

## Partnership between AIRD and UNHCR Burundi

As UNHCR's logistics partner in Burundi, AIRD plays a key role in supporting humanitarian operations for refugees, returnees, and internally displaced and stateless persons. AIRD Burundi provides comprehensive logistics and operational support that ensures the effective and timely delivery of humanitarian assistance across the country.

Within this collaboration, AIRD is responsible for the transportation of persons of concern and their belongings, the management of transit centers, and the operation of four warehouses that serve as critical hubs for the storage and dispatch of relief items. AIRD also supports reintegration activities to facilitate the smooth return and resettlement of returnees.

During the Congolese refugee crisis, which began in February, AIRD, under the mandate of UNHCR, was tasked with providing daily food assistance to over 45,000 displaced individuals at the Gihanga and Rugomba reception centers. This rapid and large-scale intervention demonstrated the effectiveness and responsiveness of the AIRD–UNHCR partnership in addressing sudden humanitarian emergencies.

The partnership has had a significant positive impact on the humanitarian response in Burundi. It enables UNHCR to deliver assistance more efficiently and reach populations in need, including those in remote and hard-to-access areas, thereby strengthening the overall humanitarian response in Burundi. By ensuring the safe and efficient transport of refugees, returnees, and internally displaced persons, as well as the timely delivery of humanitarian supplies, AIRD helps to improve living conditions and access to essential services for thousands of vulnerable people.



*In the photo: Reception of kitchen sets at the AIRD–UNHCR warehouse in Bujumbura, Burundi. © AIRD, 2025.*

The effective management of transit centers and warehouses has strengthened supply chain reliability and reduced delays in aid distribution. In addition, AIRD's support to reintegration activities has facilitated the dignified and sustainable return of Burundian refugees from neighboring countries.

Operationally, the partnership has enhanced AIRD's logistical expertise and coordination with government and humanitarian actors, contributing to a more efficient, agile, and resilient humanitarian system.