



Rwanda

Humanitarian Situation Report Burundi Refugees

Highlights

- The total number of Burundian refugees in Rwanda has increased to 84,938. Of this, 53,532 refugees are living in Mahama Camp.
- Since January 2017, 10 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) have been reunited with their families.
- The launch of the back-to-school campaign for Burundian refugee children in Mahama Camp was successfully concluded and efforts will continue throughout 2017.
- UNICEF Rwanda is grateful to the Department of International Development (DFID), the Government of Japan (GoJ), the Republic of Korea (RoK), and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), as well as the US Fund for UNICEF and the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA CERF), who have supported critical interventions in Mahama Camp.

UNHCR figures as of 23 March 2017

84,938

Burundian refugees in Rwanda

53,532

Burundi Refugees hosted at Mahama refugee camp

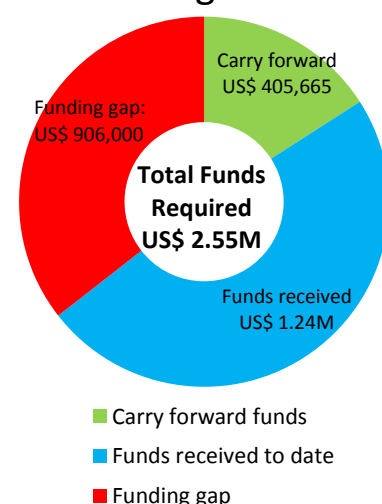
46% are children

UNICEF's Response with Partners in 2017

Sector	Target	Results
WASH: People provided with access to safe water (7.5–15 litres/per person/per day)	10,000	-
WASH: People provided with appropriate sanitation services	10,000	3,520
Health: Children under-five provided with routine immunization	12,000	1,576
Nutrition: Children under 5 with SAM admitted to therapeutic services	400	63
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	-*
Child Protection: Children, including UASC, provided with appropriate care and protection services	50,000	1,548
Education: School-aged children accessing quality education	19,000	19,422

*Results for ECD interventions are still pending from the field.

Funding Status



*Funds available includes funding received against HAC 2016 as well as the carry-forward from 2016.

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

According to the Government of Rwanda and UNHCR statistics, as of 23 March 2017 there are 84,938 Burundian refugees in Rwanda, with 53,532 registered in Mahama Camp. A new reception centre, Nyarushishi, in addition to the existing three reception centres (Bugesera, Nyanza and Gatore), has been established. The total number of refugees in these reception centres has reduced to 217. The number of refugees in the urban areas of Kigali and Huye has increased to 31,189.

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, and Oxfam (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 response to the increasing number of refugee arrivals, 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, will now include donors and other development partners such as the World Bank. The aim is to have a more strategic discussions with donors and other partners, and to keep them informed of the response.

UNICEF's continuing response includes the provision of improved sanitation facilities and technical assistance, screening and management of severe acute malnutrition (SAM), 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 support and in partnership with the Global Humanitarian and Development Foundation (GHDF), supported the construction of 44 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 completion of the construction work, these latrines are in use and are benefitting 3,520 refugees. The newly constructed latrines, which are located closer to 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 a reduction in latrine and shower ratio in Mahama Camp, from 24 persons per drop hole and 28 persons per shower room in January 2017 to 13 persons per drop hole to 14 persons per shower in March 2017. On 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 provided with safe water as per minimum humanitarian standards.

Nutrition

In collaboration with American Refugee Committee (ARC), UNICEF continued to provide technical support and supplies for malnourished children under five in Mahama Camp and in reception centres. As of 23 March 2017, UNICEF has distributed 15,983 kilograms of ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) for the treatment of SAM in Mahama Camp and reception centres. Routine screening to identify malnutrition cases in the camp is ongoing, targeting all children 6-59 months. During the reporting period, 1,020 children have been identified with SAM and enrolled for treatment. Of these, 689 children have been cured. Cured children continue to receive follow-up from the supplementary feeding programme Corn Soy Blend (CSB++).

According to the Mass Mid-upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) screening carried out in December 2016, the prevalence of Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) decreased from 4.1 per cent in July 2015 to 2.6 per cent in December 2016.

Health

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 (MR), Rotavirus, Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV 13) provided in Rwanda. In addition, MR second dose at 15 months and Tetanus Toxoid (TT) to pregnant mothers are also provided through UNICEF's support. For this reporting period, 1,576 under-one children have received six antigens, 132 under-two years received MR second dose, and 259 pregnant mothers have received TT vaccines.

In Mahama Camp, respiratory infections continue to be the lead cause of morbidity in children under five, followed by diarrheal diseases and malaria. Disease surveillance is continuously maintained and yellow fever vaccination activities are being conducted in all reception centres to prevent transmission in Rwanda and to the protected refugees in Mahama Camp.

In February 2017, Mahama Camp reported five neonatal deaths due to septicaemia, although 96.3 per cent of births were assisted by qualified personnel. There is a need to improve maternal and newborn care among the refugee population.

Child Protection

Through UNICEF support, Plan International has increased its capacity on the monitoring of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) programme. Community-based volunteers, 254 in number, are making daily home visits to UASC living in alternative care arrangements and monthly visits to those placed in foster families.

There are currently 1,254 UASC registered in Mahama Camp. The number has decreased since the last reporting period due to efforts in placing approximately 150 UASC in foster care and 274 have been reunited with their families. The UASC who are more than 18 years are automatically deactivated from the UASC database.

There has been a decrease in child protection cases that were received for case management. Six cases were received of which four were for child neglect. The other two cases of forced marriage and child defilement were handled with support from the Legal Aid Forum for provision of legal assistance to the victims, and the Rwanda National Police.

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 121 foster families that have received children, including bedding, kitchen materials and clothes.

During the reporting period, one Child-friendly Space (CFS) was upgraded to provide access to opportunities for psycho-social support and entertainment near children's homes. The average attendance of the eight CFSs, including the two not yet rehabilitated, is approximately 4,500 children per week. UNICEF provided additional reading books at CFSs to promote reading among children. The messages in the books are aimed at increasing life skills. In addition, children play games such as football, perform traditional dances, and take part in storytelling. CFS community mobilisers are trained to identify children showing signs of psychosocial distress, and these children are referred for child protection support.

UNICEF is investing in improving the monitoring system through real-time data collection to ensure timely reporting and response to child protection issues. UNICEF is also working with other partners to rehabilitate the remaining two CFS and to include activities which are gender and age appropriate. There is a need to strengthen the linkages between the protection system in Mahama Camp and the host community to ensure the sustainability of case management.

Education

In February and March 2017, UNICEF interventions in education for Burundian refugee children focused on two areas:

1. The official launch of the back-to-school campaign for Burundian refugee children in Mahama Camp.
2. The procurement of various materials and equipment to reinforce the delivery of quality education and to support the functioning of the school.

Official launch of Back-to-school campaign

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. Since 2015, UNICEF has worked with partners to ensure the supply component (schools, teaching and learning materials) are available. Now, the shift is focusing on quality and demand-side barriers to education.

The children took part in the launch of the back-to-school campaign in Mahama Camp on 20 February 2017, 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. The campaign launch aims to be the first of many activities, supported by a variety of education stakeholders, to be conducted throughout 2017. 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.

Procurement of supplies and equipment

With the support of the Government of Japan, UNICEF is in the process of procuring ICT equipment (computers and accessories), and other office supplies (photocopy machines, generators and stationary) that will be delivered to schools in Mahama Camp to support the implementation of quality education and the functioning of the schools. 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 the camp schools in the third quarter of 2017.

Major gaps that need continued attention include:

- Skills for teachers to provide quality learner-centred education;
- Teaching and learning materials (e.g. textbooks, supplementary materials, teachers' guides);
- Recreation facilities and equipment; and,
- Extra classrooms to accommodate the increasing number of children enrolled in school.

Early Childhood Development (ECD)

The first permanent ECD centre Mahama Camp is fully completed to provide integrated services for children 3-6 years. UNICEF will engage soon with an implementing partner to carry out ECD activities in the new centre.

As part of preparations, pre-positioning of ECD kits is in process. The ECD centre will be commissioned in April 2017 and the first six months will focus on the following activities:

1. Capacity development of Caregivers and Parent Leaders

- Training of 53 parent leaders in the Care for Development and Parenting module to support provision of effective counselling and guidance to fellow parents through parent groups
- Training of 10 ECD caregivers in early childhood pedagogy to guide centre-based early learning and play activities for children.
- Promotion of male involvement in child care, learning support and overall development as a part of camp based positive parenting programme

2. ECD centre equipment: furniture, play and learning materials

Appropriate child-friendly furniture and play and early learning materials (e.g., indoor toys, playground equipment and children's books) will be provided for the ECD facility. This will include:

- Provision of furniture, toys and learning materials for the three stimulation rooms, including the UNICEF ECD kit.
- Equipping the centre with basic playground equipment for children's free play while attending centre-based activities.
- Provision of age-appropriate, gender neutral children's books and reading materials for use in stimulation rooms.

3. Construction of a Children's Play Park

Construction of, and provision of play equipment for, one large outdoor recreation and playground in the centre of Mahama Camp, which will serve children between two and 12 years living in the camp. For expanded programming, construction of the second ECD centre will begin in May 2017 in Mahama Camp with the support of implementing partner, ADRA.

Funding Requirements

The 2017 Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal for Rwanda amounts to US\$ 2.55 million, to respond to the Burundian refugee situation. Funding received towards the third and last quarter of 2016 was from DFID, UNOCHA/CERF, SIDA and RoK. In 2017, funds have been received from GoJ and the US Fund. With the arrival of these funds, the funding gap is 36 per cent. The total remaining funding requirement for 2017 is US\$ 905,872.

Funding Requirements (as defined in UNICEF's HAC from January to December 2017)				
Appeal Sector	Requirements (US\$)	Funding available (US\$)*	Funding gap	
			US\$	%
Nutrition	110,000	39,795	70,205	64%
Health	405,000	333,631	71,369	18%
WASH	1,000,000	39,632	960,368	96%
Education	315,000	154,500	160,500	51%
Early Childhood Development	50,000	293,889	-243,889	0%
Child Protection	278,000	439,667	-161,667	0%
Operational Support	390,000	191,014	198,986	51%
M&E including C4D, Communication	-	150,000	-150,000	0%
Total	2,548,000	1,642,128	905,872	36%

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

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