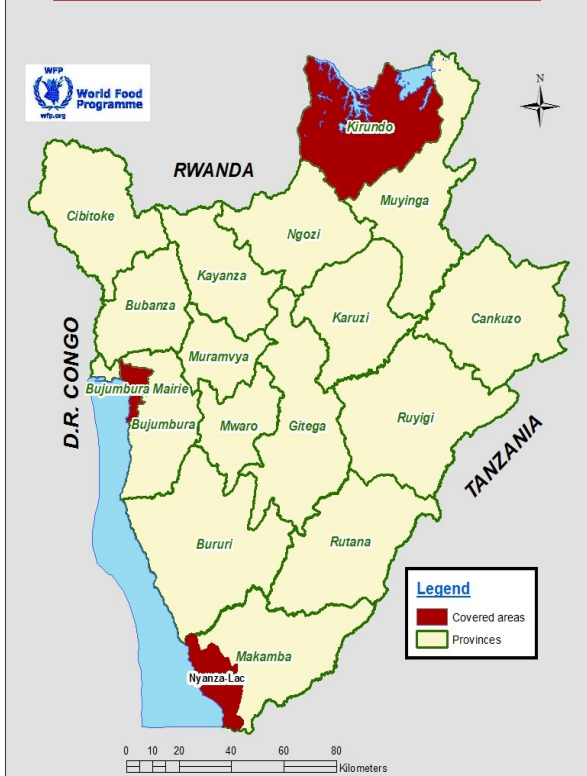




World Food Programme

Burundi

Food Assistance to Affected Populations of Political Violence in Burundi



Burundi: Food Assistance to Affected Populations of Political Violence in Burundi

Highlights

- In Burundi, the security situation is deteriorating, with an increase of clashes between the police and alleged armed civilians during night patrols.
- The second round of general food distributions (GFD) is under way in Makamba, Kirundo, and Bujumbura Rural. Around 1,160 mt of food will have been distributed to 105,310 beneficiaries by the end of August
- According to the UNHCR statistics, an estimated 184,152 Burundians are seeking asylum in neighboring countries

Situation Update

- The security situation continues to be a concern. Clashes between the police and alleged armed civilians occur on a daily basis in Bujumbura capital during night police patrols, particularly in the areas that demonstrated against President Nkurunziza's third term. On the night of 9-10 August, automatic gunfire and explosions of grenades were heard in Jabe, Nyakabiga and Cibitoke quarters. In Jabe, a vehicle belonging to a civilian was set ablaze. An anti-fire truck was prevented from arriving at the scene by automatic gunfire and two police officers were seriously injured. Six people were arrested by the Police.
- According to media reports, in a closed briefing to the UN Security Council on 10 August, the Assistant Secretary General for Human Rights Ivan Šimonović stated that the situation in Burundi is "rapidly degenerating toward renewed armed conflict with possible repercussions in the sub-region, as well as with a risk of mass atrocities".
- Following the closed-door meeting, the Security Council issued an appeal for dialogue, demanding that Burundi's Government resume talks with the opposition. The council also backed a plan by UNSG Ban Ki-moon to send a high-level envoy to the country to ease tensions.
- On 11 August, the government spokesperson announced that Burundi is ready for dialogue in strict compliance with Burundian law and called the Ugandan facilitator to resume the dialogue
- According to OCHA report (Humanitarian Snapshot -as of 10 August), within Burundi, people have been internally displaced, although the exact number of IDPs cannot yet be determined. No IDP sites have emerged, as people are being hosted by families and friends and are reluctant to identify themselves as IDPs for fear of being linked to a political agenda. This has complicated efforts by partners to assess humanitarian needs.
- Going forward, there is concern about the larger socio-economic impact of the political crisis, as food prices have risen significantly, tax revenues have declined, and foreign aid - which accounts for about half of Burundi's national budget - is being significantly scaled back or suspended entirely by donors upset with the political impasse and rampant human rights violations. This, combined with existing high levels of vulnerability in Burundi, could lead to increasing humanitarian needs in the coming months.
- The persistent fear of the upsurge of a civil conflict has caused extensive migration of the Burundians into neighboring Rwanda, Tanzania, DRC and Uganda. The most recent UNHCR reports state that 184,152 sought refuge in neighboring countries since April this year.

In numbers

People affected: 270,000

Provinces affected: Makamba, Kirundo, Bujumbura Mairie

People displaced: Figure unavailable

People in need of food assistance: 100,000 (1st phase, GFD [June –September])

Funding Update:

An advance financing of USD387,256.54 for Burundi PRRO 200655 was awarded to WFP

FFP/USAID contributed USD 1 million to the PRRO to support the emergency response.

WFP Response

- WFP in cooperation with the Red Cross is implementing the second round of general food distribution to people affected by the ongoing socio-political crisis in the three targeted provinces (Kirundo, Makamba, Bujumbura Mairie).
- Following a nutrition screening carried out in Makamba province and which showed a global acute malnutrition (GAM) rate of 7.3 percent and 1 percent severe acute malnutrition (SAM), WFP and partners are preparing to implement targeted supplementary feeding to treat moderate acute malnutrition among children below 5 years, pregnant and breastfeeding women, and a blanket supplementary feeding to prevent undernutrition among children aged 6-23 months, pregnant and breastfeeding women in the area.



Food Assistance

- The second round of general food distribution is under way in the Kirundo, Makamba and Bujumbura Mairie provinces.
- In Kirundo, 75,000 people are receiving monthly rations. WFP plans to distribute 1,160 mt of food. As per upcoming distribution preparedness and beneficiaries' participation, 18 food management committees have been elected and trained by WFP's cooperating partner Burundian Red Cross. 50% of 262 committees' members as well as members of 18 committee directorates are women.
- In Makamba, the second round of food distribution is taking place in Kabonga. It aims to address the urgent food needs of beneficiaries from Mukerezi, Kabonga, Gisenga, Gasaba and Nyabigina collines of Kabonga zone, Nyanza Lac Commune. In total, 29,960 beneficiaries will receive assistance and a total of 370 mt is planned to be distributed. Out of the planned caseload, 17,125 are females and 12,835 are males.
- In Bujumbura Mairie, around 4 tons of food are being distributed to 350 beneficiaries.
- Blanket Supplementary Feeding distribution planned for Kirundo is expected to start towards the end of August.



Logistics

- Logistics continues the dispatching of around 1,534 mt of food in Makamba, Kirundo and Bujumbura Mairie to be distributed to people affected by the current crisis. Food delivery also continued in the framework of normal operations.

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Clusters

- Clusters are not yet activated

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<https://www.wfp.org/countries/burundi>

Partnerships

- WFP is partnering with Red Cross Burundi and IMC for the general food distribution and blanket supplementary feeding to nutritionally vulnerable groups, with oversight and support from WFP Bujumbura office as well as Gitega, Ngozi and Cibitoke sub-office.
- WFP is also partnering with UNICEF in a joint nutrition project to be carried out in Kirundo and Makamba.
- WFP also partnered with the NGO Pathfinder to carry out a nutrition screening in Makamba province in July.
- Another joint project with UNICEF, FAO, UNFPA, and UN Women on food security and nutrition is under preparation.

Resourcing Update

- The operation is facing shortfalls amounting to USD9.6 million for the next 6 months (August 2015-January 2016). If new resources are not received soon, the operation is likely to face serious resource shortfalls from November onwards. While the country office addresses these needs, it is essential to ensure ongoing programmes continue to be funded so as to continue normal programming, otherwise many already very food insecure families may find themselves even more vulnerable and liable to be impacted by the crisis.