

UNHCR Operation in Tanzania

Fact Sheet | September 2013



UNHCR Representative Ms. Mends-Cole hands over Mtabila camp to Deputy Minister of Home Affairs, Hon. Pereira Silima, July 2013

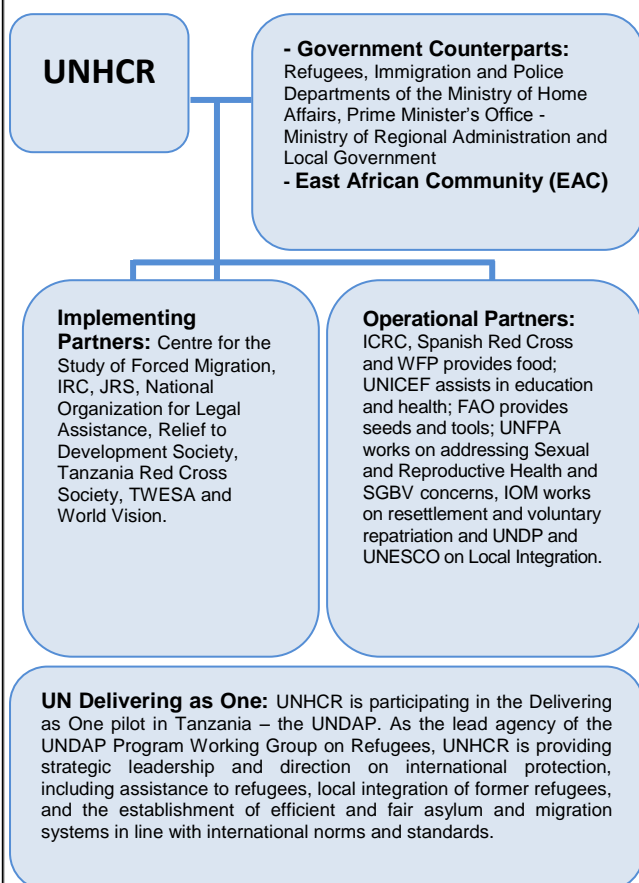
Operational highlights, July and August 2013

- Mtabila handover:** On 22 July 2013, UNHCR formally handed over Mtabila Camp to the Government of Tanzania. Mtabila Camp was closed in December 2012 following the orderly return movement of more than 34,000 Burundian former refugees and the transfer to Nyarugusu Camp of nearly 3,000 persons found to be in need of continued international protection. UNHCR through its partners, TWESA and Care, undertook camp cleanup and environmental rehabilitation before handing the camp over to the government along with its infrastructure worth over 1 million US dollars.
- Distribution of mosquito nets:** The UN Foundation through its “Nothing but Nets” campaign was on a charity mission to Kasulu on July 30 and 31 to support refugees and other persons of concern with insecticide-treated nets for malaria prevention in Nyarugusu Camp. Malaria is the leading cause of sickness among patients in the camp. United States based NBA player Stephen Curry of the Golden State Warriors and ESPN sportswriter Rick Reilly joined the delegation in the mosquito net distribution. The charity foundation donated 34,000 nets to combat malaria.
- Preparatory activities for verification:** UNHCR and the Government of Tanzania are working with other partners to plan for the verification of the Nyarugusu Camp population. The exercise will collect data, update individual refugee information and profiling to facilitate better planning for effective protection and assistance intervention. A thorough mass information campaign involving all actors including beneficiaries will take place before the commencement of the exercise to enable refugees and others residing in the camp to understand the nature of the verification project including its processes and implications.

Population of concern

NYARUGUSU CAMP & KIGOMA TOWN	Population
Burundi	3,956
DRC	64,168
Other nationalities	215
SETTLEMENTS	
Burundi refugees	8,867
Burundi-Newly Naturalized Tanzanians	162,156
Somali refugees	2,128
Somali-Naturalized	714
VILLAGES	
Burundi refugees	22,227
ASYLUM-SEEKERS	
Various	573
TOTAL	265,009

Working with partners



Activities in the camps

Some 68,000 refugees and persons of concern, mainly from DRC, are currently living in one camp (compared to 11 in 2007) in Kigoma Region. UNHCR and partners provide them with protection and rights-based assistance such as shelter, food, health, education, water and sanitation.



NBA star Stephen Curry and Kigoma Regional Commissioner demonstrate how to use the mosquito net in Nyarugusu Camp, July 2013

- Voluntary Repatriation and Other Returns:** Following the closure of Mtabila camp last year, a residual population of about 1,600 former refugees are still temporarily hosted in Nyarugusu camp. This group is comprised mostly of mixed marriages/nationality cases pending regularization of their immigration status, as well as exclusion cases. A gradual orderly return to Burundi is still on-going for those individuals whose cases are finalized for return. Since January 2013, 181 Burundians were assisted to return.
- Resettlement:** 2,666 refugees have been resettled in 2010, 237 in 2011, 687 in 2012 and 464 since the beginning of 2013.
- Asylum-Seekers:** There are a total of 573 registered individuals. Some are pending appearance before the National Eligibility Committee (NEC) while others are awaiting the final Refugee Status Determination appeal decisions. NEC sessions were held last May in Nyarugusu camp and Kigoma, the results of those should substantially bring down the number of asylum-seekers.

Local Integration Programme

Old Settlements: A government decision on the stalled naturalisation/Local integration programme for the 162,156 former Burundian refugees who arrived in Tanzania in 1972 is still pending. Nevertheless, UNHCR continues to engage in dialogue with the government in order to seek a final solution and way forward.



Villages: Some 22,227 refugees, who had spontaneously settled in villages in Kigoma region following Burundi's civil war of 1972 and were registered and verified for durable solutions continue to live in Kigoma pending a way forward on the bigger caseload in the Old Settlements.

Chogo Settlement: Since 2005, 714 Somali Bantus in Chogo Settlement, Tanga region, have been granted citizenship and allowed to settle permanently in Tanzania. In a joint exercise conducted by the government and UNHCR at the end of 2012, more than 2,000 Somali Bantus were verified. Subsequently, the naturalization application of 1,272 individuals is being processed. Nearly 300 individuals are expected to be considered for naturalization following the recent NEC session targeting around 800 individuals. During the verification in 2012, 67 individuals expressed their wish to maintain their refugee status.

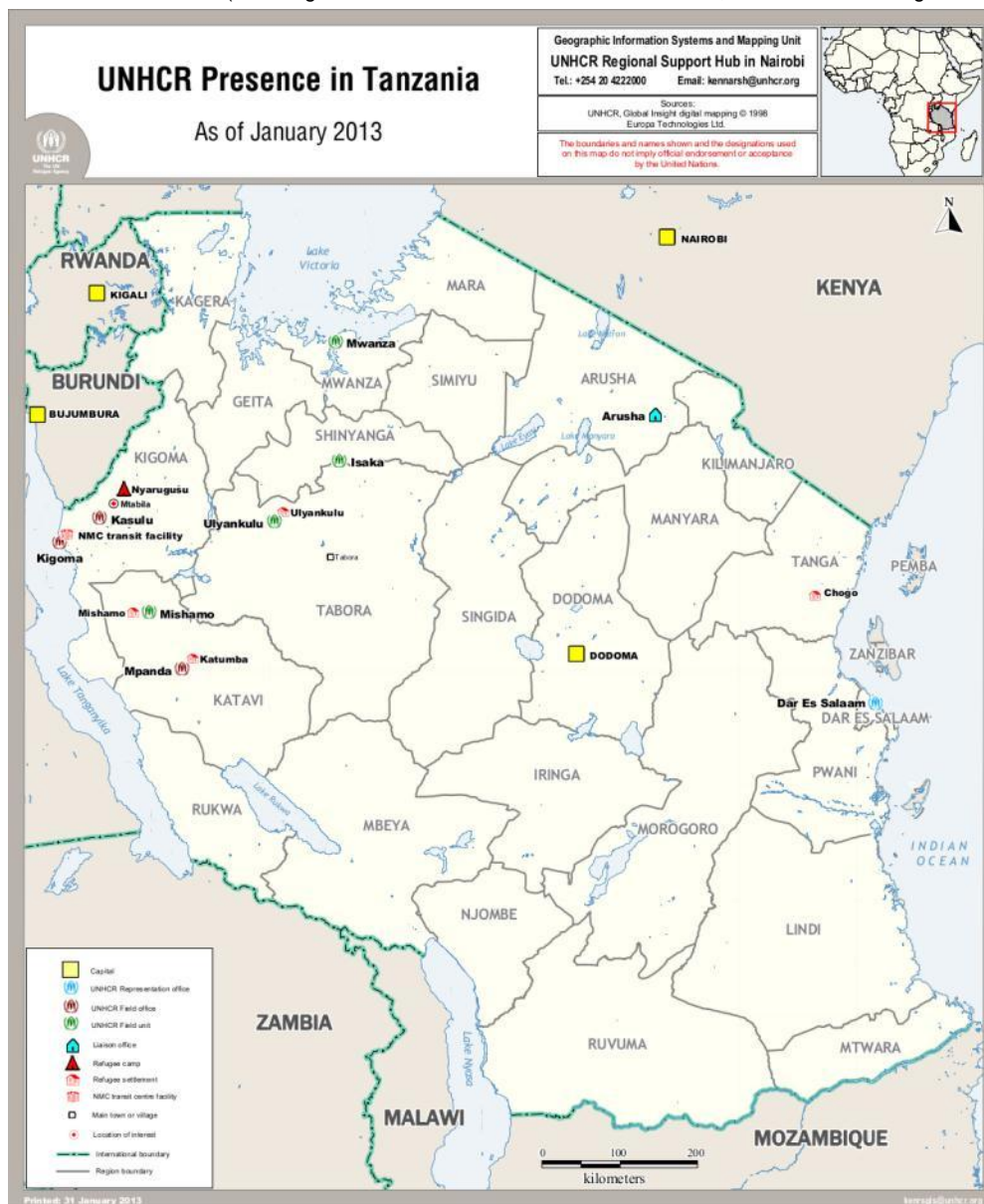
UNHCR operation in 2013 (in USD)

BY POPULATION	BUDGET	EARMARKED FUNDS AVAILABLE	SHORTFALL
Refugees in Camps and Asylum-Seekers	16,036,864	9,439,265	6,597,599
Local Integration for Newly Naturalized*	23,671,568	0	23,671,568
Total as of 31 August	39,708,432	9,439,265	30,269,167

* Due to the hold on local integration, the funds earmarked for this population were reallocated to support the closure of Mtabila camp and return of Burundian Former Refugees to Burundi, where possible.

UNHCR Presence and Staff

- Representation Office (Dar es Salaam), Field Offices (Kigoma, Kasulu and Mpanda), Field Units (Mishamo and Ulyankulu), Logistics Outposts (Mwanza and Isaka), Liaison Office (Arusha).
- UNHCR activities are currently carried out by: 102 national staff (including 4 national United Nations Volunteers and 8 individual contractors) and 36 international staff (including 13 international United Nations Volunteers, 2 ICMC and 3 Refuge Points): total 138.



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