**Shotlist/Info:**

**WFP News Video: Conflict in DR Congo Becoming a Regional Crisis as Thousands Flee into Neighbouring Countries**

**Shot: 26Jan25-11March25**

**Locations: Burundi/ DRCongo**

**TRT: 2:45**

**:00-:25**

**Displaced People Fleeing Fighting**

Displaced people flee Kanyaruchinya displaced persons camp, running away from fighting. IDP camps on the city’s outskirts, previously hosting more than 300,000 people, are emptying out as people flee.

**Goma, DR Congo**

**Shot: 26Jan25**

**:25-:31**

**Aftermath of Abandoned Kanyaruchinya camp**

Scattered belongings amongst the ruins of Kanyaruchinya camp where displaced people were staying on the outskirts of Goma after the M23 rebels took control of the city on January 26, 2025

**Goma, DR Congo**

**Shot: 10Feb25**

**:31-:56**

**Drone shots (mute)/GV’s Rugombo Stadium**

Since mid-February, nearly 70,000 people - mainly women, children and the elderly – have fled fighting in DRC to Burundi, many making dangerous river crossings and walking long distances in search of safety. More continue to arrive each day, adding to what is already the largest influx into Burundi in decades. They are settling in stadiums, schools and communal courtyards. Among these sites is this makeshift refugee camp in a sports stadium, where more than 45,000 Congolese refugees have found shelter.

**Rugombo, Burundi**

**Shot: 11March25**

**:56-1:12**

**Set Up SOT Lea and her children eating WFP hotmeals(Swahili):**

Lea is a 37-year-old mother of nine, who was forced to flee her village in Uvira, south Kivu province. She has since learned that her husband, who stayed behind was killed.

**Rugombo, Burundi**

**Shot: 11March25**

**1:12-1:25**

**SOT Lea (Swahili):**

" Bullets started flying. Then we started running. Some ran to mountains and others crossed the river/1:21/We ran with kids on our backs and luggage in our hands."

**Rugombo, Burundi**

**Shot: 11March25**

**1:25-1:38**

**Unloading of US donated food for people displaced by fighting in DR Congo**

WFP currently only has the funds to sustain this level of support for 120,000 refugees through June. Without additional financial support, WFP warns that food assistance could be suspended entirely from July – or even earlier if the number of people fleeing DRC increases significantly.

**Rugombo, Burundi**

**Shot: 21Feb25**

**1:38-2:25**

**SOT Nitesh Patel, WFP Burundi (English):**

“What we are seeing now in the stadium is basically the people who are fleeing the crisis in this eastern democratic republic, arriving in Burundi and doubling the number of refugees in the country. We have been able to provide these refugees in this camp with the hot mills as soon as they arrived here and we are able to provide this basically because we had to reduce the assistance to the old refugee caseload and provide them with something we had in hand.

This crisis had put enormous pressure on WFP's foot pipeline which we are stretched.We are appealing to donor communities to come forward and provide funds for WFP and assure the emergency food assistance to this new caseload as well as the previous refugees which are in the country which has been here for more than decades.”

**Rugombo, Burundi**

**Shot: 11March25**

**2:25-2:40**

**Distribution of WFP Hot Meals to Refugees from DR Congo**

**Rugombo, Burundi**

**Shot: 10March25**

**2:40-2:45**

**Mother feeding her child WFP Hot Meals**

**Rugombo, Burundi**

**Shot: 21Feb25**

**ENDS**

**WFP News Release**

24 March 2025

**WFP RACES TO SUPPORT NEW CONGOLESE ARRIVALS IN BURUNDI AS AID OPERATIONS ARE STRETCHED TO THE LIMIT**

**Bujumbura, Burundi –** The UN World Food Programme (WFP) has rapidly mobilized additional assistance in Burundi to support the large influx of families fleeing violence in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). The sharp increase in refugees in need of aid has placed a significant strain on WFP food assistance programmes in Burundi.

Since mid-February, nearly 70,000 people - mainly women, children and the elderly – have fled fighting in DRC to Burundi, many making dangerous river crossings and walking long distances in search of safety. More continue to arrive each day, adding to what is already the largest influx into Burundi in decades.

Cross border movement into DRC’s other neighbours, including Rwanda, Uganda and Tanzania, is also increasing as the escalating conflict in the country’s east threatens to worsen hunger across the region.

“Refugees are arriving every day, some weighed down with hastily packed bundles and suitcases, and others with nothing but the clothes on their backs,” said Dragica Pajevic, WFP’s Deputy Regional Director for eastern Africa, who is currently on the ground supporting operations in Burundi. “The number of refugees has doubled in just a few weeks, but funding has not. Our available resources are being stretched and we’re being forced to adapt our operations and reduce rations to reach as many people as possible.”

The number of registered refugees in Burundi needing food assistance has more than doubled from 60,000 to over 120,000 in just a few weeks. WFP is providing hot meals to the new Congolese refugees, who are housed in temporary transit camps, schools, churches and sports stadiums.

Meanwhile, refugees already in Burundi before the recent outbreak of violence are receiving food rations – provided as a mix of in-kind food and cash. With limited resources, WFP was forced in March to reduce rations for existing refugees from 75 percent to 50 percent.

WFP currently only has the funds to sustain operations for 120,000 refugees through June. Without additional financial support, WFP will be forced to suspend food assistance entirely from July – or even earlier if significantly more people flee fighting in DRC.

To ensure uninterrupted assistance, WFP urgently needs US$19.8 million to maintain adequate support to the most vulnerable until the end of the year. This would also allow WFP to once again provide all refugees with full rations - vital support for refugees who are totally dependent on food assistance for survival.

# # #

The United Nations World Food Programme is the world’s largest humanitarian organization saving lives in emergencies and using food assistance to build a pathway to peace, stability and prosperity for people recovering from conflict, disasters and the impact of climate change.

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