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## Emergency appeal Tanzania: Population Movement

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Emergency Appeal n° MDRTZ017

Glide n° [OT-2015-00052-TZA](#)

20,000 people to be assisted

CHF 1,026,583 Appeal budget

CHF 231,380 DREF allocated

Appeal launched 20 May 2015

Ends November 2015

This **Emergency Appeal** seeks a total of **CHF 1,026,583** on a preliminary basis to enable the IFRC to support the **Tanzanian Red Cross Society (TRCS)** to deliver assistance and support to a total of **20,000 people** with a focus on the sectors of **emergency health, water, sanitation, hygiene promotion, emergency shelter, and relief**. The planned response reflects the current situation and information available at this point of the evolving operation, and will be adjusted based on further developments and more detailed assessments.

Click [here](#) for the Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

### The disaster and the Red Cross and Red Crescent response to date

**April, 2015:** significant increase of Burundian refugees entering Tanzania through the village of Kagunga seeking protection and assistance from the pre-electoral clashes in Burundi

**April to 16 May 2015:** 15,000 refugees received in Nyarugusu refugee camp, and more than 30,000 refugees reportedly at Kagunga border post located along the shore of Lake Tanganyika. Unverified reports indicate a figure of 88,000 all having crossed to Tanzania with numbers rising each day

**Humanitarian situation in Kagunga is reportedly critical** according to joint assessments undertaken by the government, the Tanzanian Red Cross Society (TRCS) and UN agencies

**UNHCR, TRCS and other agencies working in Nyarugusu refugee camp** are helping to address urgent basic needs in terms of health, food, shelter, water and sanitation. A cholera outbreak in camps in Tanzania reinforces the urgency of the situation and the critical lack of sanitation

**20 May 2015:** launch of Emergency Appeal on a preliminary basis for CHF 1,026,583 for 20,000 people for six months, with CHF 231,380 from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF)



Burundian asylum seekers at Kagunga registration centre  
(Photo: TRCS)



## Coordination and partnerships



### Overview of Host National Society

Tanzania has hosted refugees from countries in the great lakes region since the 1930s. Since 1993, Tanzania has been host to hundreds of thousands of Rwandan, Burundi, and Congolese refugees. Currently there remain about 63,000 refugees from DRC in Nyarugusu camp. The TRCS has been providing comprehensive health services (preventive and curative) for over 10 years to refugees in Nyarugusu camp and the host communities.

The TRCS Kigoma and Kagera branches are participating in assessments, and are in regular contact with the TRCS disaster management department at the national headquarters for situation updates. On 7 May, 2015, the Kigoma regional authority organized a visit to Kagunga village, joined by representatives from UNHCR, Tanzania Red Cross and UNICEF, to assess the situation and needs of the asylum seekers. The team proposed urgent humanitarian interventions based on the situation in terms of health, water and sanitation, HR, as well as security, transportation and the registration of refugees.

TRCS staff and volunteers in Nyarugusu camp are assisting the arriving refugees by providing lifesaving interventions including: the provision of first aid; conducting medical screening for all new arrivals (immunization, treatment of common communicable diseases, and screening for malnutrition); the provision of health education through the Health Information Team (HIT), particularly on prevention of communicable diseases; and conducting active case finding (tracing/follow up of cases for medical treatment).

### Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

The IFRC is not represented in-country but provides assistance through its East Africa and Indian Ocean Islands (EAIOI) regional representation and the Africa zone office based in Nairobi, Kenya.

Since the onset of the refugee influx, TRCS has been in regular contact with the IFRC's EAIOI regional representation's disaster management department for updates and agreement on way forward. On 9 May 2015, an alert was issued via the IFRC Disaster Management Information System (DMIS). The American and Spanish Red Cross representation offices are monitoring the situation and supporting the planned interventions.

An IFRC Field Assessment and Coordination Team (FACT) has been deployed, consisting of a team leader and a health focal point to work alongside a relief RDRT and a watsan focal point to carry out more detail assessments and develop a comprehensive plan of action.

The ICRC is supporting the TRCS to heighten its Restoring Family Links (RFL) response. The TRCS, supported by ICRC, has already recruited and is training 5 RFL volunteers, with 10 more volunteers to be recruited and trained in the coming days. The ICRC together with TRCS is evaluating the RFL situation in Kigoma district and is adapting its response accordingly. As of 15.05.2015, 120 unaccompanied minors were registered, 965 phone calls were made, and 43 in-camp family reunifications took place in Nyarugusu camp. ICRC is also providing first aid and dissemination training to 50 newly recruited TRCS volunteers from Kigoma. TRCS volunteers are being equipped with first aid kits (100 first aid kits already provided) and identification materials (bibs).

### Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

The Government of Tanzania through the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) are coordinating the influx of asylum seekers/refugees. A Joint rapid assessment involving WHO, UNICEF, and the UNHCR has been organised. On 13 May, the Government of Tanzania officially requested international support from the Red Cross Movement to assist with the humanitarian efforts.

Transportation of refugees from the entry points to the established reception centres and eventually to the designated camp is being facilitated by the UNHCR while the WFP is availing and coordinating the distribution of high energy biscuits/dates to the refugees.

A coordination/information sharing forum has been initiated under UNHCR leadership. This forum brings together all UN agencies, the government through the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Red Cross, International NGOs, and local NGOs (implementing partners) and other stakeholders in refugee affairs. At national level, in Dar es Salaam, this forum agreed to meet every Tuesday. In Kigoma, regional level meetings are ongoing and the Red Cross is a key member.

## The operational strategy

**Overall objective:** The survival and basic needs of vulnerable groups (in particular pregnant, lactating women or single female-headed households with young children) are met through the provision of essential emergency relief items, health, and water and sanitation at 4 entry points (Kagunga, Ilagala, Manyovu and Katanga) and 3 reception centres in Nyarugusu camp.

**Proposed strategy:** The proposed preliminary strategy will enable the TRCS to deliver assistance to a total of 20,000 people with emergency health, water, sanitation, hygiene, and emergency shelter (6,000 people will receive basic non-food items). This operation includes the following activities:

- Conduct continuous assessment to understand the immediate needs of the refugee population; and response gaps, which will inform a revision of the activities planned if required
- Procurement/distribution of non-food items including: blankets (two per beneficiary), buckets (one per beneficiary), jerry cans, laundry soap, hygiene kits and menstrual hygiene management (MHM) kits
- Mosquito nets to reduce the risk of malaria
- Medical screening of new arrivals at 4 entry points in 10 medical tents
- Construct 300 emergency communal latrines at 4 entry points
- Procure and distribute bottled drinking water at 4 entry points
- Procure and distribute water purification tablets
- Procurement of one warehouse tent and 50 family tents
- Sexual and gender-based violence and the protection of children will be integrated in the health interventions to promote access to health care for women
- Provide 50 temporary shelter shades for the refugees arriving to shield them from harsh weather conditions as they wait for registration at the four entry points (30 shelters at Kabanga, 10 shelters at Ilagala, 6 shelters at Manyovu and 4 shelters at Katanga)

The TRCS will integrate disaster risk reduction (DRR) activities following the results of the detailed assessment conducted by the FACT team in the coming days. For example, reducing the risk of acute malnutrition could be addressed by providing supplementary feeding to children and pregnant and lactating mothers as well as by promoting good breastfeeding practices part of the WASH activities which will be implemented integrates the DRR approach. The construction of pit latrines and the hygiene promotion will be done in a view to reduce the risk of diseases related to poor hygiene. To minimize the risk of increasing the vulnerability of the host population, risk reduction activities will also be considered by implementing waste management to minimize the risk of environment degradation and spreading of diseases among the refugees and hosting population. Needs assessment and beneficiary selection:

According to the joint needs assessment (by the government, TRCS and UNICEF) the immediate needs of the refugee population are in the areas of: emergency food, relief NFIs (blankets, mosquito nets, buckets, soap and hygiene kits), health, and water and sanitation. At Kagunga, the main entry point, the refugees stay and sleep in the open, without the basic, life sustaining supplies. The situation is worse for mothers with young children and pregnant women.

Through this operation, it is intended that activities planned will include the distribution of emergency relief (NFIs), the provision of first aid and medical screening, water, sanitation and hygiene promotion. These services will be provided both at the entry points (4) of Kagunga, Ilagala, Manyovu and Katanga and three (3) reception centres designated in Nyarugusu camp.

### Risk Assessment

The major risks foreseen include a potential abrupt upsurge of the influx to the extent of overwhelming the planned humanitarian assistance and the security situation. However, the government is keen to ensure that the security situation at all entry points and reception centres is calm and under control. Outbreaks of communicable diseases, particularly cholera and diarrhoea are a significant risk due to overcrowding if preventive measures are not put in place quickly. As of 18 May, one case of cholera was confirmed in the













