Emergency Directors’ Visit to IDP camp on December 4 2015 © IOM 2015 (Photo: Oriane Bataille)

Highlights

**Situation Update**

- Efforts to monitor internal displacements in Burundi continue, as IOM extended the coverage of the DTM to Rutana Province.

- A humanitarian hotline (+257 22 27 40 10) was launched in October to increase two-way communication with affected communities.

**Flood Response**

- On November 5, IOM, the Burundian Red Cross and the Ministry of Social Affairs conducted an initial CCCM assessment in the Rumonge Province, affected by landslides.

- On November 13, IOM supported the Red Cross in setting up an IDP site for 161 households affected by the landslides.

**Forgotten Crisis**

- On September 29, 150 protection committee members were trained on psycho-social counseling and support in Rutana and Makamba Provinces.

- On November 17, IOM organized a socio-cultural event in Makamba Province to promote social cohesion, reconciliation and peace building.

**Situation Overview**

As of December 31, 2015, over 230,000 Burundians had fled the country since the socio-political situation started deteriorating in April 2015 (Source: UNHCR). As of October 2015, 14,804 persons were internally displaced in two provinces (Makamba and Kirundo) (Source: IOM). The Inter-Agency Humanitarian Contingency Plan, covering the period from September 2015 to February 2016, projects, that up to 500,000 people could be affected if the situation further deteriorates. IOM Burundi launched the Displacement Tracking Matrix and conducted the first assessments in the Makamba and Kirundo provinces to monitor internal displacement in the country and profile the IDPs including their humanitarian needs, which are further referred to the humanitarian community and the authorities. Additionally to the socio-political situation, Burundi entered into a rainy season that is expected to be extremely heavy due to the El Niño climate event that will hit Burundi. The authorities and the humanitarian community developed a joint response plan for a six month period, which is based on the national contingency plan and aims to plan for a better preparation of the response to the consequences of the expected excessive rainfalls in 11 provinces of Burundi (Cibitoke, Bubanza, Bujumbura Rural, Bujumbura Mairie, Rumonge, Muyinga, Ruyigi, Cankuzo, Kirundo, Rutana and Karuzi). The occurrence of the El Niño climatic phenomenon might reach or even exceed the strongest impact levels ever recorded in Burundi, as per information received from the Geographical Institute of Burundi (IGEBU). The Flood Response Plan, developed under the aegis of the national Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, for the period from October 2015 to March 2016 estimates that 75,000 individuals are likely to be affected. Furthermore, 79,000 Burundians who returned from Tanzania between 2012 and 2014, including 43,000 who had been forcibly repatriated from Tanzania are still in dire need of reintegration assistance (Source: IOM, HCT 24/04/2015).
At the global level, as well as at the country level in Burundi, IOM serves as the co-lead of the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) sector. Similarly, IOM is the co-lead of the Shelter/NFI sectoral group in Burundi. IOM is also an active member of the WASH, Reintegration, Protection and Health sectors. IOM Burundi is a committed member of all the humanitarian fora, established to strengthen the humanitarian coordination in the present Burundian context, namely the National Platform for Risk prevention and Disaster management, led by the Government, the inter-sectoral coordination mechanism, led by OCHA, the UN Country Team and the Humanitarian Country Team. IOM is the sole agency in charge of monitoring IDP movements in Burundi. IOM Burundi is extremely committed to support emergency preparedness and response efforts at the inter-sectoral level as well. The Organization has a strong experience in both the Shelter/NFI and CCCM sectors with dedicated specialized staff on the ground. IOM has been extremely engaged to coordinate the Shelter/NFI sectoral group by mobilizing partners towards mapping & enhancement of capacities and strategic preparedness including development of key tools.

On December 5, the IOM Director of Emergencies and Operations, Mohammed Abdiker, together with ten emergency directors from other UN agencies/NGOs, undertook a mission to Burundi to meet with the government authorities and the humanitarian community, to assess the humanitarian situation in the field.

Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)

In light of the fluid and fluctuating context in Burundi, there is an acute need to better understand population movements and internal displacement. IOM developed the DTM to systematically collect data on displaced populations and share information among the government and humanitarian partners to protect, assist and advocate on behalf of these populations. DTM is IOM’s global tool on people’s movement and is used in over 25 countries for both natural and human-made disasters, including Pakistan, Sudan, Syria, Haiti, among others.

In Burundi, IOM organized a workshop to present the DTM to 40 humanitarian and government partners prior to its launch in September 2015. Subsequently, IOM set up a DTM database and trained surveyors. Field data collection has been conducted in partnership with the Burundian Red Cross since October 2015.

The DTM programme was initiated in the two pilot provinces of Makamba and Kirundo, with the generous support of UNOCHA, UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP and further expanded to the province of Rutana in December 2015. The DTM assessments started in October 2015 in Kirundo and Makamba and revealed the presence of 14,804 IDPs in October 2015, as displayed in the first DTM report released at the beginning of November 2015.

Shelter and NFIs

As co-lead of the shelter/NFI sectoral group, IOM is engaged to coordinate emergency preparedness and response in this sector. IOM assists IDPs and vulnerable populations in the most at-risk provinces through the following activities:

- IOM coordinates shelter/NFI activities including mapping of capacities and response monitoring, information management and use of key tools
- Based on identified gaps as per mapping of existing partner stock capacities, IOM procures shelter and NFI kits and strategically prepositions them
- IOM distributes shelter and NFI items to targeted beneficiaries including provided tarpaulins and construction materials to set up the IDP site in Rumonge
- IOM coordinates and supports the design and construction of shelters
- IOM monitors the implementation of the distribution against set timeline and quality standards
Camp Coordination and Camp Management

As co-lead of the CCCM sectoral group, IOM is committed to provide camp response services and strengthen capacities of actors involved in collective settlements. In Burundi, IOM and UNHCR co-hosted and delivered 3 CCCM trainings to 73 CCCM practitioners and partners in Bujumbura, Muyiga and Gitega, in order to enhance emergency preparedness. After a joint CCCM assessment with the authorities and the Red Cross, IOM planned and helped set up a site for 161 IDP households affected by the landslides in the Rumonge province, in November 2015.

As CCCM co-lead, IOM has also been:

- Ensuring the coordination of the CCCM sectoral group including information management, establishment of strategies and guidelines, reinforcement of synergies among sector members and development of key tools
- Assisting with the set-up of IDP sites including site planning
- Supporting camp management activities in IDP collective settlements including site maintenance, community mobilization, coordination of assistance and protection and information management at site level
- Reinforcing capacities of the CCCM sector

Communication with Communities

A working group composed of the Burundian Red Cross, World Vision international, UNOCHA and IOM launched a humanitarian hotline in October 2015, for a three month pilot phase, to promote two-way communication with affected communities. The project includes: the creation of a platform with phone operators who orient callers towards humanitarian assistance available in their areas and record queries and key information on humanitarian needs, which are further referred to the humanitarian sectors for response activities.

IOM trained the phone operators and developed a community response map for Burundi, to serve as an on-line database to record calls and information on callers, such as gender, age, location and nature of the need. Among the calls received by the end of December, needs in the following sectors were recorded: Food security (28%), Shelter & NFIs (18%), Protection including child protection (11%), Health (5%), reintegration/livelihood (2%), and WASH (1%). 35 per cent of calls were listed as “other” (verification of the functioning of the line, non-humanitarian information, thank you messages and report of incidents). The phone number (+257 22 27 40 10) is being widely disseminated and the hotline promoted.

Forgotten Crisis: Reintegration of Burundians Expelled from Tanzania

The difficult reintegration of the Burundians expelled or returned from Tanzania between 2012 and 2014 has generated many needs for psychosocial care and support.

With the generous funding from the United Nations Central Emergency Relief Fund (UNCERF), IOM implemented a psychosocial and community based protection project, targeting 3,000 beneficiaries, between April and December 2015. Through this project, and in partnership with HealthNet TPO, IOM mapped needs, set up a psychosocial support mechanism, and formed and trained committees to identify and address the psychosocial support need in the communities, including one-to-one support and referral of medical cases to mental health facilities. Learn more about IOM’s psychosocial activities and achievements through this video.

Funding Needs: http://humanitariancompendium.iom.int/countries

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<th>Programme Thematic Area</th>
<th>Fund Needed</th>
<th>Fund Received</th>
<th>Funding Gap</th>
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$8,770,000 Funding required
$162,000 Funding received
(as of December 2015)

IOM operations are supported by: