

UNHCR's presence in 2012			
Number of offices	4		
Total staff	147		
International staff	20		
National staff	112		
UNVs	10		
Others	5		

# Overview

# **Operational highlights**

- UNHCR provided nearly 36,000 Burundian returnees with initial reintegration assistance, including reception and transportation to their places of origin in Burundi.
- Some 42,000 refugees and 6,000 asylum-seekers, mostly from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), were protected and assisted by UNHCR.
- More than 4,500 refugee identity cards were distributed by the Office national pour la protection des réfugiés et apatrides, which also issued nearly 3,000 temporary stay permits to asylum-seekers, most of them from the DRC.
- Some 260 refugees, mostly Congolese, were repatriated to their countries of origin and 160 Congolese refugees were resettled in third countries.
- UNHCR helped the *Commission nationale des terres et autres biens* to resolve more than 2,200 land dispute cases in the three main provinces of return.

#### **Partners**

#### **Implementing partners**

### Government agencies:

Commission nationale des terres et autres biens, Ministère de l'intérieur et de la sécurité, Ministère de la solidarité nationale, des droits de la personne humaine et du genre, Office national pour la protection des réfugiés et apatrides

### NGOs:

Africa Humanitarian Action, Avocats sans frontières, Centre d'entraide et de développement, Caritas, Conseil pour l'éducation et le développement, Fédération Handicap International, Fédération nationale des coopératives d'épargne du Burundi, International Rescue Committee, Ligue Iteka, Refugee Education Trust, Croix Rouge du Burundi

### Others:

UNV

### **Operational partners**

### NGOs:

Concern, MSF, OXFAM, ZOA

#### Others:

BNUB, CICR, FAO, IOM, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, WFP, WHO

## People of concern

The two main groups of people of concern to UNHCR in Burundi were: DRC refugees, including those who fled to Burundi to escape conflict in the Kivus region in eastern DRC in the 1990s, and another group who fled renewed armed conflict in the Kivus in 2012; and Burundian returnees, some 35,000 of whom had been residing in Mtabila Camp in the United Republic of Tanzania (Tanzania) and were repatriated in 2012.

Type of Population	Origin	Total	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Per cent female	Per cent under 18
Refugees	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	41,300	41,300	52	58
	Various	460	460	54	49
Asylum-seekers	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	5,700	5,700	51	56
	Rwanda	420	420	47	47
	Various	30	30	50	39
IDPs	Burundi	78,900	140	47	47
Stateless	Omani (stateless persons)	1,300	1,300	48	62
Others of concern	Various	300	300	80	44
Returnees (refugees) 1	United Rep. of Tanzania	35,200	35,200	50	59
	Various	500	500	50	59
Total		164,110	85,350		

<sup>&#</sup>x27;The demographic breakdown of returnees refers to the total 35,700 Burundian returning refugees. Of the total number of returnees, 33,819 are former refugees who lived in Mtabila camp (Tanzania).

# | Report on 2012 results |

## **Achievements and impact**

### Fair protection processes and documentation

- More than 12,200 asylum applications of the approximately 18,300 received between 2011 and 2012, were processed by the national structures dealing with refugees and asylum-seekers with the support of UNHCR.
- Of the 36,000 returnees who arrived during the year, more than 16,000 aged 16 and above received Burundian national identity cards.
- All refugees aged 14 and older were given access to documentation, such as refugee identity cards, attestations of status or temporary stay permits.

### Security from violence and exploitation

 Nearly 31,500 refugees, of whom more than 21,500 were women, benefited from programmes aimed at preventing and responding to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV).

### Basic needs and essential services

- Of the 3,500 shelters planned for construction in 2012, nearly 1,900 (1,500 for returnees and 400 in the refugee camps) were built, directly benefiting a total of some 9,400 people. Even though gaps remain with regard to the accommodation of returnees, all refugees in the camp now live in adequate dwellings.
- Reintegration was facilitated (for instance, through access to land) for more than 44,000 beneficiaries.
- The under-five mortality rate was 0.5 per 1,000 people per month at the end of 2012.
- More than 40,000 refugees and 35,000 returnees received basic health care, including specific assistance for people living with HIV and AIDS.

- Nearly 10,000 returnee children and some 2,200 refugee children were given access to primary and secondary education.
- Some 26,300 refugees in the camps were supplied with water in amounts ranging from 19 litres per person per day in Musasa and Garsorwe camps to 22 litres per person per day in Bwagiriza Camp.

#### **Durable solutions**

- Nearly 36,000 Burundian returnees, mainly from Tanzania but also including some from the DRC, returned home either by their own means (1,300 returnees), or through UNHCR's organized repatriation operations (more than 34,000).
- The initial planning figure for voluntary repatriation of 3,000 Congolese refugees in Burundi was not reached, as only 255 individuals chose to repatriate owing to the volatile situation in the DRC.
- Of the 350 refugees initially targeted for resettlement in 2012, only 165 departed for third countries.

### **Assessment of results**

UNHCR's efforts to provide basic assistance to refugees in camps were largely successful, especially during the first half of the year. However, the influx of refugees from the DRC, including the 5,000 refugees who were transferred to camps, put an extra burden on the financial resources of the operation and affected the delivery of basic services in the camps.

The successful reception and return to places of origin of some 36,000 returnees from Tanzania over a period of only six weeks, despite the logistical challenges, were major achievements for UNHCR. However, the concentration of returns during a very short period of time and inadequate funding prevented the implementation of comprehensive reintegration assistance

programmes, particularly with regard to shelter for vulnerable refugees. Nonetheless, all returnees benefited from return support packages as well as other services, including individual documentation, access to primary health care to facilitate reintegration. Strong inter-agency collaboration contributed to the success of the return operation.

Overall, UNHCR made significant progress against Global Strategic Priorities for all populations of concern in Burundi.

### **Constraints**

Mistrust of the Burundian judicial system led some refugees to abandon court proceedings in favour of traditional mediation, making it difficult for UNHCR to provide legal assistance.

Despite several sensitization programmes on the use of condoms for males and females, many people of concern refrained from using them in 2012, thus compromising UNHCR's efforts to prevent the spread of sexually transmitted diseases and reduce the number of unwanted pregnancies.

"Go-and-see" visits designed to allow refugees to make an informed decision about repatriation could not be undertaken due to political instability and the lack of security in the DRC.

Attempts to help the Government to find durable solutions for internally displaced persons (IDPs) were hindered owing to delays in the organization of workshops supposed to validate the 2011 report on IDP profiling.

### **Unmet needs**

- Approximately 1,000 returnees from previous years, as well as some 6,700 vulnerable returnees from Tanzania's Mtabila Camp in 2012, did not receive shelter assistance.
- Some 600 refugee children could not benefit from birth registration.
- Some 5,000 returnee children aged between 12 and 17 could not be provided with school supplies.

- Supplementary feeding programmes for vulnerable refugees, including pregnant and lactating mothers, people living with HIV, chronically ill persons and malnourished children were affected by breaks in the supply of corn-soya blend and other nutritional supplements.
- The arrival of more than 5,000 refugees from the DRC led to overcrowding in Bwagiriza Camp, where the initial arrivals were transferred, raising needs for additional medical and sanitation facilities in the camp.
- Many deaf and physically disabled children could not be covered by UNHCR's education programme.
- Sensitization programmes targeting authorities in the major return areas (Bururi, Makamba, Rutana, Ruyigi and Karusi) had to be reduced in comparison with 2011.
- Environmental protection programmes could not be adequately implemented, leading to erosion and soil degradation.
- Income-generating activities had limited impact, leaving most refugees largely dependent on assistance.

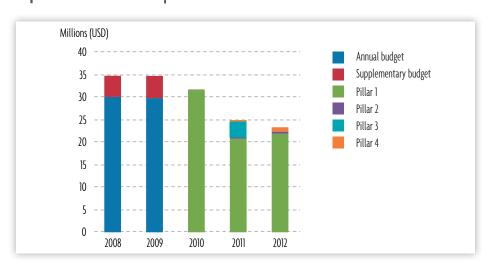
# **Working with others**

- In 2012, UNHCR in Burundi worked with four government partners, 10 implementing NGO partners and 15 operational partners (UN agencies and international NGOs).
- UNHCR participated regularly in inter-agency fora, such as UN Country Team meetings, and maintained cooperative ties with sister agencies involved in assisting refugees and returnees, including WFP (food rations); FAO (seeds and agricultural tools); UNICEF (child welfare); UNFPA (hygiene kits and condoms); UNDP (construction/maintenance of rural integrated villages for the benefit of returnees without access to land) and WHO (health activities). UNHCR participated in the preparation of the United Nations Development Action Framework document. The UN Office in Burundi remained a key partner, especially with regard to security for missions.

# Financial information

The financial requirements for UNHCR's operation in Burundi amounted to USD 30.8 million in 2012, and the level of funding available allowed the operation to expend USD 23.3 million. The 29 per cent reduction in requirements for 2012, compared to 2011, was a reflection of the decline in repatriation numbers over the past few years. However, the surge in the number of returnees in 2012, with the arrival of Burundians from Mtabila camp in the United Republic of Tanzania, increased budgetary requirements significantly towards the end of the year. The budgetary strain was felt even more with the influx of more than 5,000 refugees from the DRC during the year. As a consequence, not all planned projects could be carried out. Indeed, even some prioritized activities could only be partially implemented.

### **Expenditures in Burundi** | 2008 to 2012



	PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 2 Stateless programme	PILLAR 3 Reintegration projects	PILLAR 4 IDP projects	
FINAL BUDGET	28,894,186	663,253	0	1,263,407	30,820,84
ncome from contributions	6,517,911	0	0	171,895	6,689,80
Other funds available / adjustments / transfers	15,338,069	479.472	24.257	806,403	16,648,20
FOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE	21,855,980	479,472	24,257	978,298	23,338,00
EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN					
Favourable Protection Environment					
nternational and regional instruments	0	111,221	0	160,073	271,29
Law and policy	4,774	74,383	0	158,693	237,8
Administrative institutions and practice	174,629	143,323	0	0	317,9
Access to legal assistance and remedies	107,239	0	0	0	107,23
Subtotal	286,642	328,927	0	318,766	934,33
Fair Protection Processes and Documentation					
Reception conditions	146,430	0	0	0	146,43
dentification of statelessness	0	19,472	0	0	19,47
Registration and profiling	175,092	0	0	160,573	335,66
Status determination procedures	317,852	0	0	0	317,85
ndividual documentation	0	36,262	0	0	36,26
Civil registration and status documentation	362,739	0	0	0	362,73
Family reunification	58,598	0	0	0	58,59
Subtotal	1,060,712	55,734	0	160,573	1,277,01
Security from Violence and Exploitation					
Protection from crime	97,944	0	0	0	97,94
Prevention and response to SGBV	936,165	0	0	0	936,16
Protection of children	528,233	0	0	0	528,23
Subtotal	1,562,342	0	0	0	1,562,34
Basic Needs and Essential Services					
Health	1,616,262	0	0	0	1,616,26
Reproductive health and HIV services	194,698	0	0	0	194,69
Nutrition	173,840	0	0	0	173,84
Food security	75,355	0	0	0	75,35
Water	158,773	0	0	0	158,77
Sanitation and hygiene	398,390	1,719	0	0	400,10
Shelter and infrastructure	1,314,083	0	0	0	1,314,08
Basic and domestic items	207,086	0	0	0	207,08
Services for people with specific needs	283,285	0	0	0	283,28
Education	957,651	0	0	0	957,6
Subtotal	5,379,423	1,719	0	0	5,381,14
Community Empowerment and Self Reliance					
Community mobilization	147,938	0	0	0	147,93
Coexistence with local communities	261,773	0	0	0	261,77
Natural resources and shared environment	26,782	0	0	0	26,78
	536,067			_	536,06

	PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 2 Stateless programme	PILLAR 3 Reintegration projects	PILLAR 4 IDP projects	
Durable Solutions					
Comprehensive solutions strategy	1,436	0	0	243,838	245,274
Voluntary return	4,448,851	0	0	0	4,448,851
Reintegration	802,162	0	0	0	802,162
Integration	109,330	0	0	0	109,330
Resettlement	170,914	0	0	0	170,914
Subtotal	5,532,693	0	0	243,838	5,776,530
$Leadership, Coordination\ and\ Partnerships$					
Camp management and coordination	215,585	0	0	0	215,585
Donor relations and resource mobilization	162,546	0	0	0	162,546
Subtotal	378,131	0	0	0	378,131
Logistics and Operations Support					
Logistics and supply	3,374,741	0	0	0	3,374,741
Operations management, coordination and support	925,494	90,718	0	228,693	1,244,904
Subtotal	4,300,235	90,718	0	228,693	4,619,645
Balance of instalments with implementing partners	2,383,241	2,374	0	26,429	2,412,045
Total	21,855,979	479,472		978,298	23,313,749

Income from contributions 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. Contributions towards all pillars are included under Pillar I.