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## Burundi

The political crisis that began in Burundi in April 2015 continues to affect the lives of millions of people. An estimated 200,000 people are internally displaced and more than 400,000 have fled to neighbouring countries, primarily the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda.<sup>5</sup> The security situation remains volatile, with recurrent attacks nationwide disproportionately affecting women and children, who are at greater risk of violence and exploitation. In addition to the political and protection crises, the decline in overseas development assistance and the worsening economic conditions have led to the further deterioration of socio-economic well-being and decreasing access to essential social services for women and children. Recent inter-agency assessments<sup>6</sup> indicate that 3.5 million people, including 2 million children, remain affected by the ongoing crisis and the associated economic downturn and will require humanitarian assistance in 2018. Severe food insecurity continues to impact 2.6 million Burundians, with an estimated 62,500 children under 5 requiring treatment for severe acute malnutrition (SAM).<sup>7</sup> Burundi also remains at high risk of epidemics, with 7 million reported malaria cases in 2017, multiple cholera outbreaks on the Lake Tanganyika shoreline, and more than 2 million people with little or no access to water.<sup>8</sup>

### Humanitarian strategy

In line with the 2018 inter-agency humanitarian strategy, UNICEF will continue to respond to the humanitarian needs of women and children in Burundi, and strive to maintain the fragile development gains made prior to the 2015 crisis. UNICEF will support the Government of Burundi to restore and/or strengthen public service delivery nationwide and address the needs of returnees and internally displaced persons in areas of return and displacement, as well as host communities affected by the ongoing political, economic and protection crises. UNICEF will provide a package of interventions for up to 1 million children, including access to life-saving health and nutrition prevention and treatment, access to safe water, promotion of key hygiene practices, and the provision of risk-informed child protection and education services. UNICEF will continue to strengthen its mechanisms for engaging communities, including by facilitating dialogue and mobilizing local people to foster peacebuilding and social cohesion, and building the resilience of systems and communities by increasing emergency preparedness and multi-sectoral response. As part of its social policy work, UNICEF will closely monitor resource allocation to the social sectors and continue to advocate for access to essential social services for child survival and the protection of children and women.

### Results from 2017

As of 30 October 2017, UNICEF had US\$12.5 million available against the US\$18.5 million appeal (67 per cent funded).<sup>9</sup> In 2017, UNICEF provided an integrated package of interventions in the most-affected provinces, including areas of displacement and return. When needed, development funding was reallocated to ensure the implementation of key humanitarian response activities, particularly in the areas of education and protection. In total, UNICEF reached 21,500 children and adolescents with critical child protection services and provided essential therapeutic feeding treatment to 43,500 children with SAM. UNICEF strategically resupplied government stocks of essential malaria drugs to ensure that 1,075,000 people, including 825,000 children, received adequate and timely life-saving treatment for malaria and cholera. The UNICEF water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) response addressed current vulnerabilities, while also building resilience, particularly in cholera- and malnutrition-prone areas.<sup>10</sup> Some 49,000 affected people accessed safe and clean water with UNICEF support and some 172,000 people received hygiene supplies and life-saving information in areas affected by malaria and cholera. With available funding, UNICEF and the Ministry of Education provided 68,500 school-aged children, including internally displaced and returnee children, with access to formal and non-formal learning opportunities.

# Humanitarian Action for Children

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**Total people in need:**  
3.5 million<sup>1</sup>

**Total children (<18) in need:**  
2 million<sup>2</sup>

**Total people to be reached:**  
2.3 million<sup>3</sup>

**Total children to be reached:**  
1.3 million<sup>4</sup>

### 2018 programme targets:

#### Nutrition

- 600,000 children under 5 assessed for SAM
- 60,000 children under 5 with SAM admitted for treatment

#### Health

- 100 per cent of people affected by cholera treated (400 estimated)
- 1 million people, at least half of them children, provided with essential drugs, including for malaria treatment

#### WASH

- 200,000 people accessing at least 7.5 litres of clean water for cooking, drinking and personal hygiene
- 350,000 people provided with information on key hygiene practices

#### Child protection

- 100,000 children and adolescents affected by the crisis benefitting from critical child protection services

#### Education

- 200,000 school-aged children and adolescents accessing formal or non-formal education opportunities
- 3,000 teachers trained on education in emergencies and disaster risk reduction

#### Communication for Development

- 150,000 children and adolescents reached with messages on peace, life skills and key family practices

	Sector 2017 targets	Sector total results	UNICEF 2017 target	UNICEF total results
<b>NUTRITION</b>				
Children under 5 assessed for SAM <sup>i</sup>	700,000		600,000	
Children under 5 with SAM admitted to therapeutic feeding programmes	62,825	43,444	50,000	43,444
<b>HEALTH</b>				
People (and percentage of people) treated for cholera			400	336 <sup>ii</sup>
Children under 15 and pregnant women reached with essential drugs <sup>iii</sup>			175,000	1,075,000
<b>WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE</b>				
People accessing a minimum of 7.5 litres of safe water per person per day	393,155	104,609	170,000	48,835
People provided with hygiene supplies and information on good hygiene practices	393,155	172,081	300,000	172,081
<b>CHILD PROTECTION</b>				
Children and adolescents benefitting from critical child protection services	50,000	21,679	30,000	21,679
Vulnerable children with daily access to care and psychosocial support through the establishment of 50 child-friendly spaces	25,000	18,829	20,000	18,829
<b>EDUCATION<sup>iv</sup></b>				
Children benefitting from education-in-emergencies support	225,000	68,411	100,000	68,411
Teachers trained on education in emergencies	3,000	1,137	2,500	1,137
<b>COMMUNICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT</b>				
Children and adolescents benefitting from peace, social mobilization and life-skills education			125,000	104,120
Households benefitting from key messages on health practices, hygiene promotion and children's rights			100,000	21,112

Results are through 31 October 2017 unless otherwise noted.

<sup>i</sup> Mass screening was put on hold by the Ministry of Health. UNICEF and partners relied on other community-based mechanisms to identify and treat more than 43,000 children with SAM.

<sup>ii</sup> As of 31 October, 336 people were treated for cholera, which is 100 per cent of the caseload.

<sup>iii</sup> In order to be in line with the malaria response, this health indicator was reformulated as the number of children accessing malaria drugs. In total, 1,075,000 people, including 825,000 children, accessed malaria drugs.

<sup>iv</sup> Education remains largely unfunded. UNICEF redirected regular resources (US\$400,000) to address the most urgent needs, including access to learning opportunities for crisis-affected school-aged children, the provision of basic supplies and teacher training.

## Funding requirements

In line with Burundi's US\$96,000,000 inter-agency Humanitarian Response Plan, UNICEF is requesting US\$26,000,000 to meet the humanitarian needs of children in Burundi in 2018. Without adequate funding, UNICEF will be unable to scale up its humanitarian response to address the increasing needs of women and children in the context of heightened vulnerability, epidemics, food insecurity, child malnutrition, recurrent floods and displacement.

Sector	2018 requirements (US\$)
Nutrition	7,000,000
Health	5,000,000
Water, sanitation and hygiene	6,000,000
Child protection	4,000,000
Education	3,000,000
Communication for Development	500,000
Sector coordination	500,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,000,000</b>

<sup>1</sup> Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, '2018 Burundi Humanitarian Needs Overview', OCHA, 2017.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 'Burundi Humanitarian Response Plan 2018', OCHA, 2017.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, November 2017.

<sup>6</sup> Assessments were conducted in October 2017.

<sup>7</sup> Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, '2018 Burundi Humanitarian Needs Overview', OCHA, 2017.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> Available funds include US\$4.5 million raised against the current appeal and US\$8 million carried forward from the previous year.

<sup>10</sup> In addition to humanitarian assistance, UNICEF is improving preparedness through capacity building of community workers, pre-positioning of supplies and the construction of water points/latrines in health and nutrition centres.

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