

THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO SITUATION

This update concerns the situation of Congolese refugees and asylum seekers in countries in the region.

As of 30 June 2019, **861,077 Congolese refugees are being hosted in several African countries**. From 1 January to 30 June 2019 alone, some 49,660 Congolese fled to neighboring countries, with a particularly **significant increase** in refugee flows to Uganda.

UNHCR together with 57 humanitarian and development partners launched the revised **2019-2020 Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP)** on 30 June 2019 **to help respond to the needs of Congolese refugees in Africa**.

KEY INDICATORS



861,077*

Total of refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC



10,863

New arrivals in June 2019

49,660 **

Total of new arrivals in 2019



51

Total number of Congolese refugees assisted to return in 2018.

AGE, GENDER BREAKDOWN ***



50.2%

Men



49.8%

Women



55.4%

Children



42%

Adults



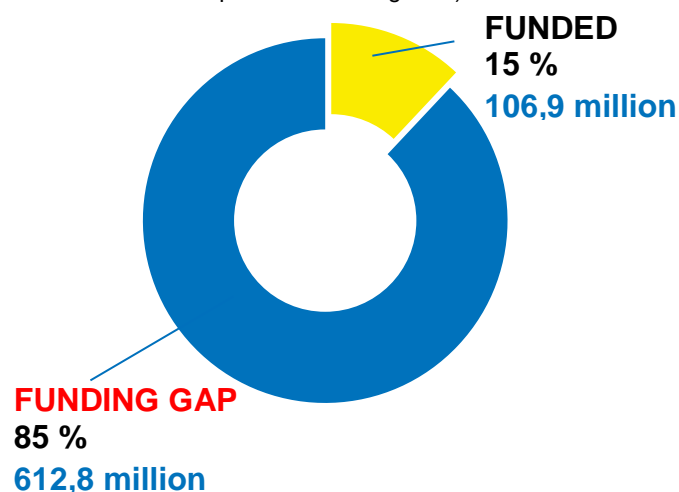
2.6%

Elderly

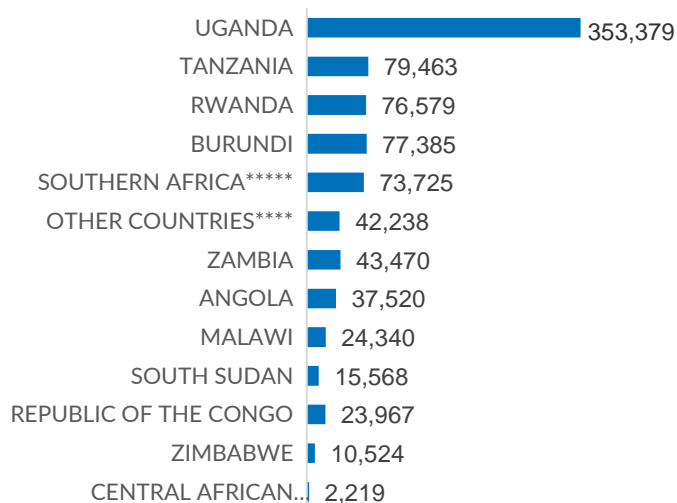
FUNDING

USD 720 million

Interagency RRRP requirements for 2019 (This includes revised financial requirements for Uganda)



POPULATION OF CONCERN IN HOST COUNTRIES



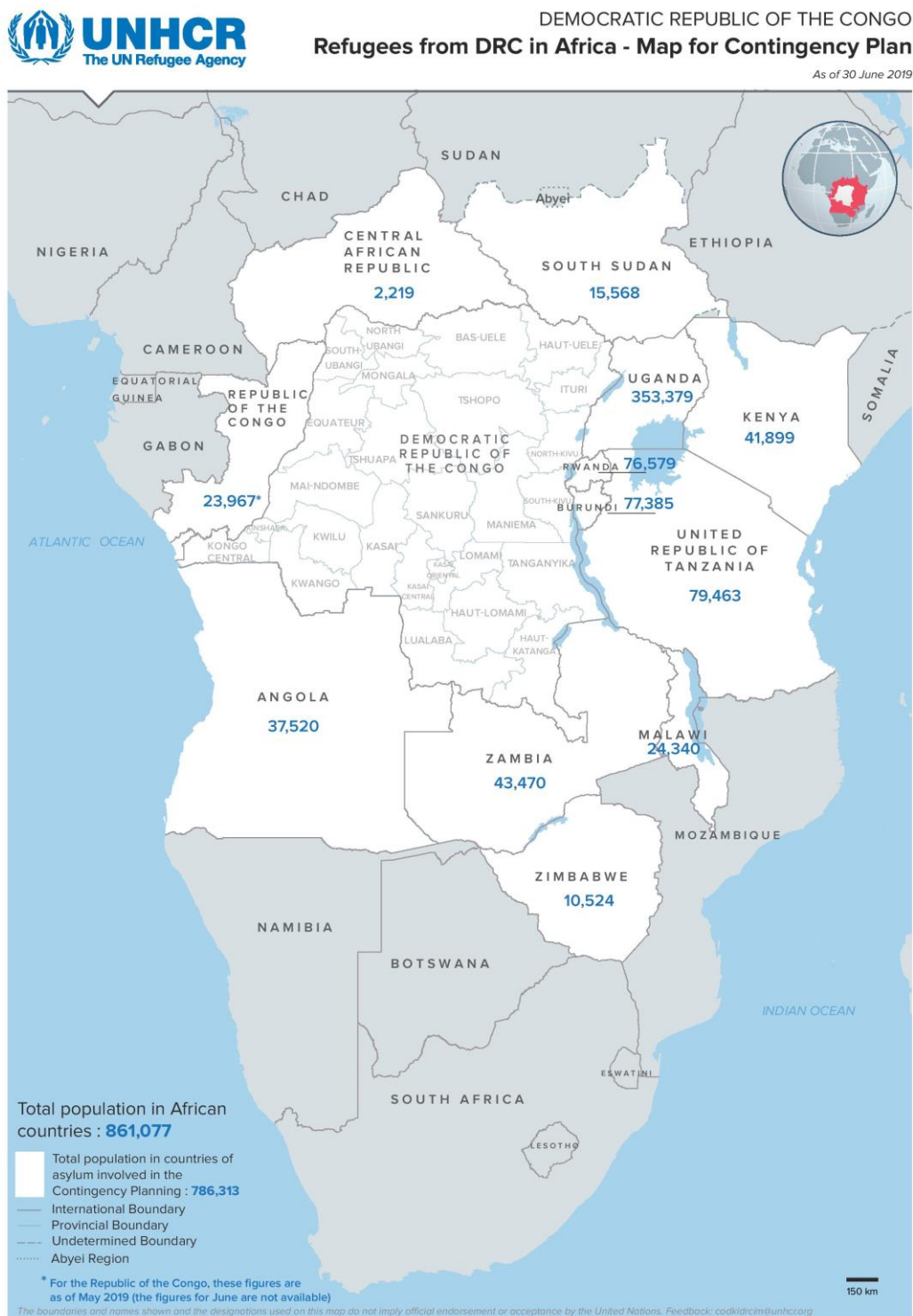
* **Total number** includes figures from Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Kenya, the Kingdom of Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, South Africa, South Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

** **New arrivals** include figures from Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Kenya, the Kingdom of Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Sudan, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

*** **This age and gender breakdown** include figures from Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Kenya, the Kingdom of Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

**** **Other countries** include Chad and Kenya.

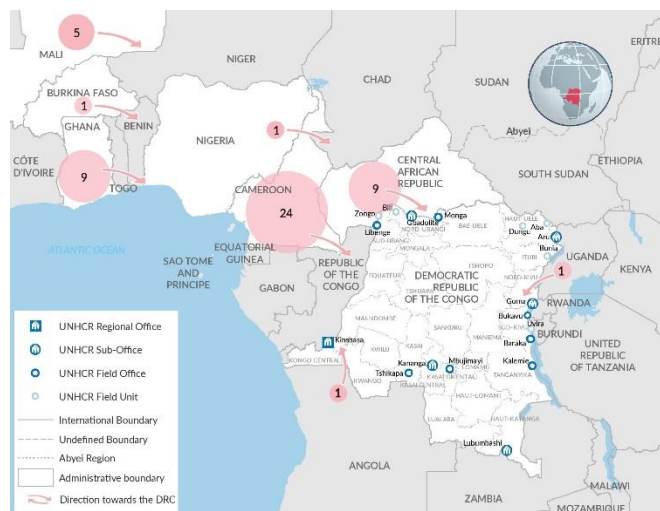
NUMBER OF REFUGEES & ASYLUM-SEEKERS in countries of asylum, as of the end of June 2019



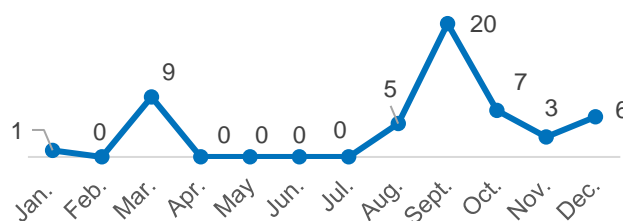
Regional Highlights and Operational Context

- Since 6 June, a flare-up of generalized violence between the Lendu and Hema communities has led to massive new displacements in Ituri province, Democratic Republic of the Congo. Thus, in June, 8,650 Congolese refugees fled to Uganda, nearly doubling the number of daily crossings as compared to May 2019. Together with the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) and humanitarian agencies, UNHCR is scaling up the transit and reception facilities to receive and accommodate new arrivals.
- In Angola, data collected following a return intention survey in Lóvua settlement mentioned that 85 per cent of the 7,740 adult Congolese refugees who were interviewed expressed willingness to return to DRC.
- As of 30 June, UNHCR relocated 1,156 Congolese asylum seekers to Bouemba site in the Plateaux Department, in the Republic of the Congo following violence which broke out in December 2018 in Yumbi, DRC.

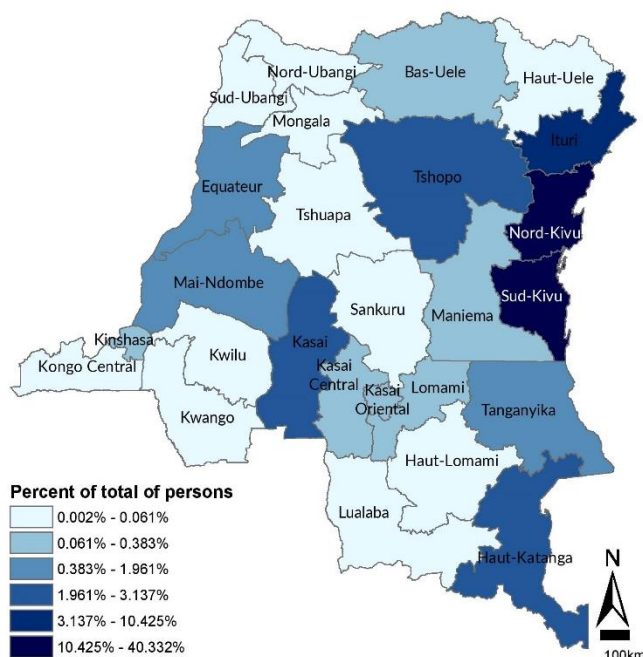
RETURNEES As of 31 December 2018



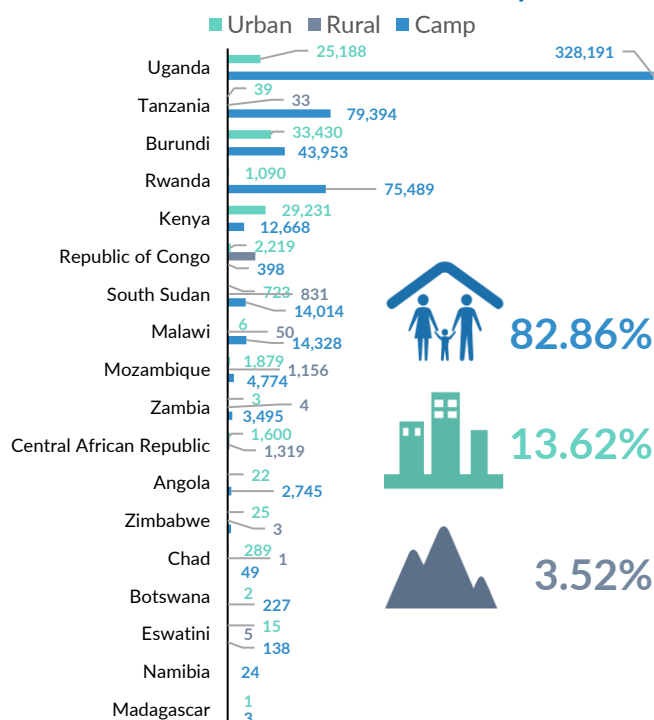
MONTHLY RETURNEES TREND Since January 2018



PROVINCES OF ORIGIN of Congolese Refugees



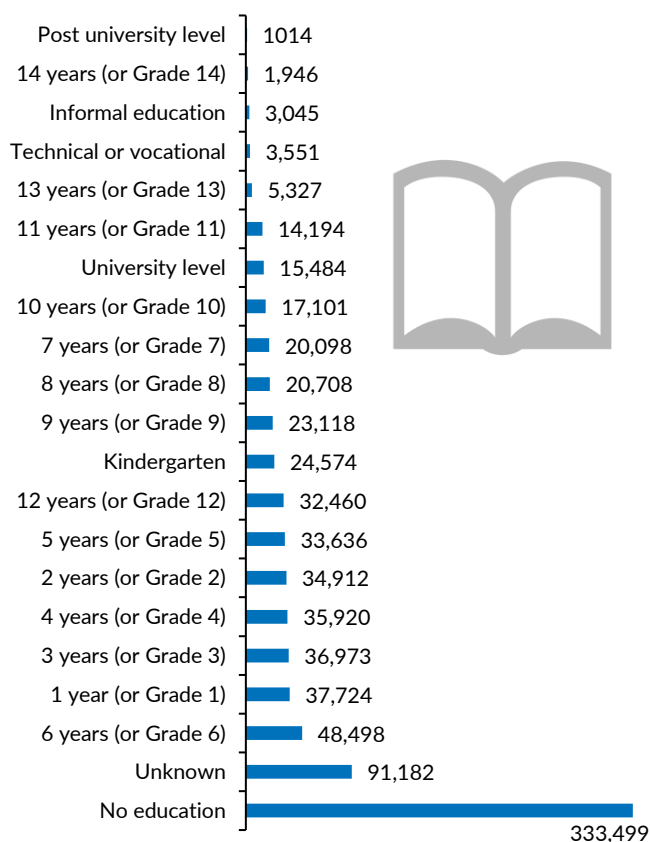
TYPE OF SETTLEMENT in Countries of Asylum



The above map includes figures from Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Kenya, the Kingdom of Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, the Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

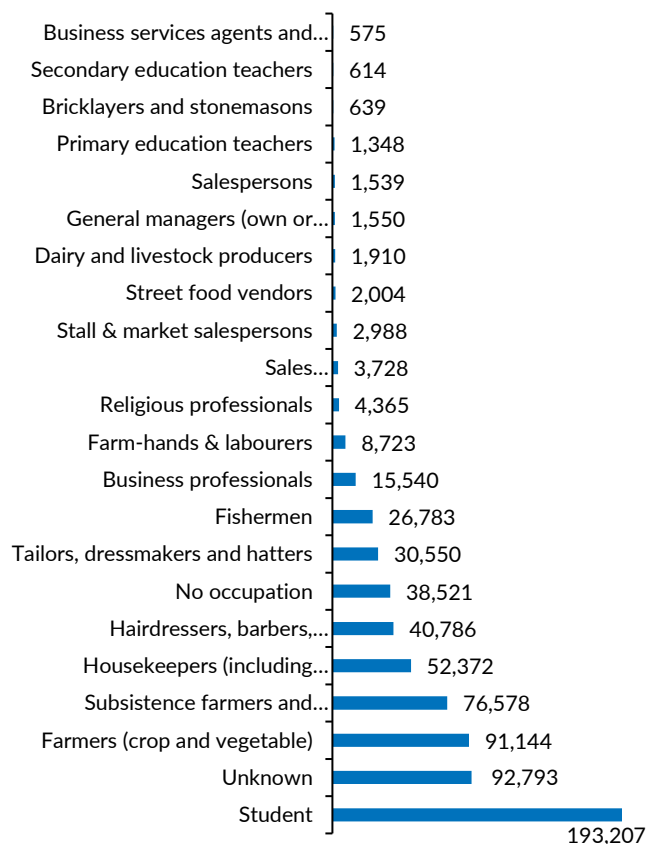
EDUCATION LEVEL OF REFUGEES

Number of Persons per Level



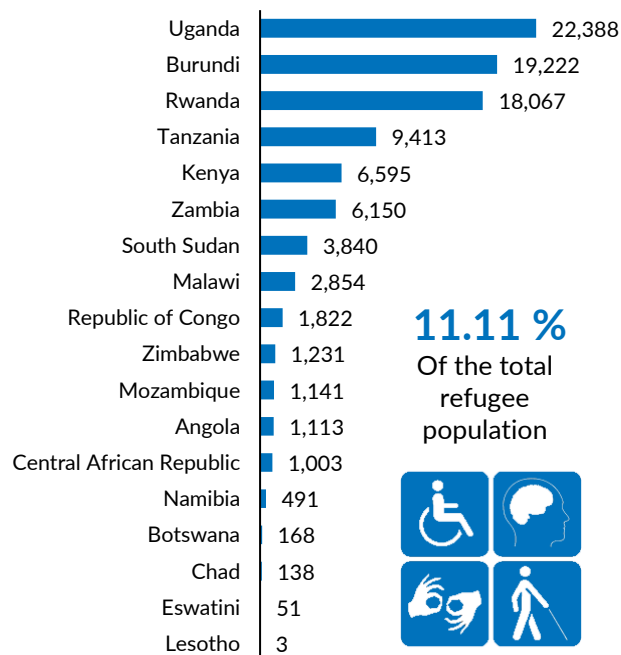
OCCUPATION OF REFUGEES

Number of Persons by Type of Occupation



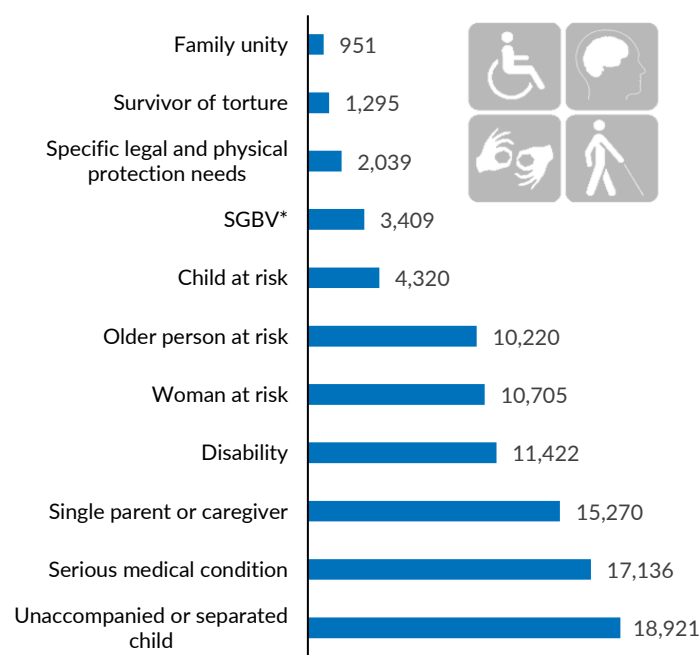
NUMBER OF PERSONS WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS

Per Country of Asylum



NUMBER OF PERSONS WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS

Per Category of Concern



* Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)

The above charts include figures from Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Kenya, the Kingdom of Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, the Republic of Congo, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Achievements during the Reporting Period

ANGOLA



OPERATIONAL CONTEXT & COORDINATION

Understanding the needs, concerns and expectations of Congolese refugees located in Lóvua settlement is a key part of the durable solutions strategy and vital to ensuring that refugees can take an active role in shaping their futures. Data collected following a return intention survey mentioned that 85 per cent of the 7,740 adult Congolese refugees who were interviewed, expressed willingness to return to DRC. A majority of refugees reported the challenging living conditions in Angola, and the security and educational opportunities in DRC being better than in Angola. In regard to the timeline for return, 55% said they do not know, as they expect UNHCR and the Government of DRC to decide when is the right time for their return. However, when it comes to the expected conditions of return since the election of the new President, the majority of them do not want to return to their area of origin, instead many want to return to Kinshasa.



FOOD SECURITY & NUTRITION

- Food commodities required for June distributions were procured and delivered on time to relevant extended distribution points (EDPs) in Lóvua settlement to ensure that refugees receive the planned food basket at full ration. The food pipeline based on the current caseload is covered until March 2020.



LIVELIHOODS

- UNHCR supported agricultural production by providing agricultural inputs such as seeds and tools to 941 refugees and 150 host community members.

BURUNDI



PROTECTION

- 77,385 Congolese refugees and asylum seekers are currently receiving humanitarian assistance from UNHCR and its partners in camps and urban areas.
- 710 new DRC asylum seekers were registered. Since January 2019, refugee status was granted to 5,773 DRC asylum seekers. A total of 177 resettlement cases were submitted, and 315 Congolese refugees departed for resettlement countries.
- 158 Congolese refugees were transferred from Cishemere Transit Center and Bujumbura urban communities to Nyankanda camp.
- UNHCR worked towards improving gender equality through assistance given to survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) in addition to prevention measures. In Kinama and Musasa camps, SGBV prevention workshops have been conducted. The following topics were discussed with refugees: fight against child marriage and early pregnancy and how to Engage Men in Accountable Practice (EMAP).
- 1,022 children between seven and 14 years old with specific needs received clothes from private donors.
- UNHCR and partners closely monitored detention condition for refugees and asylum seekers involved in various criminal cases. Findings show that they have limited access to food. Solutions are being discussed with UNHCR's partner International Rescue Committee (IRC).



EDUCATION

- UNHCR facilitated the transport and housing of 287 children living in the five camps to pass their secondary education final exam in Bujumbura. In addition, 1,079 children attended the end of primary school exam in the five camps.
- UNHCR provided scholarships for 10 refugees at the tertiary level through the Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative (DAFI). The purpose of the DAFI Programme is to contribute to the self-reliance of refugees by providing them with a professional qualification for future employment.
- Classes remain overcrowded (between 70 and 80 students per classroom). Additional qualified teachers are needed. In addition, recreational spaces for children are lacking in all camps.



HEALTH

- UNHCR sprayed individual houses in all refugee camps to prevent and limit the propagation of insects able to transmit diseases.
- 6,970 refugees living in Nyankanda, Kavumu and Bwagiriza camps participated in sensitization session on HIV/AIDS, Ebola and other infectious diseases conducted by UNHCR's partner Conseil pour l'Education et le Développement (COPEDE). In addition, UNHCR's medical partner continued the measles vaccination campaign. In Ruyigi Province, all refugees and asylum seekers have been vaccinated against measles.



FOOD SECURITY & NUTRITION

- UNHCR's partner the World Food Programme (WFP) distributed food items in all five camps targeting 44,266 refugees.
- UNHCR conducted nutritional screenings targeting a total of 1,099 children in Kinama and Musasa camps of whom 291 children have been identified as moderately malnourished children, and have been given supplement (enriched flour). Moreover, 734 refugees were sensitized on the impact of poor nutrition and the promotion of good nutrition practices.



SITE PLANNING, SHELTER & NFIs

- UNHCR's partner trained refugees in all camps on maintaining and fixing shelters themselves. In a context of asylum, these workshops give tools to refugee in having control over their living conditions and not having to rely on UNHCR's team to provide all services. Furthermore, it improves the sense of community as refugees who have been trained can support others in the camp in doing shelter repairs.
- UNHCR is addressing the energy needs of refugees by utilizing solar-powered lighting at Nyankanda camp. Moreover, UNHCR constructed an environmentally-friendly waste disposal plant at Musasa Camp.
- Shelter maintenance kits need to be revised to improve shelter performance and durability.



WASH

- When the water quality is degraded, personal hygiene suffers and the incidence of parasitic, fungal, and other infectious diseases as well as diarrhoeal diseases increases immediately. To ensure safe access to water, UNHCR selected locations in all camps for testing water quality. Moreover, UNHCR is looking at solutions to ensure access to sufficient quantities of safe water at Musasa camp.
- UNHCR rehabilitated damaged WASH facilities in camps and transit sites and chlorinated water points.
- UNHCR and partners conducted several awareness raising workshops on hygiene, wastewater and waste management. These workshops have a practical approach teaching refugee for example: how to properly clean their hands, why not to reuse untreated wastewater and how to store waste safely to avoid pollution.
- Deteriorated WASH facilities in schools affect the overall educational experience for all school students, putting them at further risk of health problems.



LIVELIHOODS

- Following a market study conducted to implement cash-based interventions in refugee camps, UNHCR signed an agreement on 18 June with Burundian phone company Lumitel, to incorporate a money transfer tool which will reduce the risk of robberies and will allow UNHCR to transfer cash in a safe manner to persons of concerns.

MALAWI



OPERATIONAL CONTEXT & COORDINATION

- As of 30 June, Malawi was host to 24,340 Congolese refugees and asylum seekers.
- During the reporting period, 389 new DRC asylum seekers were registered.
- UNHCR trained Government registration officers and handed over registration activities. UNHCR will continue to support the national institutions where and when necessary.



PROTECTION

- Dzaleka camp remains congested at 300 per cent of its capacity thus negatively impacting on the services provided. UNHCR identified a new site in Katubza to decongest the camp.



HEALTH

- UNHCR delivered 6,000 Health passports to PoCs living in Dzaleka camp, Karonga transit center, Chitipa waystation, Mbilima and Songwe border. Health passports which usually need to be purchased are required to access free healthcare services.
- 25 health workers from Karonga and Chitipa attended a trainings on Infection prevention and control, vital signs, Integrated Management of Childhood illnesses, nonviolent communication and Emergency Triage Assessment and Treatment (ETAT).
- Dzaleka Health centre serves over 70 000 individuals which is way above the catchment population for a Health centre of 10 000, this impacts on the quality. Current Dzaleka Health centre expansion plan will improve services.
- As Health services in Dzaleka are overstretched, UNHCR is planning on expanding the Health center and providing additional staff and equipment.



WASH

- UNHCR organized a 'Keep our Camp Clean' campaign at Dzaleka refugee camp and Karonga transit center, involving 285 participants. In addition, cleaning materials were provided in Karonga, Chitipa and Mbilima sites.
- A solid waste management survey was finalized at Dzaleka camp. To reduce environmental impacts, the use of organic inputs such as manure was recommended as well as the production of briquettes, an alternative and environmentally-friendly solution for cooking.

REPUBLIC OF CONGO



PROTECTION

- The relocation of DRC asylum seekers to the site of Bouemba is ongoing. 23 households (85 individuals) have been relocated during the reporting period.
- 12 cases of sexual and gender-based violence were identified at Bouemba site and were referred to service providers.
- In an ongoing effort to prevent sexual and gender-based violence at Bouemba site, UNHCR organized an awareness campaign on sexual violence targeting 75 asylum seekers.



HEALTH

- UNHCR's partner Terre Sans Frontières (TSF) conducted 1,507 consultations at Makotimpoko, Bouemba and Betou integrated health centers and at the hospital in Impfondo. Moreover, 216 Congolese refugee women benefited from prenatal consultations. UNHCR recorded 29 safe births attended by skilled personnel. The main challenges remained the shortage of essential drugs, the lack of anti-retroviral (ARV) tablets and HIV tests and the lack of nutritional assistance for HIV positive patients at Bouemba and Betou health centers.
- Six Congolese refugees undertook voluntary HIV testing in Betou. Counselling was provided to patients by health professionals.
- Due to lack of funding, refugees have limited access to health facilities located in Thanry, Lopola, Mokabi and Mouale.



SITE PLANNING, SHELTER & NFIs

- A total of 324 shelters have been constructed in Bouemba settlement housing 1,047 Refugees. As of end of May, 1,358 RHUs remain in stock for the relocation of asylum seekers in Bouemba. The relocation/construction of RHUs is ongoing.



WASH

- UNHCR provided 600,000 liters of safe water at Bouemba settlement.
- 17 WASH facilities (latrines and showers) were constructed at the settlements.

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA



OPERATIONAL CONTEXT & COORDINATION

- As of 30 June, Tanzania was host to 79,463 Congolese refugees and asylum seekers.
- The common markets in Nduta, Mtendeli and Nyarugusu camps remained closed during the reporting period, compromising refugees' ability to supplement their food rations with fresh produce. Advocacy with the Government of Tanzania to reopen the markets continues.



PROTECTION

- UNHCR organized interactive awareness-raising sessions at Nyarugusu camp on sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) targeting over 100 Congolese refugees.
- Over 30 Congolese cluster leaders and women committee members attended a workshop at Nyarugusu camp aimed at exploring the root causes and ways to end SGBV in the refugee community. Moreover, a meeting was held between religious leaders and SGBV actors to strengthen and better coordinate SGBV prevention and response.
- Access to territory and asylum remains a major challenge for Congolese asylum seekers following the closure of all border entry points. UNHCR advocates to ensure that newly arriving asylum seekers and refugees have access to the territory and access to asylum and asylum procedures.



EDUCATION

- In an effort to address the current shortage of learning materials, UNHCR's partner the International Rescue Committee (IRC) distributed over 15,000 exercise books to Congolese students studying at Nyarugusu camp.
- 30 students participated in ICT literacy trainings at e-learning centres at Nyarugusu camp. They learnt how to connect computers and tablets to projectors and design power point presentations.
- An insufficient number of classrooms, textbooks and school latrines remains at Nyarugusu camp. UNHCR advocates to secure additional funding.



HEALTH

- The crude mortality rate stood at 0.1/1000 population/month and the under-five mortality rate at 0.4/1000 population/month in June, which are within sphere standards. Over 21,000 consultations were carried out at various health facilities serving the Congolese caseload. The leading cause of morbidity during the reporting period was upper respiratory tract infection, followed by malaria, lower respiratory tract infection, urinary tract infection and diarrhea.
- UNHCR, in collaboration with the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and health partners, held two meetings on Ebola preparedness at Nyarugusu camp. The purpose of the meeting was to raise awareness amongst all stakeholders on Ebola in the event of an influx of asylum seekers from the DRC.
- A shortage of contraceptives for mass distribution remains. More funding is required to address the

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