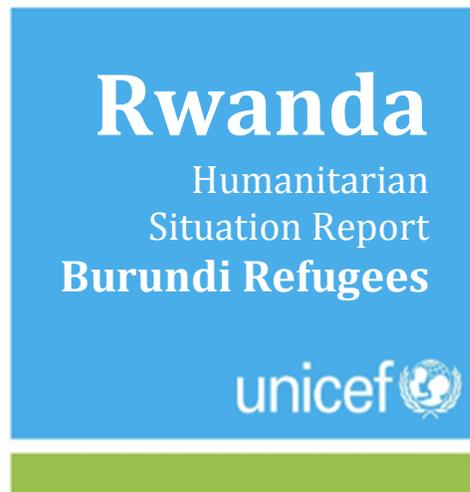




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Highlights

- The total number of Burundian refugees in Rwanda has increased to 86,600. Of this, 54,257 refugees are living in Mahama Camp.
- Successful “Back to school campaign” resulted in 2,300 children entering/re-entering school. Education is being supported to build capacity, improve quality, and increase access impacting 389 teachers and more than 20,000 children.
- The construction of the first permanent ECD centre was completed and handed over to MIDMAR and UNHCR in March. The centre has now enrolled 402 children aged 3-6 years who are benefitting from an integrated ECD package.
- UNICEF Rwanda is grateful to the Department of International Development (DFID), the Government of Japan, Republic of Korea, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), USAID, US Fund for UNICEF, and the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), for their support to the critical interventions in Mahama Camp.

UNHCR figures as of 17 July 2017

86,600

Burundian refugees in Rwanda

54,257

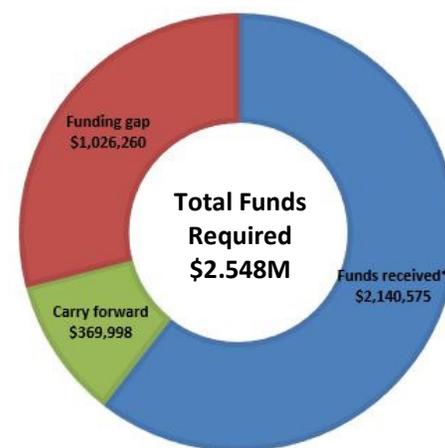
Burundi Refugee hosted at Mahama refugee camp

46%

are children

FUNDING STATUS

■ Funds received* ■ Carry forward ■ Funding gap



Results as per HAC 2017

Sector	Target ¹	Results
WASH: People provided with access to safe water (7.5–15 litres per person per day)	10,000	--2
People provided with appropriate sanitation services	10,000	5,680
Health: Children under-five provided with routine immunization	12,000	6,989
Nutrition: Children under 5 with SAM admitted to therapeutic services	400	186
Early Childhood Development: Children aged 0 to 6 years benefiting from the provision of early childhood development (ECD) services through centre and home-based care	20,000	7,400
Child Protection: Children, including UASC, provided with appropriate care and protection services	50,000	26,000
Education: School-aged children accessing quality education	19,000	20,770

¹ The targets were set based on the planning figure of an expected 120,000 Burundian refugees in Mahama Camp and reception centres. The actual number of refugees in Mahama and reception centres is currently 54,720 (46% of the planning figure).

² As per the decision of the WASH coordination meeting, provision of water was delegated to Oxfam with UNICEF's technical support. Access to treated water in Mahama is adequate at 20.4 litres per person per day.



Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

Throughout the first half of 2017, the arrival of new Burundian refugees into Rwanda continued slowly but steadily. The total number of Burundian refugees in Rwanda increased by 2,300 in the last 6 months and has reached 86,600. Rwanda currently hosts about 20.8 per cent of the regional refugee caseload from Burundi. In response, the Government has opened a new transit centre in Nyarushishi, in addition to the existing three reception centres (Bugesera, Nyanza, and Gatore). The total number of refugees in these reception and transit centers is currently 463, and the total population of Mahama camp is 54,257. The number of refugees in the urban areas of Kigali and Huye is 30,908.

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

The Rwandan Ministry of Disaster Management and Refugee Affairs (MIDIMAR) and UNHCR are the overall coordinators of the inter-agency response to the refugee situation. UNICEF is the UN Co-Coordinator for the response in WASH, child protection, education, early childhood development, health (with WHO and UNFPA), and nutrition (with WFP). The main implementing partners are district and community authorities, the Ministry of Health, Rwanda Biomedical Centre, district hospitals and health centres, Africa Humanitarian Action, American Refugee Committee (health, nutrition and shelter), Plan International (child protection), ADRA (ECD and education), the Ministry of Infrastructure, Rwanda Water and Sanitation Corporation (WASAC), World Vision, Global Humanitarian and Development Foundation (GHDF), and Oxfam (for WASH).

Humanitarian Strategy

The strategy agreed upon by the Government and development partners is to provide comprehensive services to refugees and seek fulfilment of their basic rights by providing registration, shelter and household equipment, food and water, maintain sanitation and hygiene, health and nutrition services, education, and protection.

In the wake of increasing number of refugees, UNHCR has requested 55 hectares of additional land in Mahama camp from the government in order to continue construction of semi-permanent shelters. UNHCR has agreed to finance a project to benefit the local community in compensation for the land. The monthly Refugee Coordination Meeting led by UNHCR includes donors and other development partners such as the World Bank.

UNICEF's continuing response includes the provision of improved sanitation facilities and technical assistance, screening and management of severe acute malnutrition, promotion of appropriate infant and young child feeding practices, and provision of polio and measles vaccines for children, as well as routine immunisations. In addition, unaccompanied and separated children are registered, their families are traced, and child-friendly spaces are established. Support for prevention and response to violence against children is being provided. UNICEF is also supporting access to early learning and basic education for refugee children. After initial life-saving interventions, UNICEF's focus is on the provision of basic social services and support to the development of more permanent solutions.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

During the reporting period, UNICEF, with DFID and CERF support and in partnership with Global Humanitarian and Development Foundation (GHDF), supported the construction of 71 additional blocks of durable latrines (each having four stances) that can be simultaneously used as both latrine and shower for 80 people or 16 families. Following the completion of the construction work, these latrines are in use and are benefitting 5,680 refugees. 71 rain water harvesting tanks were installed at each of the 71 latrine blocks to reduce the use of treated water by using the rain water for cleaning of sanitation facilities and watering of refugees' small vegetable gardens. The newly constructed latrines, which are located closer to the households, have also contributed to enhanced privacy and security, especially for women and children. Compared to the temporary communal latrines, these latrines are much easier to clean and less malodorous. This, together with related interventions supported by UNHCR and partners, has contributed to an improvement in latrine and shower ratio in Mahama Refugee Camp, which stands respectively at 17 persons per drop hole of latrine and 17 persons per shower room as of end June 2017.

As for water availability, the water treatment plant supported by UNHCR, UNICEF and partners in Mahama camp during 2016 has adequate capacity to cater to the needs of the existing population of Burundian refugees, who are currently being supplied safe water as per minimum humanitarian standards. Water access and consumption in Mahama is currently above the emergency SPHERE standard at 20.4 litres per person per day. Hygiene status is satisfactory and people's health is kept at adequate health standards. Access to water, sanitation and hygiene services in the Transit Centres also met the required humanitarian standards during the reporting period.

Nutrition

In collaboration with American Refugee Committee (ARC), UNICEF continued to provide technical support and therapeutic supplies for malnourished children under five years old in Mahama Camp and in the reception centres. As of 13 July 2017, UNICEF has distributed 17,032 kilograms of ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) for the treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in Mahama Camp and reception centres. Routine screening to identify malnutrition cases in the camp is ongoing, targeting all children in the age group of 6-59 months. Since the beginning of the year, 186 children have been identified with SAM and enrolled for treatment.

According to the standardized expanded nutrition survey (SENS) carried out in May 2017, the prevalence of Global Acute Malnutrition decreased from 6.6 percent, Confidence Interval (CI) (5.1-8.6) in May 2015 to 4.5 per cent in May 2017.

Health

Since January, UNICEF's support to routine immunization in Mahama Camp continues to reach all children under one-year with all the six antigens (BCG, Polio, Pentavalent, Measles-Rubella, Rotavirus, Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV 13) provided in Rwanda. In addition, Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) second dose at 15 months and Tetanus Toxoid (TT) to pregnant mothers are also provided through UNICEF's support. In the first half of the year, 6,989 children have been reached with routine immunization and 913 pregnant mothers have received TT vaccines in Mahama Camp.

Disease surveillance is continuously maintained and health promotion activities are ongoing in Mahama camp through UNICEF support.

Communication for Development

With the support from the Government of Japan, UNICEF recently established a partnership agreement with GHDF to promote key family practices in Mahama Refugee Camp through their Community Health Workers (CHWs). To strengthen the quality of messaging and monitoring, a device called Talking Books have been

introduced. This device will record the key messages in Kirundi for replay during outreach activities. Its monitoring feature will allow GHDF to track the work of each CHW. CHW supervisors who have been trained on the use of Talking Books find it very useful to cover the wide range of messages. In addition to the health promotion messages, the device also contains ECD audio programme and children's songs. Results on people outreach will be provided in the next situation report.

Child Protection

In the first half of the year, UNICEF provided child protection services to 26,000 children in refugee settlement areas. Particularly, UNICEF provided support to implementing partner, Plan International and Save the Children to increase their capacity on the monitoring of unaccompanied and separated (UASC) children. Community-based volunteers are making daily home visits to UASC living in alternative care arrangements and monthly visits to those placed in foster families. Mahama refugee camp is currently hosting 1,217 UASC (692 Separated vs 525 UAC).

In total, 239 child protection cases are registered as active at the end of June: the most reported cases by order of prevalence include child neglect; child labour; physical, psychosocial and emotional violence; child defilement and rape, and forced early child marriage. Community-based volunteers are providing support to child victims by reporting to social professionals for individual case management including referral as appropriate. The Legal Aid Forum and Rwanda National Police are key players for case investigation and legal support.

Apart from individual case management of child abuse, there was also support to UASC in alternative care through the provision of non-food items (NFIs) and regular home visits. NFIs were provided to families fostering children: the NFIs include bedding, kitchen materials and clothes.

Since the beginning of the year, two Child-friendly Space (CFS) were upgraded to semi-permanent structure to improve accessibility for psycho-social support and entertainment near children's homes. UNICEF procured additional games and books to promote reading among children. The messages in the books are aimed at increasing life skills. Children also participate in activities such as football, traditional dance, and storytelling. CFS community mobilisers are trained to identify children showing signs of psychosocial distress, and these children are referred for child protection (CP) support.

UNICEF started a new initiative aimed at improving the monitoring of children in Mahama Camp through establishment of a 'real time monitoring system' that aims to replace the paper-based system and provide faster identification and referral for children in need of child protection. 215 tablets have been procured and a consultant is being contracted to be based in Mahama to work with key actors to establish this Information Management System.

Also, UNICEF and UNHCR have embarked on a new initiative to 'bridge the humanitarian-development divide' and improve the integration of refugee children into national child protection systems. In June 2017, UNICEF and UNHCR hosted a meeting with key government and civil society partners to develop a draft roadmap that will focus on inclusion of refugee children into national systems. UNICEF focus on refugees will start to transition from a predominantly camp-based approach to improving support by host communities to refugee children as part of national child protection system.

Education

The host school Paysannat L (P2 – S6) and Paysannat (Satellite) are hosting Burundian refugee children since 2015. As of June 2017, the number of children enrolled was 20,770, with 11,055 boys and 9,715 girls. From January- June 2017, UNICEF interventions in education for Burundian refugee children focused on three areas.

1. Ensuring Access to School and Mitigating Dropout

UNICEF, together with the Government of Rwanda (MIDIMAR and Kirehe District authorities), UNHCR, ADRA, and other civil society organizations coordinated a back-to-school campaign with the refugee and local community. The aim was to launch a year-long effort to ensure all refugee children are in school and learning.

The children took part in the launch of the back-to-school campaign in Mahama Camp on 20 February, composed around the theme “All children in school”. The campaign mobilised community members to support all refugee children to attend school based on their right to education.

As a result of the campaign approximately 1,222 students in primary and secondary school who had previously dropped out re-enrolled in school and approximately 1,078 students who had never enrolled, entered the education system. The campaign was combined with the official handover of 163 newly constructed classrooms, a kitchen, a teachers’ room, and latrines, supported by UNHCR/ADRA and the Government of Rwanda.

2. Building Capacity of School Management

UNICEF, with the support of the Government of Japan, is in the process of procuring ICT equipment (computers and accessories), and other office supplies (photocopy machines, generators and stationary). These supplies will aim to ease the management burden, assist in planning and organisation of the school, and ensure that the necessary infrastructure is available to deliver quality education. The supplies are expected to be delivered to Mahama schools in the third quarter of 2017.

3. Improving the Quality of Education

UNICEF, with the support from USAID, partnered with IEE (Inspire, Educate, and Empower), a local NGO, to improve the quality of education. As a result, the school-based mentorship program is being implemented with 16 pedagogical experts are placed in the school to work and build the capacity of the teachers.

To date, 389 teachers have been trained on the competence-based curriculum (CBC), with a focus to application of child-centre teaching methods and development of adequate teaching material. In addition, 2,000 parents were mobilized to collaborate with the school to support teaching and learning at the schools and were equipped with strategies to support children’s learning in homesteads.

Major gaps that need continued attention include the following:

- Teaching and learning materials (e.g. textbooks, supplementary materials, teachers’ guides)
- Recreation facilities and equipment
- Extra classrooms to accommodate the increasing number of children enrolled in school
- ICT and science laboratories(UNICEF is procuring computers for ICT lab and UNHCR will be accountable for the construction of ICT infrastructure)
- Prevalence of early pregnancies among adolescent girls putting them at risk of school drop out

Early Childhood Development (ECD)

The construction of the first permanent ECD centre was completed and handed over to MIDIMAR and UNHCR in March. The centre has now enrolled 402 children aged 3-6 years in two shifts who are benefitting from an integrated ECD package overseen by 88 caregivers. The newly constructed ECD centre has been equipped with outdoor and indoor play materials, as well as UNICEF ECD kits. Additional materials including furniture is being provided by MIDIMAR, UNHCR and UNICEF. It is planned that ADRA will support the new centre for an initial six months’ period and hand it over to MIDIMAR and UNHCR.

A new Partnership Agreement is being developed between UNICEF and ADRA, which includes the construction of another permanent ECD centre in Mahama camp and a multipurpose play park. The new ECD centre will include two additional stimulation rooms to accommodate an additional number of children aged 3-6 and 7-12 years. It will strengthen the provision of quality ECD services to the most vulnerable children, with the aim of supporting young children’s holistic development and reducing the impact of the crisis on the

physical, mental and emotional development of young children. The construction is expected to finish by the end of the year.

In anticipation of the home-based ECD&F component for children under 3 years of age, trained caregivers are coaching organized parents groups hosting 44 children. UNICEF is planning to build the capacity of the caregivers to initiate a more organized parenting programme and to provide guidance on use of existing tools including the ECD Essential Package, the Care for Child Development and the competence-based curriculum.

Funding Requirements

As outlined in the Humanitarian Appeal for 2017, UNICEF Rwanda required a total of USD 2,548,000 for the refugee response. The current funding gap is 40.3% and mainly in WASH (sanitation services) and nutrition sectors.

Funding Requirements (as defined in Humanitarian Appeal January to December 2017)				
Appeal Sector	Requirements (US\$)	Funding available (US\$)*	Funding gap	
			(US\$)	%
Nutrition	110,000	39,795	70,205	64%
Health (including HIV/AIDS)	405,000	391,283	13,717	3%
WASH	1,000,000	73,481	926,519	93%
Education	315,000	524,870	0	0%
ECD	50,000	293,889	0	0%
Child Protection	278,000	660,000	0	0%
Operational Support	390,000	374,181	15,819	4%
M&E Including C4D	-	153,074	0	0%
Total	2,548,000	2,510,573	1,026,260	40.3%

* Funds available includes funding received against 2017 appeal as well as carry-forward from 2016.

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