



# Rwanda

## Humanitarian Situation Report



**DATE OF SITREP – 16 June**

**IN NUMBERS**

### Highlights (4- 16 June)

The total number of Burundian refugees has now reached 33,871

- Health-related activities are expanding including UNICEF supported vaccination drives against measles and polio at reception centres where there are in excess of 5,000 people, more than half of them children
- Provision of water supply in the Mahama refugee camp still remains a challenge due to limited capacity of the existing community water supply system
- UNHCR, WFP and UNICEF are continuing to treat a high number of severely acute malnourished children; a total of 246 children for SAM
- UNICEF has expanded Early Childhood Development activities registering 4,367 Burundian children to participate in the programme
- 262 children have been reunified with their families and 7 child-friendly spaces have been put in place
- Against UNICEF’s requirement of US\$7.4 million, only **US\$351,573.24** has been received from CERF and the French National Committee leaving a **funding gap of 95%**.

UNHCR figures as of 16 June 2015

**32,418**

Recently-arrived Burundian refugees

**27,116**

Hosted at Mahama refugee camp

**76%** are children and women

### Main issue

- **Malnutrition and health status of children**
- **Water supply in Mahama camp**

### UNICEF funding requirements

**\$7,400,000**

(based on Regional Refugee Response Plan)

**Received: US\$351,573.24**

**Funding gap: 95%**

Key targets and results – UNICEF with partners, according to Refugee Response Plan		
Sector	Target*	Results
<b>WASH:</b> People provided with minimum 10 litres clean water daily	100,000	>32,000
<b>Health:</b> Children under-15 vaccinated against measles and children under 5 against polio	45,000	11, 727**
<b>Nutrition:</b> Severely malnourished under-5s being treated	2,000	246
<b>Child Protection:</b> Unaccompanied/separated children reached with tracing and/or alternative care arrangements	3,050	1,152
<b>Education:</b> Children with access to education programmes	30,000	0***
<b>ECD:</b> Children 0-59 months receiving ECD services	30,000	4,367

\* Targets based on RRP calculation of 100,000 refugees over six months

\*\* The number includes 880 children under 15 years vaccinated against measles and 331 children under 5 against polio during 10-12 June

\*\*\* Education services will start once on-going needs assessment is completed

## Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

The total numbers of Burundian refugees entering Rwanda continue to increase although not at the rate of the recent peak of 10 June. The total refugee population is now greater than 33,000, and UNICEF and its partners, under the overall coordination of the Government of Rwanda and UNHCR, are ready to support as many as 100,000 refugees in Rwanda over six months, should the situation further deteriorate. The registration of urban refugees has commenced in Kigali with more than 500 registered on the first day.

In the areas where refugees first gather, the reception centres and at the main refugee camp at Mahama, interventions are expanding beyond providing shelter and basic household supplies. They now include constructing semi-permanent individual shelters, improving water sources, widening immunisation coverage, cholera surveillance following the recent outbreak in Tanzania, and other health services for refugees.

UNICEF has been advocating for HIV interventions, particularly prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV interventions. Pregnant women and their partners are now being screened for HIV and syphilis and antenatal clinics are being held every week. In addition, Early Childhood Development (ECD) and early learning services are being expanded in Mahama camp.

### 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. Humanitarian partners' priorities were initially to provide life-saving emergency protection and assistance, including building and managing the Mahama camp. Under the leadership of UNHCR, UNICEF is the 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; the Ministry of Health and the Rwanda Biomedical Centre, 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 has been providing WASH supplies and technical assistance; screening, treating and managing severe acute malnutrition; providing polio and measles vaccines for children; and distributing tents for health and nutrition services, and for child-friendly spaces. Unaccompanied and separated children are registered and helped, while their families are traced. Support to prevent and respond to violence against children is provided. UNICEF is supporting access to early learning and basic education for refugee children. In order to strengthen gender mainstreaming, UNICEF participated in an inter-agency gender and humanitarian needs assessment (led by UNHCR and UNWOMEN) in Mahama camp from 8-10 June. The findings of this assessment will be used to reinforce gender integration into all sectors.

## Summary Analysis of Programme response

### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

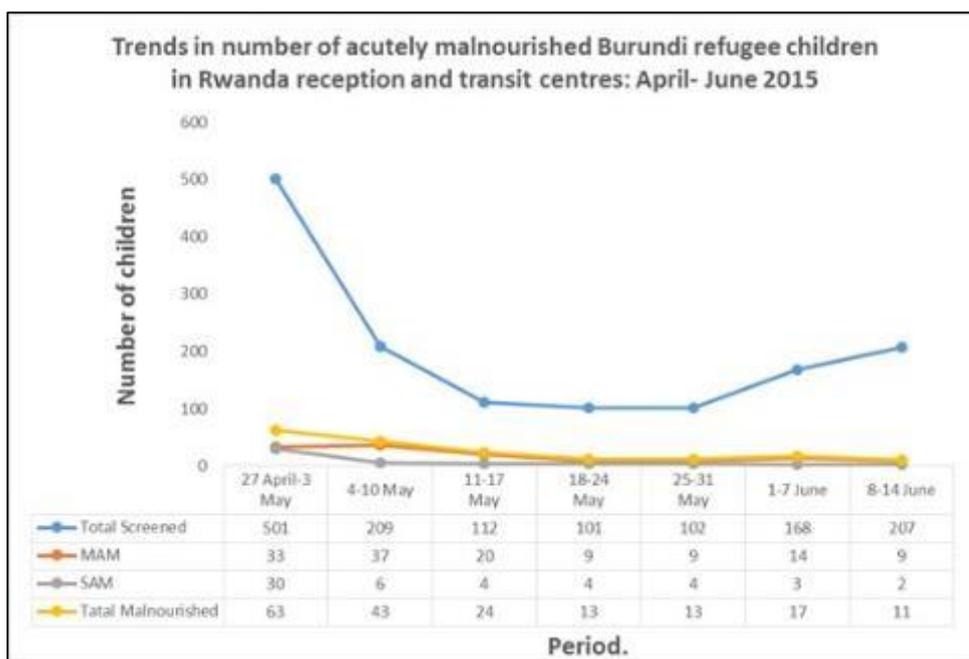
UNHCR and UNICEF through World Vision and Pajerare providing WASH services to over 32,000 people living in Mahama camp as well as in Bugesera and Nyanza reception centres. . At the reception centres, refugees are receiving WASH services above the sphere standards. However, in Mahama camp, refugees are only getting 12.8 litres per capita per day of clean water due to challenges with the capacity of the existing community water supply system. Alternative water sources are being explored to replace the water trucking arrangement in Mahama camp. So far, 1,116 latrines (24 refugees for each latrine) and 761 showers (35 refugees for each shower) have been constructed in Mahama while 182 hand washing stands and 158 dustbins have also been installed. To promote safe hygiene practices among the refugee population in Mahama, 200 hygiene promoters have been employed for social mobilization activities throughout the camp.



### Nutrition

UNHCR, the Rwandan Ministry of Disaster Management and Refugee Affairs (MIDMAR) and other partners transferred 38 children with moderate acute malnutrition (26 boys and 12 girls) and 19 children with severely acute malnutrition (7 boys and 12 girls) from the reception centres to continue with treatment at Mahama Refugee camp. In addition, at the reception centres 21 children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and 76 children with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) are still being treated, majority of them in the Bugesera reception centre.

During the last two weeks, the numbers of children screened at the reception centre for malnutrition increased considerably. The number of identified SAM and MAM cases reduced by 47% to a total of 11 children in the three reception sites. UNICEF’s field-based nutrition staff continues to closely monitor the situation, *see graph*. This week, UNICEF sent 50 cartons of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) to Mahama refugee camp as part of a preparedness measure while UNHCR and MIDMAR relocated more refugees to the camp.



The current SAM caseload in Mahama and reception centres is 246 (225 in Mahama and 21 in the reception centres respectively). The supplementary feeding programme for moderately malnourished children by WFP has enrolled 766 children. Additionally, 1,010 pregnant and lactating women, 186 People Living With HIV - and 10 cases of TB are also benefitting from nutrition support from WFP with UNICEF providing technical support.

On 10 and 12 June, UNICEF supported Vitamin A supplementation and a deworming campaign in the reception centres, reaching 376 children under five (6 - 59 months of age) and 945 children aged 1-15.

Further monitoring of trends in acute malnutrition at Mahama camp and at the reception centres will continue to ensure all eligible children access care.

## Health

Following the successful mass vaccination of more than 10,000 children at Mahama refugee camp on 23 and 24 May, UNICEF has expanded vaccination activities to the reception centres. These centres still have more than 5,000 people, over half of them children. At the reception centres, children aged 0-5 years are being vaccinated against polio and children aged 9 months to 15 years are being vaccinated against measles. At Mahama camp, a second dose of polio vaccine is being given to children under five and a catch up dose for measles and rubella will be administered on 20 and 21 June for children aged 9 months to 15 years.



The Ministry of Health with support from UNICEF and WHO plans to introduce routine immunisation service in Mahama camp and a commitment to this effect is signed this is particularly important considering that the number of newborns is increasing. There were 20 deliveries in just one week, including one caesarean, in the camp's health centre all of which were attended by skilled health staff. Pregnant women and their partners are being screened for HIV and syphilis and antenatal clinics are being conducted weekly. Consultations and hospitalisations are mainly due to respiratory infections (32%), watery diarrhoea (16%) and malaria (10%). No deaths have been reported at Mahama camp during this reporting period.

Vaccination and deworming campaign in reception centres	8-14 June	Total since 10 June 2015
Polio	331	<b>331</b>
Measles/Rubella	880	<b>880</b>
Vitamin A	376	<b>376</b>
Mebendazole	342	<b>342</b>
Albendazole	603	<b>603</b>

## Child Protection

Some 1,152 unaccompanied and separated children (369 separated and 783 unaccompanied children) have been registered and receiving support so far, 262 children have been reunified with their families.

Child-friendly spaces, with recreational facilities, have been put in place to provide a safe environment for children to play and to help relieve any stressful experiences that the children have been exposed to. UNICEF has conducted a training session for the PLAN staff who manage the child-friendly spaces in Mahama, and

activities have begun there. So far, 28 child protection cases have been identified and these children are receiving psychosocial support.

It should be noted that the number of registered unaccompanied and separated children has actually decreased. The ongoing verification exercise revealed that some of the children who had been registered as unaccompanied were in fact with their families.

## Education and ECD

Over the past two weeks, UNICEF through its partner CARE International Rwanda registered approximately 4,367 Burundian children aged between 1-6 years in an Early Childhood Development (ECD) and preschool programme in Mahama refugee camp. Of the total number, 2,711 (1,311 boys and 1,400 girls) are aged between 3-6 years and 1,656 of children (803 boys and 853 girls) are aged between 1-3 years. The number of children is expected to increase due to the ongoing relocation of refugees to Mahama camp from the reception centres.

Until early this week, the children had been placed in two designated open spaces for ECD and early learning services while the construction of temporary facilities, using 70 tarpaulins provided by UNICEF, are ongoing. As it was observed that open areas were not proving conducive for ECD or early learning services, the children have now been moved on a temporary basis to child-friendly spaces (tents) constructed with UNICEF support. They only occupy these spaces for the pre-primary sessions which are held in the mornings. The children are now using the ECD kits provided by UNICEF.

The UNICEF- temporary facilities for the children of pre-school age (3-6 years) will have a total of 30 classrooms, two storages spaces, two kitchens and WASH related facilities.

Fifty qualified caregivers are providing care and facilitating early learning through a “centre based” approach. They are all qualified teachers or have experience in nursery or primary education. Besides educational activities, the children receive “super-cereal” and nutrition support from WFP through ARC.



When refugees are moved to the new-long term site, mother-leaders will be selected to care for children aged between 1-3 years who will benefit from ECD services through home-based approaches.

Regarding educational facilities for older children, coordination meetings are taking place chaired by UNHCR and co-chaired by UNICEF. The education partners include ADRA, Save the Children, CARE and PLAN International. Discussions continued on how to offer access to basic interim education (orientation programme) to more than 7,000 school-going refugee children and education for older children. ADRA will run the orientation programme from July up until December. Save the Children has already delivered educational materials including stationery. UNICEF is planning to send 30 *school-in-a-box* kits as part of the orientation programme.

### Communication for Development (C4D)

UNHCR with support from World Vision, has initiated the piloting of community hygiene clubs in two of the 14 villages established so far in Mahama camp. In each village, the village chief has nominated a principal trainer from the Burundian population, and the first ToT session of the selected trainers was organised. UNICEF has provided the training material called “Community Based Environmental Health Promotion programme” which was developed by MoH with UNICEF technical assistance. Planning is underway for the training of the community health workers supported by UNFPA and UNHCR.

### Supply and Logistics

UNICEF supported the procurement of WASH supplies for the reception centre (Bugesera and Nyanza); supplies include water tanks, hand washing stations, squatting plates and chlorine. 50 cartons of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) were sent to Mahama refugee camp as part of a preparedness measure.



### Funding Requirements

Significant funding gaps remain, despite welcome approvals of parts of UNICEF’s applications to the CERF Rapid Response Mechanism for Child Protection and Nutrition totalling \$270,000, and a further \$80,000 from the French National Committee. In addition, EPF funds amounting to \$800,000 was approved on 8 June *as a loan arrangement*. According to the inter-agency Burundi Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP), UNICEF’s requirements for its share of the response – in WASH, Nutrition, Health, Education/ECD and Child Protection – stands at \$7,400,000. Funding for routine vaccination is a key emerging priority. Total funding received so far accounts for a little under 5% of the total required, although there have been some encouraging conversations with a few donors in the context of the RRP.

### Next UNICEF Rwanda SitRep: 1 July 2015

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