



IOM International Organization for Migration

RWANDA

REINTEGRATION OF RWANDAN RETURNED REFUGEES AND OTHER VULNERABLE GROUPS

RWANDA HAS EXPERIENCED SEVERAL WAVES OF DISPLACEMENT, THE MOST SIGNIFICANT OF WHICH HAPPENED AFTER THE TRAGIC GENOCIDE IN 1994. SINCE THEN, OVER THREE MILLION RWANDAN REFUGEES HAVE RETURNED HOME.

However, UNHCR estimates that about 100,000 Rwandan refugees still live outside the country, thereof 41,000 in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

It is expected that many of these refugees continue to return home as a result of the ongoing crisis in the DRC and in response to the Cessation Clause of the refugee status which came into force in June 2013, following an agreement signed between the Government and UNHCR.

Despite the continued

progress and achievements over the last few years, the Government of Rwanda is still facing enormous economic challenges that affect the capacity for the reintegration of returnees. Most of the returnees lack livelihood skills and resources. Creating socioeconomic development opportunities for returnees is therefore one of the major priorities of the Rwandan Government.

With the support of the Government of Japan and in collaboration with the Ministry of Disaster Management and Refugee Affairs (MIDIMAR), IOM has completed four phases of a comprehensive reintegration programme between 2010 and 2014.

IOM has provided direct assistance to approximately 13,000

beneficiaries, indirectly effecting the lives of 65,000 returnees and members of vulnerable communities.

Assistance has been provided in the form of vocational skills training, business start-up kits, provision of livestock and housing material.

These activities have contributed to income-generating opportunities and have enhanced the living conditions of the beneficiaries.

IOM IN ACTION

Achievements by numbers (as of March 2015)

- 840 beneficiaries profiled.
- 94 vocational skills training institutes assessed.
- 10 district assessments conducted on labour market and skills training.
- 86 instructors of skills training institutions trained.
- 78 training providers identified and contracted.
- 780 returnees and vulnerable people currently trained in market-driven vocational skills.
- 780 returnees and vulnerable people currently provided with business training/coaching.

IOM Activities

Based on its experiences in providing vocational skills training to returnees, MIDIMAR has requested IOM to implement vocational training activities under the One UN and MIDIMAR Joint Sustainable Return and Reintegration Programme (SR&RP), which is funded by the Swedish Government via the One UN Fund. The project aims to:

- Provide returnees with market-driven vocational skills training; and
- Provide small business start-up assistance and business management knowledge.

These activities will be implemented between December 2014 and June 2015 in 10 priority districts identified by MIDIMAR, namely: *Rubavu, Nyabihu, Musanze, Karongi, Rutsiro, Bugesera, Nyamagabe, Nyamasheke, Rusizi and Ngororero.*

Rapid Assessment

IOM has completed a Rapid Capacity and Needs Assessment designed to collect accurate data on labour market opportunities, the capacity of local vocational skills training institutions and the beneficiaries. Among the 780 identified beneficiaries (70% returnees and 30% vulnerable people), 61% are women and are 39% men. Data showed that their main economic income was generated by farming (53.2%), whereas 9.3% reported to be unemployed. 90% of the beneficiaries are living in extreme poverty and their level of education is very low; almost 50% did not complete primary education.

Skills Training

In partnership with MIDIMAR, IOM is providing vocational skills training to 780 direct beneficiaries (positively affecting approximately 3,900 indirect beneficiaries). The domains of the training are:

- Carpentry;
- Hairdressing;
- Knitting;
- Masonry;
- Mechanics;
- Tailoring;
- Welding;
- Handcraft;
- Shoemaking; and
- Photography.

In addition to the vocational skills training, business training/coaching sessions are being provided to all beneficiaries. The sessions enable the beneficiaries to develop, implement and manage their business plan. Furthermore, beneficiaries are provided with business start-up kits upon completion of training and are supported in the post-training phase. In addition, IOM has conducted capacity building workshops in January 2015 in order to strengthen the capacities of selected skills training institutions.

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We work with:

- Government of Rwanda
- Returning Refugees



MIGRATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL

International Organization for Migration
IOM Rwanda Office | KG 632 St, Gasasa,
Rugando Cell, Kimihurura P.O. Box 1126 Kigali
Phone: +250 252 586710
Fax +250 252 586711
Tel Mobile: +250 786 134 270
Email: iomrwanda@iom.int

Website: <http://ronairobi.iom.int>

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WITH THANKS TO OUR DONOR AND PARTNER:

