



Children play in an IDP site in the flood-affected community of Gatumba. Photo © UNICEF Burundi/2016/Y. Nijimbere

# Burundi

## Humanitarian Situation Report



### Key figures

**269,583**

Refugees seeking asylum in neighboring countries  
(UNHCR, 26 June 2016)

**41,423**

Estimated internally displaced people in 5 provinces  
(IOM, 27 June 2015)

**4,343,809**

Reported malaria cases  
(MOH, 23 June 2016)

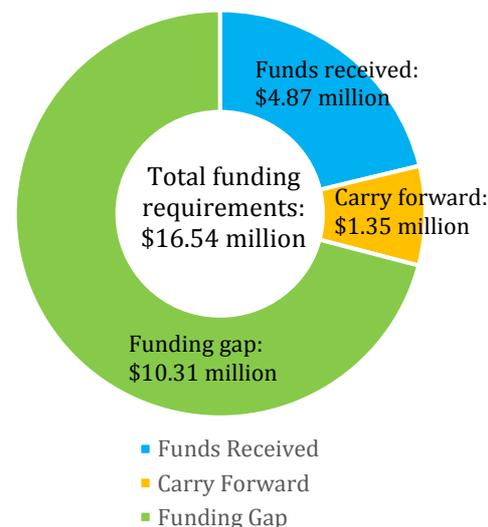
### Highlights

- During the last six months, UNICEF, OHCHR and partners conducted close monitoring of child rights violations and undertook advocacy on behalf of arbitrarily arrested children, leading to the successful release of 67 children.
- In the context of expulsions and detentions of schoolchildren for vandalism of schoolbooks, UNICEF and partners successfully advocated for the release of 6 children from Muramvya prison and provided legal assistance for 9 additional children in Ruyigi.
- UNICEF supported the continuity of primary health care services by distributing essential drugs to more than 900 health facilities located in all of Burundi's 46 health districts.

### UNICEF's 6-month response with partners

| SECTORS                 | INDICATORS   | UNICEF 2016   |                       | SECTOR 2016   |                     |
|-------------------------|--|---------------|-----------------------|---------------|---------------------|
|                         |  | UNICEF Target | Cumulative Results    | SECTOR Target | Cumulative Results  |
| <b>NUTRITION</b>        | Number of children under 5 with SAM admitted to therapeutic feeding programmes                           | 48,500        | 15,760                | 48,500        | 15,760              |
| <b>HEALTH</b>           | Number and % of people treated for cholera   | 500: 100 %    | 22: 100% <sup>1</sup> | 500: 100%     | 22: 100%            |
|                         | Number of children under 15, and pregnant women reached with essential drugs                             | 175,000       | 175,000               | 442,000       | 175,000             |
| <b>WASH</b>             | Number of affected people accessing a minimum of 7.5 liters of clean and safe water per person per day   | 161,500       | 14,139 <sup>2</sup>   | 342,000       | 14,139 <sup>2</sup> |
| <b>CHILD PROTECTION</b> | Number of children and adolescents benefitting from critical Child Protection services                   | 13,000        | 19,331                | 44,468        | 19,331              |
| <b>EDUCATION</b>        | Number of children benefitting from Education in Emergencies support                                     | 75,000        | 61,535                | 213,000       | 61,535              |
| <b>C4D</b>              | Number of children and adolescents benefitting from peace, social mobilization and life skills education | 100,000       | 100,255               | n/a           | n/a                 |

### 2016 Funds Available



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

<sup>1</sup> 100% of the 22 cases identified treated.

<sup>2</sup> This figure has been revised from the last sitrep, as assistance was given to the affected people in the existing displacement site in Gatumba, not all flood affected people.

## Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

The political and security situation in Burundi remains volatile and continues to impact the humanitarian situation. The total number of refugees in neighboring countries (Tanzania, DRC, Rwanda, Uganda and Zambia) has increased to 269,583, while the number of internally displaced people registered in five provinces is 41,423 (IOM, May 2016), of which 59 per cent are children. Among the displaced, 69 per cent reported leaving their homes for social and political reasons.

The number of Burundians deported from Rwanda increased to 4,300 since May 2016. Joint rapid assessments from OCHA, UN and NGO partners showed that about 70 per cent of these deportees are women and children who were living illegally in Rwanda. UNICEF and partners are closely following up on all child protection issues, especially on separated and unaccompanied children and continue to monitor the overall situation to ensure children have access to essential social services.

During the reporting period, the European Union announced that it will continue to apply sanctions against the Burundian Government which relies heavily on foreign donors for its annual budget. Underfinancing of social sector ministries due to donor withdrawal or suspension constitutes a serious challenge to achieving results and threatens access to and provision of social services to children and women, in particular the most vulnerable.

In June, partners reported 48 students detained, of whom at least 5 are girls, for vandalism of school textbooks containing the President of Burundi's photo. UNICEF and partners successfully advocated for the release of 6 children (3 boys, 3 girls) from Muramvya prison, and also provided legal assistance for 9 additional children in Ruyigi province (two children were under 15 and were released). In an important step forward, the Minister of Justice addressed an official letter to the Director of Prison Affairs (DJAP) emphasizing that no child should be held in adult prisons, providing an important advocacy tool to support the immediate transfer of children in conflict with the law to UNICEF-supported reeducation centers in Rumonge and Ruyigi.

Burundi has registered a sharp increase in malaria cases in the first half of the year. More than 16 health districts are seriously affected, with a cumulative total number of 4,343,809 cases of malaria and 2,102 deceased (MoH, 23 June 2016). Despite a slight decrease in the last month, the level is more than double those reported by MoH in 2015 for the same period (1,983,323 cases and 859 deceased). UNICEF supported the MoH with the provision of emergency stock of malaria drugs for the management of malaria in 16 districts as well as funding for national level supervision to health districts and technical support for improved monitoring of data (Health Management Information System, HMIS).

Two cholera outbreaks were declared in 3 different districts in southern Burundi, with a cumulative total of 22 cases with no deaths reported in 2016. All patients have been treated in a timely manner as a result of preparedness, including the prepositioning of cholera kits in cholera-prone health districts. To address timely and quality reporting of cholera, UNICEF continued its support to the MoH by providing training on Rapid Pro to healthcare workers in cholera-prone districts and provinces.

## Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

UNICEF actively participates in the in the UN country team (UNCT) and inter-sectoral meetings, which lead the strategic and cross-sectoral coordination of the humanitarian response. UNICEF currently leads the WASH, Nutrition and Education sectors and co-leads the Health sector and Child Protection sub-cluster. During these last six months, activities jointly led by UNICEF, OHCHR and partners, including monitoring of children rights violation, detention visits, and advocacy on behalf of detained children, were critical responses to ongoing arbitrary arrests and detentions, including arrests linked to alleged association with armed groups. UNICEF also contributed to the programme criticality exercise that was conducted under the leadership of the Resident Coordinator's office in June 2016 and started the revision of UNICEF's Contingency

Plan. This plan will cover the period from July to December 2016.

## Humanitarian Strategy

The Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) were finalized and endorsed by the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) on 3 March 2016. The Burundi HRP focuses on protection needs, access to essential social services, and strengthening of resilience and social cohesion.

The Under-funded CERF strategy and related budget of US\$ 13 million was approved to respond to six priority sectors: Food Security, Protection, Health, Nutrition, WASH and Shelter/Non-food items (NFIs). UNICEF received a total of US\$ 3.090 million in CERF to address urgent needs in Protection, WASH, Health and Nutrition. This constitutes much of UNICEF funding received during this first half of the year.

UNICEF continues to scale up its emergency response within the framework of the 2016 Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC), to provide an integrated response to the most vulnerable women and children of Burundi.

## Summary Analysis of Programme Response

### Child Protection



During the period of January to June 2016, 19,331 children (40% girls) benefited from critical child protection services. Children in violence-affected areas of Bujumbura Mairie participated in Child-Friendly Spaces (CFS), engaging in recreational activities and receiving psychosocial support with referrals to other services as needed. 485 children (207 boys, 287 girls) received individual psychosocial support, referred either through schools, CFS or monitoring by child protection actors. In recognition of the critical role played by CFS in the prevention and protection response, UNICEF strengthened the network of CFS by increasing the number of spaces

from 28 to 37, with new spaces covering “hotspot” areas where children are at higher risk of violence or living in the streets. In addition, child protection systems were strengthened through training of 30 social assistants including school focal points, to identify and refer cases of children in need of support. 230 Child Protection Committees at the community level were created or strengthened to identify and refer cases of gender based violence (GBV) and for case management.

In response to flooding in Gatumba, Bujumbura Rural, UNICEF provided 4 recreational kits to cover needs of affected children, including those from host community. Since the launch of the activities, 124 children from the IDP camp benefited from recreational activities conducted by the Burundian Red Cross (BRC). More children from the community are expected to join, with the holidays about to begin.

Since January 2016, sixty-seven detained children were released following monitoring and advocacy by UNICEF, OHCHR and partners. Thirty-six children were also accused of participation in armed groups, illegal detention of arms or attacking state security and received legal assistance through UNICEF partners, the “Observatoire Ineza pour les Droits de l’Enfant au Burundi” (OIDEB) and the “Association of Female Jurists in Burundi” (AFJB). The Minister of Justice committed to hold court proceedings for all the children in June, and mobile courts were organized with UNICEF support on 22 and 23 June in Gitega, Cankuzo, Ruyigi, Rumonge and Cibitoke.

In June, twenty-six boys along with over 80 adults were detained in Muyinga province while returning from Tanzania. They were suspected of participation in an armed group or trafficking, but released and transferred to their families by administrative authorities. UNICEF partners International Rescue Committee and Terre des Hommes are now following up to provide reintegration support for the children.

### **Health & Nutrition**

UNICEF supported the continuity of primary health care services in the first semester by distributing essential drugs in 2016 to more than 900 health facilities located in all of Burundi's 46 health districts. UNICEF conducted monthly supervisions in 18 health centres and is supporting a nationwide field mission under the leadership of the MoH to monitor the use of these essential drugs.

Burundi has been identified as a high-risk country for Yellow Fever and is being closely monitored by the MoH and health sectoral partners under the leadership of WHO. A preparedness and response plan is being finalized.

While timely reporting of routine data for community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) remains a challenge, available MoH data shows that 15,760 children (8,074 girls and 7,686 boys) have been admitted into the program since January 2016, representing 32 per cent of the sector and UNICEF target for 2016. To date, UNICEF has procured and distributed lifesaving nutrition supplies, including 26,544 cartons of ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF), 501 cartons of F75 therapeutic milk and 325 cartons of F100 therapeutic milk to 245 CMAM facilities nationwide.

The emergency food security situation analysis conducted by WFP in April 2016 showed that 50 per cent of households in Burundi are food insecure, affecting 4.6 million people, including an estimated 800,000 children under 5. About 40 per cent of households are using emergency coping strategies to face food insecurity, with Cankuzo province being the most affected, with one out of two households using 75 per cent of their income on food. With the continued deterioration of the socio-economic situation in Burundi, children's nutritional status needs to be closely monitored.

In view of this, with CERF funding, UNICEF and partners are supporting the MoH in door-to-door community mass screening for acute malnutrition in 6 priority provinces. To date, a total of 70,391 children aged 6 to 59 months (78 per cent of the target) have been screened in the province of Bujumbura Rural. Data analysis is ongoing while other mass screenings are being completed. UNICEF has prepositioned additional therapeutic nutrition supplies in the targeted provinces to support availability and continuity of services for children suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM) identified during the mass screenings.

### **WASH**

In the first 6 months of 2016, UNICEF and partners provided access to safe water and promoted key hygiene practices to 14,139 people. In collaboration with the BRC, safe drinking water was provided to more than 4,100 flood-affected people, including 790 women and 2,740 children in 3 displacement sites in Rumonge and Bujumbura Rural. Access to sanitation and hygiene facilities has been also facilitated by the BRC, ICRC, Norwegian Church Aid and UNICEF. In addition, upon request from UNHCR, UNICEF partner COPED constructed an additional new water supply system in Kavumu camp for Congolese refugees in Cankuzo province in order to facilitate access to safe drinking water to more than 10,410 people, including 9,300 refugees in the camp (1,900 women and 5,990 children), a nursery, primary school and high school in the camp, as well as a primary school with 460 students and 70 households (650 people) in the host community.

To strengthen cholera preparedness and response, the construction of 3 new water supply systems is ongoing in Bujumbura-Rural, Kirundo and Makamba provinces, which are either cholera prone or low water access areas. Once completed, these systems will provide safe drinking water for 30,000 people, 19 primary schools and 3 health centres. In Nyanza-Lac (Makamba), the MoH with UNICEF partner AIDE trained 150 community health

workers on cholera prevention/hygiene promotion, who were also provided with key hygiene messages and communication tools to reach more than 10,000 households in their community for the next 6 months.

The replenishment of WASH emergency stock from 2015 was completed and UNICEF pre-positioned hygiene kit items for 2,000-4,000 households (approx. 10-20,000 people), including dignity items for 10,000 women and girls.

In June, as part of the humanitarian response to the flooding in Gatumba, the BRC completed the construction of 76 latrines at the first flood displacement site for more than 2,000 people, including 385 women and 1,300 children. The limitation in site space and aquifer close to the land surface of the area was a challenge, yet the issues were addressed jointly with IOM and other relevant actors. BRC volunteers have also started rolling out hygiene promotion within the IDP site.

### **Communication for Development (C4D)**

UNICEF and partners have reached 100,255 people with messages on emergency cholera prevention, basic sanitation, improved hygiene practices and life skills education. These messages have been transmitted through classrooms, interactive plays, door-to-door household visits, and by demonstrations of handwashing activities, including setting up of Tippy-Tap handwashing devices in marketplaces, schools and restaurants to serve as examples of easy-to-make handwashing systems.

In 2016, the UNICEF-CADEVI partnership allowed the promotion of best practices in hygiene and sanitation through the development and dissemination of behavior change communication messages in the province of Makamba. At the beginning of the year the focus was on cholera prevention because of the recent outbreak in the region. The spread of cholera was stopped in part by the efforts of peer educators going door to door and who are educating 30,500 households on cholera prevention, basic sanitation and hygiene practices.

At the school level, 24,088 pupils and 407 teachers from 36 primary and secondary schools learned about handwashing for both diarrhea and cholera prevention, including demonstrations on how to set up Tippy-Taps. In schools, 125 Tippy-Taps were set up by students and teachers. In addition, students reported making 241 Tippy-Taps in their homes. The students also established 216 Hygiene Clubs to continue to educate peers on hygiene and sanitation through public presentations, debates and contests.

These cholera prevention efforts were also successfully complemented through the help of local NGO "the Province of the Anglican Church of Burundi" (PEAB), who trained 60 agents of change and two local WASH committees to lead the fight against cholera, reaching 10,498 people with cholera prevention methods in schools, churches, peace villages and in the numerous hills and remote valleys of Burundi.

### **Education**

To date 61,535 children (30,783 girls) were provided with education in emergencies support. UNICEF and the Ministry of Education (MoE) also strengthened the education in emergencies preparedness and response to the ongoing socio-political crisis and natural disasters. To date, 129 district education managers, 50 teachers and headmasters benefitted from capacity building initiatives. The emergency unit of MoE was also supported to conduct regular assessments and monitoring field visits in affected areas to ensure a better appropriation of national authorities and improve their response capacity. In addition, 2,000 teachers were trained on providing psychosocial support to children suffering from trauma, especially in violence-affected areas of Bujumbura.

Substantial progress was made during June on the issue of examinations for 2,919 Burundian refugees in Tanzania (who have continued to follow the Burundian curriculum). The field visit to the refugee camps in May resulted in effective advocacy messages which were used with the MoE in early June to secure agreement for

the exams to be administered by a third party. Modified exams in the camps for all relevant grades are now scheduled for end of August and work is underway to coordinate this important effort with UNHCR, UNICEF Tanzania and the respective Ministries of Education.

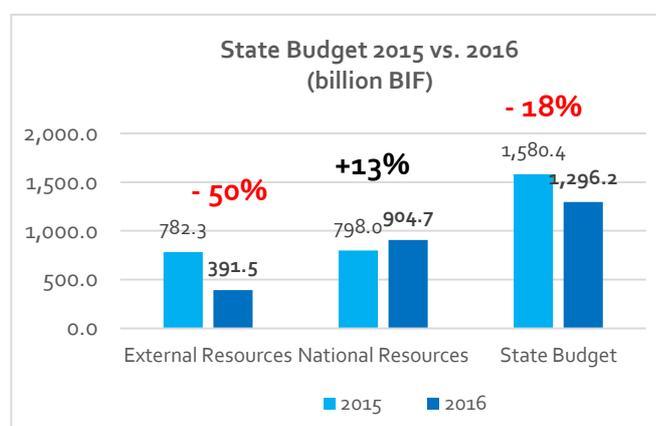
16 schools are reportedly occupied in Bujumbura by armed forces. Independent monitoring missions by UNICEF and its partners have confirmed occupation of 9 of these 16 schools, with verification of remaining sites underway. The number of occupied schools has increased from six in September 2015 but seems to have now stabilized. Advocacy to end the occupations is under discussion and action is already underway to give psychosocial support to affected children and communities. These efforts are being complemented through a partnership with Handicap International for a pilot programme in 20 schools in Bujumbura which will benefit around 10,000 children (50 per cent girls), focusing on the promotion of schools as “Zones of Peace” and strengthening the capacities of teachers to identify and respond to the psychosocial needs of children living and studying in this difficult context.

Due to the current political crisis, Belgium had to resign from its role of Supervising Entity for the current Global Partnership for Education grant and the Local Education Group was thus also obliged to agree on an alternative mechanism for the management of the remaining GPE funds, which total US\$ 20 million. As sector lead agency UNICEF facilitated this transition, was nominated as the new Grant Agent (Managing Entity) and subsequently coordinated a revised application for these funds on behalf of Burundi which was submitted in early April.

The application to the GPE which was spearheaded by UNICEF as sector lead in early April was finally approved at the GPE Board meeting in June and included approval for an additional amount to cover UNICEF’s recovery costs. While this \$20m in funds will form part of UNICEF’s regular programme and will mainly be used for school supplies and school construction, they will contribute towards supporting the resilience of the education system so that it can continue to function during this challenging period.

### Social Policy and Advocacy

After the onset of the socio-political crisis in April 2015, the 2016 state budget has sacrificed key sectors for children. Compared to 2015, domestic and external allocations to social sectors have fallen dramatically. One key reason for the drop in resources is due to the sharp cut in external resources, decreasing from 49.5 per cent in 2015 to 30.2 per cent in 2016. To respond to this potential threat to the well-being of children, UNICEF in collaboration with the Budget Division of the Ministry of Finance developed four analytical policy briefs on the 2016 credited State Budget: (i) overall State budget; (ii) education sector; (iii) health sector; (iv) WASH sector.



Source: Financial Laws (Credits) 2015 & 2016, Ministry of Finance

UNICEF Burundi uses these briefs to inform and alert both national stakeholders and partners of the international community on the limits and inefficiencies of Burundi’s 2016 budgetary situation, particularly in regards to public resource allocation to social sector ministries, relevant for the provision of social services to the most deprived children and families in Burundi. The development and signature of an Agenda for protecting child-sensitive public expenditure by the Minister of Finance and UNICEF Representative is expected shortly. These policy briefs are also critical instruments for advocacy in favor of continued funding to social services; regardless whether this is channeled through the state budget or other channels, such as UNICEF.

## External Communication

Since the beginning of the year, UNICEF has been engaging with media to increase the visibility of the immediate humanitarian needs of children in Burundi, but also spark discussions around the long-term impact of the crisis. Key media-friendly moments such as the visits of the UN Security Council and UN Secretary General in early 2016 were leveraged to draw attention to children's issues.

In June, in the context of the #FreeOurKids media storm around the arrests, expulsions and injuries of schoolchildren for having vandalized textbooks, UNICEF published a strong statement from the East and Southern Africa Regional Director, reiterating that all children in Burundi have the right to pursue their education and attend exams in a neutral, safe and protective environment. Related tweets achieved hundreds of retweets and were consistently ranked among top tweets under the #Burundi hashtag during the 48-hour peak of the social media outcry.

Finally, 22 children from five priority peacebuilding provinces joined the UNICEF child journalist programme and received training on conflict-sensitive reporting. Further amplifying the voices of Burundian children in favor of their own rights, a second group 24 child journalists produced a series of five advocacy films which were screened and presented by children themselves in June at Festicab, Burundi's national film festival, with hundreds of adult and youth attendees reached.

## Funding

In 2016, UNICEF Burundi is appealing for US\$ 16,540,000. The amount received to date stands at US\$ 6,221,986. UNICEF continues to scale up its humanitarian response to respond to the increasing needs of women and children in a context of heightened vulnerability, increasing protection violations, recurrent floods, and displacement; all of which require timely and adequate funds.

| Funding Requirement (as defined in Humanitarian Appeal for 2016) |                   |                  |                   |            |
|--|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------|
| Appeal Sector  | Requirements      | Funds Available* | Funding Gap       |            |
|  |                   |                  | US\$              | per cent   |
| Nutrition  | 2,400,000         | 2,091,134        | 308,866           | 13%        |
| Health   | 5,160,000         | 1,451,068        | 3,708,932         | 72%        |
| WASH   | 3,600,000         | 1,386,550        | 2,213,450         | 61%        |
| Child Protection   | 2,400,000         | 872,000          | 1,528,000         | 64%        |
| Education  | 2,000,000         | 321,234          | 1,678,766         | 84%        |
| Communication & Participation                                    | 600,000           | 100,000          | 500,000           | 83%        |
| Sector coordination  | 380,000           | 0                | 380,000           | 100%       |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>16,540,000</b> | <b>6,221,986</b> | <b>10,318,014</b> | <b>62%</b> |

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

## Next SitRep: 31 July 2016

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## SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS

| 2016 UNICEF Burundi   | Sector Response |                       | UNICEF and IPs |                     |
|---|-----------------|-----------------------|----------------|---------------------|
|   | 2016 Target     | Total Results         | 2016 Target    | Total Results       |
| <b>WATER, SANITATION &amp; HYGIENE</b>  |                 |                       |                |                     |
| <b>Number</b> of affected people accessing a minimum of 7.5 liters of clean and safe water per person per day   | 342,000         | 14,139 <sup>3</sup>   | 161,500        | 14,139 <sup>2</sup> |
| <b>Number</b> of affected people provided with hygiene supplies and information on good hygiene practices   | 342,000         | 14,139                | 280,000        | 14,139              |
| <b>EDUCATION</b>  |                 |                       |                |                     |
| <b>Number</b> of children benefitting from Education in Emergencies support   | 213,000         | 61,535                | 75,000         | 61,535              |
| <b>Number</b> of teachers trained in Education in Emergencies   | 3,000           | 2,000                 | 1,500          | 2,000               |
| <b>HEALTH</b>   |                 |                       |                |                     |
| <b>Number and %</b> of people treated for cholera   | 500: 100 %      | 22: 100% <sup>4</sup> | 500: 100%      | 22: 100%            |
| <b>Number</b> of children under 15, and pregnant women reached with essential drugs   | 175,000         | 175,000               | 442,000        | 175,000             |
| <b>NUTRITION</b>  |                 |                       |                |                     |
| <b>Number</b> of children aged 6 to 59 months assesses for acute malnutrition through mass-screening  | 1,431,468       | 70,391 <sup>5</sup>   | 514,148        | 70,391              |
| <b>Number</b> of children under 5 with SAM admitted to therapeutic feeding programmes   | 48,500          | 15,760                | 48,500         | 15,760              |
| <b>CHILD PROTECTION</b>   |                 |                       |                |                     |
| <b>Number</b> of children and adolescents benefitting from critical Child Protection services   | 44,468          | 19,331                | 13,000         | 19,331              |
| <b>Number</b> of vulnerable children having daily access to care and psychosocial support through the establishment of 50 child-friendly spaces/centres | 10,000          | 18,273                | 8,000          | 18,273              |
| <b>C4D</b>  |                 |                       |                |                     |
| <b>Number</b> of children and adolescents benefitting from peace, social mobilization and life skills education   |                 |                       | 100,000        | 100,255             |
| <b>Number</b> of households benefiting from keys messaging in healthy practices, hygiene promotion and children rights                                  |                 |                       | 100,000        | 89,000              |

<sup>3</sup> This figure has been revised from the last sitrep, as assistance was given to the affected people in the existing displacement site in Gatumba, not all flood affected people.

<sup>4</sup> 100% of the 22 cases identified treated.

<sup>5</sup> Mass screening is on-going and will continue in July.