

## Nyarugusu Refugees Camp Commandant commends COVID-19 vaccine acceleration efforts



*CDC TZ, DGMQ and THPS staff receive briefing on COVID -19 vaccination services at the Nyarugusu Refugees camp*

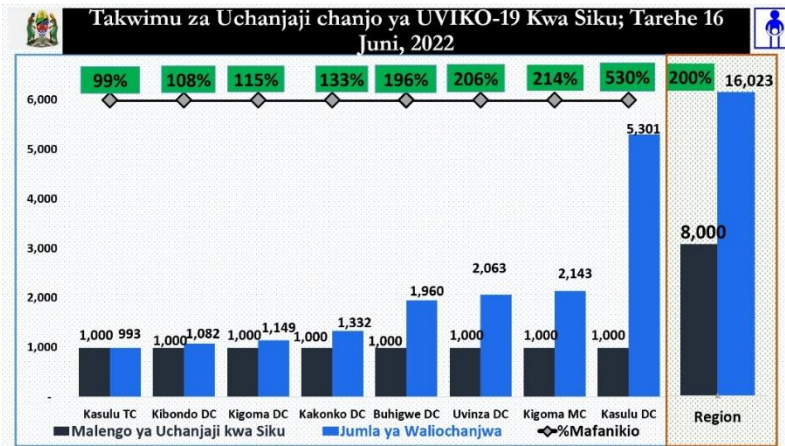
Nyarugusu Refugee Camp Commandant, Mr. Siasa Manjenje hailed the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Division of Global Migration and Quarantine's (DGMQ) support in accelerating COVID- 19 vaccine provision to refugees at his camp. On 16th June, 2022 DGMQ and CDC Tanzania's delegation visited the camp to learn the progress of COVID- 19 vaccination services at the camp currently implemented collaboratively by Tanzania Health Promotion Support (THPS), Kigoma's Regional and Council Health Management Teams (RCHMTs), the Ministry of Home Affairs, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other health implementing partners in the camps.



*Mr. Siasa appreciating CDC DGMQ's support*

On his remarks, Commandant Siasa explained that through CDC DGMQ's support the number of refugees that are fully vaccinated have increased from **787** in April, 2022 to **1,106** by June, 15th, 2022. *“This incredible increase has been achieved through collaborative efforts of health stakeholders at Nyarugusu camp, including THPS who have always supported outreach activities and ensured availability of vaccines at the camp. We believe through these efforts we will soon accomplish our target of vaccinating 56,000 illegible refugees.”* He added.

Mr. Maurice Ope, from CDC DGMQ, commended the efforts to scale up COVID-19 vaccination services at the camps and promised continuous support through THPS. “DGMQ will ensure full support in COVID-19 vaccine’s acceleration at both Nduta and Nyarugusu camps as deemed in the work plans.” He added.



Kigoma’s Regional Medical Officer, Dr. Jesca Lebba acknowledged THPS support in accelerating COVID-19 vaccination services in the region. “I really appreciate CDC and THPS commitment in ensuring the people of Kigoma are fully vaccinated. THPS have always been actively engaging the RCHMTs in ensuring efficient delivery of COVID-19 vaccines to the residents of Kigoma region. We have

now moved from 25% as of March, 2022 to 200% in daily target’s achievement by June, 16th, 2022. I believe the strategies used will as well be deployed at our refugee camps and reach out to 100% fully vaccinated people.”



George Anatory (in blue mask) from THPS, giving remarks at the visit

On his remarks at the visit, THPS Chief Operations Officer, Mr. George Anatory thanked CDC-DGMQ’s support in accelerating COVID-19 vaccination services at both Nduta and Nyarugusu camps. He further acknowledged incredible collaboration from the camp commandant and all other stakeholders facilitating provision of COVID-19 vaccination services at the camps.

Prior to DGMQ’s site visit, on 15th June, 2022 health stakeholders working at refugee camps in Kigoma region met to discuss harmonization of COVID-19 vaccination services at the camps.

Among other meeting resolutions was ensuring constant supply of vaccines, preferable Johnson & Johnson at both refugee camps; ensuring achievement of daily vaccination targets i.e. 435 at Nyarugusu and 262 at Nduta camp; and sharing daily vaccination reports to the camp commandants.

Acceleration of COVID-19 Vaccine services at the camps is funded by CDC-DGMQ through its Strengthening COVID-19 Vaccine Delivery Among Refugee Settings in Tanzania (SCoRe) project. The goal of the project is to strengthen COVID-19 vaccine delivery, raise awareness and uptake among refugees in Nyarugusu and Nduta Camps in Kigoma region, Tanzania.

The overall target is 88,023, where 56,604 and 31,419 are targets for Nyarugusu camp and Nduta camp respectively is expected to be achieved for the period of 7 months from June to December 2022.