

UNICEF HUMANITARIAN ACTION

BURUNDI

DONOR UPDATE

20 JULY 2006

UNICEF URGENTLY REQUIRES US\$ 15,230,496 TO ADDRESS THE HUMANITARIAN NEEDS OF CHILDREN AND WOMEN

- Burundi declares Free Birth Delivery and Neonatal Care but health centres require emergency supplies and trained doctors, nurses.
- Under-funding of projects and severe shortage of medical professionals is severely affecting the health of mothers and new born babies



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations

1. ISSUES FOR CHILDREN

Free birth delivery and child care services: Providing a free birth delivery and child care service is the government's first step in its 'Road Map for the Reduction of Neonatal and Maternal Mortality', a policy launched in February. Developed in collaboration with UNICEF, the UN Population Fund, the World Food Programme and the World Health Organization, the plan aims at a 75 per cent reduction in maternal deaths and a 50 per cent reduction in neonatal mortality by 2015.

But there are challenges to be addressed in light of the new policy. Existing health facilities are overwhelmed by demand. Beds, mattresses, delivery couches and other equipment are grossly inadequate, as are medical supplies. Health workers are not only inadequate in number but are already overworked. There is a real risk of deterioration in the quality of health services. There is therefore an urgent need for more, better-trained and better-motivated staff, and emergency medical supplies and equipment. Burundi needs an estimated \$4 million to implement the 'Road Map' successfully between now and 2009.

Food Security and Nutrition: Regional food shortages are causing population movements from Rwanda into Burundi, and from there on to Tanzania. Even though Burundi's decade-long civil war ended in 2004, families are still struggling to feed their children. About half of all children in the country are currently suffering from moderate to severe malnutrition.

In the first week of April, FAO reported a slight improvement in the food security situation in the country thanks to satisfactory rainfall. Improved harvests in June and July are helping to redress the subsisting food shortages. FAO/Emergency Coordination Unit and WFP are distributing seeds and seed protection rations in the five worst affected provinces. Meanwhile WFP and government continue with distribution of food items while UNICEF collaborates with WFP in supporting the therapeutic feeding and supplementary services, but the food crisis subsists.

Rwandan Asylum Seekers: The total number of Rwandan asylum seekers in the three sites: Musasa, Rwisuri and Songorwas 22,800 before registration started on 21 March. Some 8,262 were registered, 96 cases were refused refugee status during the first week of May and have been repatriated along with 1,000 others who signed up for voluntary repatriation.

Returnees: Between January and 10th of June, UNHCR had facilitated the return of 4,584 Burundian refugees from exile, including 161 spontaneous returnees.

Security: Despite progress in the peace negotiations between the Burundian Government and the last rebel group FNL, the last six months have been marked by violent attacks mostly in Bujumbura Rural and Bubanza provinces. Media reported that the rebels have also resumed recruitment of combatants in Bubanza area.

2. UNICEF RESPONSE: ACTIVITIES, ACHIEVEMENTS AND CONSTRAINTS

HEALTH & NUTRITION

Support for free birth services: Following the Presidential declaration of free medical care for children under 5 years and free birth delivery services, UNICEF has collaborated with the Ministry of Health, WHO, UNFPA and WFP to draw up an emergency support plan for the government initiative. UNICEF is already supplying medicine and maternity equipment, and training nurses and other health workers in 10 provinces in Emergency Obstetric Care. It is also supporting implementation of Communication strategies to improve the capacity of mothers, their families and communities to recognize danger signals, take action for timely referral, pre, and post natal care.

Measles Campaign launched: The Ministry of Health in collaboration with UNICEF and WHO launched the 2006 measles campaign from 19 June in Muramvya. From 19 to 23 June, 1,117,443 children from the age 9 to 59 months were expected to be vaccinated against measles; 1,193,226 children from the age of 6 to 59 months for Vitamin A, and for deworming 1,053,546 children aged 12 to 59 months.

National Plans on GCCA AND Avian Flu Emergency: Mid-May, UNICEF in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Ministry of the Struggle Against HIV/AIDS, the National Council on HIV/AIDS, the WHO, Organisation of First Ladies of Africa Against AIDS, local and international NGOs, facilitated the drawing up of the National Strategic Plan 2007-2010 for the Global Campaign Against HIV/AIDS. A national plan to combat avian flu has been drawn up by the Health Ministry, working with the UN system, including UNICEF. UNICEF was assigned the responsibility for the communication component.

Roll Back Malaria: UNICEF undertook an Insecticide Treated Nets adoption campaign to 10 communes most endemic with malaria diseases in March and April, working with five Theatre for Development groups who performed, engaged the communities in post-performance dialogue and distributed ITNs to pregnant women. The agency also facilitated the visit to Burundi of 8 international journalists to cover progress in the use of the ITN and the Artesunate Combination Therapy, encourage the continued funding of the Global Funds for Malaria. UNICEF collaborated with the Ministry of Health and other partners to commemorate the Africa Malaria Day and the sensitization of the private sector to its participation in implementing the national policy of controlling malaria using the Artesunate Combination Therapy.

Nutrition: UNICEF chaired the monthly Coordination Group meeting, held on 5 May which reviewed a joint FAO-UNICEF-WFP assessment mission of the nutritional situation in two provinces, Kirundo and Muyinga, among those worst hit by food insecurity and cassava mosaic disease. The meeting noted that if the rains remain favourable, the 2006 harvests will be good and agreed that multiplication and distribution of pest resistant cassava species has successfully combated the spread of mosaic disease.

UNICEF survey of the nutritional situation in Muyinga, Kirundo, Rutana, Ruyigi, Ngozi and Kayanza indicated increased admission in nutrition therapeutic centres from 1,072 to 1,260 between March and February, and from 10,554 to 12,335 in nutrition supplementary centres within the same period. However, this is due to normal seasonal fluctuations in the months of March-April, and is well below the emergency alert level of 10%. UNICEF has supported the Ministry of Public health to draw up a Strategy document to combat micronutrient deficiencies in the country.

HIV/AIDS

A Bureau of Rural Education workshop for Counsellors was held in March to produce a training guide on life skills for peer educators. This will be used by STOP AIDS clubs to teach life skills in primary schools. The workshop is a prelude to a Users' Workshop for pupil peer educators from 40 convergence schools in Ruyigi, Makamba and Cankuzo provinces. Also, UNICEF partner, RENAJES, a youth organisation campaigning against HIV/AIDS distributed 40,000 copies of the HIV/AIDS newsletter "Simbimanga" from 8 to 10 June in schools and youth centres.

UNICEF facilitated the finalization of the 5-year national plan for the Global Campaign on Children and AIDS (GCCA) from 27 to 31 March. Thirty-eight participants from Government, NGOs, youth associations, people living with HIV/AIDS and other UN agencies identified priorities for scaling up interventions to prevent new infections, help children affected by HIV/AIDS and ensure children become more visible in the global HIV/AIDS agenda.

UNICEF supported a workshop to draw up an Action Plan by the Burundi chapter of the Organization of African First Ladies Against HIV/AIDS headed by First Lady, Madame Denise Nkurunziza, 24 and 25 April. Sixty-four stakeholders participated.

WATER AND SANITATION

On 16 February, UNICEF hosted an inaugural Coordination meeting of donors and agencies supporting Burundi in the area of Water and Sanitation, in the spirit of "cluster lead." The objectives are to strengthen support to government in formulating and funding a sustainable Water and Sanitation policy for the country, and ensure coordination and complementarity

UNICEF in collaboration with the Département de Promotion de Santé de l'Hygiene et de l'Assainissement (DPSHA), the NGOs Action Aid et CISV, the Water and Sanitation Project and the Burundi Red Cross (CRB) has now completed Participatory Hygiene And Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) training of 16 Provincial Coordinators of Community Water Boards (CPRCE), 118 Health Promotion Technicians at the national level and 69 Organisers. They, in turn, have undertaken 69 sensitisation sessions in which 5,512 persons participated in Gisuru community of Ruyigi Province.

Between 6 March and 8 May, UNICEF has improved Hygiene for 10,000 pupils in 20 primary schools by constructing separate latrines for boys and girls and adapting potable water supply to local conditions through rainwater catchment. In Cankuzo, Rutana and Karuzi, nearly 50,000 people now have access to potable water through 143 water protected sources and rehabilitation of 9 gravity fed water systems. About 14,000 households in Gisuru commune, Ruyigi province, were sensitised to basic water and environmental sanitation by instructors trained in the Participative community education on hygiene, while another 538 households were trained to construct their own latrines and in the proper evacuation of excreta.

EDUCATION

On 6 March, UNICEF began distribution of exercise books, biros and crayons to one million pupils across the country's 17 provinces. Some 2,643,586 exercise books, 741,741 blue biros, 692,961 crayons and 159,305 erasers have distributed. From 13 to 15 March, school materials were distributed in Bujumbura Rurale, a rebel stronghold, by armed ONUB troops and Ministry of Education officials. A total of 372,717 children, over half of whom are girls have benefited from the distribution.

A UNICEF-OCHA joint mission was in Ruyigi on 9 February to assess progress made in the implementation of the free primary education programme. UNICEF is working there with a local NGO, SOPRAD, and the communities to build schools. The 45 schools under construction in Ruyigi, 35 in Cankuzo and 25 in Rutana are expected to be ready by mid-August 2006.

The 3rd Joint Mission of the Education Sector Partners took place from 8 to 12 May, 2006. Comprising the Ministry of Education, DFID, the Belgian and French Co-operations, the World Bank, UNESCO and UNICEF, the mission developed scenarios of various policy options for the mid-term sector plan, the mid-term expenditure framework and long term educational policy, expected to be finalized by the Ministry of Education by September 2006.

PROTECTION & HUMAN RIGHTS

In January, UNICEF and partners organised activities to prevent sexual and gender based violence and support its victims in three provinces. A three-day mass campaign was held in Muyinga, to mobilise communities to support victims, encourage them and their families to visit the Counselling Centres within 72 hours of the incident and break the culture of silence by filing complaints to legal authorities

The Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting Violations of Child Rights, jointly established by UNICEF, UN agencies, Government, and NGOs to follow up on UN Security Council Resolution 1612 has completed bi-monthly report on grave violations and is working on an annual country report on monitoring and reporting for Burundi to be submitted by end of August 2006.

In February – March 2006, UNICEF in collaboration with other UN Agencies trained around 200 personnel of UN agencies, Government, NGOs and media partners on Human Rights Based Approach to Programming. UNICEF in collaboration with Terre des Hommes organised training on HRBAP and the Convention on the Rights of the Child for the members of the Platform on Street Children in June 2006. This training assisted the participants in developing a work plan for the Platform based on HRBAP.

Under the child soldiers project, UNICEF this year continued support for the reintegration of 3007 children through 10 NGO partners who ensure an 18-month family based assistance to the children, including back to school or vocational programmes; support to youth associations; primary health care, HIV/AIDS prevention and psychosocial assistance.

MINE ACTION

In April 2006, UNICEF with the Mine Action Coordinating Committee co-facilitated training of 75 primary school teachers on Mine Risk Education (MRE) including child rights and prevention of sexual abuse. The MACC, with UNICEF support, trained and equipped 26 MRE community agents within two national NGOs (ASSOPED and AVMIN).

UNICEF in close collaboration with MACC, developed and prepared MRE tools such as 500 training displays; 105,000 schoolbooks with warning cartoons; 210,000 leaflets with warning messages in Kirundi, the local language; 47,000 posters; 4,000 training manuals for community liaison agents; 100,000 calendars for children in local language with key messages and 1,000 tee-shirts; in order to support communities' mine risk education activities. Known cases of victims of landmine/ERW casualty have been reduced by about half so far.

REFUGEES & IDPs

In all UNICEF provided BP5 to 16,000 Rwandan asylum seekers, set up of water trucking system in camps with IRC and supported UNHCR and partners in educational activities.

UNICEF, working with UNHCR, provided 1,325 cartons of BP5 for children under 10 years, pregnant and breastfeeding women among Rwandan asylum seekers living in the open in Kirundo and Ngozi Provinces who are awaiting transfer to Musasa Camp. UNICEF conducted a vaccination campaign on 23 and 24 February, provided mosquito nets to 2,451 families in the camp, recreational kits and publications on HIV/AIDS prevention to the young people, three water tanks of 10,000 litres capacity each. MSF-Holland continued to provide medical assistance while ONUB and IRC truck water to the sites on a daily basis. The determination of refugee status is underway with priority treatment for vulnerable persons.

UNICEF also distributed non-food items such as mats, blankets, basins, soap, wrappers for the women and children clothes to each household, working in collaboration with the NGO Solidarité. A five-day ration of BP5 was also given to each new arrival, with pregnant and nursing mothers, children under 10 years, sick people and the aged being given priority.

In the third week of May, UNICEF distributed BP5 to 189 IDPs in Cankuzo Province on the eve of their return home to Busoni Commune in Kirundo. It supported UNHCR with 2,000 School-in-a Box kits for repatriated children, recreation and educational materials for Rwandan asylum seekers and plastic sheetings for 152 Batwa household in Gitega Province. Roofing sheets and nails were also distributed for the construction of more school structures in Gitega ahead of the 2006-2007 school year. Three hundred and thirty-seven classrooms have been rehabilitated or constructed in seven provinces to complement Education section projects.

UNICEF provided non food item to about 5,000 people around the country. These included blankets and non-food items through CRS to 500 families in Kabezi and Muhuta, province of Bujumbura Rural whose houses were severely damaged and to 82 families Bigabira commune, Kirundo Province. In Cankuzo commune, Cankuzo Province, UNICEF's Emergency action partner distributed non-food items to 110 households at UNHCR transit camp, Cankuzo, who are fleeing food shortages from their homes in Gisenyi Commune, Busoni Province.

3. APPEAL REQUIREMENTS AND RECEIPTS

The UNICEF Burundi Country Office seizes this opportunity on behalf of women and children in this country to thank all the donors who so generously responded to the consolidated appeal and made substantial contributions to alleviate the insufficiencies that would otherwise cause pain and suffering. Below is a breakdown of funding requirements and the funds received by sector during this appeal year.

Table 1: Funds Received against Appeal

Appeal Sector	Requirements by Sector	Funds Received (US\$)	Unmet requirements (US\$)	% Unfunded
Health and Nutrition	10,471,756	2,959,346.71	7,512,409.29	72%
Water and Environmental Sanitation	2,717,680	473,932	2,243,748	83%
Education	10,707,424	7,508,868	3,198,556	30%
Protection and Human Rights	868,000	128,839.19	739,160.81	85%
Mine action	397,600	0	397,600	100%
Emergency preparedness and response	1,139,022	0	1,139,022	100%
Total*	26,301,482	11,070,985.90	15,230,496.10	58%

*The total includes the UNICEF recovery rate. The actual rate on contributions is calculated in accordance with UNICEF Board Decisions and was amended on 9 June 2006.

Table 2: Funds received by Donor

Donor	Funds Received (US\$)	Sector
France	241,838	Education
Japan	7,267,030	Education
Ireland	592,415	Health & Nutrition
European Commission	823,081.88	Health & Nutrition
Netherlands	723,000	Health & Nutrition
Netherlands Natcom	473,932	WES
Sweden	820,849.83	Health & Nutrition
Belgian Natcom	128,839.19	Protection
Total*	11,070,985.90	

*The total includes the UNICEF recovery rate. The actual rate on contributions is calculated in accordance with UNICEF Board Decisions and was amended on 9 June 2006.

4. IMPACT OF UNDER-FUNDING AND CURRENT PRIORITIES

Under funding of projects is severely affecting populations' health notably in a country where malaria cases represent 40 per cent of health centre consultations and 50 per cent of hospital deaths among children under five and where malnutrition of under-five children remains still very high. The Presidential declaration of free medical care for children under five years and free birth delivery services, in May 2006 have severely depleted medical stocks and overstretched available doctors and nurses.

Inadequate funding is also limiting protection and assistance to displaced children including street children, children in conflict with law, orphans and other vulnerable children. These children suffer from lack of parental guidance, emotional traumas due to conflict, low literacy levels, limited access to basic social services, and are also vulnerable to abuse, exploitation, negligence, and violence.

In the Education sector, the Integrated Early Childhood Development (IECD) project and programmes supporting education for adolescents have not received funding these past two years. Yet these are necessary to consolidate gains made in the formal primary education sector.

Resources are also sorely needed for ensuring Water and Sanitation facilities in the Free Primary Education programme and in the reintegration of repatriated refugees and Internally Displaced Persons. Funds are therefore solicited for ensuring water and sanitation within the convergent child friendly school project, for the rehabilitation or construction of war damaged water supply systems and building community capacity for water management and sanitation among vulnerable populations.

Table 3: Urgent priority requirements

As of March 2006		
Project	Beneficiaries/coverage	Amount Required (US\$)
<u>Health and Nutrition</u>		
- Improved nutritional surveillance and coordination;	- Children ,pregnant and lactating women;	336,000
- Malaria treatment and prevention;	-Population of endemic and epidemic areas in Burundi;	1,103,799
- Increase access to essential health care package.	-IDPs, returning refugees and vulnerable families in 16 provinces	2,944,376
Sub/TOTAL		4,384,175
<u>Water and Environmental Sanitation</u>		
- Repair/reinforcement of water supply systems, capacity building for community committees, provision of water sources and construction of school latrines, training and tool kits for school hygiene clubs, construction of improved by 10,000	Primary school and communities in target areas	1,726,816

households, communication and technical assistance.		
Education		
- Early Childhood Development;	- 5,000 young children between the ages of 3 and 6 living with their parents in camps for the displaced Children	360,000
- Adolescent Education;	- 10,000 adolescents in sub-urban areas and Ruyigi, Makamba, Bubanza, Bujumbura Rural, Bujumbura Mairie provinces	504,000
- Schools construction	- 300,000 children and youths of school age, with particular attention to those affected by the crisis.	2,000,000
Sub/TOTAL		2,864,000
Protection and Human Rights		
Protect and reintegrate separated children and assist displaced children	1000 separated children and assist 20,000 displaced children including street children, children in conflict with law	868,000
Emergency preparedness and response		0
Total Priority needs		9,842,991

Details of the Burundi emergency programme can be obtained from:

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