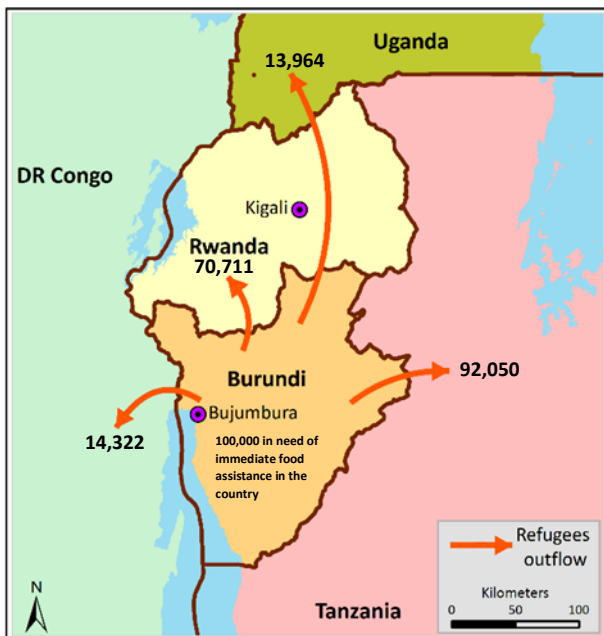




Photo: WFP/Tala Loudie



In numbers



> 191,000 refugees have crossed borders into neighbouring countries

> 100,000 people in Burundi in need of immediate food assistance

>1,000 new arrivals weekly into neighbouring countries

USD 87 million needed for 6 months to support operations that are responding to the Burundi crisis.

Resourcing		
	6-month Shortfall USD	6-month Shortfall %
Burundi PRRO	8 million	60%
DRC PRRO	27 million	36%
Rwanda PRRO	10 million	75%
Tanzania PRRO	20 million	68%
Uganda PRRO	22 million	64%
TOTAL	87 million	



World Food Programme

Burundi Crisis Regional Impact

Highlights

- Food stocks are stretched and WFP requires immediate contributions to meet the needs of vulnerable people in Burundi as well as new arrivals and existing refugees in the four countries. In particular, the Burundi and Rwanda operations risk critical pipeline breaks in the coming months.

Overview

The overall security situation in Burundi remains volatile, across the country, particularly in Bujumbura. There are reports of targeted attacks and assassinations against high-profile figures and political party members both in the opposition and the ruling party.

Refugees continue crossing borders into neighbouring countries. As at 10 September, more than 191,000 people had fled the country into the DRC, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. The majority of new arrivals are women and children who require urgent humanitarian assistance.

Burundi

The food security situation is likely to worsen in the coming months, with reduced food supply being compounded by diminishing purchasing and import power, as the crisis deepens the economic decline of the country. According to FEWSNET, food insecurity remains Stressed (IPC Phase 2) in areas where ongoing civil unrest and insecurity have disrupted agricultural activities, reducing harvest and labour opportunities for poor households, particularly in Kirundo, Makamba and Bujumbura Mairie Provinces. Furthermore, the September to December main lean season is expected to be more severe than normal in the affected provinces.

The capacity of both government and the private sector to import essential commodities, especially agricultural inputs, is being severely compromised, which is likely to undermine production prospects in the forthcoming season. This, coupled with extremely high levels of vulnerability will lead to increased humanitarian needs in coming months. WFP and partners plan to undertake an emergency food security assessment (EFA) in October to determine the food and nutrition outlook in the coming months.

The second round of food distributions was completed in August. WFP and partners are preparing the third round of food distributions in the third week of September. This assistance is in addition to WFP's ongoing intervention to provide support to already food insecure populations.

The operation, which also supports refugees from the DRC, is facing critical resource shortfalls. If new contributions are not received soon, there is a risk of pipeline breaks in the coming months.

Regional Update

Democratic Republic of Congo. As of 13 September, more than 14,000 refugees from Burundi had crossed the border into the DRC. Lusenda camp is almost reaching its capacity. Preparations and construction of Katungulu 1 site are ongoing to accommodate newly arrived refugees.

WFP is working closely with UNHCR, World Vision, Caritas and African Initiative for Relief and Development to provide high energy biscuits to new arrivals at border crossings and transit centres and monthly rations to households hosting new arrivals and those settled in the camp. In addition, WFP through partners is providing specialized nutritional products for treatment of acute malnutrition for children below 5 years, pregnant and breastfeeding women.

The “most likely” scenario in the revised Burundi Regional Refugee Response Plan projects the arrival of 30,000 refugees into the DRC.

Rwanda. As of 14 September, nearly 71,000 refugees had arrived in Rwanda. According to UNHCR, the total number of Burundian refugees had reduced after a verification exercise was conducted at Bugesera that showed that these individuals had spontaneously left the reception centre and their whereabouts are unknown. The majority of the refugees are located at the Nyanza, Bugesera and Nyagatare reception centres and at the Mahama camp, while the rest are in Kigali and other urban towns.

WFP has provided food assistance to more than 50,000 refugees at border crossing points, reception centres and at the Mahama camp. WFP is implementing nutrition interventions targeting moderately malnourished children below 5 years at the Mahama camp. Blanket supplementary feeding for children aged 6-59 months, pregnant and breastfeeding women is implemented alongside targeted supplementary feeding programmes.

The “most likely” scenario in the revised Burundi Regional Refugee Response Plan projects the arrival of 120,000 refugees into Rwanda.

Tanzania. As of 13 September, more than 92,000 people from Burundi had arrived in Tanzania. Given the influx of Burundian refugees at the Nyarugusu camp, which has reached its capacity, the Government of Tanzania has allocated three refugee camps, Nduta, Mtendeli and Karago in Kibondo District to accommodate the increasing number of Burundian refugees fleeing into Tanzania.

WFP continues to provide food assistance to newly arrived refugees at border entry points, transit and reception centres and those settled in camps, with a particular focus on the nutritional status of children, pregnant and breastfeeding women. WFP provides specialized nutrition products for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition among children below 5 years, pregnant and breastfeeding women and for prevention of acute malnutrition among children aged 6-23 months.

The “most likely” scenario in the revised Burundi Regional Refugee Response Plan projects the arrivals of 150,000 refugees into Tanzania.

Uganda. As of 03 September, nearly 14,000 Burundi refugees had arrived in Uganda. WFP is working closely with UNHCR and the American Refugee Committee (ARC) to provide hot meals at the Kabazana reception centres and monthly dry rations to those who have been settled. In addition to food assistance provided to new arrivals at the reception centres and in the settlements, WFP in partnership with UNHCR and Medical Teams International is providing nutritional products for treatment of moderate acute malnutrition for children below 5 years.

The “most likely” scenario in the revised Burundi Regional Response Plan projects the arrival of 20,000 refugees into Uganda.



Photo: WFP/Tala Loubie

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