



**IOM**  
UN MIGRATION

# IOM RWANDA

## 2022 YEAR IN REVIEW



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IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As an intergovernmental organization, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to: assist in meeting the operational challenges of migration; advance understanding of migration issues; encourage social and economic development through migration; and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

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Cover photo: IOM staff escorting a group of refugees to the airport for resettlement. © IOM 2023

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# CONTENTS

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IOM IN RWANDA	2
IMMIGRATION & BORDER GOVERNANCE	3
LABOUR MOBILITY & SOCIAL INCLUSION	5
MIGRATION HEALTH	7
RESETTLEMENT & MOVEMENT MANAGEMENT	9
DONORS & PARTNERS	11

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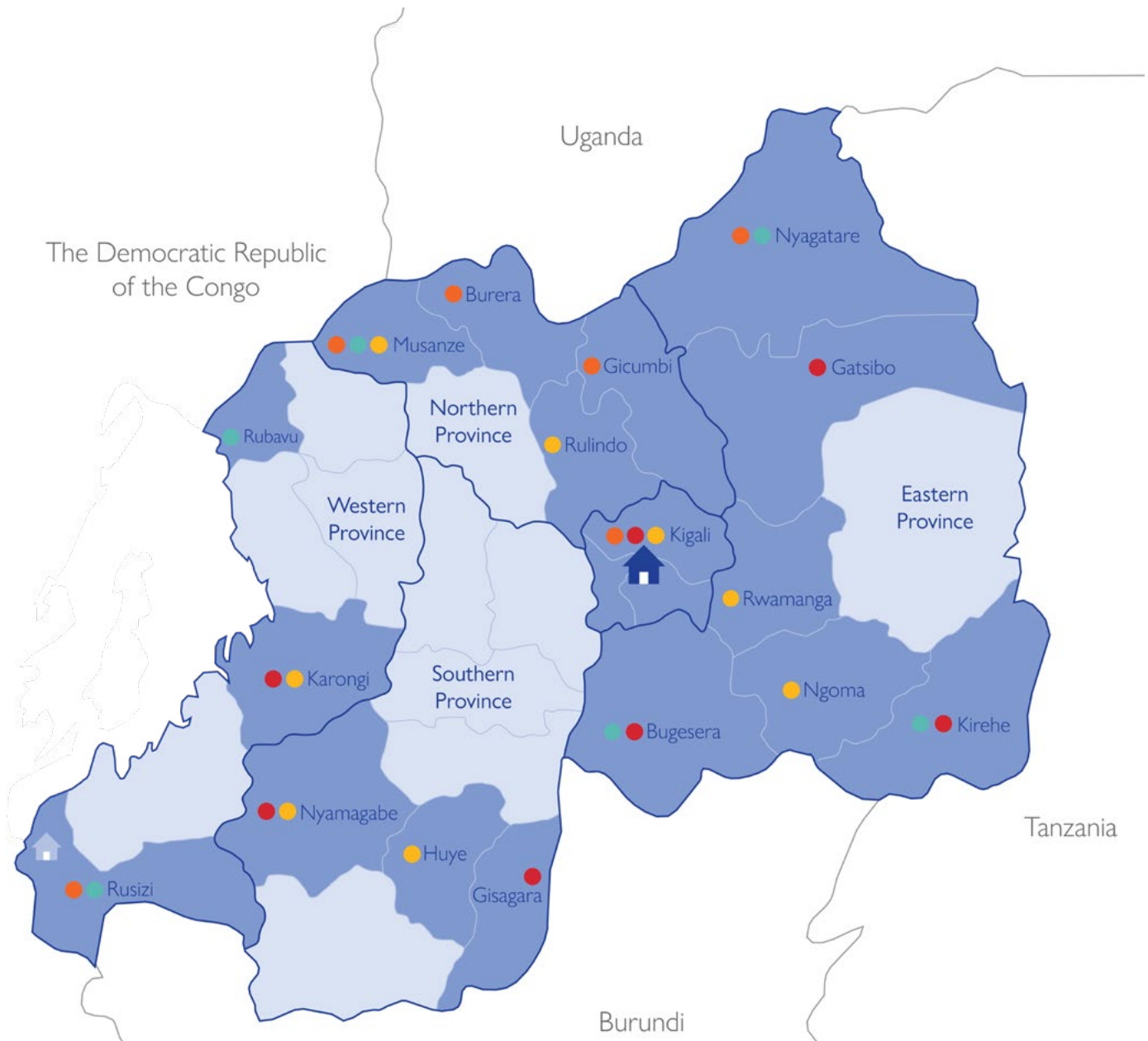


Nyiransabimana is a female cross-border trader living in Rusizi who sells legumes and vegetables from Rwanda in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. ©IOM 2023/Robert Kovacs

# IOM IN RWANDA

## OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

In 2022, IOM Rwanda made great strides to provide comprehensive services across the country to migrants and supports the Government of Rwanda to manage safe, orderly and humane migration. Our work primarily focused on the following programmatic areas: immigration and border governance (IBG), labour mobility and social inclusion (LMI), migration health and resettlement and movement management (RMM). This report aims to highlight IOM's work and achievements across its various areas of intervention.



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### Programmes

- IOM Rwanda Country Office
- Immigration & Border Governance
- Migration Health
- Labour, Mobility and Human Development
- Resettlement and Movement Management
- IOM Field Presence



# IMMIGRATION AND BORDER GOVERNANCE



Rusizi II border crossing with the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) with Bukavu pictured in the distance. ©IOM 2023/Robert Kovacs



# IMMIGRATION AND BORDER GOVERNANCE

IOM Rwanda supports the Government of Rwanda's efforts to respond more effectively to diverse migration and governance management challenges. In 2022, we continued to support national efforts to improve border management procedures in line with development and trade policies and practices. Furthermore, through cross-cutting activities we provided mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) to over 6,000 beneficiaries in border communities.

## KEY FIGURES



1

One stop border post construction commenced



6,140

Direct beneficiaries of mental health and psychosocial support interventions



16

Handwashing facilities installed on the border with Burundi, DRC, Tanzania and Uganda

## INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

Within the Great Lakes region, cross-border trade is critical for economic growth and development. However intra-regional trade in Africa is constrained by limited infrastructure. IOM continued to support the establishment of a One Stop Border Post (OSBP) at the Rusizi II/Bukavu Point of Entry. OSBPs are designed to facilitate the movement of goods and persons across borders by creating a single stop for border control, which reduces waiting times and increases cost efficiencies. The Rusizi II/Bukavu border is also significant in scale and nature of the movement of small-scale cross-border traders, who cross the border daily mostly for trade and work. As a milestone achievement, in November 2022, the construction sites were officially handed over by respective national authorities to the construction companies to commence OSBP construction work.

## SOCIAL COHESION AND MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

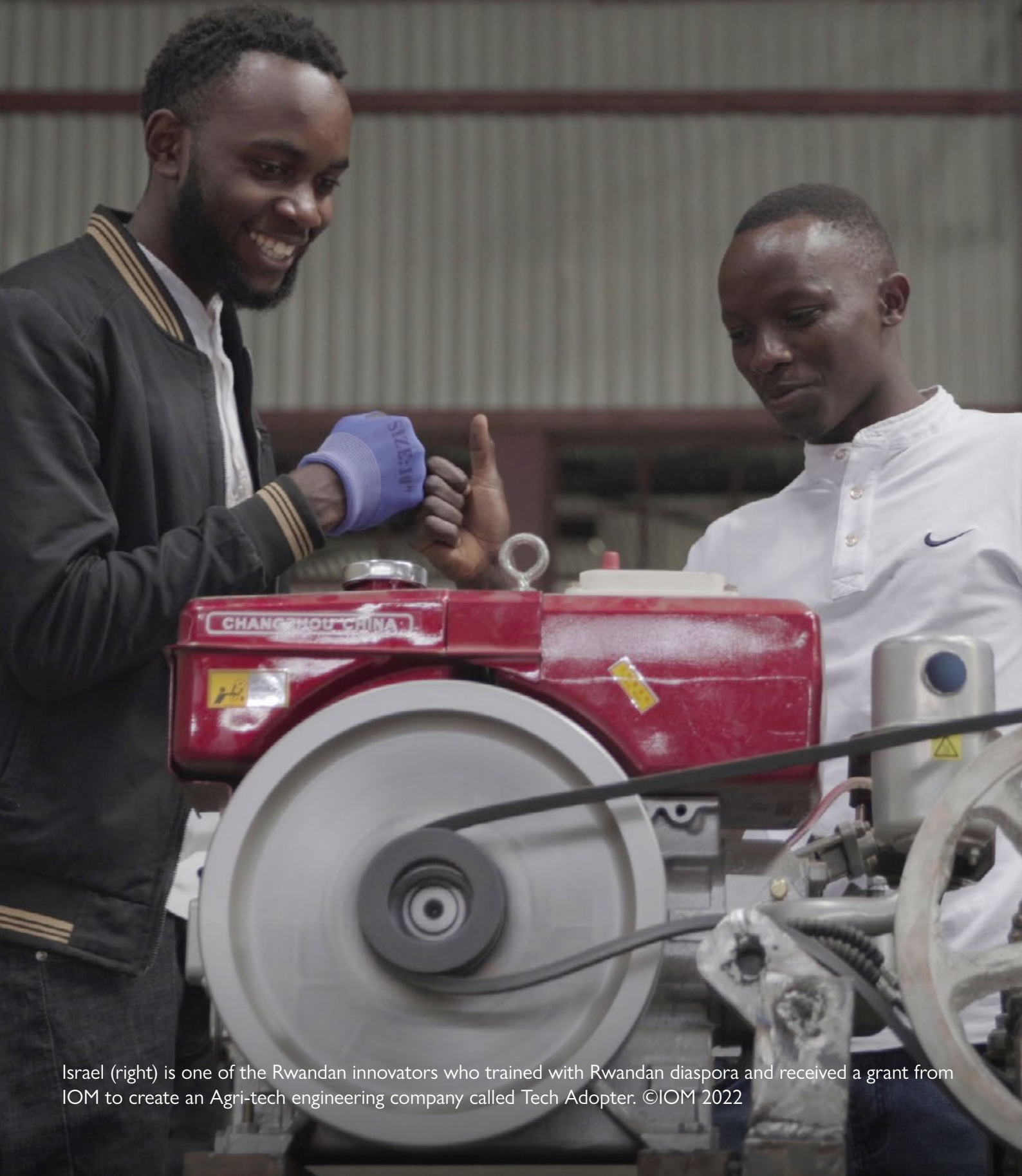
In 2022, IOM and its implementing partners continued to work to strengthen social cohesion and psychosocial wellbeing of the most vulnerable actors at the border through by conducting awareness-raising campaigns, developing Standards Operating Procedures (SOP) for gender based violence interventions. Additionally, female cross-border traders received training, individual and group counseling to help reduce emotional distress and develop coping mechanisms.

## WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE (WASH)

Working with the Government of Rwanda, we installed 16 durable handwashing facilities (HWFs) in the districts of Bugesera, Kirehe, Muzanze, Nyagatare, and Rubavu. In our efforts to help manage public health emergencies of international concern (PHEIC) we sensitized border communities to promote good hygiene practices and provided 300 personal protective equipment (PPE) suits and 1,000 N95 masks for local health authorities in border districts.



# LABOUR MOBILITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION



Israel (right) is one of the Rwandan innovators who trained with Rwandan diaspora and received a grant from IOM to create an Agri-tech engineering company called Tech Adopter. ©IOM 2022



# LABOUR MOBILITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

IOM Rwanda works to maximize the positive impacts of migration for migrants, their families and the broader community in countries of origin and destination. Part of this includes working closely with the Government of Rwanda to promote and facilitate diaspora engagement to help bring the skills and knowledge of Rwandans living abroad back to their country of origin.

## KEY FIGURES



Diaspora members engaged to support the TVET sector



Diaspora professionals mobilized in the Health sector



Rwandan innovators received trainings from diaspora to develop their businesses



Hospitals in Rwanda supported by diaspora health professionals



IPRCs in Rwanda supported by diaspora TVET professionals



Mappings of Rwandan Diaspora conducted in the United States and Canada



Female cross-border traders trained on financial management and gender-based violence



Journalists and CSO workers trained on labour migration trends and patterns



Labour inspectors trained on ethical recruitment, trafficking in persons and smuggling

## DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT

To support the technical and vocational education and training (TVET) and health sectors we engaged Rwandans living in Europe to bring their knowledge and skills to fellow Rwandans at Integrated Polytechnic Regional Colleges (IPRCs) and hospitals around the country. Last year, 17 diaspora professionals had conducted trainings for professors at the eight IPRCs across the country. Among the areas of expertise were information and communication technology, applied research and innovation, agriculture and wildlife tourism.

In the health sector, 11 Rwandan diaspora professionals living in Europe were engaged to support 10 hospitals across the country. These highly skilled medical professionals specialized in areas such as: anesthesiology, clinical psychology, general surgery, nursing, neurology, and physiotherapy.

Acknowledging the importance of its diaspora in economic development, we worked with the Government of Rwanda to identify the conditions and factors necessary to engage the Rwandan diaspora living in Canada and the United States in development.

The two mappings provide a structural and strategic framework, both in Rwanda and abroad, to mobilize, coordinate and integrate the Rwandan diaspora into national development.

## INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Innovation in entrepreneurship fosters new business ecosystems to facilitate socioeconomic inclusion and create new livelihood opportunities. To support innovation among youth at the IPRCs, students received training from diaspora professionals to help transform their ideas into real life businesses. The 10 young innovators were paired up with diaspora professionals in their field who provided mentorship and guidance as they brought their inventions to life.



Julienne is one of the 28 diaspora who returned to Rwanda to transfer their skills and expertise. ©IOM 2022

# MIGRATION HEALTH





# MIGRATION HEALTH

Within its Migration Health Division (MHD), IOM delivers and promotes comprehensive, preventive and curative health programmes which are beneficial, accessible, and equitable for migrants and mobile populations. Bridging the needs of both migrants and IOM member states, MHD contributes towards the physical, mental and social wellbeing of migrants, enabling them and host communities to achieve social and economic development.

## KEY FIGURES



Pre-migration health assessments



People received vaccinations



Pre-embarkation health checks

## MIGRATION HEALTH ASSESSMENTS

IOM Rwanda's Migration Health Assessment Center (MHAC) continued to provide health assessments and travel assistance to migrants and refugees transferring temporarily or permanently to another country. At the request of receiving country governments, IOM provides an evaluation of the physical and mental health status of migrants prior to their departure for the purpose of resettlement, international employment, or enrolment in specific migrant assistance programmes.

They include taking medical history, physical examination, mental health evaluation, pre- and post-test counselling, radiological and laboratory investigations, specialist referrals and vaccinations. Prior to departure final pre-embarkation checks are conducted for refugees to ensure they are healthy enough to travel safely.

The number of pre-migration health assessments conducted at the MHAC in Kigali increased by 84 per cent in 2022.

## EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE RESPONSE

IOM assisted the Government of Rwanda with the implementation of the National Ebola Preparedness and Contingency Plan through the provision of a thermal imaging camera at the Gatuna One Stop Border Post for temperature screening. To raise awareness about the health risks of Ebola and help prevent its spread, we provided 166 banners to the Ministry of Health that deliver key messages at Points of Entry and health facilities in Burera, Gicumbi, Musanze, and Nyagatare districts.



One of the Migration Health Nurses conducts a pre-migration health assessment. ©IOM 2023/Robert Kovacs



# RESETTLEMENT AND MOVEMENT MANAGEMENT



Refugees being resettled are escorted by IOM staff to the airport where they leave for their country of destination. ©IOM 2023/Robert Kovacs



# RESETTLEMENT AND MOVEMENT MANAGEMENT

Rwanda hosts thousands of refugees, mostly from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Burundi. Facilitating access to refugee resettlement and regular migration pathways is key to saving lives and protecting people on the move. In 2022, IOM Rwanda continued to facilitate the resettlement of refugees, helping them find a new home.

## KEY FIGURES



# 4,015

Refugees and persons in vulnerable situations resettled

### RESETTLEMENT ASSISTANCE

Resettlement provides a safe pathway for refugees in the wake of conflict and disaster, giving them a chance to build new lives. IOM resettlement support includes case processing, pre-migration health activities, facilitation of pre-departure orientation (PDO) sessions, movement management and travel assistance.

In 2022, the amount of people resettled from Rwanda nearly doubled from 2,598 in 2021 to 4,015.

### PRE-DEPARTURE ORIENTATIONS

Pre-departure orientation for refugees aims to provide consistent and accurate information on the resettlement process and the country of destination. Its purpose is to help refugees develop skills and attitudes to adjust to a new context and facilitate their inclusion in destination communities upon their arrival.

## RESETTLEMENT ASSISTANCE IN 2022



# 4,015

PEOPLE RESETTLED IN TOTAL

# 1,954

FEMALES RESETTLED



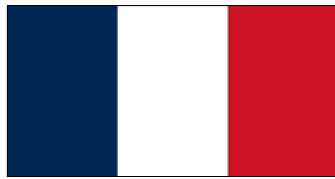
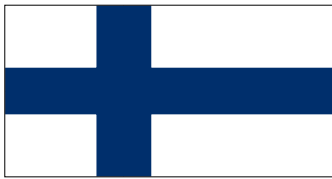
# 2,061

MALES RESETTLED



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# DONORS



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