



Food Assistance to Refugees in Tanzania

For decades, Tanzania has been a safe haven for refugees fleeing insecurity in Rwanda, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and other countries in the Great Lakes Region.

Over 150,000 new Burundians have entered since conflict broke out in Burundi in April 2015, making Tanzania the largest recipient of Burundian refugees in the East Africa region.

Prior to the influx, refugee numbers in Tanzania had been declining in recent years, in part due to the Government of Tanzania (GoT) granting naturalization to some of the 1972 Burundian refugees. Until recently, only Nyaragusu camp remained, which was host to 65,000 Congolese refugees and a small number of Burundians.

Since the arrival of new Burundian refugees, the **refugee population in Tanzanian has tripled** from 65,000 to over 200,000. To accommodate the high number of refugees, the GoT allocated three new camps in addition to Nyaragusu, of which two are currently operational—Nduta and Mtendeli. The third camp, Karago, is facing water challenges.

Over 70% of new Burundian arrivals are women and children. Due to Government-enforced restrictions on refugee movement outside the camps and limitations imposed by the Government on live-

lihood activities, the refugee population in Tanzania remains highly dependent on international assistance to meet their food and nutrition needs.



Burundian refugee children at Nyaragusu camp, Tanzania.

USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP) has responded robustly in Fiscal Year 2016 by providing the **U.N. World Food Program (WFP)** with **9,400 metric tons of in-kind food assistance**, valued at approximately **\$15 million**. This contribution includes cornmeal, green peas and vegetable oil for all refugees, as well as Super Cereal Plus, a nutritional supplement for children under five and pregnant and lactating women to address stunting and acute malnutrition. Of this contribution, **\$3 million in Enhanced Section 202(e) funds** were used to procure maize locally, boosting local commercial trade networks and food production. With support from USAID/FFP, WFP targets more than 214,000 refugees with food assistance.

Breakdown by Nationality		
Burundian	155,817	69.9%
DR Congolese	66,778	30%
Rwanda	94	<1%
Other (Uganda, Sudan, Kenya)	106	<1%