



World Food Programme

## Burundi

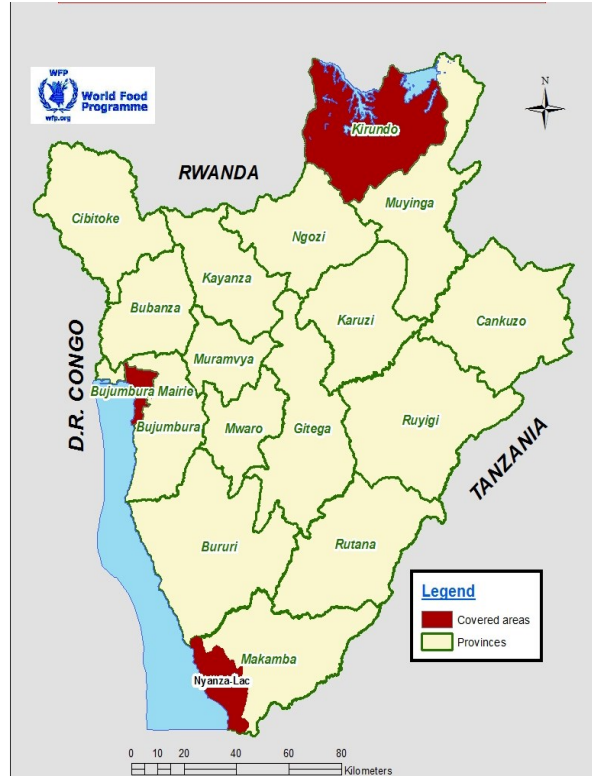
### Food Assistance to Affected Populations of Political Violence in Burundi

## Highlights

- Around 380 mt of food were distributed to about 5,500 beneficiaries in Kabonga-Nyanza-lac (Makamba) and distributions continue in Kirundo and Bujumbura Mairie.
- Around 100,000 people (20,000 households) require food assistance of the 270,000 affected by the current crisis. In Kirundo, 23,439 beneficiaries (3,780 children 6-23 months and 3,500 PLW for MAM prevention, and 15,046 children under 5 and 1,113 PLW for treatment of MAM) are targeted by the nutritional interventions due to begin early in August.
- According to the UNHCR statistics, Burundians seeking asylum in neighboring countries are estimated at 169,367 Burundians (as of 19 July).

## Situation Update

- Political tension persists: On 11 July, the Government of Burundi announced that it was postponing the Presidential elections from 15 July to 21 July, short of the call from the leaders of the East African Community (EAC) to delay the elections till 30 July. Shortly after the announcement, the opposition rejected the move, noting that the new date had been decided unilaterally and that the main issues of concern, most notably the lack of credible conditions for elections, had not been met.
- Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni arrived in Burundi on 14 July 2015. In his capacity as facilitator of the inter-Burundian dialogue, he met with President Nkurunziza, the opposition, civil society, religious leaders and other stakeholders. He noted that the stakeholders of inter-Burundian dialogue agreed to negotiate "intensively, continuously and expeditiously to reach an agreement". He also noted that the Ugandan Defence Minister would take over the mediation efforts as of today.
- Several political leaders who fled the country, including the former Vice-President of Burundi, stated on 15 July that they seek to establish a National Council for the Restoration of the Arusha Accord and Rule of Law in Burundi.
- Security remains unstable: Two days after the eruption of fighting between Burundi National Defense Forces and an unidentified armed group, the army spokesperson, in a press conference held on Monday 13 July, claimed that the army had killed 31 assailants and 170 captured. Fighting had broken out on Friday 10 July in Kayanza province in the north near the border with Rwanda.
- 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 169,367 Burundians (as of 19 July) have sought refuge in neighboring countries since April this year.



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

## 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:

IR-EMOP 200851 (USD1.5 million) was approved and funded through WFP's Immediate Response Account (IRA) to meet the needs of 25,000 for the initial three-months.

Additional needs generated by the current crisis amount to approximately USD 22 million. These are being incorporated into PRRO 200655 through a budget revision that is under preparation

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

## WFP Response

- WFP is providing food to 20,000 vulnerable households affected by the current crisis, in Kirundo, Bujumbura Mairie and Makamba. Meanwhile, it is preparing to carry out the targeted blanket supplementary feeding among children 6-23 months and pregnant and lactating women, and the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) for children 24-59 months and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) in the intervention area. For the prevention of MAM, children will receive

supercereal and PLW will be given supercereal, oil and sugar. For the treatment of MAM, children will have plumpysup, while PLW will be given supercereal, oil and sugar.

- The nutritional intervention was decided after a nutritional screening was conducted from 15-19 June in northern Burundi (Kirundo). A total of 97,447 children aged 6- 59 months (82 per cent coverage) were screened for acute malnutrition. Results showed 6 percent global acute malnutrition (GAM) and 1.5 percent severe acute malnutrition (SAM). While these results were encouraging, with GAM and SAM below emergency levels, partners are concerned that the ongoing harvest period may have buffered the prevalence of malnutrition in the region. A follow-up screening is therefore foreseen in six months. Preparations are underway to implement a similar nutritional screening in the southern province of Makamba.
- A similar nutritional screening is being implemented in the southern province of Makamba and the results will guide the decision about the type of nutrition intervention to be carried out.



## Food Assistance

- As of 18 July, roughly 68,250 beneficiaries have been reached (91 per cent out of 75,000 planned) during the first round of GFD in Kirundo province. Each beneficiary received one month food ration of full basket made of maize grain, pulses, vegetable oil and iodized salt. So far, 1,044MT of food have been distributed.
- In Kabonga-Nyanza-lac (Makamba) and Bujumbura Mairie, WFP distributed around 385 mt of food to about 5,500 beneficiaries . The distributions were launched on 7 July for 20,000 targeted households in the provinces of Kirundo, Bujumbura Mairie and Makamba affected by the ongoing crisis, in collaboration with CARITAS-Burundi.



## Logistics

- With the improvement of the security situation in Bujumbura, the majority of commercial transporters are ready to deliver food to many locations in-country. However, Kenyan transporters are still reluctant to coming in the country citing insecurity and this has adversely affected the available transport capacity to meet the growing demand for transport.

## Contacts

- Claude Kakule (Head of Programmes):  
claude.kakule@wfp.org/+257 71 449 183
- Michel Rwamo (Reports and Communication Officer):  
michel.rwamo@wfp.org/+257 79 838 593

## Clusters

- Clusters are not yet activated

## Partnerships

- WFP is partnering with the Ministry of Health, UNICEF and other humanitarian actors to prepare nutrition interventions in Kirundo and Makamba provinces. It is partnering with the Red Cross to distribute the immediate food assistance in Kirundo , Bujumbura Mairie and Makamba.

## Resourcing Update

- For the next six months (July-December), the country office will face cumulative shortfalls of around USD6.2 million under the present Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO). The critical shortfalls will begin in October if no resources are made available. Note that the PRRO is undergoing a budget revision to accommodate additional needs . While the country office addresses the needs brought about by the current crisis, 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.