



SNAPSHOT OF IOM BURUNDI

REINTEGRATION SUPPORT

2021/2022



## DEFINITION OF REINTEGRATION:

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The ability of returning refugees and IDPs to secure the necessary political, economic, legal and social conditions to maintain their life, livelihood and dignity.

## CONTEXT

Since 2017, an estimated 207,567 returnees have been coming back to their communities of origin in Burundi (UNHCR December 2022). In these often already resource-scarce areas of return, meeting basic needs of returnees, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and host communities cannot always be ensured.



Two teams including host community members, returnees and IDPs play a friendly football match during social cohesion activities.  
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## IOM BURUNDI RESPONSE

To address the ensuing reintegration challenges, IOM Burundi is providing a locally-driven and contextualized response to improve the capacity of host communities in welcoming high influx of returns through a multilayered assistance including the following areas of reintegration support:

- Shelter, Non-Food Items (NFI)
- Water Hygiene & Sanitation (WASH)
- Cash-Based Interventions
- Social Cohesion and Livelihoods
- Housing, Land and Property (HLP)
- Protection and Assistance
- Mental Health and Psycho-Social Support (MHPSS)

IOM provide an informed response, via its Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), through a range of tools aiming at providing partners with timely and accurate information for decision-making. Among them, the Stability Index allows the identification of 'pocket of stability' and analysis of the impact of different element on stability.

## CONTACT:

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## THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS





## IMPACT

**Shelter, NFI & WASH**

Returnee households have a dignified and secure home through shelter repair and rental support as well as improved hygiene practices through the construction of latrines, the distribution of NFI kits and their participation in hygiene sensitization sessions. In addition, the provision of WASH, shelter and NFI assistance directly to returnees alleviates pressures of host communities already dealing with scarce resources.

**Cash-Based Interventions**

Small-scale community projects, such as the rehabilitation or construction of classrooms, the community infrastructure or market spaces, contribute to a better learning environment for hundreds of children, access to safe drinking water and safe spaces for trade, and protection from floods and soil erosion.

The money received through Cash-forWork (CfW) enables beneficiaries to address timely needs like buying food, agricultural input and small livestock, as well as paying of debt or school fees for their children. Host communities' absorption capacities are also increased through the CfW programmes and the conjoint project implementation together with returnees increases interactions between different groups, thus strengthening social cohesion.

**Social Cohesion & Livelihoods**

Through livelihoods activities, beneficiaries are able to form solidarity groups, gain knowledge on entrepreneurship and specific vocations, and participate in joint loan and saving activities. The resulting enhanced economic resilience goes hand in hand with social cohesion, as these activities bring together returnees, IDPs and host community members.

**Housing, Land and Property**

Communal land service authorities with enhanced capacities are able to better respond to community needs and address queries related to access to land, including for returnees, thus reducing land-related conflicts.

**Protection & Assistance**

Coordination meetings with the protection stakeholders have enabled the creation of a referral list for people in need of protection services. Community dialogues, focus groups, and sensitization sessions are improving the communities' understanding of protection risks and opportunities, as well as contributing to the well-being and empowerment of the most vulnerable members of the communities.

**Mental Health and Psycho-Social Support**

MHPSS activities are enhancing sustainable reintegration and social cohesion in the targeted areas through community-based approaches and capacity-building.

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## KEY FIGURES

