DATE OF SITREP – 20 May 2015

**Highlights**

- **Refugees fleeing tensions in Burundi continue to arrive in Rwanda at a rate of more than 100 a day**, with ongoing uncertainty at home carrying the risk of a return to peak rates of more than 1,000 arrivals a day seen at the start of the situation.

- **Facilities at the main refugee camp for Burundians in Rwanda at Mahama are further expanding**, with **UNICEF part-funding new boreholes to tackle potential water shortages**.

- **Ante-natal clinics opened, adding to the health services** **UNICEF supports that refugee women and children can now access at Mahama, and at the two Reception Centres where refugees first gather on arrival in Rwanda. Early childhood development activities are getting underway this week**.

- **UNICEF continues to monitor malnutrition trends: as of 18 May, the proportion of Burundian refugee children aged under five screened and identified with Severe Acute Malnutrition in Mahama Camp was 6.9%, and Moderate Acute Malnutrition rates were at 14.8%. This marks an improvement from last week**.

- **UNICEF is working with UNHCR and partners to develop the Inter-Agency Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP) to meet the humanitarian needs of refugees from Burundi over the next six months. UNICEF’s initial humanitarian requirement is USD7.9 million. Requirements may be revised as the RRRP is finalized**.

**Key targets and results – UNICEF with partners, according to Refugee Response Plan**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Target*</th>
<th>Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>WASH</strong>: People provided with minimum 10 litres clean water daily</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>&gt;25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health</strong>: Children under-15 vaccinated against measles</td>
<td>45,000</td>
<td>4,721</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nutrition</strong>: Severely malnourished under-5s being treated</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Child Protection</strong>: Unaccompanied/separated children reached with tracing and alternative care arrangements</td>
<td>3,050</td>
<td>&gt;1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education</strong>: Children with access to education programmes</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>0**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ECD</strong>: Children 0-59 months receiving ECD services including daily nutrition</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>0**</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Targets based on RRP calculation of 100,000 refugees over six months
** Education and ECD services will start once on-going needs assessment is completed

**Main issues**

- **Acute malnutrition in young children**
- **Unaccompanied or separated children**
- **Camp water supply**

**UNICEF funding**

$7,900,000 **needed**

(based on Inter-agency Regional Refugee Response Plan being finalized)
Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

A week of fresh uncertainty in Burundi raised fears of a spike in refugees arriving to Rwanda, but as of this Situation Report, that has not taken place, and the rate of arrivals remains steady, with the total number of refugees now approaching 27,000. UNICEF and partners, under the overall coordination of the Government of Rwanda and UNHCR, continues preparations to support as many as 100,000 refugees in Rwanda over six months, should the situation deteriorate further as the planned June 26 Burundi presidential election date nears. Meanwhile, both at the Reception Centres where refugees first gather, and at Mahama Refugee Camp where they are then moved, facilities are further improving and processes becoming more efficient. Early priorities of providing shelter and basic household supplies have expanded now to include improving water sources, widening immunisation coverage and other health services to refugees, and assessing how best to launch education-based services to ensure children miss as little schooling as possible.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registered refugees – UNHCR figures to 19 May</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total registered refugees</td>
<td>21,474</td>
<td>10,598</td>
<td>10,876</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children affected (Under 18)</td>
<td>11,660</td>
<td>5,966</td>
<td>5,964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children under five</td>
<td>3,906</td>
<td>2,005</td>
<td>1,901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children 5 to 11</td>
<td>4,244</td>
<td>2,115</td>
<td>2,129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children 12 to 17</td>
<td>3,510</td>
<td>1,846</td>
<td>1,664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refugees not yet registered</td>
<td>5,442</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 situation. Humanitarian partners’ priorities were initially to provide life-saving emergency protection and assistance, including by building and managing the Mahama camp. Under the leadership of UNHCR, UNICEF is UN Co-Coordinator for the response in WASH, Child Protection, Early Childhood Development, Education, Health (with WHO and UNFPA), and Nutrition (with WFP). The main implementing partners are: district and community authorities; Ministry of Health & district hospitals and health centres; AHA, ARC (Health and Nutrition); Plan International (Child Protection); CARE (ECD), ADRA (Education); shelter (ARC) and the Ministry of Infrastructure, Rwanda Water and Sanitation Corporation (WASAC), and World Vision Rwanda (WASH).

Humanitarian Strategy

The initial focus is to register refugees, provide them with shelter, household equipment, food and water, maintain sanitation and hygiene, and give emergency health and nutrition services. UNICEF is providing WASH supplies and technical assistance; screening, treating and managing severe acute malnutrition; providing polio and measles vaccines for children aged under five; and distributing tents for health and nutrition services, and for Child Friendly Spaces. Children unaccompanied by adults or separated from their families are registered and helped, while their families are traced. Support to prevent and respond to violence against children is provided, alongside psychosocial support. UNICEF will increasingly support access to early learning and primary education for refugee children.
Summary Analysis of Programme response

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH):
At Mahama, 120 trained hygiene promoters are now at work in the camp, talking directly to families to pass on messages about using clean water, keeping their temporary homes hygienic, and making sure they and their children follow good sanitation standards. This week, UNICEF and UNHCR provided WASH services to more than 25,000 refugees, at Mahama and at the Reception Centres, all above Sphere standards. An additional 188 latrines and 60 showers were constructed this week at Mahama, taking the totals so far to 648 latrines (36 refugees/latrine) and 365 showers (64 refugees/shower). Refugees are receiving about 10 litres of clean water per day, which again is within standards of 7.5l to 15l per person per day. Water supply at Mahama remains a challenge due to the insufficient capacity of the existing water source. Following a feasibility study for a high-yield borehole within the camp, which UNICEF supported, drilling is expected to commence imminently.

Nutrition:
Nutritional screening continues at the Reception Centres and at Mahama, and UNICEF is supporting partners to provide quality services for management of cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) among refugee children. As of 18 May, screening conducted in Mahama on 3,668 children aged 6-59 months revealed that 252 (6.9%) of the screened children were in need of SAM treatment and 543 (14.8%) of the screened children were in need of treatment for moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). In Bugesera Reception Centre, 58 children were screened for malnutrition using MUAC and two were identified with SAM (3.4%) and 20 with MAM (34.5%). In Nyanza, among 33 children screened, two SAM cases (6.1%) and no cases of MAM were identified. Consequently, close to one in five children aged under five in the refugee population in centres and camps suffers from acute malnutrition, indicating a serious problem.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number and proportion of children screened for Acute Malnutrition</th>
<th>Under-5s Screened</th>
<th>SAM cases</th>
<th>SAM %</th>
<th>MAM cases</th>
<th>MAM %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mahama</td>
<td>3,668</td>
<td>252</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
<td>543</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bugesera</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>34.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nyanza</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3,884*</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>563</td>
<td>14.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Includes 125 under-5 children screened at Nyagatare transit centre, none of whom were malnourished

Despite the still high rates of acute malnutrition, the nutrition response on the ground continues to improve with high coverage of screening of children under five and higher retention rates for children in treatment. UNICEF is participating in sector coordination meetings in order to provide technical inputs to the discussions. A Task Force of nutrition specialists from UNICEF, UNHCR and WFP was established to review protocols and procedures for the management of acute malnutrition and Maternal and Young Child Nutrition (MIYCN) in the refugee population. This will ensure a harmonised response on the ground. Two newly recruited nutrition specialists will be introduced to the camp and Reception Centres this week. They will work hand-in-hand with the implementing partners on the ground to ensure a high quality of services provided. A Standardised Expanded Nutrition Survey is planned to start on 21 May in Mahama camp to provide a baseline for Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF), acute malnutrition and anaemia status among women and children aged under five. The findings from the survey will provide a clearer pictures on child nutrition status and will serve to adjust the response accordingly.
Health:
Ante-natal clinics began at Mahama this week, with 65 pregnant women attending the first of what will become weekly sessions managed by UNICEF partners. An estimated 10,000 babies and children will be vaccinated during an immunisation drive to be carried out by the Rwandan Ministry of Health on 23 and 24 May. Children aged between 9 months and 15 years will be given measles vaccinations, and those aged under five will also receive polio vaccination. Each child will also for the first time be issued with a vaccination card to record their immunisation history. This is the latest in a series of immunisation efforts among the refugee children supported by UNICEF, which continues to fund the procurement of vaccines and will cover operating costs of immunisation drives in the refugee population. The leading illnesses among refugee children both at Mahama and the Reception Centres remain respiratory complaints (40% of cases), malaria (19%, down from 26% last week), and acute watery diarrhoea (4%). One six-year-old child at Mahama sadly died from malaria, but otherwise mortality indicators improved compared to the previous week.

Child Protection:
UNICEF is working to provide essential protection services to all vulnerable children. Currently UNICEF is working with UNHCR and Plan to improve registration of unaccompanied and separated children as the numbers continue to rise. All of the more than 1,000 registered so far have been given assistance and appropriate care while attempts to trace their families continue. The majority are in Mahama camp. UNICEF partners have identified 79 child protection cases including neglect and a small number of cases of violence against children, all of whom are receiving support. While child-friendly spaces are being constructed, 850 children have participated in interim recreational activities in Mahama, Bugesera and Nyanza.

Education/ECD:
UNICEF partner Care began registering children aged under six for Early Childhood Development services, which will begin as centre-based activities before moving to home-based services in due course. On 18 May, the first day of the exercise, 351 children aged under six were registered. ECD recreation kits – which contain equipment for sports and play for up to 90 children each – will be distributed. Save The Children and Care intend to spend two days in Mahama on 21 and 22 May to carry out a needs assessment for education, which will inform the action plan that will follow as a matter of priority.

Communication for Development (C4D)
Consultations involving UNICEF at the Ministry of Health of the Government of Rwanda led to initial approvals this week to move forward with the development of training modules and job aids for 80 Community Health Workers who are to be drafted in to help pass key messages to refugee families. UNICEF is leading the development of these materials, in close partnership with other UN agencies and partners on the ground.

Supply and Logistics
Emergency nutrition supplies that UNICEF has procured, including equipment to measure children for malnutrition, treatment for intestinal worms and special milk to treat malnutrition, are all due to arrive in Rwanda by 22 May. The supplies are sufficient for up to 30,000 refugees.
Media and External Communication
UNICEF ESARO, with input from the Rwanda CO, published a News Note on the situation for children of refugee families affected by the situation, headlined “Tens of thousands of children flee violence in Burundi”, which garnered significant international media attention for its stand-out statistic that 105,000 people had already left the country since the current tensions began. In Rwanda, UNICEF briefed international journalists passing through Kigali en route to Burundi, and Britain’s Daily Telegraph featured material and a quote from UNICEF’s representative in Rwanda in a story posted on May 15. UNICEF Rwanda’s Facebook and Twitter feeds featuring stories from Mahama camp are being updated with increasing frequency, and are engaging ever-greater numbers of people on social media. UNICEF Rwanda co-produced a news story on the refugee situation that featured on the One UN Rwanda homepage.

Funding Requirements
UNICEF is working with UNHCR and partners to develop the Inter-Agency Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP) which will be the basis for a coordinated response to the humanitarian needs of refugees from Burundi over the next six months. UNICEF’s initial humanitarian requirement is USD7.9 million, based on a planning figure of 100,000 refugees. Requirements may be revised as the RRRP is finalized.

Initial work and support for interventions has been funded using contingency supplies and non-programme internal funding amounting to USD670,000. In addition, CERF Rapid Response funds are being released in support of the Response to the Burundian Refugee Crisis.

Next UNICEF Rwanda SitRep: 27 May 2015

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