteriorating environment has increased the dangers for women and girls who venture outside the camps in search of cooking fuel.

### Fair protection processes

- A verification exercise was conducted in the refugee camps. Biometric registration undertaken during the verifications resulted in improvements in the identification of people of concern and a reduction in cases of fraud. All newborn children of urban refugees and asylum-seekers were issued with individual birth certificates. In addition, best interest determination (BID) sessions were conducted for 38 unaccompanied or separated children.

### Security from violence and exploitation

- All the 233 reported survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) received support, thanks to an effective reporting and response mechanism and more active engagement of the authorities, particularly the police, in combating the problem.

### Basic needs and services

- At the end of 2011, some 7,700 people, or 79 per cent of camp-based refugee households, were living in adequate dwellings. All camp-based refugees received primary health care. Nearly 1,800 patients, including 600 suffering from mental illness, were transferred to specialized health institutions for treatment and follow-up. The patients and

their attendants were assisted with accommodation, food and transport. All children aged between 9 and 59 months benefited from measles immunization.

- Urban refugees in Kigali were provided with basic medical assistance and a comprehensive HIV and AIDS package, as well as reproductive health services. Nearly 5,400 urban refugees benefited from routine consultations and some 480 persons, including 121 mentally ill patients, were transferred to specialized health institutions. Voluntary counselling and testing services were provided to 840 refugees, while 37 urban refugees living with HIV and AIDS were assisted to gain access to antiretroviral and prophylactic treatments from the public health services.
- The nutritional programme resulted in reducing the global acute malnutrition (GAM) rate from 7 per cent to 6 per cent. The prevalence of anaemia in women of reproductive age was cut from 31 per cent to 28 per cent, and in children under five years from 60 per cent to 40 per cent. The chronic malnutrition rate, on the other hand, increased slightly, from 32 per cent to 33 per cent.
- In the camps, some 11,300 children, or 90 per cent of the primary school-age children, were enrolled in primary education in 2011. Likewise, 89 per cent of refugee children aged between six and 11 and having specific needs were enrolled in basic education. Some 420 girls (8 per cent of the total upper secondary age population) continued their upper secondary education through the Howard Buffet Foundation scholarship. Through the DAFI programme, 57 refugee youths from three refugee camps were enrolled in tertiary institutions. In urban areas, close to 400 refugee children were assisted with primary education. Due to limited resources, only 14 per cent of urban refugee children could be helped to attend secondary school. Twenty-six urban youth and adults were assisted through DAFI scholarships to attain a tertiary education.
- Access to adequate amounts of water was provided in Kiziba, where refugees received about 37 litres per person per day. However, in Nyabiheke and Gihembe camps, refugees received only 14 and seven litres per person per day in the two camps, respectively. The water supply in Gihembe was dependent on the public water supply system, which in turn relied on an erratic electricity supply in the region.

### Community participation and self-management

- Six age, gender and diversity mainstreaming (AGDM) sessions were conducted in the camps. The principal themes were SGBV, health and nutrition, school enrolment and retention, means of subsistence, decision-making, and community participation. People of concern also participated in one joint assessment mission with UNHCR in 2011.

### Durable solutions

- Though an integral part of the overall solutions strategy for DRC refugees in Rwanda, resettlement was primarily used as a protection tool. A total of 725 cases were

submitted in 2011, and 210 people departed for third countries.

- While no voluntary repatriation of Congolese refugees took place to DRC due to the unstable security situation, the verification and re-registration exercise which was concluded in 2011 provided useful information on intentions to return, and should facilitate cross-border and tripartite discussions on this durable solution between concerned governments and UNHCR.
- UNHCR assisted some 7,600 Rwandan refugees to repatriate to Rwanda, mainly from the DRC (7,400 returns). Return packages comprising three-month food rations and non-food items (NFIs) helped returnees with their initial reintegration.

### External relations

- UNHCR provided diplomatic missions and partners with regular updates on the humanitarian situation in Rwanda, including on the progress made towards a possible invocation of the cessation clauses for Rwandan refugees.

### Logistics and operations support

- Some 500,000 assorted NFIs, equipment and materials were received in the main warehouse in Kigali, and transported to the different camps.

### Constraints

Military operations and political uncertainty in the eastern parts of the DRC continued to hamper the voluntary repatriation of refugees from Rwanda.

Inadequate land to allow refugee camp expansion caused overcrowding. Food security and the lack of livelihood

opportunities remained of grave concern to refugees, for whom there were few local-integration possibilities. Environmental degradation, particularly deforestation and erosion, caused extensive damage to lives, infrastructure and farms in and around the camps, and led to conflict with the host population.

### Financial information

Against financial requirements for UNHCR's operation in Rwanda of USD 34.5 million in 2011, only USD 12.7 million could be made available. This was nonetheless 32 per cent more than in 2010, and helped address some of the serious gaps in the provision of basic services. However, significant improvements in the provision of basic services and infrastructure in the camps were still needed.

### Organization and implementation

In 2011, the operation was managed by the Country Office in Kigali, two field offices in Byumba and Kibuye, and two field units in Cyangugu and Gisenyi. UNHCR employed 79 staff, including 51 national employees.

### UNHCR's presence in 2011

□ Number of offices	<b>5</b>
□ Total staff	<b>81</b>
International	11
National	51
JPOs	1
UNVs	13
Others	5



Congolese refugees in Kiziba camp.

UNHCR / A. BRONEE

## | Working with others |

UNHCR continued to work closely with the national authorities as well as implementing and operational partners. In the context of the UN Delivering as One initiative, UNHCR was engaged in seven thematic groups: social protection, health, population and nutrition, HIV and AIDS, education, environment, and economic growth.

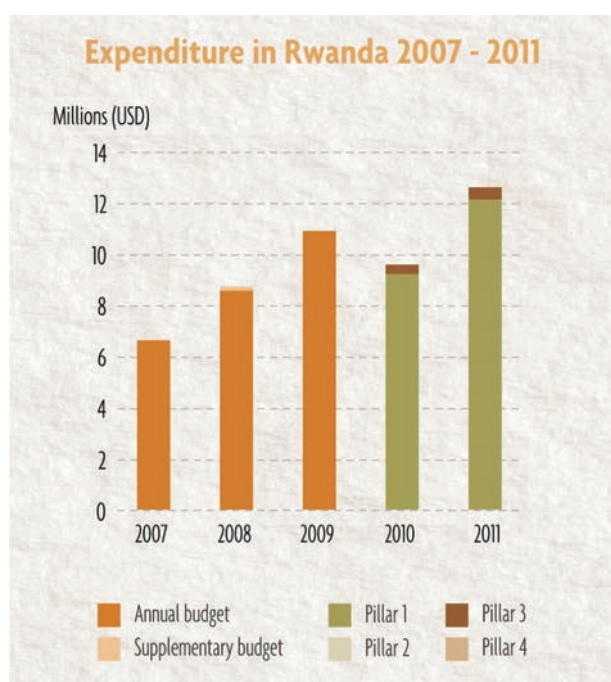
## | Overall assessment |

With UNHCR's encouragement, the Government stepped up its participation in the verification and re-registration exercise. It was urged to improve the reception and reintegration of Rwandan returnees in local communities. Partnership with other UN agencies and NGOs supported programmes in education, health and nutrition,

environmental protection, social protection and disaster management. While there were some marked improvements in basic services, much remained to be done. Little progress was achieved towards durable solutions for most refugees from the DRC, as they could not repatriate due to the unstable security environment, nor integrate locally in Rwanda. Talks with the Government on preparations for the invocation of the cessation clauses for Rwandan refugees made significant progress.

## | Unmet needs |

- Special needs of large numbers of elderly refugees, survivors of SGBV, single women households, persons with disabilities and vulnerable children remained unaddressed. Out of nearly 12,300 eligible children, 1,000 could not enrol in the nine-year compulsory basic education implemented by the Rwandan Government.
- More than 6,000 adolescents of upper secondary school age remained without any options for formal and non-formal education, resulting in the engagement of a high number of adolescents in anti-social activities.
- Refugees were unable to be included in the national health insurance scheme.
- Livelihood projects could not be ensured for the majority of refugees in the camps to make them self-sufficient.
- Most shelter units in the camps remained in deplorable conditions and no measures could be taken to prevent the land degradation due to soil erosion.



Partners	
<b>Implementing partners</b>	
<b>Government agencies:</b> Ministry of Disaster Management and Refugee Affairs, Directorate General of Immigration and Emigration	
<b>NGOs:</b> Adventist Development Relief Agency, Africa Humanitarian Action, American Refugee Committee, Jesuit Relief Service	
<b>Operational partners</b>	
<b>Others:</b> UNICEF, WFP	

## Budget, income and expenditure in Rwanda | USD

	PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 3 Reintegration projects	Total
<b>FINAL BUDGET</b>	31,713,110	2,799,319	34,512,429
Income from contributions	2,847,085	0	2,847,085
Other funds available	9,337,434	491,023	9,828,457
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE</b>	12,184,519	491,023	12,675,542

EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN			
<i>Favourable protection environment</i>			
Prevention of statelessness	8,130	0	8,130
National development policies	280,878	0	280,878
Access to territory	33,306	0	33,306
Environmental protection	68,879	0	68,879
Emergency management strengthened	90,237	0	90,237
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>481,430</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>481,430</b>

	PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 3 Reintegration projects	Total
<i>Fair protection processes and documentation</i>			
Registration and profiling	459,229	0	459,229
Fair and efficient status determination	30,654	0	30,654
Individual documentation	125,711	0	125,711
Civil status documentation	115,721	0	115,721
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>731,315</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>731,315</b>
<i>Security from violence and exploitation</i>			
Gender-based violence	153,411	0	153,411
Protection of children	220,445	58,379	278,824
Access to legal remedies	43,413	0	43,413
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>417,269</b>	<b>58,379</b>	<b>475,648</b>
<i>Basic needs and essential services</i>			
Nutrition	281,088	0	281,088
Water	308,757	0	308,757
Shelter and other infrastructure	302,741	19,370	322,111
Basic domestic and hygiene items	1,562,812	0	1,562,812
Primary health care	917,718	0	917,718
HIV and AIDS	330,079	0	330,079
Education	521,071	19,370	540,441
Sanitation services	566,655	0	566,655
Services for groups with specific needs	85,458	290,346	375,804
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>4,876,379</b>	<b>329,086</b>	<b>5,205,465</b>
<i>Community participation and self-management</i>			
Participatory assessment	156,424	0	156,424
Self-reliance and livelihoods	283,579	0	283,579
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>440,003</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>440,003</b>
<i>Durable solutions</i>			
Voluntary return	178,742	0	178,742
Resettlement	440,368	0	440,368
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>619,110</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>619,110</b>
<i>External relations</i>			
Donor relations	59,816	0	59,816
Resource mobilisation	59,816	0	59,816
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>119,632</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>119,632</b>
<i>Logistics and operations support</i>			
Supply chain and logistics	2,162,686	50,607	2,213,293
Programme management and coordination	2,070,722	52,951	2,123,673
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>4,233,408</b>	<b>103,558</b>	<b>4,336,966</b>
Other objectives	6,760	0	6,760
Balance of instalments with implementing partners	259,212	0	259,212
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,184,518</b>	<b>491,023</b>	<b>12,675,541</b>