



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

- The demonstrations continued in Bujumbura, although with less intensity on Thursday and Friday than in previous days.
- As a consequence to prevailing political unrest , 90,659 Burundians (as of 28 May) have sought refuge in neighboring countries according to the UNHCR.
- The ongoing crisis threatens to generate significant humanitarian needs within Burundi and WFP is preparing to assist around 25,000 IDPs and host community members through an IR-EMOP.
- The DRR National Platform, WFP and the rest of the humanitarian community are carrying out, since Thursday 18 May, a two-day rapid multisectoral needs assessment in 10 hotspots provinces of the country.

## In numbers



**people affected:** To be determined

**provinces affected:** Hot spots provinces: Bururi, Rumonge, Makamba, Rutana, Ruyigi, Cankuzo, Kirundo, Muyinga, Kayanza

**people displaced:** To be determined

**people in need of food assistance:** To be determined

### Funding Update:

IR-EMOP 200851 (USD1.5 million) approved.

## Situation Update

- Demonstrations continued in Bujumbura, although with less intensity on Thursday and Friday than in previous days. One person was reportedly killed in rural province (Bururi) though police claims that the individual has died of a disease exacerbated by panic.
- The situation remains highly volatile. The persistent fear of the upsurge of a civil conflict has caused extensive migration of the Burundians into neighboring countries, namely Rwanda, Tanzania and DRC. Uganda is also receiving Burundian asylum seekers according to UNHCR reports.
- The most recent reports state that around 90,659 (as of 28 May) Burundians have crossed into neighboring countries for fear for their security. The UNHCR cut its estimates from 110,000 last Tuesday after "a head count of Burundian refugees in Kagunga" camp in Tanzania.
- The crisis also threatens to generate significant humanitarian need within Burundi itself, as markets are disrupted causing economic hardship in a country with some of the worst food and nutrition security indicators in the world. At this stage, no significant internal displacements have been

reported.

## WFP Response

- Under the umbrella of the National Platform, WFP and other UN interagency partners are carrying out since Thursday 28 May a two-day rapid needs assessment in the west, north and south of Burundi. The Provinces of Kirundo, Kayanza, Bujumbura municipality, Bujumbura Rural, Cibitoke, Rumonge, Makamba and Rutana are targeted.
- The results will inform interventions for the displaced and vulnerable host communities. Based on the findings, humanitarian partners will revise the inter-agency contingency planning.
- Following concerns over high malnutrition rates of children arriving in Rwanda from Kirundo province in Northern Burundi, the Ministry of Health is coordinating with UNICEF, WFP and others actors to conduct a nutritional screening through Concern Worldwide.



### Food Assistance

- In Bujumbura, WFP and partners have already identified around 500 IDPs currently hosted in a charity institution. WFP began food distributions to them on 20 May providing maize meal, beans and oil. More IDPs are expected in the country and the ongoing assessment mission will determine if more IDPs are congregated in different parts of the country.



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### Logistics

- WFP logistics is ready to deliver food to identified locations.

## Clusters

- Clusters are not yet activated

## Partnerships

- The Ministry of Health is coordinating with UNICEF, WFP and other humanitarian actors to carry out a nutritional screening in Kirundo and other identified provinces.
- The rapid assessments are being prepared under the leadership of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction/Prevention and involve sectoral ministries, the UN system (UNICEF, UNHCR, WFP, FAO, IOM, UNFPA and UNDP) and national (Red Cross, Caritas) and international (World Vision, CRS, IRC and Food for the Hungry) NGOs.

## Resourcing Update

- The needs (USD1.5 million) expressed in the approved IR-EMOP 200851 were covered through the Immediate Response Account (IRA).