

Access to adequate Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) services saves lives and is essential to uphold the health and dignity of populations in need. The provision of WASH infrastructure and services, coupled with the promotion of good hygiene practices, reduces the risk of water-related disease transmission and other health threats. In Burundi, the timely provision of WASH services is a priority for IOM to respond to some of the most urgent needs of the country's population, including internally displaced persons, returning refugees from Tanzania and other migrants.

IOM aims to:

- Assist the most vulnerable displaced populations with life-saving assistance in critical situations
- Contribute to alleviating the suffering caused by difficult living conditions linked to displacement
- Ensure the distribution of hygiene kits, the construction of Ventilated Improved Pit (VIP) latrines, and conduct sensitization sessions on good hygiene practices

## AT A GLANCE: IOM Burundi's WASH Activities

 **4,200** people in total assisted since January 2019

 **591** households assisted with family VIP latrines

 **189** households assisted with Hygiene kits

 **453** heads of households participated in hygiene sensitizations

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### WITH THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS:



# WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH) UPDATE

FEBRUARY 2020

## MAIN INTERVENTIONS

Thanks to funding from the Governments of Germany and Japan, IOM Burundi has:

- Established in February 2019 a full-time WASH unit to support its response throughout the country, building on experience gained since 2014 with the construction of improved water sources, including solar energy.
- Since January 2019, supported nearly 1,200 people with emergency WASH assistance, including Hygiene kits, Ventilated Improved Pit (VIP) latrines, and inclusive Hygiene sensitizations, in the areas of Buterere (in response to torrential rains and floods in January and April), Isale (torrential rains and strong winds in April) and Gatumba (torrential rains and strong winds in June).

*IOM Burundi's WASH unit incorporates gender and inclusion consideration in its approach, through a beneficiary selection based on vulnerability criteria. The modality of Cash-Based Intervention (CBI) is commonly used by the unit for project implementation, through Cash for Work to beneficiaries and local workers for the construction of latrines, and through the current development of a market assessment to analyze the potential monetization of WASH Non-Food Items (NFI) and construction materials.*

## IOM'S PARTICIPATION IN COORDINATION MEETINGS

In addition to the strong institutional WASH background the organization has globally, IOM in Burundi has been actively participating in WASH-related technical groups within the country, including the WASH sector and the Technical and Financial Partners Working Group.

Since 2015, IOM has served as co-lead of the Shelter/NFI sector, helping to improve collaboration with the WASH sector. IOM is also a member of the UN Humanitarian Country Team, the inter-sectoral coordination (ISC) group led by OCHA, the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction coordination mechanism (led by the Ministry of Public Security) and the Cash Transfer, Durable Solutions, Protection and Health groups. IOM is providing advocacy, analysis and advice on these topics, and supports the coordination of the overall project development and implementation strategy in the country.