



A mom puts her two years old daughter to sleep inside a mosquito net in her house. Photo © UNICEF Burundi 2016/ Noorani

Burundi Humanitarian Situation Report

Reporting Period: January – December 2017

Highlights

- In 2017, a total of 43,444 under-five children with severe acute malnutrition (22,524 girls and 20,920 boys) were admitted and treated in health facilities across the country;
- UNICEF supported the Minister of Health’s response to cholera through the provision of cholera treatment kits for total of 336 cases;
- 48,835 affected people accessed safe and clean water with UNICEF support, and 172,000 people received hygiene supplies and life-saving information in areas affected by malaria and cholera;
- 21,679 children benefited from critical protection services, 87 per cent of them (18,829) through 51 Child-Friendly Spaces (CFS);
- UNICEF and the Ministry of Education provided 68,411 students (37,562 girls and 30,849 boys) school-aged children, including internally displaced and returnee children, with access to formal and non-formal learning opportunities.

UNICEF Response with partners

INDICATORS	UNICEF 2017		SECTOR 2017	
	UNICEF Target	Cumulative Results	SECTOR Target	Cumulative Results
Nutrition: Number of children under 5 with SAM admitted to therapeutic feeding programmes	50,000	43,444	50,000	43,444
Health: Number and % of people treated for cholera ¹	400 (100 %)	336 (100 %)	400 (100%)	336 (100%)
WASH: Number of affected people accessing a minimum of 7.5 litres of clean and safe water per person per day	170,000	48,835	393,155	104,609
Child Protection: Number of children and adolescents benefitting from critical Child Protection services	30,000	21,679	45,000	21,679
Education: Number of children benefitting from Education in Emergencies support	100,000	68,411	225,000	68,411
C4D: Number of children and adolescents benefitting from peace, social mobilization and life skills education	125,000	104,120	n/a	n/a

¹ 100% of the 336 cases identified have been treated.

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

1 million

Number of children in need (HNO 2017)

3 million

Number of people in need (HNO 2017)

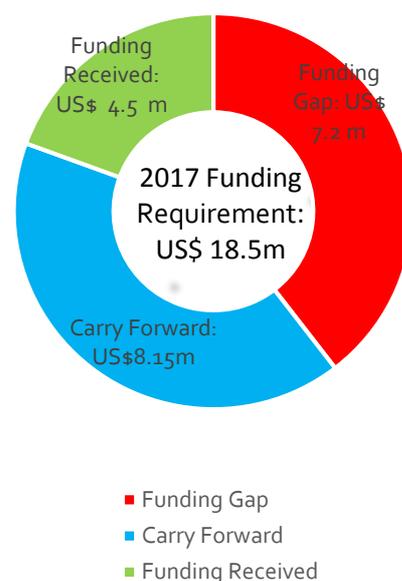
390,892

Population seeking asylum in neighboring countries (UNHCR, December 2017)

187,626

Internally displaced people in 18 provinces (IOM DTM round 19, November 2017)

Funding Status



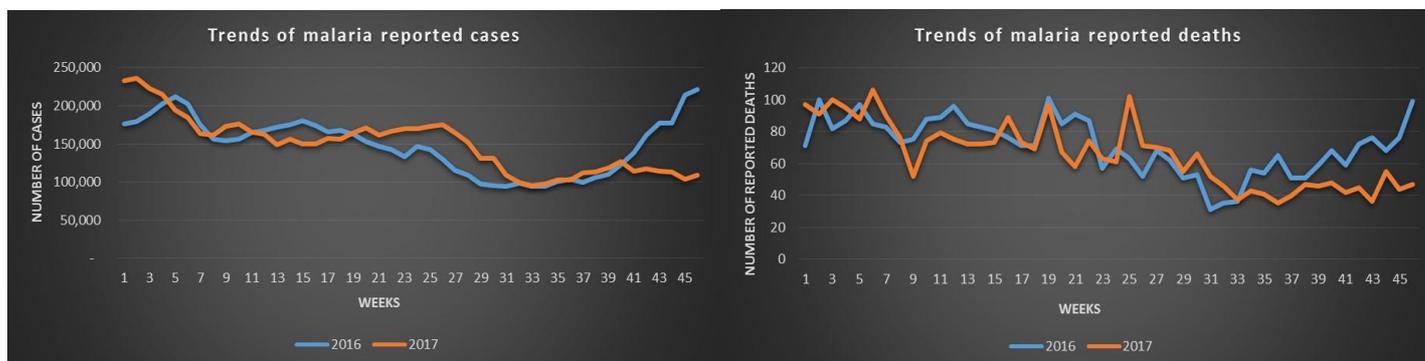
Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

During the course of 2017, Burundi continued to be affected by the political and economic crisis, which has affected the country since the attempted coup d'état in 2015. The vast majority of the population of Burundi has been impacted by the subsequent economic crisis which has seen one in 20 Burundians taking refuge in a neighbouring country or being internally displaced.

The socio-political situation in Burundi continues to exacerbate movement of population, increasing the humanitarian needs of children across the country. There are a total of 390,892 Burundi refugees in the region, the majority of whom are children (54.6 per cent), while the number of internally displaced people (IDPs) registered in eighteen provinces has decreased to 187,626 (IOM, November 2017), of which 58 per cent are children. The UNHCR-led repatriation plan is proceeding with 13,104 people (including 7,338 children) returning to Burundi from 7 September –17 December 2017 (UNHCR, January 2018). An estimated 50,000 people have spontaneously returned.

Cholera continues to be of concern in Burundi. There are multiple small outbreaks which are, up to now, contained but are the consequence of an increasing shortage of safe water since the beginning of the political crisis in 2015 and the budget reduction in this sector. Since January 2017, there were 336 cases in five health districts, among whom 132 are children reporting zero deaths, (Cibitoke: 205 cases; Isare: 32 Bujumbura Nord: 7; Nyanza-Lac: 30, Mpanda: 30 and Bubanza: 32). All cases were identified and treated in local health structures.

The number of malaria cases has dropped substantially, and are at lower level than in 2016 level for same period. This demonstrates the positive impact of the measures implemented these last months by partners within the malaria response plan, especially the nationwide mosquito nets distribution. According to the Ministry of Health (MoH) data, the cumulative number of malaria cases reported during the first 46 weeks of 2017 has reached (6,891,291 cases with 3,017 deaths compared to the same period in 2016 (6,863,285 cases and 3,288 deaths).



Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

UNICEF actively participates 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.

All agencies and sectors contributed to the multisector inter-agency rapid assessment (MIRA) that was done in the 18 provinces from 2-7 October 2017. Preliminary results showed a deterioration in the nutrition status of children with 4 provinces (Bururi, Makamba, Ngozi, and Rutana) above 10 per cent for Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) and 6 provinces (Bujumbura Mairie, Cankuzo, Kayanza, Ngozi, Rumonge and Ruyigi) above 2 per cent for Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) (WHO emergency threshold). UNICEF is supporting the MOH/National Statistic Institute (ISTEEBU) to conduct a SMART survey which will provide stronger evidences to inform the situation by January 2018.

Under the leadership of OCHA, the 2018 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) has been finalized with a funding requirement of US\$ 96 million. 3.5 million people, including 2 million children, are affected by the on-going crisis and the associated economic down turn. As a result, 2.3 million people will be targeted by the humanitarian country team in 2018, more than double last year's target.

Humanitarian Strategy

UNICEF Burundi worked to maintain the resilience of population and of public service delivery systems, while addressing multiple humanitarian situations. As lead or co-lead of five sectors – nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), education, child protection and health – UNICEF Burundi also supported the most affected populations, particularly women and children, by ensuring access to essential services and information, including for IDPs and new returnees from Tanzania.

UNICEF Burundi increased its capacity to respond to the increasing number of children affected by humanitarian situations, including among children experiencing psychological distress, displaced and returnee children, separated and unaccompanied minors, and among an increasing number of street children.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Child Protection

The number of children in need of urgent care and protection continues to grow. The deterioration of the social and economic situation in Burundi has negatively impacted households' capacity to care for their children pushing many into the streets in search for work and food. This adds to an estimated 400,000 school age children reportedly out of schools and around 50,000 children from internally displaced and returnees. All of them are at greater protection risks, including violence, exploitation and recruitment by armed groups.

In 2017, UNICEF has maintained and reinforced community protection mechanisms including 51 Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) for 18,829 vulnerable children (12,182 boys and 6647 girls) including displaced, returnees, separated and unaccompanied children. The children receive critical protection services, including recreational activities, psychosocial support, birth registration for unregistered children, documentation and referrals to appropriate services for children with special protection needs by trained personnel. 1,616 children (1,023 boys and 593 girls) including 51 cases of GBV were provided with medical assistance and psychosocial support while 499 children (315 boys and 184 girls) were reunified with their families and 11 placed in voluntary temporary foster families supported by UNICEF funded partners.

Through partnership with Fondation STAMM, FVS/ AMADE, Terre des Hommes, GIRIYUJA and SOJEPAE, UNICEF has supported social and economic reintegration for 1,030 vulnerable children (902 boys and 341 girls), including 428 (367 boys and 23 girls) released from detention through UNICEF support to AFJB (Association des femmes Juristes du Burundi).

During the reporting period, UNICEF has reinforced the collaboration with the FENADEB (Federation des Organisations de Defense des Droits des Enfants au Burundi) to monitor and report violations against children countrywide. 1,091 violations have been reported in October and November, but only 112 cases verified due to the sensitivity of the issues and difficulty to access information by monitors and partners. This partnership has been extended to cover returnees and children on the street. In 2017, the GoB has criminalised begging and is conducting a national campaign to move all beggars, including children, out of capital towns in all provinces and force them back to their homes.

UNICEF has also mobilized other members of the Child Protection working Group including UNHCR, Terre des Hommes, ICRC, FENADEB, GIRIYUJA, SOJEPAE, Fondation STAMM, KIYO, IRC, Save the Children and other civil society partners to activate a contingency plan with strengthened mitigation interventions since the street sweep-up operations, conducted by the police, often include mass arrests and detention of street children in conditions (in detention, children are not separated from adults and are not provided to food and water). UNICEF and partners are engaged in on-going high level advocacy to stop the arrest and detention of children living and working in the streets for a more child-friendly approach through CP actors and trained social workers in the best interest of children.

Health and Nutrition

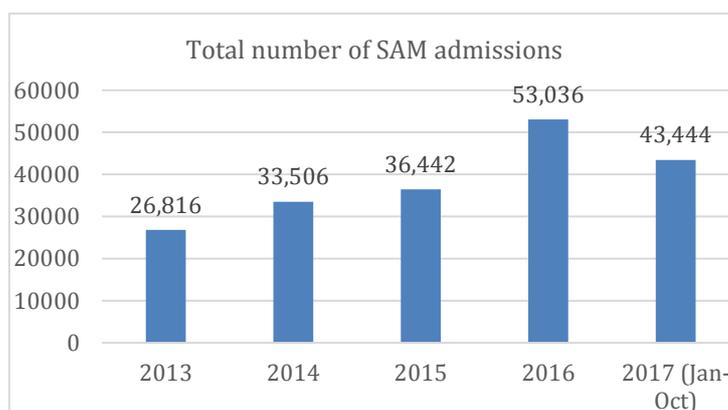
UNICEF efforts have been focused on the prevention and treatment of an unprecedented malaria epidemic and multiple small scale cholera outbreaks as well as the prevention and treatment of child malnutrition.

Following the Ministry of Health (MoH) official announcement of the malaria epidemic on 13 March 2017, UNICEF provided technical support to the MoH in the development of the US\$ 41 million malaria response plan which was successfully funded except for the in-door pulverization in selected areas. Thanks to the Government of Germany (KfW), UNICEF contributed to this response plan with the provision of malaria drugs and test kits, health districts microplanning and behavioural change communication (equivalent to US\$ 3.6 million) to ensure that 1,075,000 people, including 825,000 children, received adequate and timely life-saving treatment for malaria and cholera. UNICEF continues to support the real-time SMS system for malaria supply tracking and cases notification.

During this reporting period, a slight decrease in reported cases can be noted since week 40 following the nationwide Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLINs) distribution mass-campaign (September 2017). This intervention was funded by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) and provided 95.5% of 6,025,686 households with 1 LLIN for 2 persons. UNICEF contributed to the supervisions of the nationwide campaign.

There were also 336 cases of cholera, all of them were reported and treated in local health centres. UNICEF supported the MoH's response to cholera through the provision of cholera treatment kits and improvement of the cholera reporting database. A total of 52 staff from provincial and district levels and 304 health providers from health centre level were trained to strengthen the notification of suspect cholera cases using SMS technology for faster response and support from district and national levels.

From January to October 2017, a total 43,444 SAM cases (22,524 girls and 20,920 boys) have been admitted and treated in hospitals and health centres. This represents 87% of the expected national caseload. Performance indicators are maintained within standards (89% cured, 3% death, 5% defaulter and 4% non-respondent). Multiple Initial Rapid Assessment (MIRA) and post-MIRA cross-check conducted in October and November in 10 out of 18 provinces confirmed the continued high admission of SAM children compared to 2016. The SMART survey results expected in January 2018 will inform the MIRA estimated SAM prevalence which varies between 2% to 4% as measured by MUAC.



CMAM program coverage was extended from 33% to 50% of health facilities through the training of 33 health providers from 13 hospitals and 321 health providers from 161 health centres on the national protocol. UNICEF's work focused also on stock-out alert weekly monitoring using Rapid SMS combined. A total of 3 alert monitoring field visits were organized in addition to regular CMAM supervisions jointly with 5 nutrition therapeutic supply distributions (48,000 cartons of RUTF, 515 cartons of F75 and 267 cartons of F100) from the National Drug Store to health districts.

Despite the periodic fuel shortage, which posed a logistic challenge, the Mother and Child Health Week was organized in June 2017. A total of 1,339,862 children (718,700 girls and 621,162 boys) age 6-59 months were supplemented with Vitamin A with a respective coverage of 84% and 75%, while 1,203,191 children (640,532 girls (84%) and 562,659 boys (76%) age 12-59 months and 241,832 (92%) pregnant women received deworming tablets. The second round of the Mother and Child Health Week is planned for 5-9 December 2017.

WASH

During 2017, UNICEF and partners focused on the prevention and response to multiple cholera outbreaks and water-borne diseases in the provinces bordering Tanganyika Lake and areas prone to floods, displacements and returns.

The 2018 HNO indicates that 1 million people, more than half children, are in urgent need of water and sanitation. The increasing movements of population have had significant consequences on the WASH

infrastructure whose capacity is already over-stretched and could face frequent breakdowns which coupled with the current water scarcity is leading to more communicable diseases. In addition, cholera continues to plague the shoreline of Lake Tanganyika in 3 provinces, with small outbreaks (total of 336 cases) which have been contained so far. As a response, UNICEF and partners provided 48,835 people with access to water and 172,081 people with hygiene supplies and information on key hygiene practices.

During the reporting period, 6,000 people were reached with hygiene promotion awareness campaigns, through household and schools visits, public events and through mass media messaging in the cholera affected communes of Nyanza Lake (Makamba) and Mbanda (Bubanza). In addition, the provision of chlorine for disinfection of water supply systems continues in all affected areas.

As part of the prevention of water borne diseases related to open defecation combined with low access to safe water supply, UNICEF in partnership with government and NGO partners provided safe and sustainable water to 39,435 people, including 13,887 students from 17 schools and 6 health centres in the commune of Rugombo (Cibitoke), Kabezi (Bujumbura Rural) and Nyanza Lac (Makamba). In addition, 100,879 people including 54,776 children and 23,512 women were sensitized on the proper use of latrines, confection and installation of tippy taps, handwashing, handling and safe storage of water at home.

Communication for Development (C4D)

In 2017, UNICEF and partners reached 104,120 adolescents and 21,112 households with peace, social mobilization and life skills, including key messages on health practices, hygiene promotion and children rights. To effectively reach mothers and children UNICEF's response used multiple platforms involving grassroots religious organizations, rural interactive theatrical performances, national radio shows, marionette shows in schools, and via Tweets.

During the reporting period, UNICEF and the Ministry of Communication, Information and Education (CIEP), conducted malaria awareness campaign in 20 schools and reached 4,377 school children (2,249 girls and 2,128 boys) in the province of Bururi. School children learned the importance of using LLINs to protect themselves and their families. In the communities of the provinces of Bururi and Mwaro, 11,209 people (2,495 girls, 2,371 boys, 2,809 women and 3,174 men) have been sensitized, through interactive theatre, on the importance of sleeping under LLINs and on their proper use.

Peacebuilding, social cohesion activities and support of self-help and solidarity initiatives remain a priority that UNICEF and its partner Centre Ubuntu continue to address. Social cohesion activities brought together 638 adolescents (339 girls and 299 boys) which included IDPs and returnees, for weekly meetings of mutual aid and solidarity groups. This also included the coaching of 22 peer groups and financial and technical support for empowerment initiatives.

Education

From January to December 2017, UNICEF's interventions contributed to improve the learning and teaching environment of 68,411 students (37,562 girls and 30,849 boys) and 1,137 teachers through the provision of learning and teaching materials, teachers training, students and community sensitization on emergency issues, as well as the rehabilitation of damaged schools in the recent flooding and heavy rains. UNICEF also contributed to the capacity building of 1,401 members of school management committees (50% are females) for the management of natural disasters and the prevention of conflicts among the communities.

During the reporting period, UNICEF provided support to 19,020 school children (10,461 girls and 8,559 boys) affected by the on-going crisis, in order to enable them to pursue their schooling through the distribution of learning materials. This included 534 returnee children (in Gatumba, Gitara, Makamba, Ruyigi and Kajaga) and 15,013 children in the Congolese refugees' camps (Kinama, Musasa, Bwagiriza and Kavumu) as well as in 10 schools, in Bujumbura Rural.

In September 2017, the Ministry of Education (MoE) and UNICEF launched the Back to School campaign that benefited 1,039,614 students and 11,424 classes in 7 targeted provinces (Cancuzo, Kirundo, Makamba, Muyinga, Rumonge, Rutana, and Ruyigi). In addition, 2,000 internally displaced children (in the Mushasha

camps) benefited from school supplies (in partnership with the National NGO APDH) and 396 children (218 girls and 178 boys) from the "Batwa" ethnic group in the commune of Buterere (Province of Bujumbura Mairie), were provided with learning materials.

UNICEF is also supporting the MoE's rapid assessment in 5 main provinces of return (Ruyigi, Makamba, Kirundo, Gitega and Muyinga) to identify and provide formal or non-formal learning opportunities for these children. With the support of SIDA, UNICEF partnered with 2 NGOs (JRS and Hope 87) for the school reintegration of 1,000 returned and internally displaced children in 54 schools at basic education level, in 3 main host provinces (Muyinga and Ruyigi and Makamba). This agreement includes two components: Distribution of teaching and learning materials, teacher training on non-formal education, and psychosocial support to assist children with trauma and community mobilization for social cohesion. These interventions will be scaled up with additional partners and funding to up to 200,000 children in 2018.

Social Policy

During 2017, UNICEF engaged with World Bank on the development of the Plus Component (health, nutrition and ECD) of the Child Grant Program for 48,000 most vulnerable households in four vulnerable provinces of Burundi (Kirundo, Karusi, Gitega and Ruyigi) in response to the high vulnerability and poverty rate within the country. The preparatory work is still ongoing and the first transfer should take place by mid-2018.

UNICEF completed the *Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis* (MODA) showing the widespread monetary and non-monetary poverty amongst children compared to the total population. Furthermore, UNICEF supported a Public Expenditure Review (PER) in Health sector in partnership with World Bank to assess the impact of the 2015 crisis on the health system. The assessment shows that health inequities have been exacerbated by the current crisis. Financial barriers continue to negatively impact the capacity of health care services to comply with their commitments, in particular for low-income and rural households.

Funding as of December in line with HAC 2017

In 2017, UNICEF Burundi appealed for US\$ 18.5 million. The funding available to date stands at US\$ 12,703,410, which includes the funding received in this current appeal year as well as the carry-over from the previous year. Despite funding shortfalls, UNICEF scaled up its humanitarian response to address the increasing needs of women and children in a context of heightened vulnerability, epidemics, food insecurity and children malnutrition, recurrent floods and displacement; all of which require timely and adequate funds.

Funding Requirements (as defined in Humanitarian Appeal for 2017)				
Appeal Sector	Requirements	Funds Available*	Funding Gap	
			US\$	%
Nutrition	5,000,000	6,177,204*	0	0%
Health	3,000,000	3,195,000*	0	0%
WASH	5,000,000	1,499,632	3,500,368	70%
Child Protection	3,000,000	1,556,568	1,443,432	48%
Education	2,000,000	145,006	1,854,994	97%
Communication & Participation	250,000	130,000	120,000	48%
Sector Coordination	250,000	0	250,000	100%
Total	18,500,000	12,703,410	7,168,794	38%

*Funds available includes funding received for the current appeal year as well as the carry-forward from the previous year. Surplus in nutrition and health sectors is due to the generous multi-year contributions which are not counted against the total funding gap. .

Next SitRep: 28 February 2018

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SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS 2017

2017 UNICEF Burundi	Sector Response			UNICEF and IPs		
	2017 Target	Total Results	Change since last report	2017 Target	Total Results	Change since last report
WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE						
Number of affected people accessing a minimum of 7.5 liters of clean and safe water per person per day	393,155	104,609	97,809	170,000	48,835	42,035
Number of affected people provided with hygiene supplies and information on good hygiene practices	393,155	172,081	114,113	300,000	172,081	114,113
EDUCATION						
Number of children benefitting from Education in Emergencies support	225,000	68,411	19,248	100,000	68,411	19,248
Number of teachers trained in Education in Emergencies	3,000	1,137	45	2,500	1,137	45
HEALTH						
Number and % of people treated for cholera	400: 100%	336: 100%	119	400: 100%	336: 100%	119
Number of children under 15, and pregnant women reached with essential drugs	442,000	1,075,000	1,075,000	175,000	1,075,000	1,075,000
NUTRITION						
Number of children aged 6 to 59 months assessed for acute malnutrition through mass-screening ²	700,000	0	-	600,000	0	-
Number of children under 5 with SAM admitted to therapeutic feeding programmes	62,825	43,444	21,822	50,000	43,444	21,822
CHILD PROTECTION						
Number of children and adolescents benefitting from critical Child Protection services	50,000	21,679	3,711	30,000	21,679	3,711
Number of vulnerable children having daily access to care and psychosocial support through the establishment of 50 child-friendly spaces/centers	25,000	18,829	2,854	20,000	18,829	2,854
C4D						
Number of children and adolescents benefitting from peace, social mobilization and life skills education				125,000	104,120	46,152
Number of households benefitting from keys messaging in healthy practices, hygiene promotion and children rights				100,000	21,112	14,732

² The mass screening programme is on stand-by. Discussion with the Government are ongoing to initiate activities. In the meantime, a nationwide SMART survey has been approved and preparations are well underway. Preliminary results will be available in January 2018.