

Strengthening the Identification and Protection of Victims of Trafficking Among Refugees in Rwanda

Flash Report

Awareness Raising on Trafficking in Persons, SGBV, and Child Abuse In Refugee Camps



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On Thursday the 26th of September 2019 the **International Organization for Migration (IOM)** and the **American Refugee Committee (ARC)** conducted an awareness raising campaign on **Trafficking in Persons (TIP)**, **Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)** and **child abuse** in **Gihembe Refugee Camp**. The activity consisted of information sessions, performances by drama groups and discussions with the refugee community. Approximately **800** people who attended the event are now aware of the implications of trafficking in persons.

In support of the government’s efforts to end trafficking in persons, IOM Rwanda, together with its **One UN** partners, is currently working on a counter trafficking project in Rwanda, titled “**Strengthening the identification and protection of victims of trafficking among refugees in Rwanda**”.

The project, funded by the **US Department of State's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons**, aims to contribute to increasing awareness on trafficking in persons, identification, and referrals of victims of trafficking among the refugee community in Rwanda and staff operating in refugee settings, including in the **six camps** in Rwanda and their surrounding communities (see table). The project activities can be divided into three main parts: **research in refugee camps and surrounding communities, capacity building and community sensitization**.

Apart from IOM and ARC, the campaign in Gihembe Camp was also supported by the Ministry in charge of Emergency Management (**MINEMA**), the **United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR)**, **Plan International** and the **Legal Aid Forum (LAF)**.



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Awareness Raising Activities in Refugee Camps in Rwanda

Period	Location	Activity	Males	Females	Total
28 th Aug 2019	Kigeme refugee camp	Umuganda* and mobile cinema	420	260	680
29 th Aug 2019	Mugombwa refugee camp	Umuganda and community sensitization	285	280	565
3 rd Sept 2019	Kiziba refugee camp	Umuganda and community sensitization	920	560	1,480
11 th Sept 2019	Gihembe refugee camp	Focus group discussion (drama group)	10	15	25
24 th Sept 2019	Nyabiheke refugee camp	Mobile cinema	80	20	100
26 th Sept 2019	Gihembe refugee camp	Mass campaign	500	300	800

*Umuganda can be translated as 'coming together in common purpose to achieve an outcome' and is also known as community work. In traditional Rwandan culture, members of the community would call upon their family, friends and neighbors to help them complete a difficult task. In the refugee camps, Umuganda takes place every month and individuals between 18 and 65 are obliged to participate.



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