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Rwanda

Humanitarian Situation Report Burundi Refugees

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Highlights

- The number of Burundian refugees in Rwanda has increased to 81,775, with about 50,519 refugees living in Mahama camp, making it the largest refugee camp in Rwanda.
- World Breastfeeding Week was celebrated in August. Orientation on the benefits of early and timely breastfeeding for community health workers and mother leaders was conducted.
- Incidences of Malaria have reduced recently due to the distribution of insecticide-treated bed nets. However, upper respiratory tract infection remains the major cause of morbidity in Mahama camp with 8 deaths of children under-5 reported between July and August 2016.
- Water provision in Mahama camp has consistently exceeded the minimum standards by providing 20 litres/person/day. Construction of additional sanitation facilities is ongoing.
- Over 8,000 children have been reached with recreational activities and psychosocial support this year.
- To date, 19,422 Burundian refugee learners are enrolled in grades P1-S6, fully integrated into the Rwandan national education system. A shortage of teaching and learning materials and the capacity to deliver quality teaching remain key challenges.

81,775*

Burundian refugees in Rwanda

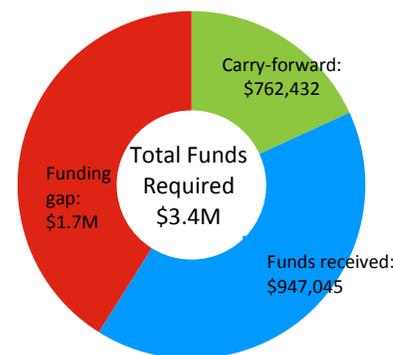
50,519*

Burundi Refugees hosted at Mahama refugee camp

46% are children

*UNHCR figures as of 22 September 2016

Funding Status



- Carry forward funds
- Funds received to date
- Funding gap

Nb. Funds available includes funding received for the current appeal year as well as the carry-forward from the previous

UNICEF response with partners			
Sector	Target	Results	
WASH: People reached with safe hygiene messages and promotional activities	60,000	>51,000	
Health: Children under 1 year reached with routine immunization	1,500	3,469	
Nutrition: Children under 5 years suffering from SAM admitted to therapeutic feeding programmes (as per Sphere Standards for programme coverage and programme performance)	360	821	
Early Childhood Development: Children benefitted from the provision of early childhood development services through centre and home-based approaches	14,000	5,400	
Child Protection: most-vulnerable children, including unaccompanied and separated children, provided with case management services	6,000	1,548	
Education: School-aged children, including adolescents, accessed quality education, including through temporary structures	17,000	19,422	

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

According to the Government of Rwanda and UNHCR statistics, as of 22 September, 81,775 Burundian refugees are in Rwanda, with 50,519 registered in Mahama Camp. The remaining refugees are in reception centres (approximately 1,500) or in Kigali and other urban areas (29,755). Urban refugees are increasingly requesting to be relocated to the camp due to the high cost of city living.

The political situation in Burundi has not changed and there continue to be reports of human rights violations. The Burundian government is requesting that Burundi refugees return to the country, but many feel that the conditions in Burundi are not safe for them to return.

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, the Rwanda Biomedical Centre, district hospitals and health centres; Africa Humanitarian Action; ARC (health, nutrition and shelter); Plan International (child protection); ADRA (ECD and education); the Ministry of Infrastructure, Rwanda Water and Sanitation Corporation (WASAC); and World Vision, GHDF and Oxfam (WASH).

Humanitarian Strategy

The strategy jointly agreed by the government and development partners is to register refugees, provide shelter, household equipment, food and water; maintain sanitation and hygiene; and provide emergency health and nutrition services.

UNICEF's continuing response includes the provision of WASH supplies and technical assistance; screening and management of severe acute malnutrition (SAM); promotion of appropriate infant and young child feeding practices (IYCF); and provision of polio and measles vaccines for children as well as routine immunization. In addition, unaccompanied and separated children are registered, while their families are traced, and child-friendly spaces are established. Support to prevent and respond to violence against children is being provided. UNICEF is also supporting access to early learning and basic education for refugee children. After the 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)

UNHCR and UNICEF collaborated with Global Humanitarian Development Foundation (GHDF) and Oxfam to provide WASH services to over 51,000 Burundian refugees in Mahama camp as well as three reception centres in Gatore, Bugesera, and Nyanza. The water supply in Mahama camp serves approximately 50,000 people and continues to exceed minimum standards by providing 20 litres per person per day. The latrine and shower ratio in Mahama averages 24 people per drop-hole and 27 people per shower room. In the reception centres, the water and sanitation facilities are meeting minimum standards.



A caregiver teaches children handwashing with soap

The construction of the permanent water treatment plant for Mahama camp is in the final stage, with commissioning expected in October 2016. Construction of 58 blocks of durable latrines in Mahama is also ongoing. UNICEF has received funding from DFID and CERF to build an additional 69 blocks of latrines; construction is expected to commence in early October.

Nutrition

In collaboration with American Refugee Committee (ARC), UNICEF continues to provide technical support and supplies for malnourished children under five in Mahama transit centre and reception centres. As of 18 September, UNICEF has distributed 14,214 kilograms of Ready to Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) for the treatment of SAM in Mahama and the reception centres.

Routine screening to identify malnutrition cases in the camps is ongoing, targeting all children 6-59 months old. As of 18 September, 821 children have been identified with SAM and enrolled for treatment. Of these, 621 children have been cured. The cured children will receive follow-up from the supplementary feeding programme.



A mother is feeding her child with the Ready to Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) provided by UNICEF. © UNICEF Rwanda/2016

During the first week of August 2016, the nutrition and health education teams from ARC, Save the Children, and Concern Worldwide joined the world in celebrating World Breastfeeding Week in Mahama Camp. The theme of the week was: "Breastfeeding: A Key to Sustainable Development". Three main activities were completed: (i) Orientation of Community Health Workers (CHW) and mother leaders on breastfeeding, including messages for dissemination in camp villages during a mass community nutrition education session; (ii) intensive nutrition education sessions on breastfeeding practices, including early

initiation of breastfeeding, exclusive breastfeeding in the first six months, complementary feeding, and continued breastfeeding up to two years; and (iii) sensitization in different villages where CHWs, mother leaders, and ARC nutrition staff joined people in all camp villages to participate in nutrition education sessions.

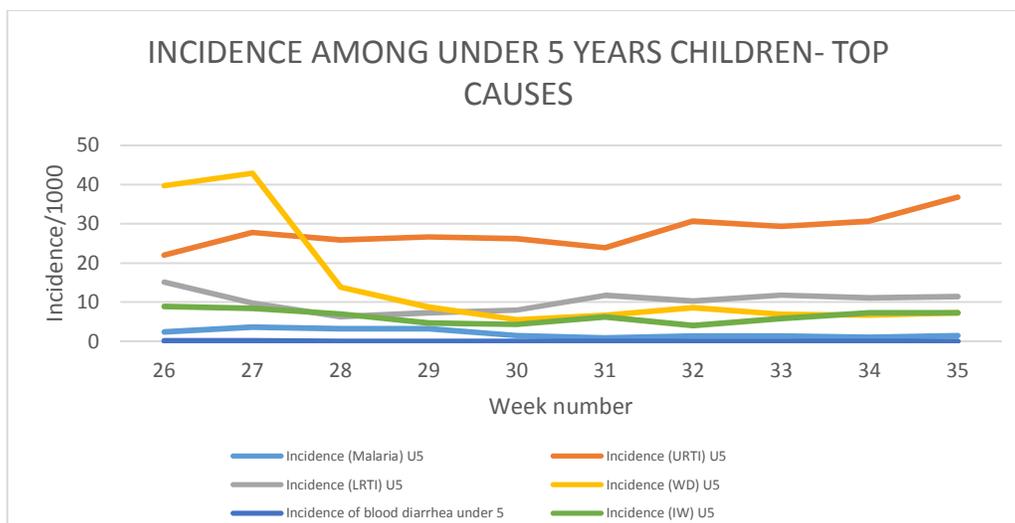
Health

UNICEF continues to support health response efforts in immunization, provision of health supplies, cholera preparedness and typhoid response.

Yellow fever surveillance activities are ongoing from the month of July 2016 and new refugee arrivals are being vaccinated at reception centres. Prior to entering the main camp, 405 people were vaccinated. The capacities of all health staff and community health workers in Mahama were built on cholera preparedness and typhoid response.

UNICEF continues to support routine immunization at Mahama Camp, covering 2,228 children who attended vaccinations between 1 July and 2 September.

Mahama camp reported eight deaths among children under five between July and August 2016. The leading causes of morbidity within the camp are upper and lower respiratory tract infections, malaria and diarrhoea. The graph below shows that trends in morbidity with URTI increasing over time, while malaria cases are reducing due to the distribution of insecticide-treated bed nets (ITNs) and health communication on ITN use.



*From (W26) 01 July to (W35) 02 September 2016.

Child Protection

UNICEF continued to provide psychosocial support to over 8,000 children and their families for the prevention of and response to violence, family separation, exploitation and abuse. UNICEF and Plan International are currently supporting 142 child protection cases since January 2016, including 56 closed cases and 86 active cases related to physical, sexual and emotional abuse.

Currently there are 1,548 unaccompanied and separated children in the camp (712 unaccompanied, 836 separated). These children have benefited from home visits either on a daily basis (unaccompanied minors) or a weekly basis (separated children) by community-based Para-Social Workers and Child Protection Mobilizers. These workers provide children with basic care, life skills, and support. Regular monitoring is sustained and has proved very effective in the identification, assessment, and referral of child protection issues.

UNICEF and Plan International focused on strengthening community-based child protection mechanisms in the camp to promote an enhanced protective environment for children. UNICEF and Plan trained 112 volunteers (child protection, para-social workers, and CFS) in order to build capacities of community-based systems. Mobilizers were also trained in areas such as child labour and trafficking.



A boy juggles his football at the child friendly space in Mahama camp

UNICEF has supported the upgrade of five out of eight Child-Friendly Spaces (CFS) in the camp which has directly impacted attendance of activities implemented with Plan International. Participation in CFS activities is up to 4,884 children (2,445 girls and 2,439 boys) weekly and up to 1,644 children (832 girls and 812 boys) daily. CFS have been reopened and are fully functioning with good results observed after the launch. After upgrading five of eight CFS, UNICEF and partners launched the re-opening of all activities in Child-Friendly Spaces. Attendance is expected to increase further.

The participation of adolescents in recreational activities has also increased, with more than 393 adolescents (192 girls, 201 boys) participating in adolescent-friendly activities on a weekly basis. The activities during this reporting period included local language, art, reading, games, telling and interpretation of stories and traditional Kirundi dances.

The Child-Friendly Spaces have been well accepted by the refugee community. Parents and caregivers consider CFS as a safe alternative for their children, freeing parents' time to work or conduct household

activities. This was possible due to the supply of both recreational and educational UNICEF materials. In addition, UNICEF played a significant role in the elaboration of Standard Operating Procedures for alternative care, which established the criteria for the identification of foster parents as well as training in basic children's rights and positive parenting. Fifty-six foster families have been trained on child rights, fostering, and protection in emergencies.

Education/ECD

The integration of Burundian refugee children into the Rwandan National Education System was completed in March. By April 2016, 19,422 students were enrolled in P1 through S6 and they continued to attend school during the reporting period. 12,407 refugee students in grades P3 through S6 are attending school in Paysanat local school, whereas another 7,015 children in grades P1 and P2 continue to learn in temporary classrooms constructed within Mahama Camp due to an acute shortage of classrooms.

227 refugee and local teachers have been trained and are currently teaching, in Paysanat local school, supporting the refugee children from Mahama camp. The previously reported salary shortages for newly recruited teachers have been corrected. Refugee students sat for end-of-quarter exams, with 89 per cent of enrolled refugee students attending. It is expected that the school attendance rate of refugee children will increase in the second trimester.



Children play and learn at the temporary ECD space.
© UNICEF Rwanda/2016

The remaining challenges in the education response include:

- A shortage of textbooks and other supplementary materials to enhance quality teaching and learning for the large number of students;
- Lack of teacher capacity to roll out the new competency-based curriculum;
- Insufficient permanent classrooms to accommodate children inside the local school;
- Lack of computers and other equipment for overall management and administration of the school.

To address some of these challenges, UNICEF procured textbooks and supplementary materials through the Rwanda Education Board (REB) and distributed the materials in August 2016. UNICEF and International Education Exchange (IEE) trained all 227 teachers and school managers on the new competency-based curriculum and child-centred teaching in April 2016. In addition, UNICEF, with support from DFID, is procuring student kits and teacher kits to support the education system for Burundian refugees for the new school year beginning January 2017.

In May and June 2016, the UNICEF-supported delivery of early childhood development (ECD) services continued to reach over 5,400 children with daily play-based early learning activities in the existing ECD spaces. Furthermore, UNICEF organised an orientation session on the new play-based pre-primary curriculum for 45 ECD caregivers. In partnership with ADRA, UNICEF is supporting the construction of one additional permanent ECD facility.

Communication for Development (C4D)

UNICEF contributed to building awareness amongst 4,000 refugee communities on key health and hygiene behaviours, including malaria and typhoid prevention. Through house to house visits, community workers reached more than 9,500 households.

To practice safe hand washing behaviour, 750 teachers and students have been oriented and practical demonstrations were carried out. UNICEF also provided 255 litres of liquid soap for Mahama Camp in the month of September.

Social mobilisation activities were carried out through mothers' groups reaching 1,200 refugees and through peer educators who used youth-friendly spaces, recreational activities and edutainment to reach 7,500 young people.



Street theatre by community mobilisers performed on key family practices. © UNICEF Rwanda/2016

Funding Requirements

As per the Humanitarian Appeal, UNICEF Rwanda requires a total of USD 3,433,000 for the Burundian refugee response. In August, UNICEF received its first emergency support for 2016 from DFID amounting USD 450,530 and in September received USD 499,250 from CERF. With the arrival of these funds, the funding gap has been reduced to 50 per cent. The total funding gap for 2016 is USD 1,723,523.

Funding Requirements (as defined in UNICEF's Humanitarian Appeal Jan-Dec 2016)				
Appeal Sector	Requirements (US\$)	Funding available (US\$)*	Funding gap	
			(US\$)	%
Nutrition	378,000	38,169	339,831	90%
Health (including HIV/AIDS)	505,000	250,054	254,946	50%
WASH	500,000	532,302	(32,302)	-6%
Education and ECD	900,000	589,050	310,950	35%
Child Protection	460,000	225,918	234,082	51%
Operational Support*	540,000	64,827	475,173	88%
M&E Including C4D	150,000	9,157	140,843	94%
Total	3,433,000	1,709,477	1,723,523	50%

* Funds available includes funding received against current appeal as well as carry-forward from the previous year.

For more information:

Ted Maly
Representative
+250 788 162 701
tmaly@unicef.org

Oliver Petrovic
Deputy Representative
+250 788 300 717
opetrovic@unicef.org

Siddhartha Shrestha
Chief of Communications
+250 788 162 703
sidshrestha@unicef.org